

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 GIRLS.

Now that the Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution has been held, we find ourselves in a position to claim our readers' attention to the requirements of the oldest of our three great Central Charities—the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—the 105th Anniversary of which will be celebrated on Wednesday, the 17th May, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, Provincial Grand Master of Northants and Hunts. That the Institution is a model of high-class management; that its system of education is well calculated, not only to develop the mental powers of, but likewise to promote a strong moral tone among, the children entrusted to its charge—thus fitting them to fulfil any station they may be called upon to occupy in after-life; and that its benefits are dispensed in such a manner that, while every endeavour is made by the authorities to ensure a high standard of efficiency, the dictates of economy are not entirely lost sight of—these are facts which are gladly recognised as such everywhere throughout the Craft, and of which we English Masons and our friends are justly proud. So far as it has been possible to trace the subsequent career of the girls who were educated in the School, there are just grounds for asserting that the great majority of them have reflected credit on the training they received while under the care of their *alma mater*. Moreover, for many years past they have proved to a demonstration that they are capable of holding their own against other children of about their own age and standing at the various public examinations which have been instituted for the benefit of middle-class schools. Not a few of them have won distinction in the scholastic world, the whole of the tutorial staff at Battersea Rise, with the solitary exception of the Head Governess, being composed of old girls—we trust our fair friends will hold us guiltless of using this expression as in any sense a reflection upon their age—who are thus privileged to inculcate in the minds of those who come after them the principles of their own successful training. There is then no question as to the propriety of the appeal which is made annually in behalf of our Institution for Girls. It does its work admirably, and deserves our support. But these appeals are not only justifiable on the grounds we have stated. They are rendered necessary by the condition of its funds. The permanent income, including the grants by Grand Lodge and by Grand Chapter, is within £2500, while the annual outlay is between £11,000 and £12,000. There is then an annual deficit which cannot amount to much less than £10,000, and for which the Institution is compelled to rely upon the voluntary contributions of the Craft. But while these figures represent as nearly as possible the income and expenditure of the Institution, we must not ignore the fact that every now and then the necessity arises for some extraordinary outlay, for which no provision is made in our previous calculations. This outlay may be great or small, but it must be met as it is incurred, and the authorities, therefore, wisely endeavour to ensure, as far as lies in their power, that the receipts from all sources shall exceed the regular disbursements by from £500 to £1000. Unfortunately, their endeavours in this respect since the year of the Centenary Festival have been unsuccessful. The very large sum of £51,500 was raised at the celebration of that event, of which some £30,000 was expended (1) in the extension and re-arrangement of the School premises; and (2) in the erection of the Alexandra Centenary Hall. Thus there remained a sum of about £21,500 available for the requirements of the Institution; and though, in further commemoration of the Centenary, the Governors resolved on increasing the number of children on the establishment by 20, the School for the time being, at all events, may be said to have been flush of money. Since then, however, its fortunes have been on the wane, owing to circumstances which are easy to be explained. Thus, in 1889, it was considered necessary that the chief support of the year should be given to the Boys' School, which had suffered materially by the overwhelming claims of the Girls' Centenary. Consequently, the Girls' School Festival yielded only some £5400—a goodly sum, no doubt, and sufficient with the surplus from the previous year to meet the expenditure. In 1890 there was a recovery, and the Festival produced £11,000; but in the year following there was again a very serious decline, in consequence of the very successful efforts made by the friends of the sister Institution at Wood Green, and the Festival yielded only the very moderate amount of £8600, or less by £2400 than in 1890. Last year the Benevolent Institution celebrated the Jubilee of its foundation, and the friends of that Charity made such efforts in its behalf that a total, which ultimately reached the unprecedented sum of £69,000 was accumulated. Yet the Girls' School made a gallant effort to retrieve its fortunes, and thanks to the kindness which prompted H.R.H.

the Duke of CONNAUGHT to give his services as Chairman, the product of the Festival showed a very substantial recovery, the sum announced and realised being, in round figures, £10,000, and there is very little doubt but that for the pre-eminent claims of the Benevolent Jubilee, a very much larger total would have been realised. Thus the four Festivals which have been held in behalf of the Girls' School since 1888 have yielded in the aggregate £35,000, which, as our readers know full well, is considerably below the yearly average from 1878 to 1887, and, what is still more unfortunate, considerably below the amount which is required to satisfy the regular and contingent requirements of the Charity. We, therefore, most earnestly appeal to our readers and through them to the Craft generally to contribute not more willingly than heretofore—for they are always ready to do what is shown to be necessary—but more largely, so that the necessary equilibrium between receipt and outlay which has been so seriously disturbed during the last four years may be completely re-established. Last year's statement of account discloses a balance against the Institution amounting to upwards of £700 and if such a response as was made last year is the result of the Stewards' efforts and our present appeal to the brethren, it does not need much familiarity with figures to discover that this balance on the wrong side of the account must remain, or, more likely still, be increased to a sum, which it will be more difficult to adjust at some future period. However, we are not without hope that the efforts of the Stewards will be responded to in a manner which will remind us of the days before 1888, when though there were fluctuations from year to year in the amounts obtained by voluntary contributions, the average annual receipt from this source was just a trifle more than sufficient to meet the average annual expenditure. The prospects are certainly encouraging. In the first place, the services of one of our most distinguished Craftsmen—Bro. the Earl of EUSTON—as Chairman were secured at an early date. In the next place, so far as our information goes, the Board of Stewards is a strong one numerically, and though there is much to be desired as regards the distribution of its members as between town and country, we are not without hope that the weakness of the former will be in a measure compensated for by the somewhat unusual strength of the latter. We could wish that more London lodges and chapters were represented on the Board, but there is still time for any deficiency in this respect to be remedied; while, even if things remain pretty much as they are, the Provincial representatives are numerous above the average. Moreover, as there is a "Chairman's Province," which acquitted itself with great success a few years since, and as it is pretty generally known that West Yorkshire intends giving the bulk of its support during the present year to this Charity, we are satisfied the Provinces will give a very good account of themselves when the day appointed for the celebration arrives. In the meantime, the success achieved by "Our Girls" at the Cambridge Local Examinations in December, which we had the satisfaction of recording last week, will have the effect of strengthening the hands of the Stewards in the canvass they are now engaged upon. People give the more readily when they have reason to feel that their donations and subscriptions will be turned to good account; and what stronger evidence can we desire that the money subscribed to our Girls' School is expended to good purpose than the fact that *all* the pupils who were entered for the examinations just referred to were successful in satisfying the examiners, while one half of them acquitted themselves with honours?

CONSECRATION OF THE LOXFIELD LODGE, No. 2450, AT UCKFIELD.

A large and influential gathering of brethren took place at the Public Hall, Uckfield, on the 2nd inst., when a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex was held for the consecration of the above lodge and the installation of the W.M. Designate, Bro. R. L. Thornton, P.M. 1492, Prov. G.S.B. Cambridgeshire. A preliminary luncheon took place at the Maiden's Head Hotel under the presidency of the W.M. Designate, who was supported by Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, and the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge.

The *post prandial* proceedings comprised a short toast list, "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W. the Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were duly honoured.

The W.M. DESIGNATE then submitted "The Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," thanking Bro. E. Letchworth and other Grand Officers for their attendance and support.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, Grand Secretary, in responding, testified to the great pleasure experienced by the officers of Grand Lodge in doing all

they could to promote Freemasonry. He himself, in the unavoidable absence of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, O.C., M.P., P.G. Stwd., was also pleased to undertake the duties that day of Consecrating Officer.

Bro. R. CLOWES, P.G.D., also acknowledged the toast.

Bros. J. P. SLINGSBY ROBERTS, Prov. S.G.W., and W. DAWES, P.P. S.G.W., responded to the toast of "The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH briefly proposed "Prosperity to the Loxfield Lodge," replies being made by the W.M. Designate, Bro. R. L. THORNTON, the S.W. Designate, Bro. W. WRIGHT, and the J.W. Designate, Bro. J. A. DAY.

Bro. W. WRIGHT submitted "The Visitors," which Bros. MONEY and HOLMAN acknowledged.

The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

The brethren then adjourned to the Public Hall, where they were joined by many other brethren, those present including the following Prov. Grand Officers:

Bros. J. P. Slingsby Roberts, Prov. S.G.W.; H. Langton, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. P. Crick, Prov. G. Chap.; J. M. Reed, Prov. G. Treas.; T. P. Harker, Prov. G. Reg.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. G. Sec.; R. T. Dawson, Prov. G.D.C.; E. G. Whittle, Prov. A.G.D.C.; J. Billingham, Prov. G. Std. Br.; A. Stanley Cooke, Prov. G. Org.; F. Plowman, Prov. G. Purst.; B. Higham, Prov. A.G. Purst.; J. H. Every, Prov. G. Stwd.; W. Isworth, Prov. G. Stwd.; and H. H. Hughes, Prov. G. Tyler.

The lodge having been opened by Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, the hymn "Hail, Eternal, by Whose aid" was sung, and prayer was offered up by Bro. Rev. P. CRICK, Prov. G. Chap.

The Consecrating Officer, Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, then addressed the brethren. He said they were assembled for an object which would enlist the sympathies and evoke the good wishes of all brethren of the Order—the consecration of the Loxfield Lodge, No. 2450. The new lodge would supply a great Masonic want in that part of the county. Referring to the extinct Harmony and Friendship Lodge, which had been replaced by the South Saxon Lodge (Lewes), he expressed the hope that the new lodge would have a career of unbroken prosperity, and occupy a high position among the lodges of the province.

The founders of the new lodge were arranged as follows: Bros. R. L. Thornton, P.M. 1492, P.G.S.B. Cambridgeshire; Capt. H. T. Clements, P.M. 596, P. Dist. G.W. Western India; William Wright, P.M. 311, 1303, P.P.G.W.; J. A. Day; Rev. W. O. Thompson, M.A., P.M. 478, 1757, P.G. Chaplain; Henry M. Langdale; Walter Flint; Sidney R. Hunt; David Wood; A. F. Lamette, W.M. 2187; Alfred Hales; R. Hollyman; W. Gates; Gen. G. C. Clarke, C.B.; Henry Langridge, P.M. 20, P.G. Steward; Major B. Shiffner; W. E. Morrison, P.M. 916, 1110, P.P.G.W.; W. Gill, P.M. 1829, P.P.G.D.C.; J. C. Buckwell, P.M. 2386, P.G.D.; T. R. White, P.M. 311, 1303, P.P.A.G.D.C.; A. Turner; Wm. Beaty; and G. F. Eade.

The P.G. SECRETARY having read the petition and warrant, and the brethren having signified their approval of the officers named on the warrant, the P.G. CHAPLAIN delivered an address on the nature and principles of Freemasonry as follows:

Brethren, in virtue of the command now laid upon me by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and by reason of the high office which I have the honour to hold in this province for the time being, I now claim your attention while I endeavour to place before you for your consideration some reflections upon the nature and principles of our glorious Order. On an occasion such as this, when we are met together to consecrate and set apart one more mansion to be used for the express purpose of uniting our fellow creatures more closely together in the bonds of fraternal love and sympathy, and for the promulgation of those most pure principles of piety and virtue with which Freemasonry is always and most justly associated; there cannot but suggest themselves varied topics upon which it might be reasonable to dwell, and to which it would fall within the compass of the duties of my office to direct your attention. The consecration of a new lodge is not only an important event in the history of Freemasonry in this province, but it is evidence of the continuing vitality of our Order; it reminds us of the sure and abiding nature of these lodges or communities of brethren, for it is only reasonable to hope and expect that the Loxfield Lodge, No. 2450, will continue, through its representatives, to maintain, support, and uphold pure and unsullied the principles and tenets of our glorious Order, long after you, Worshipful Sir, and we who are assisting at its birth, have left this sublunary sphere, and are once again poor candidates in a state of darkness, but upon this occasion candidates for admission to the full mysteries and privileges of the Grand Lodge above. To you, Worshipful Sir, in respect of the work upon which you are to-day engaged as Consecrating Officer, may well be applied the words of the immortal bard, "The good men do lives after them," for there cannot be, if a lodge carries out the traditions of its existence, a better work conceived or executed than that which we are now engaged in inaugurating. Brethren, at the present time Masonry has existed, and despite all prejudice and attack upon the part of the uninstructed and popular world who are not Masons, has flourished for close upon 600 years, and it is this long duration and this abiding nature which is distinctly a characteristic of all lodges of Freemasonry, which appears to me not only typical of, but, as it were, a fitting prelude for the eternity that we expect to find in the Grand Lodge above. I see, or I think I see, traces of the Divine origin of Freemasonry in the fact of its antiquity, and by reason of its everlasting nature; and further than this, is it too great a flight of imagination to trace in the very formation of a lodge, and to see in the rules and regulations whereby a lodge is governed, a pattern or mould submitted to us, His creatures, by the great and wise Architect of the Universe, whereby we may so direct and regulate our life and actions here below as when challenged hereafter, to enable us to prove ourselves fit for admission into the Grand Lodge above. I have no doubt that a perfect Mason—that is a Mason who fully and conscientiously acts up to his Masonic obligations in every respect, would find in the great hereafter that he was provided with the necessary pass-word for admission into that lodge above. Brethren, it is no chance or arbitrary arrangement that has brought it about that the rules and ritual under which we work in a just, perfect, and regular lodge should be, as they are, a faithful type and an allegorical representation of what from the Volume of the Sacred Law, we are led to expect we shall find in that perfect government which the Most High will establish at the end of the world. Is it not so ordained that, as I have hinted, we may learn in these lodges below to qualify ourselves for that higher state which shall be revealed to us hereafter. Let me briefly recapitulate the points of similarity that exist between the ritual of our ceremonies and what we gather from the Sacred Law to be the form approved by the Most High for Divine worship. Our lodges are situated due east and west. So in the wilderness did the Great Architect of the Universe from Mount Sinai command Moses to erect a tent, or tabernacle, for the Israelites, and this tabernacle proved afterwards the ground plan in respect of situation of that most magnificent temple built by our first Royal Grand Master, King Solomon, out of the store of whose pre-eminent wisdom the special gift of the Most High, not only was the temple erected, but our very Order of Masonry instituted. Need I remind

you that our three great lights in Freemasonry in our ritual are said to be emblematical, and for this purpose I do not think I need the assistance of later revelation than Freemasonry, for I am of opinion that there is sufficient indication in the Volume of the Old Testament to point to the three-fold nature of the Great Architect of the Universe, of whom these three great lights may be considered emblematical. So it is with the lesser lights of Freemasonry. As at the creation—in the first evoking of order out of chaos—the Great Architect did appoint His creatures—the sun to rule the day, the moon to govern the night, and Adam to be the lord of creation. So are our lodges constituted with their three lesser lights—the sun, the moon, and the Master of the lodge. There is no occasion for me to tell Masons, who make a study of the Volume of the Sacred Law, which in our ritual we admit guides us to truth, and directs our steps in the paths of happiness, and points out the whole duty of man, there is no occasion, I repeat, to tell Masons that three—the number of Masons required to rule a lodge—and that seven—the number required to make a lodge perfect—are both numbers with which we frequently meet in the Sacred Writings, and, from their constant adoption by the Most High in His dealings with His creatures, have a claim to be considered sacred numbers. I have mentioned some of the conditions under which we work in open lodge, which seem to me to suggest similarity to what we may expect in the more perfect state that will be hereafter. Doubtless there will be other points that will suggest themselves to you, but I have purposely reserved to the last reference to him who, in our lodges upon earth, stands outside the door being armed with a drawn sword to keep off all intruders and cowans to Masonry, and to see that the candidates are properly prepared. I do not doubt that we shall find his artifice and counterpart in the Grand Lodge above, and that he, described by our poet, Milton, as "the pilot of the Galilean Lake," whoever he may be, and whatever form he may assume, will require from us satisfactory proof that, while acting in conformity with the principles of the Craft, we have not failed to discharge our duty to the G.G. of the Universe with fervency and zeal. And, brethren, there is no better preparation that any candidate for the Grand Lodge above can make than a steady adherence to, and a faithful discharge of, all the obligations of Freemasonry.

Caldicott's anthem, "Behold how good and joyful," was then sung, and the Declaration Prayer given, after which the lodge was duly consecrated, the ceremony being impressively performed by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH. After the dedication, Sterndale Bennett's "God is a Spirit" was sung, and, on the lodge being constituted, the hymn "Glory to God on High," was sung. On the termination of the Benediction Bro. R. L. Thornton was installed as W.M. of the lodge by Bro. W. Dawes, P.P. G. Reg. and P.P.S.G.W.

The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. H. T. Clements, I.P.M.; W. Wright, S.W.; J. A. Day, J.W.; H. M. Langdale, Treas.; W. Flint, Sec.; S. R. Hunt, S.D.; D. Wood, J.D.; A. F. Lamette, D. of C.; A. Hales, I.G.; W. Gates and R. Hollyman, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Tyler.

The addresses were ably given by Bros. J. P. SLINGSBY ROBERTS, H. LANGTON, and E. LETCHWORTH.

After other business of a formal character, the lodge was closed.

The musical arrangements, under the direction of Bro. A. Stanley Cooke, Prov. G. Org., were of a highly satisfactory character, the anthems being rendered by Bros. F. Moore (Lay Vicar, Chichester Cathedral), A. Stanley Cooke, Prov. G. Org.; W. N. Roe, P.P.G.O.; and George Cole, P.P.G.O.

The lodge was furnished by Bro. George Kenning.

CONSECRATION OF THE PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM MARK LODGE, No. 458.

The Prince Frederick William Mark Lodge, No. 458, was consecrated at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 3rd inst., in the presence of a large number of Mark Masons. The consecration ceremony was performed by Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., assisted by Bros. Frank Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg., as S.W.; Gordon Miller, as J.W.; Rev. F. W. Macdonald, G. Chap., as Chap.; R. Berridge, P.G.W., G.D.C., as D.C.; and A. R. Carter, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.M. 1, was the W.M. designate, and Bros. James Stephens and W. J. Mason were S.W. designate and J.W. designate respectively.

The other brethren present included—

Bros. W. J. Ferguson, P.M. 355; F. Sidney Smith, P.M. 450; J. J. Pakes, P.G.O. Kent; Capt. E. M. Money, P.G. Stwd.; R. A. Milken, W.M. elect 253 (I.C.); R. Eve, P.G.M.O.; J. B. Mather, P.G.O.; W. Vincent, A.G.D.; R. West, D.P.G.M. Surrey; S. Hoyte, P.G. Org.; E. Storr, P.G. Stwd.; Dr. N. Goodchild, P.G. Stwd.; A. H. Scurrah, W.M.; W. A. Scurrah, P.I.G.R.; J. Barnett, jun., P.M.; J. Terry, P.A.G.D.C., Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. Lewis Thomas, Prov. J.G.O. Middx.; W. J. Spratling; E. J. Mills, G. Tyler; A. F. Lamette, G. Stwd.; J. R. Green, P.G. Stwd.; W. M. Stiles, P.G.S.B.; A. G. Boswell; T. Spink; W. J. Stratton; J. T. Rowe, W.M. 1; R. Schreiber; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Notts, Sec. R.M.I.B.; R. T. Redfern; H. W. Davie; E. P. Delevanti; Clarke; Hillier; H. H. Shirley; J. J. Thomas, P.J.G.D. Middx.; and W. W. Lee.

Previous to the consecration ceremony, eight brethren were advanced to the Order by Bro. J. J. Thomas.

Lodge having been opened, and a hymn sung,

The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said they had met on a most important occasion—that of adding a new lodge to the already long list of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons. It was a very fortunate circumstance that that lodge was named after a very prosperous and very flourishing lodge in the Craft Degree—the Prince Frederick William Lodge. As was usual on every occasion of their Masonic assembly, before the business commenced they always invoked a blessing and guidance from above. He would therefore ask the Grand Chaplain for prayer.

The founders signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, and an oration was then delivered by Bro. Rev. F. W. McDONALD, Grand Chaplain. The lodge was afterwards solemnly dedicated and constituted with the customary formalities.

Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg., then assumed the chair, and installed Bro. John Joseph Thomas as W.M. The following officers were appointed: Bros. James Stephens, S.W.; W. J. Mason, J.W.; A. G. Boswell, M.O.; T. Spink, S.O.; W. J. Stratton, J.O.; J. T. Rowe, W.M. 1, Treas.; R. Schreiber, R. of M.; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Notts, Sec. R.M.I.B.; R. T. Redfern, S.D.; H. W. Davie, J.D.; Clarke, I.G.; F. Foxley, D.C.; E. P. Delevanti, Org.; Hillier, Stwd.; and E. J. Mills, Tyler.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Consecrating Officer and his assistants, and they were unanimously elected honorary members.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., returned thanks for this honour, and also for a jewel presented to him as a souvenir of the occasion.

A Committee was elected to frame the by-laws, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at the Holborn Restaurant, and was followed by the usual toasts.

Bro. R. BERRIDGE, P.G.W., G.D.C., returned thanks for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said it had been a great pleasure to those who had assisted in the consecration of the lodge, and they welcomed the new lodge into the arms of Mark Masonry. He wished the W.M. a prosperous year, and the lodge a great success.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "The Consecrating Officer" and said they owed much to him for consecrating the lodge in the way he had. They would never forget the manner in which they were constituted into a new lodge and would ever remember the services Bro. Matier had rendered them. He (the W.M.) had great pleasure in proposing Bro. Matier's good health and would couple with it a reference to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., who replied, said that every brother who was deputed to consecrate a lodge was absolutely at the mercy of those brethren who were summoned to assist him. How that mercy was bestowed upon him the brethren knew, and any excellence in the ceremony was due to those who assisted him. Having briefly discharged his liability to their W.M. he would say how much he thanked that brother for his allusion to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and for his assurance given that at the next Festival he would represent that lodge. In the name of that Fund he thanked the W.M. most heartily. He had next to propose a most important toast, "The Health of the Newly-Installed W.M." The brother who was thought worthy by his fellows of being selected by them to be recommended to H.R.H., as the first W.M. must be a brother whose claims to recognition were great. No words of eloquence would therefore be needed to ensure their drinking most cordially and enthusiastically to the long life and success of their W.M., and prosperity to the Prince Frederick William Lodge.

Bro. J. J. THOMAS, W.M., thanked the Grand Secretary for the kindly way in which he introduced the toast. He was afraid more had been said than he deserved, but he would endeavour to deserve them in the future. He assured the brethren he felt very proud in occupying his present position. It was a fancy of his some years ago that, being a Past Master and Secretary of the Prince Frederick William Craft Lodge and M.E.Z. of the chapter, that he should fit in the keystone by being the first Master of a Mark lodge bearing that name, and he felt very proud at the distinguished position in which the founders had placed him. He was pleased to see the gathering around him, and especially the array of Grand Officers who had honoured him with their presence. From the bottom of his heart he thanked them most sincerely for the very hearty response given his toast.

"The Installing Master" was next submitted by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who thanked Bro. F. Richardson for having done him the honour of installing him into the chair. When he heard that Bro. Richardson was to install him, he received the news with great pleasure, because he was doubly strengthened in having one distinguished brother to consecrate the lodge, and another distinguished brother to place him in the chair.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.W., G. Reg., replied, and said that he professed to be a good Mason, and as such he obeyed orders. Therefore, when he was informed that he had to perform the duty of installing the W.M. he accepted it as a duty. When he found it was Bro. Thomas, a member of the Board of General Purposes, of which he (Bro. Richardson) had had the honour of being a member for some time, he accepted it not only as a duty, but as a great pleasure. The W.M. was so good a Mason that it was a pleasure for anyone to take part in a ceremony in which he was concerned. He thanked them sincerely, and wished the W.M. a successful year of office in the lodge which had started so well, and which would, doubtless, in years to come, occupy a high position among the lodges of Mark Masonry.

Bro. FRED. WEST, Dep. Prov. G.M. Surrey, responding for "The Visitors," said they thoroughly appreciated the excellent way in which this lodge had been brought into existence. He had taken part in bringing into existence various lodges and chapters, and one was always pleased to be present on such occasions. The visitors thanked them very heartily, and had thoroughly enjoyed themselves. He held a peculiar position in being the first Deputy Prov. G.M. of the Province of Surrey, and for that position he presumed he had been selected to reply.

Bros. W. J. FERGUSON, P.M.; W. J. SPRATLING, P.M.; W. THOMAS, P.M.; and W. SCURRAH, P.M., also responded.

"The Newly-advanced Brethren" was next given and responded to.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed "The Mark Benevolent Fund," and said he intended serving as Steward at the next Festival, and should be gratified if the brethren would give him their assistance. There was a very distinguished brother present—Bro. James Terry—whom he would ask to respond for the Masonic Charities in general and the Mark Benevolent Fund in particular.

Bro. JAMES TERRY, in response, explained that the Mark Benevolent Fund was divided into three funds—one for general Charity, one for the maintenance and education of boys and girls, and one for the maintenance of aged Masons and widows. With reference to the other Masonic Institutions, he had been struck with the last song they had heard—"Pilot Jim," and could assure the brethren that, with regard to two of the Institutions, there were two Pilot Jims always ready to take the helm in anything conducive to their welfare.

Bro. J. McLEOD, Secretary, acknowledged "The Officers," and said it had been a pleasure to assist the W.M. in starting the lodge, and he hoped to continue to be of assistance for many years.

Bro. J. STEPHENS, S.W., said it was a pleasant thought to him that the W.M. and himself had been united for some years past in lodges and chapters, sometimes one and sometimes the other to the fore, but they always extended the same fraternal feeling. He was sure that under the superior guidance of Bro. Thomas, W.M., that lodge would go on and become one of the foremost in the Metropolis. It was the wish of every officer that it should prosper.

Bro. W. J. MASON, J.W., also replied, and said he was assured that the whole of the officers would use their utmost endeavours to carry out the traditions of Mark Masonry and assist the W.M. He was pleased to be the J.W., and hoped that when he arrived at the proud position of the chair, he should be able to carry out the duties in the same admirable manner as the present W.M.

The musical arrangements during the evening were under the direction of Bro. E. P. Delevanti, who was assisted by "The Masonic Quartet"—Bros. Sidney Barnby, H. Parkin, H. Prenton, and W. Banks.

LION AND LAMB LODGE, No. 192.

Bro. Geo. Abbott has written a "History of the Lion and Lamb Lodge," and therefore I am not going to attempt any such labour, especially as the veteran Secretary has done his best to make all the main experiences of the lodge familiar to the present members.

There are several curious points in the historical sketch which deserve notice, one especially being the fact that members of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177 (then 234), really obtained the warrant of No. 192 (then 258), for their own purposes, the senior lodge being for *operatives*, and the new charter was to be used for the admission of "Geomatic," or non-operatives, the first W.M. being Sir Watkin Lewis, M.P. (Alderman of the City of London). The warrant bears date 24th December, 1789.

Bro. G. Blizard Abbott's "History of the Domatic Lodge" has enabled Bro. George Abbott to narrate some singular incidents respecting this matter, the minutes of No. 258 (now 192) being missing before the year 1811.

Although the lodge is so badly situated as respects its old minutes, the members were successful in obtaining a centenary jewel warrant, dated exactly 100 years after the original charter was granted, the latter, happily, being still in existence. The document was received in time for the celebration of the centenary at the above date, but, as a matter of fact, it was not observed until 6th February, 1890, during the second year of Bro. Cohu's successful Mastership, and soon afterwards its history was published, as aforesaid.

Quite recently Bro. George Kenning* has discovered three books belonging to the Lion and Lamb Lodge, which throw some more light on the subject of its early meetings, and would have proved very useful in the preparation of Bro. Abbott's history.

They were stowed away in the "false bottom" of the W.M.'s pedestal, and have been so hidden for some years, their existence becoming known through the furniture of the lodge being under renovation. There are four volumes in all, viz., By-laws, 1789, Treasurer's book, 1796-1862, memo book of monthly dues, and Book of Constitutions, 1815-9.†

The first-mentioned contains the "Rules and Orders," printed for, and issued by the authority of the Grand Secretary of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, and duly signed by "Bro. John McCormick, G.S.," on the 23rd December, 1789, the day before the original warrant of 192 was signed.

A few blanks were left to be filled in according to the wishes of the members of each lodge, but generally the code was printed throughout. Rule II. provided for *sixpence* fine, if late, and *one shilling* if absent the whole of the evening, unless explanation satisfactory; III., all officers were balloted for; V., fines levied for their non-attendance; VII., every stated lodge night due by each member, "*one shilling*, of which *eightpence* shall be spent;" IX., candidates had to be "upright" in body and limbs, "free from bondage," &c.; XI., swearers fined at the discretion of Master; XIII., no voting allowed until fines were paid, and XXIV., only Master Masons allowed to visit the lodge.

These are valuable because the earliest by-laws of the lodge, and also because there is inserted a report of the Grand Lodge ("Ancients"), of 2nd September, 1789, which is new to Bro. John Lane, and has enabled him to add three hitherto unknown places of meeting of certain lodges mentioned therein, as also to date back others, so that its examination by the authority on old lodge lists has been fruitful of results.

A list of members is duly copied into this thin folio, as "Sworn to before Wm. Plomer, the sitg. Alderman at Guildhall," 5th September, 1799, and is signed and certified by Wm. Atkinson and Geo. Bowen (the W.M. and Secretary). This is the earliest instance I have seen of the kind. There were then 28 members, 17 being master mariners, two gentlemen, and others were tradesmen.

There are two old forms of "clearance certificates," the water mark of paper being dated 1808. An interesting notice of "The Stewards' Lodge" is also given in the report mentioned, worth quoting. It met monthly to distribute "Charity," the constitution of the Committee (really) being thus described:

"Ten Masters of Lodges are summoned to form the Stewards' Lodge, a Grand Officer presides. The ten Masters do not know till they are called upon of its being their turn for duty. No applicant can possibly learn beforehand of what Masters the lodge is to be composed, and therefore every case comes strictly before the unbiased judgment and the pure Benevolence of the Brothers, who have no interest in withholding Relief, and cannot be worked upon by previous knowledge, or by improper motives."

It is stated in the Treasurer's book, May 4th, 1796 (the first entry), that the sum of seven guineas was paid to the "Domatic Lodge" for the warrant and regalia. This was when it was determined to work the lodge apart from No. 234 (now 177); also some smaller amounts for sundries. "Deacons' Jewells" were purchased December 7th, 1797, for two guineas. Blank summons forms were often purchased, and so aprons, evidently for the use of the members. The latter "skins" cost usually a little under £1 a dozen.

The joining fee to the "Ancient" Grand Lodge was 3s. 6d., and 11s. 6d. for initiates. Many times are substantial amounts noted as devoted to Charity. The Master's chair cost two guineas April 11th, 1808, and £1 was paid for the "Book of Constitutions" March 21st, 1816.

The only member on the roll in 1811, mentioned by Bro. Geo. Abbott, was Bro. Perry, P.M., of those belonging to the lodge in 1796, when it became independent. According to the register there were two brothers called Perry, Samuel and John. It was the latter, evidently, who is noted in the history, as Samuel is not on the list after 1805.

Only fancy, the sum of 12s was due to the Treasurer "up to March 25th, 1802, for swearing of members!" Happily we live in better times now, in that respect at all events.

I have no doubt the new Secretary who has succeeded Bro. Abbott, viz., the zealous Bro. H. Legge, will find much to interest him in these volumes.

W. J. HUGHAN.

* This lodge was the Masonic home of the celebrated Bro. Peter Thompson, and so of the revered Bro. Henry Muggeridge, who was initiated therein 7th November, 1839. My friend, Bro. George Kenning, also first saw the "light" in this lodge (A.D. 1861), is one of the esteemed Past Masters, and was Treasurer for several years.

† The lodge also possesses a copy of the Geneva, or, "Breches" Bible, of the year 1598, a date not often met with, printed nearly two centuries before No. 192 was warranted.

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The Claims of the year amounted to £418,667. The number of Deaths was 2,932, and 117 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force was 301,643.

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The Claims of the year amounted to £1,602,816. The number of Deaths was 178,231, and 1,230 Endowment Assurances matured.

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He was initiated in the Lodge of the 37th Company of the Royal Engineers (late No. 963) in 1863, and was a Founder and Past Master of the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1714, to which he was a Subscribing Member from 1877 to the date of his death.

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The following communications, amongst others, unavoidably stand over:

CRAFT LODGES.—United Pilgrim, No. 507; Stamford, No. 1045; Newall, No. 1134; City of Westminster, No. 1563; and Alliance, No. 1827.

Annual Assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave of the Red Cross.

Consecration of St. Anne's Lodge, No. 2457.

Freemasonry, in Rawal Pindi.



SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1893.

Masonic Notes.

The result of "Our Boys'" examination in the Cambridge Locals, which we announced last week, are very satisfactory, and show that the educational standard is kept up to the improved point of the two previous years. A total of 22 passes—six with honours and three with "distinction"—is a good record. The policy of the Board of Management is to enter for the examinations not merely those boys who are known to be good enough to pass, and so get a high, but valueless, percentage, but to give every boy of a certain age a chance of passing. Failures, therefore, are incentives to better work for the future, and the policy adopted is an encouraging one to all.

The new scheme adopted by the Board of Management to retain deserving clever boys beyond the age of 15 years will enable the School to compete in the Senior Exams. in future years.

The opinion we expressed in our issue of the 25th ult. was confirmed by Bro. Eve at the Council Meeting of the R.M.I. Boys. Bro. Eve ruled that the next Council Meeting, due on Good Friday, March 31st, and postponed by the operation of Law 48 to the following Friday, April 7th, would be the ordinary March meeting, and that nominations for the Board of Management could then be made for the election by the Quarterly Court of the following Friday.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards for the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, when Bro. C. E. Keyser, the Chairman at the Anniversary, who was present in his capacity of President of the Board, was most cordially received and congratulated on the success of the gathering. The usual accounts were submitted and ordered to be paid, and votes of thanks having been unanimously passed to the officers, the Board was dissolved.

Within the last three weeks an event of very considerable importance has occurred in Liverpool in connection with the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 292, the event in question being none other than the celebration of the centenary of its foundation. The lodge has an excellent record, of which it has every reason to be proud, there having been selected from its ranks no less than four Prov. Grand Secretaries during the term of its existence. Moreover, it has many good men and true among its Past Masters, the most conspicuous being Bro. Robert Wylie, P.G.D. England, P.P.S.G.W. West Lancashire. Its W.M. is Bro. Robert Cobb, who presided at the banquet at which the auspicious anniversary was celebrated and was supported by Bros J. D. Murray, G. Treas. England; S. G. Sinclair, S.G.D.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec. West Lancashire; and others. Bro. Wylie read an historical sketch of the lodge's career, and Bro. Sinclair, in the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, handed over the centenary warrant to the custody of the W.M., who, later in the evening, was presented with the centenary jewel. We trust the future of the Lodge of Sincerity may be in all respects worthy of its past career.

We have to correct a slight but unfortunate misprint which occurred at page 29 of our issue for the 21st January last, and to which our attention has just been called. In one of our "Notes" which appeared in the issue in question, it was stated that the 29 members of the "Stewart" Lodge, No. 1960 (E.C.), Rawal Pindi and their friends had contributed "400 rupees" to the "Punjab Masonic Institution." The amount should be stated as "4000 rupees."

Dr. Dassigny's "Serious and Impartial Enquiry into the Cause of the Present Decay of Masonry in the Kingdom of Ireland," of the year 1744, has been reproduced in exact facsimile by Bro. Richard Jackson, publisher, of Leeds, and a most satisfactory and faithful reproduction it is. In all respects it is as, and equal to, the original volume, which is extremely scarce and very valuable, only two copies being known. One in the famous Iowa Grand Lodge Library, and the other is in the West Yorkshire Masonic Library. The facsimile has been made from the latter, and it is the first time the whole of the work has been reproduced.

The introduction is by Bro. Hughan, and treats of the origin and progress of the Royal Arch Degree from 1743 to 1893. No one is better qualified to write on this intricate matter than our distinguished *confrère*, and it is needless to state the sketch is both able and interesting. There is nothing so complete of the kind in the English language, for although brief and rigidly condensed, the information is invaluable, and many of the points and facts mentioned have only recently been brought to light through Bro. Hughan's persistent enquiries. This *recherche* volume has been dedicated to Bro. William Watson, the Honorary Librarian of the West Yorkshire Masonic collection, by the editor and publisher, "In token of sincere regard and hearty appreciation of his many services to the Craft," a dedication of which anyone might well feel proud, and one, doubtless, Bro. Watson will highly value.

The Duchess of Connaught and Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg were present at the performance of "Diplomacy" at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday night.

Correspondence.

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

THE PREFIX "WORSHIPFUL."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

After the number of instructive letters which have appeared on above subject, perhaps neither you nor W. Bro. Kentish will care to see another, but I would crave a small space from you in which to congratulate W. Bro. Kentish most sincerely on the plucky manner in which he took his "punishing!"

I would further beg to suggest to him that, if he has not already done so, he should possess himself of a copy of W. Bro. Fred. J. W. Crowe's little work entitled "The Master Mason's Handbook," where he will find such very full and authentic information on this and other points of Masonic etiquette as entirely to preclude the recurrence of any similar "lapse" on his part. The perusal of this "Handbook" cannot fail to be of great interest to so enlightened and earnest a Freemason as W. Bro. Kentish has shown himself to be.—Yours fraternally,

LEWIS (I.C.)

March 7th.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Although I considered it a duty to write my former letter on this subject, I should certainly not have done so could I have foreseen that W. Bro. Kentish would in so honest and so Masonic a manner have owned himself wrong in the same issue of your valuable paper. I shall greatly regret it if I have caused him any pain, as I am sure he is indeed one who has absorbed our principles in their truest meaning, although I have not the pleasure of his personal acquaintance.

At the same time, I am in other ways glad of the correspondence, as one is so frequently coming across the wildest mistakes on such points, particularly in the provinces where the prefix seems to be regulated by the desire of the writer to do honour to the brother named, and on the slightest provocation a Prov. Grand Officer is exalted to R.W. rank, regardless of his status in the Craft, or, on the other hand, is not given what title is his just due.

Trusting there may be some good results from the numerous letters on this matter.—Yours fraternally,

PAST PROVINCIAL.

March 4th.

THE BALLOT.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The point raised in your last issue by "Lewis (I.C.)" is, in my view, not capable of argument. The only clauses in the Book of Constitutions (English) affecting the case are 185-90, and there is nothing in either of these which prescribes an election shall be null and void unless all the brethren present in lodge shall have voted. As all the regulations up to the time of ballot appear to have been complied with, and, as the ballot taken came out clean, there appears to me to be no doubt whatever that the candidate was duly elected, and could have claimed initiation.—Yours fraternally,

P.P.G.S.D.

Southampton.

AFFAIRS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Dear Sir and Brother,

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

I am extremely obliged to you for having so justly reviewed the ill-natured article which appeared in the *New Zealand Craftsman*, and the malicious letter that prompted it, in connection with the consecration and installation at Reefton in July 'ast.

I have long since deemed it to be the most prudent course to treat with contempt all such scandalous productions, for it is not the first time I have been subjected to such vulgar criticism from the same source in the discharge of my duties.

I have merely to add that the sum and substance of the allegations are untrue, and that the Masonic event was one of unprecedented success, the splendid hall being crowded with loyal brethren. I certainly insist on Worshipful Masters recognising the supremacy of Grand Lodge in not acknowledging or having intercourse with any lodge that does not work under a constitutional warrant or charter, duly recognised, but I deny that any reference is ever made in lodge to the unrecognised New Zealand Constitution or its proceedings.

In conclusion, I shall ever feel proud to uphold the decrees of Grand Lodge of England in the interest of the Order, and for the happiness of the brethren in this jurisdiction, despite the insolent attitude of Masonic socialists and their loud-mouthed advocates.—I remain, yours truly,

J. BEVAN,

District Grand Master.

Hokitaka, December 28th, 1892.

Reviews.

A MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HERTFORDSHIRE. Edited by Bro. CHARLES BULLOCK. Prov. Grand Secretary, and published by authority of Prov. Grand Lodge, 1893.

No new features have been added to this further issue of the Hertfordshire Provincial Calendar. Indeed, we are at a loss to see how anything could have been done to enhance its value as a trustworthy guide to the lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies established in Hertfordshire. Under the auspices of Bro. Bullock, as under those of his predecessors who have been in editorial charge of this useful annual, it has been from time to time enlarged and made still more and more accurate, so that nothing now remains but to re-issue it yearly in its present form, but with those changes in the lists of officers, committees, and contributors to our Masonic Institutions, which fresh appointments and other causes render necessary. But though as regards the contents, we can say nothing more than we have said in respect of previous issues, we are glad of the opportunity of congratulating Bro. Bullock on the manner in which he has discharged his duties as editor, and the Province of Hertfordshire on being the fortunate possessor of so excellent and trustworthy a calendar.

MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PUNJAB DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1893. Edited by Captain J. H. LESLIE, R.A., Bombay. Printed at the Education Society's Press, Byculla.

This is the first year of publication of this long-needed annual, and assuredly if it meets with the hearty reception its conspicuous merits deserve; we shall have the pleasure of seeing it issued from year to year. The retiring Dist. G. Master, the R.W. Bro. E. W. Parker, writes a most sympathetic preface, and says truly that the editor "has brought himself into the front rank of Masonry by dint of unstinting hard work." The changeable character of the Craft in the Punjab is aptly illustrated by the statement that "one-sixth of the Fraternity in the district changes each year." The "Monthly Calendar" is a laborious but very useful compilation, and the index is far from being so general a feature of directories as it should be. Captain Leslie's sketch of the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab is carefully written, and forms a really good introduction to the particulars—corrected and ably arranged—which follow. The local governing body only originated in 1863, and now numbers 21 lodges, No. 45, the senior, being of the year 1839; and the junior of 1892. Thirteen extinct Punjab lodges are also duly tabled, copied, with due acknowledgements, from Bro. J. Lane's "Masonic Records, 1717-1886." The fees and subscriptions are noted under each lodge, and invariably include extra and separate sums for "Passing" and "Raising," save No. 2370, Lahore, which is a Past Masters' lodge. The "Stewart," No. 1060, Rawal Pindi, has the honour of being considered one of the most benevolent and intelligent lodges on the English roll. There are 10 chapters, 11 Mark lodges (this degree being very popular), 7 Ark Mariners lodges, 3 Rose Croix chapters, and 2 preceptorships of the Knights Templars. Full rolls of District Grand Officers for Craft, Arch, and Mark, as well as Grand Officers, are duly detailed, and many are the items of intelligence besides, which are dovetailed in all available places. The "Masonic Memoranda" is accurately summarised, and might be still more extended with advantage. Captain Leslie, however, has to abide by the authority of his Grand Lodge as to A.L. 5893, and not A.L. 5897, for if one supports a fancy on good grounds another may cite a weak argument for another departure. Let us follow the example set by the Head. So many as 40 children are being assisted in their education by the noble "Punjab Masonic Education," the names of the schools being appended where they are sent. Bro. Whympers' interesting sketch of "The Masonic Library of the District Grand Lodge" is all too brief, for he is well qualified to speak authoritatively on this subject. Bro. Whympers is the District Deputy Grand Master and Prov. Grand H., but has declined the position of District Grand Master to the regret of his many friends. Colonel C. F. Massey, however, has been so honoured by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master, and is a most excellent choice. Captain Leslie has proved an able and painstaking editor, and has done his work exceedingly well.

MASONIC CALENDAR OF LODGES, COUNCILS, &c., MEETING AT MARK MASONS' HALL AND ROLL OF GRAND OFFICERS FROM 1856.

This carefully-edited and well-arranged directory is an official publication of considerable merit and utility. Indeed to the Mark Master it is as indispensable as the Grand Lodge Calendar to the Craft Masons, and the "Cosmos" to the brethren of all Degrees generally. It is in its eighth year of publication, and has for editor Bro. C. Fitzgerald Mather, the esteemed Mark Grand Secretary, and well known in relation to all Masonic ceremonies worked in London. The calendar portion is a very handy compilation of the numerous meetings, of one kind and another, in Mark Masons' Hall. All beyond this, however, concerns all Mark Masters, and enthusiastic brethren, who penetrate beyond the first three Degrees. Naturally, the particulars as to Mark Masonry are very ample, and embrace a full register of all the Grand Officers from the formation of the Mark Grand Lodge, including all the Provincial Grand Masters and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, under their respective counties. One very interesting table shows the number of certificates issued, warrants granted and receipts for the General and Benevolent Funds from 1857 to 1892. Nearly 30,000 certificates have been issued, and 438 warrants granted during that period, and the "General Fund" was the largest in 1892 during the existence of the Grand Lodge, amounting to £2251 12s. 10d., the Benevolent Fund also exceeding £2000. Surely this is prosperity, and the "Mark Benevolent Fund" is a grand reality. There are eight male and two female annuitants, and 43 children on the Institution, full information being appended as to all the beneficiaries, so that it can be seen at a glance what provinces are receiving the benefits of these several branches, and the addresses of the annuitants, &c. Nothing is lacking as to the Masonic bodies, for even the "Order of the Secret Monitor" comes in for a share of attention, and the Rosicrucian Society in *Anglia*, which assembles in the same commodious building, is also duly noted. Bro. Mather is undoubtedly a most competent editor.

FIFTY YEARS OF A SHOWMAN'S LIFE, OR, THE LIFE AND TRAVELS OF VAN HARE. By H.M. SELF. Illustrated. New and cheap edition. London: Sampson, Low, Marston, and Co. (Limited), St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, Fleet-street, E.C. 1893.

Bro. Van Hare need have no fear that people, when reading the story of his life, will concern themselves seriously about the manner in which it is told. So long as they can understand and enter thoroughly into the spirit of his adventures, it will matter little to them that his manner of narrating them is not quite up to the standard of English writing to be found in the pages of Gibbon, Macaulay, Addison, or Johnson. What they will concern themselves about are the events that happened to him during his 50 years' career as a showman; how he fared in the different countries through which he travelled, how he got on with his partners, when he had any, and his employes; where he got his collection of exhibits from, what he paid for them, and whether on the whole the career of a showman is a pleasant one for a man of adventurous spirit to embark in. Bro. Van Hare's story of his life will satisfy and no doubt in many instances gratify their curiosity. There is plenty of stirring adventure in his narrative, plenty of amusing episodes, and occasionally a few adventures which are not wanting in dramatic interest. It is, at all events, a very readable book, and we have no doubt that those of our readers who may not have seen the earlier and larger edition will gladly avail themselves of its republication in a cheaper form, to make themselves acquainted with Bro. Van Hare's many and varied experiences. Or, if they care but little for the kind of life that is so graphically described in these pages, we are sure that any youngsters they may know will be only too glad of the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the author through the medium of this narrative.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge (No. 4).—The installation meeting of this lodge was appointed for Monday, the 27th ult., but owing to the illness of the W.M. elect, Bro. R. T. Kingham, P.M., G.S., he was absent, and the ceremony did not take place. Bro. William Stevenson Hoyte, G.S., W.M., presided, and Bro. Dr. Mackintosh, P.M., P.G.S., took the S.W.'s chair. Bro. Dr. Albert Venn was J.W., and there were also present Bros. A. W. Oxford, P.M.; H. P. Hughes, P.M.; J. A. Hughes, P.M.; G. Weldin, P.M.; Charles B. Cousins, P.M.; H. Lunley, P.M.; J. A. Joseph, P.M.; Fredk. West, P.M., P.G.D., Sec.; T. H. Devonshire, P.M., P.G.D.; and Wilhelm Ganz, P.M., P.G.O. Visitors: Bros. R. W. Steggles, S.D. 2398; H. W. Turner, P.M. 1347; George T. Chretien, W.M. 1325; Horace N. Lorne, 91; E. A. de Paiva, P.M. 176; John L. Mather, P.A.G.D.C.; J. L. Haddon, 1076; David James, 1076; S. G. Edridge, S.W. 538; T. Drew Bear, P.M. 1584; Richard C. Rapier, W.M. 33; Percy Simpson, 1216; Sidney Hill, 23; J. D. Ewart, 916; John Sampson Pearce, 2, P.G.D.; J. Lewis Thomas, 142, P.A.G.D.C.; C. F. Mather, P.G. Std. Br.; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; George V. Briscoe, 102; E. Leitchworth, G. Sec.; A. I. Payne, 2011; J. M. McLeod, P.P.S.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. A. Hervey, P.M. 2022; Walter King, 1719; T. Lang Day, 1328; B. A. Shaw Brown, Treas. 1; Percy W. Bull, 2955; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. Grantham, P.M. 1017; W. B. Duck, 1706; J. Gordon, W.M. 1924; W. H. Smith, 1706; Sidney Galey, 1760; H. Chester Masters, 5; and H. W. King, 1.

Bro. Edwin H. Perks was passed to the Second Degree, after which Bro. Dr. Albert Venn, was elected to, and he accepted, the office of Grand Seward for the ensuing year. Bro. Chatham Ellis took the office of Steward of the lodge at the next Festival of the Girls' School, and 10 guineas were voted to his list. Bro. Oxford, P.M., agreed to be Steward for the Boys' Festival, and a similar amount was voted to his list. Bro. Oxford presented, on behalf of the lodge, to Bro. Hoyte, W.M., a Past Master's jewel, which was graciously acknowledged by Bro. Hoyte.

Lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to banquet, which was of the usual excellent description, and was followed by the customary toasts, and some delightful music under Bro. J. L. Haddon, by Missie Marie Vaghianni, the Celia Quartette, Bros. David James, and J. L. Haddon.

The W.M., in proposing "The Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M.; the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Deputy G.M.; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and calling on Bro. Major J. Sampson Pearce, P.G.D., to reply, said it had always been a custom with No. 4 installation night to have the pleasure of the company of several Grand Officers, and that night was no exception to the rule. It was also a custom on all occasions of meeting to invite members of No. 2, which lodge reciprocates the compliment, and always invited No. 4.

Bro. J. Sampson Pearce, P.G.D., in replying, said of course they all understood that this was one of the formal toasts of a Masonic meeting. He should not therefore altogether shelter himself under the very proper hint the W.M. gave about short speeches, but as a formal toast he should meet it with a slightly formal reply. They had drunk the health of the Pro Grand Master and the Dep. Grand Master, and he did not think better officers were to be found. As to the other Grand Officers, Present and Past, he trusted that those who stood up with him had made some little good impression in their time. He could hardly imagine, looking on his right hand and almost immediately in front of him, that they would have been picked out if they had not had some qualities to recommend them. That those qualities might still be useful in years to come he had on his own conscience nothing to hope for. He believed it could be found that they would be still useful in Masonry in the future as he trusted they had in the past. So much for the first shot the W.M. had had at him, and concluded with his second barrel by stating that he represented the Lodge of Antiquity, the sister lodge in antiquity to the Somerset House and Inverness.

There the W.M. touched him on a very, very home point, and, as one of the fossils of Lodge of Antiquity, he knew nothing that had given that lodge greater pleasure for years past than to welcome from time to time the representatives of No. 4. That that might continue to be a bond of friendship between the two lodges he trusted might never die out until the brethren and everyone dropped into the shadowy labyrinth of bygone times.

Bro. Oxford, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," whom he had known for 14 years in the capacity of neighbour, Mason, musician, and man—a charming neighbour, an excellent Mason, a most mellifluous musician, and a magnificently muscular man.

The Worshipful Master humorously replied, and said that when he was installed Bro. West said "May your shadow never grow less." Well, it had not grown less. A year ago, in the proposition of his health, it was said that whatever he might do as Master in the then coming year, at all events he would "fill" the chair well. He had filled the chair well, and he had had a very happy year of office. He had increased in weight a stone. He assured them that that day would be a red-letter day in his career. He was proud to be Master of his lodge, and would be proud of it all his life. He hoped to be spared to be a member of the lodge as a Past Master for many years to come.

The Worshipful Master next gave "The Visitors."

Bro. the Rev. H. W. Turner, P.G.C. Surrey, first replied. Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., P.P.S.G.W. Derby, said he supposed that in the course of the year very few brethren visited lodges more than he, and, strange to say, it very seldom happened that he was called upon to respond to the toast of the visitors. Yet then, the W.M. in the chair, who could do no wrong, and with more distinguished brethren than himself present, had singled him out to respond. The W.M. laid it down very early in the evening that the speeches were to be short. He (Bro. McLeod) was going to be very brief. He was going to acknowledge the kindness of Bro. West, the Secretary and Past Grand Deacon, in inviting him. He was very glad to have been there to witness some portion of the work in the lodge, and was very sorry he had not had the opportunity of seeing the W.M. install his successor. For that omission there happened to be no help, but he had had an opportunity of partaking of the hospitality of the lodge, and he thanked the lodge for it.

Bros. Lumley and S. Mackintosh responded to the toast of "The Past Masters," both expressing their great interest in the lodge, the former for the last 32 years, and the latter stating that he was always ready to fill up a gap when any officer was absent.

Bro. Hall having replied as Treasurer,

Bro. F. West responded as Secretary, and, in the course of his reply, said he was glad that his services were appreciated. The traditions of the lodge contained one principle that every one who aspired to the chair of the lodge should thoroughly be acquainted with the genuine principles of Masonry, among which was Charity. The brethren when they came first into the lodge were shown this was a branch of Masonry which was cultivated by the Craft at large. Those who were coming forward to the chair of that lodge were bound to come first to the front in Charity, and should have served Steward to two at least of the Charities. He hoped the younger members of the lodge would recollect that was an old received rule in the lodge—that before being elected Grand Steward a brother must have served two at least of the Charities.

Bro. Hodges replied to the toast of "The Officers," after which the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated.

Eastern Star Lodge (No. 95).—The installation meeting of this old established lodge was held on the 21st ult., at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, when Bro. W. H. Waterman was installed as W. Master in the presence of many members and visitors. The members present included Bros. M. L. Russell, W.M.; W. H. Waterman, S.W.; Howard Ruff, P.M.; F. Wilton, P.M.; J. A. Keen, P.M.; A. C. Macklin, P.M.; Millner Jutsum, P.M.; S. W. Ladbroke, S.D.; W. Beattie, J.D.; G. S. Ayers, P.M., Treas.; and J. W. Wardell, P.M., Sec. Visitors: Bros. Wm. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas. Essex; W. J. Shott, I.G. 1662; T. Maynard, W.M. 1662; J. Tomkins, P.M. 1669; C. Millner, 761; (S.C.); S. C. Bateman, I.G. 1707; A. R. Irew, P.M. 2409; Hy. Bonner, P.M. 95; J. Boulton, W.M. 1442; B. Bridgewater, 1471; Col. W. H. Coles, P.M. 20; F. J. Sheppard, 3; L. Lavison, 148; F. J. Tucker, W.M. 240; H. Ffrench Bromhead, W.M. 2374; W. S. Heath, P.M. 706; E. T. Moore, P.M., Sec. 2077; R. J. Johns, 1402; E. G. Gimble, 302; J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M. 2168; E. Roper, 1494; A. J. Probyn, P.M. 11; A. Hudson, P.M. 1057; J. P. Hamilton, P.M. 1708; A. Hughes, 2374; R. Williams, 63; W. Belton, 179; A. Saunders, 63; J. Barber, 933; J. Tomkins, 1669; C. W. Tomkins, 1669; J. H. Wildash, 1652; T. Guy, 33; E. Tidman, 1716; and W. W. Lee, W.M. 2381.

After the formal opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. W. H. Waterman was impressively installed into the chair by Bro. Howard Ruff, P.M. The following officers were appointed: Bros. M. L. Russell, I.P.M.; S. W. Ladbroke, S.W.; W. Beattie, J.W.; G. S. Ayers, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Wardell, P.M., Sec.; and Howard Ruff, P.M., D.C.

Lodge was closed, and after a sumptuous repast the usual toasts received hearty recognition.

Bro. M. L. Russell, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," said they all heartily wished him a happy and prosperous year of office, for they were assured he would fulfil his duties with credit to that lodge and Masonry in general. He (the I.P.M.) had known the W.M. for some years as one of whom they should be proud and to whom they could look forward with confidence for the future.

Bro. W. H. Waterman, W.M., who was cordially received, thanked the I.P.M. for the kind manner in which he had proposed the toast. He endorsed the I.P.M.'s wish that he should have plenty of work during the coming year. They did not desire to largely increase their numbers, but an addition of about half-a-dozen members would be gladly received. As he did not agree with long speeches, he would simply thank the brethren for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received.

In proposing "The Visitors," the W.M. said that, although they had no Grand Officers present, he hoped they had a future Grand Officer in Bro. Shurmur, who was a candidate for the post of Grand Treasurer for 1894. He

hoped—and all present would join in hoping—that Bro. Shurmur would be returned, and he should esteem it a personal favour if all those who had votes would support him.

Bro. Wm. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas. Middx., said he was deeply indebted to the W.M. for including his name amongst those privileged to respond. The visitors had enjoyed and appreciated the unbounded hospitality for which this lodge was justly famed. They congratulated the W.M. upon the unanimous vote of the brethren which had placed him in the honourable position of the chair, and which they were agreed he would admirably fill. He should be ungrateful if he did not express his gratitude to the W.M. for the very kindly way in which he had referred to his candidature for the office of Grand Treasurer. There was no doubt it was a most honourable position in the Craft, and was the blue ribbon of the Order. He could only say that if the brethren considered his past services entitled him to aspire to that exalted position and carried their good opinions into effect by electing him, he should most earnestly endeavour to prove himself worthy of that proud position and deserving of their favour.

Bros. Tucker, Bromhead, Bonner, Bolton, and Tomkin also replied.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of the I.P.M.," and, in an appropriate speech, presented Bro. Russell, I.P.M., with a handsome Past Master's jewel, remarking that although there had not been an abundance of work during the past year, yet the I.P.M. had creditably carried out the duties falling upon him.

Bro. M. L. Russell, I.P.M., thanked the brethren for the handsome jewel presented to him, which he should highly prize during his life. It was the first that had been placed on his breast, and was therefore thoroughly appreciated.

Bro. Ruff, P.M., responded for "The Installing Master," and Bros. Jutsum, P.M., and Knight, P.M., for "The Past Masters."

Other toasts were given before the Tyler's toast closed a very successful meeting.

During the evening a capital selection of music was carried out by Bros. McCall, Chambers, F. Stephens, Tomkin, and several others.

Lion and Lamb Lodge (No. 192).—The installation meeting of this old lodge took place at Cannon-street Hotel, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when there were present: Bros. I. M. Mower, W.M.; George Goodes, I.P.M.; F. Hughes, S.W.; J. Smith, J.W.; Henry Legge, P.M., Treas.; T. Cohn, P.M., Sec.; T. W. Fisher, S.D.; R. Sarson, J.D.; R. G. Hunter, I.G.; J. G. Marsh, P.M.; S. Lucas, P.M.; E. Jones, P.M.; George Kenning, P.M.; George Abbott, P.M.; W. Medwin, P.M.; A. J. Holmes, F. D. Lendon, R. Martyn, R. Albaston, Thos. Barker, William Baker, Geo. Miner, A. Dart, and J. T. Fraser. Visitors: Henry Garrod, P.G.P.; George Bird, D. Davies, F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Girls; Henry Robertson, E. Chatterton, J. J. Woolley, D. W. Pearce, P.P.G. Reg. Middlesex; F. Richmond; Claud A. Hooper, W.M. 1613; T. Speller, S. B. Williams, F. J. Rease, E. J. Pearson, Ernest Sabel, John B. Hollom, and James Tite.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Martyn and Lendon were raised to the Degree of Master Mason, and the following candidates were admitted and duly initiated, viz., Messrs. William Baker and George Miner. One gentleman was proposed for initiation. Bro. Thos. Cohn, P.M., was unanimously elected Treasurer, and Bro. C. Couchman elected Tyler for the ensuing year. The report of the Audit Committee having been received and adopted, the installation of the W.M., Bro. Fred Hughes, was then proceeded with, Bro. T. Cohn occupying the chair, assisted by Bro. S. Lucas, P.M. The Worshipful Master appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Isaac M. Mower, I.P.M.; James Smith, S.W.; T. W. Fisher, J.W.; Thomas Cohn, P.M., Treas.; Henry Legge, P.M., Sec.; Robert Sarson, S.D.; G. R. Hunter, J.D.; Reuben Albaston, I.G.; G. F. J. Goodes, P.M., D.C.; A. J. Holmes, Stwd.; and C. Couchman, Tyler.

Bro. T. Cohn, P.M., then proposed that a Past Master's jewel, of the value of 10 guineas, be presented to the W.M., Bro. Mower, on his retiring from the chair. This having been carried, Bro. H. Legge, P.M., proposed that a donation of 10 guineas be made to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and that the amount be placed on the list of the W.M., Bro. Hughes, who was representing the lodge at the Festival, which was assented to. The retirement of Bro. Geo. Abbott, P.M., from the office of Secretary, which he had filled for so many years to the satisfaction of the brethren, afforded an opportunity for the lodge to evince its appreciation of his services and the personal estimation in which he was held by presenting him with a testimonial in the form of a stud, comprising a cluster of diamonds. The presentation was made by the W.M., and sympathetically acknowledged by Bro. Abbott.

A very excellent banquet was afterwards served, the W.M. presiding.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, that of "The Grand Officers" being responded to by Bro. H. Garrod, P.G. Puist.

"The Worshipful Master," proposed by the I.P.M., was acknowledged in suitable terms by Bro. Hughes, who then proposed "The Initiates," both of whom—Bros. Baker and Miner—responded.

The presence of Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Girls, afforded the W.M. an opportunity to appeal to the brethren for support as a Steward at the forthcoming Festival, which appeal was forcibly backed up by Bro. Hedges, who replied to the toast of "The Charities."

"The Visitors" was the next on the list, to which Bros. Claud A. Hooper, W.M. 1613, J. J. Woolley, and others, replied.

"The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast concluded a very enjoyable and successful meeting.

The whole of the furniture and appointments of the lodge have been renewed, and now present an excellent appearance. In connection with this lodge, an interesting article by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., on another page will be found of considerable interest, not only to members of the lodge, but to Masons generally.

Westbourne Lodge (No. 733).—The installation meeting of this well known and successful lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, on the 16th ult., which was well attended both by members and visitors, the

latter numbering 43. There were present: Bros. J. W. Belsham, W.M.; R. J. Rogers, S.W.; A. Arrowsmith, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; G. Goddard, I.G.; Windeyer Clark, Org.; J. W. Curtis, P.M.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M.; W. Burton, P.M.; L. Ascott, P.M.; C. J. Biorn, P.M.; T. W. Allen, P.M.; G. Collins, P.M.; J. White, G. Weaver, H. T. Harrison, W. T. Crane, G. Bell, F. Wortham, J. W. Norris, C. T. Browne, W. Redwood, W. H. Masterson, J. T. Shapcom, T. Thompson, R. A. Bench, F. Andrew, J. Smith, W. Bell, F. Ison, W. Gillings, F. Tuck, J. Cook, G. Walker, S. J. Shore, J. Bonney, W. Rolles, G. Stevens, W. M. Roberts, W. Short, W. F. Faircloth, J. H. Crook, J. J. Hough, S. Marne, C. Williams, T. Carr, R. H. Jackson, J. L. Petingale, H. Harris, G. Harris, W. Kilvert, J. McLean, and J. Stevens. The visitors were Bros. W. Middleweek, W.M. 1793; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543; G. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; G. J. Reed, 2421; A. Ellenden, 1623; H. Herbert, 1745; J. Thompson, 2362; G. Flint, 45; C. Pullen, 1614; J. C. Conway, W.M. 1891; J. W. Ackland, 1891; E. Rogers, P.M. 60, P.G.S.; W. Mowhouse, 2374; G. T. Broughton, 1602; A. L. Bullen, W.M. 1614; T. Middleweek, 1614; J. Avery, P.M. 511; H. Windcott, W.M. elect 1793; H. Lewis, 2184; H. Fletcher, 1744; C. A. Sanger, 1880; H. Handover, 1642; E. Gull, 1017; F. J. Deaton, P.M. 25; R. Husband, 2012; E. T. Ginder, 1563; T. W. Mogford, 2362; H. B. Chamberlain, P.M. 1304; C. Busby, 1608; G. D. Mogford, 2362; W. J. Rubenstein, 1642; P. Blatchford, 704; A. G. Rennisirn, 1305; G. T. Barham, P.M. 256; W. J. Francis, 860; J. Pullen, 1614; R. Pierpoint, 1828; A. Oliver, 1957; G. H. Irish, 340; C. Godfrey, W.M. 2021; H. F. Moore, 973; W. T. Batho, 2454; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read, and the auditors' report adopted, the ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. J. Stevens, Allan McLean, S. J. Shaw, and George Walker, which was unanimous. The W.M. elect, Bro. Robert J. Rogers, was presented and installed into the chair by the W.M., Bro. J. W. Belsham, in an impressive manner. The following brethren were appointed and invested officers by the new W.M. for the ensuing year: Bros. A. Arrowsmith, S.W.; W. H. Faircloth, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; W. M. Roberts, S.D.; C. T. Brown, J.D.; F. Wortham, I.G.; G. C. Weaver and J. J. Hough, Stwds.; W. Clark, Org.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., D.C.; A. Bench, A.D.C.; and S. Ellis, Tyler. The delivery of the usual addresses was ably rendered by Bro. Belsham, who received the hearty congratulations of the members on taking his seat as I.P.M. Bro. Rogers, the new W.M., initiated the four candidates in a way which made it evident that the brethren had made an excellent choice in the W.M.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of a superb banquet, which was prepared in excellent style and admirably served under the able direction of Bro. Hamp.

The W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts with a few appropriate remarks.

In responding for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. Cottebrune stated that it was now 22 years ago since he had to respond to that toast which was always kindly received. He was the Father of the lodge, and he was proud of it. They had made a great addition that night, in having four initiates, and he had no doubt the lodge would continue in its prosperous career.

Bro. J. W. Belsham, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that all the brethren were proud of Bro. Rogers. The work done by him that evening was splendid. During his term of office he had 10 initiates, but he had an idea that the W.M. would have at least 20. He (the W.M.) was able to do everything in the Craft, and would add lustre to the lodge. He heartily wished him a prosperous and happy year of office.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and the W.M. on rising to respond had a great reception. He was much gratified by such an unexpected greeting. He felt like a boy amongst so many veterans there that evening. He was more than proud to be their W.M. and would do his hardest to make the lodge, if possible, a greater success. He ventured to think that his term of office would be a successful one. He expected four more initiates at the next meeting and hoped to break the record in making new members.

In giving the toast of "The Initiates," the Worshipful Master observed that they had six present, being the four initiated that evening and two at an emergency meeting. He had known some of them many years and would, he thought, all make good working Masons.

Bro. Harrison suitably replied, remarking that at his advanced age it would be unreasonable to expect to ever become a W.M., but he would do his hardest to carry out the duties of a Mason.

Bro. White also replied, observing that he should never forget what he had seen and heard that night.

The other initiates, Bros. McLean, Stevens, Shaw, and Walker also responded in appropriate terms.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Installing Master," paid a tribute to the work done by Bro. Belsham that night, who had been one of the most popular Masters of the lodge. He had endeared himself to the members who all loved him. The W.M. then presented him with a Past Master's jewel, which he richly deserved, as no Master had ever done more for the lodge.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Bro. Belsham, on rising to respond, received an ovation. He hardly knew how to find words to thank the W.M. for the many kind things he had said of him. He certainly did not deserve them. He had tried to do his best the last 12 months, and it the brethren were satisfied he was more than gratified. He was initiated in the lodge 12 years ago, and had worked step by step until he became W.M., which was the height of his ambition, and he was now satisfied.

The Worshipful Master gave "The Visitors" in cordial terms. They were noted for the way in which they treated their guests. They had many distinguished, and a good array of visitors that evening, and they were all heartily welcome.

Bro. A. L. Bullen, in reply, stated that he had derived great pleasure from his visit. He complimented the W.M. on the good working witnessed that night, and observed that Bro. Belsham, the P.M., was well-known to be a great worker of the ritual.

Bro. J. C. Conway also responded. He had, he said, long been a visitor to the lodge. He was present at the

initiation, passing, and raising of the W.M. He was confident that the W.M. would carry out his arduous duties with *déclat*, and, in conclusion, he testified to the excellent working of the I.P.M.

Bro. Middleweek also replied. He had not missed attending the lodge for the last seven years, where he met the dearest friends he had.

Bros. C. Godfrey, G. Rogers, and Dehane also replied in suitable terms, the last-named remarking that, as Preceptor of the Westbourne Lodge of Instruction, he urged, and would be glad to see all the members attend for instruction.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Past Masters," and observed that they were a strong body in the lodge. They had had a deal of work to do in their time, and they were appreciated, and coupled the names of Bros. Burton and Curtis with the toast, whom he asked to respond.

Bro. Curtis said he was proud of the unexpected honour to respond for the Past Masters. If they were ever called upon they would be glad to do anything for the lodge.

Bro. Burton also replied, remarking that he hoped the younger members would follow in the wake of their good W.M. and the Past Masters.

The next toast was "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stating that the lodge was specially favoured in having such good officers as Bros. J. Welford and S. R. Walker, who both responded, the former observing that the lodge was financially alright, and he hoped to have a large balance at the end of the year.

In giving "The Officers of the Lodge," the W.M. remarked that if they all aspired to go forward he would be gratified.

Bros. Arrowsmith, S.W., and Faircloth, J.W., replied in suitable terms.

The W.M. gave "The Masonic Press," to which our representative responded.

The Tyler's toast terminated a very pleasant and happy gathering.

The vocal entertainment was carried out by Bros. C. A. Sanger, T. Middleweek, G. Goddard, Francis, MacLean, Rubenstein, and J. Welford, ably accompanied by Bro. Windeyer Clark.

Ranelagh Lodge (No. 834).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th ult., at the Criterion, Piccadilly, when there were present Bros. H. F. Williams, W.M.; A. Williams, S.W.; W. W. Williams, J.W.; Geo. Butt, Treas.; W. J. Coplestone, Sec.; E. Newland, S.D.; R. Phillips, D.C.; H. Hewitt, I.G.; J. Banks, Stwd.; A. Walkley, Tyler; F. Craggs, I.P.M.; F. J. Oliver, P.M.; H. Purdue, P.M.; J. G. Doncaster, P.M.; T. Johnson, H. S. May, J. Worth, E. D. Richards, G. E. White, H. Lomer, M. F. Wilkins, W. Iredale, C. Heinemann, A. Pauchin, B. Gerbert, and R. Collins. Visitors: Bros. H. H. Clarke, 1475; R. Andrews, 1260; and P. M. Becker, 238.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. This being the annual election meeting, the S.W., Bro. A. Williams, was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. Geo. Butt, P.M., was unanimously elected Treasurer; and Bro. A. Walkley, Tyler.

An Audit Committee having been appointed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily proposed and responded to.

Several songs were excellently sung, and the Tyler's toast brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Ebury Lodge (No. 1348).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Tuesday, the 28th ult. The lodge was opened, and the Secretary, Bro. H. Fincham, P.M., having read the minutes of the previous meeting, they were duly confirmed, and the W.M., Bro. J. W. Ford, then proceeded to initiate Messrs. William Leonard Bridgman, Charles Hazeltine, and William Herbert Womack, which he did in a very impressive manner. The usual formalities having been gone through, Bro. William Fowles, P.M., then occupied the chair, and installed Bro. John Osmond, S.W., the W.M. elect, into the chair of K.S., in a most able and efficient manner, and rendered the whole of this beautiful ceremony, which evoked the applause of all those who were fortunately present to hear him. After the newly-installed W.M. had been heartily congratulated, the Board of Installed Masters was closed, and the remainder of the brethren were admitted, who, having saluted the W.M., and there being no further business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren and visitors proceeded to banquet, which was served up in a very highly creditable manner.

The brethren having done ample justice to the good things provided, the W.M. said grace, and the proceedings which followed were of a most enjoyable character, and Bro. Fred. W. Stephens, who organised the evening entertainment, must be heartily congratulated.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured.

The I.P.M. gave the toast of "The W.M.," which was received most enthusiastically.

In his reply, the W.M. (Bro. John Osmond) said he felt much impressed with the great honour that had been conferred upon him by the brethren in electing him W.M., and appreciated the great responsibility of the position he had to occupy for the ensuing 12 months, and would not only try and perform whatever work they might find him to do creditably to himself and satisfactory to the lodge, but would also look after the comfort of the brethren, and try and add to the honour and reputation of the lodge.

He then presented the I.P.M., Bro. J. W. Ford, with a very handsome Past Master's jewel, and congratulated him upon the success of his year of office.

Bro. Ford having duly responded, and thanked the brethren for their beautiful gift,

The W.M. requested that, as the programme of music which had been provided was of a very lengthy nature, those brethren who had to respond to the various toasts would be as brief as possible, so that the various speeches which followed in the course of the evening were according to the desire of the W.M.

The next toast was "The Initiates," which was received in an exceptionally hearty manner, and one of them (Bro. Bridgman) afterwards delighted the company by his fine rendering of "The Bugler."

The Initiates having returned thanks for the heartiness of their reception,

The W.M. gave the toast of "The I.P.M.," which he gracefully and briefly responded to, again thanking the brethren for the beautiful jewel they had presented to him.

The toast of "The Visitors" came next, and the W.M. said he considered that the toast of the evening, as he had been honoured by the presence of a very large and distinguished number, nearly all of whom were Past Masters, and read over the list, which included Bro. J. M. McLeod, Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who responded, stating that it was somewhat unusual for him to respond to that toast, as he usually responded to one that was somewhat more congenial to him (*viz.*, the Charities), but as he had to speak, he would say that he was proud to be present at the lodge meeting, and was pleased to hear that one of its members was going to represent the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the Institution of which he had the honour of being Secretary.

Other visitors responded.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and coupled it with the name of Bro. Wm. Fowles, P.M., the Installing Master, and congratulated him upon the masterly way he had performed the beautiful ceremony of installation.

Bro. Fowles replied, thanking the brethren for their appreciation of his efforts.

The other toasts were "The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers of the Lodge," which were enthusiastically received, and duly responded to.

The Tyler's toast brought a most enjoyable evening to a close, and one that will long be remembered by the brethren of the Ebury Lodge and the visitors who had the privilege of being present.

The following is a list of the officers who had the honour of being invested: Bros. M. Bristow, S.W.; Fred. W. Stephens, J.W.; E. Jacobs, P.M., Treas.; H. Fincham, P.M., Sec.; J. J. Davies, S.D.; J. Neal, J.D.; H. Morris, I.G.; A. Atkin, D.C.; M. A. Attwood, Org.; W. C. Wigley, P.M., and C. Botterill, Stwds.; and R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler. The following members were also present: Bros. Hardell, P.M.; Warren, P.M.; Schwarz, P.M.; Smith, P.M.; Wayman Morris, R. A. Bryant, T. Divall, W. A. Perrin, R. Penon, J. Holland, F. Clark, G. W. Beaman, B. Phillips, D'Arcy Brennan, D. Aaron Jones, J. Ware, E. Record, W. Flinn, A. W. Bray, E. D. Hook, G. Bradley, W. M. Ward, Leon Bridgman, Wm. Womack, C. Hazeltine, B. Hart, Stuart Walker, and J. Vernon. Visitors: Bros. Womack, J.W. 1799; John Jacobs, P.M. 1614; S. J. Vinos, P.M. 1695; R. H. Blatchford, P.M. 1196; G. A. Holditch, 1614; A. Jacobs, S.W. 1349; W. Jacobs, 2396; F. W. Stamp, P.M. and Stwd. 1178; W. Malham, S.W. 1539; F. Whiting, P.M. 1772; E. Valerinning, P.M. 1687; A. Wood, Stwd. 1185; W. E. Wignmore, J.W. 177; A. Bridgman, J.W. 144; J. T. Hoare, I.G. 1964; R. B. Hopkins, 1381; H. V. Lloyd, 2262; H. Burrows, J.D. 1269; H. E. Drew, 1269; C. J. Hill, 1944; A. Pudney, 1539; H. Bulpitt and T. Woodbury, 2262; J. Hattersley, P.M. 2262; G. May, 771; A. L. Bullen, W.M. 1614; E. Buck, 860; H. Salter, P.M. 861; W. Salmon, W.M. 2426; W. Beecroft, S.W. 1158; F. C. Bradley, 15; E. W. Roach, 569; A. J. Elworthy, J.W. 809, P.P.G.P. Cambs.; J. H. Pearson, P.M. 1567; J. O'Dea, J.W. 1178; H. Abel, 1178; N. Hodgson, J.W. 1613; G. P. Pointer, I.P.M. 1613; Wm. Suggs, P.M. 33, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; E. Dare, P.M. 1650; C. R. Smith, 1656; E. T. Moore, P.M. and Sec. 2077; G. Coleman, P.M. 1614; G. Cashford, 1364; C. Dearing, P.G.S. of W. Berks; W. Roots, P.M. 1273; W. Gentle, 178; R. H. Kearsey, S.W. 15; W. Wingham, P.M. 25; J. Howlett, 15; H. Rogers, 1673; A. Vernon, 1441; G. F. L. Foulger, 1076; W. W. Soar, 45; T. Durrans, 1385; W. C. Henderson, 1563; W. Belchamber, W.M. 193; J. J. Skyrme, 2262; and J. Morrison McLeod, Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge (No. 2076).—This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 3rd inst. Present: Bros. Prof. T. Hayter Lewis, W.M.; W. H. Rylands, I.P.M.; Dr. Wynn Westcott, S.W.; Rev. C. J. Ball, J.W.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; C. Kupferschmidt, J.D.; R. F. Gould, P.M., P.G.D., D.C.; C. Purdon Clarke, C.I.E., I.G.; S. T. Klein, Stwd.; Col. S. C. Pratt, P.M.; and E. J. Castle, Q.C. Also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. E. Haward, C. Fletcher, Col. Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., T. W. Leaver, J. Jackman, J. Kemsley, Rev. C. H. Malden, G. R. Cobham, J. F. Creswick, C. B. Barnes, J. W. Stevens, Rev. J. H. Scott, J. Robbins, R. A. B. Preston, R. Roy, Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C.; H. J. Sturgeon, R. H. Pring, F. W. Levander, Prof. F. W. Driver, E. T. Edwards, B. A. Smith, H. French Bromhead, J. Thompson, C. A. Hardwick, D. Young, W. G. Boswell, J. A. Randall, C. M. Brander, J. W. S. Godding, G. Gregson, G. A. Nock, and W. S. Hanks. Visitors: Bros. H. J. Shelley, P.M. 1981; R. Taylor, W.M. 140; and W. F. Longman, 236.

The following two lodges and 63 brethren were elected to the membership of the Correspondence Circle: Hope Lodge, No. 2419, Allora, Queensland; Etruscan Lodge, No. 546; Bros. C. L. Fox, 2419, Allora, Queensland; T. J. MacConnell and A. Miller, P.A.G.D.C., both of No. 36, Ballarat, Victoria; J. C. Moyle, P.D.G.W., Moulmein, Burma; K. R. Khoshro, 1260, Bombay; L. MacLean, W.M. 398 (S.C.), Cape Town; W. H. Upton, P.M. 13, Walla, U.S.A.; H. A. Chambers, D.G.M., Chattanooga, Ga.; G. H. Morgan, G.W., Cookville, P. N. Matlock, G.W., Kenton, A. S. Meyers, P.D.G.M., Memphis, W. G. Sadler, P.M., and B. D. Trevanion, P.M., both of Nashville, all in the State of Tennessee; Dr. J. W. Chamberlin, 163, and L. M. Fisher, both of St. Paul, Minnesota; S. B. Wright, J.G.W., De Land, Florida; H. M. Orahoud, P.G.M., F. B. Hill, P.M., J. B. Bissell, P.M., and E. C. Parmelee, G. Sec., all of Denver, Colorado; J. C. Pocock, W.M. 224; F. R. Pim, J.G.D., Dublin; J. S. Cooper, 541; E. Marston, P.P.G. Std. Br.; E. Turnbull, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Beever, W.M. 1375; J. W. Houlden, 126; Dr. A. Cran, 1504; T. Cowley, P.M. 302; J. Ingley and A. P. Rendell, 974; Rev. J. G. Munday, P.P.G.C.; W. H. Sissons, D.P.G.M.; H. J. Sparks, P.D.D.G.M.; Capt. F. E. Cooper, R.A., P.M. 231; H. Roberts, 1674; S. J. Amos, 1674; Col. C. Hunter, P.P.G.M., Aberdeenshire East; the Rev. W. E. Scott-Hall, 1672; O. G. Bush, 2153; W. Life, 1313; H. D. Willcock, 1466; H. M. Biggleston, 31; T. W. Leaver, 11. Taylor, and C. A. Hardwick, P.G. Stwd., all of 1347; A. P. Youle, 1; J. F. Creswick, P.G. Treas. Middx.; G. Corble, P.P.G.W. Essex; A. E. Mullins, 1446; J. Shepherd, P.M. 140; the Rev. J. Beeby, 1820; W. S. Hanks, 5 (S.C.); J. A. Randall and W. G. Boswell, both of 1963; A. MacDowall,

P.M. 948; J. Jacobs, 1839; G. Olliver, 694; W. W. Snelling, P.M. 1541; J. Roper, 1074; J. A. Gartley, P.M. 205; E. Life, 1381; and H. E. Peck, 1381.

In the absence of the writer, the Secretary read a paper on "Sikh Initiation" by Bro. W. Simpson, P.M., to whom a cordial vote of thanks was accorded.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant for dinner.

Scots Lodge (No. 2319).—A lodge of emergency was held at the Scottish Corporation Hall, Fleetstreet, for the purpose of initiating Mr. David Alfred Ainge, of British Guiana, at present home on a visit. Bro. John Page, P.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. John Whitehead, as I.P.M.; D. F. Gellion, P.M., as S.W.; Jos. Whitehead, as J.W.; James Thomson, Sec., as S.D.; Dr. Forbes, J.D.; and D. L. Duncan, I.G. There were also present Bros. Barley Smith, J. Greig, F. J. Young, John Bennett, Thomas Charteris, and W. Robertson, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. John Paterson, P.M. 13 (S.C.), and Murray, P.M. 1706.

The lodge was opened, and the letter to the W.M., showing cause for the lodge of emergency having been read, a ballot was taken, which proved unanimously in Mr. David Ainge's favour, and he was duly initiated. Bro. Thomas Charteris was afterwards passed to the Degree of F.C. Bro. Whitehead having shown the W.M. the warrant of his appointment by Bro. J. H. Forshaw, Prov. G.M. Aberdeen City, to be his Prov. Sub. G.M. of the province, the W.M. asked Bro. Whitehead's permission to allow the Secretary to read the warrant in open lodge. Consent being given, the warrant was read, and, after most hearty congratulations from all the brethren present, it was resolved to have a copy of it entered upon the Scots Lodge minutes. All who know Bro. Whitehead's zeal for Masonry, not only in his lodge in Aberdeen City, where his business takes him frequently every month, but in the Metropolis, where he has served the Craft in general with all faithfulness, and the Scots Lodge in particular as a founder and most genial of Masters, will welcome the pleasant news of the high honours he has obtained from the new Prov. Grand Master of Aberdeen City and from Grand Lodge at Edinburgh, as it may be remembered Bro. Whitehead was elected Grand Steward in the Grand Lodge of Scotland last year.

After the lodge was closed, light refreshments and a very pleasant hour was spent in the adjoining room, concluding, as is the custom in this lodge, with a very hearty rendering of "Auld Lang Syne."

Bishopsgate Lodge (No. 2396).—A very pleasant and busy meeting was held under the presidency of its W.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. and Alderman H. D. Davies, on Monday, the 27th ult., at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street. Present: Bros. H. J. Tibbatts, S.W.; A. J. Hollington, C.C., L.C.C., P.G.S., J.W.; Milton Smith, Sec.; S. Jacobs, P.P.G.P. Herts, S.D.; Henry Mead, C.C., P.P.G.D.C. Middx., D.C.; A. P. Little, Steward; Dr. Haskins, Org.; G. N. Johnson, C.C., P.G.S., I.P.M.; Henry Clarke, C.C., L.C.C., P.M.; A. Wagstaff, C.C.; C. J. Thomas, C.C.; D. A. Romain, W. Newman, E. H. Mead, G. E. Mead, T. Robinson, and R. H. Goddard, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. R. J. Stamp, 1815; E. W. Roach, 569; and E. Harrison, 569.

The lodge having been opened, Bro. Thomas Robinson was duly raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. Messrs. Robert Douglas Colquhoun and A. John Skipper were balloted for, duly elected, and initiated. One initiate and two joining members were nominated for ballot at the next meeting. A resolution was duly passed for alteration of the by-laws, so as to raise the subscription £1 1s. per annum.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, presided over by the W.M. The usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening passed. The harmony of the meeting was considerably enhanced by some excellent songs rendered by the members and visitors.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

CROYDON.

George Price Lodge (No. 2096).—A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Public Hall on Saturday, the 4th inst. Bro. F. W. Leaver, W.M., occupied the chair, the other brethren present being Bros. Hinton, acting S.W.; E. C. Leaver, J.W.; F. T. Redpath, P.M., Treas.; J. D. Langton, P.M., Sec.; Dr. Wayte, S.D.; Hayward, J.D.; J. Jones, I.G.; Nat. C. Crew, D.C.; F. Cambridge, P.M., Org.; W. G. Goode, P.M., and Pearson, Stwds.; Lane, Tyler; J. H. Price, I.P.M.; Thos. Whitford, W. F. Gresham, W. T. Wilkinson, H. A. Wilkinson, Herbert A. Brown, T. W. Hall, W. G. Sheldon, C. W. Redpath, and J. T. Fielder. The visitors were Bros. Englefield, P.M. 1321; Gunner, P.M. 720; James Hemming, P.M. 1287; G. Grimes, W.M. 2362; W. O. Welsford, Sec. 1321; W. J. Harris, W.M. 1321; and Yates, I.G. 2395.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. William Foster Gresham was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. Herbert Arthur Wilkinson and William Thomas Wilkinson were passed to the Second Degree. As the next regular meeting would fall upon the day before Easter Sunday, it was resolved that a dispensation should be applied for to enable the lodge to meet on the 8th instead of the 1st of April. The Audit Committee was appointed. Two candidates for initiation were proposed and seconded.

The business of the lodge being ended, it was closed, and the brethren adjourned to dinner.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, in proposing the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master," the W.M. expressed the regret that all Surrey Masons must feel at the illness of Col. Money, and all would join in the hope that he would soon recover.

In responding for "The Provincial Grand Officers," Bro. Langton, Prov. Charity Secretary, urged the brethren to give their support to the case of Laura Lendrim, a candidate for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, whose case had been selected by the Provincial Charity Committee.

Bro. J. H. Price, I.P.M., gave the toast of "The Worshipful Master." He congratulated the W.M. on having plenty of work to do and on the manner in which he conducted the business of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, expressed his pleasure at the increase in the lodge which had taken place during his year in the chair. He reminded the brethren

that he was going up to the Festival of the Boys' School as Steward of the lodge.

Other toasts having been given, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

During the evening songs were given by Bros. Gresham, Yates, Whitford, Harris, Redpath, and the W.M. A recitation was given by Bro. J. H. Price, I.P.M. Bro. F. Cambridge, P.M., P.P.G. Org., presided at the piano.

DONCASTER.

St. George's Lodge (No. 242).—The usual monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. George's Club Rooms on Friday, the 3rd instant, when there were present Bros. F. Webb, W.M.; G. G. Wilkie, P.M.; J. Fitzgerald, I.P.M.; F. D. Walker, P.P.S.G.D.; F. Rand, P.P.J.G.D.; A. Parkin, P.M.; C. Goldthorpe, P.M.; F. J. Forth, P.M., Sec.; C. W. Fretwell, P.M.; E. Newsum, S.W.; W. Blake, J.W.; J. H. Pawson, S.D.; F. H. Buckland, J.D.; G. Smith, I.G.; C. Woodhouse, as Org.; S. Lester and T. W. Turner, Stwds.; W. Goodair, F. Duff, J. Rayner, A. J. Sanderson, F. Barron, P. Jenner, H. Foster, W. H. Chambers, C. Frood, J. Denison, G. J. Smith, C. Hopkinson, and others. Visitors: Bros. J. Constable, 1482 and 2259; H. B. Thorpe, 458; and J. T. Barber, 2259.

After the lodge was opened, ballots were taken for Messrs. G. M. Parkinson, S. B. Castle, and H. W. Burnett, which were unanimously successful, and Messrs. H. Gunby and G. M. Parkinson were then initiated. A sum of £12 was voted to pay off the debt on the piano.

After lodge a light supper was partaken of in the ante-room.

KELVEDON.

Easterford Lodge (No. 2342).—It is given to few to have the power, and even when the means exist, there are a still smaller number who are willing to devote the time and the trouble to superintending a grand and hospitable display, such as was witnessed on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at Felix Hall, the seat of Bro. Capt. H. A. Weatherall. Indeed, except when a lodge happens to be under the immediate direction of some one of our titled and most wealthy Prov. G.M.'s, it is very seldom that a meeting of that lodge can be held elsewhere than in the regular and usual lodge rooms. Easterford Lodge happily rejoices in numbering amongst its members a brother who, blessed not alone with ample means and a palatial country seat, is at the same time a most zealous and devoted worker in the Craft, and it was indeed a happy thought which led him to conceive and carry out the idea of converting his library at Felix Hall into a charming lodge, and of throwing open his famous dining room as a banquet hall. A special dispensation for this arrangement was obtained from the P.G.M., Bro. Lord Brooke, and on Thursday, the 2nd inst., a great gathering of Essex Masons, as also of many visitors from various parts, assembled to do honour to the occasion, which was no less than that of the installation of the kind and generous host into the chair of Easterford Lodge.

The lodge was opened by the retiring Master, Bro. J. L. Ogier, and after the confirmation of the minutes and the reception of the Auditors' report, Bro. Capt. H. A. Weatherall, S.W. and W.M. elect, was duly presented, and placed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. Ogier in an admirable manner. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Ogier, and before the lodge was closed, Bro. J. H. Salter, P.M., in a very charming and eulogistic speech, begged Bro. Ogier's acceptance of a very handsome Past Master's jewel, as a token of the regard and esteem in which he was held by the members of the lodge, and as a small, but nevertheless appreciative, memento of the excellence of his services during his year of office. Bro. Salter, in conclusion, wished to express the regret that he and all the other members of the lodge felt at Bro. Ogier's departure from Essex, but they entertained no doubt that the Masonic brethren of Guernsey, which was now to be Bro. Ogier's place of residence, would give so excellent a brother a hearty welcome amongst them.

The lodge being closed, the brethren were marshalled into the glorious dining room of Felix Hall, where the hospitality of the generous host was as princely and sumptuous as it was unbounded. Between 60 and 70 brethren sat down to dinner.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were pleasingly interspersed with most excellent harmony, vocal and instrumental, and celebrated as Felix Hall has been in the past for its conviviality and lavish hospitality, never, we venture to assert, was a toast within those walls more enthusiastically or more warmly received than that of "Bro. Captain Weatherall," most feelingly and eloquently proposed by the senior Past Master, Bro. Rev. Thomas Lloyd, P.J.G.W., P.P.G.C. Staffordshire.

In response to the toast of "The Masonic Charities" Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, Secretary Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, made a most interesting and eloquent appeal to the Essex brethren, an appeal emphasised by the fact that Bro. Lord Brooke, P.G.M., was to take the chair at the annual Festival of the Boys' School in June next. We are quite sure Bro. McLeod's words have not fallen on barren soil, and the Prov. Grand Master of Essex may rely on being cordially and generously supported by his county on that occasion. It is, we fear, impossible to give an accurate or complete list of all the brethren present on this almost unique occasion in the Masonic annals of Essex. Herewith, however, follow the names of the officers of Easterford Lodge: Bros. Capt. H. A. Weatherall, W.M.; J. L. Ogier, I.P.M.; Sir W. N. Abdy, Bart., S.W.; C. T. Thorn, J.W.; the Rev. T. Lloyd, P.M., P.P.G. Chap., Chap.; J. H. Salter, P.M., Prov. J.G.W., Treas.; M. W. Meade, P.M. 1977, P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; R. Galpin, S.D.; J. W. Moss, J.D.; G. A. Eustace, P.M. 697, P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; Leonard T. King, Org.; A. Livermore, I.G.; Stanley T. King, H. T. King, R. B. Smith, and H. Ledger, Stwds.; and J. Inifer, Tyler. Of the many Past Masters present we noticed Bros. Lennox Browne, E. H. Bailey, T. G. Greaves, F. C. Herbert, and A. B. Sparling. And amongst the visitors we observed Bros. Balfour Cockburn, T. V. Raffles, J. Morrison McLeod, Partoiji Ayasa, H. T. Telbin, E. A. Bashman, and others.

We must not omit to mention that letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Bros. Lord Brooke, F. A. Phillbrick, Q.C., D. Prov. G. Master; Col. A. B. Cook, and several other distinguished members of the Craft. The Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Thomas J. Ralling, however, was present, and ably supported the new W.M. in lodge and banquet.

PLUMSTEAD.

Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The meeting of this lodge, at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, on Thursday, the 2nd instant, was rendered more than ordinarily interesting by the fact that upon that occasion the worthy son of a worthy sire was received into the Order with much éclat. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. W. Campbell-Taylor, and the minutes having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. H. G. Mason, son of Bro. H. Mason, and proved unanimous. Bro. Mason, who is an esteemed Past Master of the lodge, by special request, initiated the candidate, and was warmly congratulated, not only on the masterly manner in which he performed the ceremony, but on having the pleasure of initiating one of his own family into the ranks of the good old Pattison. The W.M. raised Bro. James to the Third Degree, and gave the lecture in the First Degree admirably, and on the lodge being closed, the brethren dined, and spent a few hours in toast and harmony.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. W. Busbridge, I.P.M.; Dr. E. Bryceson, S.W.; C. J. Clapham, J.W.; Rev. J. W. Horsley, Chap.; C. Coupland, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; J. J. Collins, S.D.; D. K. Somers, J.D.; J. O. Cook, I.G.; C. W. Scantlebury, D.C.; S. M. Taylor, A.D.C.; R. F. Tyler, Org.; R. B. Saunders, Stwd.; A. Penfold, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; R. J. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.R.; R. Edmonds, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon.); and a number of the brethren of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. F. Wood, P.M. 1973, P.P.G.R.; G. Bartholomew, P.M. 1673; G. F. Taylor, W.M., W. Webber, P.M., W. Lawson, S.W., and M. Bell, of 700; W. Moulds, P.M. 1536, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Bell, 1536; H. Ogle, W.M. 1673; H. R. Adams, 2394; E. Reed (S.C.); J. Fenn, 1950; Lieut. Simpson, P.M. 2195; A. McNair, 1472; G. B. Davis, P.M. 13; A. F. Taylor, J.D. 1364; and E. Chinery, 184.

SELBY.

St. Germain Lodge (No. 566).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the lodge room, on Friday, the 24th ult., when Bro. W. Wilkinson, S.W., was installed as W.M., the ceremony of installation being performed in a very impressive manner by Bro. W. Staniland, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., after which the W.M. invested his officers, as follows: Bros. J. F. Watson, I.P.M.; F. W. Sykes, S.W.; S. M. Scott, J.W.; W. N. Cheeman, P.M., Treas.; G. W. Hudson, P.M., Sec.; G. A. Buckingham, S.D.; J. Giddy, J.D.; M. H. Cargill, Org.; W. Nutt, I.G.; G. H. Harrison and P. B. Scott, Stwds.; and V. Rawling, Tyler.

At the close of the ceremony the brethren sat down to a banquet provided by Bro. C. S. Bowman, at the Londesborough Arms. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and Masonic toast were duly honoured.

Among the visitors were Bros. R. Hudson, P.G. Sec. Durham, P.G.S.B. England; Emmott, W.M. 630; Loam, S.W. 630; Darley, Cheesborough, Braithwaite, Spencer, and Mabin, P.M.

STOCKPORT.

Unanimity Lodge (No. 287).—The regular meeting of the above lodge was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at the White Lion Hotel, Bro. George Roberts, P.P.G.S., W.M., presiding. The following brethren were present: Bros. J. W. Howard, J.W.; Chas. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; James Cookson, P.P.G.T., Sec.; J. T. Hudson, P.P.G.S.; J. A. Cookson, I.G.; E. Edmondson, Org.; John Leigh, P.P.G.P., D.C.; Thos. Aspinall, P.M.; W. W. Lancaster, P.M.; Henry Smith, P.M.; G. E. Smith, P.M.; H. J. Carrington, Thos. Thormley, Alfred Taylor, and W. Jones.

SURBITON.

Surbiton Lodge (No. 2146).—At the meeting of this lodge on the 21st ult., the W.M., Bro. T. H. R. Beck, P.S.G.D., was supported by a full attendance of his officers and a numerous gathering of brethren. The visitors present were Bros. H. J. Shelley, I.P.M. 1981, P.A.G.P.; J. A. Mills, 781; A. Watkin, 889; and C. G. Sherwood, 2191.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were read, and Mr. Herman K. Scott was duly balloted for, and being favourably received, was initiated with good working. The next business was the presentation of a handsome time-piece to Bro. Albert Storr, P.M., P.P.G.P., the late Secretary of the lodge. In making the presentation, the W.M. referred to the active steps Bro. Storr took in the formation of a Masonic lodge in Surbiton, and highly eulogised his energetic work in the promotion of Masonry in the district since. He hoped Bro. Storr would be spared many years to look upon the clock, and in doing so that he would ever be reminded of the Surbiton Lodge, and the hearty good wishes of the members. Bro. Storr, in reply, said he deeply felt the expression of esteem and regard which the brethren had extended to him, and he should always think with pleasure of the happy evenings spent with the brethren, who had always rendered him every assistance. Bro. Storr's connection with Masonry has been of some 17 years' standing. He is a P.M. of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1658, in which he was initiated, having passed the chair in five years. As a founder of the Surbiton Lodge, Bro. Storr was at the consecration appointed to the S.W.'s chair, and unanimously elected W.M. in the next year. He was also Preceptor of the Surbiton Lodge of Instruction from its formation until a recent date.

After some business discussion, and "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

St. Peter's Lodge (No. 419).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Star and Garter Hotel, when there were present Bros. F. T. Beach, W.M.; E. Berry, S.W.; H. Allen, J.W.; J. Seddon, P.P.G.C., Chap.; E. F. Coleman, Sec.; T. C. Bigwood, S.D.; W. Skett, J.D.; C. A. Newnham, P.G. Treas., D.C.; T. E. Lowe, I.G.; R. H. Lord, Stwd.; J. Lyne, Tyler, W. Corke, P.M., P.G.R.; G. H. Stanger, P.M., P.P.G.R.; R. Gibson, P.M., P.P.G.W.; G. Vaughan, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd.; J. Beattie, P.M., P.P. G. Stwd.; J. Bradney, P.M.; De La Haye, T. Knight, W. J. Jessop, W. Howell, A. C. Imetts, A. Orme, A. C. Skidmore, F. H. Skidmore, H. M. Lord, W. E. Allen, J. Bigwood, J. N. Lester, and S. Dean, Org. Visitors: Bros. J. Bindley, D.P.G.M. (in charge) Staffordshire; and H. P. Smith, W.M. 1838; and others.

The lodge was opened, and Bro. F. H. Skidmore was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. The D.P.G.M. expressed himself as highly pleased with the work of the lodge, and stated the pleasure it gave him to visit the lodge of St. Peter's, owing to the very kind reception given to him.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the supper room and spent the evening pleasantly, a most enjoyable musical programme having been provided, of which two plantation songs, sung by Bros. Dean, Howell, Stanger, and Skett, were a great treat.

The usual toasts were given, Bro. J. Bindley, D.P.G.M., responding for "Provincial Grand Lodge."

Tudor Lodge of Rifle Volunteers

(No. 1838).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge, held on Friday, the 3rd instant, at the Drill Hall, was of more than usual interest as the business agenda included the initiation of "the Rt. Hon. William Heneage, Earl of Dartmouth, Privy Councillor," &c. There were present Bros. H. P. Smith, W.M.; F. Nokes, I.P.M.; E. Procter, S.W.; J. D. Wassell, J.W.; Rev. W. Prosser, Chap.; T. G. Bennet, Sec.; T. F. Waterhouse, S.D.; T. Wolverson, acting J.D.; G. W. Walker, A.P.G. Sec., D.C.; I. Roper, Mus. Bac., Org.; C. L. N. Wilson, I.G.; Col. J. A. Bindley, D.P.G.M. in charge; R. Longdon, P.M.; J. Woods, P.M.; E. H. Thorne, P.M., P.G. Sec.; A. McBean, P.M., P.G.S. of W.; J. B. Morgan, P.M.; J. F. Chapman, P.M.; C. W. Graham, P.P.A.G.D.C.; E. H. Smith, T. Ridley, Bailey, Rowland Tildesley, R. Ault, H. S. Hill, John Arman, and Charles Edwardes. The visitors included Bros. C. A. Newnham, P.M. 419, P.G. Treas.; R. Gibson, P.M. 419, P.P.A. G.D.C.; W. Corke, P.M. 419; F. T. Beck, W.M. 419; J. F. Pepper, P.M. 482, P.P.S.G.W.; H. Payton, P.M. 482; T. J. Barnett, P.M. 526; F. G. Liddington, P.M. 526; C. Colledge, 526; W. Baker, 526; Harold Holcroft, 526; W. G. Lowe, P.M. 624, P.P.S.G.D.; J. W. Willmore, P.M. 539; W. Walters, 696; W. G. Taylor, W.M. 726; P. H. Harston, 726; the Hon. G. A. Anson, 726; G. H. Rooker, P.M. 1016; M. Barker, P.M. 1792, P.P.G.W.; Thaddeus Ryder, P.M. 1792, P.P.S.G.D.; and F. G. Barker, 1792.

The lodge having been opened by the W.M., the Deputy Prov. G.M. in charge took the chair, and gave a short address to the brethren. The W.M. having resumed his gavel, proceeded to initiate Lord Dartmouth, and also gave the charge after initiation.

After banquet, the W.M. having given "The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W. Grand Master and Officers of Grand Lodge," in proposing "The Provincial Grand Lodge," heartily welcomed the D.P.G.M., and congratulated him on his restored health.

After the D.P.G.M. had replied, Bro. Major E. H. Thorne proposed "The Health of the W.M.," congratulating him on the excellent and impressive manner in which he had conducted the ceremony of initiation.

The W.M. having replied, The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Health of the Initiate, Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth," pointing out the additional prestige that must come to the Craft by so distinguished an addition to its members, Bro. Lord Dartmouth being the Lord Lieutenant of the Province of Staffordshire.

Bro. Lord Dartmouth, in replying, said that he appreciated the honour of being admitted a member of so ancient and honourable an institution, and that it would be his sincere wish to make daily advancement in the Art.

The toast of "The Past Masters" having been given, duly honoured, and replied to by the I.P.M. and Bro. Capt. Longden and Major Walker,

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Visitors," expressing his pleasure at seeing so many distinguished brethren present, and coupling the toast with the names of Bros. Barnett and Gibson.

"The Officers" and the Tyler's toast having been given, a very pleasant evening came to an end.

Bros. Capt. Chapman and Baker contributed some capital songs, which were much appreciated.

Mark Masonry.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge (No. 211).

This lodge met at Anderton's Hotel on the 23rd ult. Among those present were Bros. Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G. S.B., Sec., acting W.M., in the unavoidable absence, through indisposition, of Bro. S. H. Parkhouse; Huish, S.W., W.M. elect; P. Monson, J.W.; Wadham, M.O.; Dr. Kiallmark, P.M., S.O.; J. N. Frye, P.M., Treas.; Larter, S.D.; R. Lauson, P.M., P.P.G.M.O.; F. C. Frye, M.P., P.M.; and others.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The dispensation from the Grand Master having been read, Bro. Huish was duly installed as W.M. by the Secretary. The following appointments and investitures were made: Bros. P. Monson, S.W.; Wadham, J.W.; Dr. Kiallmark, M.O.; G. Gardner, S.O.; Larter, J.O.; J. N. Frye, P.M., Treas.; T. C. Walls, P.M., Sec.; Beard, S.D.; and Ellis, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master. The report of the Audit Committee, a very satisfactory one, was received and adopted. The presentation of a Past Master's jewel to Bro. S. H. Parkhouse was postponed till the next meeting. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. S. H. Parkhouse, Dr. Pocock, P.M.; Rickwood, P.M.; Skinner, P.M.; G. Gardner, S.O.; Beard, S.D.; D. P. Cama (Hon. Mem.); and others. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet, ably catered for by Bro. A. Clemow, followed. The W.M. ably presided.

A few toasts were given.

During the intervals the family of Bro. R. Lauson, P.M., gave many excellent vocal and instrumental selections.

The proceedings were throughout highly successful.

It has been arranged that the performance of the late Lord Tennyson's "Becket," which was to have been given by Bro. Henry Irving and the Lyceum Company at Windsor Castle, on Friday next, the 17th inst., shall take place on the following day. The Lyceum, therefore, will be closed on the Saturday, and there will be a performance of "Becket" at the theatre on the 17th inst.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 23).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 20th ult., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham. Present: Bros. J. Mitchell, W.M.; T. Nettleship, S.W.; Janau, J.W.; W. W. Westley, Preceptor; J. Andrews, Sec.; I. Gilbert, S.D.; J. Harvey, J.D.; Windsor, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; Cochrane, P.M.; Beaven, P.M.; Russell, P.M.; H. Mitchell, E. Lyall, King, C. Woods, Folkard, and Langdon.

Lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the last lodge read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. J. Harvey, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and Bro. J. Harvey raised to the Degree of a M.M. Lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and Bro. Andrews installed Bro. J. Mitchell, who appointed and invested his officers. The W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Nettleship was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

ROBERT BURNS LODGE (No. 25).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, 28th ult., at the "Frascati," 30, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. W. Truman, W.M.; A. Becker, S.W.; F. Klein, J.W.; E. C. Mulvey, P.M., Preceptor; F. J. Bonham, Sec.; F. Hewson, S.D.; C. D. Lindsay, J.D.; O. Bruster, I.G.; J. Mason, and W. Shales.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Shales answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Shales being candidate. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hewson being candidate. Bro. A. Becker was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and was pleased to appoint his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

HIGH CROSS LODGE (No. 754).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Coach and Horses, High-road, Tottenham, when the following brethren were present: Bros. Ruthven, W.M.; J. L. Driscoll, S.W.; Broughton, J.W.; Binnie, P.M., Preceptor; Garrod, P.M., Treas.; B. Stocker, Sec.; Everdell, P.M., S.D.; Dexter, J.D.; Reeves, I.G.; Brown, and Barnes.

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. Brown being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the Second Degree. The lodge was called off and on. Bro. J. L. Driscoll, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Ruthven for the very able and intelligent manner in which he had presided and rehearsed the ceremonies for the first time in this lodge. After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 24th ult., at the Six Bells Hotel, Hammersmith, when there were present Bros. G. E. Stafford, W.M.; W. Hide, S.W.; W. Hinds, J.W.; J. Sims, P.M., Preceptor; A. Williams, Treas.; D. S. Long, Sec.; J. Banks, S.D.; R. H. Williams, J.D.; F. Craggs, I.G.; and F. Nash.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degree. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. A. Williams offering himself a candidate for passing, was questioned and entrusted. Lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed, the W.M. giving the explanation of the tracing board. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the brethren, under the direction of Bro. A. Williams, and the 2nd and 3rd Sections under the direction of Bro. Sims. The W.M. having risen, the S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

BURGOYNE LODGE (No. 902).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the King's Arms, John-street, W.C., when there were present Bros. F. Reeves, W.M.; W. R. Barr, S.W.; S. Rashleigh, J.W.; J. Andrews, J.D.; A. W. Humphreys, I.G.; and H. Baldwin, P.M.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of last lodge read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Humphreys candidate, the charge being given by the W.M. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by the W.M., and the 2nd Section by Bro. Andrews, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Humphreys was proposed as a joining member. Bro. Reeves gave notice of motion for the following addition to by-laws: "That any member who shall have introduced 12 new joining members shall be considered to have rendered signal service to the lodge, and shall become an honorary life member." The lodge was then closed.

STANHOPE LODGE (No. 1269).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on the 4th inst., at the Fox and Hound's Hotel, Putney, when there were present Bros. W. Tucker, W.M.; Bond, S.W.; Spooner, J.W.; Juby, S.D.; Hunt, J.D.; Thompson, I.G.; W. C. Page, P.M., Preceptor; Alfred Grant, Sec.; Collins, Pyke, Hoggett, Radford, Chumley, Carter, Nicholson, and R. T. West.

The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed by Bro. Tucker, Bro. Chumley being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Bond, who again rehearsed the ceremony, Bro. Hoggett being the candidate. The lodge was then called off and on. Bro. Hoggett, 1461, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Bond was elected W.M. for the ensuing week.

The lodge was only re-opened in the early part of the year, and it now musters over 50 members, which speaks well for the tuition rendered by the Preceptor, Bro. W. C. Page, P.M.

BLACKHEATH LODGE (No. 1320).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Milkwood Tavern, Milkwood-road, Loughborough Junction, on Monday, the 6th inst., when there were present Bros. Rice, W.M.; Hooper, S.W.; Telling, J.W.; F. Hilton, P.M., Preceptor; T. R. Cass, Treas.; C. H. Stone, Sec.; Pack, S.D.; Niblett, J.D.; Turner, I.G.; Salmon, H.

G. Martin, Plant, McMilan, Fairer, Sly, Baldwin, Hill, and Hopley.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. McMilan being candidate. The 2nd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Hilton, P.M., assisted by Bro. Hooper, P.M. The 3rd Section was worked by Bro. Hilton, P.M., assisted by Bro. Hill. The 6th Section was worked by Bro. Hilton, assisted by Bro. Salmon. Bro. McMilan, 1320, and Bro. Fairer, 1512, were elected members. Bro. Hooper, S.W., was elected W.M. for Monday next. The 15 Sections will be rehearsed on Monday, the 27th inst., under the able President, Bro. F. Hilton, P.M., Preceptor, commencing at 7 p.m. sharp.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. R. Philip Upton, W.M.; G. T. Peall, S.W.; J. W. Clarke, J.W.; J. Petch, P.P.G.S.B. Herts, Treas., acting Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, Sec.; C. Smith, S.D.; D. C. Ritchie, J.D.; J. Amand, I.G.; J. Duncan, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; E. J. Harrison, D. M. Forbes, E. G. Young, A. Oliver, R. Loomes, and T. E. Newman.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, when Bro. Harrison answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Harrison being the candidate, Bro. Clarke giving the traditional history. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. Bro. Peall was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bro. Duncan, P.M., was unanimously elected joint Secretary of the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

COVENT GARDEN LODGE (No. 1614).—The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, S.W., on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. Jones, W.M.; Dukas, S.W.; Bond, J.W.; Foan, Preceptor; Hoggins, Asst. Preceptor; G. Reynolds, Treas.; Keen, Sec.; S. Walker, Org.; Newell, S.D.; Harris, J.D.; Morrell, I.G.; Chapman, Kirk, Swan, Norrington, Warren, Nice, Osborne, Webb, Burgess, Buxton, Sandland, Warwick, Robinson, Plowes, Bray, Harbert, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Norrington having offering himself as a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, and having answered the usual questions satisfactorily, was entrusted and retired. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The W.M. rehearsed the Degree of M.M. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. On rising for the first time, the following brethren were unanimously elected joining members of the lodge of instruction: Bros. Webb, 1745; Osborne, 1287; Plowes, 1861; and Bray, 1348. On rising for the second time, Bro. Dukas was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, Bro. Sandland (one of the Auditors) read the Auditor's report for 1892, which showed that all accounts for the year having been paid there remained a balance of £5 5s. for a ballot for one of the Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Charities, which fell to Bro. J. Wise. The attendance of members had been good during the past year, giving an average of little over 16 at each meeting. On the proposition of Bro. Bond, J.W., seconded by Bro. Dukas, S.W., the report was unanimously approved and adopted. The W.M. proposed that a vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes to Bros. Hoggins, G. Reynolds, Keene, and G. H. Reynolds for their kindness and the manner in which they had acted as Scrutineers. Seconded by the Preceptor, and carried unanimously. The several brethren returned thanks, saying that it had been a most pleasurable duty. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, when there were present Bros. F. A. Barth, W.M.; W. B. Neville, S.W.; C. G. Hatt, J.W.; George Read, P.M., Preceptor; R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., Treas.; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; T. Kingston, S.D.; W. Thwaites, J.D.; H. R. Elkin, I.G.; E. E. Gellowski, P.M.; Lewis Beale, G. W. T. Kirkham, R. H. Catling, and J. H. Neville.

The lodge was opened according to ancient custom, and the ceremonies of initiation and passing were duly rehearsed. The 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Catling was elected a joining member, and Bro. W. B. Neville was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The ballot for a Life Subscribership of one of the Masonic Charities was taken, and resulted in favour of Bro. Thwaites. The lodge was then closed.

ST. AMBROSE LODGE (No. 1891).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 27th ult., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, when there were present Bros. T. W. Blott, W.M.; C. G. Hatt, S.W.; T. C. Dyer, J.W.; Jesse Collings, P.M., Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; C. C. Barber, S.D.; Joseph Cox, J.D.; Philip Howard, I.G.; J. H. Morrish, A. Williams, P.M., and others.

The lodge having been duly opened, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Morrish acting as candidate. A brother offered himself as a candidate for passing, and having been duly examined, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony rehearsed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Jesse Collings, Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The 2nd Section was worked in like manner. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and Bro. Hatt was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, W. Present: Bros. R. J. Williams, W.M.; Hyde, S.W.; Whiteley, J.W.; A. Williams, P.M., Preceptor; M. Spiegel, P.M., Sec.; Hillier, S.D.; Pinchbeck, J.D.; McDermott, I.G.; J. Sims, P.M.; Barth, Powell, Edelstein, Reid, Bone, and Kirkham.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro.

Barth being a candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed. Bro. Edelstein being a candidate for raising, was examined and entrusted, and the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. Bro. Hyde was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

CHICHESTER—LODGE OF UNION (No. 38).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Dolphin Hotel, on Thursday, the 3rd ult., when there were present Bros. A. J. Raven, W.M.; D. Waddington, S.W.; H. H. Moore, J.W.; J. St. Clair, P.M. 38, 1726, W.M. 38, P.P.J.G.W. Sussex, Preceptor; Edward King, Sec.; G. Fielder, S.D.; S. Baker, J.D.; C. R. B. Knight, I.G.; R. E. Browne, C. Brassfield, C. F. Charge, P.M. 38, and others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Apologies from several brethren for non-attendance, in consequence of the prevailing epidemic—influenza—were received. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Brassfield personating the candidate. The W.M. explained the working tools in this Degree. The lodge was closed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first and second times. Bro. Moore proposed "That a sum be given from the lodge funds to the R.M.I. for Boys, and placed on the list of Bro. Geo. Fielder, who has accepted a Stewardship for the next Anniversary Festival, in the name of Bro. J. St. Clair. Bro. Fielder thanked the brethren. Bro. Waddington was unanimously elected W.M. for the next lodge meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. On rising for the third time, the Treasurer proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Raven for his excellent working, which was duly acknowledged, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry, the lodge was closed.

HORNSEY CHAPTER (No. 890).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, corner of Eastbourne-terrace and Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Comps. J. Cruttenden, 779, M.E.Z.; J. Bailey, M.E.Z. 1602, H.; R. Roberts, J. 1195, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, S.E.; G. Gregory, P.S. 862, S.N.; A. J. Turner, 1196, P.S.; A. C. Durrant, M.E.Z. 12, H. 276, 1st Asst. S.; M. Spiegel, M.E.Z. 1556; and J. C. Tilt, N. 862. Comp. C. J. Powell, P.S. 12, was a visitor.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Powell being the candidate. A vote of thanks congratulating Comp. Cochrane, G. Treas. of England, on the honour conferred upon him by the Craft was unanimously passed. Comp. Powell was elected a member and acknowledged the compliment. The ceremony of installation of First Principal was rehearsed by Comp. Spiegel. The M.E.Z. having risen the usual number of times, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the chapter was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 3rd inst., when there were present Comps. Grumman, M.E.Z.; Ingle, H.; Salmon, J.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Thompson, S.N.; Plant, P.S.; Rice, Barr, Lewis, Dunn, North, Addington, Hill, and G. L. Moore.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Dunn personating the candidate. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Salmon, J., for so ably performing his duties, it being the first time. Comp. Ingle, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, when an installation will be rehearsed. Comp. Hilton, Preceptor, announced that he hoped to rehearse the installation ceremonies on Friday, the 24th inst.

Cryptic Masonry.

Grand Master's Council (No. 1).—This distinguished council met at Mark Masons' Hall, on the 24th ult., when there were present, among others, Comps. B. R. Bryant, P.M., Grand Lecturer, Thrice Illustrious Master; Edwin Storr, D.M.; George Powell, P., of Wks.; George Graveley, P.F.I.M., Treas.; Capt. Walls, P.F.I.M., P.D.G.M., Recorder; H. H. Shirley, M.A., C. of C.; Robert Roy, M.A.; Lieut.-Col. Vansittart, R.A.; G. Briggs, B. Stevens, Dr. Ezard, J. Moore Smith, J. Smith Nelson Prower, M.A., and others.

The minutes of the previous council having been read and confirmed, the election of Thrice Illustrious Master for the ensuing year was unanimously in favour of Comp. E. Storr; Comp. G. Graveley was re-elected Treasurer; and Comp. E. Mills, O. Sentinel. A vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to Comp. B. R. Bryant, T.I.M., and ordered to be entered on the minutes. A similar compliment was passed to the Recorder. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. the Right Honourable Lord Euston, G.M.; Dr. W. Lemon, D.D., P.G. Chaplain; Lieut.-Col. G. Lambert, F.S.A., P.D.G.M.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.D.G.M.; Major W. B. Williamson, J.P.; Major Penrose Dunbar, Dr. Pocock, H. J. Lardner, P.F.I.M.; J. J. Thomas, and many others. The resignations of Comps. Sturtevant, Cattersn, and T. Cubitt, P.F.I.M., were received with great regret. The last-named was unanimously elected as honorary member.

The council was then closed in the Degree of Select Masters, and the companions adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant to dine.

The Thrice Illustrious Master made several eloquent speeches.

The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

The 14th annual general meeting of the Irving Amateur Dramatic Club was held, by the kind permission of Bro. Henry Irving, at the Lyceum Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. The chair was occupied by Mr. Charles Fry, and on his motion, duly seconded, the report was adopted. Bro. Irving, who is President of the Club, was among those present, and made an eloquent speech, which was very greatly appreciated by the members, and in the course of which he promised the Club should have all the assistance it was in his power to give.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday. Bro. J. Newton presided, and there were present Bros. S. Vallentine, P.G.P.; James Brett, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; T. B. Purchas, P.A.G.D.C.; George E. Fairchild, A. Mullord, R. D. Cummings, R. Griggs, J. Murlis, W. Fisher, Charles Sheppard, W. Kempton, C. H. Webb, W. Belchamber, L. G. Gordon Robbins, S. V. Abraham, G.P.; M. H. Hubbert, John Barnett, A. Durrant, Jabez Hogg, P.G.D.; Charles E. Keyser, J.G.D.; Hugh Cotter, J. Harrison, C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; J. S. Cumberland, G. Allen, J. P. Fitzgerald, John Skinner, Alfred Moore, and James Terry, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous Committee having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the deaths of two male and one widow annuitants and one candidate. The Warden's Report for the past month having been read, the Secretary reported that the Anniversary Festival had been held on Wednesday, the 27th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Charles E. Keyser, J.G.D., and that the total of £8293 3s., with six lists still outstanding, had since been increased to £8438 8s. 6d., with three lists still outstanding, and it was resolved that the vote of thanks to the Chairman, which the Committee had passed by acclamation, should be engrossed on vellum.

The application of a widow for half her late husband's annuity having been granted, the Committee passed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and adjourned.

LADIES NIGHT OF THE SELWYN LODGE, No. 1901.

The Peckham Public Hall has been the scene of many functions of an interesting and enjoyable character in times past, and amid the variety of entertainments to which the hall readily lends itself, the Masonic gatherings holds foremost rank. The members of the Selwyn Lodge repair thither for the purpose of extending their hospitality and good feeling to brethren and friends. For many years the brethren of this successful lodge have assembled, with their wives and friends, for the annual ball, but this year a departure had been made, substituting a "Ladies Night" for the ball. The change originated with the present Worshipful Master of the lodge, Bro. John Lightfoot, one of the most popular Masters who has held the chair and none more capable of bringing such an entertainment to a successful issue. The event took place on Thursday, the 23rd ult., and the proceedings of the evening comprised—as set forth in the artistically-arranged programme—a reception, supper, concert, and dance, and right earnestly did the Worshipful Master and his good lady set to work to ensure that every item on the programme should be carried through with all possible comfort and enjoyment.

Eight o'clock was the hour fixed for the commencement of the reception by the Worshipful Master and Mrs. Lightfoot; by half-past large numbers of distinguished brethren with their wives, daughters, and friends had arrived, the hall, staircases, and corridors presenting a very animated appearance as the hour approached for the supper, which was served in the large hall at nine o'clock, by which time the company numbered considerably over 200.

The arrangements were complete. The tables were charmingly laid out with every description of cold viands, the catering being under the care of Messrs. C. H. Debris, of Pimlico, and Bro. E. Pow, of the Montpelier Hotel, Choumert-road, Peckham, the company being exceedingly well pleased with the good things set before them.

During supper the excellent quadrille band of Mr. E. W. Thorpe played a selection of music, rendered in the style for which Mr. Thorpe and his band are deservedly renowned.

The toasts which followed were those of "The Queen and the Craft," "The Worshipful Master," "The Ladies," and "The Visitors," all given and received with much cordiality and good feeling.

In proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," Bro. WILLS, the I.P.M., paid a high tribute to the honour and dignity with which he had conducted everything in connection with his lodge, remarking that to him was due the recent establishment of the Selwyn Chapter, which bids fair to equal the success which had attended the lodge itself, and that the large and distinguished attendance that evening was but one more proof of the affectionate regard in which the W.M. was held by the brethren, his friends, and by all those who were fortunate enough to claim his acquaintance.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER replied in most felicitous and appropriate terms, reiterating his intention to continue to do what he had always striven in the past, viz., to uphold in every way the dignity of the Selwyn Lodge, of which they were all so justly proud, to the best of his ability.

Dancing in the large hall soon afterwards commenced, and was carried on with great vigour until well on into the morning, the large company thoroughly appreciating the excellent programme which had been prepared, and the efficient manner in which the various dance selections were rendered by the band.

During the evening several songs were given, and it is needless to say were much appreciated, when it is mentioned that the list of artistes contained such popular favourites as Miss Bessie Langley, Mr. Herbert Grover, Bros. Hambridge Hardwicke and Sam Wright, and the Angelus Quartette.

In addition to the untiring devotion of the W.M., it should be mentioned that the music was under the direction of Bro. Hook, P.M. (founder and Past Master of the lodge), and Bros. Evans and Lee.

The M.C.'s were Bros. A. Briant, J.W., H. Sercombe, and J. Frampton. Bros. Dr. Adams, Dickason, and

Pointon performed the duties of D.C.'s, and the Secretaries were Bro. J. M. Wimple, P.M., and Bro. T. W. Gay, J.W., with Bro. E. Eagle as Treasurer. Needless to say that all these brethren were indefatigable in their exertions to make every part of the lengthy programme thoroughly successful.

As evidence of the thoroughness and cordiality with which the Worshipful Master's "Ladies' Night" was taken up by the lodge, and of the unanimity which exists, it is noteworthy that every Past Master, officer, and, with only one or two exceptions, every other member of the Selwyn Lodge were present to do honour to the occasion, which was pronounced by one and all to be the best annual gathering which has yet been held, although it has always been acknowledged that some of the previous ones were hard to beat, and we heartily congratulate the Worshipful Master and all those who have so ably assisted him, and feel sure that events of this kind augur well for the advancement of Freemasonry in South London, in which the Selwyn Lodge takes so leading a position.

For charitable objects, this lodge stands prominent among London lodges, having during its 11 years of existence subscribed, with the assistance of its lodge of instruction, to the Masonic Charities a sum considerably in excess of £1000, the amount taken up last year to the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution by the then W.M., Bro. W. H. Wills, and by the present W.M., Bro. J. Lightfoot, being upwards of £230. It is hoped that the successful meeting as the ladies' night on the 23rd inst. will yield a considerable surplus for the like object.

Among the 230 present were noticed the following officers with their wives and friends: Bro. J. Lightfoot, W.M., Mrs. Lightfoot, and the Misses Lightfoot; Messrs. Tunstall, and Mrs. Tunstall; Bro. B. Morgan, S.W., with Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Morgan; Bro. Briant, J.W., and Mrs. Briant; Bro. Hobbs, S.D., with Mrs. Hobbs and Miss Hobbs; Bro. Gay, J.D., and Mrs. Gay; Bro. Fraser, I.G., and Mrs. Fraser; Bro. F. Pow, Stwd., and Mrs. Pow; Bro. Hook, P.M., with Messrs. C. and Harry Hook; Bro. Wills, I.P.M., and Mrs. Wills, and Mr. and Mrs. Wills; Bro. Powles, P.M.; Bro. Anderson, P.M., and Mrs. Anderson; Bro. L. F. Eagle, P.M. and Sec., and Mrs. Eagle; Bro. Wimple, P.M., and the Miss Wimple; Bro. Gauntlett, P.M., and Mrs. Gauntlett, and Messrs. P. and E. Gauntlett; Bro. Walter Davies, P.M.; and Bro. C. H. Stone, W.M. elect 507.

The floral decorations were by Shuttleworth and Co., Peckham.

RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following new list and additions to former lists have been received since our report of last week:

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.
19	Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, additional ... (raising his list to £29 8s.)	1	1	0
33	" J. M. Wood, additional ... (raising his list to £39 16s.)	2	1	0
171	" F. W. Brown, new list ...	21	0	0
554	" J. G. Stevens, additional ... (raising his list to £118 5s.)	1	11	6
1816	" W. B. Abrahams, additional ... (raising his list to £42 5s.)	0	10	6

THE PROVINCES.

Lodge	ESSEX.	£	s.	d.
2005	Bro. B. Hoddinott, additional ... (raising his list to £45 2s. 6d.)	1	1	0
1479	" A. H. Debenham, additional ... (raising his list to £56 7s. 6d.)	11	7	6
357	" R. A. S. Paget, additional ... (raising his list to £49 5s.)	11	0	0

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

A concert was given at the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution to the inmates, on Tuesday evening, by the members of the George Price Lodge, No. 2096, and their friends. Proceedings were commenced punctually at 7 p.m., in the pretty hall of the Old People's Institution, which was quite filled with an attentive audience, amongst whom were to be seen many well-known faces from the George Price Lodge. The overture was played with taste and spirit by Miss Von der Heyde and Bro. F. Cambridge. A song from Miss Webster, "Dear heart," was much appreciated, her voice just pleasantly filling the hall, and the words being particularly clear—a great charm. That old favourite song "Tell her I love her so" was tastefully sung by Bro. Bertram Williams, who afterwards gave a novelty in the second half by introducing a whistling solo. Bro. Bertram Williams has a pleasant and sympathetic voice. Bro. J. H. Price being unavoidably absent, the next item was a song by Bro. Hayward called "A Norseman bold," a song with a very pretty refrain. "The devout lover" was very nicely sung by Bro. Thrift, who, in the second half, gave "Mona," and in each case he kept his audience thoroughly interested. After a somewhat amusing difficulty in arranging an impromptu stand for the music, Master F. Royston Cambridge very neatly executed a violin solo, "Scene de ballet," and later on "Bolero." The end of the first half of the programme was completed by a duett by Miss Webster and Bro. H. J. Thrift, entitled "We two," which deservedly secured the first encore of the evening, and was much enjoyed. The second half was opened by a song from Bro. F. W. Leaver, W.M. 2096, "Soldier's tear," ably rendered, and in response to a

well-deserved encore, he gave an amusing sketch, entitled "The wooden-armed man." Bro. Harris, W.M. 1321, then convulsed his audience with "The little fat grey mare," and gave an encore, "For thee, my love, for thee," with great, and, needless to say, comic, effect. The rest of the programme was carried out with credit to the performers, who thoroughly secured their previously earned laurels. The audience expressed themselves very pleased, and quite sorry that such a pleasant evening was at an end.

Great thanks are due especially to Bros. Dr. J. Wayte, W. D. Hayward, and Cambridge for the inception of the concert and the arranging of the details, and to the latter also for his able carrying out of the duties of conductor.

The amiable and esteemed Secretary of the Institution, Bro. Terry, was present, and did his utmost towards making the evening a success by paying every attention to the comfort of the brethren and their friends.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

In our report of the Cambridge Examinations last week, there were some inaccuracies in the names of the pupils. We now give the correct list—

SENIOR.—CLASS II.—Lucy Smith and Bertha Dean, Honours.

SENIOR.—CLASS III.—Amy Cutbush, Honours; and Ethel Gillett, Passed.

A.—Distinction in Arithmetic.

JUNIOR.—CLASS II.—Jessie Beilby, Evelyn Conti, and Florence Bexfield, Honours.

JUNIOR.—CLASS III.—Hester Burt, Nellie Cooper, and Helena Tims, Honours.

Mary Allen, Ethel Craft, Kate Grindley, Nellie Grammer, Hilda Kemp, Florence Obey, Edith Proudfoot, Ethel Sanders, and Kate Broughton, Passed.

D.—Distinction in Drawing.

CONSECRATION OF ST. PAUL'S MARK LODGE, No. 455.

The consecration of the above lodge was carried out at Limassol, Cyprus, on January 30th, by Bro. Captain Loftus Thackwell, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. Madras, 30, and the following officers were installed and invested: Bros. J. P. White, W.M.; G. Meyer, S.W.; W. H. Harley, J.W.; L. Thackwell, I.P.M.; W. Kiddle, M.O.; C. T. James, S.O.; C. Hamilton, I.O.; W. Ismay, J.D.; and M. Rafferty, I.G.

In November, 1888, the first Masonic lodge was consecrated here, and now there are two Craft lodges, one Royal Arch chapter, and this Mark lodge.

MASONIC CHARITY CONCERT AT THE TOWN HALL, BOLTON.

The local Masonic brethren have every reason to congratulate themselves upon the success which has attended their efforts to augment the funds of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution, the entertainment given in the Town Hall, Bolton, on Wednesday, the 1st inst., by the Minnehaha Amateur Minstrels being attended by considerably over a thousand people. This was the first time these minstrels had performed in Bolton, although they are now in their fourteenth season, and this, coupled with the fact that as the result of their efforts Charities had benefited to the extent of nearly £8000, lent additional interest to the event. The brethren mustered in strong force, and most of them wore the Royal Arch or Craft clothing for the occasion. The entertainment provided by the Minstrels was most enjoyable, and there were several enthusiastic encores during the evening.

The choir and orchestra embraced some 80 performers, and the feature of the concert was the arrangement of the choruses, the introduction of the treble voices having a very pleasing effect. The conductor was Mr. Oliver Gagg, an old hand at the business, and the interlocutor was Mr. F. W. Wallaston, President; bones, Messrs. H. Davies, H. Hines, C. W. Mason, and W. Naylor; tambos, Messrs. G. R. Ward, John Allen, C. F. Smith, and J. Allen, jun. The specialities included the Minnehaha Banjo, Mandoline, and Guitar Band, and a lightening caricaturist.

The first part of the programme included a number of songs and choruses, a selection by the mandoline and guitar band, and bones solo by Mr. G. R. Ward. The latter was recalled, and his manipulation of wine glasses in place of the bones was very clever and effective. The principal item in the first half, however, was a song and chorus, "Come back to me," by Master Stott, whose clear treble voice was heard to advantage. Mr. L. Griffiths, in "The old folks at home"—a dreamy sort of nigger melody; Mr. H. Davies, in "The hen flew over the garden gate;" and Mr. S. B. Ince, with the song "Whisper, and I shall hear," all claim special notice, but the choruses, as we have said before, were the feature of the whole performance.

In the second half there was a quick-step march, "Blue Jackets," by the Banjo Band; stump oration

(very funny), Mr. John Allen; eccentric song and dance, Messrs. John Allen, jun., and Walter Naylor (smartly done and encored); and rapid sketches by Mr. J. S. Smith.

The orchestral arrangement of the songs, &c., were by Mr. Oliver Gagg.

It is said the proceeds of the concert will realise a net profit of over £100.

Scotland.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The above chapter held their quarterly communication in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the 1st inst. In the absence of Comp. Lord Saltoun, the M.E. First Grand Principal, Comp. W. Officer, Depute, presided. After the usual business, the chapter proceeded with the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz., Comps. Lord Saltoun, Grand Z.; J. Dalrymple Duncan, Depute Grand Z.; Marquis of Breadalbane, Grand H.; Major F. W. Allan, Grand J.; R. S. Brown, Grand Scribe E.; J. McNaught Campbell, Grand Scribe N.; Jas. Melville, Grand Treas.; C. C. Nisbet, Grand Recorder; Colonel J. Campbell, Grand Chancellor; J. Carruthers, 1st Grand Soj.; J. Simpson, 2nd Grand Soj.; Major Adam Elliot Black, 3rd Grand Soj.; Sir Jas. R. G. Maitland, Bart., G.S.B.; W. Ivion Macadam, G.D.C.; P. L. Henderson, G.S. of Wks.; W. S. Hunter, 1st Grand Std. Br.; W. Anderson, 2nd Grand Std. Br.; and John Taylor, Grand Janitor.

The above offices were filled, as recommended by the Supreme Grand Committee, with the exception of the Grand Scribe N. and Grand Chancellor. In the former there was a contest; Comp. E. Macbean was nominated by the Supreme Grand Committee for the office of G. Scribe N., and Comp. J. McNaught Campbell as Grand Chancellor, but in open chapter Comp. J. McNaught Campbell was nominated in opposition to Comp. Macbean. The vote being taken, the numbers were 28 for Comp. Macbean and 44 for Comp. Campbell; the latter, consequently, was declared elected. The Grand Chancellorship was then filled up by the unopposed nomination of Comp. Col. J. Campbell. The appointment of Comp. J. Dalrymple Duncan, 32°, as Depute Grand Z. was a very popular one. Although for many years past the Depute Z. was a resident of Edinburgh, the departure in this case, though unusual, was more than compensated by the distinguished ability of Comp. Duncan, who is resident at Meiklewood, Stirlingshire.

It has always been considered imperative that the Depute should be resident in Edinburgh to counsel the Grand Scribe E. in the absence of the First Grand Principal. Probably few men in Scotch Masonry have attained the eminence of Comp. Duncan, who is still in the teens of his Masonic career, having filled every important post from Craft to the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Right, inclusive of the Province of Glasgow. Indeed, to enumerate the various offices which he has, and at present fills, would occupy too large a space. With such an excellent Depute, the Supreme Grand Chapter may look forward to every act and law being zealously guarded from any violation of its sacred rights.

The installation of the Grand Office Bearers and Festival of the Vernal Equinox will be celebrated on the 20th inst.

Ireland.

DUBLIN.

Dublin Lodge (No. 25).—On Tuesday, the 21st ult., the monthly communication was held at Freemasons' Hall. After labour, the members and their guests, to the number of over 100, including many Grand Officers and representatives from foreign Grand Lodges, adjourned to a splendid banquet in the dining hall. In the course of the evening, an interesting ceremony took place in the shape of the presentation of a very handsome silver salver and combination breakfast dish to Bro. Andrew Thompson, P.M., as a token of the lodge's grateful appreciation of his unwearied exertions as Secretary of their stall during the memorable Masonic bazaar of last May.

The salver bore the following inscription: "Presented by Masonic Lodge No. XXV., Dublin, to Brother Andrew Thompson, P.M., as a slight recognition of his valuable services as Hon. Secy. of their stall at the bazaar of the Centenary of the Masonic Female Orphan School, 1892."

The presentation was made by Bro. Sir Charles Cameron, P.M., 32°, representative from the Grand Lodge of Mexico, and Secretary of the lodge, in a few well-chosen words, descriptive of Bro. Thompson's labours in the cause of Masonic Charity, concluded by saying, with his own quaint humour, that, whereas it was considered a wonderful feat on the part of Sir Boyle Roche's birds to be in two places at the same time, Bro. Thompson had broken their record, for he was simply everywhere at the same time.

Bro. Thompson, who was received with prolonged and hearty cheering, then returned thanks in very feeling terms, and, in giving the brethren an account of his Stewardship (which had resulted in handing over to the Masonic Female Orphan School Fund a sum of about £300), mentioned that the last two years had not been for him years of unimpaired pleasure, owing to the enormous amount of work entailed upon him by the onerous duties he undertook, but the result amply repaid what was, after all, but a labour of love. He then paid a well-deserved tribute of praise to the hearty and untiring aid given by the ladies of that stall. They had, he said, all worked together hand and heart, and the most serious friction he had known amongst them was in relation to the number of inches of collar which might be supposed to be most becoming to the fair Craftswomen.

Bro. the Rev. Benjamin Gibson, G. Chap., took the opportunity of reminding brethren who had not yet subscribed to the All Ireland Masonic Presentation to Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, the mainspring of the Centenary Bazaar, that that would be about the last chance they would have of doing so, and that their neglecting that occasion would deprive them of the pleasure of seeing their names on the roll of subscribers to the testimonial to that brightest and most enthusiastic of Masonic workers in Ireland.

A large number of subscriptions were then handed in to Bro. Gibson, who is one of the Hon. Treasurers.

During the evening the brethren were charmed by some exquisite musical selections rendered in their usual finished style by several prominent members of the Masonic Glee Club, and all separated at a late hour after a most thoroughly enjoyable Masonic festival.

CONSECRATION OF LODGE No. 99 AT BELTURBET.

For a considerable time before 1880 it was observed with much regret that Lodge No. 300, Belturbet, was well nigh dormant, and from the difficulty of obtaining a suitable place of meeting, and the fact that several of the members had left the neighbourhood, it was thought by the remaining brethren that they could not carry it on, and they accordingly returned the warrant to the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the spring of 1881. Monday, the 13th of January last, will therefore be a day memorable in the annals of Freemasonry in the Province of Meath, a new lodge, No. 99, in Belturbet, Co. Cavan, having been then added to the rule of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Marquess of Headfort, K.P. On that day Bro. Geo. H. Miller, Prov. Grand Secretary, accompanied by Bros. Samuel Jones, Prov. Grand Inspector; Rd. Hall, P.M.; W. Hamilton, P.M.; D. Crawford, P.M.; and R. J. Slacke, P.M. 310, attended at Belturbet to assist at the consecration of the new lodge, and the installation of its first officers.

The consecration ceremony having been proceeded with, the following brethren were duly installed in their respective offices: Bros. J. W. Johnston, J.P., W.M.; R. Stratton, S.W.; W. J. Fullerton, J.W.; Rev. W. Lowe, S.D.; Rev. J. Bradshaw, J.D.; and Henry Levingstone, I.G.

The attendance, as might be expected on an occasion so interesting, was very large, and amongst those present were Bros. James McLean, W. Harman, E. Redshaw, James Mount, Joe L. Carson, Rev. A. Pike, James Crangle, and others.

The business being concluded, the brethren re-assembled at the hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was in readiness.

The usual Masonic toasts having been honoured, harmony became the order of the evening, and the brethren soon found the time had arrived to chant the "Charter Song," and wish for "Another merry meeting."

Our Portrait Gallery of Worshipful Masters.



BRO. ROBERT JOHN ROGERS,

whose installation is reported in another column, was initiated in the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733, on the 20th November, 1884, being proposed by Bro. E. Stevens, and seconded by Bro. Goodwin, P.M. He filled all the offices in the lodge, and is a Life Governor of the Boys' Institution.

FUNERAL OF BRO. WILLIAM J. AKERS.

On Saturday were interred at Woolwich Cemetery the remains of Bro. William John Akers, late foreman of Estimates Branch of the Royal Carriage Department, Woolwich Arsenal. Bro. Akers, who succumbed to paralysis of the brain, died at his residence, 39, Rectory Grove, Woolwich, on Monday, the 20th ult., at the age of fifty-three. At the time of his death our deceased brother was Past Master of the Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13; Second Principal of the Union Waterloo Chapter, No. 13; and J.W. of the Excelsior Lodge of Mark Masons. The burial service was solemnly and impressively performed by Bro. the Rev.

Samuel Percy H. Stathan, B.A., Chaplain to the forces at Woolwich, who kindly officiated by request. The funeral cortege, started from deceased's residence precisely at half-past three, and in addition to relatives in two mourning coaches, was followed by the following in private carriages: Bros. Capt. G. Spinks, P.M. and Treas. 1536, P.P.G.S.B. Kent, Treas.; G. Kennedy, sen., P.M. 1536, P.P.G.S.B. Kent; W. Tailby, P.M. 13, and M.E.Z.; H. S. Syer, J.; and Churchwarden J. Taylor, 913, as representing the chapter to which deceased belonged; N. Brown, P.M. 13; W. Turner, 13; J. McCollough, P.M. 700; W. Carter, P.M. 858; C. Ellis, 913; W. Mould, P.M. 1536; H. Nichols, S.D. 700; and G. Masters, P.M. 13. At the cemetery the following members of the Union Waterloo Lodge joined the procession: Bros. A. Cleall, P.M.; H. Grier, P.M.; J. Matthey, W.M.; A. Deans, S.W.; J. Barnes, J.W.; A. Russell, J.D.; H. de Grey, Jacobs, Hancock, Thorp, Dorrill, Reynolds, Richman, Stamford, Vennison, Wren, and Linsell; Bros. W. Doddrell, P.M., and West, from 615; G. Kennedy, P.M. 829; Wood, 381; and Cox, 1326; W. Marlow, J. Sams, W. Allan, Brooks, Dobson, and Amos, representing the branch of which deceased was until recently foreman; Messrs. F. Tatton, manager, T. White, H. Keeble, J. Ginno, J. Clark, Worthington, McKnight, Parsons, Parker, and Helson, representing the Department. Messrs. Lambert and Baxter represented the Royal Gun Factories. There were also present Messrs. Pellatt and Abrahams, on the Superannuated List, and a number of other friends of the deceased.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN ALFRED WILSON.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. John Alfred Wilson, P.M. 1326. He expired at his residence, The Briars, St. Alban's-road, Watford, Herts, on the 24th ult., at the comparatively early age of 43, and was interred in Watford Cemetery on the 1st inst. His remains were followed by his two daughters Miss Olive Wilson and Miss Fanny Wilson, Miss Soven, Mr. Manning, Mr. Green, Mr. Fletcher, Bro. Blackman, Stwd. 1549, and Bro. Marsh, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br. Middlesex. Bro. Wilson was an affectionate husband, a loving father, a friend to the friendless, and beloved by all who knew him; ever ready to counsel those who sought his advice. He leaves a widow and eight children to mourn their loss, to whom we offer our respectful sympathy. Bro. Wilson was initiated in the Lebanon Lodge June 16th, 1883, and passing through the various offices, was installed as W.M. July, 1890, and exalted in the Lebanon Chapter, October, 1884. During his short career in the Craft he has distinguished himself by serving 10 Stewardships to the three Masonic Institutions, and though dead, will long live in the hearts and affections of his brother Masons. Bro. Samuel Wheeler, W.M. 1326, was, through an attack of bronchitis, unable to attend the funeral, but sent a beautiful wreath in the name of the lodge.

BRO. WALKLEY.

We regret to have to announce the death of Bro. A. H. Walkley, P.M., a Mason who was widely known throughout the Craft, and as highly appreciated as he was well known. Bro. Walkley had been a Tyler of lodges and other Masonic bodies for many years, and his genial and familiar presence will be greatly missed. We offer our respectful sympathies to the family of our deceased brother.

BRO. CHARLES FISHER, No. 1755.

On Monday morning, the 6th inst., at Arno's Vale Cemetery, the funeral of the late Bro. Charles Fisher, the well-known wine merchant of Barrs-street, Bristol, who died, after a prolonged illness, at his residence, Cromartie, Pembroke-road, Clifton, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., was attended by quite a large and representative assemblage of friends. The first part of the service was held at Emmanuel Church, Clifton. The Rev. J. Eustace Brenan and W. Emery officiated, and amongst those present was Dr. Griffiths, medical attendant. The hearse and coffin were covered with beautiful wreaths of the choicest flowers, the tributes of affection of the very many friends Bro. Fisher has made both in business and social circles. The funeral party were joined by several Freemasons, including Bros. Wm. Rice, P.M.; C. L. Thomas, P.M.; A. J. Tonkin, Capt. Dando, and Harvey, representing the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, of which the deceased was a founder; Mr. R. C. Smart (president) and Mr. J. W. White (Secretary), of the British Licensed Victuallers' Association; the Rev. T. Allen (vicar of St. Peter's, Clifton Wood), Messrs. E. T. Bullock, J. Wintle, S. Hare, S. M. Chute, H. Melsom, C. Britton, J. Bennett, Dr. R. G. Fendick, and Inspector Bovier. The coffin was an elm shell, with an oak raised shield, and bore the inscription, "Charles Fisher, died March 2nd, 1893, aged 62 years." The funeral arrangements were carried out by Bro. C. P. Billing, W.M. 1755.

The Princess of Wales, who has just left England with her daughters, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, on a visit to her brother, the King of Greece, has sent a donation of £50 towards the fund which is being raised by the Lord Mayor and the Consul-General of Greece in London for the relief of the sufferers by the recent earthquakes in Zante.