

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;
SIR CHARLES DALRYMPLE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

VOL. XXXI. NO. 1294.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1893.

[PRICE 3d.]

CONFUSION BECOMING WORSE AND WORSE CONFOUNDED.

It is difficult for any one who is not called upon to read the Masonic periodical literature, which is now so lavishly published in the United States, and the annual reports of Proceedings and on Foreign Correspondence which are regularly issued by the various American Grand Lodges, to form anything like a just idea of the confusion which inevitably attends any and every attempt to reconcile the laws of Freemasonry as they are differently promulgated in the different States and Territories of the Union. In the jurisdictions of the older Grand Lodges which derive their Masonry more or less immediately from the original fountain head, the laws, as they are to be found in the different Books of Constitutions are reasonable and proper, and such as befit a self-respecting Order or Society of men. But under the Grand Lodges of later creation, and especially among those which have been established during the last 20 or 30 years, it is difficult to find an object or a subject of which the Grand Lodge statute and unwritten laws do not directly or indirectly take cognizance. There is hardly a lodge member in some of these jurisdictions who, whether—so to speak—he moves to the right or to the left, upwards or downwards, in a circle or triangularly, who does not at some period in his movement find himself confronted by a law, written or unwritten, which makes it clear to his anxious mind that in the direction he has taken, or would have taken if he had been left to his own devices, he has been or would have been guilty of an infinite number of high crimes and misdemeanour. Non-affiliates, that is Masons who for reasons of their own see fit to hold aloof from our lodges, are almost as rigorously dealt with as those who are subscribing members, while even the unfortunate non-Mason, provided only he is of the masculine gender, is either the subject or the object of almost as many legal provisions as ever were included in the Laws of the XII. Tables or the Justinian or Napoleonic Code. Why this should be so sorely puzzles us, for as a business man the American is not given to overburden himself with a multitude of small details, and as a Mason we might have expected that he would have framed his laws on the principle of simplicity rather than of complexity. This, however, is very far from being the case, and a glance at the pages of any Masonic periodical, or better still, over the pages of some report on Foreign Correspondence, will show that no person is so unimportant, no subject so trivial, but that Masonry is capable of involving him or it in the meshes of its laws; or if that is not immediately possible, of enacting a law which shall in some way or other affect him or it more or less directly. Here are just a few cases taken at random from the Masonic Gleanings in the *Voice of Masonry* for the present month, which will serve to illustrate our meaning. In England, for instance, the impression prevails that the question whether a brother pays his annual lodge subscription or not is one that concerns, as a rule, only himself and the lodge of which he is a member; but in North Dakota the Grand Lodge has recently passed a resolution to the effect "That all visiting resident Masons shall furnish to the Master of the particular lodge under whose jurisdiction such sojourning Mason is holden, once each year documentary evidence to the Master of such lodge, that he has paid his dues to, or is in good standing in the lodge from which he hails. And it is hereby made the duty of the Worshipful Master of each particular lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction to see that such evidence is furnished to him as above required." To apply the law, as we understand it, a member of Fidelity, No. 3, which meets at Freemasons' Hall, resides (say) in Teddington, and under this law he must every year produce to the W.M. of the Sir Charles Bright Lodge, No. 1793, which is held in Teddington, the receipt showing that he has paid his subscription to the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 3; and if he does not do so, the W.M. of No. 1793 must enforce the law. Again Bro. THOMAS J. WILDER, who presents the reports on Correspondence in connection with the same jurisdiction, lays it down "that a petitioner for affiliation has the right to withdraw his petition at any time before it goes to ballot, but a petitioner for the Degrees has not that right." In another case, Bro. THOMAS M. REED, of the Grand Lodge of Washington, is enabled to see a difference between "a saloon-keeper, who is not a member of the Fraternity, and one who is a non-affiliated member," and while he denies the right of the former "to petition for the Degrees he concedes the right of the latter to petition for affiliation." Only "if he does petition," Bro. REED considers "it is then the duty of the lodge to act wisely, and be true to Masonry by exercising the power of self-protection." In other words a saloon keeper, who is a Mason but non-affiliate, has undoubtedly the right to petition to join a lodge, but it is the duty of the lodge to reject him. In another case we have the Grand Lodge of North Dakota enacting a by-law to the effect that no petition "for the mysteries of Masonry shall be received," unless the petitioner has been resident in the

State for one year and "under the jurisdiction of the lodge to which the petition is presented" for six months. In this benighted country, the law allows a man to be married in a parish church provided he has been resident in the parish for three weeks, but in Masonic matters in North Dakota they manage things differently. Grand Lodge, first of all, creates a jurisdiction which, in the nature of things, cannot exist, and then requires a man to reside within it for six months before he can be made a Mason therein. In Colorado the Grand Lodge has at length recognised the irregular Grand Lodge of New Zealand, merely because in its opinion "no valid reason for further delay now exists." Here, however, the *Voice of Masonry* quietly steps in, and suggests that "what should have been said is, that no valid reason exists for recognition," it being our contemporary's opinion that "all that does exist is solely an assumption for a Grand Lodge." The one dictum among the many we have recently come across in this and other Masonic periodicals is from Bro. ZIEGLER, of the Grand Lodge of Washington, who, the *Voice* tells us, "dissents from the idea that boundary lines of states limit a Mason's right to choose a lodge for affiliation. He believes in the doctrine that every Mason possesses the inherent right to affiliate with any lodge he chooses, regardless of location." However, we will not weary our readers with further specimens of American Grand Lodge resolutions, Grand Master's rulings, or the opinions of Masonic Committees on Correspondence, or their minds will become as confused, as the American code of Masonic law will be ten years hence, when every one of the later Grand Lodges has compiled a few volumes of jurisprudence on its own account, which are either at variance with each other or with ordinary common sense.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DERBYSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Derby, when, in the unavoidable absence of the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, the chair was taken by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. H. C. Okeover, P.J.G.W. England.

There was an exceedingly numerous and influential gathering, every lodge in the province being more or less represented, the brethren present numbering close upon 300.

The preliminary business having been transacted, the Worshipful Masters of the various lodges presented their annual written reports, which were regarded as eminently satisfactory.

The reports of the Masonic Hall Committee, the Audit Committee, and the Charity Committee were received and adopted, and from the last of these it appears that during the past year upwards of £1000 had been subscribed by the brethren of the province to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and kindred Institutions.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master appointed and invested his officers in the following order:

Bro. Dr. E. J. H. Hoskyns, 2425	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" N. J. Hughes Hallett, 2224	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. E. S. Shuttleworth, 681	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. W. B. Stamper, 1952	...	...
" W. J. Piper, 802	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. T. Windle, 681	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" William Naylor, 253	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Cutting, 253	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Luther Russell, 1085	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Arthur Fox, 353	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Dr. Fentem, 2129	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" W. H. Wright, 1085	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. Andrew, 625	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. Eaton, 802	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" F. L. Shaw, 2373	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" J. T. Shadlow, 1028	...	...
" G. E. Franklin, 1085	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" F. Wharton, 506	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" W. Davenport, 625	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" G. Toft, 731	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. T. Beck, 731	...	...
" E. Partridge, 1085	...	...
" H. Offiler, 1085	...	...
" G. S. Bragge, 1739	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. C. Hyde, 1952	...	...
" Thomas Day	...	...

Before closing the lodge, the DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER offered a few remarks, in the course of which he said it was apparent from the reports they had just heard that Freemasonry in Derbyshire was in a most satisfactory condition, and, what was more, it was a decidedly progressive Institution. Apologising for the absence of the Duke of Devonshire, he said that

their Provincial Grand Master had written them a letter stating that he had not had sufficient notice of the meeting to enable him to arrange his movements so as to be present on that occasion. He was obliged to remain in London, where his duties in connection with the Royal Commission on Labour detained him. He hoped, however, to be in his place next year, an announcement which the brethren received with much satisfaction.

The annual banquet was subsequently held in the Lower Hall, the usual Masonic toast list being gone through.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire was held at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham, on Thursday, the 7th inst., when there were present—

Bros. Lieut.-Col. Wm. Newton, D.P.G.M.; T. W. Robins, P.P.S.G.W., acting D.P.G.M.; C. G. Wragg, Dr. W. B. Tate, J. M. Perry, C. B. Truman, Henry George, J. T. Spalding, and R. C. Wills, P.P.G.Ws.; A. Lawson, E. C. Patchitt, C. Rogers, Sir S. G. Johnson, and J. A. H. Hirst, P.P.G.Ts.; Alfd. Page, P.P.G. Reg.; F. H. Appleby, G. Baxter, R. F. Watson, and G. Chapman, P.P.G. Ds.; R. C. Sutton, J. J. Gee, and Lieut.-Col. J. Wright, P.P.G. Supts. of W.; W. J. Rogerson, T. Roberts, and H. W. Rice, P.P.G.Ds. of C.; W. Hickling, J. Derry, and E. G. Loverseed, P.P.G.S.Bs.; Wm. Burrows, G. G. Bonser, and T. Salisbury, P.P.G. Std. Brs.; J. Taylor, E. D. Pidd, H. Saxton, J. Walker, and H. E. Wilson, P.P.G. Pursts.; and a numerous attendance of brethren of the province.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in form, the roll of Provincial Grand Officers and of W.M.'s and Wardens of lodges of the province was called, all being represented, except Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 402.

The minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Mansfield, July 12th, 1893, were read and confirmed.

The acting Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. NEWTON said that he was authorised by the Prov. Grand Master to express his regret to the brethren that although the fixed date of the Annual Meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge had been changed to enable him to be present, he was unhappily prevented from attending. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master continuing said that the cause of the Duke's absence was well-known to all the brethren, and he was sure he was only giving utterance to the unanimous feeling of the Masons of the province in moving a vote of condolence and sympathy with his Grace in the loss which had befallen him in the lamented death of the Dowager Duchess, and requesting the Prov. Grand Secretary to forward a copy to the Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. E. M. KIDD, Prov. Senior Grand Warden, seconded the motion.

Bro. Sir S. G. JOHNSON, P.P.G.T., referring to the death of the Dowager Duchess, said it was a matter of historic interest as she was one of Her Majesty's bridesmaids, he was sure the knowledge of the sympathy of the brethren would be a help to his Grace, and hoped he would soon be enabled to resume the active duties which he was always so ready and willing to perform to the satisfaction of the brethren of the province.

The motion was unanimously carried with feelings of sympathy.

The Prov. G. Treasurer's report was received and passed.

The report of the General Purposes Committee was received and passed on the motion of Bro. C. G. WRAGG, P.P.G.W., seconded by Bro. Wm. SIBLEY, P.G.S.B.

The report of the Benevolent and Educational Committee was received and passed on the motion of Bro. C. B. TRUMAN, P.P.G.W., seconded by Bro. J. TOWNROW, P.P.G.D.

In reply to a question from Bro. R. C. Wills, P.P.G.W., Bro. THOS. SALISBURY, Secretary of the Benevolent and Educational Committee regretted the omission in the report of the number of votes on loan by the province towards the election of a candidate, which was as follows: Boys, 713; Girls, 640; Benevolent, 1104; total, 2457. He called the attention of Prov. Grand Lodge to the very small balance in favour of the Educational Fund, and strongly urged a regular levy of an annual subscription from each member of the province towards this fund, the whole amount of the money was devoted entirely to the benefit of the children, there being no other expenses beyond stamps charged for either that or the Benevolent Fund.

The reports of the Worshipful Masters of the lodges of the province were read and presented.

The Prov. Grand Secretary's annual report of the state of Masonry in the province was read.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER nominated Bros. T. W. Robinson, R. Fitzhugh, and E. M. Kidd, P.P.S.G.Ws., to represent Prov. Grand Lodge on the Committee of General Purposes.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER nominated Bro. C. B. Truman, P.P.S.G.W., to represent Prov. Grand Lodge on the Benevolent and Educational Committee.

On the motion of Bro. CHAS. ROGERS, P.P.G.T., seconded by Bro. H. GEORGE, P.P.G.W., Bro. THOS. ROBERTS, P.P.G.D.C., was elected P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The following Prov. Grand Officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year:—

Bro. Sir S. G. Johnson, P.P.G.T.	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Hy. Wm. Rice, P.P.A.G.D. of C.	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. H. W. W. Ffoulkes, P.P.G.C.	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. H. T. Hayman, P.P.G.C.	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Thos. Roberts, P.P.G.D. of C.	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Ed. Dring Pidd, P.P.G.P.	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Arthur Stubbs, P.P.G.W.	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Robert Pender, P.P.G.P.	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" R. B. E. Ogle, P.P.Stwd.	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Geo. Thos. Hine, P.M.	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" R. F. Vallance, P.M.	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Robt. C. Brown, P.G.Stwd.	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Harold Bonser, P.G.Stwd.	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Thos F. Walker, P.G.Stwd.	...	Prov. G. Org.
" George Clarke, P.G.Stwd.	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" T. E. Phelps	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. P. W. Marx, P.P.G.D.C.	...	
" Jno. Allsop, P.G. Stwd.	...	

Bro. Wm. Bradley, W.M.	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Alfred Aplin, P.M.	...	
" E. W. Kidd, P.M.	...	
" G. S. Green, P.M.	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" S. V. Holgate, P.M.	...	
" J. G. Martin, P.M.	...	
" W. F. Sanders, P.M.	...	
" J. J. Turner	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Geo. Ulyatt	...	Prov. Asst. G. Tyler.

An invitation to hold the summer meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge at Sutton-in-Ashfield was received from the W.M. of the Ashfield Lodge, No. 2412.

Bro. H. GEORGE, P.P.G.W., gave notice of the following motion—"That £25 be voted from the Benevolent Fund of the province to the Educational Fund of the province."

Bro. E. M. KIDD, P.S.G.W., gave notice of the following motion—"That £20 be voted from the Prov. Grand Lodge Fund to the Educational Fund of the province."

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

CONSECRATION OF THE SAVAGE CLUB MARK LODGE, No. 469.

The Savage Club Mark Lodge, No. 469, was consecrated on Wednesday, the 20th instant, at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, under auspices which augur for it as successful a career as that which has attended similar institutions in the Craft and Royal Arch. The interesting ceremony was performed by Bro. C. Fitzgerald Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., assisted by Bros. Frank Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg., as S.W.; Charles Belton, P.G.O., as J.W.; the Rev. A. W. Oxford, M.A., Grand Chap., as Chaplain; C. W. Carrell, A.G.D.C., as D.C.; and J. Church, P.G. Org., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. P. S. Abraham, W. Bohm, W. E. Chapman, W. J. Ebbetts, W. J. Fisher, Sir Augustus Harris, and W. S. Penley.

The other brethren present were Bros. Frank Richardson, P.G.W., G. Reg.; General J. Crossland Hay, Richard Eve, P.G.M.O.; E. Monteuuis, W.M. 459, P.G.S.; W. A. Timney, 238; W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C.; Arthur E. Young, S.D. 454; W. H. Jessop, 454; Geo. Hearn, W.M. 464; Franklin Clive, 454; Gordon Smith, J.W. 454; R. Deane Sweeting, M.O. 7; R. H. Gale, I.G. 407; Hugh Mackintosh, P.P.G.W. Surrey; Harold Burke, S.D. 454; and W.W. Lee.

Lodge was formally opened, and a hymn having been sung, the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressed the brethren on the motive of the meeting.

The petition and warrant were read, and the founders signified their approval of the officers named.

An excellent oration on the nature and principles of the Order was delivered by Bro. Rev. A. W. OXFORD, and the lodge was solemnly dedicated and constituted, the musical portions of the ceremony being rendered by Bro. W. S. Penley (who presided at the organ), Bro. Franklin Clive, and others.

Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.W., Grand Registrar, assumed the chair and installed Bro. Will. Eugene Chapman, as the first W.M. The following officers were appointed: Bros. W. J. Ebbetts, S.W.; W. J. Fisher, J.W.; W. S. Penley, M.O.; P. S. Abraham, S.O.; Wm. Bohm, Treas.; and E. J. Mills, Tyler.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then said he had a small relic to present to the lodge, not for its intrinsic value, but for the associations connected with it. Some nine years ago it was his privilege to stand in the quarries at Jerusalem, when he was permitted to bring away a fragment of stone. On the following day he had it made into a key stone, which he now presented to the lodge, hoping it would be prized, as it was undoubtedly made from the stone with which the Temple was built.

On the proposition of the J.W., seconded by the S.W., the gift was cordially accepted with thanks, and the event ordered to be inscribed on the minutes.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the Consecrating and Installing Officers, on the motion of the W.M., and they were unanimously elected honorary members, a compliment which was suitably acknowledged by Bro. MATIER for himself and colleagues.

Previous to the closing of the lodge an abundance of work was foreshadowed for the W. Master and his officers by the proposing of a large number of "Savages" for advancement.

A banquet was subsequently served at Freemasons' Tavern, and the customary toasts followed.

"The Queen and Mark Masonry" having been honoured, the W.M. gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.M." and said they always gave this toast with much enthusiasm, because his Royal Highness was an honorary member of their club and lodge, and had taken a great deal of interest in the Craft working. They owed to his Royal Highness a very unique relic in the gavel with which her Majesty laid the foundation-stone of the Imperial Institute.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the W. MASTER said their work spoke far more eloquently than he could. They of the Savage Club, with its three branches in Freemasonry, had seen so much of the kindness and had received such valuable assistance from the Grand Officers that their work had been made light, and they had been set on the right path. The members of the Savage Club Craft Lodge felt that its position was due to the kindness of the Grand Officers, and therefore he had a right to ask the brethren present to cordially drink the toast.

Bro. Sir REGINALD HANSON, Bart., M.P., P.G.W., said it was somewhat in the irony of fate that he should have to respond in the presence of at least one who was his senior in Mark Masonry, of many superior to him in work done in the past, and which had been exemplified that day. He had to attend at the eleventh hour, as his presence at a public function prevented him coming to take his humble share in the work. He felt rather like the man who, coming in at the eleventh hour, received his penny, but what the W.M. would give when the toast of the Consecrating Officers was proposed he did not know. The W.M. had not said one word too much in praise of the Grand Officers as a body, who worked, and were working, to keep their

Institution living, and never so living as when they saw a new lodge consecrated such as the Savage Club Lodge. He knew something of the Club, and of the Masonic bodies they had had the spirit to institute and carry on, and he augured a very happy future for the Savage Club Mark Lodge. The wonderful amount of work there was to do at the next meeting meant that when some people were enjoying a holiday—he would not say Members of Parliament, because they never had a holiday—the officers would be occupied in enlarging the number of members of that lodge. For the Grand Officers, of whom the Worshipful Master had justly spoken in high terms, and for himself who was almost ashamed to speak in the presence of so many more capable of speaking, he thanked them for the kindly reception given the toast so well proposed by the W.M.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "The Consecrating Officers," said that those who saw the work done would feel how unnecessary it was and how impossible it would be for him to do justice to the excellence, the smoothness, and the complete manner in which it was gone through, indicating a very frequent rehearsal in the shape of new lodges. As it was not probable that the Consecrating Master was always assisted by the same officers it meant individual work welded together with wonderful skill. The work had been so well done as to elicit delight from those more familiar with similar events than himself.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., Grand Secretary, in response, said that amongst the many responsibilities that a brother had to perform who consecrated a new lodge, not the least was the duty of adequately returning thanks for the services of those who had so kindly assisted him. The task was specially difficult that night, and he felt the weight of his responsibility most heavy. It was impossible to thank those who had so kindly assisted in the consecration of the lodge. To Bro. Richardson he owed a double debt of gratitude for kindly undertaking the duties of S.W. in the temporary absence in another place of Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, and for discharging the duties of Installing Master. On behalf of all who assisted him he thanked the brethren, and might he say personally how much he was indebted for the kindly welcome of the W.M., and ask them to drink, not a toast, but, in old-fashioned language, a sentiment—"Prosperity and Success to the Savage Club Lodge."

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.W., G. Reg., submitted the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and said they all knew perfectly well it was a very great honour for any brother to be selected as the W.M., but it was a double honour amongst a number of brethren who were forming a new lodge to be elected as the first W.M. He remembered that their esteemed friend, Colonel Shadwell Clerke, in proposing this toast, always reminded them that what they wanted was quality, not quantity. It would not, therefore, be out of place if he advised them to look carefully to those they brought in, for once they were admitted, although disagreeable, it was impossible to turn them out. He congratulated them on their choice of a W.M., with whom he had had the pleasure of acquaintance for a considerable time. He had seen Bro. Chapman's work, and knew he was perfectly able to guide the "Savages" in Mark Masonry as well as he had done in other Degrees. He had also had experience of the Worshipful Master's work in other places, for Bro. Chapman had many times helped him with a ceremony where it was necessary to have efficient assistance. With those who had already joined, and those proposed for advancement, this Savage Club Lodge was sure, before long, to take a very high place in the register of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. WILL E. CHAPMAN, W.M., in response, said that in the past month he had thought much of the high honour conferred upon himself, by selecting a private Mason as the first Master. Somehow they generally looked for figure-heads, but on this occasion they would be much disappointed. It was the third time he had filled the chair of a Savage Club Masonic Society. When the Savage Club Craft Lodge was formed he was its first S.D., and had only previously filled the office of J.D., as his profession took him away so much that it was impossible to work higher. He felt proud of the position which he then felt was arduous, but he endeavoured to do his work to the best of his ability, and for two successive years he was elected Master. He was the first H. in the chapter, and had now beaten the record by being selected as the Presiding Officer of the Mark lodge. He need not say he thanked them, and they knew that what he undertook to do he did with all the ability he had. If he made mistakes, and did not come up to their ideal, they must consider them faults of the head and not of the heart. He had belonged to Mark Masonry for some years, and was made during one of his trips to America, where the Mark Degree was an adjunct of the Royal Arch, and his certificate was dated 19th June, 1873. That he had not been able to follow it up was due to circumstances beyond his control. When he returned to stay in England he worked in the Craft and the Royal Arch, and now that he had put his shoulder to the plough in the Mark he would do the best he could for the brethren of the lodge. He hoped to receive from his officers, and the new joining members, some of whom were distinguished Mark Masons, every assistance and kind consideration, and should not ask in vain. He would do what he could, and trusted that when he resigned the chair they would be able to say, "He did his best."

Bros. HUGH MACKINTOSH, P.P.G.W. Surrey, and GORDON SMITH, J.W. 454, acknowledged "The Visitors," and Bros. W. J. EBBETTS, S.W., and W. J. FISHER, J.W., replied for "The Officers," after which the proceedings terminated with the Tyler's toast.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A convocation of the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held in the Music Saloon, Wakefield, on Friday, 24th ult., when there were present:

Comps. Henry Smith, P.Z. 302, Past G.P. Soj. Eng., Prov. G.H., acting Grand Superintendent; William Harrop, P.P.G.J., as Prov. G.H.; John Fred. Tanner, Prov. G.J.; Thos. R. Vaux, P. Prov. G.J.; Henry Smith, Prov. Asst. G.S.E., as Prov. G.S.E.; Wm. Fisher Tasker, Prov. G.S.N.; John Wm. Balme, P. Prov. G.S.N.; Fred. Rand, Prov. G. Treas.; George Marshall, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Henry Oxley, P. Prov. G. Treas.; Wm. Hy. Steward, Prov. G. Reg.; Edwin Billington, P.P.G.D. of C., as Prov. G.P. Soj.; Cornelius Wheawill, P. as Prov. 1st Asst. G. Soj.; John P. Hewitt, Prov. 2nd Asst. G. Soj.; Samuel Slack, P.Z. 495, P. Prov. G. Soj.; William Mathers, Prov. G.S.B.; F. W. Turner, P. as Prov. G. Std. Br.; Wm. Hy. Milnes, P. Prov. G. Std. Br.; John R. Fawcett, Prov. G.D. of Cers.; John Haigh, Prov. Asst. G.D. of Cers.; W. F. Smithson, P.G. Std. Br. of Eng., P. Prov. G.D. of Cers.; John Barker, P. Prov. G.D. of Cers.; James Milnes, Prov. G. Org.;

George Carbert, P. Prov. G. Org.; Alfred Scarth, P. Prov. G. Org.; Thos. Chester, Prov. G. Janitor; William Murphy, as Prov. G. Stwd.; Alfred Gill, P.P.G.D. of C., as Prov. G. Stwd.; Alfred Verity, Prov. G. Stwd.; John Wordsworth, P.P.G.H., as Prov. G. Stwd.; also Principals, Past First Principals, and companions from Chapters in the province.

The roll of chapters and Present and Past Prov. G. Officers was called.

The minutes of the Grand Convocation, holden at Pontefract, on Monday, 15th May, 1893, were presented, taken as read, and confirmed, and

The ACTING GRAND SUPERINTENDENT then delivered an able and impressive address, in which he expressed his regret that Comp. T. W. Tew was unable to preside, he having temporarily taken up his residence at Torquay by the advice of his medical man. He added that his health had somewhat improved, and that his mind was as active as ever. He took a deep interest in that branch of the Royal Craft, and looked forward with hope to having the pleasure of being able to be present at the annual convocation in May, 1894. He also stated that Comp. Tew was much exercised by the knowledge that they were not possessed of rooms sufficiently capacious, not only for their meetings, but for the refreshments afterwards, which experience taught should always be supplied in the same building; and he strongly advised the companions of Wakefield, when opportunity offered itself, to seriously consider if anything could be done to bring about that very desirable object. Many of the chapters appear to be prospering, at which they greatly rejoice, but was sorry to confess that three at least were not only languishing, but at the point of extinction, and their charters being withdrawn. He named that circumstance with extreme regret. He had not had opportunity to confer with the Grand Superintendent on the subject, and the effect of the resolution of Grand Chapter on the 1st November last, which, if confirmed in February, 1894, would enable a Master Mason to take the Royal Arch at the expiration of four weeks instead of 12 calendar months, as ordered by R.A. Regulations, Article No. 73. His present impression was that it would not be prudent to reduce the interval to less than three months. It would then enable the candidate to obtain and produce his Grand Lodge certificate before exaltation. In that province they had upwards of 3600 members of the Craft. Of these, only 1257, amounting to about one-third, were Royal Arch Masons, and of these perhaps 400 were either occupying the chairs at the present moment or had already passed them. Their contributions that year to the three Masonic Institutions were as follows: Old People, £508 3s.; Girls, £1323 3s.; Boys, £372 15s.; making a total of £2204 15s., and for the last 23 years £49,984 19s. In conclusion, he exhorted the companions to give every encouragement to the study and practice of that very beautiful and interesting branch of the Craft by endeavouring to perfect themselves in the ceremonial.

At the conclusion of the address some discussion took place with regard to the change in the time of probation of candidates for exaltation which Grand Chapter proposed to reduce from 12 to one month. Comps. Parke, Harrop, Smithson, Rand, Vaux, Billington, Dawson, and Murphy took part. Considerable diversity of opinion was expressed on the subject, but no resolution was come to.

Provincial Grand Chapter was then closed.

NATIONAL GREAT PRIORY.

A Great Priory was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Friday, the 8th inst., when there were present: the V.H. and E. Great Prior, the Earl of Lathom, on the throne; the V.E. Sub-Prior, the Earl of Euston; the V.E. Provincial Priors for Lancashire, Capt. Beswicke-Royds; Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Leicestershire, C. Fendelow; Devonshire, the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D.; North and East Yorkshire, Major J. Woodall-Woodall, and Kent and Surrey, Col. Noel Money, C.B. National Great Officers: Sir Knights the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, as Prelate; Col. A. B. Cook, Constable; Frank Richardson, as Marshal; Raymond H. Thrupp, Registrar; the Officers, and many Past Great Officers, Past Officers and knights.

The Great Prior having taken his seat on the throne, opened the National Great Priory in ample form.

The report of the Council was taken as read.

Motions arising out of the report were made and carried.

By command of the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Great Prior invested the following knights as Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander of the Order of the Temple: Knights Grand Cross—The V.E. Sir Knights the Earl of Euston, Captain Beswicke-Royds, Charles Fendelow, Col. Noel Money, C.B. M.E. Sir Knights the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, the Rev. H. G. Morse, Viscount Dun-garvan, and Col. A. B. Cook.

Knights Commanders—The V.E. Sir Knights the Rev. T. W. Lemon, D.D., Major J. Woodall Woodall, Col. Somerville Burney; M.E. Sir Knights Frank Richardson, R. H. Thrupp, Major-Gen. J. C. Hay, Lieut.-Col. Geo. Lambert, Ralph Gooding, M.D., L. G. Gordon Robbins, Sir George D. Harris, C. F. Matier, Gordon Miller, R. Loveland Loveland, J.P., and E. Letchworth.

The Great Prior nominated and invested Great Priory Officers for the Order of Malta.

The Almoner collected the alms, and the Great Prior closed the National Great Priory.

A priory of the Order of Malta, under the banner of the Faith and Fidelity Preceptory, was afterwards opened. The V.H. and E. Great Prior, the Earl of Lathom, occupied the throne, and M.E. Sir Knight R. Loveland Loveland took his seat at the east table as Grand Prior. Six members of the Order of the Temple were admitted into the Order of Malta. The priory was then closed.

The Great Prior, the Earl of Lathom, afterwards presided at the banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, supported by the V.E. Sub-Prior, the V.E. Provincial Priors for Devonshire, Staffordshire, &c., N. and E. Yorkshire, Kent and Surrey, and many Great Officers, Officers, and other knights.

It was notified that the next meeting of Convent General would be held in London on Friday, the 11th May next.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1893.

Masonic Notes.

Once again the pleasant duty devolves upon us of
wishing all our friends and the members of the Craft
generally the compliments of this festive season. The
circumstances of the moment are not very encouraging,
but we trust that people will—at all events during the
holiday of the next few days—exhibit towards each
other that spirit of kindness and forbearance which are
so necessary to the promotion of peace and goodwill
at all seasons of the year, but more especially at
Christmastide.

It will be good news to the friends and supporters of
the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys that the Secre-
tary has had the good fortune thus early to enlist the
support of a very distinguished Mason as the Chairman
of the Anniversary Festival, which will be held in its
behalf in the month of June, 1894. R.W. Bro. W. L.
Jackson, M.P., the newly-installed Prov. G. Master of
West Yorkshire, has very kindly consented to preside
on that occasion, so that we may anticipate with good
reason that the claims of the younger of our Masonic
Schools will be ably advocated, and we trust we shall
not prove over sanguine in our anticipations if we add,
as generously supported.

We say this because West Yorkshire is a large
Province, which deals out its donations and subscrip-
tions to our different Charities on a large scale, the
scale being particularly large on special occasions—as

for instance when its Prov. G. Master has consented to
act as Chairman; when some distinguished brother, in
the success of whose presidency it has exhibited more
than usual interest; or when some event of special
importance in connection with a particular Charity was
about to be celebrated. Thus, when the late Bro. Sir
Henry Edwards, Bart., P.G.M., was Chairman at one
of the Benevolent Festivals, when the Girls' School
celebrated its Centenary and the Benevolent Institu-
tion its Jubilee, and in 1891, when an exceptional effort
was made under the auspices of Bro. the Earl of
Lathom, Pro G.M. and Prov. G. Master of West
Lancashire, to restore the somewhat dilapidated for-
tunes of the Boys' School, on each and every of these
occasions West Yorkshire put forth its strength to
excellent purpose.

It is true that, in 1887, when Bro. T. W. Tew, who
is now the Past G. Master of the Province, presided
at the Boys' School Festival, its subscriptions were,
for a Province like West Yorkshire, on a modest scale.
But this may be looked upon as the exception which
proves the rule we have stated. Moreover, it is easily
to be explained by two circumstances. In the first
place it was not till a fortnight before the day ap-
pointed for the celebration that, all other attempts on
the part of the School Executive to obtain a Chairman
having signally failed, Bro. Tew volunteered to act in
that capacity; and in the next, the Province in the
early part of the year had expended—over and above its
subscriptions at the Festival itself—£2100 in the pur-
chase of two Perpetual Presentations to the Widows' Fund of the R.M.B.I.

We say again, therefore, that we are justified in look-
ing hopefully forward to the 96th Anniversary of the
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in June. With the
Right Hon. Bro. Jackson in the chair, and a whole
regiment of West Yorkshire brethren eager to show
their loyalty to him, and give the Order generally a
taste of their quality as Stewards, the Festival may
yield a lesser total than some we have known; but it
will be a success notwithstanding, and one which will
redound to the credit both of the Chairman and his
Province.

While, however, we are offering our congratulations
to the Boys' School Executive, on this rare piece of
good fortune, we must, for the next two months, keep
continually before us the requirements of the Bene-
volent Institution, which are immediately pressing.
We must remind the brethren that the fame of a
splendid success in 1892 will not supply the ways and
means for carrying on this Charity during the year
1894. We trust the Craft will not in this instance
repeat the error it committed in the case of the Girls'
School, when in consequence of the grand total
obtained at the Centenary of that Institution in 1888,
it ventured to relax its efforts during the three or four
years that followed. The result of such relaxation
was, not altogether perhaps disastrous, but certainly
injurious to the monetary well-being of the School.
We trust that no such fate will befall the Royal
Masonic Benevolent Institution, which has upwards of
430 Old People to furnish with annuities, and is in
need of an annual supply of £16,000 to fulfil this
obligation. Yet the Board of Stewards, upon whose
efforts Bro. Col. Money the Chairman will have to rely,
is woefully short of what it usually is two months prior
to the day appointed for the Festival. Up to the
present moment, the Board of Stewards numbers only
about 150, as compared with over 200 in connection
with previous ordinary Festivals.

There is, therefore, as we pointed out in our recent
article on the subject, a considerable amount of lee-
way to be made up between now and the 28th February,
1894, and though, having regard to the fact that West
Lancashire is chiefly committed to the support of the
Girls' School and West Yorkshire to that of the Boys'
School, we cannot look for much help from these large
and important Provinces, we trust that such a number of
brethren will offer their services as Stewards during the
next two months as will increase the Board to the
average strength of ordinary years, and allow of its
raising enough for the requirements of the Charity.

We announce, with very great regret, that Bro
James Terry, Sec. Royal Masonic Benevolent Institu-
tion, has been compelled, by an attack of influenza,
to absent himself from his duties during the past 10
days. He contrived to visit his office for about half-
an-hour on Wednesday, but he was too weak to remain
and transact business. We regret also to hear that
Mrs. Terry's progress towards recovery from her recent

accident is far from satisfactory. We trust that a change for the better may soon take place, and that both of them may be restored to health as speedily as may be.

We publish elsewhere a full account of the Masonic career of Bro. the Earl of Bective, Provincial Grand Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, but we should be wanting in our duty towards our late distinguished brother and the Province whose fortunes he presided over so successfully for upwards of a quarter of a century, if we did not give expression to the deep regret which in common with the whole English Craft we feel at the loss of so eminent a Mason. Nor must we omit to discharge another and equally important duty, that of expressing our respectful sympathy with the members of his lordship's family, as well as with the brethren of the Province which had prospered so abundantly under his rule, and which is now lamenting a loss, the memory of which time alone and the presidency of a brother of equal or similar merit will serve to efface. To these, accordingly, in the fulfilment of a sad yet imperative duty, we tender our sincerest and most respectful condolence.

Correspondence.

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

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read with great interest your appeal on behalf of the above deserving Institution, and, personally, must express my regret that there are so many applicants for relief. I must also express my astonishment at not finding the names of some applicants among the lists of subscribers to our noble Institutions. Of course that may be accounted for by their having only subscribed to Stewards' lists a sum or sums that (unless lumped together) would not entitle them to appear. It is a pity to see the number appealing for relief continually increasing, and I cannot but think it is, in some degree, attributable to the laxity observed in some lodges in accepting candidates for initiation—the object of the Master sometimes being to obtain a large number of candidates absolutely regardless of the fact whether they are fit and proper persons, or in a position financially to pay the lodge dues for any length of time. In the lodge I have the honour of belonging to I have known in five years upwards of 20 members resign, all of whom were proposed for admission by one member. Cannot something be done before it is too late, to rescue our Order from the present state of things? Cannot Grand Lodge arbitrarily fix the initiation fee at such an amount as will ensure us only having fit and proper members? Increasing enormously in numbers, as we have in the last 20 years, would it not be for the benefit of our Order that this enormous influx should cease? I would also suggest that the lodge subscription should be raised to a minimum of five guineas annually, and I think the Charities would enormously benefit from the increase. Apologising for troubling you, I remain, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER.

Reviews.

CHINESE CENTRAL ASIA. "A ride to Little Tibet." By HENRY LANSDELL, D.D. London: Sampson Low, Marston & Co.

In two bulky volumes the author describes his great journey through Central Asia, occupying over two-and-a-half years, and extending over 50,000 miles of land and water. Proceeding over Russia to Merv by the Trans-Caspian Railway, Dr. Lansdell entered Bokhara, and from thence reached the Chinese frontier by way of Samarkand, Tashkend, and Vierny. From this point Kashgar and Yarkand in Chinese Turkestan were passed through, and Little Tibet entered and traversed. The homeward route lay through India, Siam, Cambodia and Tonking being likewise visited. Although the author's primary object was to spy out the land for missionary purposes, he has collected a mass of information valuable both to the scientific and general reader, to those interested in our North-West Frontier, his chapters on the Pamirs and the political condition of Chinese Turkestan are well worth a careful reading. Dr. Lansdell aptly describes the plateau of the Pamir as the "orographical knot whence the mountains of high Asia spread like a network towards India, China and Turkestan," it is in fact the heart and centre of Asia. Additional light is thrown on this much vexed question of the Russians in Pamirs, by the insertion of Messrs. Constable and Co.'s new map of that region. The author pays a warm tribute to the courtesy and kindness everywhere shown him by Russian officials, moreover, he appears to have been afforded special facilities for pursuing a direct and almost unbroken journey through Asiatic Russia to the Chinese frontier, Dr. Lansdell is evidently a warm admirer of Russian administrative ability in Central Asia. It is almost needless to say that the two volumes are excellently got up, and full of woodcuts taken from the author's original photographs.

The Peterborough Cathedral Restoration Committee announce that a further sum of £4000 is still needed in order to complete the work of restoration.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Royal Athelstan Lodge (No. 19).—A regular meeting of this old lodge was held at Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday, the 14th inst. The W.M. (Bro. Green) occupied the chair, and, amongst others, there were present: Bros. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B.; Corderoy, P.M.; Hodge, P.M.; Sneath, P.M.; Collard, P.M.; Wormald, P.M.; Pound, P.M.; and others. The lodge having been opened on the minutes of the last meeting duly read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Arthur Collins Burnby as a candidate, and Bro. W. P. Campbell-Everden as a joining member. Both were unanimously elected, and the candidate was duly initiated. The election of Worshipful Master then took place, and Bro. J. H. Whadcoat was unanimously chosen to fill that office for the ensuing year. The re-election of Bro. H. Gland, P.M., as Treasurer was also by the unanimous vote of the lodge. Bro. Gilbert was re-elected Tyler.

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

The usual toasts were proposed and duly honoured, Bro. T. Tucker, P.M., responding for "The Visitors."

The office of Steward at the coming festival of the R.M.B.I. was entrusted to Bro. Whadcoat.

Lion and Lamb Lodge (No. 192).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 7th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel, when there were present Bros. Fredk. Hughes, W.M.; Jas. Smith, S.W.; T. W. Fisher, J.W.; Thos. Cohu, Treas.; Henry Legge, Sec.; Robt. Sarson, S.D.; Geo. Goodes, D.C.; A. J. Holmes, Stwd.; Geo. Kenning, P.M.; R. A. Martyn, Geo. Miner, J. W. Clarke, P. L. Simmonds, and H. E. Eggleton. Bro. Chatterton was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Miner was raised, and Bro. Clarke passed. Mr. Henry E. Eggleton was balloted for, and it being unanimous, was initiated. Messrs. J. G. Robeson, F. R. Kenning, and the Rev. T. G. Henry were candidates for the next meeting.

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

St. Leonard Lodge (No. 1766).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Great Eastern Hotel, on Wednesday 13th inst., and a great amount of work was performed on the occasion. The outgoing W.M., Bro. S. C. Kaufman, took the chair at three, and with the exception of a brief "call off," continued working until nearly eight. There was a strong muster of members of the lodge and visitors. Among the brethren present were: Bros. S. C. Kaufman, W.M.; W. Shurmur, S.W.; S. Batchelor, J.W.; B. Nicholson, Treas.; Jos. Cox, P.M., Sec.; G. Bishop, S.D.; G. H. Clark, D.C.; B. Jacobs, I.G.; E. Delevanti, as Org.; F. Matthews, P.M.; H. J. Thrower, P.M.; J. A. Jones, P.M.; R. Drysdale, P.M.; W. Beasley, P.M.; S. A. Matthews, John Smith, Jas. Tandy, H. Matthews, L. Nehm, A. Cunningham, and A. Kaufman. Visitors: Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; F. Dunstan, 1326; W. Samble, 1278; A. Ellis, 651; A. Robertson, 326; P. Jacobs, P.M.; E. Ames, 860; G. Bugler, 1625; A. R. Brunton, P.M.; J. Bunker, 1158; G. Dyke, 1275; H. Harris, 1275; A. Robertson, 1326; O. Cropper, 211; G. Cunningham, 1607; A. Jacobs, 2396; C. H. Bestow, 2374; S. C. Bateman, 1707; M. Bluck, 2374; H. Steel, 172; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543; Walter Martin, P.M. 879; George Corble, P.M. 453; John Geigenberg, 1668; W. Hawes, P.M. 554; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; James Speller, W.M. 1677; C. G. Cutchey, P.M. 1685; W. D. Church, P.M., 1365; A. Budd, 1446; F. C. Edmonds, 1507; J. Henderson, 1524; and W. H. Town, W.M., 1278.

Bro. J. Tandy and J. Smith were raised and Bro. H. Matthews was passed, and afterwards Messrs. Patrick Ryan, Alfred Fisher, and Albert Barnes were initiated. The final work was the installation of Bro. Wm. Shurmur, who had courageously braved the fearful weather and come out for the first time after being laid up with illness. Bro. J. Boulton, W.M. 2442, acted as D.C. throughout the ceremony, and presented Bro. Shurmur to Bro. Kaufman after a dispensation had been read by Bro. Cox authorising the installation. Bro. Shurmur being also W.M. of the Walthamstow Lodge. Bro. Kaufman performed his work admirably, and after the installation Bro. Shurmur invested the following brethren as officers of the lodge for the ensuing year: Bros. S. C. Kaufman, I.P.M.; S. Batchelor, S.W.; G. Bishop, J.W.; B. Nicholson, Treas.; J. Cox, P.M., Sec.; B. Jacobs, S.D.; G. H. Clark, J.D.; A. Cunningham, I.G.; W. E. Abbott, D.C.; E. P. Delevanti, for H. Prenton, Org.; and L. Nehm and S. A. Matthews, Stvds. The Audit Committee's report was adopted, and it was resolved to petition for a charter for a Royal Arch Chapter to be attached to the lodge.

Thereafter the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was followed by the usual toasts, and singing by Miss Phyllis Hope, Miss Alice A. Andrews, Bro. Arthur Court, Bro. Bob Rae, and Bro. E. P. Delevanti.

The Worshipful Master, in the course of proposing "The M.W.G.M.," said it must have been a source of great gratification and pleasure to the Masonic brethren that the Prince of Wales attended at and took part in the consecration of the Chancery Bar Lodge, for it was one more proof of the great zeal which he displayed in promoting the best interests of Freemasons.

In proposing "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. Shurmur referred to the presence of Bro. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., who was everywhere held in the highest affection, esteem, and regard, more particularly in the Province of Essex. The Provincial Grand Master had now become Earl of Warwick, and it might perhaps be inconvenient for him to continue the Grand Mastership of Essex. In that event it was the earnest wish that his Deputy might be his suc-

cessor. As Grand Superintendent of the Royal Arch in the province, he reigned supreme in the affections and hearts of the companions, and as Deputy Prov. Grand Master he had gained the love and respect of the brethren, and there could be no greater gift to the province. The same grace and dignity which had characterised his reign in the Royal Arch would also distinguish him as Prov. Grand Master, and the day he was appointed a wave of joy and happiness would pass over the entire province.

Bro. Philbrick, G. Reg., in acknowledging the toast said if he were to trust to the flattering terms which had reached his ears he should be almost inclined to put himself in the clouds which bore Jove's chariots in the skies, and flatter himself he was one of the Royal Family; but he was afraid the atmosphere of London was thick, and the gale of the past few days would send Jove's chariot in the air, and an extremely dangerous mode of locomotion. Therefore he must, if he could not feel like Phœbus, descend to the surface of the earth and try to realise as best he could the situation. For the Prov. Grand Master, whose name and praise were in all the lodges, and for the Dep. Grand Master, who, since his appointment, had shown the most anxious care for the best interests of the Craft; what could he say but this, that no institution was ever better served by those who took a feeling interest in its welfare and evinced a strong desire for its prosperity. For the other Grand Officers he would only say he believed from having seen the work of a great many of them they were sincerely desirous of doing their duty and of assisting to further the great interests of the Craft; but he would be foolish if he ignored the kind personal application of the toast which had been made to himself. The Grand Registrar had to fill an office which at times made serious demands upon the care and attention of any one. The brethren would be astonished if he were to take them into Masonic confidence and show them the immense piles of dispatches, and papers of all kinds that arrived from the Colonial possessions, for where the flag of Great Britain and the United Kingdom was flying there Masonry under the Grand Lodge of England went. They had difficult questions before them sometimes with regard to rights which were at least as complicated as some of the matters that the Foreign Secretary had to unravel with the aid of diplomats; questions arose as to federal rights and rights of Grand bodies all over the world, and not the least embarrassing of the questions were those which cropped up when a new Sovereign Grand Body established itself in a territory which had hitherto been occupied by Grand Bodies not originating on that soil but which exercised jurisdiction from a distance and claimed the right of ruling over their Masonic adherents. In such matters, as in all matters which appertained to Masonry in the Colonies of the United Grand Lodge of England and in countries abroad they not only respected the rights of others but endeavoured that the Mother Grand Lodge of the world, viz., the United Grand Lodge of England should be respected as the head and fountain of Masonic right and order. He was afraid he was telling something which was not perhaps of immediate personal interest, but that which was almost parodying the initial phrases of a Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament, but he was happy to say that with respect to all the Masonic bodies of the world, the United Grand Lodge of England stood in relations of amity to them, and occupied a justly and deservedly respected position. Turning to another subject which had been referred to, he had never understood that because a man succeeded to a title, he therefore was another man. He had not Sir Albert Wood's (Garter) at his right to correct him, but he was sure that Lord Brooke's heart was in the Province of Essex, and that when they called him by the old and beloved name of Lord Brooke, or by the proud title of Earl of Warwick, it would make no difference in his lordship's feeling for Essex. For many years, nay, ever since Lord Brooke had been Prov. Grand Master for Essex, he (Bro. Philbrick) had endeavoured to serve him as his Deputy. What the Worshipful Master had said, and the brethren had kindly endorsed, induced him to hope, not without a feeling of kindness on their part towards him, the very last thing that ever entered his head, or ever would enter his head would be treason to his chief, or the supplanting of him. With regard to another matter, the St. Leonard Lodge, he was happy to say it was flourishing, and was well accepted by the brethren of the district. It was a good omen that they had three initiates that day. The lodge had been established 15 years, and it had prospered, so much so that it wanted a Royal Arch Chapter. He congratulated the W.M. and the lodge on the position of the lodge. It was a proud position, and one which the Grand Officers viewed with pleasure and satisfaction. On their part, while thanking the brethren for their kind recognition of their status in the Craft, he most heartily and sincerely wished the lodge long and continued prosperity.

Bro. Jones, P.M., proposed "The W.M." It did not require any assurance from him, because all the brethren knew it, that a more zealous or painstaking brother than Bro. Shurmur could not be found in London. Bro. Shurmur had done more for Freemasonry in the east of London and in Essex than any other brother present that evening. They all knew him, and they wished him a happy and prosperous year of office, and they knew he would hold it and that at the end of his term they would have to congratulate him as they already had congratulated Bro. Kaufman. But there was one thing he wished to impress upon the brethren. Bro. Shurmur had been nominated for the office of Grand Treasurer of England, and he hoped the brethren would work for him; if they would, he felt they would carry him at the head of the poll. He asked the brethren to do all they could for him.

Bro. Shurmur, W.M., in response to the toast, which was most cordially received, said, until almost the last moment he was not certain whether it would be his privilege to be present that evening, and the brethren could understand his deep sense of gratitude to the G.A.O.T.U. for having granted him the blessing of sufficient health to enable him to come out. He had been a member of the St. Leonard Lodge for very many years; he had filled almost every minor office, and it was a very great pleasure to him that he had attained the chair. He had been very much impressed by the fervent hope of the Installing Master that it would please the G.A.O.T.U. to grant him health and strength to discharge the duties of the high vocation to which he had been called by the unanimous vote of the brethren. He humbly hoped it might be so. He should endeavour conscientiously and strenuously to give entire satisfaction. He knew the brethren would bear with him, because he was not in his usual form. He should exert

himself to the utmost to entitle him to the good opinion of the brethren. There was always a certain difficulty when a brother had passed through the chair before, as the brethren expected more from him perhaps than from a brother who had been installed for the first time. That, perhaps, was only natural. But if he could bring his experience to bear which he had gained in his four previous chairs, he could only say he should be delighted to do so. He hoped that when he left the chair of the St. Leonard Lodge he should take with him the brethren's good opinion. He should certainly endeavour to discharge his duties with strict impartiality. He thanked the brethren from the fullness of an overflowing heart. Later on, Bro. Shurmur proposed "The Installing Master," than whom no one could perform the work better, and he congratulated the lodge on having such an expert. He was very deeply impressed with the ceremony, and could understand, by the silence that reigned in the lodge, that the other brethren were equally impressed. They knew the capability of Bro. Kaufman, and that whatever he took in hand he did well. He studied the precept of the Grand Master Solomon—"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." That was Bro. Kaufman's motto as well, and consequently he succeeded in anything he attempted. They knew that their I.P.M. possessed many personal friends in that lodge, but, in addition to that, he had gained friends by his sterling good qualities. He had to present to Bro. Kaufman a Past Master's jewel, and he could conscientiously say there was no brother who deserved it more than Bro. Past Master Kaufman. The brethren had emphasised the Past Master's jewel presented by the lodge by presenting him with a supplemental Past Master's jewel, and he thoroughly deserved it.

Bro. Kaufman, I.P.M., said he did not know that he had deserved all this great flattery. He thought as a Freemason that he had only done his duty. When he took office it was his ambition to fulfil everything he had undertaken to carry out, and from the way the W.M. had decorated him on behalf of the lodge he saw that he had met with the brethren's approbation. The jewel voted by the lodge was customary, but the jewel subscribed for by the brethren was the keystone of the Past Master's jewel. This proved to him that he had met with the brethren's appreciation of, and satisfaction with, what he had endeavoured to do. Words failed him to express what he felt, for he had been certainly taken by surprise by what they had done; it had never been done in the lodge before; but he hoped every W.M. who did his work to the brethren's satisfaction would receive like recognition. They could rely upon him that so far as he could he should endeavour to do for the lodge's welfare as he had done before.

The other toasts followed, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Borough of Greenwich Lodge (No. 2332).

—The installation meeting of the above powerful lodge took place on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., at the Masonic Rooms, King William the Fourth (Bro. Gurney's handsome and commodious hotel) East Greenwich, and was attended by a large and influential representation of Masonic celebrities, local and Metropolitan.

The lodge was opened by Bro. James G. Thomas, P.M., W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. F. Goddard, 1886, and P.M. 1861, was unanimously elected a joining member, and then the Auditors' report was received and adopted. Bro. A. H. Bateman, P.M. and D.C., then introduced the W.M. elect, Bro. Augustus H. Oakley, S.W., to the W.M. for the purpose of receiving at his hands the benefits of installation, and Bro. Thomas at once proceeded with his duties as Installing Officer, and in the presence of a large Board of Installed Masters, placed Bro. Oakley in the chair of K.S. Bro. Oakley appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. James G. Thomas, I.P.M.; T. P. Newton, S.W.; W. H. Burney, J.W.; S. J. Gore, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Huntley, Sec.; J. Harper, S.D.; H. M. C. McCann, J.D.; E. W. Higgs, I.G.; G. P. Carter, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Newell, P.M., Org.; A. Eades, W. J. Frooms, and R. D. Simpson, Stwds.; and E. Spinks, Tyler.

Bro. Thomas then gave the addresses most impressively, and so concluded a service worthy of him and the lodge. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge; he was presented a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, and it was unanimously resolved to present him with a Past Master's collar and jewel, to mark the approbation of the brethren of his services to the lodge during his year of office, for which he returned thanks. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Bateman, P.M., on his retirement from the office of Director of Ceremonies, after four years continuous service, for which that brother returned his heartfelt thanks, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served by Bro. Burney, and was thoroughly enjoyed.

"The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Order," and "The Pro G. Master" having been drunk most loyally,

Bro. Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D. England, in responding for "The Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said that for many years he had had the honour of responding to that toast, and he felt it an honour indeed to be in a position to do so. Yet that night he had nothing new to offer them upon what might be said to be a thread-bare theme. When they turned their eyes upon those distinguished noblemen who were placed at the head of their affairs, they would find they were ruled and guided by the representatives of the most aristocratic houses in England, who were not only distinguished noblemen, but distinguished members of the Craft also, and who paid the greatest attention to the wants of the Order and the important duties attached to their high position. The Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, Bros. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lathom and the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, were the first to come forward and do good service for the benefit of the Craft. He adverted to the splendid work done in times gone by by our late Bro. Col. Shadwell H. Clerke, as one of whom they might well say "his labours are ended, but his works do follow him." He also alluded to Bros. Hervey, Laurence, McDermot, and others, who had also done good work in the past, and named Bros. Monkton, Fenner, and others, as instances of those who were now only too anxious to do anything they could for the benefit of the Craft. The dais at Grand Lodge was recruited from those who, by their Charity and good working, had made their mark in the Order. No one else had a chance of earning the distinction of a Grand Officer

of the Grand Lodge of England. He thanked them for their kind invitation, and was pleased to be with them and watch their success, and doubly for the honour paid him by coupling his name with that of so important a toast.

Bro. Col. W. Bristow, P.G.S.B. Eng., also responded, but briefly.

The I.P.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M." He said he had the pleasure of knowing Bro. Oakley for many years, and what good Masonic work he had done. He felt sure that in Bro. Oakley they would have a good Master, and he a good year of office, and if Bro. Oakley had health and strength they might look forward with confidence to that lodge maintaining, and even increasing, its reputation as one of the most successful in the Metropolitan district.

Bro. Oakley, who was heartily cheered on rising to respond, said he desired, first of all, to thank Bro. Thomas for his kind remarks, and then the brethren for their hearty reception of the toast. He presumed the correct thing for him to say was that "that was the happiest moment of his life." If he did not, he could honestly say that he was proud of having achieved the proud position of Master of the Borough of Greenwich Lodge. He knew the task before him was a heavy one, even if he followed the lead of those who sat on his left, without trying to eclipse them. Their lodge was not an old one, it was consecrated in 1839, and he was sorry their esteemed first Master, Bro. Boorel, was not present that night, for if he had he would have been gratified to see the prosperity that had followed the foundation of the lodge. He (Bro. Oakley) was one of the founders of the lodge, and one of its first officers. He strongly advocated the cause of the Masonic Charities, and announced his intention of standing Steward for the Boys' School, and did not intend to go up with only 20 guineas; they must give him more than that, or he would not go. He advocated the establishment of a South London Charitable Association, so as to enable their candidates for the Charities to stand a better chance of election that they had at present, and if they could not get a South London Association, let them try and get a Greenwich Association, and so place themselves on a footing with the Charitable organisations of the provinces. He concluded at length a brilliant speech by again thanking them for their kind expression of regard.

The other toasts were "The Installing Officer," for which Bro. Thomas suitably responded; "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Syder, P.M. 79; Dr. Burney, P.M. 140; Millington, P.M. 1382; and another, who severally responded; "The Past Masters," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast.

Some good singing by Bros. Fishenden, C. Coram, D. Dennis, and E. Cockton was much enjoyed.

Amongst other brethren present were Bros. G. Burney, sen., P.M.; H. Roberts, P.M.; G. Goodall, T. James, T. Goddard, T. Law, C. Waller, W. Frooms, A. Lewis, G. Hallam, J. Rosier, T. Giles, A. Laurance, A. Elen, C. Bone, F. Marrable, R. Tenney, H. Hocking, H. Inwood, R. Priddy, J. Priddy, T. Rogers, C. Coram, E. Relph, J. Andrews, T. Evans, R. Smallwood, H. Simpson, R. Simpson, H. Vackell, R. Wordsworth, A. Whittock, A. Hannaford, G. Burney, jun., F. Burney, C. Austin, C. Warren, C. O. Pook, J. Hillman, T. Virgo, W. Watts, J. Dawes, J. Page, R. Oates, E. W. Carpenter, J. Foster, and W. H. Jordan, all of the lodge. The visitors included Bros. G. W. King, W.M. 1437; G. Brown, P.M. 169; J. Howes, P.M. 1623; C. Freder, P.M. 79; H. Shelley, P.M. 1981, P.P.G.P. Surrey; G. Moore, P.M. 169; A. Collins, J.W. 2041; S. Bonner, J.W. 1382; W. Dorian, I.G. 140; L. Gummer, Stwd. 1555; W. Monk, 1816; J. Hill, J.D. 141; C. Wilson, 79; T. Fisher, 37; W. Bell, 860; G. Fishenden, 706; W. Knight, 140; H. Flegg and W. Nash, 147; W. Dennis, 171; E. Cockton, 1416; and C. Jolly, Sec. 1472 and 2184.

Æsculapius Lodge (No. 2410).—The ordinary meeting of this vigorous lodge was held at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, on the 13th inst. The W.M., Bro. F. Ernest Pocock, M.D., P.M., Vice-Pres. Board of Gen. Purps., in the chair, supported by the following officers, members, and visitors: Bros. B. Ninnis, M.D. P.G. Std. Br., I.P.M. 1; J. Pickett, M.D., S.W.; G. C. Thomson, M.B., J.W.; G. Danford Thomas, M.D., Treas.; F. Dutton, M.D., P.M., Sec.; Anthony Nutt, S.D.; F. Oldfield, P.M. J.D.; W. E. Dring, P.M., D. of C.; E. H. Ezard, M.D., I.G.; H. W. Kiallmark, P.M., Stwd.; J. B. James, P.M.; Lennox Browne, P.M., P.S.G.W. Essex; H. G. Blackmore; M. Cheale; Garland Wrighton, P.M.; W. Arbuthnot Lane, M.S.; C. Luxmore Drew, M.B.; C. Simpson; Lewis Lewis; John Davies; H. J. Best, S.W. 199; A. C. Treadaway 1298; J. H. Bradshaw, M.D.; A. M. Clegghorn, M.D. 20 (Canada); G. H. Vaizey, S.W. 176; J. W. Walbraf (unattached); and James Martin, 2394.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Arthur Pearson Luff, M.D. Lond., M.R.B.P. Lond., 410, was unanimously elected a joining member. A ballot was then taken for Messrs. Harry Ernest Simpson, L.S.A., Lond.; James Crook, M.D., C.M. Toronto, L.R.C.S. Edin.; and Herbert William Nix, B.A., M.B., M.C. Camb., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., all of whom were unanimously elected. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Messrs. Simpson and Crook into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry, the ceremony being performed in a most impressive and eloquent manner. Mr. Nix, unfortunately, was unable to be present through illness. Bro. Ninnis, I.P.M., received from the W.M.'s hands the beautiful Past Master's jewel which the lodge voted for the able manner he had performed his duties during his year of office. A sum of two guineas out of the funds of the lodge was voted to the late lamented Bro. Surgeon-Major Parke's Memorial Hall Committee.

After other Masonic business had been transacted, and letters of apology read from various members pleading inability to be present, the lodge was closed in perfect harmony.

The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Bro. Delacoste, and after due honour had been paid to the loyal and Masonic toasts, the brethren enjoyed some capital vocal music provided by the kindness of the worthy Treasurer.

Guildhall School of Music Lodge (No. 2454).—The first installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, the 11th inst., on which occasion there was a large attendance of brethren, including the following Grand Officers: Bros. Sir

John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., P.G.W.; Rev. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap. and Dep. Prov. G. Master Berks and Bucks; F. A. Phillbrick, O.C., G. Reg. and Dep. Prov. G. Master Essex; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D.; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I., P.G.S.B.; and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

The lodge was opened by Bro. T. Hastings Miller, P.G. S.B., W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed, together with the Auditors' report (which showed a balance of over £53), and other formal business was disposed of. The W.M. said he had much pleasure in announcing that Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., had very kindly consented to perform the ceremony of installation. On Bro. Letchworth taking the chair as Installing Officer, he appointed Bros. Peter de Lande Long, P.G.D., as S.W., and J. A. Farnfield, P. Asst. G.D.C., as J.W. Bro. George F. Smith, P.P.G.O. Essex, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. J. Greenwood, I.P.M., for the benefit of installation, whereupon Bro. Letchworth addressed the brethren as to the custom prevailing in Masonic lodges with regard to the annual choice of a Master, and called upon the acting Secretary to read the ancient charges, to which Bro. Smith declared his adherence in the usual form, and was duly obligated. A Board of Installed Masters was then formed, to whom Bro. Smith was presented, and was installed by Bro. Letchworth into the chair of K.S. with the usual solemnities. The brethren below the rank of Installed Master were then re-admitted, and the new W.M. was proclaimed and saluted in the Three Degrees. The officers for the year 1893-4 are as follows: Bros. Geo. F. Smith, W.M.; T. Hastings Miller, P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; W. Henry Thomas, S.W.; Henry Gadsby, J.W.; W. H. Cummings, Treas.; D. Strong, Sec.; Henry Guy, S.D.; Warwick Jordan, Mus. Doc., J.D.; W. J. Barton, I.G.; J. Greenwood, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Wheeler, Org.; W. Syckelmore, P.M., and Charles P. Smith, Stwds.; and Patrick, Tyler. After investment of officers, the I.P.M. proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Letchworth for his great kindness in performing the installation ceremony in so admirable a manner, which was carried unanimously. Bro. Letchworth thanked the brethren for the compliment. A Past Master's jewel was then presented to the I.P.M., Bro. T. Hastings Miller, by the W.M., to mark the great esteem with which he was held by the whole lodge. Bro. Hastings Miller thanked the brethren. The W.M. was elected a Steward for the R.M.B.I., and a sum of 20 guineas placed upon his list.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren retired to a banquet, at which the following were present: Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale, P.G. Stwd.; Hoyte, P.G. Stwd.; May, T. Goodman, J. E. Hambleton, G. Hatch, T. W. Harrison, J. Griffiths, S. H. Miller, S. Earl, F. H. Macklin, E. Stimson, J. Webb, O. Moore, Percy Clowes, W. J. Batho, D. Beardwell, Ridley Prentice, Hermann Klein, T. A. Wallworth, Ernest de Munck, A. Thompson, C. Wood Moore, Burby J. Welford, W. James, Coward, T. C. Underwood, R. A. Kearsey, Hilton, Ackerman, R. B. Newth, J. Greenwood, J. A. Minton, W. Morrow, and Haydn Wand.

Bro. Sir John B. Monckton responded for "The Grand Officers."

In proposing the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Hastings Miller congratulated the brethren in having a brother so well versed in the ritual of the Craft.

Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Dimsdale responded for "The Visitors," and mentioned the fact of his having been nominated as a candidate for the office of Grand Treasurer, and concluded by saying that if the brethren of Grand Lodge were kind enough to elect him to that proud position, no effort on his part would be wanting to perform his duties with the utmost fidelity.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., responded for "The Charities."

A charming programme of music, composed of items by professors of the Guildhall School of Music (members of the lodge), was given, with the assistance of Miss Amy Devonshire, Miss Gertrude Izard, Miss Lilian Close, assisted by members of the lodge and Bros. May, Coward, Albert James, Ackerman, and R. Hilton, Bro. W. J. Barton presiding at the pianoforte.

The jewel was manufactured by Bro. George Kenning.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

DIDSBURY.

Doric Lodge (No. 2359).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Didsbury Hall on Saturday, the 9th inst. There was a quantity of business to be transacted. On account of illness, Bro. Myers, P.G.D.C., W.M., was not able to be present, and his place was filled admirably by Bro. Stretch, I.P.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for three gentlemen, and, all proving satisfactory, they were subsequently initiated, Bro. Stretch performing two initiations, and he was kindly assisted by Bro. J. H. Anderton, P.M., who performed the ceremony of initiation upon the third candidate. Bro. Stretch again resumed the chair, and raised Bro. Albert Roberts. After all business had been transacted the lodge was closed.

The following brethren were present: Bros. F. Stretch, I.P.M., acting W.M.; A. K. Boothroyd, S.W.; J. M. Veal, J.W.; J. Walker, Sec.; F. Thomas, S.D.; J. Ward, J.D.; J. Sharples, I.G.; G. Metcalfe, Tyler; J. Laurisch, E. W. Rowsell, J. Moore, E. H. Baldwin, J. Smith, F. B. Ratchford, C. Worstencroft, Jos. Dearnaley, H. A. Kay, F. Morgan, J. H. Norris, J. Lawrenson, W. Barker, R. J. H. Sayers, J. J. Booth, A. Roberts, and H. Shuter. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Vaughan, P.M. 1030, P.P.G. Reg. East Lancs.; J. H. Anderton, I.P.M. 1161; W. Craig-Royle, 992, 1170; A. Baines, 1126; J. S. Whitley, 1130; J. Waring, P.M. 1134; J. Woodward, P.M. 1325; and R. Fitton.

MANCHESTER.

Caledonian Lodge (No. 204).—The installation meeting of this lodge took place on Wednesday, the 13th inst. Present: Bros. S. Bramwell, W.M.; W. G. Bagnall, S.W.; E. A. Bretey, J.W.; Rev. P. Hains, P.M., Chap.; Alderman John Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; G. T. Mullock, P.M., Sec. and Charity Representative; G. W. Thornhill, S.D.; M. Thomas, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., D.C.; W. H. Maxfield, P.M., P.P.G.O. Cheshire, Org.; J. H. Williams, I.G.; E. H. Flower, P.M.,

Tyler; C. H. Normanton, I.P.M.; R. A. Eldershaw, P.M.; Councillor Wm. Bagnall, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; T. Shorrocks, P.M.; T. Sawyer, P.M.; J. Cliffe, P.M.; C. Duckworth, P.M.; W. Aldred, P.M.; J. Hill, P.M.; and other members. Visitors: Bros. John Chadwick, P.G.S.B. and Prov. G. Sec. E. Lancs.; F. Hilton, P.M. 1458, 1055, and 2363, Prov. G.D.C.; J. M. Sinclair, P.M. 103, P.P.G.D.; Councillor J. Bradshaw, 1375, Prov. S.G.D. West Lancs.; G. F. Smith, P.M. and W.M. 1045, P.P.G. Stwd. Cheshire; W. A. Brabner, W.M. 2363; J. Robinson, W.M. 1219; Councillor S. Locke, P.M. 1387; W. Hall, P.M. 1387; E. W. Wollaston, I.P.M. 2363 and P.M. 44; H. Nall, P.M. and Treas. 1375, and S.D. 2363; C. H. Beever, W.M. 1375 and S.W. 2363, and others.

After the usual routine business, Bro. Walter G. Bagnall, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to Bro. S. Bramwell, W.M., Installing Master, and in due course was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was exceedingly well performed by the I.M., who was assisted by Bro. Thomas with the working tools, Bro. Cliffe investing the officers, and Bros. Shorrocks, Thomas, and W. Bagnall delivering the usual addresses to the Master, Wardens, and brethren. The ceremony was musical, and the various chants and the anthem "Behold how good and joyful" were pleasantly rendered by a choir, comprising Bros. Thomas, Shorrocks, and Hinchliff, assisted by Bros. Wollaston, Brabner, Hilton, and Nall, of 2363, accompanied by Bro. Maxfield, Organist.

The new officers as changed from the previous year are Bros. Bretey, S.W.; G. W. Thornhill, J.W.; Williams, S.D.; A. Stanley, J.D.; Cliffe, P.M., D.C.; and J. Hinchliff, I.G. The Chaplain, Treasurer, Secretary, Organist, and Tyler were re-invested and Bros. Gordon, Mawdsley, Stores, Hodgson, and Muir, were appointed Stewards.

In giving "Hearty good wishes," the Prov. G. Sec. complimented the J.W. on his work. He was pleased to see the outgoing Master installing his successor, and it was an example that might be usefully copied. He also spoke in satisfied words of the manner in which the Treasurer and Secretary performed their duties.

After the ceremony, about 50 brethren sat down to a well-arranged repast.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, "The Health of the Newly-Installed Master" was proposed by Bro. Bramwell in a neat speech, and was followed by "Here's to his Health," admirably sung by Bro. Thomas. Bro. Bramwell referred to the fact that the W.M. was the son of the oldest subscribing member of the lodge (Bro. Councillor Wm. Bagnall), and having been initiated at the earliest possible age, and since then having gradually worked himself upwards, he was now probably the youngest Master in the province who had passed through the regular offices.

The W.M. having suitably acknowledged the toast was followed by the Chaplain, who, in a few appropriate words, proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Bramwell," and, on behalf of the lodge, presented him with a handsome Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services as W.M. during the past year.

Bro. Bramwell thanked the lodge for the testimonial, he had done his best to give satisfaction to the brethren, and left the chair with regret.

The toasts of the "Past Masters" and "The Visitors" were duly honoured, and with the usual Tyler's toast a very pleasant evening was brought to a close, the visitors from the "Minnehaha Minstrel" Lodge having given much valuable assistance.

Palatine Lodge (No. 2447).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at Palatine Hotel. The success of this lodge has been very pronounced under the Mastership of Bro. Fred Broadsmith, W.M., P.P.G. Reg., who has such ability that the working is excellent and the prosperity great. The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Upon the election of Worshipful Master for the ensuing year taking place, Bro. H. J. Owen, S.W., was unanimously elected by the brethren, whilst Bro. J. J. Tinker was again elected Treasurer. An Audit Committee was appointed. The ballot was taken for Mr. George W. Owen, and being favourable, he was initiated by the W.M., who subsequently passed two candidates.

The following brethren were present: Bros. Fred Broadsmith, W.M., P.P.G. Reg.; H. J. Owen, S.W.; W. P. James Fawcus, J.W.; J. J. Tinker, P.M., Treas.; J. Hardwicke-Marsh, W.M. 1730, Sec.; G. Graham, S.D.; J. Newton, I.G.; Spencer, Stwd.; Sharples, Hill, G. S. Smith, P.M., P.G. Org.; Perry, P.M.; Cooke, and several other brethren. Amongst the visitors present was Bro. J. J. Lambert, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. On the whole it was a most successful meeting.

PLUMSTEAD.

Union Waterloo Lodge (No. 13).—A meeting of the above old lodge took place on the 8th inst. at Freemasons' Hall Mount Pleasant, under the gavel of the esteemed W.M., Bro. Adam Deans, and was a most pleasant and happy one, the fine working of the W.M. and his officers being the theme of universal approbation and eulogism.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Wits, Watts, and Barden, and, proving favourable, they were duly initiated. Bro. Littlewood was passed, and then the lodge was closed.

After refreshment some splendid instrumental and vocal music was given between the toasts and necessary speeches, which was much enjoyed.

The following officers and visiting brethren, were present: Bros. W. J. Barnes, S.W.; W. A. Anson, J.W.; H. S. Syer, P.M., Treas.; T. Hutton, Sec.; A. W. Russell, S.D.; A. W. McQueen, J.D.; W. Turton, I.G.; B. Hancock, Org.; G. H. Davies, P.M.; N. Brown, P.M.; J. P. Moore, P.M.; H. Grice, P.M.; C. Jolly, P.M., Hon. P.M., Sec., 1472, 2184; J. Bilton, W.M. 1536; T. Hogg, W.M. 483; C. J. Clapham, W.M. 913; W. S. Edwards, P.M. 1536; J. Warren, P.M., Sec. 700; R. Gooding, P.M. 1536; M. Bristow, S.W. 1345; J. V. Lee, S.W. 2399; H. Foster, 1536; A. Cunningham, 871; E. M. Taylor, 913; F. Benstead, 700; C. King, 37; H. Parsons, 1837; E. Downe, 871; J. Threshie, 1816; R. Fowler, 1536; G. W. Tapp, 700; H. Pont, 1541; and E. A. Stretton, 1472.

PLYMOUTH.

Brunswick Lodge (No. 159).—On Wednesday, the 13th inst., Bro. W. S. Luscombe was installed as W.M., Bros. H. Roberts, N. Radmore, B. S. Johns, P.P.G.S.B.; H. Mortimer, 159; and R. Pike, 230, P.P.G.O., being the Installing Officers. The Board of Installed Masters also included Bros. H. Warren, J. Bartlett, C. Marshall, T. Stoner, R. Selmon, S. Jew, P.P.G.T.; J. R. Lord, P.P.G.T., P.G.D.C.; P. G. L. Pearce, P.P.S.G.D.; C. H. Cooper, P.P.J.G.D.; T. Heath, P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall; C. Watson, P.P.G.D.C.; J. Hicks, 70; T. W. Soper, 105; W. E. Chapell, 156; G. Dunsterville, 189; W. Ailsford, J. Viggers, R. Carter, 202; W. L. Rattenbury, F. Orchard, 230; J. W. Foster, 1099; A. Trout, 1205; W. Sweet, J. J. C. Elliott, R. Burt, J. Bray, 1212; S. J. Heard, 1255; G. Milford, W. H. W. Macey, J. T. Rook, 1847; and C. E. Matthison, 2025.

The officers invested were Bros. H. Roberts, I.P.M.; W. Smeath, S.W.; J. Endicott, J.W.; T. Stoner, Chap.; H. Mortimer, Treas.; N. Radmore, Sec.; J. Dyer, S.D.; J. Corrick, J.D.; R. F. Davis, D.C.; W. J. Burton, A.D.C.; W. Cutler, Org.; J. Spurr, I.G.; J. Ball, G. E. Eden, J. H. Foot, and G. Ellery, Stewards; and J. Bartlett, Tyler.

SOUTHPORT.

Unity Lodge No. 613.—The installation took place on Monday the 11th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, Low-street, the brethren assembled at the hour appointed, and the lodge was opened by Bro. T. Marsden, W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors' report was discussed and adopted, leaving a balance of nearly £60. Bro. Marsden, who installed his successor, appointed the Installing Officers as follows: Bro. J. W. Barrow, P.P.G.D., as S.W.; Bro. J. C. Robinson P.P.G.D. of C., as J.W.; Bro. Richard Sharrock, P. Asst. G.D. of C., as I.G. Bro. George Harford, S.W. (W.M. elect), was presented by Bro. Tom Adams, P.M., P.P.G.D., and Bro. John Hatch, P.G.S., and after the usual formula he was inducted into the honourable chair. In a very clever manner, Bro. Max Boyd, P.M., presented the working tools in each respective Degree. Bro. S. Kershaw, P.M. invested and addressed all the officers. Bro. Kershaw has been to our knowledge a most ardent student and exponent of the working of Freemasonry for the last 18 years, and it seems to-day he is as fresh and brilliant in his ritual as ever he was; and we wonder that such a bright light has never come more extensively prominent in the Province of West Lancashire, more especially as he is the oldest subscribing member of the lodge. He also gave the addresses to the W.M., wardens, and brethren.

The following officers were invested for the ensuing year: Bros. T. T. Marsden, I.P.M.; R. W. T. Hatch, S.W.; J. O. Platt, J.W.; Rev. J. S. Gardner, M.A., P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; T. Adams, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; J. T. Gale, P.M., Sec.; S. Bramwell, S.D.; W. R. Hartley, J.D.; G. Duxfield, D.C.; W. Wilkinson, Org.; J. J. Broome, I.G.; B. Purser, A. A. W. Phillips, C. F. Webster, and W. Derry, Stewards; G. Rockliffe, Tyler; and S. Kershaw, P.M., Almoner. The ceremony was fully choral, and Bro. Walter Wilkinson, Organist of the lodge, presided, and directed the musical portion, and also gave a beautiful solo, "Be thou faithful unto Death." The following generous resolutions, proposed by Bro. Tom Adams, and seconded by Bro. John Hatch, were unanimously carried: 20 guineas be voted to the R.M.I. for Girls; 10 guineas to the Alpess, and 15 guineas to the West Lancashire Educational Institution. But Charity has always been a most prominent part in the good old Lodge of Unity. After "Hearty good wishes" had been expressed by the numerous visitors, the lodge was closed.

Subsequently a banquet took place in the large dining hall of the building, which had been admirably served by Bro. George Rockliffe and Mrs. Rockliffe.

The toast list was admirably got up, and a most varied programme was much enjoyed by all present. The music, both instrumental and vocal, was of the highest order, more especially we would give praise to Bro. Horsfall, late of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, whose rendering of his songs was very admirable. The instrumentalists were Bros. James Hesketh, P.M. (English concertina), George Hesketh (piano), J. F. Roberts, P.P.G.D.C. (first violin), Connard (second violin), T. W. Chambers, P.M. (cello), and Tom Whitehead, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. (double bass). The vocalists were Bros. R. W. T. Hatch, S.W., Walter Wilkinson, Smith, P.M., P.G. Org., Horsfall, Wm. Derry, and recitation from Bro. J. F. Roberts.

The following is a list of those who were present: Bros. T. Marsden, W.M.; M. D. Boyd, I.P.M.; S. Kershaw, P.M.; Giles Blundell, P.M.; Thos. Haywood, P.M.; John Hatch, P.M., P.G.S.; J. Harford, S.W.; R. W. T. Hatch, J.W.; T. Adams, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; John T. Gale, P.M., Sec.; James O. Platt, S.D.; Sidney Bramwell, J.D.; W. Roland Hartley, I.G.; W. Wilkinson, Org.; J. J. Browne, A. Phillips, C. F. Webster, B. Purser, G. Rockliffe, J. B. Taylor, Fred Holt, F. Harling, T. Brattin, Andrew Brown, J. Peace, J. T. Bennett, A. S. Robson, G. Rotherham, E. Pritchard, Walter Connard, W.M. 2325; J. B. Cotton, C. Watson, P.M.; Mark Newsome, P.P.S.G.D.; Wm. Derry, and Joseph Horrocks. Visitors: Bros. F. J. Moody, J. H. Barrow, P.P.G.D.; John C. Robinson, P.P.G.D.C.; J. H. Ormerod, F. E. Chambers, P.M.; and T. Williams, W.M. 2295.

SUNDERLAND.

Palatine Lodge (No. 97).—The installation meeting of this prosperous old lodge, formerly the Sea Captain's lodge, was held at the Masonic Hall, Park-terrace, on Thursday, the 14th inst., the W.M., Bro. Alfred Grundy, was in the chair, and among those present were Bros. Wm. Birch, I.P.M.; Millican Watson, P.M., P.P.G.T.; R. Hudson, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G.S.; Jos. Robson Pattison, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Jos. Robson Cutter, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. C. Moore, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Robert Singleton, P.M., P.P.G.D.; J. H. Leech, P.M. 97; R. W. Halfnight, P.M., W.M. 949, P.P.G.T.; W. Biggam, W.M. 80; James Lee, W.M. 2039; Hartley Campbell, I.P.M. 1389, P.P.G.D.; Wm. Vincent, P.M. 94, and other brethren and visitors.

The W.M. elect, Bro. Wm. C. Readhead, S.W., was presented by Bro. J. R. Cutter, P.M., P.P.G.T., for installation. The ceremony of installing Bro. Readhead in the chair of K.S., as well as the delivery of the subsequent addresses, were very ably delivered by Bro. Alfred Grundy,

W.M., who in due course was invested as I.P.M. by the newly-installed W.M., who appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. R. Lee, S.W.; Thomas Robinson, F.I.S., J.W.; J. Robson Cutter, P.M., P.P.G.T., Treas.; W. J. Robinson, Sec.; T. Shimmings, S.D.; Wm. M. Render, J.D.; R. Singleton, P.M., P.P.G.D., D.C.; J. F. Napier, I.G.; A. Paris and J. W. Hodgson, Stewards; and Thomas Grieve, P.M., P.G. Tyler, Tyler. The usual donations to the local and Masonic Charities were passed, on the motion of Bro. J. R. Cutter, Treasurer. The hearty congratulations of Prov. Grand Lodge were expressed by Bro. R. Hudson, P.G.S., and by several visiting brethren on behalf of their respective lodges to the newly-installed W.M., Bro. Readhead.

The lodge was afterwards closed.

In the evening the annual banquet was held at the Grand Hotel, Bridge-street, when there was a large company. The W.M., Bro. Wm. C. Readhead, presided, and was supported by Bros. R. Hudson, J. R. Pattison, T. M. Watson, J. R. Cutter, W. Birch, R. Singleton, J. H. Leach, J. Lee, W. Biggam, Walter Beattie, P.M., P.P.G.T.; J. G. Marshall, P.M., P.P.G.D.; A. T. Shepherd, W.M. 1389; John Robinson, I.P.M. 1389; F. S. Cowper, P.M. 2039, P.G.S. of W.; and others.

In the course of the evening the several Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. R. Hudson, P.G.S., responded for "The Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge," and Bro. J. R. Pattison, P.M., P.S.G.W., proposed "The Health of the Newly-Installed Master, Bro. Readhead," who suitably responded.

A very pleasant evening was spent.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

NEPTUNE LODGE (No. 22).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Gauden Hotel, Clapham, when there were present Bros. Gilson, W.M.; Russell, S.W.; Elson, J.W.; W. W. Westley, Preceptor; J. Andrews, Sec.; J. N. Bate, S.D.; J. Mitchell, J.D.; Windsor, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; and Steele, P.M.

Lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, with Bro. Steele as candidate. Bro. Elson gave the charge. The ceremony of passing was announced, and Bro. Steele answered the necessary questions and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Steele duly passed to the Degree of a Fellow Craft. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first time, and dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and a vote of thanks was accorded to him for his excellent work in the chair for the first time in this lodge of instruction. Bro. Russell was elected W.M. for the ensuing fortnight. He returned thanks, and appointed his officers in rotation. The W.M. rose for the third time, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

RANELAGH LODGE (No. 834).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Hamersmith, when there were present Bros. Jesse Collins, P.M., W.M.; John Davies, P.M., S.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., J.W.; George Read, P.M. I.P.M.; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; Joseph Cox, S.D.; Robert Reid, J.D.; H. Pearson, I.G.; W. Hinds, Stwd.; W. Beattie, E. W. Dennis, H. Scharien, D. Cronin, R. Uniacke, W. Hinds, W. W. Williams, W. Hide, W. G. Bennett, James Banks, R. Josey, P.M., H. Bone, G. C. Stafford, H. Clark, W. C. Dickey, H. Blackman, and H. Lovendahl.

The lodge was duly opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Sections of the First Lecture were worked by Bros. H. Bone, W. Hide, W. Hinds, W. W. Williams, J. C. Stafford, Jesse Collins, P.M., and Robert Reed. Votes of thanks were passed to the Section workers and Bro. Jesse Collins for their excellent services on this occasion. Bros. W. Beattie, W. G. B. Bennett, and H. Lovendahl were elected joining members. The lodge then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. J. H. Wadcoat, W.M.; W. Rapley, S.W.; G. T. Peall, J.W.; J. W. Clarke, Acting Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, Prov. G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; H. J. Kimbell, S.D.; E. T. Woodman, J.D.; J. T. Frost, I.G.; G. H. Cox, P. F. Holmden, R. Philip Upton, M. T. Tuck, P.P.G.S.B. Essex; R. Loomes, and Milton Smith.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and resumed to the First. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Cox being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Loomes being the candidate. Bro. Rapley was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for his services in the chair for the first time. The lodge was then closed.

CRUSADERS LODGE (No. 1677).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Northampton Arms, 205 Goswell-road, E.C., when there were present Bros. Dr. Frye, W.M.; Woolgar, P.M., S.W.; A. White, J.W.; C. Weedon, P.M., Preceptor; E. Dimes, Sec.; J. Mansell, S.D.; J. W. Doubtfire, J.D.; J. D. Spiers, I.G.; and several others.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Edmonds, P.M., answered the questions and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the usual number of times, and Bro. Woolgar, P.M., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The lodge was then closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the Scarsdale Arms Hotel, Edwardes-square, Kensington, when there were present Bros. J. J. Mackay, W.M. 1767, W.M.; E. W. Dennis, W.M. elect 2108, S.W.; W. R. Plack, J.W.; W. Hillier, W.M. 1366, acting Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; Walter Wesche, S.D.; J. J. Rumbal, J.D.; J. J. Gething, I.G.; and other brethren.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed. The 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by Bro. Hillier, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Walter Wesché was elected a joining member. Bro. Denniss was elected W.M. for the next meeting, which will take place on Tuesday, January 2nd next. "Hearty good wishes" were given, and the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 1012).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at the Windsor Castle Hotel, King-street, Hammersmith, W. Present: Bros. Dennis, W.M.; Hillier, S.W.; Dickey, J.W.; M. Spiegel, Sec.; A. Williams, P.M.; Preceptor; Hide, S.D.; Kington, J.D.; Larkham, I.G.; F. Craggs, P.M.; R. J. Williams, P.M.; J. Davis, P.M.; Tucker, P.M.; Reid, Bone, Bath, Pearson and Whiteley.

The lodge was opened in due form, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Bone being the candidate. The 1st Section of this Lecture was worked by the Preceptor; also the 2nd Section. After the usual rising, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for occupying the chair for the first time. Bro. Hillier was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and intimated his intention to work the ceremony of installation, and the lodge closed in due form.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of the above was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 15th inst. Present: Comps. Murché, M.E.Z.; Grummant, H.; Cureton, J.; Bannister, S.N.; Hilton, S.E.; Dawson, P.S.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; F. W. Williams, Elgar, R. J. Voisey, Addington, North, Lewis, Ingle, Plant, Chabot, and Mercer.

The chapter was declared opened, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of installation of H. was rehearsed, by Comp. Murché installing Comp. Ingle. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed. Comp. T. Grummant, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, when the installation of J. will be rehearsed. The chapter was then closed.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

Rose and Lily Council (No. 15).—An emergency meeting of the above council of the Allied Masonic Degrees and of the Constantine Council, No. 2, of Royal and Select Masters, was held on Saturday, the 16th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, the Earl of Euston, Most Illustrious Grand Master, presiding. The meeting had been called for the purpose of conferring the Degrees on Major-Gn. J. C. Hay, C.B., Grand Vice-Chancellor of the Orders of the Temple and Malta; Capt. Hearn, and Dato Abdul Rahman, C.M.G.

The ceremony, which was somewhat shorn of its fullness by the exigencies of an emergency meeting, was still adequately rendered, and Bro. C. E. Matier, ably aided by Bro. Vincent, communicated all essential knowledge to the candidates. The Degree of Tyler of King Solomon was also conferred, a special dispensation having been granted to include Dato Rahman, he not having passed the chair of First Principal in the Royal Arch. In this Degree Bro. Voisey was the Celebrant.

Cryptic Masonry.

Grand Master's Council (No. 1).—A meeting of this Council was held at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 24th ult. Among those present were Comps. Edwin Storr, T.I.M.; B. R. Bryant, Grand Lecturer, P.T.I.M.; G. Powell, D.M.; H. H. Shirley, M.A., P.C.W.; G. Graveley, P.T.I.M., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.T.I.M., Recorder; A. McDowall, C. of C.; W. A. Scurrah, 1st M.; Maj. W. B. Williamson, J.P., 2nd M.; G. Gregory, Stwd.; J. J. Thomas, Asst. Warder; Baron de Ferrières, P.T.I.M.; N. Prower, M.A., J.S.; Rev. R. C. Fillingham, B.A.; H. Burgess, C. Wright, B. Johnson, J. T. Rowe, and others.

The minutes of the previous council were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken on behalf of Comps. R. A. Gowan, J. Byfoot, jun., and W. B. Horesman, and it being unanimous, they were duly admitted, received, and greeted as M.E.M., R.M., S.M., and S.E.M., the four arduous ceremonies and historical lectures being ably performed by Comp. B. R. Bryant. A vote of thanks was passed to him with acclamation, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Lieut.-Col. G. Lambert, P.T.I.M.; the Rev. Dr. Lemon, P.G. Chap.; R. Loveland Loveland, J.P., P.T.I.M.; Major P. Dunbar, D. P. Cama, S. H. Parkhouse, and many others. The lodge was then closed in the Degree of S.M.

The companions, under the able and genial presidency of the Thrice Illustrious Master, dined at the Holborn Restaurant.

A few toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE PROSPERITY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 65.

The annual supper of the members of the above lodge of instruction was held at the old Parr's Head, Knight-riding-street, Doctor's Commons, on the 29th ult., when about 40 members sat down to an excellent repast, provided in good style by Bro. C. Martin. Bro. E. C. Talbot, W.M., the Preceptor, presided, and there were also present: Bros. D. Harlow, S.W.; W. C. Thomas, J.W.; C. Martin, H. J. Harris, P.M.; C. E. Terry, G. Schadler, F. J. Ruse, R. Martin, Dr. B. Keane, J. Chambers, H. W. Miles, E. Gray, W. J. Greig, R. C. Harris, W. E. Knight, T. White, G. P. W. Terry, J. Evans, J. Biss, W. Evans, C. Fuller, J. Huckell, H. T. Brooks, W. Montague, all of the mother lodge, No. 65; R. Sarson, J.D., Sec. 192; H. J. Meadows, I.G. 1575; T. W. Fisher, 192; F. Hughes, W.M. 192; H. L. Barfoot, 171; Jas. Smith, S.W. 192;

D. Reekie, 511; A. Barrett, W.M. 879; F. Hedges, 2361; H. A. Baster, 879; A. W. Smith, 901; and R. T. West, 1744.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured,

Bro. H. J. HARRIS, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Chairman," the W.M. of the mother lodge and S.W. of No. 1310. He said that they were all pleased to see Bro. Talbot present that evening after his illness. He had been missed by them in many ways in their lodge of instruction. It would be superfluous to speak of his splendid working of the ritual. A better Preceptor could not be found, and no other lodge in the Metropolis could boast of having a better W.M.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. TALBOT, who was well received, stated in reply that he was always proud to attend there for instruction to the members, and to give them assistance, privately or otherwise. He had been their Preceptor for a few years, and hoped to continue so. The past year had been a prosperous one, and he trusted that the ensuing one would also be a great success. The lodge met every week all the year round, and the average attendance was excellent.

In giving "The Assistant Preceptor, Bro. D. Harlow," Bro. TALBOT said that he was an ardent worker in the Craft, and when he was elected W.M. of their mother lodge he would give the greatest satisfaction.

Bro. HARLOW replied in suitable terms, remarking that he felt more at home as Assistant Preceptor than as a speech-maker. He gave great heart to the work under Bro. Talbot, and, as he had done in the past, he hoped to do in the future, viz., his very best for their well-known lodge of instruction.

Bro. TALBOT proposed "The Visitors," to whom he gave a hearty welcome, and hoped they would all become members. He would have been glad to have seen Bro. W. M. Stiles, who was known to them all, present. He was a candidate for the office of Grand Treasurer, and was a worthy brother, and for the great things he had done in Masonry he was deserving of grand honours, and he urged the brethren to make a point of attending in March next to record their votes in his favour.

Bro. REEKIE replied, observing that the Prosperity Lodge of Instruction was well known for its good teaching.

Bro. HEDGES also responded in appropriate terms.

The other toasts were "The Treasurer and Secretary," "The Assistant Secretary," "The Host," and "The Masonic Press," to which several good speeches were made in reply, and a most enjoyable evening was brought to an end.

During the evening Bros. Montague, Harlow, Thomas, Fisher, Smith, Harris, J. Huckell, and Talbot, vocally and otherwise, entertained the brethren, the two last-named deserving special mention.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE WALTHAMSTOW LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2172.

The annual supper of the above lodge of instruction was held at the Chequers Hotel, Walthamstow, on the 27th ult., when there were present Bros. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., D.P.G.M. Essex; Wm. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas. Essex; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Preceptor Westbourne Lodge, 733, and Hornsey Chapter of Improvement; Geo. Graveley; G. J. Westfield, P.P.G.S.B.; J. H. Wildash, I.P.M. 2472; H. F. Bromhead, I.P.M. 2374, P.P.G.S. of W.; C. G. C. Dunbar, D.D., Chap. 2374; Buchanan; C. Lorkin, P.M.; C. Dancyger, P.M.; W. Gray, P.M.; G. W. Knight, P.M., P.Z.; N. Fortescue, W.M. 2374; W. Gower, sen., J.W. 2472; W. Gower, jun., J. Sansom, P.M.; W. Archer, P. D. Parsons, J. R. Cordell, P.M.; R. Clarke, W. Bastick, C. Rice, W. Jeremy, Graveley, jun., Stroud, C. Thompson, 2192; S. Bateman, J. R. Friend, Rowberry, G. S. Wilson, A. Oakden, W. Hunt, A. J. Stacey, J.D. 2472; Geo. Long, 2256; Chas. MacColla, S.D. 2472; Jno. Ives, P.M.; P. Trickett, 2374; C. H. Bestow, S.D. 2374, and J. R. Carter, Steward 2374, Hon. Secs.; T. Bagnell, M. Blicke, 2374; Jeffery, T. Maynard, 2374; F. Kebbell, Dr. Muller, Molleck, W. W. Hind, T. H. Lloyd, 2374; T. Lamb, G. Hurley, I.P.M. 2256; J. Clarke, I.G. 2472; and many others.

The toasts of "The Queen" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were duly honoured.

Bro. PHILBRICK, in responding to the toast of his health as President of the lodge of instruction, said that he was almost overwhelmed at the cordiality of his reception the first time he came after they had elected him to a position of which he was proud—far be it from him to occupy a place which might be more worthily occupied—but when the Preceptor expressed a desire that he should take the position of President, it would not have been right to draw back. It was with pleasure he noticed the spread Freemasonry had taken in Essex, but could not think or pretend he was deserving of all that had fallen from Bro. Shurmur. Any service that he could render would be his greatest pleasure. He knew of no more distasteful subject than speaking of himself, and thanked most cordially those who were more than kind. Keenly and thoroughly he felt the kindness with which every brother in the province had welcomed him, and earnestly hoped that they might find that the lodge of instruction would be of use and would recognise the high position it had gained in the province.

Bro. PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg., proposed "The Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction and the Third

Masonic Benevolent Association Attached." He said it was the toast of the evening. He had often heard of it, and wondered why it had been said so often, but had not always been able to perceive it. There must be a toast of the evening, and the problem was to find it. But in this instance there could be no doubt about it. He marked with joy and pleasure the success of that lodge of instruction, and in so doing only expressed the wish of every brother present that it might continue. He would like to say a word or two of a more serious nature suitable on the present occasion—records of time gone by, the keeping of which is a subject of interest as of the natural growth, but is such as brethren feel when progressing, which we know they prove that the outside world feel the strength of the attractions which draw Masons to their lodges, but he here addressed himself not to the outer, but to those who already acknowledge the strength of the mystic tie, and who look for something better and higher than those who were not Masons. There going to a lodge of instruction was evidence that they desired to progress and attain perfection in the Craft. He knew nothing, at the first outlook, that strikes a young Mason more hopefully if he desires to proceed, than he can join a lodge of instruction, where he can be taught that noble ritual, to acquire which, if he be left to himself, would be a prospect anything but cheering; in his progress he wants to avail himself of the experience of the veterans of the Craft—wants to know all—wants to become proficient, and in his turn would desire to be like those who had grounded him—and how is he to obtain this—by attending a lodge of instruction so ably presided over by its Preceptor. In continuation Bro. Philbrick said that while we are often reproached at being a secret society—we should ever guard our secrets—not such as is meant by the term; we have signs by which we distinguish each other, we feel and know, however well a man may be in all the learning he may get from books, there is nothing like the experience of the touch, hand to hand, leaning of the heart, to convey the Masonic secrets we esteem so highly; nothing like the experience of those who have gone before and will succeed, when all is handed down by tradition. Traditions of mankind vary but in the slightest degree, handed down without the utmost fidelity, when by the writing on the papyrus or paper the need of fidelity was lessened, strictness not so easily observed, meritable equation came an error, some of the thoughts of the most profound thinkers, means of transmission, aural tradition much impaired. Applying that to Freemasonry ancient and aural tradition handed down to us we need not ask if anything of human tradition is more noble, more dignified, or more full of that which binds men together. We rejoice that we can meet brother to brother. We cannot be too proud to possess them, and there was no means so great to hand down the great principles as lodges of instruction; while we receive with pleasure every worthy man, we do not wish to receive them unless they have received the light, and would not go into darkness again, concluding by hoping the lodge of instruction had a long career of usefulness, eliciting the truest and best feelings of the brethren, the Charities responded to, and deserved to be congratulated on having such a Preceptor, and he to be congratulated on having such a lodge of instruction.

Bro. SHURMUR, in replying, said it was a proud moment for himself and colleagues to hear the Walthamstow Lodge of Instruction spoken of so well by so high an authority. It was his earnest desire to teach the brethren the aural and traditional ritual recognised by the Lodge of Emulation. It had been his privilege lately to pass five in the Walthamstow Lodge, and his pleasure, when the candidates gave the answers to the questions without a prompt. The lodge of instruction possessed many brethren who were endowed with retentive memories, regular and punctual in attendance, and acquired proficiency; that evening he might almost call them a college of Preceptors, Bros. Dehane, Dancyger, Gray, G. W. Knight, and Larkin, and invited them each to get a team together, and bring them down and officer the lodge of instruction.

"The Visitors," all of whom responded, was proposed by Bro. Dr. DUNBAR.

The toast of "The Officers and Stewards" was responded to by the joint Secretaries, Bros. J. R. CARTER and C. H. BESTOW.

The musical arrangements were ably carried out under the direction of Bro. T. H. Lloyd.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. H. J. ATKINS AT BOURNEMOUTH.

The Worshipful Master of the Hengist Lodge, No. 195, Bournemouth, had a very pleasant duty to perform in addition to the usual routine of this excellent lodge, in presenting one of its members, Bro. H. J. Atkins, with an illuminated address, which the members had unanimously voted to him at a previous lodge for the great services he had rendered to the officers and brethren, and to Masonry in general during the time he has resided in Bournemouth.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER in making the presentation, said he was not a man of many words, but what he did say he meant, and that Bro. Atkins and the brethren must not think that if he did not make a long speech on this important occasion he thought less. Bro. Atkins had rendered great service to this lodge, and on his retirement from the office of D.C. it was only right that some recognition of those services should be offered to him, and he was very pleased that it had fallen to his lot to perform this pleasant duty.

Bro. Atkins, although retiring from active work, would still be amongst them. This presentation was the unanimous wish of the officers and brethren of the lodge, as the wording of the address would show. He hoped he might be long spared to give them help in the future from the store of his Masonic knowledge.

Bro. ATKINS, in reply, said he was deeply gratified at receiving such a mark of fraternal affection and esteem from the officers and brethren of the lodge; it was one he deeply valued and appreciated. He would not have been able to do what he had for the lodge without the cordial assistance of the Past Masters and the officers and brethren themselves. He should always remember with pleasure the advance the lodge had made in the working of the various ceremonies, and more especially by the addition of the musical portion, which he was glad to find had been so much appreciated. He had no hesitation in saying the working of the lodge now was second to none. Another important feature was the firm basis on which the Charity funds had been placed. During the last eight years the lodge had contributed to the great Masonic Charities an amount equal to that contributed since its constitution in 1770, and the voting power correspondingly increased. He trusted that the system which had worked so well would be continued in the future, and the lodge placed in the proud position of having votes at its command which would not only be a credit to itself but an honour to the province to which it belonged. He could not conclude without thanking the members of the Committee for their great kindness in undertaking the work which had been delegated to them by the members, and he could assure the brethren of the lodge that, although he had resigned active work, he should be ever willing to render any assistance in his power, and he had no fear but that the lodge would maintain its efficiency.

The address is as follows:

"To Bro. H. J. Atkins, P.M. Eleanor Cross Lodge No. 1764, P.P.S.G.W. Northants and Hunts, Craft; P.Z. Hengist Chapter, No. 195, &c., &c.

"The Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Wardens, Officers, and Brethren of the 'Lodge of Hengist,' No. 195, Bournemouth, in the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, offer to you their sincere and grateful thanks for the great and valuable services rendered by you at all times, and under all circumstances, to the Holy cause of Freemasonry; and especially to the Officers and Brethren of this Lodge during the time you have sojourned amongst them.

"We unanimously beg your acceptance of this illuminated address on your resignation of the office of Director of Ceremonies of this Lodge, and trust that although the state of your health compels you to give up the active work hitherto so willingly, most wisely, and ably given, you may be spared for many years to give out of the store of your mature Masonic knowledge the benefit of your counsel and advice.

"And that when you may be called from your path on Earth you may be received into those Heavenly Mansions where the World's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore.

"Signed on behalf of the Brethren of the Lodge—W. H. Vye, W.M.; A. Redfearn, S.W.; W. Humphry, J.W.; W. B. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.R., P.Z. 19, P.P.G. Prin. Soj.; J. Harvey, P.M. 694, P.P.S.G.D., P.Z. 195, P.P.G. Soj.

"Bournemouth, December 7th, 1893."

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Board of Benevolence held its last meeting for the year 1893 on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President of the Board, presided. Bro. James Brett, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, occupied their respective seats. Bros. Edward Litchworth, G. Sec.; A. A. Pendlebury, A.G. Sec.; W. Dodd, and Neville Green attended from Grand Secretary's office; and the other brethren who attended were Bros. Charles Dairy, Charles J. R. Tijou, W. Fisher, Clement Godson, Wm. P. Brown, W. M. Bywater, S. V. Abraham, S. H. Goldschmidt, Admiral Sir E. A. Inglefield, J. H. Matthews, Geo. R. Langley, E. C. Mulvey, Walter Martin, Captain T. C. Walls, R. A. Gowan, Captain S. G. Homfray, C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; A. Lefebvre, F. Craggs, H. Tatton Sykes, A. Gorier, H. Massey, G. F. Marshall, S. T. Klingenstein, G. P. Carter, G. A. Pickering, W. H. Jeffries, Thomas E. Rigby, Edward Triggs, John Wynn, A. J. Searing, A. M. Cohen, W. H. Poole, James Clark, B. Cundick, A. C. Dandridge, R. La Feuillade, W. H. Hook, John Ellinger, Francis W. Freyett, Henry Cox, J. Pickett, M.D., Max Mendelssohn, H. W. Willis, P. Shepherd, J. H. Frye, R. A. Marshall, W. J. Collins, R. Kimpton, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

After the Board had been formally opened the PRESIDENT said the brethren might like to know before they began to work, indeed it was right they should know, the position the Fund of Benevolence stood in. Last year the Board voted away £8400. Up to the present time they had voted £8650. He did not wish in any way to curtail the benevolence of the brethren; but he thought it only right they should know how their finances stood.

The brethren then confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the November meeting, to the amount of £630. There were 48 new cases on the list qualified through lodges in the London district, and at Antigua, Gloucester, Newport (Mon.), Newport (I. of W.), Swansea, Crowle, Bombay, Alford, Stonehouse, Belvedere, Basingstoke, Burslem, Kingston-on-Thames,

Fowey, Brighton, Stockport, Great Yarmouth, Liverpool, Stoke (Devonport), Twickenham, Dorking, Belgium, Switzerland, Eye, and Haverfordwest. The longest period in any one case that subscriptions to lodges had been continued was 36 years; other periods were 26, 25, 24, 23, 21, 18, 17, 14, 13, 12, and down to three years. Five of these cases were deferred, two were dismissed, and one case was withdrawn. The remainder were relieved with a total of £915. There was one recommendation to Grand Lodge for £60, and one for £50; there were five recommendations to the Grand Master for £40 each, and six for £30 each; while there were 15 grants of £20 each, one of £15, eight of £10 each, and two of £5 each.

Hearty reciprocity between the President and others who attended of "A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year," closed the proceedings.

THE TEMPLAR TOAST (CHRISTMAS).

"Head-Quarters of the Grand Master of Knights Templar, U.S.A.

Corunna, Michigan, December 25th, 1893.

To All Knights Templar: Greeting:

Returning thanks to Our Father in Heaven for the privilege which He has vouchsafed to us, in permitting us again to assemble on this glad day around our mystic triangle; and with hearts strung in sweetest harmony with the new life of this gracious day, we thank you for the toast you offer us. 'To our Most Eminent Grand Master Hugh McCurdy: A hundred thousand Knights Templar send greetings, wishing him a Merry Christmas, with peace, health and happiness.'

Christmas, the day of days, the Birthday of Him whose Coming gave a new meaning to the words of your Christmas greeting, peace, health and happiness. Of each of these, and of every word dear to man's heart, His life must for ever stand as the true exponent. He defined words by living them. To know His definitions and to live them, this alone is life, this alone is Templarism.

To the true Templar, the Incarnation is the centre and heart of all worship, obedience and morality. Words which are only the names for peace, health and happiness. For Him at Bethlehem's Cradle, peace, health and happiness had their birth; there everything that was old came to an end; everything that was new had its beginning. Thus Knights Templar must ever give to Christmas Day, with its song of peace and goodwill to men, a sovereign place. Immanuel, God with us, this is the essence of peace, health and happiness; this the magic word which opens wide the doors to the grandest possibilities of human nature. God with us, as man with a heart human in its sympathy and brotherhood. This new presence signified new knowledge, new hopes, new powers, new laws.

To us the Christ-Child was born to reach the perfection for which he was made. My fratres, is this great truth to us a doctrine, a tradition, a philosophy, or is it a life as His life was? Are we so learning this truth that our manhood is developing into a complete self? The more like Him we become, the more ourselves are we. We are only truly manly when we share the completeness of His character.

From a hundred thousand Knights Templar, to whom the story of the Cradle, the Cross, the Sepulchre and the Mount of Ascension is as familiar as dear household words—from a hundred thousand manly men comes to me once again the Christmas greeting of peace, health and happiness.

It is the life men live that gives value to their wishes and words. In this your good wish for me, it is not you who speak, it is the Manger at Bethlehem speaking of life—larger, nobler, more divine, of character Kingly, of service filled with its gifts of gold, frank-incense and myrrh. A good wish has value only as it embodies the principles wrapped in the manger. It has thus its highest value when coming from men, who in their earthly pilgrimage are guided by the star in the East, as was the wise men of the Orient, bringing their best offering to the Christ-Child. A life of peace, health and happiness is the best wish that man can offer for his brother man. Such a life is a continual Christmas greeting. Such a life it is the aim of every Knight Templar to live. That this is your aim, Sir Knights, is to me your best wish for my Merry Christmas, peace, health and happiness.

'The greatest gift a hero leaves his race
Is to have been a hero.'

The best wish for a brother's peace, health and happiness, is man's own peaceful, healthful, happy life. 'Tis that compels the elements, and wrings
A human music from the indifferent air.'

The best offering that the Son of Man made for man was His peaceful, happy, healthful life. His was the most peaceful, most healthful, happiest life ever lived on earth. To live such a life, Sir Knights, is to wield your swords in defence of the Christian religion. If every man who wears the Christian armour will go forth from the cradle at Bethlehem thus to plead the cause of the Christ-child, whose love steals into the heart of man as the balm of flowers into the pulses of a summer's evening, we shall soon see the enemies of man's peace, health, and happiness put to flight. It is only under the benign influence of such warfare that men are to beat their swords into ploughshares, their spears into pruning hooks, and to learn war no more.

We live in an age in which not only well wishing, but well doing is a colossal virtue, an age in which

'It is the heart, and not the brain,
That to the highest doth attain.'

Like the pilgrims in Dante, who climbed up a mountain on whose sides there was a mysterious music, ever growing sweeter. And thus, as we go on through life greeting one another each Christmas Day, we learn more and more the truth that the kingdom over which the heart is king, is an ever expanding kingdom—the greatest kingdom upon earth. Earth's greatest gospel is man's love for his brother man. Neither ocean nor mountain, nor lapse of time can separate man from his fellows. Let us hasten to invade this kingdom and master it. It is a goodly land. As we go up to possess it, following in the footsteps of our divine Lord from His cradle to the Mount of His Ascension, we shall, as faithful pilgrims, hear that angel song of peace and goodwill to men ever growing sweeter, until at last we reach the height of all heights, the hope of all hopes, the joy of all joys—the Supreme God—in whose empire of boundless goodwill to men no faithful human heart can cherish a wish of peace, health, and happiness too blessed to be true.

'There above noise and danger
Sweet peace sits crowned with smiles,
And one born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.'

Sir Knights, I have the honour to propose this toast, and ask you to participate.

To the Valiant Sir Knights of the Nineteenth Century, one hundred thousand strong: Noble sons of illustrious ancestors, whose knightly lives shed increasing lustre upon a glorious past and illumine the present with the inspiring hope of a brighter future.

HUGH MCCURDY, Grand Master.'

[The above Response by Grand Master McCurdy to the "Templar Christmas Greeting" has been kindly forwarded to us by Bro. Hugh, of Torquay, the Representative for England. All Knights Templars are asked to participate in this toast, at 5 p.m. Greenwich time. Bro. Hugh tells us that many annually do so in this country.—ED. F. M.]

ST. JOHN'S CARD OF THE QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE.

The St. John's Card for the 27th inst. of the Lodge "Quatuor Coronati," No. 2076, is a most remarkable work and increase year by year in volume and interest. It now extends to 52 pages, and is from first to last of a most remarkable character. The present W.M. is Dr. Westcott, P.M.; and the two Wardens are the Rev. Charles J. Ball, M.A., and Edward Macbean; the Treasurer Walter Besant, M.A., and the Secretary, of course, George William Speth. There are seven Past Masters of this lodge, four of whom are Founders, the others being also four in number as Founders but not served in the chair of No. 2076.

There are 28 members of the lodge itself with two propositions accepted by the Committee and duly nominated, but there are 215 governing bodies, lodges, chapters, &c., and 1375 members besides of the Correspondence Circle," making a grand total of 1618. Surely these are startling figures, and prove how widespread and important is the work being done by this national and international lodge.

There are full particulars of the Masonic standing of all these brethren, as well as the names of local Secretaries at home and abroad; literally world-wide, for the roll includes Craftsmen from Europe, Asia, Africa, America, and Australasia. The Secretary gives a capital index and other aids, for he does nothing by halves; and the astute Past Master of the lodge, Bro. William Simpson, K.I., M.R.A.S., &c., has contributed an illustration of the arms of William of Wykeham, and two views of Winchester College.

Finally let it be noted that half-a-guinea per annum, sent to Bro. Speth, at Lancaster-place, Margate, and election by the Lodge will secure membership in this truly Masonic Fellowship (*Outer Circle*) and obtain a volume of Transactions in due course as well as a copy of the St. John's card.

MASONIC LITERATURE IN COURT.

At the Bow County Court of Middlesex, on Friday afternoon, the 15th inst., a number of cases of great importance to all Freemasons were adjudicated upon by his Honour, Judge Horton-Smith. All the defendants in the actions are well-known Masons residing in the neighbourhood of West Ham, and, from one or two loud expressions of feeling, during the hearings, from the public in the body of the court, it was evident that there were many other Masons present who were smarting under a sense of injustice.

The first case heard was that of "Erskine v. Vallance," in which A. Erskine and Co., publishers, of Martineau-street, Birmingham, claimed £1 15s. from Dr. E. Vallance, who has an extensive practice, and resides at "The Deanery," Romford-road, Stratford, for goods, viz., a book entitled "The History of Freemasonry," alleged to have been sold to him by contract. Mr. Kenneth Wood (instructed by Mr. Hutchinson) appeared for the plaintiff company; Mr. Abinger (instructed by Mr. G. A. Haynes) for the defendant.

COUNSEL for plaintiffs, in opening, explained that this was a test case, and one of "simple contract."

COUNSEL for defendant, in answer to his Honour, stated that the defence was a misdescription of the goods, by which they were induced to enter into the contract, and false representations on the part of plaintiffs' agent.

His HONOUR at first raised a question as to whether a misdescription and false representations constituted a sufficient defence, but, after consulting an authority "Chitty") on the point, he appeared satisfied that it did.

HENRY CHRISTOPHER POOLE, traveller to plaintiffs, living at 2, Goodall-road, Leytonstone, was the first and only witness, and he stated that in May, 1893, he called at defendant's residence, showed him a specimen (produced) of "The History of Freemasonry," and solicited an order. Defendant placed his signature in the specimen as a subscriber, and also signed a form, by which he ordered the work.

His HONOUR pointed out that the form bore no date, and

Mr. ABINGER submitted that the form ought also to be stamped before it could be considered evidence.

His HONOUR: I should think it requires a stamp of some sort. The form is tantamount to defendant saying "I put my name down as agreeing to pay." If plaintiffs rely upon that form they must stamp it. At present I am under the impression that it requires a sixpenny stamp.

Mr. WOOD observed that the book had not yet been published.

Mr. POOLE: The whole three volumes were published 10 years ago.

This admission caused loud laughter and "oh's" amongst the Masons in Court.

His HONOUR (examining the specimen): It is evidently a new edition. The book is to be completed in three volumes.

After some consultation and delay Mr. WOOD announced that he had decided to put in the agreement, signed by defendant, as evidence.

His HONOUR: Then you must pay the penalty; I have known £10 to be paid into Court. (Laughter).

Mr. GRIMSDALE (a Court official): You give me £11 os. 6d. and we shall be prepared to take to form.

Mr. WOOD appeared discomfited and at a loss how to act, to the amusement, shall we say, of the Masonic spectators.

His HONOUR: I don't think you can get on, for you have admitted that the contract has got into writing, and I cannot look at it until it is stamped.

Mr. WOOD: But surely your Honour will allow that we are entitled to establish our contract how we can?

His HONOUR: I am afraid it is my duty to non-suit you.

Mr. WOOD: Would not your Honour give us time to consider?

His HONOUR: I think I cannot help it; I am very sorry.

Mr. ABINGER here interjected that the indecorous conduct in Court a few moments ago, went to show that the action of the plaintiff company, with regard to the orders, was not appreciated.

His HONOUR (to Mr. Wood): I won't dismiss the case, but will non-suit you.

Mr. WOOD: Can it be adjourned?

Mr. ABINGER: I refuse to agree; we have very strong feelings in the matter.

His Honour adhered to his decision, and certified for costs for defendant.

The case of "Erskine v. Longworth" was then called.

His HONOUR: I suppose the same difficulty will arise in all these cases?

Mr. WOOD: Yes.

His HONOUR: It will come to the same thing again.

Mr. ABINGER: I understand that there are 17 cases.

(The public—"Oh.")

The cases "Erskine v. Boxer," "Erskine v. Kempton," and "Erskine v. Rockley," being brought on the same lines, were disposed of by his Honour in a similar way, costs being allowed for each defendant.

Subsequently Mr. WOOD informed his Honour that about 7000 of these cases were to be heard in various parts of the country, and, as the contracts were unstamped, he had decided to apply to Somerset House for a reduction in the stamp duty.

EAST LANCASHIRE SYSTEMATIC MASONIC EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Relief and Education Board was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, when there were present Bros. J. H. Sillitoe, Chairman; J. T. Newbold, Vice-Chairman; James Newton, Sec.; T. J. Hooper, Jas. Andrew, F. Reiss, F. W. Lean, C. D. Cneethum, Chas. Turner, M. Thomas, Jas. Kershaw, Evan Williams, C. H. Collingwood, P. Radcliffe, N. Nicholson, J. Smethurst, S. Porritt, and J. W. Abbott.

Apologies were read from brethren who were unable to be present through illness. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed. A petition was presented on behalf of a widow for an extension of a grant, and a second £20 was voted to be paid by weekly instalments. Another petition was read from a brother who had already been relieved by this Board as well as the Board of Benevolence in London. A further sum of £10 was granted. Another petition was presented on behalf of a widow whose claims upon the Charity were so remote that £5 was considered to be ample to meet the case.

The Craft Abroad.

ST. ANDREW'S MASONIC FESTIVAL.

The brethren of Bombay, and others who had specially come down from long distances, celebrated St. Andrew's Day, at an Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, held at the Freemasons' Hall, Clare Road, recently. The hall had been tastefully decorated by floral embellishments and in other artistic ways; and the persevering Grand Secretary, Bro. Captain C. D. Wise, had neglected nothing to make the evening a pleasant one to all who attended the festival. The gathering was a large one and included brethren of different nationalities from all lodges working in Bombay under the two Constitutions. Some European brethren had come down specially from Mhow, Hyderabad, and places 300 and 400 miles away, to take a part in the festival as well as to be invested with the jewels of offices in the Grand Lodges.

The Grand Master, Bro. J. W. Smith, attended by his Grand Lodge Officers, entered the lodge-room in procession, at 7.30 p.m., and the business of the communication commenced. Soon after, Bro. H. W. Barrow, the Dep. District Grand Master, in charge of the office of District Grand Master of Bombay, under England, arrived with his Grand Lodge Officers, and was welcomed with the honours due to his exalted position. The first important business was to appoint and invest the Grand Lodge Officers for the ensuing year; and this was done with an imposing ceremonial. Among the principal of them were: Bros. R. V. Reid, Grand Master Depute; Major F. B. Peile, Hon. Past Grand Master Depute; G. McCorkell, Substitute Grand Master; Bros. W. L. Harvey, S.G.W.; D. D. Curranee, 2nd S.G.W.; J. D. B. Gribble, J.G.W.; G. W. Lindsley, 2nd J.G.W.; Capt. C. D. Wise, G. Sec.; A. F. Solon, G. Treas.; F. G. Lynde, G. Chap.; T. Barrett, Asst. G. Chap.; Col. Westmacott and J. Hinde, S.G. Deacons; Pallonjee Nusserwanjee and N. M. Panday, J.G. Deacons; A. H. Stevens, G. Architect; H. V. Ashborn, Asst. G. Architect; B. S. Kapadia, Asst. G. Sec.; W. Trevor, G. Jeweller; R. K. R. Cama, Asst. G. Jeweller; H. H. Wright, G. Bible Bearer; Surgeon-Major K. S. Nariman, G. Zendavesta Bearer; Jafferbhoy Ladha Chatoo, G. Koran Bearer; Chintamon H. Bhat, G. Ghita Bearer; Capt. A. D. Fordyce, Chief G. Dir. of Cers.; C. H. S. Sarl, G. Bard; Mohundra Nath Dutt, President of Grand Stewards; and others.

The investiture of many of these officers who were present formed an interesting part of the proceedings, and that of the Grand Secretary, who has served long and faithfully, was accompanied with cheers.

Bros. P. N. Wadia and N. J. Gazdar were appointed Auditors for the ensuing year to audit the accounts of the Grand Lodge and of the Scottish Masonic Benevolent Association.

Bro. E. J. Smith was appointed and invested as an honorary member of the Grand Lodge amidst cheers.

A Grand Committee was appointed for the ensuing year, and also a joint-hall Committee, composed as follows: Bros. D. R. Chichgar, K. R. Cama, R. V. Reid, P. N. Wadia, A. W. Seabrook, C. D. Furdoonjee, Captain C. D. Wise, W. L. Harvey, H. M. Chichgar, F. D. Petit, J. W. Hepworth, N. J. Gazdar, M. H. Khan, and C. Anderson.

Bro. D. R. CHICHGAR gave notice of a motion for a fund to be raised by the issue of debentures for the lease, hiring, or building of a new Masonic Hall for the use of both the Constitutions.

The GRAND MASTER expressed thanks to the brethren who had come from long distances to attend the festival.

Bro. Thomas played on the harmonium during the ceremonies of the evening.

The brethren then adjourned to the banqueting hall, where the festival in honour of St. Andrew was celebrated.

The toast of "The Pious Memory of St. Andrew," among several loyal and Constitutional toasts, was fully done justice to, after which the brethren separated at a late hour.

Obituary.

BRO. THE EARL OF BECTIVE, P.G.M. CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

Few brethren have rendered such signal services to the Craft as the distinguished brother whose death on the morning of the 15th inst., though in the immediate circle of his family it may not have been wholly unexpected, has come upon us so suddenly. Though he had not yet attained his 50th year, Bro. the Earl of Bective was quite a veteran among the members of our Order, having been initiated during his academic career at Oxford, while yet a minor, in the Apollo University Lodge at Oxford in the year 1863. Two years later he was the principal founder and first Master of the Underley Lodge, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, and so ably did he acquit himself in the duties of his office that he was re-elected for a second term. In 1867, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the Prov. Grand Mastership of Cumberland and Westmorland, Bro. the Earl of Zetland, then Most Worshipful Grand Master, appointed his lordship—who then bore the country

title of Lord Kenlis—to that important post. In 1869 he became a joining member of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, while in the same year he had the pleasure of consecrating Lodge No. 1267, Egremont, to which, out of respect to their P.G. Master, the founders gave as its name the title by which he was then known. Six years later another lodge bearing the name of "Bective" was consecrated, while the total number placed on the roll during the 26 years of his P.G. Mastership was nine, or not very far short of 100 per cent. of what it was at the date of his appointment. For many years also he was the representative at our Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Greece, having been chosen to fill that honourable position by his Highness Prince Rhodocanakis, the then Grand Master of Masons in that kingdom. His lordship was likewise a Royal Arch Mason, was first M.E.Z. of the Bective Chapter, No. 1074, Kirkby Lonsdale, and subsequently G. Superintendent of the province. In Mark Masonry he was a joining member of the Cumberland Lodge, No. 60 Carlisle, a Past S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge, and since 1872 had held the office of Prov. Grand Mark Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, thus combining in his own person the headship as regards these two counties in the Craft, Arch, and Mark Degrees. As regards the other branches of Freemasonry, it was under his auspices that the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine was re-organised and placed upon a stable footing, and it was in recognition of his valuable aid in this respect that he was elected to fill the chief position in the Order—that of Most Illustrious G.S. He was also Hon. President of the Rosicrucian Society, so that it will be generally admitted that the circle of his Masonic duties was an extensive one, and though during the last few years of his life the state of his health forbade him taking a very active part in the performance of those many and various duties which devolved upon him, yet to the very last he continued to exhibit a deep interest in all that related to Freemasonry, nor is it such a very long while since that we recorded in these columns his presence at a meeting of his Prov. Grand Lodge. But he was not only an able ruler; he was an hospitable one, and on two occasions he received and entertained the members of his province at Underley Hall, his seat, near Kirkby Lonsdale; while, as regards our Charitable Institutions, he was a Vice-President of the Boys' School, a Life Governor of the Girls' School and Benevolent Institution, and had served Stewardships for the two Schools. As for his extra-Masonic career, his lordship was Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion Border Regiment, a J.P. and D.L. for Westmorland, of which he served as High Sheriff in 1868, and represented the county in Parliament from 1871 till the General Election in 1892. But he was less the politician than the country gentleman, and devoted much of his energy to agriculture. Indeed, some years ago, he was among the most successful breeders of Shorthorns, and when they were all the rage, his most notable specimens of this class of cattle realised almost fabulous prices. Lastly, our deceased brother, who was born the 11th February, 1844, was the eldest son of Bro. the Marquis of Headfort—who for several years past has held the office of S.G.W. of the Grand Lodge of Ireland—by his marriage with the daughter of W. Thompson, M.P., a banker of Kendal, M.P., Alderman and Lord Mayor of the City of London, and for many years Treasurer of Christ's Hospital, and it was from his mother that Lord Bective derived his property in Westmorland.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, a considerable number of the officers and members of the province being present to pay their last tribute of respect to their departed chief.

BRO. WILLIAM FOULSHAM.

We have to record the death of Bro. Wm. Foulsham, P.P.J.G.W. Northumberland, a founder and P.M. of the Old England Lodge, No. 1790, which took place at Thornton Heath, Surrey. The late brother had taken a very active part in Craft and other branches of Masonry for the past 50 years. He was a P.M. of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge, No. 24, and other lodges in the Province of Northumberland. Before leaving Newcastle he presented a large number of rare and useful books on Freemasonry to one of the lodges there, which are designated the "Foulsham Library." He was the Treasurer of the Old England Lodge during the past 14 years, and was held by the brethren in great esteem and respect. Bro. Foulsham was interred on the 9th instant at the Croydon Cemetery in the presence of a large gathering, among whom was the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Corporation of Croydon. The following brethren attended the funeral, and discharged their last duty to a brother, viz.: Bros. G. S. Horsnail, P.M. 1790, and W. H. Ransom, P.M. 1790 (Executors); F. Lashwood (Solicitor); Hobbs, Fleming, Baber, Kilvington, Pascall, Sergeant, Ridpath, Whittaker, and Symmons, all P.M.s. of 1790; Tarry, Tancock, Hopekirk, White, Bolton, Bush, Pearson, Horsnail, jun., Sec. 1790, and many other brethren and friends. The brethren wore sprigs of acacia, which they cast on the coffin at the end of the service. A beautiful wreath from the W.M., Past Masters, and brethren of the Old England Lodge was placed with other wreaths on the grave.



The usual New Year's Entertainment to the Old Folks at Croydon will take place on Wednesday, the 3rd January.

Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, who have been entertaining a numerous party of guests at Hardwick Hall, will spend Christmas at Chatsworth.

Bro. Wm. A. Baskcomb was admitted an Associate of the Community of St. Peter after Evensong on the 8th inst., in the Private Chapel of St. Peter's Home, at Maybury, Woking.

Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., left London on Wednesday on a yachting tour in the Mediterranean, and, as he will be absent from England for some weeks, has paired till the 16th February.

It is satisfactory to hear that the Princess of Wales, who was detained last week at Sandringham by an attack of illness, which ultimately proved to be influenza, has been progressing favourably, and we trust that her progress towards recovery may be continued.

The first-class battle-ship Resolution, which is in all respects larger than the unfortunate Victoria, sailed for the Mediterranean, on Monday, among her forces being Lord Gillford, son of Admiral the Earl of Clanwilliam and flag-lieutenant of the late Admiral Sir George Tryon.

We regret to hear that Bro. Sir George Elliot, Bart., Prov. Grand Master of South Wales (East Division) is lying in a critical condition of health at his residence in Portland-place. He was seriously ill during his recent visit to Newport (Mon.), and his journey to London since has greatly aggravated his case.

The Gresham Committee of the Royal Exchange have commissioned Mr. R. W. Macbeth to paint a picture commemorative of the opening of the Exchange by her Majesty. The picture will occupy one of the panels, and the cost will be defrayed by Mr. Deputy Snowdon, who has generously undertaken to do so.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg and her children and escorted as far as the station by Prince Henry, left Windsor Castle for Osborne on Monday, travelling by the London and South-Western system *via* Basingstoke to Gosport, whence they embarked for Cowes. Prince Henry will join the Queen and Princess before the end of the week.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Sir Philip Currie, G.C.B., to be Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, in succession to Sir Clare Ford, who has taken the place of the late Lord Vivian, as Ambassador of Rome. Sir Philip has been Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs since 1889, and is well conversant with the Eastern Question in all its various phases.

The annual assault-at-arms and distribution of prizes in connection with the South Middlesex Rifle Volunteers was held at Chelsea Town Hall on Tuesday evening under the presidency of the Earl of Cadogan. A very encouraging statement was made by Col. Gray as to the efficiency of the Corps, and Major-General Lord Methuen having presented the Volunteers' Decoration to Major Todd, the prizes were distributed by the Countess of Cadogan.

The distribution of prizes to the successful pupils of the Birkbeck Institution took place under the presidency of Bro. Lord Mayor Tyler, among those present to witness the interesting function being Lord Reay, who congratulated the management on the progress of the Institution; Lord Playfair, who distributed the prizes; Lord Northbrook, who moved the thanks of the meeting to Lord Playfair for his kindness in attending; and many others who are interested in the progress of this excellent Institute.

The Duke of Cambridge made his half-yearly inspection of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, on Saturday last. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Col. Viscount Downe, A.D.C., Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. Gipps (Military Secretary), and other officers, and was met on his arrival at the College by the Governor, Lieut.-Gen. E. H. Clive, the Duke of Connaught being also present. The Cadets went through their duties satisfactorily, and were complimented by the Duke, who returned to town, after lunching with the Governor.

The Metropolitan Hospital Kingsland-road, N.E., is situated in the heart of the poor and densely-populated district of Shoreditch, Haggerston, Hackney, Bethnal Green, Hoxton, Dalston and De Beauvoir Town, it receives a very large number of accidents and casualties of all kinds, and the demands made on its resources, medical and surgical, are incessant and urgent. That the hospital is needed in its present position is shown by the fact that both the in and out-patients have been steadily on the increase for several years past, the numbers treated last year being in-patients 894, out-patients' attendances 71,754. In spite of this good work the Committee this year were obliged to obtain £4000 on mortgage, as the adverse balance of £3651 on January 1st, 1892 had increased at the end of the year to £5531. It is deplorable that the work of the Charity should be crippled for lack of funds, owing to which several beds have had to be closed, leaving only 54 now available for in-patients, although there is accommodation for 160. Many urgent cases have, therefore, constantly to be refused admission, and unless money is immediately forthcoming, it will be necessary to still further reduce the number of beds. We are sure that the public will readily respond to the Committee's urgent appeal for help, and contributions should be forwarded to the Secretary at the hospital, or to the bankers, Messrs. Glyn, Mills & Co., 67, Lombard-street, E.C.

"A FRIEND IN DEED is better than a friend in need," states the new version of the old proverb. A friend in deed is of substantial services, whilst the friend in need expects to be of it is not always convenient to confer. A friend in deed always turns up at the right moment with kindly aid, and at Christmastide he is especially active, showing that his wish for peace on earth and good-will towards men is heartily sincere. The proprietor of Holloway's Pills and Ointment is a friend in deed to humanity. Their merits are known throughout the world, and at this season they prevent or cure influenza, rheumatics, and all complaints of the chest, throat and stomach.

Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Zetland will entertain a numerous party of guests at their seat, Aske Hall, New Richmond (Yorks.), during Christmas week.

An excellent likeness of Bro. Dr. Pigott, D.C.L., P.A.G.D.C., appears in this week's *Illustrated Church News*, and another with an interview with the Doctor in the *Charity Record*.

After the regular meeting of the New Temple Preceptory, No. 117, of Knights Templar, held at the Inns of Court Hotel on the 14th inst., the priory of Knights of Malta was opened, and several candidates were installed, the ceremony being ably rendered by Sir Knight Major T. W. Richardson, the E. Prior.

Brethren are invited to send for the list of Masonic Books published at the office of the *Freemason*. Many works of interest both to the Masonic student and general reader have recently been added, and the publisher will gladly forward a copy to any address on receipt of a post-card.

Two veteran military officers have recently died, namely, General Charles Elmhurst, C.B., who entered the service in 1835, and took part in the first Afghan War, the Crimean War, and the Indian Mutiny; and Lieut. Gen. W. Wilby, C.B., who saw active service in the Crimean and the Abyssinian Expedition, under Gen. Sir Robert Napier, afterwards Lord Napier, of Magdala.

Members of the Middlesex County Council had an opportunity at their meeting on Thursday of viewing the wedding present of the shire to the Duke and Duchess of York, which had been placed in one of the committee rooms at the Guildhall, Westminster. It consists of a silver dinner service of 13 pieces, which had belonged to the Spanish Ambassador in this country in 1791.

The Worshipful Company of Paviers and their friends held a meeting on Monday evening, in the Butchers' Hall, which was kindly lent them for the occasion, for the purpose of taking steps to organise arrangements for the technical training in the art of paving. The chair was occupied by the W. Master, who was supported by the Past Master and Upper Warden, Bro. Deputy Rose-Innes and many of the Court and Livery of the Company.

General regret is felt at the death from typhoid fever of Mr. T. C. Edwards Moss, who signalled himself on so many occasions in the aquatic world. The deceased was one of the best oarsmen that Eton and Oxford have produced. Four years in succession he rowed against Cambridge, in two of which Oxford won, while Cambridge was victorious in one of the remaining years, while in the other the race resulted in a dead-heat. At Henley, in 1877 and 1878, he won the Diamond Sculls twice, and the Silver Goblets, with W. A. Ellison, once.

THE OLDEST FREEMASON.—Bro. the Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, of Bearwood, Berkshire, is supposed to be the oldest Freemason in England. The reverend baronet was initiated in 1819, the year the Queen and the Duke of Cambridge were born, and consequently he has been 74 years a member of the Masonic Order. He was made a Grand Chaplain by the late Earl of Zetland in 1844. There are only two brethren living of senior standing as Grand Officers, namely, the Moolvie Mahomed Ismael Khan, who was Senior Grand Warden in 1836, and the Chevalier Bernard Hebel, who filled the same office in 1839.

The Registrar-General's returns for last week show that in London the mortality from influenza, diphtheria, and diseases of the respiratory organs is either on the increase or considerably above the average. Influenza caused 164 deaths as against 127 on the preceding week; diphtheria was responsible for 85 deaths, or more than double the average; while 711 deaths arose from diseases affecting the respiratory organs, showing a decline of 130 from the previous week, but still showing an excess on the average of 254. The death rate from all cases was 29.1, or two less than the week before, and for the 33 principal towns in England and Wales 26.6.

A numerous deputation from the Principality of Wales waited upon the Duke and Duchess of York, at York House, St. James's, on Saturday last for the purpose of presenting their Royal Highnesses with the wedding gift of the Welsh people. The deputation included Lord Aberdare, Mr. Lewis Morris, Bro. Sir David Evans, Mr. R. Davis, M.P.; Mr. A. Thomas, M.P.; Sir G. Osborne Morgan, M.P.; Bro. Col. Cornwallis West, and others. The Duke thanked them for their kindly gift, which consisted of a huge centre-piece of solid gold and silver from the Welsh mountains, measuring five feet long and two feet high, and weighing 3000 ounces.

The points of the Christmas attractions at the Aquarium for the holidays are: The French Fair, Adelina Antonio's mid-air feats, the boxing bear and boxing kangaroo, Florenz troupe of Italian acrobats, Prince Rivali's wonderful fire feats, the great dive through the roof, wonderful high wire feats by Delvantis Levenes and others, the Japanese Chyokichis and wife, walking on drawn swords, Sullivan lifting a horse, carriage, and four people, and in fact the following turns will give some idea of the resources of the Aquarium management. Here are pantomimists, performing animals, gymnasts, serio-comics, acrobats, prestidigitateurs, leg maniacs, solo instrumentalists, danseuses, jugglers, contortionists, monkey performers, sword walkers, strong men, sketch comedians, stage tank performers, funambulists, salamanders, ventriloquists, pedestal dancers, club boot dancers, mid-air and high rope artists, the three champion divers of the world, and the gigantic French Fair.

CANCER HOSPITAL (FREE), FULHAM-ROAD, S.W.—We desire to draw the attention of our readers to the claims of this valuable special hospital on their support. Founded in 1851, its work has gone on increasing year by year. During last year there were 811 new in-patients, and 1289 new out-patients, whilst some 9279 visits of new and old out-patients were made during the same period. Within the last 12 months several important additions have been made to this hospital, involving a considerable outlay, including the erection of a chapel, relaying the floors of four wards with teak, building a kitchen, nurses' bed-room and bath-room for the isolation wards, providing additional sleeping accommodation for the nurses, and making certain sanitary alterations in the hospital. Unfortunately the continued increase in the number of patients is a source of corresponding increase in the expenditure. The Secretary, Mr. W. H. Hughes, will be glad to receive contributions to meet this, and we would strongly urge those benevolent persons who may be disposed to help in this good work to send their donations to him.

The Worshipful Company of Liners, of which H. Sotheman, Esq., is master, will hold a Court dinner at Stationers' Hall, on Monday, 15th January, to meet the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs.

The "Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book," which must be indispensable to earnest members of the Craft, is issued by Mr. George Kenning, of Great Queen-street.—*Morning Post*.

The Speaker of the House of Commons, who has been unable to fulfil his duties for several days past by an attack of influenza, has been reported to be not quite so well as in the earlier part of the week, owing mainly to the weakness from which he suffers.

The Emperor William of Germany has sent a present of 250 marks out of his privy purse to the official who gave the notice to the authorities which led to the arrest of the two French officers who have just been condemned as spies by the Imperial High Court of Justice at Leipzig.

Bro. Lieut. R. J. Wishart, P.M. 1789, P.Z. 407, and Z. 515, was elected, on the 11th inst., W.M. of the Zetland Lodge, No. 515, Malta. His Masonic friends, of which there are a number in South London, will be pleased to hear of the election. Plenty of work is in store for Bro. Wishart, several candidates were proposed for initiation, as also brethren for joining.

Many of our readers have heard with much regret of the serious illness, from pneumonia following influenza, of Bro. Dr. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D. We are glad to say, however, that during the past week a decided improvement has taken place, and, from enquiries made this (Friday) morning, we hear that the patient is able to sit up in bed, and is making rapid progress towards recovery. The doctor's genial presence has been greatly missed in Masonic circles lately.

The marriage of the Hon. Norman M. Sinclair, brother and heir-presumptive of the Earl of Caithness, with Lilian, second daughter of Mr. Higford, of Eaton-place, was celebrated in St. Peter's Church, Eaton-square, on Thursday. The Archdeacon of London officiated, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Charles A. Sinclair, brother of the bridegroom. Mr. Higford gave his daughter away. The Earl of Caithness was best man, and the two bridesmaids were Lady Mary Sinclair, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Katherine Higford, sister of the bride.

Bro. Samuel Lewis, of Aldersgate-street, has been the recipient of a very gratifying testimonial from the sergeants and constables of the City of London Police as a mark of esteem and a token of their gratitude for the efforts made by Bro. Lewis to secure for them an increase of pay, and for other services rendered. The testimonial took the form of a handsome silver cup, which will doubtless always be a pleasant reminder of successful efforts made to benefit a most deserving and popular body of men. In connection with this event a portrait of Bro. Lewis has been taken by the London Stereoscopic Society, of Cheapside and Regent-street. Bro. Lewis is a member of the William Shurmer Lodge, No. 2374.

We regret to record the death, at his residence, Danebury, New Malden, Surrey, of Bro. Harry Monyns Hartcup, the youngest son of Mr. Hartcup, J.P., of Upland Hall, Bungay, which occurred rather suddenly on Tuesday, the 14th inst., from typhoid fever, following upon an attack of influenza. Bro. H. M. Hartcup was admitted a solicitor in the year 1887, and was in practice with Mr. H. N. Davis, Fitzalan House, Arundel-street, Strand, under the style of Hartcup and Davis. He was a Past Master of the Waveney Lodge, No. 929, Bungay. Our deceased brother was unmarried, and was 42 years of age. The body was interred in Ditchingham Churchyard.

The Victoria Hospital for Children is one of those peculiar institutions that calls forth all the sympathy of which, we trust, every human being has a share, and it scarcely needs the promptings of a season of tenderness and pity, such as Christmas brings forth, to enforce its claims. The many demands on the generosity of the public at this season are manifest, and we feel sure that the children will not be overlooked. The noble work done by this institution is evidenced by the fact that since it was founded in 1866, 629,711 out-patients and 13,210 in-patients have been treated. It will be remembered in connection with this institution that, in June of last year, a convalescent home was opened at Broadstairs, the ceremony being performed by her Royal Highness the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne, who both expressed their gratification not only that a convalescent home had been established, but at the great work which the hospital was performing.

Dr. Barnardo's "Night and Day" for December has a well-varied list of contents, and appeals to every class of readers at this Christmas season. "The Message of the Bells: A True Tale of Christmas," occupies the place of honour. It is a touching and instructive story of the rescue of a girl waif some time ago from the lowest district of East End slumdom. Its moral is pointed and its lesson brought to date by the record of a painful tragedy reported in the press only a year ago. So long as such cases can be referred to there is work and to spare for Homes such as Dr. Barnardo's. The "Personal Notes" are filled with rescue cases, illustrated from realistic photographs. The story of Harry Jeffries shows to demonstration what splendid opportunities the Institutions open up to well-behaved lads, however sunken may have been their original surroundings. Dr. Barnardo vigorously protests against a recent paragraph in the English press reporting a presentment on the part of a grand jury in Manitoba distinctly directed against the Emigration work of the Homes. "As a matter of incontrovertible fact," he states on official authority, "less than two per cent. of all our young emigrants are failures, and only a fraction of one per cent. has been added to the vicious or criminal population of Canada." A curious little calculation indicates that the Canadian emigrants already sent out by the Homes consume some £120,000 worth of British goods per annum! The Homes at present shelter nearly 5000 boys and girls. Such a family demands very special remembrance at this Christmas season on the part of sympathisers all over the United Kingdom.

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