

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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[PRICE 3d.]

THE AUDITORS' REPORT FOR 1892 OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Last year the new arrangement by which the accounts of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution are made up for the year ending the 31st December instead of for the year to the 31st March, was only imperfectly carried, the accounts submitted being for the period of nine months ending on the 31st December, 1891. At the annual general meeting, which will be held on Friday of next week, a report will be presented by the Auditors of the accounts of the Institution, both in summary and in detail, for the full period to the 31st December, 1892, and as copies of this report have been distributed with the voting papers, we are in a position to know how it fared with this Charity during the year of its Jubilee. The MALE FUND opened with a balance of £1437 18s. 6d., and the receipts amount to £47,166 6s. 4d., the total charge being thus £48,604 4s. 10d. The expenditure, including purchase of stock and cash deposited at call, reached £46,573 7s. 2d., so that the balance in hand at the close of the year was £2030 17s. 8d. The balance brought forward from the previous year on the WIDOWS' FUND was £1344 3s. 4d., and the receipts £41,958 7s. 9d., making the total charge £43,302 11s. 1d. The expenditure, including, as in the case of the Male Fund, the purchase of stock and cash deposited at call, amounted to £42,206 0s. 10d., the balance remaining in hand on the 31st December, 1892, being £1096 10s. 3d. As regard the SUSTENTATION OF BUILDING FUND, the charge, including balance brought forward, was £85 6s., and the expenditure £15 2s. 6d., leaving a balance in hand of £70 3s. 6d. Thus the aggregate of the balances on these three Funds which stood to the credit of the Benevolent Institution on the 31st December last amounted to £3197 11s. 5d.

Turning to the details of receipt and expenditure, we find in the case of the MALE FUND that the annual grants of £800 from Grand Lodge and £100 from Grand Chapter, together with the dividends in respect of invested capital, amounted together to £1783 10s., which sum constituted the permanent income. Donations and annual subscriptions reached to the exceptionally large sum of £30,368 5s. 8d., and there was a sum of £1155 received from West Yorkshire for the TEW Perpetual Presentation; a second sum of £52 10s. in respect of a legacy; and a third item of £57 0s. 8d. as interest on "cash at call," while the remainder consisted of £13,750 "withdrawn from call." In the case of the WIDOWS' FUND, the permanent income consisted of £800 from Grand Lodge, £50 from Grand Chapter, and £766 3s. 8d. dividends; or together £1616 3s. 8d. The donations and annual subscriptions amounted to £26,782 17s. 1d., and the interest on cash at call to £59 7s., while the amount "withdrawn from call" was £13,500. Taking the cash receipts of the three funds together, but excluding that of £1155 for the specific purpose of providing in perpetuity for one male annuitant from the Province of West Yorkshire, we arrive at a grand total of £60,746 10s. 5d., of which £3426 10s. was in respect of permanent income; £57,151 2s. 9d. in respect of subscriptions and annual donations; and £116 7s. 8d. for interest on cash at call, and £52 10s. legacy.

Directing our attention to the expenditure, we find that £20,000—that is to say £10,000 in respect of each of the Annuity Funds—was deposited at call, and that £48,943 16s. 6d. was disbursed in the purchase of stock, namely, £26,912 11s. in behalf of the MALE FUND and £22,031 5s. 6d. in behalf of the WIDOWS' FUND; and as the total outgoings reached £88,779 8s., there was expended for the stated purposes of the Institution and for working expenses and maintenance of Asylum at Croydon £19,825 11s. 6d. Of this £15,324 were distributed among the annuitants, namely, £7415 on the Male Fund and £7909 on the Widows' Fund, the remainder, amounting to £4501 11s. 6d., being absorbed in working expenses, salaries, &c., and maintenance of Asylum. The most important items comprised in this latter sum, as set forth under the two Funds, are as follow: collector's commission, £743 18s.; postages and petty expenses, £425 2s. 3d.; provincial expenses, £131 13s. 6d.; printing, &c., £484 16s. 9d.; assistance in office for Jubilee purposes, £107 2s.; salaries, &c., in office, £1185; rent of office, £90; rates and taxes, Asylum, £139 7s. 5d.; salaries, wages, and pension at Asylum, £178 17s.; work done at Asylum, £509 3s. 11d.; entertainment of Stewards and Annuitants, £116 7s. 11d.; votes of thanks to Stewards, £186 14s. 10d. The other items are of small amount and were incurred for gardening, medical attendance, &c., and there is a sum of £98 1s. in respect of returned subscriptions. Speaking roughly, we may reasonably apportion these expenses of management and maintenance thus: cost of Asylum at Croydon, £900; returned subscriptions, £100; management, £3500; of which last sum over £2000 was for collector's commission, salaries, and extra assistance (Jubilee) and less than £1500 for postages, printing, rent, travelling expenses, &c.

Passing from these details to a general review of the year's expenditure we do not hesitate to express our opinion that the Committee of Management are entitled to the thanks of the whole English Masonic Community, but especially of the Governors and Subscribers of the Institution for the very able manner in which they have acquitted themselves in their administration of this great Charity, or rather of these two great Charities. Out of a total expenditure, amounting in round figures to £19,850, there has been disbursed in respect of management some £3500, or rather less than 18 per cent., of which about 10 per cent. is for salaries, commission, and extra clerical assistance, and the rest for rent, travelling, printing, postage, &c. When the account is thus analysed, and the result placed clearly before our readers, we do not think the most exacting critic will find any reasonable ground for fault-finding. The account, as we have said, includes some exceptionally heavy items, yet the normal expenditure has not been

very seriously exceeded, while the permanent resources of the Institution have been increased by the purchase of £50,000 stock; the outcome of the year's transactions being that the two Benevolent Annuity Funds now have laid by against a rainy day upwards of £120,000 stock, the dividends on which together with the annual grants from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter furnish forth a permanent income of between £5000 and £5500, which is not very far short of 30 per cent. of the total annual outlay. We heartily congratulate the Committee of Management and their able Secretary on the success which has attended them during the Jubilee year of this Institution, and we have no doubt the Governors and Subscribers will give adequate expression to the gratitude by which they are actuated at the annual meeting, which will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday next, the 19th inst.

IN MEMORIAM.

BRO. HENRY JOSIAH WHYMPER, C.I.E.

Although it will be a painful duty, I cannot but respond to the request of the Editor of the *Freemason* to write a brief memoir of my lamented friend and brother, H. J. Whympier, with whom I have been so long, so happily, and so harmoniously connected in relation to Masonic studies and researches. The acquaintance began through correspondence concerning his contemplated reproduction of the "Halliwell," or "Regius," MS., and his fear that its publication might interfere with the work on somewhat similar lines, projected by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, London. I assured him there was no reason for any such anticipation, and referred our zealous brother to the Secretary of No. 2076. The exchange of a few letters between Bro. G. W. Speth and myself with Bro. Whympier, led us both to the conclusion that another active, most unselfish, and earnest student of the Craft had been discovered, and soon our Anglo-Indian brother became on most intimate terms with us, Bro. R. F. Gould, and other devoted Craftsmen.

Bro. Whympier was only born in 1845, and was not initiated in the Lodge Mayo, No. 1413, Rawul Pindi, Punjab, until 1872, so that, comparatively speaking, he was but young in the Craft to many of us. Whatever he lacked in age, however, he made up in energy, determination, and persistence in his well-directed researches. Though for some years his Craft studies were unknown to us in England, from 1887 we have been kept fully informed as to the character and extent of his labours on its behalf. He was one of the founders of No. 1448, Murree, in 1873, and its W.M. in 1877, also a founder of the Stewart Lodge, No. 1960, Rawul Pindi and Murree, in 1881 (in the prosperity of which he took great interest and delight); likewise of the Albert Victor, No. 2370, Lahore—a Past Masters' Lodge—formed on similar lines to No. 2076, London, for which our friend worked most assiduously, and was very pleased to take part in its successful start.

On the 6th January, 1888, the literary "blue ribbon" of lodge membership was conferred on him by his election to the "Inner Circle" of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge. The high office of District Deputy Grand Master of the Punjab was bestowed upon him in 1884, and after a brief retirement he again held that position from 1892 to his regretted decease on Thursday, 27th March, at Bombay. On the resignation of the esteemed R.W. Bro. E. W. Parker, District Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales selected Bro. Whympier as his successor, and the then District Grand Master on reading the letter to the District Grand Lodge announcing such honour, observed that "he was in every way qualified for the high office he was about to fill. He was a man of mark in and out of Masonry, a companion of the Order of the Indian Empire, a Masonic Savant and a practical Mason. A man of liberal views and generous sympathies, and was sure to prove an efficient and benign ruler."

Alas! his retirement was announced at the District Grand Lodge on October 28th, 1892, over which he presided as Deputy; the sad news being received with deep sorrow and regret throughout the whole of the District, particularly so when the keen disappointment to himself and his many friends, was due to ill-health necessitating such a step. His successor, Col. C. F. Massey, who was installed in due course (patent dated November 21st, 1892), referred most gracefully and appreciatively to Bro. Whympier, "who had for years devoted all his spare time and a good deal of his money to the formation of a Masonic library, which stands high amongst the literary collections of the world. But he is not merely a collector, he is also a deep reader, and excellent writer We are proud to claim such a man as a member of the Craft in our District."

Other appointments and honours bestowed were so numerous that they cannot well be described herein, save one or two of the more prominent ones, which he highly valued, such as District Grand H. of the Punjab (being P.Z. Stewart Chapter, No. 1960), and 32° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite of England and Wales, which was recently conferred and was a source of great gratification to him. He was a P.M.W.S. of the Money Rose Croix Chapter, Rawul Pindi and Murree, and Treasurer to the day of his death. Another compliment he warmly acknowledged was his unanimous election as one of the honorary members of the St. John's Lodge, No. 70, Plymouth, because of his valued services in India and England as a member of the Fraternity. This lodge was the first to pass a vote of condolence to the bereaved widow and family on Tuesday, the 2nd May, at its regular meeting, followed as soon as possible by his own lodge, No. 2076, on the following Friday. At the Quatuor Coronati, Bro. Gould, one of the founders and principal members, delivered a most sympathetic address and paid a warm tribute to our departed friend, whose virtues and merits had long been acknowledged and appreciated by the brethren. No one valued

Bro. Gould's great "History of the Fraternity" more than Bro. Whympier, and certainly a more suitable brother to deliver the eulogium could not be found either in, or out of our Lodge No. 2076.

I do not think of the 30 or less members of the lodge any of us thought more highly of the honour than he did, and the fact of his membership was usually announced in the works and pamphlets he issued since his election. It is but bare justice to add that no lodge will feel his removal from their midst more than the members of No. 2076, each of whom recognised him as a most devoted Craftsman and zealous student, and several loved him as their dear friend and fellow labourer.

Personally, his decease is a great blow to me, but I feel that my sorrow is as nothing compared with the irreparable loss of the bereaved widow and family, and, therefore, must say but little about my grief by the side of their terrible trial. They have my most sincere sympathy and prayers that the lone lady and sorrowing son and daughters may be comforted and sustained.

To briefly refer to Bro. Whympier's literary achievements in relation to Freemasonry is far from easy, though a very pleasant duty to perform. His industry and successful researches were something remarkable, and he never seemed to tire or think any difficulty was insuperable. I am amazed myself to see what he has accomplished in a few years, and only to cite a list of his publications would surprise brethren who were unacquainted with the extent of his labours.

His handsome reproduction of the celebrated "Regius MS.," in facsimile, by Mr. E. Compton Price, was his first important work (six being on vellum, 34 on vellum-paper, and the others ordinary copies), his able introduction to which was both appropriate and opportune. His kindness as to this matter is thus appreciatively referred to by the Masonic historian, Bro. R. F. Gould, in his invaluable commentary on the Masonic poem, published as Vol. I. of the "Quatuor Coronatorum Antigrapha" (1889). "It is both a duty and a pleasure, before concluding these prefatory remarks, to refer in grateful terms to the good feeling and generosity evinced by Bro. H. J. Whympier towards this lodge, of which, to the great satisfaction of us all, he has since become a member." [As previously noted, he and the lodge, without knowing it, were engaged in the same enterprise] Bro. Whympier at once communicated with our Secretary stating that his transfers (the most costly and difficult part of the undertaking) were almost complete. These transfers he not only placed at our disposal, thereby lessening our toil, but he also refused to allow us in any way to share the expense to which he had been put in their preparation. Bro. Whympier was, undoubtedly, the first in the field, and had he shown any annoyance at the *contratemps*, we could scarcely have blamed him. The truly fraternal manner, therefore, in which he allowed us to reap the benefit of his own arduous labours, fully merits the hearty acknowledgments of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge—hereby expressed by me on its behalf."

The next volume from his prolific pen was in 1888, and entitled "The Religion of Freemasonry," edited by the indefatigable Bro. G. W. Speth, with an Introduction by me. The editor discharged his duties with marked ability, especially under the circumstances, as the author had to return to India before the MS. was properly arranged. It is an extraordinary book in many respects, exhibiting considerable research, originality of treatment, and abundance of facts concerning the "burning question" (*in India*) of Christian or Cosmopolitan Freemasonry.

In 1889 was issued, in pamphlet form, "Articles on the Constitutions of Freemasonry, by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., privately printed for Bro. H. J. Whympier, by Ram Saram." Also another on "Triads in Masonry" during the same year. He also delivered a number of interesting lectures, beginning with one on Masonic literature before the District Grand Lodge of the Punjab, December 27th, 1888, which was printed in its transactions, as also another September 8th, 1891 (when held at Murree) on "The Constitutions of Freemasonry" (*J.S. and printed*), when he was warmly thanked for "his valuable and interesting address."

An able paper was read by our friend at the meeting of the Albert Victor Lodge, No. 2370, on January 31st, 1891, on "Catalogues and Bibliographies," which has never been excelled, and he there and then exhibited his valuable catalogue, *in manuscript*, of Masonic books in the English language; ordinary by-laws of lodges, &c., being excluded, and the proceedings of each Grand Lodge being counted as one volume. The title-pages extended to some 8000 articles, and yet, as he expressed it, "with a still unexhausted quarry." Bro. Whympier has been at this great work for several years, assisted by several of his collaborators in this Country, and by Bro. Captain Leslie, in India, on whom, I know, our dear brother considerably relied for aid in the future, feeling assured it would be readily forthcoming when needed.

Bro. Whympier's "Catalogue of Bibliographical Lists and Catalogues of Works on Freemasonry" (quarto size) and the valuable "Catalogue of Works on Freemasonry," *E. Libris*, H. J. Whympier (octavo, 66 pp.) were all steps in the direction of publishing a modern *Kloss* to date, and had his life been spared, to the joy and delight of his numerous fellow labourers, this magnificent compilation would have been completed and published under his auspices. As it is, he has left abundant material to testify to his thoroughness and devotion to this generally neglected department of the Craft. He also began a "Bibliography of Lodge Histories," but only finished some six pages and then dropped it, as my pamphlet on the subject satisfied him, and thus lightened his labours.

The reproduction of the "Harleian MS., 6466," British Museum, was a very kind deed, being done in response to my enquiries as to its text, and forwarded to me in type, "to enable Bro. Hughan (a) to read it, and (b) to do what his heart loves and give something away to a friend." I had dedicated my reprint of "English Royal Arch Masonry, 1744-65" ("Ars Quatuor Coronatorum, 1891"), to him, but it was simply impossible to keep pace with the many ways he took to pleasantly surprise his brethren, who were gratified to labour with him.

Two other remarkable publications should be noticed, viz., his reprint of "Acts of Parliament referring to Freemasonry" (A.D. 1799 and 1817), dedicated to Bros. Major Bowles and Capt. Leslie, intended as a reply to the Rev. Father Waterhouse; and a smaller, but most valuable, volume (also in 1892) on "Early Printed Literature referring to Freemasonry," which contains accurate reproductions of the salient portions of Randle Holme's "Academie of Armoury," 1688; Dr. Plot's Staffordshire, 1686; Elias Ashmole's Diary, 1717; and other curios, inscribed to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of No. 1960.

His numerous articles in the "Indian Masonic Review" and elsewhere I must not now stay to allude to, nor the exhibition of Masonic books and MSS., &c., which he so thoughtfully provided for his brethren in India. The by-laws and history, &c., of his Lodge, the Stewart, Rawul Pindi (only just published as he has left us), contributed to by the W.M. (Capt. Leslie), the

R.W. Bro. E. W. Parker, P. Dist. G.M., and Bro. Whympier, eloquently speak of his varied and important services to his beloved Fraternity, and the "Punjab Masonic Institution" has lost in him one of its largest contributors and most constant supporters. Words fail me to express my feelings and affection for our noble brother deceased, I can only hope that the memory of his goodness will abide with us, and prove stimulative to us all.

W. J. HUGHAN.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The preliminary meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Keswick Hotel, Keswick, on Friday, the 28th ult. Bro. G. J. McKay, J.P., P.G. Std. Br. England, D.P.G.M., presided, supported by the following: Bros. G. W. Kenworthy, as D.P.G.M.; J. Barr, as P.S.G.W.; J. Mills, P.J.G.W.; Rev. W. Cree, P.G.C.; R. J. Nelson, P.G. Treas.; G. Dalrymple, P.G. Sec.; J. Atkinson, P.S.G.D.; G. Brooker, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Rallinshaw, P.G. Std. Br.; Wm. Heathcote, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. J. Anderson, P.P.G.C.; J. Wharton, P.A.G.P.; J. J. Little, J. Atkinson, and G. Long, P.G. Stwds.; G. Starkey, P.P.G.D.C., as P.G.D.C.; W. Mandall, P.G. Tyler; and many other P.P.G. Officers and members of private lodges, all the lodges being represented with the exception of two, and a few of the Prov. Grand Officers were absent, and had tendered their apology.

Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the minutes of the annual meeting held at Millom were read and confirmed.

The dues and fees of honour were paid, and an invitation was given to the P.G.M. to hold the next annual Provincial Grand Lodge at Maryport; there was also one from the members of the Windermere Lodge.

The report of the Charity Committee was passed as read.

Twenty-five guineas was unanimously voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The title of the Provincial Education was changed by a unanimous vote, on the notice of motion by Bro. NELSON, seconded by Bro. MILLS, to "The Cumberland and Westmorland Educational and Benevolent Fund."

There being no other business of importance, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren subsequently dined at the Keswick Hotel, Bro. McKay, D.P.G.M., in the chair.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. LORD GEO. FRANCIS HAMILTON, M.P., P.G.W., AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

Bro. Lord Geo. Francis Hamilton, M.P., P.G.W., having been appointed Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex by his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master, the ceremony of installation was performed at the Parish Room, Teddington, on Saturday, the 6th inst., by the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., in the presence of over 400 members of the Craft. The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Prov. Grand Master in charge, supported by Bros. J. M. Stedwell, P.P.G.W., as Dep. Prov. G.M.; Frost Creswicke, Prov. G. Treas.; Howard H. Room, Prov. G. Sec.; and a very large attendance of Prov. Grand Officers and members of lodges in the province.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master was saluted and the roll of lodges was called, when it was found that all lodges in the province were represented.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The audit report was read, showing a good balance after a somewhat expensive year.

The report of the Charity Committee followed, in which it was stated that since the re-construction of the Committee for the purpose of assisting in the election of Middlesex cases to the Masonic Institutions the result had been very successful. Through the co-operation of the brethren in the province and the representatives of lodges a case for the Boys' School was carried on the first application, and the Committee tendered its thanks to Bro. Geo. R. Langley, Prov. G. Stwd., the special Secretary for elections, for his valuable assistance.

On the motion of Bro. STEDWELL, P.P.G.W., seconded by Bro. J. TICKLE, P.P.G. Reg., the retiring Prov. G. Treasurer and Prov. G. Wardens were elected for the Audit Committee for 1894.

The Pro Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Officers, then entered in procession, and the Pro G.M. was saluted.

The PRO GRAND MASTER, addressing the brethren, said they had assembled for the purpose of installing a most worthy brother as Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, but before he said anything about him, he would say one word in remembrance of his dear friend and brother who had departed from them, the late Col. Sir Francis Burdett, who ruled over the province so Masonically, so fraternally, and so benevolently, for upwards of a quarter of a century. He felt certain that all who knew Sir Francis Burdett would deeply deplore that he had departed from them in the wisdom of the Almighty. It had pleased his Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., to appoint as their Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, a worthy Mason, whom he hoped would rule over them for many years to come.

The arrival of the Provincial Grand Master designate, was announced by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D., who rendered valuable service throughout the proceedings by kindly acting as D.C., and his patent was presented to the Pro Grand Master. A deputation of seven Past Masters retired and introduced the Provincial Grand Master designate, and his patent was read by the PROV. GRAND SECRETARY. Prayer having been offered, the Provincial Grand Master was obligated and invested, duly installed in the chair, and proclaimed and saluted.

The Prov. Grand Master appointed Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and he was obligated, proclaimed, and saluted.

Bro. Capt. T. C. WALLS, P.P.G.W., G. Steward, proposed Bro. W. Fisher, P.M., as Prov. Grand Treasurer, and in doing so referred to his many Masonic services, and the official capacity he occupied for many years as Chief Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police.

Bro. J. TICKLE, P.P.G.R., having seconded the nomination, Bro. Fisher, P.M., was declared unanimously elected.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. Frost Creswicke, for his services.

which was seconded by Bro. W. A. SCURRAH, P.P.G.S. of W., and carried unanimously.

The Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested the following Prov. Grand Officers:

Bro. Lieut.-Col. W. Rushton, 1871	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" A. Stewart Brown, 2183	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. J. Lingen Seager, 2183	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Hugh Chapman, 2105	...	...
" W. Fisher, 1512	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" G. C. H. Jennings, 1237	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" H. H. Room, 1777	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" H. F. Stewart, 1460	...	...	} Prov. S.G.Ds.
" G. R. Langley, 2381	...	...
" J. Tidmarsh, 2163	...	...	} Prov. J.G.Ds.
" H. Clark, 1777	...	...
" A. H. Scurrah, 2048	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" S. Hague, M.D., 2105	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. H. Gaskin, 1897	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" A. Bevis, 1567	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" J. C. Goslin, 1326	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" E. Dare, 1650	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" R. J. S. Beeton, 788	...	...
" H. D. Wetton, 1549	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Lee, 1897	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" R. Eales, 1512	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" E. T. Lynn, 1310	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" J. Church, 2024	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. Clowes, 1494	...	...
" N. Goodchild, M.D., 1637	...	...
" W. H. Matthews, 1423	...	...
" A. Toulmin, jun., 1503	...	...
" H. Wilson, 1293	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. Gilbert, 1194	...	...

The sum of 15 guineas was voted to each of the three Masonic Institutions, on the proposition of the PROV. GRAND MASTER.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER then said they had met that day in the Parish Room through the kind permission of the vicar, who had kindly placed the vestries at their disposal, and had done everything he could to make their visit comfortable. No charge whatever had been made, and he therefore thought it would be a poor compliment if they went away without giving the vicar something towards some of his charities. He, therefore, proposed a vote of thanks, and also that the sum of 10 guineas should be voted to the vicar of the parish for whatever charitable purposes he might select.

Bro. HOPWOOD seconded the proposition, which was carried *nem. con.*

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER referred to the excellent arrangements made for the meeting that day. What had been done was attributable to a few brethren and to the organisation of Bro. Howard Room, Prov. G. Sec., who had devoted an enormous amount of time and correspondence to ensure success, and all would agree that the result had been a great success. He proposed that a vote of thanks should be given to the members of the Sir Charles Bright Lodge for the use of the furniture, and especially to Bro. Forge for the great assistance given in carrying out the arrangements. Bro. Forge had been indefatigable in his exertions and had worked very hard indeed in connection with the meeting.

Bro. Sir F. DIXON HARTLAND, M.P., P.G.W., seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

An anthem was sung and the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together at the Town Hall, to the number of nearly 300, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, and the usual toasts were honoured.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in proposing the first toast, said the brethren would doubtless anticipate that it was "The Queen and the Craft." The toast divided itself into two halves, both assimilating themselves very well together. The Queen who governed the realm, and the Craft as representing those whom she governed. She had ruled over the country for many, many years, and the relations which existed between her and those whom she governed were absolutely unique. When the Queen succeeded to the throne more than 50 years ago much sympathy was felt for her on account of her youth, but that sympathy was speedily turned to admiration for the qualities she showed. The reason for the love shown her Majesty could be summed up in one sentence, for she had, from the time she assumed the throne, endeavoured to be the mother of the country she governed. In their adversity she had addressed them words, not merely of conventional condolence, but sincerely sympathetic and warm hearted. They in their turn had shown their sympathy by sharing in her sorrows and pleasures, and when some time ago a heavy blow was struck by death taking away one who was then about to be married, every member of the Craft mourned for that loss as though in their own family. He was glad to find that the surviving brother was about to be united in matrimony with a lady well fitted to share his pleasures and joys, and this would efface the loss they sustained some time ago.

In proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," the PROV. GRAND MASTER said his Royal Highness had conferred an inestimable advantage upon the Craft by becoming its Grand Master, and the fact of his taking so deep an interest in the prosperity of the Craft had been the means of largely increasing its members, both in the East as well as in the West of her Majesty's dominions. He believed it was indisputable that in the far East, in the sunny plains of India, the knowledge that the heir to the throne was the Grand Master of Freemasonry had given a great impetus to the Craft. What they might especially thank the M.W.G.M. for was that he had undertaken the duties, not in any perfunctory sense, but was always ready to assist the interests of Freemasonry, and advance the attributes of Freemasonry—benevolence, benignity and sympathy.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in asking the brethren to drink the next toast, said he was very much flattered, and they would reciprocate his feeling, with the large attendance of Grand Officers. He was especially grateful to the Pro Grand Master for his presence, which added considerably to the dignity of the ceremony. The Pro Grand Master was compelled to go back to London, but had desired him to express his regret that he was obliged to curtail his visit. They had not only to thank the Grand Officers, but many of those high dignitaries who carried out their duties with great reciprocal benefit both to the Craft and themselves. If the installation was a success they were indebted to a certain number of brethren, amongst the foremost of whom the great experience of Bro. Richardson was put to a

practical test, and they were much indebted to them. He proposed to associate the name of a distinguished visitor—Bro. Col. Money, Prov. Grand Master of Surrey—who, after a most distinguished military career, had condescended to devote his knowledge and administrative ability to the interests of the Craft. They were much flattered that he should be good enough to attend the installation of the Prov. Grand Master of a neighbouring county, and heartily reciprocated the good feelings brought them.

Bro. Col. GERARD NOEL MONEY, Prov. G.M. Surrey, said he wished that that task had fallen to more eloquent lips to respond, for he could not help feeling that that was in some measure an unique occasion. In the first place, they knew and for many years respected and loved the late Provincial Grand Master, and could never forget him, for he would always live in their recollections. They had all attended many occasions of that kind, but they had seldom shared in so promising an installation as that bid fair to be. The Grand Officers were always at the disposal of Freemasonry to do all they could, and there was no occasion which had given them more pleasure to attend than the installation of the new Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, who had made his mark not only in Freemasonry but in the political life in England, and in everything with which he had been associated. He did not speak these words as having anything to do with politics, but as a public man the Provincial Grand Master was one of whom England was proud. The Grand Officers felt a debt of gratitude to him for having invited them. They thanked him most heartily, congratulated him sincerely, and trusted that the reign he had begun would be a prosperous one for many years.

Bro. RAYMOND H. THURPP, Deputy Prov. G.M., said that no one regretted more than himself that the Earl of Lathom could not stay to dine, for otherwise the duty and great pleasure of proposing the next toast would have fallen into his hands. He thought, however, that the toast of "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master" should come from a member of the province, and if anybody was a member of the province he thought he was. He had lived in the province for 39 years, had been a member of the province as a Mason for 15 years, and Deputy Provincial Grand Master for 12 years, and could therefore speak with some authority in proposing the toast which he did with great cordiality. Not only on behalf of himself, but he thought he had a right to say for every brother in the province, they gave the announcement was made, every member spoke warmly at once of the great honour conferred upon the province by the M.W.G.M. in giving them such a distinguished man and statesman to reign over them. In Provincial Grand Lodge that day Lord Lathom touchingly alluded to Sir Francis Burdett and mentioned what a wonderfully good Prov. Grand Master he had been, and he was sure Bro. Lord George Hamilton would feel a great responsibility in following such a good man and Mason. He felt sure that if Lord Hamilton would follow in his footsteps he would very soon have gained the hearts and the respect and esteem of the province. The more the Prov. Grand Master came among them the better they would be pleased and in every lodge he would meet a hearty and cordial welcome. The Prov. Grand Officers and every member in the province would certainly do all in their power to support him in maintaining the prosperity and harmony of the Province of Middlesex.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in reply, said he had to thank them for the more than cordial reception they had been pleased to accord his name, and also for the kind words with which the Deputy Prov. Grand Master proposed the toast. He could assure them that if 12 months ago he had been asked if there was one post he was unlikely to occupy, it was that of Prov. Grand Master. When the offer was made to him to succeed so distinguished a member of the Craft as their late Prov. Grand Master he had his misgivings, but feeling that he was not relying solely on his own unaided efforts, he with some reluctance did venture to accept that offer. It was a curious fact that it was a much harder thing to succeed a man who had been a great success than it was to succeed a man who had been a great failure. Sir Francis Burdett had done much to promote the interests of the Craft, and it was only the knowledge that the brethren were thoroughly organised, and that the Provincial Grand Lodge was filled with men of high ability and integrity that induced him to consent to follow him. He felt in assuming that high office that he should not have to rely upon his own unaided knowledge or experience. He was perhaps inexperienced in the high ceremonial in which he took a leading part that day, and so far neglected his duty in investing the distinguished Deputy Prov. Grand Master as not to say something of his merits and of his work in the past as regards Freemasonry in Middlesex. Bro. Thrupp had been re-appointed Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and although there had been a change in the individual who invested him, he was confident there would be no change in the work which he would perform as in the past, for he combined the qualities which always ensured success. Bro. Thrupp was not only capable, but bore a high character, and had the utmost devotion for his work, and when these three qualities were combined in one personality, they ensured great and continuous success. One feeling that influenced him (the Prov. Grand Master) in accepting his present post was the remembrance that his father was for many years Grand Master of Freemasons in Ireland, and upon his death, the Craft in the Sister Island did his brother the honour of asking him to succeed him. He was himself initiated in an Irish lodge, and served through various offices, and was certain that there was no lodge in Ireland which was not imbued with loyalty and obedience to the law. Although it was properly one of the rules of the Craft to abstain from politics, he was certain he was in no sense invading that rule when he said that in accepting that high office he might possibly be of use to those on the other side. It was under those conditions he accepted that office, and he trusted his tenure of office might not be detrimental to the interests of the Craft. They had had a successful installation, and he begged to return his sincere thanks to those who had attended in such large numbers. For many years he had, in a different position, made many friends in Middlesex, and he was touched to meet so many old friends whom he had not seen for many years. He should be sorry to sit down without expressing his gratitude to those who had rendered the installation successful. They had an admirable Provincial Grand Secretary (Bro. Room) who had worked hard to ensure success, and associated with him had been a number of brethren who, living in the locality, had been able to make use of their local knowledge. Therefore he was not going out of the ordinary way in saying they were indebted to Bros. Forge, Simmons, and Porter for their local exertions. The success of his predecessor was phenomenal. The lodges increased four fold in 20 years under him. He could not hope his tenure would be associated with such success, still he hoped it would prove a not unworthy one. He trusted that the number of brethren and lodges would multiply and increase, and with that multiplication and increase would be associated

a continuance of that philanthropy and benevolence with which the Craft was so intimately connected. He begged to thank them most heartily for the honour they had been good enough to confer upon him, and he only trusted that in subsequent years they would find by his actions that he was not unworthy of the confidence placed in him.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Reg., in response for "The Visitors," returned hearty thanks. It was not often that Masons were privileged to be present on an occasion of this kind, and he was quite sure that the visitors present that night to welcome the advent of another reign in the Province of Middlesex were satisfied that the province had been entrusted to hands which would for the future make a great success, and would conduce to the spread of the great principles which the Craft holds so dear, and which it was so desirous of propagating. They as visitors might be pardoned for congratulating the province on the accession of Bro. Lord George Hamilton to the most distinguished position which the M.W. Grand Master could bestow in Middlesex. In fitting terms the Provincial Grand Master had alluded to Sir Francis Burdett, whose memory would always be green amongst Middlesex Freemasons. He could not say with the Provincial Grand Master that he had succeeded to a position which it would be difficult to fill, and the brethren present would agree that the earnest given that night foreboded well for the province, and that they all concurred that the M.W. Grand Master had made a most happy and most felicitous choice. The visitors united in sincere wishes for the health, happiness, and prosperity of the Provincial Grand Master, and success to the province over which he had been so worthily called to preside.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. W. RUSSELL, Prov. S.G.W., responded for "The Provincial Grand Officers," and said they felt highly honoured in having been called upon to fulfil positions under the new Provincial Grand Master, and would use their utmost endeavours to carry out their duties and uphold the position of the Province of Middlesex. They esteemed it an honour to be Provincial Grand Officers of so distinguished a province, and which was so representative of the prosperity of the Craft.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings, which were enlivened by an excellent programme of music ably rendered by Bro. Oliver, P.P.G. Org., and the Schartau Part Singers.

The unqualified success of this, the largest meeting which has probably ever been held under the banner of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, was due to a few brethren, who worked energetically to ensure so happy a result, but particularly to the indefatigable Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Howard H. Room, whose unceasing efforts and genial courtesies have rendered him so deservedly popular in the province.

Letters expressing inability to attend were received from the following: Bros. the Duke of Abercorn, G.M. Ireland; the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, Deputy G.M.; Earl Amherst, P.G.M. Kent; Lord Carrington, P.G.M. Bucks; Earl of Radnor, P.G.M. Wilts; T. F. Halsey, P.G.M. Herts; Earl of Yarborough, S.G.W.; A. Akers-Douglas, Q.C., J.G.W.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M. Herts; J. S. Eastes, D.P. G.M. Kent; Col. Lord Claud J. Hamilton; and many other distinguished brethren.

CONSECRATION OF THE HORTUS LODGE, No. 2469.

The Hortus Lodge, No. 2469, was consecrated at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 27th ult., by Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Sec., assisted by Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., as S.W.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., as J.W.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Deputy P.G.M. Bucks, as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. A. W. G. Weeks, P.M.; H. B. May, P.M.; W. J. Nutting, P.M.; N. N. Sherwood, P.M.; W. Y. Baker; B. Wynne, P.M.; J. H. Laing; A. Turner, P.M.; Lynch White; A. Outram; and C. E. Osman.

After the formal opening of the lodge, a hymn was sung. The CONSECRATING OFFICER then addressed the brethren and said: We are met together on an occasion of great interest, for the purpose of constituting and consecrating a new lodge, and of adding one more to the long list of lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England. The lodge we are about to consecrate to-day will bear a name suggestive of fragrance and beauty—the Hortus Lodge—and it will be composed in a great measure of brethren devoted to the study and pursuit of horticulture. I regard myself very fortunate that on the present occasion I have the benefit of the assistance of brethren who are not only distinguished members of the Craft, but are among the foremost patrons of that very interesting pursuit. At a time when Masonry is increasing by leaps and bounds, it is not considered by His Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., very desirable to increase the number of lodges, and, therefore, I think the founders of this lodge may be congratulated on the fact that His Royal Highness at once acceded to the prayer of this petition and granted the warrant. I fell sure that under the able rule of Bro. Weeks, who has already had some experience as a Master, the duties of this lodge will be carried out in a manner as to reflect credit on the Craft. I am sure I am only giving expression to the feelings of all present, when I hope it may have before it a career of unbroken success.

The founders then signified their approval of the officers named in the petition and warrant, and an oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Dep. Prov. G.M. Bucks.

The lodge was then dedicated and constituted, and Bro. A. W. G. Weeks, P.M., was duly installed as the first W.M.

The following officers were invested: Bros. N. N. Sherwood, I.P.M.; H. B. May, P.M., S.W.; W. J. Nutting, P.M., J.W.; W. Y. Baker, Treas.; B. Wynne, P.M., Sec.; A. Turner, P.M., S.D.; J. H. Laing, J.D.; Lynch White, D.C.; A. Outram, Stwd.; R. Sebastian Hart, P.M., Org.; and Samuel Ellis, Tyler.

Other business was transacted, including the proposition of several candidates for initiation, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at Freemasons' Tavern, and the usual toasts were subsequently duly honoured.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. G.M.," were first given, and heartily received.

In proposing the next toast, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said the brethren all knew how very valuable the services of the Grand Officers were, and if any doubt existed one had only to look at the agenda at each Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge, and see the amount of thought, wisdom, and labour that must be spent on the various subjects. There was a selfishness in gratitude, and they were not only grateful for the past, but hoped the Grand Officers would live to do more for them in the future. He would

couple with the toast the name of Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, whose name alone would be sufficient to make it enthusiastically received.

Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap., in response, said he did not desire the credit given him respecting the Grand Lodge circulars. He was quite prepared to take all the credit that belonged to him as a Grand Officer, but with regard to the paragraphs which their late Grand Secretary so clearly and concisely set forth, and which the present Grand Secretary so well followed in, he could claim no credit. On behalf of the rest of the Grand Officers who were equally proud of those labours he begged to return thanks.

In giving "The Consecrating Officers," the W.M. said he thought it was Tennyson who said that "Things seen are mightier than things heard of." That toast commended itself much more to them because they had seen the most beautiful working of the Consecrating Officer that evening. He was sure the ceremony in itself was one of the greatest Masonic treats one could imagine. He had one regret, and that was that he omitted in the lodge to propose a vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers, but if they would forgive him the omission he should be grateful, for it was for want of thought and not want of feeling.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., said he rose at once to acknowledge the great compliment paid himself and the other Grand Officers who had honoured him by assisting, and the manner the brethren had received the toast proposed in such kind, although he feared, so far as regarded himself, undeserved terms. It was, as they knew, one of the duties of his office to undertake the consecration of lodges as the unworthy and most humble representative of the M.W. Grand Master, but he regarded his duty as a very great privilege, and could assure them that the ceremony he had performed that night had been to him a labour of love. It had been a great pleasure to one and all to consecrate that lodge, and they would all watch its career with a very great deal of interest. He knew he was only expressing their feelings as well as his own when he expressed the hope that that lodge might have before it a career of unbroken prosperity. He had also on their behalf to thank the W.M. for the reference he had made to what he was pleased to term an omission, and to thank him most heartily for the kind reference to their services.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg., then said that the emblem of authority which had been entrusted to him conveyed to every Mason the toast he was about to propose. It was "The Health of their Worshipful Master." The W.M. was the head of the Hortus Lodge, which he thought at that period of the evening could hardly be fairly described as a hortus siccus. He was sure the W.M. was at home there amongst gardeners, but before he had listened, as they all did, with admiration to the remarks which fell from the Grand Chaplain's lips, the W.M. was wondering what possible connection there was between Masonry and gardening. He confessed to being rather astounded at the secure arguments in the Grand Chaplain's oration. How could their ancient brethren have managed to live on the face of God's earth had it not been for the animals of the chase and the fruits of the field, and therefore it struck him that the first Masons were indebted to the first gardeners, and that without the efforts of those who had tilled the soil there would never have been those who raised the structures of the past. When he heard how the higher civilisation brought the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian Orders, and raised the edifices that have been the wonder of mankind in ancient Greece, and which with modern science they were vainly trying to rival in a spirit of union, he thought they might well say "We have gone forward in the gardening science and have nothing of antiquity to look back upon that we cannot surpass." The illustrious men in horticulture might be found in the Hortus Lodge, and the flower of that lodge was most certainly its Worshipful Master. Here in this lodge he was glad to think there were traditions of the highest antiquity as well as traditions that had come down from past ages and which had brought them to the present state of perfection. The latest development was this lodge and he did not think it need be considered as an example. The new lodge just started would strike a deep and vigorous root into its native soil and would become a sturdy stripling with a goodly number of young fruit, and that was their most earnest and sincere wish. He gave them with the greatest pleasure the health of the W.M., and was sure it was a fortunate day that the founders selected Bro. Weeks to preside over the lodge as he had done that night with so much grace and dignity.

Bro. A. W. G. WEEKS, W.M., said he responded with great pleasure, mingled with diffidence, to the toast so ably and kindly proposed by the Grand Registrar. He thought that if that worshipful brother had kept on for another 10 minutes he would have persuaded him (the W.M.) that he deserved some of the praise. He might tell them that three months ago nothing was further from his mind than that he should ever occupy the chair of W.M. again, but, being invited to take the position by some of his friends in Masonry, he felt highly flattered, and could not refuse. It was gratifying to him as representing one of the oldest, if not the oldest, firms in the horticultural world. He took an interest in Masonry and he need not say how much he took in his profession. Nothing should be wanted on his part to make the lodge the success they were told it should be, and what he said he would do, he generally did. He thanked the brethren very cordially for the kind manner in which they had received the toast.

Bro. Lieut.-General LAURIE, P.G.M. Nova Scotia, acknowledged "The Visitors."

Bro. Rev. M. WILLIAMS, P.G. Chap. Victoria, also replied, and said the kindness he had received convinced him of the real brotherhood of Masonry. He had been absent nearly 50 years, but whenever he visited a Masonic lodge he fell amongst friends. This feeling was not only on one side, for on behalf of the brethren of Victoria he could say there was no higher feeling than that of their love and affection for their mother land and for the Grand Lodge of England, which was still the mother lodge of their affection. He came amongst them as a learner, and had learned a great deal that night. In the Colonies they could hardly attempt the precision and correctness with which the brethren had performed their functions that evening, but he hoped to take something back with him for the benefit of the brethren in Victoria.

Bro. WYNNE, P.M., Sec., replying for "The Officers," said it had always struck him that amongst such an eminent body of men as horticulturists they had never had a Masonic lodge of their own. The foundation of the Hortus Lodge would, he believed, add greatly to the benefit of horticulture, and he trusted would be an honour to Freemasonry.

Bro. MAY, P.M., S.W., also responded, after which the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

The musical arrangements were ably carried out by Bro. Sebastian Hart, assisted by Bros. Frost, Kenningham, Gawthrop, and Tinney.

CONSECRATION OF THE BEDFORD CHARITY
LODGE OF ROYAL ARK MARINERS, No. 115.

The consecration of the Bedford-Charity Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, No. 115 (the first Royal Ark Mariners lodge in Warwickshire), attached to the Bedford Lodge of Mark Master Masons, was performed by the Most Noble Bro. the Marquess of Hertford, Pro Grand Master of England, &c., and Prov. Grand Master of Warwickshire, at a meeting held at the Masonic Hall, New-street, in the city of Birmingham, on Friday, the 28th ult., where the lodge will in future be held.

Prior to the consecration ceremony the W. Bro. William Vincent, A.G.D.C., opened a Royal Ark Mariners lodge, with the assistance of the founders present, the D.P.G.M. of Worcestershire, W. Bros. A. Green; W. L. Ball, P.C.N., P.G. Stwd.; T. F. Bland, W.C.N. 59; W. H. Williamson, P.C.N., P.G. Stwd.; and the Rev. W. J. Down, Prov. G.M. Chap. Worcestershire.

The other founders present were Bro. J. G. Bennett, S.D. 430, Org. 59; W. Bros. Lloyd Owen, W.M. Howe Lodge (T.I.), P.G. Stwd., Prov. G. Treas.; Robert Barton Morgan, P.M. and D.C. 115, P.P. S.G.W.; Thos. Rowbotham, W.M. 430, S.O. 115, Prov. G.S.O.; Edward Mallard, I.P.M. 430, W.M. 115, Prov. G.M.O.; William Hillman, P.M. 115, Prov. S.G.W.; Bros. Walter Glover, 430, J.W. 115, P.G. S.B.; Frederick E. Wattis, Sec. 115, D.C. 430; John A. Dexter, S.O. 430, S.D. 174, Prov. G. St. Br.; Thos. H. Pearce, S.D. 430, Prov. G. Stwd.; Walter Herbert Rollason, Stwd. 115; J. Attwood, M.O. 115, Prov. G.R. of M.; Arthur George Boys, 430; Wm. G. Smith, J.D. 174; W. Bros. Joseph Candelent, W.M. 318; Samuel Jenkins, I.P.M. 318, Prov. G.J.O. Staffordshire; Felix Jones, P.M. 174, P.P.G.M.O.; and Bro. W. P. Hoskins, J.O. 174.

The following brethren were elevated to the Degree of Royal Ark Mariners by W. Bro. Wm. Vincent, A.G.D. of C., the ceremony being performed in strict accordance with the rites and ceremonies of the Degree and in a masterly manner, the rendering doing very great credit even to an A.G.D. of C. of the Grand Lodge, the elevated brethren appreciating the impressive, clear, and perfect exposition of the beautiful ceremony by giving their most earnest and respectful attention to every part thereof, viz.: Bros. W. Wilson, P.G. Sec., J.W. Howe Lodge (T.I.); Bros. J. C. Aston, P.P.G.S.B., S.W., C. D. Eaton, J.O., W. H. Cox, S.D., A. C. Kellett, I.G., J. A. Turton, Stwd., and Charles Hodgkinson, all of 115; W. Bro. G. W. Hardy, P.M., Prov. G.D. of C., and Bro. W. J. Ginder, I.G. of 174; Bros. Rev. W. H. Poulton, M.A., Chap., Prov. G. Chap., Sir James Sawyer, M.D., M.O., Henry Penn, Sec., Richard O. Wills, Org., P.P.G. Org., Frederick Garratt, Stwd., Joseph Round, Joseph Stainton, Stwd., Horace Lindzey, and A. Dalley, Tyler, Prov. G. Tyler, as Warder, all of 430; and W. B. Stocker, 318.

The Most Noble Pro G.M.M. and Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, the Marquess of Hertford, with his Grand Officers and Prov. Grand Officers, being announced, the founders and newly-elevated brethren and visitors received them with all due honours and with the usual and respectful fraternal greetings and salutations.

W. Bro. W. Vincent having vacated the chair, the Pro G.M., as Consecrating Officer, was installed therein and greeted with acclamation. He then called upon his Deputy G.M.M., Bro. the Rev. W. Trevor Parkins, to assist him in the consecrating ceremony as Chap.; Bro. A. Green, D.P.G.M. Worcestershire, as J.; Bro. D. C. Lloyd Owen, P.G. Std., as S.; R.W. Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., as D.C.; and W. Bro. Wm. Vincent, A.G.D.C., as Warder.

The ceremony of consecration was then performed by the Pro G.M., the Noble Marquess, in a truly impressive, Masonic, reverential, and dignified manner, the rendering of the beautiful ceremony reflecting great credit and proving the truly Masonic skill and ability of the noble and eminent Pro G.M. of the Grand Lodge of England, &c.

During the ceremony the ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN delivered an impressive oration, exhorting the brethren to practice truly Masonic principles and virtues.

The Noble Marquess then vacated the throne, and called upon the R. Bro. W. Vincent to perform the installation ceremony, the R.W. Bro. C. F. Matier, S.G.W., acting as D.C.

W. Bro. Edward Mallard, W.C.N. designate, having been presented to the Installing Master, he was duly installed in the chair of the Bedford Charity Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners as its first Commander, and was congratulated by the Noble Marquess, his Grand Officers, and the W.C.N.'s present on attaining the position of First Commander of the first Royal Ark Mariners Lodge in the Province of Warwickshire in a most cordial manner. The V.W. Bro. the Rev. Trevor Parkins, D.P.G.M., was at the same time obligated as a W.C.N.

The ceremony of installation having been performed the brethren of the lodge were re-admitted, and, after the usual proclamations and salutations, the W.C.N. invested his officers as follows: W. Bros. Thomas Rowbotham, J.; Robert B. Morgan, S.; Bro. Rev. W. H. Poulton, M.A., Chap.; W. Bro. D. C. Lloyd Owen, M.D., Treas.; Bros. T. H. Pearce, Scribe; Walter Glover, S.D.; W. H. Rollason, J.D.; W. Bro. Wm. Hillman, D. of C.; Bros. Richard O. Wills, Org.; Jabez Attwood, G.; J. A. Dexter, F. E. Wattis, A. G. Boys, J. G. Bennett, and Henry Penn, Stwds.; and A. Dalley, Warder.

The W.C.N. then intimated to the noble brother, the Pro G.M., that it was the desire of the brethren of

the lodge that he as Prov. G.M., the Prov. G.M.M. of Worcestershire, the R.W. Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P.; his worthy Deputy, W. Bro. A. Green; the R.W. Bros. C. F. Matier and W. Vincent; together with the W. Bro. Murray Haynes, P.C.N., the latter having greatly assisted the W.C.N. and the founders in founding the lodge, should accept the position of honorary members.

The noble brother, having signified his gracious assent to the proposition, said that he and the brethren named would feel proud of the distinction.

The W.C.N. then in the name of the lodge requested the honorary members to accept a souvenir of the occasion in the shape of a founder's jewel. The W.C.N. in pointing out the excellence and beauty of the design, said the jewel was the work of one of the founders, W. Bro. Samuel Jenkins, and then thanked the noble Marquess, in the name of the lodge, for allowing his coat of arms, or the the centre shield, scroll, and motto, to be incorporated therein.

The NOBLE MARQUESS, in accepting the jewel on behalf of himself and the other honorary members, expressed his gratitude to the lodge for the honour they had conferred upon him in associating his name with the lodge, and incorporating his coat of arms in the manner they had done.

The W.C.N. then requested the NOBLE MARQUESS to condescend to present the founders each with a copy of the jewel, assuring him that the gift would be more valued and more highly prized by the founders if they came direct from his hands.

The NOBLE MARQUESS then, assisted by the R.W. Bro. C. F. MATIER, decorated the 19 founders present with founders' jewels.

The W.C.N. then expressed a desire that the brethren of the lodge, not being Honorary Members, should commemorate the day of consecration and birth by stamping the lodge as a Charitable Institution. He pointed out to them that all they had done up to that moment was for the honour and glory of their own province, and expressed a very strong desire that they would fall in with the proposal, pointing out to the brethren that there was a noble Institution connected with the Mark Masters and Ark Mariners Degree, viz., the Mark Benevolent Fund, which was doing signal service to poor Mark Masters and their widows and children, and he appealed to them on behalf of this fund, and showed that from the list of subscribers and donors compiled by the excellent Secretary, Bro. C. F. Matier, that there was no Ark Mariners lodge in the world up to that moment which ranked as a Vice-President of that Institution, and said he hoped that the brethren would not allow him to sit down until they had promised, individually or collectively, to give him the modest sum of 50 guineas to enable him at the next festival to place the new lodge in front of all the Ark Mariners and the majority of the Mark Masters' lodges in what he designated the scroll of fame, viz., the list of donors and subscribers of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The suggestion was cordially received by an almost unanimous assent, the brethren preferring to subscribe out of their own pockets *pro rata*.

The W.C.N., W. Bro. T. Rowbotham, J., and the Noble Marquess and Pro G.M. further offered to subscribe five guineas each if necessary to make up any deficiency. The fund, therefore, is an accomplished fact, and does the lodge and the W.C.N. great and lasting credit.

The W.C.N. announced his intention to attend the festival as the W.M. of the Bedford Lodge and the representative of the Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Warwickshire, &c., with donations from them of 10 guineas and 15 guineas.

The W.C.N. then closed the lodge, and the whole of the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where a *recherche* banquet was placed before them by the able and attentive manageress and curator of the hall, Mrs. S. Whitfield.

The W.C.N. presided at the banquet, having on his right the Noble Bro. the Marquess of Hertford, Pro G.M., with his Grand Officers and the P.C.N.'s and Grand Officers and visitors, and was supported on his left by the P.G.M. Chaplain of Worcestershire and the whole of the newly-elevated brethren and founders of the lodge.

The usual loyal toasts of "The Queen" and "The Prince of Wales as the G.M.M. of England, &c., &c.," and "The President of the Grand Masters Royal Ark Council, with the Grand Mark Officers," were duly honoured.

The W.C.N. then proposed "The Health of the Noble Marquess as Pro G.M., and Prov. G.M. of Warwickshire, with the Officers of the Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Lodge." The W.C.N., in proposing the toast, said he had received private instructions, which, although they came from the Pro G.M., he refused to obey, as they were to the effect that he was to "draw it mild" in respect of the work of the noble brother. The W.C.N. said his life would not be worth a minute's purchase if he did not do his duty, and express the unanimous love, admiration, reverence, and esteem which the whole of the members of that lodge, and also the whole of the Mark Master Masons of Warwickshire felt towards him, and said that the Mark Masons of his lordship's province were never happier or felt more honoured than when they were condescendingly visited and fraternised with by the noble Marquess, and he assured him that it was the hope and desire of every Mason in the province that he would long condescend to reign over them, and that he would always as long as he lived remain their respected chief and governor.

The Pro G.M., in acknowledging the toast, expressed the very great pleasure it had given him in consecrating the first Royal Ark Mariners lodge in his province, and congratulated the members of the lodge upon their selection of a W.C.N., who had proved at least the charitable part of his disposition by bringing about such a noble donation to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and he expressed a hope and desire that the ark would prosper, and also expressed the great satisfaction he felt in leaving it in the hands of such a capable body of officers, who represented all the Past and Present officers of his provincial lodge. He also complimented the lodge upon their very truly representative constitution, seeing that they were members of not only all the Mark Lodges in the province now in working order, but also represented with the honorary members the Mark Lodges of the neighbouring Provinces of Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

The NOBLE PRO G.M. then proposed "The Health of the W.C.N.," congratulating him upon the grand success, financially and socially, of the movement.

The W.C.N. having replied,

The W. Bro. THOS. ROWBOTHAM, J., then proposed "The Mark Benevolent Fund." He said as Masons in every Degree and in every Order they delighted in giving to that toast the prominence and importance it deserved, and thought they might justly be proud of the good work their Mark Benevolent and other kindred Institutions were doing. It was a pleasure to feel that the hearts of their less fortunate brethren and their widows might be cheered, and the lives of their children brightened, besides giving to them an education second to none, and fitting them in every respect for the battle of life which lay before them. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. C. F. Matier, S.G.W. and G. Sec., who, he said, was the life and soul of that noble and benevolent Institution, and to whose credit was to be attributed the fact that no applicant for relief had ever been turned from its doors, and also that up to the present time no expense of any election had ever been charged to its funds. He also congratulated Bro. Matier upon the zeal and ability he had always displayed, and the deep interest he had taken in the present movement, and hoped that he would return to London perfectly satisfied that he had that day assisted in the constitution not only of a Royal Ark Mariners Lodge in the worldly sense of the term, but in the constitution and creation of a Charitable Institution in the first Ark Mariners Lodge in the Province of Warwickshire.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, in response, repeated in effect the eulogisms of the Pro Grand Master as to the grand success of the lodge, and thanked the brethren most heartily for the friends of his pet Institution, and assured the W.C.N., and the officers, and brethren present, that anything he could do for Mark Masons or Mark Masonry would be done most readily and willingly.

The toast of "The Newly-elevated Brethren" was then proposed by the W. Bro. Wm. VINCENT, A.G.D. of C., who, in speaking to the toast, complimented the newly-elevated brethren in the interest they had taken in his performance of the truly Masonic and beautiful ceremony, at the same time he exhorted the newly-elevated brethren to keep the true principles of Masonry to the fore, and never neglect the brightest of all ornaments of the Order, that of Charity. He thanked the brethren who were elevated, one and all, for the earnest attention they had paid to the ceremony, and took it as an augury of their desire to imbibe all that was good and noble in the principles and practices of the Order.

Bro. Sir JAS SAWYER, on behalf of himself and the newly-elevated brethren, thanked Bro. Vincent for his kind words of hope and exhortation which he had addressed to them, and in a very eulogistic speech, said that although a very young Mason, he had already become enamoured of the art, and assured Bro. Vincent that the impressive manner in which he had performed the offices which had been allotted to him that evening had more deeply impressed him than he had been before with the true respect and admiration for the Order and its principles and virtues. He also assured the brethren present, that he, as a newly-elevated brother, would do all that he possibly could to promote the success of the newly-constituted lodge, although he had no ambition to seek office.

Bro. R. B. MORGAN then, in a cordial and hospitable speech, proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and tendered the thanks of the lodge for their kind and brotherly assistance.

The toast and sentiments of the speaker were cordially and enthusiastically endorsed, and the healths of the visitors were drunk in a hearty and cordial manner by the brethren.

W. Bros. T. F. BLAND, W.C.N., and WILLIAMSON, W.C.N., responded, thanking the brethren of the lodge for the very great privilege which had been conferred upon them by being invited to the ceremony.

The W.C.N. then proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," which was replied to by Bro. HILLMAN, S.G.W. of the province.

The musical part of the proceedings were ably conducted by Bro. Richard O. Wills, P.P.G. Org., and Organist of the new lodge. His one song, "Old Noah he built himself, &c.," after the toast of the W.C.N. being given in his inimitable and very genial and skilful style, and was received in a most hilarious manner and rapturously applauded. The birthday gifts to the lodge by the officers and brethren were numerous and costly, and constituted a complete and beautiful combination of paraphernalia working tools and Masonic appointments. We understand that the lodge will start with a good balance in hand.

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Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important
occasion are earnestly requested to send in their names to
the Secretary as early as convenient, as a successful
Festival this year is a matter of more than ordinary
necessity.

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Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,
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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT

INSTITUTION.

MAY ELECTION, 1893.

Your Votes and Interest are respectfully solicited on
behalf of

BRO. JOHN G. MARSH, P.M.,

Aged 70 years (P.G.P. Middx.; Royal Arch, 975; P.S.
G.W. Mark; Rose Croix, 18°; Red Cross; K.H.S.
Knt. St. John, &c.), who was initiated in the Old King's
Arms Lodge, No. 28, January, 1851, and continued a
Subscribing Member 25 years, became a Joining Member of
the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, in the year 1860, and
is a Subscribing Member to the present date, a total of 42
years. He also joined the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, in 1869,
and the Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, in 1875. He has
served all offices in both lodges, including that of W.M.,
and is a Life Governor of this Institution, as also the Royal
M. Inst. for Girls. He is by profession an architect and
surveyor, but owing to age and infirmity and ill health and
total loss of practice in his profession, which he has been
unable to follow for the last two or three years, he is com-
pelled to solicit the Annuity of this Institution.

Votes will be gladly received by Bro. George Kenning,
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SATURDAY, MAY 20th, 7.45 a.m.—For Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, and other stations below Exeter.*

8.10 a.m.—For SHREWSBURY, Hereford, Manchester, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, &c., to return MAY 22nd or 25th, also for Cheltenham, Worcester, Malvern, &c., to return May 25th.

9.5 a.m.—For NEWBURY, Marlborough, Devizes, Frome, Yeovil, DORCHESTER, Weymouth, and the Channel Islands, &c.*

12.0 noon—For Wells, Bridgwater, Taunton, Minehead, &c.*

1.5 and 5.50 p.m.—For BATH, Bristol, &c., to return May 22nd, 23rd, 29th, or June 5th.

6.55 p.m.—For OXFORD, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c., to return May 22nd or 25th.

WHIT SUNDAY, 8.20 a.m.—For Swindon, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, &c., to return same day or May 22nd or 27th.

WHIT SUNDAY, 12.0 midnight.—For OXFORD, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c., to return May 22nd or 25th.

WHIT MONDAY, at 6.5 a.m.—For Swindon, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, Cheltenham, &c., to return same day or May 27th.

6.15 a.m.—For BATH, Bristol, &c., to return May 22nd, 23rd, 29th, or June 5th.

7.40 a.m.—For MAIDENHEAD, Reading, Hungerford, Didcot, &c., to return same day.

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On FRIDAY NIGHT, May 19th.—To Holyhead, North and South Wales, Chester, Shrewsbury, Blackburn, Bolton, Southport, Wigan, Crewe, Nantwich, Stafford, Stoke, Macclesfield, Batley, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Warrington, Buxton, Preston, Blackpool, Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle, the English Lake District, &c., for three and six days.

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On SATURDAY, May 20th.—To Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush via Fleetwood, Liverpool or Holyhead, and Dublin, for 15 days.

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* Return within 14 days. § Return within 16 days.

SATURDAY, MAY 20th.

To LEICESTER, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, Staffordshire Potteries, &c., NIATLOCK, BUNTON, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Bolton, BLACKBURN, Bury, ROCHDALE, Oldham, Barnsley, Wakefield, LEEDS, BRADFORD, YORK, HULL, SCARBOROUGH, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, Lancaster, MORECAMBE, LAKE DISTRICT, and Carlisle. Returning May 22nd or 25th. See Bills for times.

SCOTLAND.

SATURDAY, May 20th, to EDINBORO', GLASGOW, Ayr, Kilmarnock, &c., for three or seven days, leaving St. Pancras at 7.55 p.m.

WHIT MONDAY, MAY 22nd.

To BIRMINGHAM for one or four days, and KETTERING for one day, leaving St. Pancras at 6.0 a.m.

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Tickets and Bills may be had at the Midland Stations and City Booking Offices, which will be open for the issue of Tickets all day on Friday and Saturday, May 19th and 20th, including 445, West Strand; 5, Charing Cross, (corner of Northumberland Avenue); 1, Shaftesbury Avenue; Piccadilly Circus; 33, Cannon-street; 495, Oxford-street; 13, Aldersgate-street, &c., &c.; and from THOS. COOK & SON, Ludgate Circus; 99, Gracechurch-street; 33, Piccadilly; 82, Oxford-street; and front of St. Pancras Station, Euston-road.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager. Derby, May, 1893.

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ALSO TO EDINBURGH and GLASGOW, for 4 or 8 days, returning May 23rd or 27th. 3rd class return fare, 25s.

ON SAME DATE, for 1, 3, or 4 days, to SKEGNESS, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe.

WHIT-MONDAY, May 22nd, for 1 day, to ST. ALBANS, Harpenden, Wheathampstead, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, Cambridge, Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe.

THURSDAY MIDNIGHT, MAY 25th, for 2 days, to MANCHESTER (for Races). 3rd class return fare, 10s.

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

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager. London, King's Cross, May, 1893.

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To Correspondents.

C. N. MCINTYRE NORTH.—We must ask our brother to be content, as far as we are concerned, with the report of his speech at Grand Chapter last week. We have from the first refused to open our correspondence columns to a discussion of the ritual, and we see no good reason for departing from that resolve.

The following communications, amongst others, unavoidably stand over:

CRAFT LODGES.—Strong Man, No. 45; St. George's, No. 242; St. Peter's, No. 419; Pentangle, No. 1174; Hyde Park, No. 1425; Red Rose of Lancaster, No. 1504; Rose of Raby, No. 1050; Stirling, No. 1989; Jersey, No. 2163; Grafton, No. 2347; and Arian, No. 2368.

ROYAL ANNU.—Holmesdale Chapter, No. 874; and Southport Chapter, No. 1070. Provincial Grand Chapter of Cumberland and Westmorland. Provincial Grand Lodge of Somersetshire.



SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1893.

Masonic Notes.

The second of the great anniversary Festivals of the year—that of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls—will take place at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday next, the 17th instant, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Euston, Provincial Grand Master of Norths and Hunts. Great hopes are entertained that the proceeds of the celebration will exceed those of the last four anniversaries, and though we are not in the habit of expressing ourselves over sanguinely, we consider these hopes are to a certain extent justified.

* * *

Firstly the president of the day is an enthusiastic Mason, and has already given a taste of his quality, on the first occasion as Chairman on his own account at the Benevolent Festival in 1889, and then the year following as representing the then Lord Mayor of London, Bro. Sir Henry Isaacs, at the festival of the same Institution. On both these occasions his lordship's appeals were most satisfactorily answered, and a goodly amount of money flowed into the coffers of the R.M. B.I. But besides a Chairman of recognised experience and enthusiasm, there will be a Board of Stewards mustering in all probability about 380 brethren. Thus the prospects are encouraging that Bro. Hedges, the worthy Secretary of the Institution, will once again enjoy the privilege of announcing a good round total, which will, at all events, suffice to wipe out last year's deficit, and furnish the greater part of the sum required for the expenses of the current year.

The continued existence of scarlatina (happily in a mild form) at the Girls' School at Clapham, during the greater part of the present half-year, has naturally caused hindrance to the studies, and considerable trouble and anxiety, both to the Staff and the House Committee, who have been unremitting in their care and attention. The usual Steward's visit is, of course, postponed until after the holidays, which have been antedated a month, in order to afford opportunity of cleansing and purifying the School buildings. Convalescence has been, we are happy to hear, rapid and complete, every child, when perfectly free from infection, having been sent into the country for change of air before returning to School. All this means expense, and, we venture to think, constitutes an extra claim on the liberality of the Craft at the forthcoming Festival.

* * *

Our Middlesex brethren held high festival in Teddington on Saturday last, on the occasion of Bro. Lord George Hamilton's installation as Grand Master of the Province, in succession to the late Bro. Sir Francis Burdett, Bart. There was a large muster to witness the imposing ceremony, which was most admirably performed by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, and, while the new Provincial Grand Master experienced a most enthusiastic greeting, the kindest and most respectful references were made to the sterling worth and important services of his late distinguished predecessor. Our report of the proceedings shows that the meeting was one of the most successful of its kind ever held in any Province, and it is impossible not to augur favourably from the splendid beginning made last Saturday of the prospects in store for the Province under its new chief.

* * *

An able and instructive address was given before the Defence Lodge, No. 1221, Leeds, by Bro. William Watson, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., and Hon. Librarian of West Yorkshire, entitled "A Sketch of Freemasonry in England down to A.D. 1813." The lecture was illustrated by a number of valuable books, reproductions of ancient manuscripts, &c.

* * *

We desire again to call the attention of those of our readers who may possess any votes or influence in connection with the Royal Hospital for Incurables, to the fact that Bro. Gaball, who has been an unsuccessful candidate at two previous elections, is again on the list for the election on the 26th inst. We trust that the brethren who have supported him hitherto will make an effort to secure his election on this his third application. We can add little to the reasons formerly advanced in favour of his candidature, except that increasing years have brought increasing infirmity and need, and if anything worth doing for a brother, who has through no fault of his own been brought to want, is to be done at all it should be done now.

* * *

Our contemporary, the Philadelphia *Keystone*, has an article on "Cremation and Freemasonry," in which it expresses its entire approval of the action taken by Grand Master Arnold in refusing permission to place the incinerated remains of a deceased brother in a lodge room. We are at one with our contemporary in the opinion that the Grand Master acted wisely in not acceding to the request. Such a gruesome addition to the lodge furniture is, in our opinion, not needed. But our contemporary goes on to argue in the most inconsequent way that all who favour this method of disposing of the dead are either infidels or wavering, or unsettled in their belief in the existence of a Supreme Being.

* * *

Polemics, whether theological or political, are very wisely eschewed in Freemasonry, but if any attempt at argument or justification is made in questions of current opinion it is, we think, due to the intelligence of the age that some sort of argument that could be accepted by reasonable men should be used in support of any position taken up. To assume that all who approve of and adopt this method of disposing of the dead by cremation are infidels, and necessarily upholding disbelief in a Supreme Being is to bring Freemasonry into contempt with all thinking persons.

* * *

There was a strong muster of Prov. and Past Prov. Grand Officers, members of the lodges on the roll of the Province, and visitors on the occasion of the annual meeting, at Highbridge, on Friday, the 5th inst., of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somersetshire. Bro. Viscount Dungarvan presided, and the reports submitted by the executive officers were eminently satisfactory. A full account of the proceedings will appear in our next week's issue.

The great state function of Wednesday, when the Queen opened the Imperial Institute, which has been established as a memorial of her Jubilee, and will serve to perpetuate the glories of her long and prosperous reign, may be said to have been, as regards the outward and visible display of pageantry, the splendour of the scene in the Great Hall, and the general success of the whole proceedings, second only to the celebration of the Jubilee itself. The route followed by the Royal and other processions was bright with colour, and thronged with enthusiastic spectators, who gave her Majesty and the Princes of her house a right royal and loyal greeting, while within the Institute were assembled representatives of our nobility, of the army and navy, and of our learned societies, princes of our Indian Empire, delegates from our great Canadian and Australasian Colonies, together with the Ministers of foreign States—all assembled for the purpose of paying their respectful homage to the head of our State, and supporting her on one of the most important occasions in her reign. It was a grand and imposing spectacle, and those who witnessed it, or any part of it, may deem themselves fortunate indeed.

* * *

There is, however, just one point in connection with this great function, on which we propose to offer a remark. It will be in the recollection of our readers that at the time it was proposed to establish the Imperial Institute, an appeal was made to the Masons of England, through the Grand Secretary and the executive, to give it their support, the result of that appeal taking the very substantial form of about £2000, made up of the contributions from lodges, chapters, and individual brethren. But we have failed to discover in any of the proceedings connected with Wednesday's ceremonial anything like a kindly recognition of the support thus given. We have not heard that the compliment was paid to our Grand Lodge of inviting its chief executive officer, the Grand Secretary, or any of the Grand Officers—not, of course, in their Masonic apparel, but still as members of our Masonic senate—to be present on this historic occasion. No doubt it was an oversight on the part of those in charge of the arrangements that no such invitations were issued, but the slight, however unintentional, is none the less real, because the omission has been made.

* * *

The gathering at 33, Golden-square on the 9th inst. was a very crowded one, and attests to the increasing interest taken in the Ancient and Accepted Rite in this country, an interest due in the main to the intrinsic merits and beauties of its ritual and objects, but in a scarcely less degree to the admirable organisation of the Supreme Council and the executive.

* * *

We are given to understand that for the future the number of brethren on whom the 32° may be conferred is to be extended from 45, the present limit, to 54.

* * *

Lord Lathom presided at the banquet, and was supported on his right by the Marquess of Breadalbane, and on his left by Major Allan, of Glasgow, both being visitors.

Knights Templar.

Bard of Avon Preceptory (No. 127).—The installation meeting of this preceptory was held at 33, Golden-square, on Monday evening, the 1st inst., when there were present Sir Knights W. E. Chapman, M.E.P.; Harry Nicholls, Con.; W. Lake, Marshal; W. Ebbetts, Sub-Marshal; Col. Harding, Treas.; Rudolph Glover, P.E.P.; W. A. Prince, P.E.P.; Dr. J. G. Garson, P.E.P.; Dr. B. H. Paul, P.E.P.; Chas. R. Alder Wright, F.R.S., P.E.P.; F. Mead, and others.

The usual business of the preceptory having been disposed of, Sir Knight W. E. Chapman proceeded to install his successor, Sir Knight Harry Nicholls, who then appointed his officers as follows: Sir Knights Sir Somers Vine, Prelate; Wm. Lake, Constable; F. Mead, Marshal; W. Ebbetts, Sub-Marshal; Col. Harding, Treas.; and W. E. Chapman, Registrar.

The six knights afterwards dined together at the Café Royal.

The Prince of Wales dined with Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire at Devonshire House on Wednesday, when there were invited to meet his Royal Highness Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Russian Ambassador and Madame de Stael, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland, the Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, &c. The Duchess afterwards held a large reception, which was attended among others by the Duke of Cambridge, who was attended by Colonel Fitz George, Bro. Lord and Lady Herchell, the Duchess of Athole, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Headfort, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Tweeddale, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Lathom, Bro. the Earls of Crawford, Arran, and Feversham, Bro. General Lord Roberts and Lady Roberts, Lady Tweedmouth, and Bro. Viscount Powerscourt.

The Craft Abroad.

St. George Lodge (No. 2170).—The installation meeting of this, the only English lodge in Colombo, took place on Wednesday, the 6th ult., at the Freemasons' Hall, Hare Island. Owing to the want of a proper hall, this lodge has been unable to meet for some time, but in conjunction with the Sphinx Lodge, No. 107 (I.C.), and Bonnie Doon Lodge, No. 611 (S.C.), a most spacious and beautiful hall has now been acquired, when a large and thoroughly representative gathering of Ceylon Masons were present.

The lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Bremner, P.M., then installed Bro. John Maitland, P.M., Deputy Prov. G.M. of Ceylon (I.C.), as W.M., in a most impressive and efficient manner. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bro. John Guthrie, P.M., P.G. Sec. of Ceylon (I.C.), as S.W.; Capt. Hearn, I.P.M., 107 (I.C.) as J.W.; Bremner, P.M., as Treas.; H. J. Scott, I.P.M. 1026 (S.C.), as Sec.; F. Lukis, as S.D.; M. Noddy, as J.D.; and Orford, I.G. The further business on the summons having been transacted, "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the brethren, representing lodges situated in the four quarters of the globe, the lodge was then closed.

The brethren adjourned to the spacious banqueting room. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts brought a successful evening to a close.

Reviews.

MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1894.

This is the largest of the kind published in the Country, and there are none better. The editors are Bros. Edgar Goble, Prov. G. Sec., &c., and G. F. Lancaster, Prov. A.G. Sec., &c., and right well have they fulfilled the duties of that onerous position. The work is practically a condensed history of the province, and simply invaluable for Masters of lodges and the chief officers of other Degrees who desire to possess a handy account of the eventful past of Hants and the Isle of Wight, Masonically. Here it is all "in a nutshell," and capably arranged for reference. The new system of the calendar portion will prove most useful, and the statistical information is most interesting and accurate. There are 47 lodges in the province, with 3250 members; 24 Royal Arch chapters, returning 793 companions; 13 Mark lodges, with 392 members, besides several Rose Croix chapters, Knights Templar Preceptories, Red Cross Conclaves, &c. Of all these bodies the number of meetings and members elected, &c., during the year, and net total, are duly given, besides the roll of officers, Past Masters, Provincial and Grand Lodge rank, dates of warrants, places of meetings, days of installation, and other valuable particulars. The list of "Extinct Hampshire Lodges" has been compiled by Bro. John Lane from his "Masonic Records, 1717-1886," and the roll of Provincial Officers, Craft, Arch, &c., is as complete as possible from 1767 to 1892. The "Directory" is an excellent compilation, giving as it does the addresses, for correspondence, of all Grand and Provincial Grand Officers, more immediately concerning Hants and the Isle of Wight. The page devoted to the local Educational and Benevolent Institution is a good idea, for the more that is known about its splendid work the greater should be the support given to it, and the money being received and spent in the county should lead to increased subscriptions. We understand the voting power in the Central Masonic Charities has risen to 6604 votes, so that such efforts for local purposes do not lessen the interest taken in the London Institutions. The map of the town of Portsmouth, reproduced from the original made in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, is remarkable for its containing a building termed "Masons Lodge." It is the gift of Bro. Colonel Mead, W.M. 785, who also is an earnest Masonic student. Two pages are devoted to the "Quatuor Coronati Lodge Correspondence Circle." In fact nothing is overlooked or forgotten, and the editors have done most admirably.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Royal Savoy Lodge (No. 1744).—The last meeting of the session of this well-known lodge was held on the 25th ult., at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, when there were present Bros. Capt. C. J. Knightley, W.M.; G. Mordey, S.W.; O. Ruzicka, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.M.; Treas.; A. H. Cole, Sec.; W. A. Scurrell, P.M., D.C.; J. C. Smith, P.M., Org.; G. Comley and G. Thompson, Stwds.; R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler; R. Ross, I.P.M.; Holland, P.M.; J. Fletcher, A. B. Fox, A. Davis, A. George, E. Gentry, T. Nicholson, E. Waymouth, J. Greenfield, P.M.; W. H. Smith, A. Ramsden, C. Wilsden, W. Baker, J. H. Adcock, and R. T. West. Visitors: Bros. T. J. Bolton, 1687; T. Lansdown, 813; G. A. Murrell, 35; T. W. Faulkner, 35; and H. Carman.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bros. Nicholson, Davis, and Gentry having been passed, the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards dined.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and duly honoured.

Bro. Capt. Knightley, in replying to the toast of "The W.M.," stated that he felt very much at home surrounded by those whom he respected, and that he hoped to do his very best for the lodge.

In proposing "The Past Masters," the W.M. made special mention of Bro. W. M. Stiles, remarking that he was most genial, kind, and trustworthy. He wished him every success in the contest for the Grand Treasurership for 1894. His weapons were the best, and he should be elected with a thumping majority, of which he (the W.M.) had no doubt.

Bro. Stiles, in reply, thanked the W.M. for his kind

reference to the high office he was aspiring to, and stated that he had only one opponent, who was a friend of his and a good fellow, but who, he thought, had come rather late in the field. He (Bro. Stiles) was sanguine of success, but hoped that his innumerable friends all over England would continue as they had been doing—to work hard for him. He took that opportunity of announcing that Bro. Lord George Hamilton, P.G. Warden, and Prov. Grand Master designate Middlesex, had kindly accepted the Chairmanship of his Committee, and that other very eminent and influential members had promised him their support.

In suitable terms the W.M. gave "The Visitors." Bro. Faulkner, in reply, said that the Isle of Wight would go solid for Bro. Stiles, and it would be a pleasure to them to come up specially to record their votes.

All the other visitors made suitable responses. The Worshipful Master gave the toast of "The Officers," observing that he was well supported by them, and who would all, doubtless, hereafter, give a good account of themselves, to which Bros. Mordey, Ruzicka, Cole, Jefferies, W. A. Scurrah, and G. Thompson, responded.

The next toast was "The Lay Brethren," coupled with the name of Bro. Fox, who, in reply, stated the members had reason to be proud of the efficient officers of the lodge. The Tyler's toast closed a happy meeting.

During the evening some excellent songs were contributed by Bros. A. H. Cole, Ruzicka, W. Baker, G. Mordey (recitation), and Geo. Thompson.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge (No. 2076).—This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 5th inst., when there were present Bros. Professor T. Hayter Lewis, W.M.; W. H. Rylands, P.G. Stwd., I.P.M.; Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, S.W.; W. M. Bywater, P.M.; P.G.S.B., as J.W.; G. W. Speth, Sec.; C. Kupferschmidt, J.D.; R. F. Gould, P.M., P.G.D., D.C.; C. Purdon Clarke, I.G.; and S. T. Klein, Stwd. Also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. A. Howell, R. I. Finmore, Dist. G.M. Natal; G. R. Cobham, J. Frost Creswick, C. N. MacIntyre North, Hy. Tipper, F. W. Levander, J. Roper, C. F. Silberbauer, R. Palmer Thomas, H. Ffrench Bromhead, G. Stevens, C. B. Barnes, H. Le Strange, P.G.D.; Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, H. H. Shirley, Rev. Hugh Thomas, J. Bodenham, P.A.G. D.C.; Thomas Cohu, G. Gregson, E. Haward, J. S. Cumberland, F. F. Giraud, Professor P. L. Simmonds, T. E. Dickinson, W. F. Stauffer, and Milton Smith. Also the following visitors: Bros. W. Herbert Phillips, 35 (Adelaide); and W. P. Eversley, P.M. 10.

Six lodges and 66 brethren, as follows, were admitted to the membership of the Correspondence Circle: Star of the Border Lodge, No. 293 (I.C.), Stanthorpe, Queensland; Raphael Lodge, No. 1850, Roma, Queensland; Port Fairy Lodge, No. 67, Victoria; New Caledonia Lodge, No. 11, Picton, Nova Scotia; Yarborough Lodge, No. 551; Gosport Lodge, No. 903; and Robinson Lodge, No. 2046; Bros. George Potts, sen., P.M. 932, Rockhampton, W. Bastick, 1315, J. Tolmie, 775 (S.C.), and E. Hemsworth, 775 (S.C.), all of Toowoomba, and C. W. Lister, 775 (S.C.), Jondaryn, all in Queensland; A. G. Pendleton, W.M. 38, Adelaide, South Australia; Lieut.-Col. G. M. Moore, R.A., Dist. G.M., Rev. J. T. Lawrence, Dist. G. Org., Rev. A. Westcott, P. Dist. G. Chap., and Col. R. R. Drake-Brockman, R.E., P. Dist. G.S. of W., all of Madras; A. R. Pilcher, P.M. 434, Secunderabad; J. Pickett, P.M. 30, Hawkes Bay; E. McFarlane, 30, Napier; A. Kidd, P.M. 1, and W. H. Cooper, P.G.W., both of Auckland, and E. G. Lane, Otago, all in New Zealand; P. L. Lange, Unity Lodge, Senekal; C. Van Blommestein, H. Dickson, and R. S. St. J. Green, of Star of Africa Lodge, Jagersfontein, all in the Orange Free State; W. K. Mager, P.M., Queenstown, South Africa; F. de P. Rodriguez, Hijos de la Viuda Lodge, and J. Pellon, G. Sec., Cuba, both of Havana; J. F. Hitchcock, W.M. 197, New York City; F. R. Stewart, 31, Mannington, West Virginia; T. Tapper, jun., Blue Hill Lodge, Canton, Massachusetts; O. C. Hanson, P.G.D., Norris; T. Montgomery, G. Sec., and I. B. B. Sprague, P.M. 5, both of St. Paul, all in Minnesota; H. Fletcher, 21, A. H. Armington, P.M. 21, Dr. C. M. Godding, P.M. 33, S. White, G.M., W. R. Sherman, P.M. 30, A. M. Peck, P.M. 36, M. Livsey, D.D. G.M., and H. P. Morgan, W.M. 36, all of Providence, Rhode Island; H. Kueckens 2036 (E.C.), Oldenberg, Germany; F. Philipson, L. Ferdinande Carolina, of Copenhagen; A. S. Macbride, W.M. 170; Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville-West; J. Millington, 1221; C. A. Braim, W.M. 289; A. Scarth, P.M. 289; R. Wilson, P.M. 289; J. Hammond, P.M. 481; G. Shread, 482; M. W. Heath, 686; E. Conder, 1204; E. Conder, jun.; F. W. Schofield, Rev. A. G. Griswood, and M. F. Chaton, all of 1036; Major W. H. Beaumont, W.M. 1466; W. F. Stauffer, 19; T. E. Dickinson, 2318; G. Stevens, 19; W. Tailby, 700; A. O. Side, W.M. 183; E. N. Glaeser, 1627; C. N. Knight, 1036; G. R. Carsberg, 19; Lieut.-Gen. C. W. Randolph, T. Moss, 2427; Prof. P. L. Simmonds, and M. Smith, 19.

The Secretary announced that of the brethren recently appointed Grand Officers, the following, Bros. L. G. G. Robbins, S.G.D., R. V. Vassar-Smith, S.G.D., S. G. Kirchhoffer, Deputy G.D.C., and Horatio Ward, Deputy G.S.B., were members of the Correspondence Circle. The W.M. called attention to the sad loss which the brethren had experienced in the sudden death at Bombay, on the 27th April, of their dear and talented Bro. H. J. Whympier, as a tribute to whose memory the lodge was that evening draped in black. He then called upon Bro. Gould to deliver an eulogy on their distinguished brother's career.

Bro. Gould said: Henry Josiah Whympier, the fourth son of Mr. J. W. Whympier, the well known water-colour painter (now residing at Haslemere, Surrey), was born in Lambeth on April 26th, 1845. His active career as a man of business was begun in the service of Mr. Nicholas Trubner (afterwards merged into Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner, and Co.), but by his own desire he was transferred by his father from London to Burton-on-Trent, where he was first of all a clerk in one of the larger breweries, and subsequently became assistant brewer in one of the smaller establishments. Shortly before this time a number of Indian officers had attempted to set up two breweries in the Himalayahs, one at Murree and the other at Kussowlie. But they were not fortunate, in regard to their brewers, who could not succeed in making beer which would keep. Having lost a large part of their capital, the chairman of the company came to Burton-on-Trent, with the hope of inducing some really competent brewer to save them from ruin. The Burton brewers,

however, who were doing well at home, remained content with their local prosperity, and not one of them would listen to his proposals. Henry Whympier then heard of them, tendered his services, and was sent in the first instance to Kussowlie (the smaller of the two breweries), where he at once gave a signal proof of his ability and resource, by turning the beer made by his predecessors into vinegar, and selling it at a profit. This must have been about 1863 or 1864. He speedily produced beer that would keep, and is believed to have been the first person who succeeded in doing so in India. The directors, finding that they had secured the services of a man who understood his business, soon transferred him to Murree, and placed him in full charge of their affairs. This took place in about 1865 or 1866. The Murree Brewery Company subsequently established a very large place at Rawul Pindee, in the plains, and opened branch breweries at Quetta, in Madras, and in Ceylon. These positions are farther apart than the North Cape, Gibraltar, and Moscow, and a supervision over such distant establishments was only rendered possible by Henry Whympier constantly travelling throughout every portion of the Indian Empire—from Kashmir to Cape Comorin, and from Afghanistan to Burmah. On the occasions of all the frontier wars, and the campaigns in Afghanistan, the Murree Brewery, or, to use plainer words, Henry Whympier, has always been looked to for support, and the supply of beer to the front has frequently involved the employment of thousands of persons and beasts of burden. For services rendered at these and other times, he received the thanks of the Indian Government on more than six occasions, and in recognition of his public services he was nominated C.I.E. (about 1891). Henry Whympier was the first person to introduce hop cultivation in Kashmir. Having sought out the most suitable varieties in this and other countries, he shipped a large number of plants at his own cost. The first instalment was lost by shipwreck in the Channel, and he had to commence *de novo*, but ultimately had the satisfaction of raising hops in the Himalayahs equal in quality to the best grown in England. In these efforts, however, which promised to lead to the establishment of a new and valuable industry in Kashmir, he was much hampered and thwarted by the native officials. During the last great famine in India, Henry Whympier spent many hundreds of pounds, and displayed the greatest energy in organising relief. For this he was officially thanked, and, as before stated, the Companionship of the Indian Empire (C.I.E.) was bestowed on him. But by those who were best competent to judge of the circumstances, the recognition of his services by the Government fell far short of his deserts, as it was well known throughout the Punjab that he was the life and soul of the relief organisation. He was, indeed, a man of boundless physical and mental activity. For, not content with the management of a vast commercial enterprise, he added to his labours by the establishment of a new bank, of which he became a director; and last, but not least, in the round of duties he so laboriously and efficiently performed, was the devotion of every moment of his home life that he could, strictly speaking, call his own, to the investigation and tabulation of facts relating to Freemasonry. Our brother died suddenly at Bombay on the 27th of April, but no particulars have yet come to hand, and all we know is that he is dead. He leaves a widow and five children, four daughters—one of whom is married, and the others are with their mother at Pindi—and a son, who is in this country. Standing as we may now be figuratively said to do—by the open grave of our dear brother, the time has not yet arrived when his services to our Society can be appraised at their due worth. I shall therefore merely say to-night what I feel quite sure will find an echo in your thoughts, viz., that from 1872, when he was initiated, down to eight days ago, when his heart ceased to beat, there was no one who more fully discerned the grandeur of Freemasonry, or laboured with greater earnestness to unfold its beauties to the world. Nor has there been any member of this lodge who had its success more at heart, or laboured more diligently to promote and ensure it. That the few words I have strung together, by way of expressing our sense of the loss we have sustained, are inadequate to the occasion, there is no one more conscious than myself. But a full heart is not always accompanied by a ready tongue, therefore the great affection I entertained for our late brother, you must allow me to plead in extenuation of the feeble address I have delivered in his memory.

A vote of condolence with the family having been passed, the Secretary was directed to convey the same to various members of the family of Bro. Whympier. The Secretary exhibited on the part of the Yarborough Lodge a set of three old hand-painted aprons believed to date from before 1780, and Dr. Balfour Cockburn exhibited a curious miniature presented in 1807 to a Bro. Boggart by two lodges conjointly. Bro. C. Purdon Clarke, C.I.E., read a paper on "The Tracing Board in Oriental and Medieval Masonry," showing that in Persia it resembles our Mosaic pavement in miniature, and is a reduced copy of the actual floor of the Master-mason's work-room. The use of it was explained, and slightly divergent customs elsewhere in Asia, as more modern though still medieval ones in other lands were alluded to. An interesting discussion ensued in which Bros. Rylands, Speth, Gould, and the W.M. took part. The Secretary announced that the summer outing of the lodge would this year be fixed for the 24th June, and that the city of Canterbury would be the place visited.

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

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

CROWLE.

Isle of Axholme Lodge (No. 1482).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. R. N. Brunyer, W.M.; R. J. Behrendt, I.P.M.; T. Staniforth, P.P.G.P., Charity Stwd., acting Sec.; J. Constable, P.M., P.G.S., Chap.; W. Chamberlain, D.C.; J. F. Watson, Treas.; T. C. Horobin, P.P.S.G.D.; C. Fox, S.W.; W. Pickering, J.D.; W. S. Scholey, I.G.; W. Wressle, J. Turner, and J. Franks, Stwds.; G. Naylor, Tyler; and J. Hoe. Bro. A. J. Goodhind, S.D. 2259, was a visitor.

Bro. Hoe was duly passed to the Second Degree, in which ceremony the W.M. was assisted by Bros. Behrendt and Constable.

The brethren afterwards spent a pleasant hour together in the well-known "Fourth."

MANCHESTER.

Callender Lodge (No. 1052).—The installation meeting of this lodge, which was constituted in 1865, was held on Saturday, the 29th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, by dispensation from the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie. The following were among those present: Bros. T. W. Start, W.M.; John Smith, S.W.; Wm. Thorpe, J.W.; J. Campbell, I.P.M.; S. Wrigley, P.M., Treas.; D. Edwards, P.M., Sec.; J. Brierley, S.D.; R. Williams, J.D.; G. H. Grocock, Org.; R. White, P.M., D.C.; R. R. Lisenden, Tyler; H. Howe, Wm. Entwistle, W. W. Reilly, A. Williams, P.M.; Maurice Levy, John Jordall, T. Morrell, F. Todd, Roger Walker, P.M.; J. H. Light, W.M. 1609; Alfred Hebden, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C.; W. Savage, P.G. Treas. West Lancs.; A. J. Tonkin, S.W. 1755; W. Broughton, W.M. 1345; A. C. Wilson, S.W. 633; H. Leathaby, P.M.; C. Shaw, 1147; J. W. Leathaby, P.M. 1126; F. Hilton, I.P.M. 1458; F. Farrington, P.M. 1633; Wilson, J.W. 633; T. Wood, P.M. 1345; B. Hopkinson, P.M. 1140; E. Jones, P.M.; A. H. Rovett, Frank Stevens, 633; and C. Mackey, J.W. 2231.

The lodge was opened, and the dispensation permitting the lodge to meet on the date which is other than their regular meeting day, was read, as were also the minutes of the last regular meeting. These were confirmed. In consequence of the pressure of business, the consideration of the Treasurer's balance-sheet and the Auditors' report were allowed to stand over, and the W.M., Bro. T. W. K. Start, at once proceeded with the ceremony of installing his successor, Bro. John Smith, into the chair of K.S. The beautiful ritual of installation was well treated by Bro. Start, and in a manner that must leave a lasting impression on the new W.M. and the brethren who heard him. Bro. Smith invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. W. K. Start, I.P.M.; Wm. Thorpe, S.W.; John Brierley, J.W.; Seth Wrigley, P.M., Treas.; D. Edwards, P.M., Sec.; Robt. White, P.M., D. of C.; Robt. Williams, S.D.; A. H. Roworth, J.D.; M. Levy, I.G.; G. H. Grocock, Org.; W. W. Reilly, W. Entwistle, and F. Todd, Stwds.; and R. R. Lisenden, Tyler. A gentleman's name was proposed as candidate for initiation, and other business having been disposed of, numerous "Hearty good wishes" were offered, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren dined together under the genial presidency of the W.M.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.V.G.M. of England"; "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master"; "Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, R.W.P.G.M. of East Lancashire, and Provincial Officers, Past and Present."

Bro. Savage, who had the honour of serving under the P.G.M. of the sister province of West Lancashire, suitably responded.

Bro. T. W. K. Start, I.P.M., submitted "The Health of the W.M., Bro. John Smith," and in so doing reminded those present that in Bro. Smith they had a Mason who was desirous to carry out the best traditions of Masonry, and one who was held in high esteem, and one who would carry out the work in the Callender Lodge in a praiseworthy manner.

The W.M. replied as follows: I rise to respond to the toast of my health with a very great amount of diffidence, and I thank my brother I.P.M. for the manner in which he placed my name before you, and I thank you all for the generous acclamation with which you were good enough to receive it. I feel in having attained the chair of K.S. that I have entered upon a great responsibility. I know I follow a very able Master, and one whom I hardly expect to equal; but as far as my ability extends I hope to perform the duties of this chair to the satisfaction of the members of the Callender Lodge. It would ill become me to make great promises, or say what I shall do, but at the end of my year of office I hope you will be able to say I have done well. As far as my abilities serve me I will endeavour to show that your confidence reposed in me has been well placed. I am following a very good scroll of able Past Masters, who have filled this chair with credit to themselves and lustre to the Craft, and if I cannot hope to attain to their proficiency, I shall with the help of my officers carry out the work correctly and in detail, so that our lodge may continue to maintain its present high prestige. In thanking you very heartily, I hope my health may be spared to promote the best interests of this lodge.

The W.M. proposed, in eulogistic terms, "The Installing Master," and, in doing so, had the pleasing task of presenting that brother with a Past Master's jewel, which was a massive gold one, suitably engraved as follows: "Presented by the Callender Lodge, No. 1052, to Bro. T. W. K. Start for valuable services as W.M., 1892-93."

Bro. Start feelingly replied, and thanked the brethren for the kind way in which they had been good enough to express pleasure for his services, while he assured them the work was very pleasant to him.

Bro. Walker, in a neat speech, gave the toast of "The Visiting Brethren," which was acknowledged appropriately by Bros. Savage, Light, Farrington, Broughton, Hilton, and Leathaby.

Bro. Brierley, in a few well-chosen words, proposed the toast of "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and said that the Past Masters were ever willing to work to keep the lodge up to its present position of excellence.

The response was left in the able hands of Bro. Dr. Edwards, P.M., who was the second W.M. of the lodge.

Bro. Edwards said: I cannot avoid answering such an excellent speech made so forcibly, and in truth, I believe, by Bro. Brierley. The Past Masters of this lodge have always done their very best to support the W.M. and to assist the junior officers, and to forward the interests and welfare of the members of the lodge generally. With regard to the past history of the lodge only three Past Masters have ceased to be subscribing members voluntary. Some have died and others have removed, and there has been some tangible reason for their ceasing connection with our lodge. From Bro. Callender down to our very latest W.M. installed this day we have had a list of Masters second to no lodge in Lancashire at any rate, and I think much of the success of the lodge is due to the unanimity which exists within it. I do not know of two members of this lodge who are not heart and soul together, and I know of no member who would use a harsh or unkind word of another member. It is gratifying to know there is such perfect unity and such a happy state of perfection existing.

I do not know a member either who is at all likely to need any assistance. If such were the case it is our proud position that we should be able and willing to assist him or them, but fortune seems to have shone upon us all as regards our actual needs any way. We have, Worshipful sir, as Past Masters undertaken to obey and support you in your office, and as we have ever done so in the past so will we do now and in the future. Bro. Campbell also replied.

The W.M. proposed "The Newly-invested Officers." Bros. Thorpe, S.W., and Todd replied.

The toast of "The Callender Lodge" was ably put forward by Bro. Jones.

"The Masonic Charities" was ably proposed by Bro. Wrigley. The Tyler's toast brought the list to a close.

A good musical programme was interspersed between the speeches, and among the brethren who contributed either with song or recitation were Bros. Robert Williams, Seth Wrigley, Lisenden, Joddrill, McKay, Jones, Ridley, Todd, Steel, Tonkin, and Shaw. Bro. Fallo kindly accompanied and gave a solo on the pianoforte, and Bro. Wrigley delighted everyone with a skilful performance on the auto-harp.

Dramatic Lodge (No. 2387).—The third installation meeting was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Albion Hotel. There was a very large gathering of brethren, evidently on account of the popularity of Bro. T. Ramsey, who was installed for the second time. The brethren of the lodge showed a noble and true Masonic spirit in electing him a second time for the following reasons: It appears soon after his last installation he was so seriously indisposed that he was obliged to go on the Continent, and remain there a long time, so that he had not an opportunity of attending to his duties as W.M. as he would have liked and felt disposed to do, so unanimously gave way, that he could preside another year, and, indeed, they have not been disappointed, for on this occasion Bro. Ramsey, previous to his installation, passed two candidates, and performed the ceremony of raising in a marked talented manner. Bro. Joseph Truelove Richardson, P.M., P.P.G.D., took the chair as Installing Master. The W.M. elect was presided by Bro. E. G. Simpson, P.M., P.P.G.D., and a Board of Installed Masters having been constituted, Bro. T. Ramsey was impressively, but briefly, installed for the second time. Bro. J. T. Richardson gave the working tools, Bro. Tom Cavanah addressed the W.M., Bro. E. G. Simpson the Wardens, and Bro. Richardson the brethren generally. The following is a list of officers invested by the W.M., and they were addressed by Bros. Richardson and C. Swinn, P.M.: Bros. J. M. Simpson, S.W.; Chas. Swinn, P.M., J.W.; J. T. Richardson, P.M., P.P.G.D., Sec.; Jno. Barlow, Treas.; E. G. Simpson, P.M., P.P.G.D., D.C.; E. A. Crompton, S.D.; Fred. A. Cooper, P.M., J.D.; Hy. Stevens, P.M., P.G.O., and J. H. Greenwood, Organists; Fitzsimmons, I.G.; Harold Macbeth and D. H. S. Hart, Stwds.; and De Cantillon, Tyler. The W.M. proposed that the sum of 10 guineas be voted to each of the following Institutions: the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. This was carried unanimously. Bro. Ramsey was elected Charity Representative.

Subsequently a banquet was held, and all the loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

There was a capital musical programme prepared, the artists being Bros. Cuthbert Blacoe, N. Dumville, P.M.; and Wm. Booth, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; and accompanist, J. H. Greenwood. Recitations were also given by Bros. Tom Black, P.M., P.P.G.D., J. Pitt-Hardacre, and others.

The following brethren were present: Bros. T. Ramsay, W.M.; T. H. Birch, I.P.M.; John M. Simpson, J.W.; John Barlow, Treas.; C. Swinn, P.M., Sec.; Elliott A. Crompton, S.D.; J. D. Core, I.G.; E. G. Simpson, P.P.D.G.D.C.; H. Stevens, P.M., P.G.O.; T. Cavanah, P.M.; Joseph T. Richardson, P.P.G.D.; Fred. R. Cooper, P.M.; J. H. Greenwood, J. Butterworth, G. F. Black, John Rowson, Cuthbert Clark, T. W. Lawrence, Mandelberg, and H. Macbeth. Visitors: Bros. John Chadwick, P.G.S.B., P.G.S.; John Challenor, Chap.; E. T. Robinson, W.M.; Thomas Black, P.P.G.D.; Edgar Towell, P.M.; W. Savage, Prov. G. Treas.; W. Booth, P.P.G.D.C.; R. W. Routley, P.M.; Walter Biggs, P.M.; Tom Wood, P.M.; R. W. Perry Circuit, P.G. Chap.; J. Lacey Savage, P.M.; W. T. Allitt, P.M.; Major Heap, W.M.; Thomas Wilson, P.M.; H. Heard, Jas. A. Walsh, C. Vickers, H. S. Greenwood, Cuthbert Blacoe, J. A. Woodcock, P.M., J. Pitt Hardacre, and Thos. Sowler.

NORTH WOOLWICH.

Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—A regular meeting of the members of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at the Three Crowns Hotel, Bro. B. C. Curtis, W.M., in the chair, assisted by the following officers and a number of visiting brethren: Bros. J. Glading, S.W.; J. Delo, J.W.; C. H. Canning, P.M., Treas., and P.P.G.J.D.; C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec.; T. Reeves, S.D.; W. Turvey, J.D.; J. Palmer, D.C.; J. Baldie, A.D.C.; and W. Baker, Stwd.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, Bro. C. Stretton was passed, and Bros. Turvey, Redman, Smith, Pettitt, Olver, and Beatrice, were raised, the whole of the work being admirably done by the W.M. and his officers. An alteration of the by-laws was made, and it was decided to have a summer banquet and ladies' day, and then the lodge was closed, and the brethren banquetted.

PONTYPRIDD.

Merlin Lodge (No. 1578).—The annual festival of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 1st inst., when the following officers of the lodge were present: Bros. the Rev. D. Phillips, W.M.; W. R. Davies, P.M., P.G.T.; Richard Hill-Male, P.P.G.R.; Dr. H. Naunton-Davies, J.W.; J. F. McClune, P.M.; J. Sprague, P.P.G.D.C.; W. H. Key, P.M.; E. H. Howard, P.M.; Stephen Lewis, P.M., S.W.; and others. The following visitors were present: Bros. W. M. Marmaduke Tennant, D.P.G.M.; S. Cooper, P.M. 36; W. C. Peace, P.M. 960; W. G. Davies, P.M. 364; D. McDonald, W.M. 110; R. R. Davies, P.M. 110; J. D. Williams, P.M. 833; Thomas Rees, P.M. 960; G. Driver, P.M. 1429; and others.

The installation ceremony was an impressive one, Bro. John Evans being duly installed in the chair in succession to Bro. the Rev. D. Phillips, M.A. The new W.M. elected his officers as follows: Bros. Joseph David, S.W.;

Thos. R. Phillips, J.W.; Rev. D. Phillips, M.A., I.P.M., Chap.; A. Stanley Cobb, Treas.; Rev. Preceptor W. Lewis, R.D., Sec.; Henry Thomas Wales, Asst. Sec.; William Lewis, S.D.; William Phillips, J.D.; J. W. John, Org.; Arthur O. Evans, D.C.; Wm. T. Leyshon, I.G.; John A. Thomas and Henry Porcher, Stwds.; and Albert Parsons, Tyler.

About 80 brethren sat to dinner at the New Inn Hotel in the evening.

THORNE.

St. Nicholas Lodge (No. 2259).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., in the Masonic Rooms, Peace Hall, which had since last meeting been neatly re-decorated. Present: Bros. J. Constable, P.M., W.M.; A. L. Peace, P.M., Treas., acting I.P.M.; G. Kenyon, S.W.; W. Martin, J.W.; W. P. Robotham, Sec.; A. Goodhind, S.D.; T. Barber, J.D.; E. Simpson, acting Org.; W. Pickering, acting I.G.; T. Livingstone, Stwd.; F. Pine, Tyler; R. N. Brunyee, G. Eland, and E. Hirst. Visitors: Bros. F. Duff, 242; Chamberlain, P.M. 1482; and C. Fox, S.W. 1482.

Bro. E. Hirst was raised to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M., the working tools being given by Bro. Peace. The W.M. gave an account of his visit to Prov. Grand Lodge Wakefield, when the Prov. Grand Master presented to this and every lodge in the province a copy of "Masonic Addresses" delivered by Bro. T. W. Tew.

YORK.

Agricola Lodge (No. 1991).—The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Castlegate, on the 24th ult., when there was a numerous attendance of members and visitors. Bro. Geo. Manton, W.M., presided, and supported by his officers, duly installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, Bro. Captain F. Hewson, P.M., P.Z., P.D.S.G.D., 183, &c. Bro. J. McGee, Sec., delivered the traditional charges to the W.M. elect. This lodge being strongly a *la militarie*, several new "barracks" members were favourably balloted for. The Auditors' report was very satisfactory. The W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. George Manton, I.P.M.; D. Young, S.W.; J. W. Dow, J.W.; J. Riley, Chap.; J. Booth, Treas.; G. H. Stott, Sec.; R. Spence, S.D.; J. McGee, J.D.; F. Woodhams, D.C.; W. McKenzie, A.D.C.; C. Birkill, Org.; A. R. Wood, I.G.; P. A. Hatfield, R. Gray, and J. P. Gill, Stewards; and C. H. Poynts, Tyler.

There were present, amongst others, Bros. J. E. Wilkinson, T. N. Latham, D. Young, J. M. Dow, R. Spence, C. Birkill, G. H. Stott, Sec.; J. Riley, H. C. Poynts, P. A. Hatfield, A. R. Wood, T. Laverock, C. G. Pincombe, J. P. Gill, C. Gorton, Wm. Abbey, T. Thompson, R. R. Gray, J. Buckle, J. H. Sampson, T. C. Graves, J. H. Hill, W. M. McKenzie, T. Woodhams, S. Shaw, H. Church, P.M. 1817; A. W. Kemp, P. Pearson, 1611; E. A. Robinson, J. R. Thompson, Geo. Underwood, R. Dunsmore, T. S. Kidney, J. Booth, Treas.; Wheeler, P.M. 363 (S.C.); J. Sykes Rymer, P.M. 236, P.P.G.R.; J. Blenkin, P.M. 1611, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Buttery Trafalgar, 223; W. B. Powell, S.W. 48 (I.C.); W. S. Child, 1611, P.P.G.O.; J. Holt, P.M. 509; H. Cheetham, J.D. 509; M. Bryson, S.D. 236; W. N. Stimpson, 236; and J. Horner, 1611.

Subsequently the brethren and visitors sat down to a first-class banquet at Harker's Hotel, and Bro. Simmons' menu was very satisfactory.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "The Pillars of the Order" were proposed from the chair, Bro. Capt. Hewson, in effective speeches, referring to the Grand Master the Prince of Wales, the Earl of Lathom, the Hon. Orde-Powlett, the late Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, and other "pillars."

Bros. J. Sykes Rymer, P.M. 236, and J. E. Wilkinson, P.M. 1991, responded.

"The W.M. of Agrícola Lodge" was proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Geo. Manton, in a spirited speech, in which he said there were 100 members of that lodge, and he suggested that that was sufficient to assist in creating another.

The toast having been greeted with the singing of "He's a jolly good Mason," Bro. Capt. Hewson, in his usual spirited fashion, suitably replied. He gave some very suitable advice to juniors, and deprecated the "rushing" of Masons into lodges. He had been 28 years a Mason, and he would do his best for the benefit of that lodge and Masonry generally.

"The Health of the Installing Master and Past Masters of the Lodge" was then proposed by the W.M., and Bro. Manton, I.P.M., replied.

"The Officers" was proposed by Bro. Wilkinson, P.M., and replied to by Bro. Young.

The remaining toasts were "The Sister Lodges," "The Masonic Charities," "The Visitors," the Tyler, and "The Host."

During the evening some capital glees, songs, instrumental music, recitations, &c., contributed to the pleasure of the evening, helpers in the harmony being Messrs. J. E. Wilkinson, W. H. Dawson Stott, Dow, McGee, G. Woolford, Farmery, Nickerson, and others.

Royal Arch.

Panmure Chapter (No. 720).—A meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 8th inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, when there were present Comps. George Treves, M.E.Z.; C. Fruen, H.; A. C. Wood, J.; Terry, Treas.; A. B. Side, S.N.; John Stevens, 1st A.S.; Richardson, P.Z.; and John Read, P.Z., G. Org. Visitors: Comps. Lee, A.G.S.E. Middx.; Francis, and others.

The chapter was opened, and the usual routine business having been observed, Comp. A. B. Side was elected as Third Principal for the ensuing year. This being the annual period of installation the retiring M.E.Z. was duly entrusted as a P.Z. by Comp. J. Read. Comps. Fruen, Wood, and Side were regularly installed into the first, second, and third chairs respectively by Comp. Richardson. Comp. Terry was invested as Treasurer, and Comp. John Stevens as P.S. A vote of congratulation was accorded to Bro. John Read, P.Z., and first Z. of the chapter, on his having attained office in Supreme Grand Chapter.

Nothing further offering the chapter was closed. The companions subsequently dined together under the able presidency of Comp. E. C. Fruen, M.E.Z.

Mark Masonry.

Prince Leopold Lodge (No. 238).—This lodge met at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 18th ult. Amongst those in attendance were Bros. A. N. Clemow, W.M.; L. W. Harvey, S.W.; W. H. Holroyd, J.W., W.M. elect; S. Valentine, S.O.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, B.A., J.O.; Nelson Prower, M.A., P.M., P.P.S.G.O., Treas.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; and T. O. Harding, M.A., P.M. Bro. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.G. Stwd., &c., was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary installed Bro. W. H. Holroyd as W.M.; he was ably assisted by Bros. Prower, P.M.; T. O. Harding, P.M.; and F. W. Driver, P.M. The following appointments and investitures were made: Bros. L. W. Harvey, S.W.; F. B. Smith, J.W.; S. Valentine, M.O.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, S.O.; N. Prower, P.M., Treas.; T. C. Walls, Sec.; and Goddard, Tyler. The other investitures were postponed. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., and a vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. F. J. Smith, W. Drew, and others.

The lodge was then closed; a banquet followed. The W.M. was very brief in his utterances, but his remarks were exceedingly pertinent.

During the intervals Bro. Pritchard amused the brethren by his instrumental and vocal entertainment. His imitations of some singers you meet, male and female, at evening parties being very funny. Bro. Driver also lent his aid by delivering some pieces of original composition.

Henniker Lodge (No. 315).—The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 2nd inst. Bro. W. J. Crutch, P.P.G. Stwd., W.M., was supported by Bros. J. Barnett, jun., P.P.G.O., I.P.M.; W. J. Nicholls, P.P.G.D., J.W., W.M. elect; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; E. S. Crick, S.D.; J. A. Farnfield, J.O.; H. Warner, R. of M.; J. Jacobs, H. Tipper, P.M.; and C. G. W. Moore, S.O. Visitors: Bros. R. C. Clowes, P.G.O.; R. D. Phillips, 160 (S.C.) and 450 (E.C.); and W. W. Lee.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the audit report received and adopted. Bro. J. Jacobs, 1829, was advanced to the Degree of M.M.M. by the W.M., who then proceeded to install Bro. W. J. Nicholls as W.M. The following officers were appointed: Bros. J. A. Farnfield, S.W.; C. G. W. Moore, J.W.; H. Warner, M.O.; E. S. Crick, S.O.; J. H. Gluckstein, J.O.; J. Terry, P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; T. Culverwell, R. of M.; C. F. Hogard, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; F. Gale, S.D.; C. Cope, J.D.; W. H. Wheeler, D.C.; J. Jacobs, I.G.; J. Kift, Org.; and E. Mills, P.G.I.G., Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Crutch, I.P.M., in recognition of the ability with which he had discharged the duties of W.M. during the past year. Several apologies for non-attendance were received, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at Freemasons' Tavern, and the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were heartily honoured.

In proposing "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. referred to the presence of several Grand Officers that evening. The Grand Secretary, Bro. Matier, was distinguished for his arduous work, and also for his loving duties performed with reference to the Mark Benevolent Fund. He was pleased to find that one of the Past Masters, Bro. Barnett, was going to act as Steward for that fund, and hoped the brethren would support him.

Bro. C. F. Matier, P.G.V., said the Grand Officers present formed a not inefficient representation of the toast of the Grand Officers. The time was fast approaching when the Grand Officers now in power would retire, and when they would be replaced by others. He had every reason to believe that among those changes there would be some very agreeable to the brethren of this lodge. The Grand Officers of the future, whoever they might be, would be no less anxious to support the dignity and interest of the Order. They were always pleased to hear mention of the services done by their predecessors, themselves, and which they hope will be done by their successors, because in that lay the prosperity of the Order.

Bro. W. J. Crutch, I.P.M., next gave "The Health of the W.M.," and said that Bro. Nicholls would do good suit and service to the lodge. Their W.M. was a good worker in the lodge, and ably presided at the banquet table. He had no doubt that when the W.M. retired, he would do so with the acclamation of the brethren.

Bro. W. J. Nicholls, P.P.G.D., W.M., returned thanks, and assured the brethren that he was deeply sensible of the great honour done him. He hoped they would have plenty of work, and that he would be able to go through the ceremonies as they should be done. He always believed candidates were a good deal influenced in the Degrees by first impressions, and if the officers would rehearse the ceremony all would go smoothly. He trusted they would have an opportunity of rehearsing previous to their next meeting.

The next toast was that of "The Advancee," to whom they all extended a welcome.

Bro. J. Jacobs expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be advanced that evening, and congratulated the I.P.M. on his working of the ceremony.

The W.M. next proposed "The Past Masters and Installing Master," and said the lodge was to be congratulated on having so many Past Masters who had done good work, and who were always ready to come forward to assist. Bro. Hogard as a Secretary was exceptional, and the lodge was fortunate in being able to retain the services of so excellent a brother, who was always ready to sacrifice his time and inclinations for the good of the lodge. Bro. Barnett, P.M. was a most enthusiastic and indefatigable Mason, and had brought more recruits into the Degree than many could boast of. They had all seen how excellently Bro. Crutch, P.M., had rendered the ceremonies of advancement and installation, and the way he delivered the charges was most impressive.

Bro. W. J. Crutch, I.P.M., said as far as he was concerned he should always endeavour to do his duty in the lodge as he had during the time he had been a member. He thanked the brethren, not only for the kind way they had received the toast, but also for the kindness extended to him during his year of office.

Bro. R. Clowes, P.G.O., responded for "The Visitors," and acknowledged the kindness with which they had been received.

Bro. J. A. Farnfield, S.W., replying for "The Officers," said they were one and all anxious for the advancement of their lodge and would acquit themselves in the manner the W.M. would desire.

Bro. C. F. Hogard, P.G.S.B., Sec., replied for "The Treasurer and Secretary," and deplored the absence of Bro. Terry, Treas., whose important duties had prevented his attendance. He had occupied the post of Secretary since its foundation and now stood in the position of father of the lodge. He hoped the lodge would prosper in the future as in the past, for they had been able from time to time to do a great deal on behalf of that admirable Institution, the Mark Benevolent Fund. Bro. Barnett had started with a good list (35 guineas), and as they knew the fund was worked with small expenses in bringing its claims forward.

The Tyler's toast was then given, and the brethren separated.

Bro. J. Kift, Org., ably presided at the piano and materially enhanced a pleasant evening by several humorous songs.

ALTRINCHAM.

Stamford Lodge (No. 148).—The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 24th ult., at the Town Hall. Bro. Wm. Ramsden, W.M., opened the lodge, assisted by his officers, after which it was announced that Bro. the Hon. Alan Tatton Egerton, Prov. G.M. elect for the Province of Cheshire, demanded admittance, and under the direction of Bro. H. Gordon Small, D.C., the brethren rose to receive him and other Grand and Prov. Grand Officers, who were duly saluted. Bro. Alan Egerton then took the chair, and called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bros. Richards Stephenson, John Thomas Mills, F. Morgan, A. Ingham, and John Shaw as candidates, and Bro. John Wagstaffe as a joining member. All being favourable, three of the candidates were advanced by Bro. W. Cartwright, P.M., Prov. G. Treas. All the officers were well up to their work, Bro. Wm. Ramsden, W.M., acting as Deacon, the ceremony all through was well performed indeed, and we are glad to say that apparently there is a brilliant future for the Stamford Lodge under the able guidance of the present W.M., Bro. Ramsden. At the close of the business a vote of thanks was proposed and unanimously carried thanking Bro. the Hon. Alan Tatton Egerton for his presence that evening. In reply the Hon. brother said it gave him infinite pleasure to be amongst them that evening, more especially as he saw them under such successful circumstances. He felt it was his duty to be there that evening, as since being elected to the high and distinguished post of P.G.M. he would like to visit his mother lodge first, and he expressed his intention during the ensuing year to visit every Mark lodge in the province. After all other business had been performed, the lodge was closed.

The following brethren were present: Bros. the Hon. Alan Tatton Egerton; W. Ramsden, W.M.; C. Chetwynd Atkinson, S.W.; Fred. Broadsmith, J.W.; R. Newhouse, P.M., P.G.D. Eng.; H. G. Small, M.O.; G. S. Smith, P.M., J.O.; T. Thompson, Sec.; and Alfred Huxley, Visitors: Bros. Wm. Cartwright, P.M., P.P. J.G.W., and J. Wagstaffe, S.O. 141.

WORKINGTON.

Derwent Lodge (No. 282).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Portland-square, on Wednesday, the 3rd inst. The lodge was opened, Bro. John J. Little, P.J.G.D., W.M., in the chair, supported by his officers. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, when the Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, J.P., C.A., supported by Bro. P. de E. Collin, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.G.D. England, were announced, received, and saluted. One candidate should have been advanced to the honourable Degree of M.M., but unfortunately he was called away from home.

After the lodge business was finished, and with "Hearty good wishes" from Grand Lodge, Prov. Grand Lodge, Prov. Grand Lodge of Lincolnshire, and Lodges No. 151, 229, and 387, the lodge was closed, and on the invitation of the W.M., Bro. Little, the brethren adjourned to the Green Dragon Hotel, where a banquet was held, presided over by the W.M., supported by the D.P.G.M., when a very pleasant evening was spent.

The following signed the attendance book: Bros. J. J. Little, P.J.G.D., W.M.; J. Paterson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; G. B. McKay, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. Dixon; J. Bouch, Sec.; J. Dickinson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. Cooper, P.P.G.O., Org.; J. Purger, S.W.; W. Sheldon, S.D.; J. Bowness, J.O.; F. Neil, I.G.; and Whitehead, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. F. R. Sewell, D.P.G.M.; P. de E. Collin, P.M., W.M. 151, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.D. England; Jas. Gardiner, P.M. 151, P.G. Sec., P.G.S. England; J. O. Scott, I.P.M. 151, P.P.J.G.O.; Thos. Anison, S.W., P.G. Stwd.; John Gibson, P.P.G.I.G.; Thos. Atkinson, I.P.M. 229, P.S.G.O.; J. B. Le Gassick, Chap. 387, P.P.G. Chap. Lincolnshire; and others.

Knights Templar.

Shadwell Clerke Preceptory (No. 154).—The installation meeting was held at 33, Golden-square, on Thursday, the 20th ult. Sir Knight T. Graham Robinson, the E.P., presided, and was assisted by Sir Knights J. S. Cumberland, Shirley, Read, Purrot, Robinson, Scurrah, Palmer, Lovegrove, Gregory, Hay, Goodchild, Brown, Liversedge, and Heinemann.

Comp. G. W. Capell was installed a Knight Templar. Sir Knight W. A. Scurrah was installed as E.P., and appointed Sir Knights Gregory and Derman as Constable and Marshal; A. McDowall, Treasurer; and Henry Lovegrove, Registrar.

A banquet at the Criterion followed.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Invicta Chapter (No. 10).—The last meeting of the season was held at 33, Golden-square, on the 21st ult. The M.W.S., Ill. Bro. Henry Lovegrove, 30°, presided, and was assisted by Ill. Bros. W. M. Bywater, 32°, Treas.; Dr. G. Mickley, 31°; Rev. Dr. Fraser; H. H. Shirley, 30°; J. Read, 30°; F. E. Collins, 30°; E. and

P. Bros. G. Powell, Recorder; C. E. Keyser, and others. Bro. G. W. Capell was the only visitor.

After the transaction of some routine business, the brethren adjourned to the Criterion to dinner, after which an excellent musical entertainment was given, under the direction of Bro. John Read, P.M.W.S., who has been Organist of the chapter for many years.

Mount Calvary Chapter (No. 31).—This chapter met for the dispatch of business at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, on the 21st ult. Among those present were Bros. Major F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, M.W.S.; G. Pigachi, Prelate; G. H. Grimwood, J.P., 1st. General; Major W. B. Williamson, J.P., 30°, 2nd General; W. Paas, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; N. Prower, M.A., 30°, G.M.; W. Maple, C. of G.; Corrie Jackson, F.R.C.S., Herald; Dr. Lott, 31°, Org.; Egbert Roberts, Asst. Org.; Dr. Coffin, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Tayleur, M.A., P.M.W.S.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S.; H. J. Lardner, 30°, I.P.M.W.S.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. T. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., M.A., P.M. 1745, &c., and it being unanimous, he was most impressively perfected by the M.W.S. E. Bro. G. Pigachi was duly elected Most Wise for the ensuing year, and Ill. Bro. W. Paas re-elected Treasurer. Upon the motion of the Recorder, the sum of five guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, per E. Bro. Corrie Jackson, as Steward to that Institution. A Past Sovereign's jewel was voted to Ill. Bro. Major F. J. Stohwasser. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Ill. Bros. Major J. E. Anderson, 30°, P.M.W.S.; G. Graveley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Laurence Steele, 30°, &c.; and many others.

The chapter was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Café Royal to banquet.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts followed. The Most Wise, as usual, was genially impersonified. Thanks to him a most agreeable and Masonic evening was spent.

Bro. Egbert Roberts, with the assistance of several professional vocalists, gave an excellent concert. Ill. Bro. Dr. Lott was also good enough to assist at the piano. To the lover of sweet sounds, both vocal and instrumental, the post-prandial proceedings during the Most Wise Sovereign's year will not soon be forgotten.

Shadwell Clerke Chapter (No. 107).—The usual April meeting was held on the 12th ult., when, owing to the unavoidable absence, through illness, of Bro. T. P. Dorman, M.W.S., the chair was occupied by Ill. Bro. W. R. Pulman, P.M.W.S., and there were present Ill. Bros. W. Lovegrove, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; J. Read, 30°, P.M.W.S., Recorder; H. H. Shirley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; W. A. Scurrah, P.M.W.S.; Dr. Goodchild, 30°; E. and P. Bros. J. W. Stevens, R. C. Liversedge, J. G. Marsh, G. W. Capel, A. H. Scurrah, L. M. Biden, and others.

After the election of Bro. Dr. N. Goodchild as M.W.S.; Bro. Henry Lovegrove as Treasurer; and Bro. Austin as Equerry, the brethren adjourned to a banquet at the Criterion.

Royal Ark Mariners.

Prince Leopold Lodge (No. 238).—This lodge met at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 18th ult., when there were present Bros. N. Prower, M.A., Treas., P.W.C.N., acting W.C.N.; F. W. Driver, M.A., J.; T. O. Harding, M.A., P.W.C.N., acting S.; Capt. Walls, P.G.C., P.W.C.N., Scribe; L. W. Harvey, S.D.; W. H. Holroyd, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Scribe installed Bro. F. W. Driver as W.C.N. The following investitures were made: Bros. W. H. Holroyd, J.; L. W. Harvey, S.; N. Prower, P.W.C.N., Treas.; T. C. Walls, P.W.C.N., Scribe; F. Graves, S.D.; Corrie Jackson, J.D.; and Goddard, Warden. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. The W.C.N. then elevated Bro. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham as a Royal Ark Mariner.

The lodge was then closed and adjourned. The brethren afterwards dined with the members and guests of the Prince Leopold Mark Lodge, under the presidency of Bro. Holroyd.

During the proceedings "The Health of the W.C.N." was most cordially drunk, and to which compliment he suitably replied.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE ROSE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1622.

This happy meeting took place at the Surrey Masonic Hall on the 20th ult., under the able presidency of Bro. J. Pullen, W.M. 1622, supported by Bros. F. Hilton, P.M.; J. Loader, P.M.; Dunn, P.M.; Grumant, P.M.; H. G. Martin, P.M.; Kirby, Thornhill, Elgar, Klyne, Dawson, Thompson, W. Jeffery, Colegrave, Cottrell, Ellison, Rice, Whitehead, W. King, Pike, Niblett, Barr, Hill, Fairer, Turner, G. Mash, Cooke, Ashley, Channon, H. Wood, Shelvey, Payne, Gomm, Sowton, Wint, Reap, Choveaux, Derham, Sobel, and C. H. Stone, W.M. 507.

The brethren enjoyed an excellent supper, provided by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress.

The cloth removed, the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," were most heartily given and received.

Bro. J. LOADER, P.M., next presented the toast of "The President," who he had had the honour and privilege of initiating some years ago, and he had proved himself a most worthy son. It gave him intense pleasure in submitting the toast to the brethren. It was drunk most enthusiastically.

Bro. J. PULLEN, in response, thanked all for kind expressions. He was proud to hold that honourable position that evening, and especially as his father in Freemasonry had remarked so much about him. Certainly he had been impressed deeply at the time of his

initiation, and had endeavoured to carry out the principles to the fullest. He was delighted that the Rose Lodge of Instruction supper was taking place at the Surrey Masonic Hall for the first time, and so goodly a number of the brethren (40) had supported him, and that next year, after the entertainment of that evening, that number would be doubled.

The toast of the evening was then given by the PRESIDENT, who at the outset regretted the absence of Bro. Rose, P.M., from whom he read a letter stating it was the first time he was absent for 20 years, and hoped the brethren would enjoy themselves as on former occasions. Bro. Pullen stated it was the desire of his (Bro. Rose) heart to be present, but the doctor had forbidden it. The lodge of instruction received such benefits from the able Preceptor, Bro. Rose, that the brethren desired to do him honour. Specially kind and painstaking was he with young brethren, giving the utmost attention to them, well knowing that from first impressions made upon the life of a young brother invariably the better Mason would he become. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. T. Grumant, P.M., Sec.

The brethren rose and drank the toast with enthusiasm.

In reply, Bro. GRUMANT stated the great pleasure it gave him in responding on behalf of Bro. Rose, and for such a cordial reception. That was the 13th supper he had attended, and Bro. Rose had never been absent during that time. He had had excellent health; but such were the exigencies of life. It was a source of great pleasure on Thursday last, when, through the unavoidable absence of the Preceptor, Bro. Rose, the chair was occupied by Bro. F. Hilton, P.M., when the Fifteen Sections were rehearsed, and many of the higher Sections worked by very young Masons. That would be very gratifying to Bro. Rose, whom they all loved and esteemed, and hoped to have among them for many years to come to give them his wise counsel and advice. His utmost endeavour had been to carry out the true principles of Freemasonry—Brotherly love, relief, and truth—through the whole of his life, but

"As the amber light of evening,
Stealing o'er life's landscape,
Deepens into night;

so, like the old Roman warrior bearing aloft his banner, their Bro. Rose could look round and see these young Masons following in his train, and endeavouring to emulate so good an example. On behalf of Bro. D. Rose, he cordially thanked the brethren.

The toast of "The Visitors" was most heartily given.

Bros. ELLISON, COTTRELL, ASHLEY, and KING responded, and hoped to become members at the earliest opportunity.

The toast of "The Treasurer (Bro. Martin), the Secretary (Bro. Grumant), and the Assistant Secretary (Bro. Stone)," was given, all of whom most suitably acknowledged the honour of being connected with such an excellent lodge of instruction.

Bro. GRUMANT presented a few statistics of the lodge. There had been 47 meetings, 1116 attendances, average 23, maximum 36, minimum 12, 27 new members, and—a very important factor—an average of six Past Masters at every meeting, which showed their interest in the younger brethren, and those who were requiring instruction. He also stated that what he did for the lodge of instruction was a labour of love, and he was proud to say his ideal in Freemasonry the Charitable Association connected with the lodge of instruction, and with which he took a deep interest, had been instrumental in sending up over £1000 to the Charities. This he considered most gratifying, and he was most grateful for the results. During the past year, independent of the above, eight-and-a-half guineas had been bestowed in Charity, and he hoped the same spirit would permeate the whole of the brethren.

Bro. STONE, Asst. Sec., replied. He had been honoured for about 10 years with that position, and he would emulate his brother officers to the best of his ability, for which he heartily thanked the brethren.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy and successful meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged by Bro. Choveaux, Org. 1622, ably assisted by Bros. Derham (flautist), F. Hilton (recter), Stone, Loader, King, Shely, G. Thompson, and Barr. Bro. Choveaux ably presided at the piano.

MASONIC PRESENTATION TO BRO. THE REV. DR. LEMON.

The Masonic Order in Plymouth and Devonport during the last five years has received several very handsome and valuable presents from Bro. the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D. For those presents Bro. Lemon has been repeatedly thanked by the various lodges, chapters, and other bodies in the Order that have been indebted to his generosity; but it was felt by many brethren that the reverend doctor's munificence was deserving of some more marked and substantial recognition at their hands. Accordingly, Lodge St. John, No. 70, the senior lodge of the district, at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, presented him with a handsome illuminated address, adorned with Masonic emblems and elegantly framed. The address read "Lodge St. John, No. 70, Plymouth. At a regular meeting of the lodge holden on Tuesday, February 7th, A.D. 1893, A.L. 5895, the Rev. Thomas William Lemon, D.D. (Oxon), P.M. and Chap. Lodge 189,

P.P.G.C., P.P.J.G.W., P.G. Chap. of Devon, hon. member of 70, presented three valuable pictures to the Lodge 70, already indebted to him for many works of art which now adorn the wall of the building. It was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the lodge are due and are hereby given to our worshipful brother for his untiring zeal for the best interests of the Order, and particularly for his munificent gifts to this lodge. John Hicks, W.M.; John Goad, S.W.; G. R. Stanlake, J.W.; and J. B. Gover, P.M., Sec., P.P.G. Secretary."

Bro. LEMON, in returning thanks, said his sole object in what he had done was to show that in addition to the interest he took in the Masonic Order, he was desirous that the vicinity of which he was a native, and where he had resided, should not be excelled in Masonry by any district out of London.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday. Bro. J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., Treasurer of the Institution, occupied the chair, and there were present Bros. James Brett, P.G.P.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; Charles Shepperd, W. Fisher, John M. Kidd, R. D. Cummings, R. Griggs, A. Mullord, J. Newton, J. Barnett, J. B. Read, S. C. Haslip, S. Cochrane, G. Treas.; C. Kempton, Hugh Cotter, S. V. Abraham, P.G.P.; W. Belchamber, C. H. Webb, J. Dennis, A. Durrant, T. B. Purchas, P.A.G.D.C.; W. H. Hubbert, W. Webber, James Banker, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; J. S. Cumberland, Hugh M. Hobbs, W. H. Making, J. P. Fitzgerald, Thomas G. Bullen, P.G. Std. Br.; G. Ward Verry, J. Dixon, Rev. Dr. Lemon, G. E. Fairchild, and James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec.

The minutes of the previous Committee having been read and verified, and the Secretary having reported the deaths of one male and one widow annuitant, the Warden's report for the past month was read. The draft report of the Committee for the past year was read and approved. A letter was read from an accepted male candidate withdrawing his name from the list. The application of the widow of a recently deceased annuitant for the half of her late husband's annuity was granted, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE ROYAL VICTORIAN JUBILEE LODGE, No. 2184.

The removal of the Royal Victorian Jubilee Lodge, No. 2184, from the Forest Hotel, Chingford, to Bro. Joyce's Hotel, the Phoenix, at Rainham, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., was the occasion of one of the most delightful outings. The weather was simply magnificent, and when, after a nice little dinner at the hotel, the following brethren took their places on Bro. Joyce's handsome drag, drawn by four horses such as we read of but seldom see, the effect was not only memorable but exhilarating to a degree. The voyagers included Bros. Thomas Ringrose, W.M.; C. E. Lewis, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Canning, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; C. Jolly, P.M., Sec.; F. J. Eedle, P.M., J.W.; J. T. Barnes, S.D.; S. Carlton, J.D.; W. Reynolds, I.G.; G. F. Penny, D.C.; C. Mollick, Stwd.; J. Joyce, the host of the hotel; W. Barrett, Baldock, and Ives, P.M., Tyler.

The route lay through the glorious old forest, rich in robes of spring; through leafy lanes, with glimpses of lakes, here and there, diminished, however, sadly by the drought that prevails; grand old churches and delightful country residences, till at the Castle, at Woodford, the "coachee," one of the most civil and delightful toolers that ever gracefully turned a corner or told you—"you" being the inhabitant of the box seat—the legends of the places you passed through. Man and beast were refreshed at the Castle, and then away we went—Woodford Wells and Woodford proper being left behind, Snaresbrook and Wanstead Flats, the latter beloved of snipe and plover in winter, were passed. Iford, with its popular—well, we mean populous—cemetery, was left behind, and then the horn sounded a halt, and at Bro. C. Reynolds', the son of a worthy sire, once again were the failing energies recruited. Can any lover of Masonry, or anyone on the road, pass dear old Peter Reynolds' Golden Lion at Romford without sampling, not only his generous hospitality, but a grasp from that iron fist of his, that could fell an ox, or draw you to him in a welcome never to be forgotten? Well, we could not and didn't. Bro. Jennings and his "pardner"—young "Tom"—gave us a hearty welcome, and then away we sped through Havering to Rainham. "Do you see that bit of a ditch, sir? There's where Inspector Simmons was murdered. Yes, he was shot there by Lee, who was afterwards hung at Chelmsford. You see that break in the hedge; it has never been filled up. That's where Lee and his pals got through, and went away for a time. There was a stir about it; but Detective Rolfe—You've heard of him, I dare say—Ses he, 'I'll have him,' and he got him; two of 'um were hung over that job. That old house over there. Yes, that's the house—an old lady's—Lee and his pals intended to rob, but Simmons stopped 'um, and was shot. Lord bless you, sir, you couldn't get near Lee; he always had a revolver, and had killed seven men, but Rolfe 'copped' him when he was hard up, and pawned it."—So our smart young "Jarvis," who, I noticed had a cock of the little finger of the right hand, the "sign" of the road, for most of the roadsters, beguiled the hours, till with a rush of the steeds, and a triumphal blast of the horn we landed at the Phoenix.

The magnificent lodge room was examined and admired, the adjoining room and billiard rooms were visited, and everything being pronounced A1, the brethren sat down to a prettily-served dinner, to which they did full justice. Bro. Ringrose, W.M., presided, and in the name of the lodge thanked Bro. Joyce for his splendid hospitality, both as "carter" and host, and here we may as well say that the coach and dinner were entirely provided at the expense of

Bro. Joyce, who expressed himself delighted at the pleasant termination of a pleasant outing. The furniture of the lodge was guaranteed by the brethren present, and the whole affair was and will be a red-letter day in the history of the Royal Victorian Jubilee Lodge.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°.

The Supreme Council, 33°, held their half-yearly meeting at 33, Golden-square, on Tuesday, the 9th inst., under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, Sovereign Grand Commander, when the following brethren were advanced:—

To the 32°: Ill. Bros. Richard Loveland Loveland, 99; the Rev. Herbert George Morse, 67; Major-Gen. J. Crosland Hay, C.B., 67; and E. Ashworth, 7.

To the 31°: Ill. Bros. Edwin M. Lott, Mus. Doc., 67; Nowell Stanhope Stott, 53; Charles Belton, F.R.G.S., 101; and Frederick West, 122.

And to the 30°: Bros. Henry H. R. Chapman, 6; John James Meakin, 7; John Waters Boughton, 9; Major Henry P. Holley, 9; Alexander N. Y. Howell, 9; Charles Edward Keyser, 10; Robert Boughton-Smith, 41; Laurence Steele, 41; George John Tilling, 41; Col. John Evans, 63; Joseph Henry Lawson, 63; Alphonse Fortuné Lamette, 97; the Right Hon. the Viscount Molesworth, 101; Henry Ackerley, 114; Richard W. White, 116; Ernest M. Money, 121; and Thomas Wrigley, 124.

The brethren dined together at the Café Royal, where Lord Lathom again presided, being supported by Ill. Bros. the Right Hon. the Marquess of Breadalbane, M. Irving, 33°, and Major F. W. Allan, 32°, of Scotland.

At the meeting it was announced that Bro. W. H. Brittain, 32°, had been appointed Inspector-General for the North East District in the room of Bro. Banister, deceased, and that Bro. the Rev. H. G. Morse was similarly appointed to the South West District. Dr. E. M. Lott was appointed Organist to the Supreme Council.

The SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER also announced that Bro. Lieut.-Col. Arthur B. Cook had been advanced to the 33°, and that the Supreme Council had recently held a special meeting in the 30° at Liverpool, when 19 candidates were advanced. He also noticed the consecration of two new, and the resuscitation of three old chapters, thus showing the flourishing state of the Order.

At the banquet table, after the usual loyal toasts, the Marquess of Breadalbane ably responded for "The Sister Councils," and Bros. IRVING and Major ALLAN for "The Visitors," the latter remarking that he had just received a telegram from the Grand Secretary, from Scotland, requesting him to present congratulations from the Scotch Grand Lodge to the meeting.

Between 60 and 70 brethren were present at the banquet.

WHITSUNTIDE RAILWAY FACILITIES.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The Great Western Railway Company, announce that an excursion to Gloucester, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, New Milford, and other stations in South Wales and the South of Ireland will be run on Friday, May 19th, and that a fast excursion train for the West of England will leave Paddington at 7.45 a.m. on Saturday, May 20th, reaching Exeter in five-and-half hours and Plymouth in eight hours. Excursions will also be run on the same day to Bath, Bristol, Dorchester, Weymouth, the Channel Islands, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool, Manchester, &c. On Whit Sunday a cheap train will run to Swindon, Stroud, Gloucester, and Cheltenham, leaving Paddington at 8.20 a.m. At midnight on Sunday an excursion for one or four days will leave Paddington for Oxford, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c. On the Bank Holiday cheap trains will be run to Maidenhead Reading, Bath, Bristol, Stroud, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c. Excursions will be run to London from most of the principal stations, and cross country trips have also been arranged. Cheap tickets are now issued daily from London and many suburban stations to Staines, Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Henley, Goring, Wallingford, and other riverside resorts. These tickets can be obtained throughout the Whitsuntide holidays, and in fact during the whole of the summer months. Ordinary and excursion tickets are issued at the company's City and West-end offices, viz.: 193 and 107, Oxford-street, 23, New Oxford-street, Holborn-circus; 29, Charing Cross; 269, Strand; 26, Regent-street; 5, Arthur-street East London Bridge; 82, Queen Victoria-street; 43 and 44, Crutched Friars; 67, Gresham-street; 4, Cheapside; Cambridge-circus, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.; "The Piazza," Covent Garden; 17, Brompton-road, S.W.; and at the L.B. and S.C. Company's Excursion Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square. Tickets can also be obtained at Victoria, L.C. and D. Railway, Kensington (Addison-road, Uxbridge-road, Hammersmith, and other stations. The booking offices at the Paddington Station will be open all day on May 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th, so that passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the Great Western Railway can do so at their convenience. Ordinary tickets will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The London and North-Western Railway Company announce cheap excursions from London, on Thursday, the 18th instant, to Dublin, Limerick, Killarney, and other stations for 16 days, and to Belfast, Londonderry, &c., *via* Holyhead, for 15 days, on Friday, the 19th inst. On Friday night, the 19th instant, trains will run to Holyhead, North and South Wales, Chester, Shrewsbury, Blackburn, Bolton, Southport, Wigan, Crewe, Nantwich, Stafford, Stoke, Macclesfield, Batley, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Stockport, Warrington, Buxton, Preston, Blackpool, Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle, the English Lake District, &c., for three and six days. To

Abergavenny, Dowlais, Merthyr, Tredegar, Builth, Wells, Brecon, Rhayader, Swansea, Llandilo, Carmarthen, &c., for eight days. To Carlisle, Dumfries, Stranraer, Newton Stewart, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh and Glasgow, for four or eight days. On Saturday, May 20th, the Company will run trains to Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush *via* Fleetwood, Liverpool or Holyhead, and Dublin, for 15 days, and for three and six days to Birmingham, Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth, Warwick, Dudley, Dudley Port, Walsall, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Rugeley, Lichfield, Tamworth, Nuneaton, Rugby, Leek, Harecastle, Burslem, Hanley, Etruria, Ashbourne, Uttoxeter, Longport, Stone, Oswestry, Newton, Dolgelly, Harmouth, Aberystwyth, Towyn, Aberdovey, &c. On Whit Monday, May 22nd, trains will run to Birmingham, Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth, Warwick, Dudley, Dudley Port, Walsall, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton, for one and three days. Full particulars of times, fares, &c., are obtainable at the Company's stations and parcels receiving offices, and at Messrs. Gaze and Son's offices, 142, Strand, W.C.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

The Great Northern Railway Company announce that on Saturday, May 20th, cheap three or six days' excursion trains will be run from London (King's Cross) to Cambridge, Wisbech, Lynn, Cromer, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lincoln, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Stoke, Newark, Sheffield, Barnsley, Huddersfield, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Hull, York, Scarborough, Whitby, Bridlington, Darlington, Newcastle, &c. A cheap four or eight days' excursion will also be run to Edinburgh and Glasgow. Cheap fast excursions will also be run on Saturday, 20th, and Monday, 22nd May, from Moorgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), and Finsbury Park to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe. Three or four days' tickets will be issued by the excursion on Saturday, available for return by the excursion on Monday, or by any ordinary train on Tuesday. On Whit Monday, May 22nd, cheap excursion trains will be run from Victoria (L.C. & D.), Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., to St. Albans, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, and Cambridge. Manchester Races.—On Thursday night, May 25th, a fast excursion for two days will be run from Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., to Manchester. To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the Company's principal terminal station—King's Cross—tickets, dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (L.C. & D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and Finsbury Park Stations, and at the following ticket offices: 90, Tottenham Court-road; 285, Oxford-street; "Star" Office, 138, Victoria-street, Piccadilly; 139 and 141, Brompton-road, S.W.; Albert Gate office, 1, William-street, Lowndes-square, W.; 169, Edgware-road; Royal Oak office, 6, Porchester-road, Westbourne Grove; Cambridge-circus, Shaftesbury-avenue; 323, Strand; "Bee Hive," Whitecross-street; 43 and 44, Crutched Friars; 80, Bishopsgate-street Without; Charles-street, Farringdon-street; 230, Essex-road, Islington; 264, High Holborn; 16, Fish-street Hill; 95, High-street, Borough; 190A, Westminster Bridge-road; 44, Bread-street, Cannon-street; 1, Whittington-avenue, Leadenhall-street; 3, King Edward-street, Newgate-street; 22, Wood-street; 217, Old-street; 7, Beresford-square, South Woolwich; Royal Victoria and Albest Docks (G.N. Company's offices); at the offices of Messrs. Swan and Leach, 3, Charing Cross, and 32, Piccadilly-circus; at the Army and Navy Stores, 105, Victoria-street, S.W.; and at William Whiteley, 151, Queen's-road, Bayswater.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

The Midland Railway Company have arranged, with a view to the greater convenience of the public, for the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate-street Stations to be open for the issue of tickets all day on Friday and Saturday, May 19th and 20th, and tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway can be obtained beforehand at their Offices, 445, West Strand; 267, Strand; 189, Victoria-street; 170, Queen's-road, Bayswater; 5, Charing Cross (corner of Northumberland-avenue); 10A, New Bond-street; 38, Cranbourne-street; 101, High Holborn; 1, Shaftesbury-avenue, Piccadilly; Gloucester Office, 45, Oxford-street; 13, Parkside, Knightsbridge; 272, Regent-circus, Oxford-street; 109, Tottenham Court-road; 9, Sloane-square; 33, Cannon-street; 13, Aldersgate-street; 10, Commercial-road, Four Swans; 36, Camomile-street; 122, Mare-street, Hackney; Army and Navy Stores; 105, Victoria-street, Westminster; Cook's Tourist Offices, Ludgate-circus, 99, Gracechurch-street, 33, Piccadilly, and 82, Oxford-street; at the London Brighton and South Coast Company's Offices, 28, Regent-street, Piccadilly, and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar-square; and at "Red Cap," 6, Camden-road, "Empire" Office, 30, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate; Myer's, 1A, Pentonville-road. The tickets obtained at these offices will be available from St. Pancras Station, and will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of passengers. Cheap excursion trains will be run from London to Dublin, *via* Morecambe, on Wednesday, May 17th, to return May 20th, 23rd, 25th, 27th, 30th, or June 1st; to Dublin, *via* Liverpool, on Thursday, May 18th; to Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush for Giants' Causeway, *via* Barrow, on Friday, May 19th, for 16 days; to Londonderry, *via* Morecambe, on Saturday, May 20th, to return May 22nd, 25th, 27th, or June 1st, as per bill of sailing; to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Oldham, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Scarborough, Newcastle, the Furness district, Carlisle, &c., on Saturday, May 20th, returning the following Monday or Thursday; to Carlisle, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Glasgow, &c., on Saturday, May 20th, returning the following Tuesday or Saturday; to St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, Bedford, and Birmingham, on Whit Monday, May 22nd, for one day; and to Manchester, for the Races, on Thursday midnight, May 25th, returning Saturday, May 27th, and Tickets for these Trains for starting from St. Pancras Station can be obtained on the two previous days to the running of the Trains at the above-named offices. Cheap Excursion Trains will also run from various towns to London, and passengers will be booked by these Trains at cheap fares to Brighton, Hastings, St. Leonards, Eastbourne, &c.; and to Paris and other places on the Continent, having the privilege of returning by any ordinary train within 16 days.