

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. XXXIII. NO. 1346]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1894.

[PRICE 3^d.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Wednesday evening, Comp. W. W. B. Beach, President; Comp. Col. Townley, Caldwell, was G.H.; and Comp. Rev. C. W. Spencer Stanhope, G.J. Comps. E. Letchworth, G.S.E.; Sir Reg. Hanson, as G.S.N.; W. B. Colman, G.P.S.; G. Read, 1st A.G.S.; Sir G. D. Harris, 2nd A.G.S.; Robt. Grey, T. L. Wilkinson, Geo. Everett, C. H. Driver, Dr. Strong, Lennox Browne, W. M. Bywater, J. S. Bastes, R. Clowes, Frank Richardson, C. F. Hogard, J. E. Le Feuvre, Col. Money, Baron de Ferrieres, Walter Hopekirk, T. C. Walls, Thomas Fenn, J. H. Matthews, S. Vallentine, S. V. Abraham, H. J. P. Dumas, T. Minstrell, F. Hilton, and several other companions were present.

The Minutes of the last Quarterly Convocation were read and confirmed.

The Committee of General Purposes reported that in compliance with the resolution of Grand Chapter, the Rose of Sharon Chapter, No. 1006, St. Day, Scorrer, which had returned its charter, has been formally summoned to show cause why it should not be erased.

The Committee have likewise to report that they have received the following petitions:

1st. From Comps. Surgeon-Major Johnston Shearer as Z.; Captain Maitland Cowper as H.; Cooverjee Cursetjee Mehta as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Devon Lodge, No. 1999, Jullundur, to be called the Jullundur Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Rooms, Jullundur, Punjab.

2nd. From Comps. Francis Powell, as Z.; Edward Barrington Stephens, as H.; Henry Moody, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Lord Charles Beresford Lodge, No. 2404, Chatham, to be called the Royal Naval and Military Chapter, and to meet at the Sun Hotel, Chatham, in the county of Kent.

3rd. From Comps. Francis William Wright, as Z.; George Frederick Baker, as H.; John Beavis Groom, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Robinson Lodge, No. 2046, to be called the Montreal Chapter, and to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, Brewer-street, Maidstone, in the county of Kent.

4th. From Comps. Maurice Barnett as Z.; George Robert Gordon as H.; Albert Edward Harte as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Charters Towers Lodge, No. 1546, Charters Towers, to be called the Charters Towers Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Charters Towers, Queensland.

5th. From Comps. Frederick Bourne as Z.; William Francis Flavell as H.; George Livingstone Chrystal as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the Raphael Lodge, No. 1850, Roma, to be called the Raphael Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Roma, Queensland.

6th. From Comps. Harry Frederick Pollock as Z.; Samuel Septimus Mossop as H.; John Hardy Carter as J.; and nine others for a chapter to be attached to the Alexandra Lodge, No. 985, Sutton Bridge, to be called the Edward Albert Chapter, and to meet at the Bridge Hotel, Sutton Bridge, in the county of Lincoln.

7th. From Comps. Henry Lovegrove, as Z.; Edwin William Lewcock, as H.; Frederick Atkinson Powell, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Hiram Lodge, No. 2416, to be called "The Hiram Chapter," and to meet at the Freemasons' Hall, London.

The foregoing petitions being in all respects regular, the Committee recommend that the prayers thereof be respectively granted.

The Committee have also received memorials, with extracts of minutes, for permission to remove the following chapters:

The De Swinburne Chapter, No. 24, from the Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street West, to the Masonic Hall, Shakespeare-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The Eytton Chapter of St. John, No. 601, from the Charlton Arms Hotel, to the Wrekin Hotel, Wellington, Shropshire.

The Urmston Chapter, No. 1730, from the Masonic Hall, to the Longford Coffee House, Chester Road, Stretford, Lancaster, W.D.

The Committee recommended that the removal of the above-named chapters be sanctioned.

The Committee likewise reported:

1st. That the last exaltation in the Pythagorean Chapter, No. 447, Corfu, according to the last return, was on the 21st November, 1865, and that the lodge to which the chapter was attached was erased by Grand Lodge on 6th June, 1894.

2nd. That the last exaltation in the Wellington Union Chapter, No. 517, Wellington, N.Z., according to the last return, was on the 5th October, 1882, and that the lodge to which it was attached was erased by Grand Lodge on the 5th September, 1894.

The Committee recommended that both chapters be summoned to show cause why they should not be formally erased.

The Annesley Chapter, No. 1435, Nottingham, having exalted a companion within 12 months from the date of his raising, previously to the alteration of the law, the Committee ordered the companion to be re-obligated, and the chapter to be admonished.

The above report was agreed to, with the exception of the item concerning the Rose of Sharon Chapter, which was deferred till next meeting, the Committee having just received a petition from the companions of that chapter.

Grand Chapter was then closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSETSHIRE.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Bridport, on Tuesday, the 30th ult., and largely attended, notwithstanding the fact that other important county arrangements prevented the attendance of many of the brethren. The proceedings commenced at 12.30, in the Congregational Schoolroom, and the members of St. Mary's Lodge had made adequate arrangements for the accommodation and comfort of the brethren. In the absence of the P.G.M. (Bro. Montague Guest), Bro. W. E. Brymer, M.P., D.P.G.M., presided, and the various chairs were filled as follows: Bros. Herbert J. Groves, Prov. S.G.W.; W. J. Fletcher, acting Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. P. G. U. Pickering, acting Prov. J.G.W.; R. D. Thornton, Prov. G. Chap.; Russell Patey, Prov. G. Reg.; Robert Case, Prov. G. Sec.; G. Hobbs, Prov. S.G.D.; G. Cross, Prov. J.G.D.; H. B. Frampton, Prov. G.S. of W.; A. Cherry, Prov. G.D. of C.; W. James, Prov. G.S.B.; E. Skivington, Prov. G. Org.; F. W. Board, Prov. G. Purst; A. Rayner, W. Frost, O. M. Beament, and J. Blamey, Prov. G. Stwds.; and R. Simmonds, Prov. G. Tyler.

The following P.P.G. Officers also signed the roll:

Bros. W. D. Dugdale, P.P.S.G.W.; S. R. Baskett, P.P.G. Reg.; C. J. Freeman, P.P.G. Supt. Wks.; G. J. G. Gregory, P.P.S.G.W.; Zillwood Milledge, P.P.J.G.W.; Wal. J. Fletcher, P.P.S.G.W.; H. B. G. Frampton, P.P.G. Reg.; G. F. Stokes, P.P.G.D.C.; W. H. Kerley, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Andrews, P.P.J. G.W.; R. Toleman, P.P.G. Purst.; and J. Radford, P.P.J.G.D. The lodges of the province were represented by the following brethren: Bros. Wm. Davis, Amity Lodge; J. Howard Bowen, S.W. All Soul's Lodge; A. Page, W.M., C. F. Yearsley, S.W., and J. J. Lawrence, Unity Lodge; J. F. Young, W.M., A. Knight, S.W., J. S. Schollar, and W. Talbot, Tyler, Faith and Unanimity Lodge; P. J. Gavin, S.W., and N. Benjafield, I.P.M. Friendship and Sincerity Lodge; E. H. Wallis, S.W., R. C. Radford, S. S. Hasluck, H. R. Morgan, and J. Grove, Montagu Lodge; H. N. Cox, J.W., W. Clibborn, S.D., W. L. Matthews, J.D., W. H. Marshall, I.G., F. J. D. Reid, G. A. Samson, E. Cox, T. Giles, F. Matthews, and F. Cooper, St. Mary's Lodge; D. J. Lawson, I.P.M., S. G. Osmond, G. Baker, J. Duscherer, S. H. Wallis, and J. Cooke, Tyler, Portland Lodge; F. Burt, W.M., and H. W. White, De Moulham Lodge; W. G. Pragnall, S.W., A. Gates, I.G., J. T. L. McAdam, I.P.M., W. Roberts, and Himbury, Tyler, Benevolence Lodge; R. Gill, S.W., and W. B. Alexander, Honour and Friendship Lodge; W. Oxley, S.W., W. R. Pile, Sec., G. Roberts, J.D., C. Toleman, H. Maunders, A. Hann, R. R. Samson, and G. B. Savage, Tyler, Beamister Manor Lodge. Visiting brethren: Bros. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. Davis, Hereford; J. Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I.; and F. Luxton.

The roll of lodges having been called, and the minutes of the last Provincial Grand Lodge held at Weymouth confirmed, the Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. P. G. U. Pickering, delivered an eloquent lecture, after which the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. R. Case, read a number of letters from brethren who had been prevented from attending.

On the motion of the D.P.G.M., an address of congratulation to H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. on the birth of a grandson was adopted.

The D.P.G.M. then addressed the brethren on the progress of the Craft and general business of the province, in the course of his remarks alluding in feeling terms to the brethren who had died during the year.

Other business connected with the Provincial Grand Lodge was transacted, including the receiving of the reports of the Charity Organisation and Dorset Masonic Charity Committees, and the voting of £20 to the latter Charity, and £21 to R.M.B.I. Bro. Dugdale, who has acted as Steward of the province to the R.M.B.I. for so many years, and with much zeal and success, was again nominated.

The following were invested as Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Major McAdam	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. J. Roper	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. P. G. U. Pickering	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" R. D. Thornton (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" R. Case (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. Roberts	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Blamey	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" C. Coleman	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. J. Lawrence	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. B. Alexander	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" H. Maunders	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. W. White	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" C. F. Yearsley	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" A. Knight	...	...
" P. J. Gavin	...	...
" R. C. Cave	...	...
" R. Gill	...	...
" W. Oxley	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" S. C. Vye	...	...

The usual votes of thanks having been accorded to the W.M. and brethren of the receiving lodge for their hospitality, &c., the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed with the usual ceremony. Luncheon followed at the Town Hall, and the customary toasts were drunk. The proceedings throughout were of a very pleasant character.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY.

The first meeting of this newly-constituted province was held at the Masonic Temple, St. Peter's Port, on Wednesday, the 31st ult. It was a special meeting convened by the Prov. Grand Master for the purpose of submitting to Provincial Grand Lodge the by-laws drawn up and prepared by the Committee appointed for that purpose. The following Provincial Grand Officers were present: Bros. E. C. Ozanne, Deputy P.G.M.; Col. Guyon, P.S.G.W.; J. B. Gardner, P.J.G.W.; J. T. Lainé, P.G. Treas.; R. G. Smythson, P.G. Sec.; T. M. Bichard, P.S.G.D.; W. H. Lovell, P.J.G.D.; G. F. Peek, P.G. Supt. of Wks.; H. Wilkins, P.G.D.C.; J. B. Nicholls, P.A.G.D.C.; A. J. Riley and J. L. Ogier, P.G. Std. Brs.; T. G. Barnes, P.G. Org.; R. B. Rowcliffe, P.G. Purst.; Lieutenant W. Simpson, P.A.G. Purst.; A. W. de Jausserand, Lieut. Hancock, H. L. Doras, H. M. Bichard, and J. S. Bath, P.G. Stwds.; and H. Bowden, Tyler.

The brethren of the province mustered in strong force. With the exception of Alderney, and this was owing to bad weather, all the W.Ms. of the lodges were present, and they were accompanied by all their Past Masters and Wardens; in fact, a more representative gathering could not have been brought together. The Masonic Hall of the Temple was as crowded as it could conveniently be.

The proceedings commenced with the investment of Bro. J. B. Gardner as P.J.G.W. Bro. Gardner had unfortunately been windbound in his yacht at the time of the P.G. Master's installation—his duties, however, had been temporarily taken up by Bro. Stickland, a P.P.G.W.

The by-laws were then read out by the P.G. SECRETARY—one by one.

The discussion following was naturally a little animated on some points, but on the whole it was fairly and very decorously conducted.

Bro. E. C. OZANNE, D.P.G.M., in the unavoidable absence of Bro. F. Clarke, P.G. Reg., kindly expounded the Constitution whenever a question arose, so that all was satisfactorily arranged.

Before closing, the P.G.M. took occasion to thank Bro. F. Clarke, P.G. Registrar, for his generosity and public spirit in publishing and issuing for private circulation a very neat and correct record of the "Inauguration of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Guernsey and Alderney."

The proceedings then terminated. If a crowded meeting and a keen interest in all the proceedings are auguries of success, as they undoubtedly are, Bro. Dr. Balfour Cockburn has every reason to be exceedingly gratified with that, the first meeting of his province.

BRO. SADLER'S COMMENTS ON BRO. JACOB NORTON'S MASONIC HISTORY.

By BRO. G. BLIZARD ABBOTT.

I have read with a considerable amount of interest—as indeed I read whatever emanates from the pen of the brother in question—Bro. Sadler's "Comments on Bro. Jacob Norton's Masonic History," as quoted from the *Masonic Review* of Cincinnati in the *Freemason* of the 27th ult.; and as I have been engaged for some time past in extracting from the "Athol" official records all matters that are calculated to throw light upon the career of Laurence Dermott, Grand Secretary 1752-71 of the "Ancient" Society of Freemasons of England, and subsequently during two separate terms of service its Deputy Grand Master, I am able to supplement the information contained in those Comments by references to Royal Arch Masonry and other matters, which he (Bro. Sadler) has either overlooked or left unnoticed.

The earliest reference to Royal Arch Masonry in the "Ancient" Minutes is contained in the record of the Proceedings of their Grand Committee on the 4th March, 1752, when sundry brethren "made formal complaint against Thomas Phealon and John Macky better known by the name of the leg of mutton Masons. In course of the examination, it appeared that Phealon and Macky had initiated many persons for the mean consideration of a leg of mutton for Dinner or Supper to the disgrace of the Ancient Craft, that it was difficult to discover who assisted them, if any, as they seldom met twice in the same alehouse. That Macky was an Empiric in phisic and both Impostors in Masonry. That upon examining some brothers whom they pretended to have made Royal Arch Men, the parties had not the least idea of that Secret. That Doctor Mackey (for so he was called) pretended to teach a Masonical Art by which every man could (in a moment) render himself invisible. That the Grand Secretary had Examined Mackey at the house of Mr. James Duffy, Tobacconist in East Smithfield, who was not a Mason, and that Mackey appeared incapable of making an Apprentice with any degree of propriety. Nor had Mackey the least idea or knowledge of Royal Arch Masonry. But instead thereof he had told the people whom he deceived a long story about 12 White Marble Stones, &c., &c., and that the Rainbow was the Royal Arch, with many other absurdities equally foreign and ridiculous."

The next references, bearing date the 2nd September, 1752, and 2nd March, 1757, respectively, are quoted by Bro. Sadler, and then we come upon the following in an explanatory note appended by Dermott to the minutes of the 5th September, 1759. It appears that a William Carroll, a certified sojourner, had been relieved by private subscription among members of Grand Lodge, and the following memorandum is added: "Bro. W. Carroll reported he had applied for relief to the Modern Grand Lodge and been refused, and that Mr. Spencer, the Secretary to the Modern Society, sent out the answer to Carroll's petition in the following words: 'Your being an Ancient Mason, you are not intitled to any of our Charity. The Ancient Masons have a lodge at the five Bells in the Strand, and their Secretary's

name is Dermott. Our Society is neither Arch, Royal Arch, or Ancient, so that you have no right to partake of our Charity.' The petitioner Carroll delivered the original paper written by Mr. Spencer to Mr. Dermott, G. Sec., in whose custody it remains."*

The minutes of the Grand Lodge held on the 4th September, 1771 record, among other matters, the following:

"The G. Sec." (W. Dickey) "having obtained an audience, moved that the following Question shall be put to the General Lodge—'Is His Grace the Duke of Atholl Grand Master of Masons in every Respect?' this being put by the D.G.M. it was unanimously answer'd in the affirmative. The Secy. return'd thanks and then informed them that he was happy to have it confirmed by the Grand Lodge as he had several times heard it advanced that the Grand Master had no right to inspect into the proceedings of the *Royal Arch*—further that the Sec. had with regret perceiv'd many flagrant abuses of this most sacred part of Masonry and therefore proposed that the Masters and Past Masters of Warranted Lodges be conven'd as soon as possible in order to put this part of Masonry on a solid Basis.

"Resolv'd that a meeting of Masters and Past Masters of the Warranted Lodges shall be held on the 2nd. of Octr. next at 7 o'clock. in the evening on the aforementioned Business."

In the minutes of the 4th Dec., 1771, we read:

"The Rt. Worshipful D.G. Master" (Dermott) "informed the Grand Lodge of the Proceedings of the *Royal Arch* meetings, viz., on the 2nd October and 6th of Novembr. last, and expatiated a long time on the scandalous method pursued by most of the Lodges (on St. John's Day) in passing a number of Brethren through the chair on purpose to obtain the sacred mysteries of the *Royal Arch*, and proved in a concise manner that those proceedings were unjustifiable. Therefore moved for a Regulation to be made in order to suppress them for the future." Thereupon, after it had been pointed out that some brethren by reason of their professions could never attain that part of Masonry, and after praying that the case of all such might be taken into consideration in framing the resolution, it was Unanimously

"Resolved—That no person for the future shall be made a *Royal Arch Mason* but the legal Representatives of the Lodges, except a Brother (who is going abroad) who hath been 12 months a Register'd Mason, and must have the unanimous voice of his Lodge to receive such Qualification, and in order to render this Regulation more expediate it is further Order'd that all Certificates granted to brethren from their respective Lodges shall have inserted the Day the Brother or Brethren joined or was made in such lodge—and that this Regulation take place on St. John's Day, the 27th Dec. 1771.

"The D.G. Master return'd thanks for this new Regulation which would certainly redound honour to all the brethren present, and then informed them there were several Brethren of Different Lodges that had been admitted amongst the *Royal Arch Masons* illegally, and that it would be necessary to take their case into consideration, but as it was concerning the *Royal Arch* he presumed they would leave it to the next Grand Chapter, and they might depend that everything should be pursued for the real honor of the Fraternity. The Grand Lodge having duly weighed the foregoing proposition and considering that several of the members of the Grand Lodge were not *Royal Arch Masons*. It was agreed by the majority that the R.A. Chapter were the properest persons to adjust and determine this matter, and therefore it was agreed that the case should be referred to the *Royal Arch* Chapter with full authority to hear, determine, and adjust the same."

On the 27th December, 1771—D.G. Master Dermott being in the chair of Grand Lodge—it is recorded that

"The Grand Secretary by order read part of the minutes of last Grand Lodge relative to the new Regulation for the *Royal Arch*, which the D.G.M. gave the Brethren (present) to understand that it was to be strictly observed in their respective Lodges, and that a Grand Chapter was to be held on the first Wednesday in Jany. next to finally settle that part of the minutes referred by the Grand Lodge to the said Chapter."

Other references to the *Royal Arch* will be found in the minutes of the Stewards' Lodge (1) of the 19th April, 1775, when it was proved that a Bro. Hume had inserted the words "A *Royal Arch Mason*" in his business Bills "delivered publicly in the streets"; of the 17th July, 1776, when it is recorded that "The D.G. Master" (Dermott), "immediately after he had opened the Stewards' Lodge withdrew to attend a Grand Chapter of the Holy Arch"; and of the 17th March, 1777, when it was charged against a petitioning brother "that he had on a certain occasion withdrawn from the Grand Lodge, and, in conjunction with others, opened a Grand Chapter in defiance of the Grand Lodge."

But I must not trespass further upon your space by quoting other passages upon this point. Let me, therefore, content myself for the present with drawing attention to the conclusions which are obviously to be drawn from these and similar data.

(1). Whencesover and whenever the *Royal Arch* had its origin, it is clear that from the moment of Bro. Dermott's appearance upon the scene as Grand Secretary of the "Ancients," it formed part of their Masonic system. It may have languished at one period and flourished during another, but it was always there.

(2) Whatever may have been subsequently the status of *Royal Arch* Masonry under the "Modern" Grand Lodge, we have it on no less an authority than that of Grand Secretary Spencer, as recorded by Dermott, that that Society in the year 1759 was "neither Arch, Royal Arch, or

*Both this and the reference to the Leg-of-Mutton Masons and their system of *Royal Arch* Masonry are noted in Bro. Hughan's "Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry."

Ancient." There may have been a few Arch Masons amongst the "Moderns," such as Dunckerley, who was exalted in Portsmouth in 1754, but if Spencer was justified in his statement, it was not officially recognised by the "Moderns,"—as I have shown that it was by their "Ancient" rivals—till late in the sixties.

(3) It is clear from the statements both of Dickey and Dermott that the Royal Arch Degree was worked by the "Ancient" lodges under the warrants which gave them power to make, pass, and raise Masons, and it is no more than reasonable to assume that it was not until the "Moderns" patronised the Degree that their rivals deemed it advisable to organise a Grand Chapter in order to regulate its proceedings. We are not, therefore, in a position to form any opinion as to whether the Degree flourished or languished during the earlier career of the "Ancient" Society.

What further I may have to say on this and other points in Bro. Sadler's Comments I will reserve for some future communication.

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY?

Is Freemasonry an eleemosynary organisation, or a religious sect? Was it established, and is it supported for the purpose of giving alms, or spreading a religious doctrine? Certainly, neither the one nor the other. What, then, is it? It is a social brotherhood, having a social and religious aspect. It is meant, by bringing the best men of the community together in social intercourse, to elevate their minds, and improve their manners. By bringing all classes of the community together on a basis of social equality it tends to level upwards. It gives men of ordinary calibre and position an opportunity of mixing with the most refined, intelligent, and illustrious in the community. It teaches men that they can have social enjoyment and relaxation without excess. It teaches men that to gain the respect and esteem of their brethren they must repress their evil propensities, and it forces them to see, whether they like it or not, that there are more noble aspirations in life than they ever dreamt of. It teaches them that while they themselves enjoy the material blessings of this life, they should not be unmindful of their less fortunate brethren, but give sympathy and support; and that though alms-giving is one branch of the great Charity which all Masons should cherish, it is neither the cause nor the object of Freemasonry. There is no association in the world which devotes so much of its funds to relieving the poor as Freemasonry. Is not that enough for the most fastidious, without railing at those who spend a portion of their time and money in social intercourse. Once reduce Freemasonry to a soup kitchen alms-giving organisation, and its doom is sealed. There are many noble institutions which give no alms at all, and yet benefit the human race. With ourselves we have our University and public library, which would do credit to any city in the world. We have our friendly societies, whose benefits are boundless, and many others. Where, then, does alms-giving come in in Freemasonry? Well, alms-giving is a branch of Charity, and Charity, in its widest acceptation, is one of its fundamental principles, if not the leading characteristic of Freemasonry. Just this far and no further. So far from alms-giving constituting the sum total of Charity, we have the dictum of St. Paul, that a man may give his means to the poor and yet have not Charity. Alms-giving, though one of the effects of the beneficent influences of Freemasonry, is neither the purpose for which it was established nor the cause of its stability.—*Australasian Keystone*.

THE SELFISH SIDE OF FREEMASONRY.

Judging from the number of articles that have lately appeared, a good deal of attention has been paid to the subject of woman in regard to Freemasonry. The subject is not one that can be lightly passed over, especially in these days, when women demand a somewhat higher platform of appreciation in an intellectual sense than in the past, albeit retaining an equal measure of womanliness and domestic virtue with their sisters of a bygone era. A recent article, "Masonry and Matrimony," taken from the *Rough Ashlar* and appearing in the *Indian Masonic Review*, dwells somewhat lengthily on a supposed antagonism of women in general to the Order. So implicitly does the writer appear to believe these sentiments, that he views the position of a man in the throes of love before his marriage floundering between a veritable Scylla and Charybdis in respect to his Masonic duty and the discovered dislike in the breast of his betrothed to his obligations to the Order; on the other side, the husband in danger of being harassed by his wife on all occasions where the thought of the one secret she cannot share with him rises up in her mind. For the man who becomes a Freemason before he marries, the writer apparently admits no medium. To the question "which obligation has the preference?" follows the unequivocal reply "that which was first assumed," and he further adds, "unless his wife is prepared to countenance his membership in the Order if she will not agree to leave him his liberty in respect to such oaths he has no right to marry." We cannot quite follow this line of argument. In our experience, the question, if he is a Freemason, would be one of the least likely to arise, and, even if it did, unless the lady be a Roman Catholic, and thereby under the influence of a priesthood antagonistic to the Order, it would scarcely be taken into account. In courtship, there must always be more or less of the "give and take" element. If a man has not sufficient influence in an ordinary way to secure his Freemasonry from uncompromising situations, he would be in other respects a failure in his domestic relations. It is not our intention to enlarge upon the several points of argument brought forward in the article under notice, though the latter portions form a subject somewhat akin to the basis of our paper. Our contemporary in the two concluding paragraphs in question dwells upon men who may be put down as "bad husbands" and "bad Masons." Such would naturally form a "Selfish Freemasonry," but we would view the "Selfish side of Freemasonry" judged from the standard of ordinary virtue where men are both good Masons and husbands. Our wives, sisters and sweethearts, chiefly the former, all resent Freemasonry, more or less, not so much on account of their not being able to

participate in its secrets, as for its being thoroughly selfish from a social point of view. They know full well that for every hour spent in lodge, three is spent in eating, drinking and making merry! In numbers of instances the aid of woman is solicited for the Order. How often do their apt fingers help us in making up portions of our regalia, when a concert or bazaar is to be organised for Masonic Charities? Who are the first asked to assist and whose services more ungrudgingly given? And yet we may go on from year to year depriving our families of our society night after night, without once thinking of affording them a night's amusement or a day's pleasure. There are, of course, instances where a lodge has organised some kind of entertainment for lady friends, but the idea as a general one would be scouted, perhaps, from an apprehension that the Order would lose dignity thereby, or that our wives and lady friends could not meet sufficiently on the level, even for the nonce, without compromising social position. It may be safely argued, however, that if men can meet after lodge in social intercourse and, if need be, forget they ever did so in other places, the fair sex could do the same. The social side of Freemasonry has a mission to perform almost, if not quite, equal to the benevolent, the philanthropic, or the intellectual one. That mission falls very short of fulfilment if the social side of Freemasonry begins and ends at our banquet table, and its influence reaches no further than our stomachs. Many a man looks upon the time spent at lodge as a respite from the calls of domesticity. Does not this reveal a spirit of selfishness entirely unbecoming in a Freemason? Would not Freemasonry exert a better influence in the circle of our homes if a system of entertainment existed in which the members of our families could participate from time to time? By the everlasting banquet, a board lavish with luxuries few of us either get or desire in our private homes, our Order has often suffered in the estimation of the world, and resentment engendered in the bosom of our families. Our rites and ceremonies are held sacred from women, and we Freemasons are naturally jealous to guard our secrets. But when the work of the lodge is over, we should feel that the occasional presence of our wives, sisters, and lady friends would, rather than detract from the dignity of the Order, tend to elevate and increase its sphere of usefulness and rid it of the lasting reproach of selfishness.—*Indian Freemason*.

ANOTHER CELEBRATION.

It seems that another of the Western Grand Lodges has started a movement for the Grand Lodges to unite in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the death of Bro. George Washington at Mount Vernon, where his body lies entombed.

This is to be a sort of pilgrimage. The members of Grand Lodges in full Masonic display are to gather at the tomb of that great patriot, and first among mankind, and a Mason, to do reverence to his character and memory. Such a movement has attractions for men, and Masons in many aspects of their lives are men like unto others. So it may be that many Masons will enthusiastically aid in starting this pilgrimage.

The "Fraternal Congress" at the World's Fair was stimulated by the desire of those brethren who were delighted with the idea of the public notoriety that attends such demonstrations to carry out the proposition of the meeting of such an assemblage of distinguished Masons.

Of course it began in this enthusiastic feeling and ended like all public pretentious gatherings, in going back home.

True, that the Congress talked much, disputed lovingly, came to "certain conclusions" which were published to prove the members did something.

The curious wonderingly stood by and looked, amazed at the Masons. And that was all of it thus far. What may yet come out of the meeting, either for the help or hurt of the Craft, is not yet fully known.

Now a gathering is suggested of a more sedate character. The Craft is to put on its sackcloth and reverently, and in silence, we hope, meet round the tomb of Washington and meditate on the character of Washington.

It is his Masonic character that ought solely to be considered. Instances might be brought in silence, to the minds of the brethren of his distaste and ostentatious show. How reticent, and silent, and modest he was. When, in command of the army of patriots starving and suffering for their country's life he never deviated from that retiring disposition that was one of the real elements of his extraordinary power over men, and the directing force of his often baffled efforts for triumph.

But it is not to be expected that the Grand Lodge members gathered at the tomb of Washington will be at all satisfied with conforming to these traits of Washington's character.

Bands of music, regalia, speeches, banquets, parades, are far more likely to satisfy the Masons who thus meet at the hallowed spot. Would they deem their pilgrimage complete without much more expansive energy in their devotions at the tomb.

Some Mason who is a Grand Chaplain would be sadly dissatisfied if he was not invited to speak, another who is a General would feel deeply slighted if he was not Grand Commander of the procession. Each Grand Lodge that was present would expect some one of its members to be requested to make an address. Thus this tribute to the memory of George Washington might without much effort be an opportunity to give distinction to some distinguished Mason who else would not be known to have been moved by the due reverence to the memory of him, who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," and in the reverence of his brother Masons.

Profane associations of men, men who usually unite in them, are by these means made conspicuous. They never omit to unite in any demonstration in public that will bring them and their society before the public gaze. That is all right. It is the best means to be adopted for the purpose.

But we really think that Freemasonry does not belong to this class. There is a dignity, a power in unostentation, a force, an influence, a respect, true pervading influence in the retiring Masonic character that has made the Fraternity a name that it can never impair except by its spoliation by its following the profane examples that only serve for a time to popularise its ephemeral societies.

The thoughtful Mason who believes in its teachings, and is made true thereby, will not be carried away by these public demonstrations with which Freemasonry does not in spirit unite.

Honour, revere, and testify devotion to the memory of Washington, but do it in the tyled lodge where no doubt of the sincerity of the brethren can ever exist.—*Keystone*.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1894.

Masonic Notes.

Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., had an easy but a pleasant task to fulfil at the recent half-yearly meeting of his Prov. Grand Lodge. Freemasonry has prospered so abundantly in West Yorkshire that as to the condition of the lodges under his rule and the work they are doing, there was nothing but well-merited praise for him to bestow. Again, as to the support which the Province habitually gives to our Masonic Institutions, there was no great need for him to lay much stress upon that. Yet he gladly availed himself of the opportunity afforded by the meeting of thanking them for their loyal efforts to ensure the success of his chairmanship at the Boys' School Festival in June last. He also referred in terms of just encomium to the existence of a Central Masonic Library in the Province, and the services rendered by Bro. W. Watson, and other members in behalf of Masonic literature. These and such other matters as the opening of a new Masonic Hall at Pontefract, and its dedication by his predecessor, Bro. T. W. Tew, engrossed most of his attention. But there was still a little room left in his address for a piece of sound advice, which we trust will have due effect on our West Yorkshire brethren. "Great care," said Bro. Jackson, "should be exercised by every lodge and every brother as to the admission of new men into the Order; their desire being not merely—unwisely as he thought—to seek to increase their

numbers, but to admit only such men as would have their heart in the work, and would reflect honour and credit on the Craft." We commend this good advice to the notice of all our brethren.

We have no intention of inflicting upon our readers a further dose of New Zealand squabbles. They are unseemly, to use about the mildest term possible under the circumstances, and were it not that a sense of duty compels us to make occasional reference to what is passing in connection with Masonry in that Colony, we should gladly omit all mention of its proceedings, at all events for the present. However, it is a satisfaction to know that steps are being taken to place matters on a clear footing and that the authorities of the several District Grand Lodges in New Zealand, acting under instructions from United Grand Lodge, are removing from their respective lodge rolls, those lodges which four years back seceded, or have since seceded, from English Masonry and now form part of the so-called Grand Lodge of New Zealand.

At the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge on the 5th September last, on the recommendation of the Colonial Board, the warrants of 12 lodges which till their secession had formed part of the District Grand Lodge of Wellington (N.Z.) were declared forfeited, the lodges themselves having under Article 106 of the Book of Constitutions been erased by order of the District Grand Lodge. Now we learn from the report of the Proceedings at an Especial Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Canterbury held in the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, Christchurch, on the 30th August last, that 12 lodges, formerly part of the said District Grand Lodge, were erased, and at the same time it was ordered that such erasure should be reported forthwith to Grand Lodge. Here, then, we have it authoritatively that 24 lodges heretofore belonging to the Districts of Wellington and Canterbury have been struck off the roll, while a reference to Grand Lodge Calendar shows that there remain in each of the said Districts seven lodges. Thus there remain loyal to the power that created them 14 out of 38 lodges, or rather more than one-third of the whole. What proportion of the lodges—49 in number—remains loyal in the Districts of Otago and Southland, Westland, Auckland, and in that part of the South Island which has no district organisation, we shall learn in time; but supposing it is about the same as in the two of which we have particulars, the number of lodges in New Zealand under the English Constitution will be between 30 and 40.

Quite a number of minor attacks, such as the lesser lights of Roman Catholicism are wont to indulge in periodically, have recently been directed against our Society; but whether owing to the dulness of the season or other similarly depressing cause we know not, they appear to have produced little or none of the effect on the public mind that was desired. Father Rivington began the series with his letter to *The Westminster* and *The Irish Catholic*, and other papers have diligently followed in his wake. When the Romish priesthood will see the wisdom of leaving Freemasonry alone, it is difficult, if not impossible, to forecast; but the sooner they adopt that course, the better will it be for the credit of their church. The only one among our recent assailants who has condescended to anything like argument is Canon Moyse, and what he says has been said again and again and answered. The others, including a renegade Italian Freemason named Morgiatta, have recourse to low abuse, which is not worth noticing, much less attempting to answer. When those who attack us have found something new to urge against us, we will do our best to answer it. Till then, on the principle that it is no good flogging a dead horse, we remain silent.

Correspondence.

OLD CLO—NEW LAMPS FOR OLD!

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

If anything can arouse Masons, surely the words addressed to the St. Oswald's Lodge, Pontefract, as reported in your last issue, are likely to have that effect. If ever a "man" rose quietly from the ranks and took the position allotted to him with dignity, and confidence in his ability to rule a great province by true Masonry and the heart, it was the P.P.G. Master of West Yorkshire. If ever a Mason stamped his own individuality upon his words, and exhibited a sincerity of purpose worthy of imitation, it has been Bro. Tew. Whilst I own that the eulogy of such a man and Mason would be a pleasing task, for which my own personal knowledge eminently qualifies me, and perhaps peculiarly fits me, this is not at present my intention.

My object is to draw attention to a remarkable expression, which, from the lips of such a man, under such circumstances, and at the present time, is entitled to have tremendous weight; and I trust that its tones will reverberate and its influence be felt.

"O'er land and water wheresoe'er dispers'd." It is well known that lately a desperate panacea for lodge laxity has been occasionally aired in a half-and-half, doubtful fashion. I have heard it styled "Caste" Masonry, but its aims are too revolutionary to be safe, and the name I give it is simply "New" Masonry, although I have never met with a single advocate of it who was either able to tell me why a "swell club" should be Masonic or what was amiss with the Constitutions tested over a century and a half.

My revered dear old friend and brother (like me) is not a young Mason. He said on the occasion referred to:

"Masonry is the one grand organisation, which is in no sense self seeking. Its great purpose is to establish the brotherhood of Man and to relieve distress, wherever it may be found."

In the very simplicity of the doctrine contained in these words lies their value. It is essentially "old" and universally accepted Masonry. The new school accepted it at initiation, and although

"Some men are nobly rich, some nobly poor,
Some the reverse,"

its "don't know you" is emphatic; it wants to bring out a patent for making Masons all alike, and it won't work. By all means let us decrease our "shams" as much as possible, rather than feel ashamed of the brother who does not quite come up to our ideas. Some of the best Masons I remember were unpromising initiates—some of the worst had the opposite advantages, and it is a sad reflection to make, but day by day we are all making mistakes of character, and applying motives based on others' experience, and, alas! often on others' inventions.—Yours truly and fraternally,

CLIO.

FREEMASONRY AND CATHOLICISM.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

There is one point in the remarks made by Father Bridgett, anent Freemasonry, upon which I should like to touch. In paragraph 3 he says: "If Freemasonry teaches a morality and conduct in harmony with Christianity, why is it kept for a few initiates, and not taught to all?"

The whole tenor of these remarks is in condemnation of something of which the Father is ignorant; and to assume that it is bad is only what Protestants, who are ignorant of what Roman Catholicism is, are always doing. Let Father Bridgett do as the Priests in Portugal or Brazil, or even as the "competitive Catholics" (as he alleges) do. Let him be taught what Freemasonry is in the legitimate way, and then we shall be glad to listen to any remarks he may be pleased to make, of course, knowing very well that there will be nothing condemnatory in them.

I have been told by a Priest that the proper place to listen to Catholic teaching is in a Catholic Church, and I am quite of that opinion. The proper place to learn what Freemasonry is in a Masonic lodge. Once initiated I venture to think that Father Bridgett would level his condemnation—if any—against "Freemasons—individuals," and not, as he now does, against "Freemasonry." But does it not occur to an intelligent man, such as I imagine Father Bridgett to be, that Freemasonry has nothing whatever to do with Christianity, any more than it has with Mahometanism, because, otherwise, how could our Jewish brethren or Mahomedans be initiated?

It appears to be such a simple, self-evident fact that Freemasonry, being universal, must, of necessity be free from the particular tenets of all religious bodies, as well as of all political parties. Freemasons on the Continent are, we are constantly told, "openly declared enemies of the Church and of all Christianity." An eminent brother in the Craft said to me that it was the other way about. Our continental brethren may be opposed to the Church, but if so it is in their private capacity.

I am inclined to the belief that the Catholic Church has still a great deal to learn. In saying this I am not for a moment intending to say anything rude, but, seriously, I mean simply this, that the members of the Christian Church were to be led into all truth; and surely it will not be contended that they have grasped the infinite yet, or that they are not still being led onwards or upwards. May it not be that they will, as the outcome of their crusade against Masonry, be led to see its beauties, in "the expanseless light of Heaven?"—Yours faithfully,

P.P.G.D.C.

THE NORTH SIDE OF A LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you be kind enough to obtain for me, through the medium of your paper, the correct style of architecture for the north side of a Masonic lodge?

The Ionic is symbolical of the W.M. (east), the Doric of the S.W. (west), the Corinthian of the J.W. (south).

What is correct for the north?—Yours faithfully,

J. H. SALTER.

November 8th.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1057]

A MASONIC MUSICAL "MASTER-PIECE."

A grand opera entitled "Irene," the plot of which is entirely Masonic, was composed by Gounod, and amongst other creations of a "master-hand" are several exceptionally fine arias. This work is hardly known to Masons in England, and very little, I find, to professional musicians; but perhaps some brother may be able to inform me where and when it was produced—the cast if possible—and if there is any special reason why so fine a production has been neglected. There is nothing strikingly religious or political in H. B. Farnie's English libretto, whatever may have been in the original French, which I have not seen; but there must be some powerful reason one would suppose for the practical suppression of so fine a composition. We have not many *chefs-d'œuvre* of the kind to boast of, and there is a mystery about this which I think might be unravelled to advantage. Your Catholic controversy suggests the only possibility I can find, viz., that because it is Masonic, Catholic artists are forbid to take the roles. I should be grateful for the loan of, or information as to where I can see the French edition. Having the English edition, the music is not absolutely necessary; what I want is the original libretto, and, of course, to know who was the author, with the date and place of production.

J. RAMSDEN RILEY.

1058]

THE CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE!

I have just received the enclosed circular (printed herewith, from my friend, Bro. Stephen Berry, Grand Secretary of Maine, &c., as to the annual greeting of Knights Templars throughout the world, to the esteemed Grand Master of the American Templars, Bro. Hugh McCurdy. He is well worthy of any and all compliments that can be paid to him, and I feel assured that there are many will unite with us in Great Britain and Ireland and the Colonies of the British Crown, as was done last year. Our number increases as the years roll onward, and this *International Observance* is now participated in by thousands of Knights, all uniting as "the heart of one man." Brethren! accept this invite, and may God abundantly bless you. P.D.E.P.

W. J. HUGHAN,
(Representative).

"Office of the Committee on
"Christmas Observance,
"Portland, Maine, October 10, 1894.

"Dear Frater:

"The following toast has been prepared for the coming Christmas:

"To our Most Eminent Grand Master, Hugh McCurdy: the head of American Templar Masonry, who holds all Templar hearts.

"The Grand Master sends the following response:

"To the great heart of Templar Masonry, and to every Templar Mason's heart—one and inseparable.

"'Tis the heart and not the brain,
That to the highest doth attain,
And he who followeth love's behest,
Far excelleth all the rest."

"Will you join in these sentiments on Tuesday, December 25th, at noon Eastern Standard time (equivalent to 5 p.m. Greenwich), and will you extend the invitation to your command, as well as to all true Templars and their friends, wheresoever dispersed, on land or sea.—Courteously and fraternally yours,

"STEPHEN BERRY,
"Portland, Maine.

"Pacific Standard time, 120° W. 9 a.m.; Mountain, 105° W. 10 a.m.; Central, 90° W. 11 a.m.; Eastern, 75° W. 12 m.; Greenwich, 0°, 5 p.m."



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Peace and Harmony Lodge (No. 60).—

The installation meeting of the lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 26th ult. Among those present were Bros. Capt. T. C. Walls, P.G. Stwd., G. Std. Br., W.M.; R. Masters, P.M., P.G. Stwd., S.W., W.M. elect; W. H. Kempster, junr., G. Stwd., J.W.; H. Young, P.M., P.G. Stwd., Treas.; F. Binckes, P.M., P.G. Stwd., P.G.S.B., Sec.; H. J. Lardner, P.M. 1745, P.P.G. Std. Br., S.D.; Cotton, J.D.; Debenham, P.M., I.G.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; D.C.; Polenz, Stwd.; R. Barton, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; Joslin, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; H. Slade, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; W. H. Kempster, M.D., I.P.M., P.G. Stwd. Among the visitors were Bros. R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; W. Fisher, P.P.G. Treas., Middx.; Lee, W.M. 2128; S. R. Lovett, P.M. 3; Bowring, P.M. 32; Hebb, P.P.G.D.C.; E. 1. The Debenham, P.M. 1478; Davidson 1929; and others. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The W.M. then installed Bro. R. Masters as W.M., who appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. H. Kempster, junr., S.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M.; J.W.; H. Young, P.M., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., Sec.; Cotton, S.D.; Debenham, J.D.; Polenz, I.G.;

C. Robinson, Stwd.; and Evenden, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M.
The lodge was closed and adjourned till the fourth Friday in January next. An excellent banquet followed.
Bro. R. Eve, in responding for "The Grand Officers," made as usual a most eloquent and interesting speech.
In the intervals of the toasts and replies some very good selections of instrumental and vocal music were given.

Lion and Lamb Lodge (No. 192).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 1st instant at Cannon-street Hotel. Present: Bros. Jas. Smith, W.M.; T. W. Fisher, S.W.; R. Sarson, J.W.; T. Selby Henrey, Chap.; T. Cohu, Treas.; H. Legge, Sec.; A. J. Holmes, S.D.; C. Garton, J.D.; J. M. Mower, D.C.; Thos. Stokes, I.G.; C. Couchman, Tyler; G. Abbott, P.M.; G. Goodes, P.M.; F. Hughes, P.M.; Lendon, Bevan, Martyn, Johnson, Eggleton, Simmonds, Robeson, Dart, Houlder, Welch, Roche, and Crawshaw. Visitors: Bros. H. Calton, 2000; G. K. Oakes, 1623; S. Galer, 1706; and C. J. Houlder, 2020.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. Messrs. C. C. Welch, T. J. Crawshaw, and R. F. Roche were balloted for and initiated, as also was G. A. Houlder, elected at the last meeting. Bro. F. V. Goddard, 917, was also elected as a joining member. The Secretary stated that he had received a letter from Bro. Kenning announcing the death of an old and esteemed member of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, Bro. G. E. Baker, and it was unanimously resolved that the Secretary be instructed to write to Bro. Kenning expressing the great regret of the lodge and sympathy of all the members with the family at the great loss sustained by the death of Bro. Baker. On the proposition of Bro. Goodes, P.M., it was resolved that a Committee be appointed to consider the desirability of having a musical evening, to which ladies should be admitted, the Committee consisting of W.M., S.W., J.W., and Bros. Eggleton, Cohu, Goodes, and Garton. Mr. J. T. Virgo was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

Gallery Lodge (No. 1928).—The usual November meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, Bro. J. C. Manning, W.M., presiding. After the W.M. had raised Bros. W. G. Proudfoot and Hubert Preston to the Third Degree, the brethren unanimously elected Bro. Charles Lock (Morning Advertiser staff), S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. W. M. Duckworth, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. James Very, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to Bro. Manning. The different committees were afterwards elected, and the brethren supped together later in the evening. The installation meeting will be held on the 5th prox.

Chiswick Lodge (No. 2012).—This well-known lodge met at the Criterion, Piccadilly—removed from the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge—on the 25th ult., and was well attended. It is not often that at an ordinary meeting a lodge is honoured with having a P.G. Treasurer as presiding officer, but in the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. W. C. Dickey, through illness, Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., kindly consented, at a moment's notice, to take the chair, and it need hardly be said that he made an excellent substitute. He was supported by Bros. E. Wavell, S.W.; H. Clark, J.W.; F. Lawrance, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Gardner, P.M., P.P.G. S.B. Bucks, Sec.; R. J. Steel, I.G.; L. Lee, Org.; J. Haines, Stwd.; W. A. Dowling, P.M.; R. H. Wimpey, P.M.; T. Spurr, E. Millwood, W. S. Fincham, T. W. Liddington, R. J. Husband, W. F. Bell, G. Hiscocks, C. W. Smelt, C. Wilkinson, W. H. Wilson, G. Callingham, D. Rawlings, T. Wilding, D. D. Heath, A. Flint, B. F. Hartyhorne, J. Indler, R. Uniacke, W. C. Ginder, and C. Patrick, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. P. Cronin, 1512; G. J. Westfield, 2184; C. Cooke, 1288; and R. T. West.

After the formal opening of the lodge and the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. George Everett initiated Mr. A. G. T. Wilding, and Bro. C. Wilkinson, 1679, was afterwards unanimously elected as a joining member.

Other business being disposed of, the lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, which was admirably served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Oddenino.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, Bro. J. Lawrence proposed "The Grand Officers Present and Past." He paid great tribute to the valuable services rendered by Bro. George Everett to the Craft and to their lodge.

Bro. Everett replied in very eloquent terms.

In submitting the toast of "The Acting W.M., Bro. George Everett," Bro. George Gardner stated that he very much regretted the W.M., Bro. Dickey, was too ill to be present, and their best thanks were due to Bro. Everett for having presided. He (Bro. Everett) had done wonders for the lodge, and the members were proud of having such a distinguished Mason associated with them, and hoped he would be spared for many years to give them his valued assistance.

The toast and Bro. George Everett were received with great enthusiasm. He said that he was quite sure that he expressed the feelings of all in regret for the absence of Bro. Dickey, and he earnestly wished him a speedy restoration to health. He thanked Bro. Geo. Gardner for his kind words, and, in concluding a genial speech, he observed that he would always be glad to do anything for the happiness of the lodge.

Bro. G. Everett, acting W.M., gave "The Initiate." He stated that that was their first meeting at their new home, and they were glad to have been honoured with an initiate. The lodge had ever been a happy one, and his earnest wish was that it would continue so, and, on behalf of the members, he gave him a hearty welcome, and hoped he would become a good member of the Craft, and a time might come when he would occupy the chair he (Bro. Everett) then so unworthily filled. He also referred to the joining member, Bro. C. Wilkinson, who was an old friend of his, and he joined his name with the toast.

The initiate, Bro. Wilding, in replying, tendered his grateful thanks for having been elected, and he hoped that anything he might do in the future would not make the members ever regret admitting him to the Order.

Bro. Wilkinson said he always felt at home in the Chiswick Lodge, and that was why he had offered himself as a joining member.

In giving "The Past Masters," Bro. George Everett observed that they were all active members, and were ready to assist at any time, and they were held in high esteem, and he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Dowling, P.M., the first initiate of the lodge.

Bro. Dowling responded, observing that he always had the lodge at heart.

"The Visitors" having been toasted, Bro. G. J. Westfield responded. This was not his first visit, but he was always glad to come, as he never better enjoyed himself elsewhere.

Bros. P. Cronin, C. Cooke, and R. T. West also replied.

Bro. Geo. Everett proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary." He said they were both excellent officers, and had the interest of the lodge at heart.

Bro. F. Lawrance, P.M., Treas., having replied,

Bro. George Gardner, Sec., said that it had been his endeavour to work hard for the prosperity of the lodge, which was very dear to him, and he had held his office for eight years, and the thanks he received as their Secretary at the banquet table was sufficient remuneration for his services.

Bro. G. Everett gave "The Officers," remarking that they were efficient and regular in attendance, and, referring to Bro. Wavell, S.W., he said that there was no doubt he would be elected W.M.

In acknowledging the toast, Bro. Wavell stated that he and the other officers very much regretted the absence of Bro. Dickey, and he had their sympathy in his illness.

The Tyler's toast ended a very happy and pleasant evening.

The vocal entertainment was carried out by Bros. George Gardner, L. Lee, Spurr, and G. Everett.

Fellowship Lodge (No. 2535).—A meeting of the founders of this new lodge was held on Monday, the 29th ult., at the Frascati Restaurant, under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Geo. Lambert, P.G. Std. Br., when 27 brethren were present, including Bros. J. Welford, P.M., Treas. 733; J. R. Roberts, P.M. 1642; E. Valeriani, P.M. 1687; H. W. Davie, P.M. 173; W. Thomas, W.M. 2168; E. Rogers, P.M. 1642; P.G. Stwd.; J. Pearson, P.M. 1196; W. H. Making, P.M. 1278; H. F. Nash, P.M. 1769; Jas. Stephens, P.M. 1425; P.P.S.G.D. Bucks; and others.

Unfortunately the W.M. designate, Bro. W. H. Bailey, P.P.G. Reg. Staff., was absent on the Continent. He and others, however, very kindly gave the whole of the necessary furniture, and a resolution of thanks was heartily carried. Every founder (of whom there are nearly 40) gave a donation of five guineas towards the preliminary expenses. The officers all volunteered to give their respective collar and jewel of office, so that the lodge promises to start free from liability and with about £150 in hand, which, considering the annual subscription is to be five guineas for five meetings, is a very happy state of affairs.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BEVERLEY.

Constitutional Lodge (No. 294).—At the last meeting of this lodge preparations on an elaborate scale had been made to give a truly Masonic welcome to two distinguished members of the Craft, who had consented to pay an official visit to the lodge on this occasion. We refer to the Right Hon. the Lord Londesborough and Bro. J. L. Toole. It must have been a bitter disappointment, after the trouble to which the brethren had been put, that unavoidable circumstances intervened and prevented the attendance of these two celebrities. Bro. Toole was suffering acutely from gout in his knees, and his medical adviser absolutely forbade his making the journey to Beverley. Lord Londesborough is the Immediate Past Master of the lodge, having been the Worshipful Master during the centenary celebration last year, and he also wired a message saying he was prevented at the last moment. However, notwithstanding these drawbacks the ceremony was not by any means devoid of interest—two very important functions taking place, one unique in the records of the lodge during the 100 years it has been established, viz., the presentation to the Worshipful Master on the occasion of his marriage during his year of office. Bro. David Morley was the happy recipient of a handsome solid silver tea service in honour of this auspicious occasion.

After the formal business of the lodge had been concluded, Mr. J. Willis Mills, the Town Clerk, was initiated by the Worshipful Master, assisted by Bros. M. M. Westerby, Joel Edgar, J. R. Lane, and R. Pape. The sublime ritual of the Craft was impressively rendered by these brethren. Before the lodge was closed Bro. J. R. Lane, S.W., addressing the Worshipful Master, said: "On behalf of the Past Masters, Officers, and brethren, I am desirous to present to you this solid silver tea service in commemoration of your wedding. It has been very cheerfully and freely subscribed for by every member of the lodge, who were anxious to have the opportunity to testify their appreciation, love, and esteem towards you. We know that you have worthily filled the highest position in the lodge with great dignity and honour. We sincerely trust that you and the beloved partner whom you have taken as your wife may have long life, every happiness and prosperity; may care and sorrow be kept from you; may you both live to a ripe old age, and when it may please the G.A.O.T.U. to call you hence may we all meet in that Grand Lodge above. In asking your acceptance of this token of our affection, I may remark that this is the first occasion during the 100 years this lodge has been established that the Worshipful Master has been married during his tenure of office, and it gives us the greatest possible pleasure to make the presentation, which bears the following inscription: "Presented by the brethren of the Constitutional Lodge, No. 294, to Bro. D. Morley, W.M., on the occasion of his marriage, 9th October, 1894."

Bro. D. Morley, W.M., who was visibly affected on rising to respond, said: I hardly know how to express the depth or sincerity of my thanks. You will quite understand the difficult position in which I find myself. We have had a great many handsome presents but certainly not one that I and my wife will value more than the gift from my Masonic brethren. I value your friendship more and more. The fact of this being the year of my office as W.M., and the year of my marriage, will make it a red-letter year in my life, which I shall never forget. I don't know what my wife will say when I take your kind gift home, but I know she

will be greatly pleased, and we shall ever greatly prize the token of your esteem and love; and brethren, I sincerely thank you.

The banquet followed, and subsequently the brethren journeyed to Hull in saloon carriages, and attended the Grand Theatre for the purpose of witnessing Bro. Toole's performance in "Dot."

CAMBRIDGE.

Isaac Newton (University) Lodge (No. 859).—The installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, in Corn Exchange-street, on the 30th ult., when the attendance included the P.G.M., the D.P.G.M., and the P.G. Sec.; the W.Ms. of Nos. 441, 1492, and 2107; the D.P.G.M. of Surrey; and many others. Bro. R. Percy F. W. Simpson, B.A., Prov. G.S.B., was installed as W.M. by Bro. F. Richardson, P.G.D., assisted by Bros. A. Hill, I.P.M., and W. H. Francis, P.M. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as under-mentioned: Bros. A. Hill, I.P.M.; Rev. H. S. Cronin, S.W.; A. E. Priddle, J.W.; Rev. A. C. Crossfield, Chap.; W. G. Bell, P.M., Treas.; Rev. Dennis Hall, Sec.; T. B. Hope, S.D.; W. N. Symonds, J.D.; W. J. Fernie, D.C.; H. C. Windley, I.G.; Dr. G. M. Garrett, Org.; A. P. Higgins and F. C. Begg, Stewards; Dr. Gordon Campbell, W. P. Schreiner, and C. O. E. Nicholson, A.D.Cs.; and C. H. Ellis and G. Allen, Tylers.

DONCASTER.

St. George's Lodge (No. 242).—The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in St. George's Hall on Friday evening, the 2nd instant. Present: Bros. C. H. Woodhouse, W.M.; F. Webb, P.M. (acting S.W.); E. Newsum, I.P.M.; R. Bridge, J.W.; F. H. Buckland, S.D.; G. Smith, J.D.; J. F. Hanson, I.G.; F. Duff, Org.; J. Denison and C. Hopkinson, Stwds.; J. Mason, Tyler; C. W. Fretwell, P.M.; C. Goldthorpe, P.M.; J. White, W. Goodair, P. Jenner, H. W. Burnett, A. McCall, H. Foster, T. W. Turner, G. W. C. Smith, T. Sanderson, S. N. Castle, and C. Richardson.

Bro. C. Richardson was duly passed to the Second Degree, the W.M. being ably assisted by Bro. Newsum, I.P.M. A sum of £10 was granted to Bro. Hirst, the late Tyler, who was now on a bed of sickness. All the brethren spoke in the highest terms of the estimable qualities of this good old serving brother, who had been Tyler for 40 years, and his father 40 years before him.

After lodge, the brethren partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

FELTHAM.

Elliot Lodge (No. 1567).—The installation meeting of this lodge, held at the Railway Hotel on Saturday, the 3rd instant, proved a red-letter day both for the lodge and its members. On the appointment of the present Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Raymond Thrupp, in 1882, the Elliot Lodge was fortunate to receive his first official visit to the province in that capacity, an example which was followed by Bro. Howard H. Room on his appointment as Prov. G. Sec. in 1888. At the meeting under notice, the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., by a singular coincidence, made his first official visit to a Middlesex lodge by witnessing Bro. John Mason, P.P.G.D., conclude the installation of his successor, Bro. G. R. Nichols, in the chair of the Elliot Lodge. The occasion was further marked by the presentation of a full-sized photographic camera to Bro. John Mason, who was the first Master of the lodge at its consecration in 1875, and has just completed his second term of office, and who is moreover an enthusiastic amateur photographer. The lodge was opened by Bro. J. Mason, P.P.G.D., W.M., supported by Bros. G. R. Nichols, J.W.; J. H. Pearson, Treas.; T. I. Bird, P.P.G.S.B., Secretary; W. A. Brown, Past Prov. G. Supt. of Wks.; H. T. Cooper, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G.M.; Raymond H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; H. H. Room, P.G. Sec.; W. H. Lee, P.P.G.D.; O. J. Von Holtorp, P.P.G.D.C.; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; T. Jacobs, P.P.D.G.D.C.; H. Rogers, 1673; E. Hare, P.M. 2685; Will E. Chapman, P.P.G.W. Bucks; A. E. Todd, I.P.M. 27; W. Whiteside, D.C. 1897; R. Aldington, 2012; H. Herbert, 2523; T. G. Rose, 1536; G. Browning, 246; J. McLaren, P.M. 1805; S. H. Nichols, 1714; J. R. Phillips, W.M. 2157; W. C. Wigley, P.M. 1348; R. Webb, 403; J. M. McCulloch, P.M. 700; C. Kempton, P.M. 1287; E. W. Browning, J.W. 2455; J. H. Roberts, P.M. 700; W. Webber, P.M. 700; H. Tufnell, W.M. 700; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; D. C. Capon, 913; C. W. Fletcher, 910; S. E. Southgate, P.M. 700; G. F. Taylor, P.M. 700; C. W. Cooper, S.W. 1693; H. S. Trego, 1399; W. Jeffery, P.M. 1622; C. Halsey, 1789; W. F. Trueman, P.M. 1823; C. W. Dixon, W.M. 1366; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897, P.M. 2381; and others.

The minutes having been confirmed, Bro. Ditchman was passed to the Second Degree, and the Auditors' report received and adopted. Bro. G. R. Nichols was next presented as W.M. elect, and duly installed as W.M. by Bro. John Mason, P.P.G.D., Bro. Bird, P.P.G.S.B., kindly officiating as D.C. The following officers were appointed: Bros. W. J. Brooker, S.W.; W. Carpenter, J.W.; E. W. Winter, Chap.; John Mason, P.M., Treas.; T. I. Bird, P.M., Sec.; H. Samworth, S.D.; W. T. Dillon, J.D.; J. Wildbore, I.G.; W. H. Howard, D.C.; E. Brooker and W. Langdon, Stwds.; and T. C. Edmonds, P.M., Tyler. On the motion of the I.P.M., seconded by the Secretary, the Prov. G.M., the Deputy Prov. G.M., and the Prov. G. Sec. were unanimously elected honorary members. The Prov. G.M., in returning thanks, said he was glad to find an identity of idea between himself and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master and Prov. Grand Secretary, who had each paid their first official visit to the province through that lodge. He hoped that identity of idea would be a symbol of the concord that would always prevail in the councils of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex. The Worshipful Master and Bros. Mason, I.P.M., Taylor, P.M., and Bird, P.M., Sec., signified their intention of serving as Stewards for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution's Festival of 1896, when the Prov. G.M. will take the chair, and the sum of 10 guineas was voted to each of their lists.

Lodge was closed, and after an excellent repast, the customary toasts were honoured.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," having been given, the W.M.

amalgamated the next three toasts owing to the lateness of the hour, and proposed "The Grand Officers, the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Prov. Grand Officers."

Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., P.G.W., Prov. G. Master, in reply, said he was aware that shortness of time was the reason why each toast was not proposed individually. He was glad to be present that day, and glad to know that by making his first appearance at that lodge he was following in the footsteps of such good Masons as his esteemed friends the Deputy Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Secretary. When he was offered the honour of occupying his present post he had hesitancy, because he felt he had not experience enough to justify his acceptance, but he was consoled by knowing he should be supported by two brethren—the Deputy Prov. G.M. and Prov. G. Sec.—whom he thought he might fairly say "took the cake" amongst Prov. G. Officers. The result of their exertions had been that there was no province where the work is more properly or more thoroughly performed. He was glad to be able to say—on this his first appearance—that the work in the lodge was quite up to the standard indicated. He took it as a happy and auspicious coincidence that the outgoing Master was the first Master of the lodge, and that the Master installed was the first initiate of the lodge. The Province of Middlesex being in a high state of efficiency, it was their endeavour to keep up and maintain that standard. He had no doubt that in the future there would be a great increase of lodges on the roll, but they should increase the number of members of existing lodges rather than multiply lodges with few members. He knew it was the custom in certain quarters to scoff at Freemasonry. When he was a small boy he met an old lady in Ireland, and consoled with her on being a widow, but she said she was worse than a widow, being an old maid. Those who had arrived at a certain age and had not partaken of the privileges of Masonry were deprived of one of the greatest pleasures of life—that of meeting many good fellows on a perfect footing of fraternity and equality for the purpose of maintaining Charity. He had arrived at the conclusion that the influences that actuated Freemasonry not only enabled members of the Craft to pass many pleasant hours together in lodges and in each other's company, but also encouraged such qualities as enabled them to better perform their functions as citizens and subjects. His desire would be, in his present position, to promote Masonry in its best form throughout the province of which he was the head, and his first experience was one of which he should retain a gratifying recollection.

Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., also replied, and said the Grand Officers were animated with but one desire, and that was to advance by every means in their power the interests of the Order. Personally, he had attended, with great pleasure, not only as a Grand Officer, but as a P.P.G. Officer of the province. He congratulated the brethren most heartily on the position the province had attained. When he was appointed a Prov. Grand Officer, there were few lodges in the province, which now numbered 40, and he had no doubt that under the able rule of the Prov. G.M., Masonry would steadily increase, and become of greater value.

Bro. John Mason, I.P.M., P.P.G.D., next gave "The Health of the W.M.," and said his name was an old and esteemed name in the Elliot Lodge. For how many years they had looked forward to Bro. Nichols occupying his present position he really forgot, but as year after year went by they tried continually to get him to say "Yes," and take the office, but he preferred to remain a lay member. A short time ago, however, he said "Yes," and it was the happiest "I will" they had ever had in that lodge. He (the I.P.M.) would not take up their time by enumerating the W.M.'s excellences, but simply say he was a "jolly good fellow," and that embraced everything.

Bro. G. R. Nichols, W.M., briefly replied, and said he thought as late as the preceding day that, owing to an attack of gout he should be unable to be present. Whatever he could do to further the interests of the lodge he should be only too pleased to do, and he hoped his officers would assist him in endeavouring to carry out all the routine in the same way as in the past.

The W.M. then proposed "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master," and said they knew Bro. J. Mason as the first Master of that lodge, and as a thorough good Mason, and could only congratulate him on the successful manner in which he had carried out the installation ceremony.

Bro. John Mason, P.P.G.D., I.P.M., in response, said that whoever occupied the post of I.P.M. was always heartily received in that toast, and he hoped as years went by they should always find the W.M. when leaving the chair install his successor and receive praise when his work was done. He had not quite satisfied himself that night, but had been able to struggle the Master into the chair, notwithstanding his gout. He hoped that now Bro. Nichols was the W.M. the same good feeling and fellowship would exist in the lodge. He thanked them most heartily, and hoped he would be spared for many years to remain a member.

The W.M. then, in a few cordial and kindly words, presented Bro. Mason, I.P.M., with a full-sized photographic camera, manufactured by Bro. Walter Tyler, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. John Mason, Founder and First Master, Past Master, P.P.S.G.D. Middx., on his leaving the chair for the second time, as a small mark of the esteem and regard in which he is held by the members of the Elliot Lodge. 3 November, 1894."

Bro. J. Mason, P.P.S.G.D., said that words failed him to tell them how much he thanked them for their present, and what his wife would say when they were "in camera," he did not know. He received it in the same way in which they presented it, and accepted it with the greatest cordiality.

Bro. James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I., on behalf of "The Masonic Charities," returned thanks. He said the Elliot Lodge had done a very great deal for the support of the Institutions, and in February last, when the I.P.M. and present W.M. were Stewards for the Old People, they took up nearly £170. The value of organisation no one would dispute. That province had received great advantage from organisation. Last month for the Boys' and Girls' Schools, on the first application they were successful in electing a child to each of those Institutions. If organisation could be used to win their cases, he ventured to think that in 1895-6 that organisation could again be well used in seeing how much they could pay to those Institutions from which they had been receiving benefits. Their Prov. Grand Master

would preside for the Old People in 1896, and he had no doubt that when the Festival of 1895 was over, some steps would be taken by the 40 lodges in the province that would redound to their honour and credit. There were nearly 1000 persons provided for by the three Institutions, making no inconsiderable family to be supported—not by the outer world—but by the small and limited body of men known to the outer world as Freemasons. Whilst they as citizens had to support outside Institutions, they were not unmindful of their duty to their own Institutions. The sum collected for the present year was about £51,000, which divided meant about £1000 per week given from the Craft. He was certain that when the announcement of the lists was made in 1896 for the Old People, the total would be one gratifying to the Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. Howard H. Room, Prov. G. Sec., responded for "The Visitors," and expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to be present to see Bro. Mason install his successor after a successful year. With regard to the Prov. Grand Officers he knew they were worthy recipients of the honour bestowed upon them and performed their duties as zealous'y as when they were earning those honours.

Bros. Pearson, P.M., and Bird, P.M., Sec., briefly answered for "The Past Masters and Officers," after which the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Included in the musical programme was a song by Miss Bird, daughter of the esteemed Secretary, which was much appreciated.

IPSWICH.

Prince of Wales' Lodge (No. 959).—The anniversary meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Monday, the 5th inst., when Bro. Alma Cocks was installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. Kemp. The Worshipful Master, Bro. Alma Cocks, then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. Kemp, P.G.S., I.P.M.; R. H. Unsworth, S.W.; T. Normandale, J.W.; G. T. Pick, P.M., P.G.D. of C., Treas.; C. T. Townsend, P.P.G.S.W., Sec.; Edward Hills, S.D.; W. Watson, J.D.; John White, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., D. of C.; C. Cooke, P.G.O., Org.; W. F. Odum, I.G.; E. J. Durham, C. S. Mason, F. C. Lambert, and G. A. Christie, Stwds.; and G. Gould, Tyler. The D.P.G.M. delivered the address to the W.M. and Wardens, and Bro. J. White, P.M., to the brethren generally.

The installation banquet followed, the W.M., Bro. Alma Cocks, presiding, supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.; and Bros. Kemp, I.P.M.; R. N. Sanderson, P.G. Chap.; H. C. Casley, P.M. 114; and others.

The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," having been appropriately proposed by the W.M.,

Bro. A. Raphael proposed "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," coupled with the name of Bro. the Rev. R. N. Sanderson, who responded.

Bro. W. B. Hanson gave "R.W. Bro. Lord Henniker, P.G.M.," paying, in the course of his remarks, a tribute to Lord Henniker's interest in Masonry, and expressing the hope that when the present domestic cloud had passed away they would see his lordship more frequently amongst them.

The Worshipful Master, in submitting the toast of "The V.W. Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap., Deputy P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," looked upon it as the toast of the evening. Bro. Martyn, he said, had travelled some 200 miles in fulfilment of his promise to attend that gathering, and he (the W.M.) felt deeply grateful for the honour he had thus done the Prince of Wales' Lodge. He could not adequately express the love and esteem which the brethren bore him for his kindness and goodness to the Craft, neither could he find time to dilate upon his distinguished career in the Masonic body, amongst whom his name was a household word throughout the United Kingdom.

The D.P.G.M., in responding, said that when he was able to make his appearance amongst them, he always felt when his health was proposed as Deputy Provincial Grand Master that he was standing before them as an impostor, because no one could realise as he did the trials and shortcomings that must necessarily attend the circumstance of his being 200 miles away from the province. Whenever he did come, he always met with so friendly, affectionate, and, he might say, loving reception, and though it was a matter of serious consideration for him that if only somebody else would take his office he would be only too thankful to resign it; still, while it was the pleasure of the province that he should hold it, he would continue to do all he could for them. It was an immense pleasure to be present that night. It was a great many years since he attended the Prince of Wales Lodge, when he installed one of the best of Masons, their late Bro. William Clarke, P.G.D.C. He (the D.P.G.M.) remembered when the Prince of Wales Lodge was a very small one compared with what it now was, but he had lived to see, and was thankful to see, that it had grown into its present proportions, and with every prospect of a prosperous and splendid future, and which he hoped would be realised.

Bros. S. R. Anness and H. C. Casley responded on behalf of "The Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

Bro. W. Kemp, in giving the toast of "The Worshipful Master," confessed that his powers of speech were inadequate to do justice to the toast and express the feelings of his heart, and of that of the brethren, with reference to Bro. Alma Cocks. He, however, wished the Worshipful Master a successful year of office, and he assured him that he would have the cordial assistance both of himself and the Past Master in the discharge of his duties. The speaker also alluded in felicitous terms to the approaching marriage of their Worshipful Master, whom he was sure they all wished a happy and contented matrimonial life, and health and strength to enjoy all its pleasures.

The Worshipful Master, in replying, warmly thanked the brethren for placing him in a position which he recognised as one of the grandest that could be conferred in Masonic life. He assured them that he would exercise every energy to forward the interests of the Prince of Wales Lodge, and at the end of his tether, he trusted that his credentials would not only reflect credit upon himself, but upon the lodge. With regard to the reference to his marriage—that was a fact. He hoped, too, that he would be able to carry out the duties appertaining to married life creditably to himself and to his wife also.

The toast was received with full Masonic honours.

The other toasts were "The Visitors," "The Masonic Charities," "The Immediate Past and Installing Masters," "The Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

The evening's pleasure was greatly enhanced by songs rendered by Bros. J. H. Brockbank, Normandale, Geo. Abbott, and others.

MAIDENHEAD.

St. John's Lodge (No. 795).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Ray Mead Hotel, on the 17th ult. There were present: Bros. Lieut. J. G. W. James, W.M.; J. H. Custance, I.P.M.; E. W. Allen, P.A.G.S. Berks.; W. Fenton, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; C. Dearing, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Berks., Sec.; G. E. W. Tucker, S.W.; J. Boulting, J.W.; Mat. Kennally, S.D.; F. Foxley, P.M.; W. C. Page, P.M.; E. Lloyd, J.D.; Niblett, H. J. Tyler, and A. Shepperd, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. E. W. Margrett, P.M. 1101; J. Weston, P.M. 1602; A. E. Hubert, P.M. 173; E. S. Weedon, P.M. 813; J. Osborn, P.M. 1602 and 1897; W. Beckett, 1602; R. M. H. Griffith, 1677; and R. T. West.

After the usual routine business, Bro. E. W. Allen, P.M., then occupied the chair, and Bro. G. E. W. Tucker, the W.M. elect, was presented, and he was installed by him into the chair. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers: Bros. Boulting, S.W.; Mat. Kennally, J.W.; W. Fenton, P.M., Treas.; C. Dearing, P.M., Sec.; H. J. Tyler, S.D.; E. Lloyd, J.D.; E. E. Niblett, I.G.; W. C. Page, P.M., D.C.; and C. Shepperd, Tyler. The beautiful ceremony of installation was performed in a most exemplary manner by Bro. E. W. Allen, and must leave a lasting impression on the brethren who had the good fortune to hear him, and the hearty vote of thanks which he received was highly deserved. Bro. Allen, in a few well chosen words, expressed his thanks for the members' kind appreciation of his services as Installing Master. In presenting a Past Master's jewel to Bro. James, I.P.M., the W.M. observed that he had carried out his duties in an able manner, and he hoped he would be spared for many years to wear it. Bro. James, in acknowledging the jewel, stated that it would ever remind him of his happy year of office, and that he appreciated the great honour. Bro. W. C. Page, P.M., who had recently recovered from a serious illness, in eloquent terms tendered his sincere thanks for the vote of sympathy that had been sent to him while he was *hors de combat*.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of an excellent banquet, which was well served under the superintendence of the manager, Mr. G. H. Hards.

The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in happy terms.

In responding for "The Prov. Grand Officers," Bro. Margrett stated that that was his first visit, but it was his loss not to have been there before, and he hoped to come again. In eloquent terms he referred to the three Institutions, and mentioned two cases the Province of Berkshire got elected in April.

Bro. James, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." He said that Bro. Tucker was initiated in the lodge, and in a very short time he had reached the zenith of his ambition. The members had heard that he was an excellent worker of the ritual, and he felt sure that his year of office would be a brilliant one, and that he would keep up the great prestige of the lodge.

Bro. Tucker, the W.M., in reply, said that he was more than proud to be W.M. of his mother lodge, and he would do his utmost to follow in the footsteps of his splendid predecessors, and if he did that he would be gratified.

In giving the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. James," the W.M. observed that he was a zealous and painstaking officer, and his reign had been a successful one.

In replying, Bro. James assured the members of his affection for the lodge, and that he was indebted to Bro. Allen for having officiated as Installing Master. He had performed that duty for many years, and there was no one in the lodge who could do it better.

The W.M. proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. Allen." He stated that it had been his pleasure to witness his working of the installation ceremony on several occasions, but that day Bro. Allen had excelled himself, and he was honoured by being installed by him.

In responding, Bro. Allen said that he had had the great honour of installing 14 W.Ms. of the lodge, and he would be glad to do the same again. He loved the lodge, the members of which were all good fellows, but great care should be taken in introducing new members. What was wanted was quality, not quantity.

Bro. Allen, at the request of the W.M., gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of Bro. J. Osborn, P.M., who responded in appropriate terms, making special mention of the excellent working of Bro. Allen as Installing Master.

Bro. Boulting, S.W., submitted the toast of "The Past Masters," remarking that they were the backbone of the lodge, and would always be to the front if wanted, and in coupling the name of Bro. J. H. Custance, he said that his year of office would never be forgotten, and that as to Bro. Dearing, the Secretary, he was one of the very best of Masons, and was looked up to by the members.

Bro. Custance responded. He said his earnest wish was that the W.M. would have a good year. He was glad to have seen him installed, and he would undertake to give him two initiates. He joined the Craft 20 years ago, but the St. John's was his favourite lodge, where everything was done in correct order.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers," coupled with the name of Bro. Dearing, their energetic and genial Secretary.

Bro. Dearing replied in a very happy speech; Bro. Mat. Kennally, J.W., also responded.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a most enjoyable meeting.

NEW BARNET.

Barnet Lodge (No. 2509).—There was a very successful meeting on the occasion of the regular lodge held at the Assembly Rooms on Thursday, the 8th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., W.M., who was supported by Bros. R. Cranston, S.W.; J. A. Withaus, J.W.; H. T. Matthews, Treas.; F. S. Plowright, Sec.; J. Falconer, S.D.; T. E. Withaus, J.D.; W. Sergeant Lee, P.M., D.C.; W. Baddeley, I.G.; and Harold Imray and W. Fitch, Stwds. The lodge

having been opened and the minutes confirmed, Bro. Rev. G. E. Gardner was raised, that ceremony being followed by the initiation of Mr. Harry de Couves Matthews and Dr. Walter Roughton. The way in which the ceremonies were performed was not only a credit to the Master—whose ability is well known—but a gratifying testimony to the careful attention bestowed by the officers on the work they have to carry out. The ceremony of initiation was conducted in a more complete form than is usual, the charge being given from the chair.

The visitors included Bros. F. G. Mason, 1385; T. H. Webb, 51; R. W. Oldfield, S.W. 1385; Henry J. Clute, 1010; Frederick Taylor, J.D. 2256; C. L. Grundy, W.M. 1092; T. Matthews, P.M. and Treas. 1491; T. H. Martin, P.M. 1719; Frank B. Wood, 2128; G. D. Taylor, 1385; W. W. Morgan, 177; H. A. Hebb, P.M. 114; P.P.G.C. Devon; B. Spicer, 1385; E. H. Moore, W.M. 2278; T. W. Scales, 186; and E. Storr, P.M. 167.

The brethren afterwards sat down to supper together, under the presidency of the W.M., who subsequently gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts, the same being interspersed with songs, &c., by those present.

PENARTH.

Windsor Lodge (No. 1754).—The annual festival took place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, the 31st ult., when the ceremony of installing Bro. Robt. H. Currick, S.W., in the chair of the lodge was performed by Bro. H. Morgan Rees, P.J.G.D., W.M., in the presence of a large muster of members of the Craft representing the various lodges in Cardiff and district. The W.M. elect was presented to the Installing Master by Bro. F. P. Adey, and was accorded a most cordial reception by the brethren. He subsequently invested the following brethren: Bros. H. Morgan Rees, P.J.G.D., I.P.M.; C. Young, S.W.; the Rev. J. T. Wordsworth, J.W. and Chap.; P. P. Adey, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; W. F. Harris, Sec.; S. D. Churchill, P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; W. L. Yorath, A.D.C.; A. S. Jones, Org.; R. Crossling, S.D.; A. J. Jackson, J.D.; C. L. Ryder, I.G.; W. Scott and G. Spray, Stewards; and A. Jenkins, Tyler.

Subsequently the annual banquet was held at the Esplanade Hotel, under the presidency of the newly-installed W.M., who was supported by Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, D.P.G.M.; Lyne, D.P.G.M. Monmouth; Sheridan, P.M. 1092; T. Bailey, I.P.M.; and others.

At the conclusion of the repast, the W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," "The R.W.P.G.M., Lord Llangattock," "The D.P.G.M., Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, and D.P.G.M. of Monmouth, Bro. Lyne."

"The Health of the new W.M.," and that of "The Installing Master" were enthusiastically honoured and responded to.

Bro. F. G. Hodge subsequently proposed "The Masonic Charities," which was responded to by Bro. Adey, the toast list coming to a conclusion after a similar compliment had been paid to the visiting lodges by Bro. S. D. Churchill.

IVOKING.

Bisley Lodge (No. 2317).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, 1st inst. Among those present were Bros. J. Webb, W.M.; C. F. Passmore, I.P.M.; J. W. H. Littleboy, S.W.; A. Hayes, J.W.; Capt. Hoev, P.M., Treasurer; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Secretary; J. Tomlinson, acting S.D.; A. Taylor, acting J.D.; A. H. Gale, I.G.; Major G. Collins, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; A. Clinton, Steward; H. Gloster, J. Wenham, and H. J. Askham, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Visitors: Bros. H. J. Bidwell, P.P.G.D.C., P.M. 2120; W. Dix, P.M. 2120; C. Head, 2120; E. Head, 734; J. K. Hill, 2520.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Whitburn was raised to the Third Degree in a very impressive manner by the W.M. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow of Bro. E. J. Fenton. The sum of £2 2s. from the lodge funds, and £2 2s. from the Benevolent fund were voted toward the support of the Woking Cottage Hospital.

"Hearty good wishes" having been offered by the visitors, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together, at which the W.M. presided.

The usual toasts were subsequently given, and responded to in a very hearty manner.

During the evening songs and recitations were given by Bros. Bidwell, Askham, C. Head, E. Head, Tomlinson, Wenham, and Whitburn, which brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter (No. 3).—A meeting of this distinguished chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 2nd inst., when there were present, among others, Comps. W. Radcliffe, M.E.Z.; Weeks, P.Z., as H.; Capt. T. C. Walls, D.G.D.C., as J.; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; W. R. Collins, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; Mapleton, P.S.; H. J. Lardner, P.P.G.D.C., 1st A.S.; W. Hart, 2nd A.S.; G. Hemling, D.C.; Nash, Stwd.; Goddard, Janitor; Samuel Cochran, P.G. Treas.; Larter, and Pratt. Visitors: Comps. Dewar, Deaton, and Hammond. The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the election of Principals and officers took place as follows: Comps. Stevens, M.E.Z.; Larcomb, H.; Walls, J.; W. R. Collins, P.Z., S.E.; Mapleton, S.N.; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.S.; W. Hart, 1st A.S.; G. Heming, 2nd A.S.; Nash, D.C.; Birch, Stwd.; and Goddard, P.Z., Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to Comp. W. Radcliffe, M.E.Z. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Birch, I.P.Z.; F. McDougal, F. Graves, and others. The chapter was then closed.

The banquet was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, the First Principal presiding most ably. During the proceedings some very excellent singing was heard.

Islington Chapter (No. 1471).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on Wednesday, the 31st ultimo. The chapter having been duly opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the M.E.Z., Comp. Sydney Napper, installed his

successor, Comp. G. Sutton, as First Principal. Comp. S. Spiller was installed as H. and Comp. R. Loomes as J.; the other officers were invested in due form, and a Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Sydney Napper, with congratulatory remarks from the M.E.Z. The accounts showed a satisfactory balance of £44 in hand.

A very pleasant evening was afterwards spent at the banquet table, and a well-arranged programme of music was gone through under the direction of Comp. Banks as Organist.

Duke of Fife Chapter (No. 2345).—The regular meeting of the above chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel, on the 20th ult., when there were present: Comps. John Wyer, P.Z., M.E.Z.; C. Stone, as H.; A. Harvey, J.; T. Grummant, as I.P.Z.; A. Robertson, Treas.; Charlie Woods, S.E.; S. G. Bonner, 2nd A.S., as S.N.; J. Randall, P.S.; W. G. Boswell, M.R.C.V.S., 1st A.S.; Patrick, Janitor; and T. Morris. Visitors: Comps. T. Grummant, P.Z. 1275; C. H. Stone, H. 1901; and F. W. Pulsford, 147.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ballot being taken for Bro. T. Morris, Stwd. 2345, he was impressively exalted.

The chapter having been closed, the members dined together, under the presidency of the M.E.Z.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, Comp. A. Harvey, J., proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z.," saying that it was a treat to sit under so able and accomplished a First Principal. His value was known equally in the Craft and the Royal Arch, and he was a credit to the Order.

Comp. Wyer, M.E.Z., returned thanks, and was glad that his efforts were appreciated.

The M.E.Z., in proposing "The H. and J.," said in the unavoidable absence of their H. that evening, who was in Holland recruiting his health, they had an able substitute in Comp. Stone, who had delivered the addresses in an able and impressive manner. Their J. was always ready to perform any duties allotted to him.

Comp. Stone thanked the members for his hearty reception. He had felt honoured when asked by the S.E. to come that evening and had gladly done his best.

Comp. Harvey was equally interested in the lodge as in the chapter, and would aim to be a credit to the latter.

The M.E.Z. proposed "The Exalte." He said that it was necessary to have new members, and when they obtained such well known and popular Masons to join them as Bro. T. Morris they must admit that they did well.

Comp. T. Morris, in responding, said he had been deeply impressed that evening; he could not find words to say all that he felt, but would do his best to become a good Royal Arch Mason.

In proposing "The Visitors," the M.E.Z. referred to the previous career of those present, and especially thanked the two who had come to lend the hand of goodfellowship in the working.

This was replied to by Comps. Stone, Grummant, and Pulsford, and the toast of "The Officers," and the Janitor's toast closed a very happy evening, which had been enlivened by songs and recitations from Comps. Stone, Grummant, Harvey, Woods and Bonner.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—A meeting was held on Thursday, the 8th inst., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea. Present: Bros. Thomas, W.M.; Markland, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutfield, Sec.; A. W. Thompson, S.D.; Nicholls, J.D.; Beauchamp, I.G.; Saunders, P.M.; Winsborrow, Rayner, Ivor-Davis, and McLelland.

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 the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Winsborrow, who had previously answered the usual questions and been entrusted, being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Ivor-Davis, who had previously answered the usual questions and been entrusted, being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time. Bro. Rayner was elected a joining member of the lodge, and the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. Markland was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the third time, and the lodge was closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE (No. 538).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. B. Dukes, W.M.; G. Ridout, S.W.; H. C. Parker, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; W. E. Wilby, P.M., Sec.; T. Smale, P.M., S.D.; E. Terry, J.D.; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; G. Cizzio, I.G.; E. Nice, R. Sandland, A. Gibelli, J. Mason, and C. Robinson.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. J. Paul, Preceptor, and the 2nd by the Assistant Preceptor. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. E. Nice being the candidate. The 4th Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. R. Sandland and the 5th by the Preceptor. The W.M. rose for the first time and the dues were collected. At the second rising, Bro. G. Ridout, W.M. 1287, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed his officers in rotation. After the third rising Bro. Ridout was invited to work the ceremony of installation on the second Wednesday in December. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. P. F. Holmden, W.M.; W. Rapley, S.W.; J. W. Clarke, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; R. P. Upton, S.D.; Milton Smith, J.D.; A. Oliver, P.M., I.G.; C. T. Barlow, P.M.; H. R. Bower, Cook, P.M.; J. H. Whadcoat, W. G. Carrington, C. Smith, R. W. Nicole, A. Oldrey, Alsop, M. Tuck, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Essex; and J. Amand.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Smith being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Cook answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Cook being the candidate. Bro. Carrington was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Rapley was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Holmden for his services in the chair for the first time in this lodge of instruction. The lodge was then closed.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the Old White Hart Hotel, Borough, S.E. Present: Bros. Barnard, W.M.; O'Brien, S.W.; Lonsdale, J.W.; Roots, Preceptor; W. Bird, Sec.; Bullpitt, S.D.; Atkin, J.D.; W. Malham, Tyler; Wright, P.M.; Hattersley, P.M.; H. C. Ball, P.M.; Tullis, O'Dea, and Jas. Akers.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Bullpitt being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, Bro. Atkin having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Atkin being the candidate. Bro. Ball, P.M., worked the 3rd Section of the Lecture in a very able manner. Bro. O'Brien was elected W.M. for the next meeting, when a goodly gathering is expected. The W.M. closed the lodge, and was accorded "Hearty good wishes" from all present.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of the above was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 2nd inst., when there were present: Comps. Grummant, M.E.Z.; Benedetti, H.; Dunn, J.; R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Bannister, S.N.; Barr, P.S.; W. Martin, Ellinger, Cureton, Pullen, Cope, Lightfoot, Lewis, Cass, Hinton, North, Dawson, Cornford, Elgar, and Salmon.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Lewis personating the candidate. Comp. Benedetti was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. The chapter was then closed.

Knights Templar.

PROVINCIAL GRAND PRIORY OF HAMPSHIRE

On Monday, the 22nd ult., the members of the William Stuart Preceptory, No. 76, assembled in force at the Masonic Hall, Aldershot, the business being to instal a new member and to inaugurate a Preceptor for the ensuing 12 months. The preceptory (owing to the fact of the Provincial Grand Priory being held the same afternoon) was compelled to open at 1.30 sharp, and proceeded to instal Comp. J. L. Emerson, the new Provost Marshal, into the Order, the ceremony being most admirably performed by Sir Knight Surgeon-General A. H. Prescott, who also inaugurated the new Preceptor elect, Sir Knight Henry Lehmann, into his new office. By the time this work had been done it was fully three o'clock, the time appointed for the Prov. Grand Priory, and therefore Sir Knight W. W. Beach, M.P., the Eminent Grand Prior, took the chair, supported by the following officers: Sir Knights F. Newman, P.G. Vice-Chancellor; R. Eve, P.G. Aide-de-Camp; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G. Treas.; G. Lancaster, P.G.E.P.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.G. Chancellor; L. Thule, P.P.G. Chancellor; A. Howell, P.G. Sub-Marshal; C. H. Lloyd, P.G. Herald; W. G. Whittam, P.G. Purs; A. Savill, P.G.E.P.; H. Stone, P.G.E.P.; H. Lehmann, John Youd, W. F. N. Noel, G. H. Macey, W. Bennett, W. Bissett, W. Mills, W. J. Champion, and Frater W. Burns.

Provincial Grand Priory having been opened, the following business was transacted:

The minutes of the last Provincial Priory were read and confirmed; the report of the Committee for auditing the P.G. Treasurer's accounts were received; the provincial accounts were passed; the P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year was elected; the Committee for auditing the P.G. Treasurer's accounts for the ensuing year was appointed; the P.G. Officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested.

The Prov. Grand Officers appointed by the Grand Prior for the ensuing year were as follows:

Sir Knight Major F. Newman...	Prov. G. Sub-Prior.
" Rev. T. F. Morton	Prov. G. Prelate.
" C. W. A. Jellicoe	Prov. G. Chan.
" Henry Stone	Prov. G. Constable.
" Arthur Savill	Prov. G. Marshal.
" J. E. Le Feuvre, J.P.	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Youd	Prov. G. Registrar.
" A. J. Firth	Prov. G. Vice-Chan.
" Capt. W. Bissett	Prov. G. Herald.
" W. Mills	Prov. G. C. of Gd.
" G. Carter	Prov. G. Equerry.

A very warm vote of thanks was proposed by the P.G. Prior, and seconded by Sir Knight Surgeon-Gen. Prescott, to Sir Knight Judge R. Loveland Loveland for the valuable services he had rendered to the province whilst discharging the duties of Prov. G. Sub-Prior.

This was carried with acclamation.

No further business offering for the good of the Order and the benefit of the province, the alms were collected.

The minute books of the preceptories in the province were examined and signed by the V.E. Grand Prior, who afterwards closed the Prov. G. Priory in due form, and retired with the Officers and Past Grand Officers to the banquet, where they were presided over by the V.E. Grand Prior.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE ISLINGTON LODGE
OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1071.

A dinner took place on the 30th ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, and, notwithstanding the inclement weather, which deterred numbers from being present, proved such a success that it must have been very gratifying to the Committee and promoters. The chair was taken by Bro. C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, who was supported by Bros. W. Hancock, P.M., the Preceptor of the lodge; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Whadcoat, W.M., and Milton Smith, S.W., of 19; G. T. Chretien, P.M. 1328; W. J. Mason, W.M. 1328, P.P.G.D. Surrey; M. H. Hale, P.M. 27; G. T. Peall, W.M. 2361; J. W. Clarke, W.M. 1512; R. P. Upton, S.W. 1328; R. Loomes, W.M., S. Napper, P.M., and H. B. Harding, P.M., of 1471; A. Oliver, P.M., E. C. Kilsby, P.M., and E. H. Moore, W.M., of 2278; in all nearly 70 brethren sat down.

The dinner over, the CHAIRMAN, suggesting brevity in the speeches on account of the very long programme which was before them, proposed "The Queen and the Craft."

Bro. J. H. WHADCOAT proposed "The M.W.G.M.," and Bro. R. P. UPTON proposed "The Health of the Chairman," referring to his long connection with the lodge as one of its Secretaries, and expressing the goodwill which was felt towards him.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Bro. C. M. COXON, in replying, said that nothing in his Masonic career had given him greater satisfaction than his connection with that lodge of instruction. He hoped to be spared many years to serve the lodge in any office the brethren might be pleased to entrust to him.

Bro. G. T. PEALL proposed "The [Islington Lodge of Instruction," coupled with the name of its Preceptor.

Bro. W. HANCOCK, in reply, referred to the vicissitudes through which the lodge had passed before arriving at its present prosperous condition.

Bro. J. W. CLARKE proposed "The [Treasurer and Secretaries," attributing the success of the lodge to the able services rendered by its officers.

Bro. PETCH, Treas., in his response, stated that during his connection with the lodge upwards of 1300 guineas had been raised for the various Charities through the Lodge Masonic Charities Association.

Bro. DUNCAN replied for the Secretaries. He joined the lodge on the night following his initiation, and with one or two others share the honour of most regular attendances.

This concluded the toast list, which had been varied by selection, and not all proposed from the chair, the result being some very able speeches from the brethren enumerated.

The musical programme was, however, the feature of the evening. Bro. T. E. Newman, under whose direction it was, had no lack of talent at his disposal, and an excellent entertainment had been arranged. Bro. E. N. Benningfield gave "Margarita," Bro. C. Isler, "Funiculi Funicula," Bro. W. Banks, "The Frenchman," and a selection, "H.M.S. Pinafore." Bro. E. H. Moore, "The Hunting Song," and "Father O'Flynn;" Bro. H. J. Kembell, "The Captain of the Lifeboat;" Bro. H. R. Bower, "The Goodwin Sands," and "Tommy Atkins," all of which met with well-deserved applause; but the singing of "I fear no foe," and "Bid me to love," by Bro. D. C. Attwater; "The Venetian Song," by Bro. T. Powell, of the Lyric Vocal Quartette; "Ho! Jolly Jenkin," by Bro. C. Isler; "The Moon has raised her Lamp above," by Bros. Etherington, Smith, and Horace Reynolds, of the Lyric Vocal Quartette, fairly roused the enthusiasm of the company. Bro. Percy Cooper gave a really clever sleight of hand performance, and that well known reciter, Bro. Sergeant Lee, contributed a humorous account of "Prudes on the Prowl." The services of Bro. W. E. Goodwins, R.A.M., at the piano were greatly appreciated, as was also his singing of a parody on "Daddy," and "They don't speak to one another now." Enough has been said to show the quality of the entertainment provided. Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, on behalf of the Committee, expressed their thanks to the brethren who had kindly afforded so much pleasure to the company present, and his remarks were enthusiastically endorsed by all the brethren. "Auld Lang Syne" closed the proceedings.

DEVON MASONIC EDUCATIONAL FUND.

An election of two candidates on the Devon Masonic Educational Fund was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on Tuesday, the 30th ult., Bro. C. S. Stebbing, a Vice-Patron of the Institution, presiding. There were also present Bros. J. B. Gover, P.P.G.S. (Sec. of the fund); J. R. Lord, Perm. P.P.G.D. (Treas.); W. Allsford, Prov. G.T.; W. Powell, P.P.G.T.; S. Jew, P.P.G.T.; E. H. Littleton, P.P.G.D.; A. W. Gregory, P.P.G.T.; Jas. Griffin, P.P.G.D.; A. C. Titherley, P.A.G.P.; W. T. Hocking, P.G. Std. Br.; W. J. Stanbury, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Edmund M. Ellis, P.G.P.; J. Leonard, P.P.A.G.D.C.; A. S. Hendry, P.S.G.D.; Jas. Gidley, P.P.G. Std. Br.; G. Dunsterville, I.P.M. 189; H. T. Robins, W.M. 1550; C. Mutton, P.M. 1550; John Griffin, P.M. 1847; F. G. Knight, P.M. 156; W. Sweet, P.M. 1212; J. C. Revell, P.M. 1855; R. Blight, P.M. 223; S. J. Page, P.M. 1099; H. J. Barter, P.M. 1247; H. Roberts, P.M. 159; A. Blackler, W.M. 328; R. D. Renwick, P.M. 328; T. S. Eyre, P.M. 1247; J. T. Rook, P.M.

1847; W. Cocks, P.M. 106; J. Wallis, P.M. 1255; T. Lamerton, 159; A. Roberts, I.G. 1550; H. A. Grattan Barnett, 1135; and F. Maby, 105.

There were five candidates for the two seats, and the voting resulted in favour of the child of a deceased brother who was for many years a member of lodge No. 1135, at Ilfracombe, and who headed the poll with 1032 votes (including 280 votes brought forward from the last election), and the child of a deceased brother of Metham Lodge, No. 1205, Stonehouse, who obtained 943 votes. A child nominated by Charity Lodge, No. 223, Plymouth, came next with 747 votes. Altogether 2558 votes were recorded, and 361 were brought forward from the last election, making a total of 2919.

IN MEMORIAM.

ALEXANDER III., THE TSAR OF RUSSIA,
DIED 1ST NOV., 1894.

... omnium
Versatur urna serius ocus
Sors exitura. . . Horace. (Odes. Lib. 2-3.)

Life's troubled dream is changed to calm repose,
Sad loving hands have closed those wearied eyes;
Beloved by friends, respected 'en by foes,
The mighty Autocrat in slumber lies.

The irksome weight of sovereignty he bore,
Unwilling captive bound by regal thrall,
In Duty firm, unruffled visage wore,
Nor deeds of Nihilists his soul appal.

Dearly he loved his country, and he strove
To raise his people from their low estate,
In manner stern, he hungered for their love—
His valued life is closed by doom of Fate.

Europe will mourn his loss throughout the years,
So earnest was his wish for nations' peace;
His was a chequered life of hopes and fears—
Death, the Consoler, bids his troubles cease.

Blameless in privacy—affection's chain,
With golden links, united man and wife;
He loved his children, and beloved again,
Changed, gladly, regal for domestic life.

He had his failings, common to the lot
Of Tsar or Moujik; but his virtues shone
As sun in splendour, brighter for each spot;
Absorbed in radiance of its beams alone.

And so farewell to him upon his bier,
The people's Father, ruling by his nod,
Whose love for Russia cast out private fear—
In humble faith we leave him with his God.

F. W. DRIVER, M.A.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF PERTSHIRE
EAST.

The Quarterly Communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Scone and Perth Masons' Hall on Friday night, the 26th ult. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Campbell, Prov. Grand Master Depute, occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance, including Bros. Thomas Chalmers, Prov. J.G.W., acting as Prov. Grand Substitute Master; Alexander Auld, R.W.M. 3, Prov. S.G.W.; Turnbull, 74, acting as Prov. J.G.W.; A. J. Stevenson, Prov. G. Sec.; T. I. Millar, Prov. G. Treas.; Rev. A. J. B. Baxter, Prov. G. Chap.; G. P. K. Young, Prov. G. Architect; A. McIntyre, Prov. G. Marshal; P. McFarlane, Prov. G. Std. Br.; William Whitelaw, M.P., R.W.M. 122; and others.

Letters of apology were intimated from Bros. the Most Hon. the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G., P.G.M., and C. H. Dundas, Prov. J.G.W. An application from Lodge No. 122 to raise their test fee from 1s. to 2s. 6d., and their life member ticket from 10s. to 25s., was granted.

A hearty vote of thanks was awarded to the Messrs. Pullar for their kindness in having granted the use of their band at the Masonic demonstration at the laying of the foundation-stone of the Craigie Church on Saturday, the 13th ult., and Bro. Whitelaw, M.P., was appointed to convey the thanks of the lodge to the Messrs. Pullar. Bros. Chalmers and Dundas were appointed Auditors for the year.

The PROV. G. TREASURER submitted a statement of his intromissions, with the fees from daughter lodges, from which it was found that all the lodges, with one exception, had paid, and all the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge had paid their test fees with the exception of one or two.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF
FORFARSHIRE.

The quarterly meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the White Hart Hotel, on Tuesday, the 30th ult. There was a large attendance, Bro. Berry, P.G.M., presiding.

A report was submitted by the Standing Committee anent benevolent schemes of the lodges in the province and anent the constitution of the province in consequence of the elevation of Dundee to be a county.

Bro. BERRY stated that he purposed making enquiry into the benevolent schemes of the various lodges during the coming winter's visitations.

With regard to the constitution of the province, the meeting decided that Dundee's elevation would make no change in the Masonic Province of Forfarshire.

THE NEW MASONIC HALL AT ABERDEEN.

The new Masonic Hall in Exchange-street was formally opened on Saturday, the 3rd inst., by Bro. Forshaw, Prov. Grand Master. Between 200 and 300 brethren attended. The premises were formerly leased by the Craft, but through the efforts of Bro. Forshaw they were purchased and became their absolute property in May last. Since then various alterations have been made in the structure of the house, so that the place might be made as convenient for the purposes of the Craft as possible. The small rooms on the first floor have been converted into much larger rooms, the whole of which have been beautifully furnished and finished in a very artistic manner. There are also, as usual, a few smaller ante-rooms, which have been tastefully re-decorated and finished up.

On the same evening, Bro. Forshaw was entertained to a complimentary dinner in the Bon-Accord Hotel. Over 120 sat down, Bro. Wilson, P.D.G.M., presiding, and the croupiers being Bros. J. C. Blake, P.S.G.W., and Worling, P.J.G.W. Apologies for absence were read from Bros. D. Murray Lyon, P.G. Sec., and Morrison, W.M. 761.

On the removal of covers, an interesting toast list was entered upon.

After the usual toasts had been pledged, "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers" was replied to by Sergeant-Major WEBSTER, Gordon Highlanders.

"The Grand Lodge of Scotland" was proposed by Bro. SPENCE, of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 110, and replied for by Bro. IMLAY, No. 13.

"The Guest" was proposed, amid continued cheering, by the CHAIRMAN; Bro. FORSHAW, in the capacity of guest, suitably replying.

"Aberdeen City Provincial Grand Lodge" was given by Bro. PALMER, P.M. St. Machar, No. 54, and having been heartily pledged, was replied to by Bro. BLAKE, St. George Lodge, No. 190.

"The Daughter Lodges" was given by Bro. the Rev. C. C. MACDONALD, and responded to by Bro. LITTLEJOHN, St. Ternan Lodge.

"The Aberdeen Masonic Hall Trustees" was then proposed by Bro. KITSON, of St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 93, and responded to by the Chairman of the Trust, Bro. FORSHAW.

The concluding toast of "The Chairman" was then given by Bro. WORLING, R.W.M. St. Nicholas Lodge, and replied to by Bro. WILSON.

The large company separated shortly after 10 o'clock. Bro. Forshaw, who has rendered such signal service to the Craft in Aberdeen, was received with great enthusiasm.

A complete set of new lodge furniture, in polished oak, has been procured from Bro. George Kenning, the well-known Masonic furnisher.

WORKING HIMSELF IN.

We remember a case where a wearer of the purple was sent by the P.G.M. to visit and report upon a lodge whose dinners were more famous than its Masonry. Hearing of this and suspecting no great friendliness on the part of the visitor, arrangements were made accordingly. He turned up and was greeted effusively by the W.M., but on attempting to enter the lodge room, was politely asked who was his sponsor. A letter from the P.G.M. was produced, but the W.M. said his obligation prevented him from allowing any visitor to enter not properly vouched for, etc., etc., etc. Bros. Smith, Jones, and Robinson were successively mentioned by the visitor as having sat in lodge with him, but unfortunately none of these brethren were present.

The W.M. then suggested that he should work his way in, and the P.G. Officer, smothering his indignation, was passed into a small room where a P.M. came to him, who began by causing him to swear that he had not been expelled, etc. This over, his G.L. certificate was called for, and signatures compared, after which the examination began, and after about a quarter of an hour the P.M. informed the W.M. that the visiting brother had certainly proved himself an E.A., but did not seem to know much more. The W.M. at once proceeded to open the lodge in the Second Degree and regrets were sent outside to the visiting brother that etc., and the Secretary was at once instructed to inform the P.G.M. that a brother styling himself a P.G. Officer and arrayed as such, and who was possessed of a G.L. certificate but who was only an E.A., had attempted to visit the lodge under these false pretences.—*Indian Masonic Review.*

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW.

At the time of our going to press, the Lord Mayor's Show is in progress, but the following anticipatory description, which appeared in the *City Press* on Wednesday, gives a good idea of the main features of this year's display:

It is in order to do honour to the Lord Mayor elect and the Corporation generally, and to Mr. Sheriff and in particular, that the Tin Plate Workers' alias Wyre Workers' Company are taking such a prominent part in the procession. With the exception of a grant from the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs' Committee, the cost of the proceedings will be borne entirely by the Sheriff's friends in the guild. The Master (Lieut. Colonel George Lambert, V.D.), several members of the Court of Assistants, and the Clerk will follow in three carriages, the coachman and horses being de-

decorated with rosettes of the company's colours; and the beadle in his gown and sash, carrying the old silver mace, will ride on the first carriage. Banners of the arms of the company, Lieut.-Colonel Lambert, Mr. S. P. Low, D.L., J.P. (Past Master), and of Mr. Sheriff Hand will be carried in the procession. Public attention, however, will be chiefly directed to the historical car, drawn by six horses draped with gold cloths, and escorted by three carter in costume of the time of King Charles II., and the colours then used by the company's servants, viz., long blue coats with red collar and cuffs, red knickerbockers, large black top boots, and spurs. The car itself will measure 14 feet by nine feet, and will be profusely draped with black and gold—the company's colours—with festoons of the same coloured ribbons extending from the four corner poles to the centre one, which will be surmounted by a model of a large globular lantern as used chiefly on light-ships in Charles II.'s reign. At the date of their incorporation the Tin Plate Workers made a great number of these tin lanterns, and the crest which the company has ever since used consists of a ship lantern, with sheets of horn filled in the opening, glass not being then used for the purpose. Between the two poles in front of the car will be suspended a black cloth edged with gold, bearing in gold embroidered letters the text of the full style of the guild according to its charter, viz., "The Master, Wardens, Assistants, and Com'onalty of the Art and Mistery of Tynne Plate Workers al's Wyer Workers of the City of London." The costume worn by the tin plate workers in 1670, according to the engraved representations of the company's supporters (on either side of the shield of arms) on their silver loving-cups, banners, and engravings, consisted of blue coat lined with brown fur, scarlet cuffs, silver buttons, scarlet waistcoat, blue breeches, white stockings, black shoes and silver buckles, and fur caps. In this brilliant dress six craftsmen—four tin plate workers and two wire-workers—will be at work on the car at their proper benches. The industries of tin plate working and wire working have so marvelously increased in extent and importance since the foundation of the company that in every home and for an infinity of purposes there is a constant demand for the productions of the workers. Realising, therefore, how familiar Londoners are with all such work, the company have thought it wiser to represent only some of the more curious articles in tin plate and wire work in use in the 17th century. The tin-plate workers will show the making, by means of the old-fashioned "formers" and "hollowing blocks," of horn lanterns for stables, butchers' lamps, and light-ship lanterns, and the wire-workers will produce flower baskets, fencing masks, flower stands, fire guards, and gravel and cinder sieves. Some of these articles (all, of course, in the rough) will be shown in a finished state. The men, with their tools and materials, have been kindly supplied by two well-known leading firms in the trade—Messrs. Benjamin Perkins, and Son, of Bermondsey-street (one of the members of which house, Mr. James Watt Perkins, is a past master of the company), and Messrs. Bedford, Steer, End, and Co., of the Southwark Wire Works (which firm, together with two of their hands, took the first prizes for wire work at the worshipful company's exhibition, which was held at the Crystal Palace in 1878.) The sides of the car will be decorated with escutcheons, with the arms of the company (a chevron between three lamps, similar to those which will be made on the car) between those of the City of London, on the one side, and of Lieut.-Col. Lambert on the other; while above them will be shown black banners, fringed with, and inscribed in gold embroidered letters, with (1) the first motto used by the company, "Adunate in amorem;" (2) its English version, used a few years later, "Unite in Love;" (3) the present motto, adopted in the last century, "Amore sitis uniti;" and (4) the date of the charter, "Incorporated 29 December, 1670." The details of the car are being carried out by Mr. George Kenning, of Little Britain; and Messrs. Bishop and Clark, of Godliman-street, are making the rosettes for the carriages and horses, the latter being from the stables of Messrs. Copus and Son, of Hornsey-road. The whole design has been thought out by Mr. E. A. Ebbelwhite, F.S.A., the clerk of the company, whose archaeological studies have materially assisted him; and the whole arrangements are under his personal supervision.

DISPENSING MASONIC AID.

The *Masonic Advocate*, of Indiana, for this month, has the following:
Our attention is again called to this subject by a circular just received from a committee appointed at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, for the purpose, as they state it, "to lay before the several Grand Lodges of the country the question of Masonic relief, the object being to attempt to establish more systematic and uniform methods." A careful reading of the circular discloses the fact that the only "uniform method" embraced in the movement is an attempt to establish the following proposition, which Grand Lodges are asked to adopt:
"It is the duty of each lodge to take care of its own members in distress, wherever they may be. In case of its inability to do so, this duty devolves upon the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter. It being understood that in no case is the lodge furnishing relief and asking reimbursements to go beyond actual necessities, without express authority from the reimbursing body."
The chairman of this committee, and so presumably

the active mover in this matter on the part of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, is Bro. Wm. C. Swain, P.G.M., and this calls to mind that at the Masonic Congress, held in Chicago during the World's Fair, Bro. Swain made an effort to commit the Congress to a similar proposition, which was as follows:

"The conclusion of the Congress is that each jurisdiction should take care of its own members when in distress, and that it is the duty of Grand Lodges to see that all legitimate expenses incurred in the relief or burial of a brother in foreign jurisdictions are paid either by the lodge of which he is a member, or the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter."

This proposition received but very little support outside of the delegates from Wisconsin, while the following was almost unanimously adopted:

"The conclusion of the Congress is, that worthy masons are entitled to relief from brethren and lodges wheresoever they may be found in need of relief, and that the brethren of lodges granting such aid are not entitled to demand reimbursement from the lodges in which they hold their membership, but that when a member of one lodge is relieved by another, and the financial situation of his lodge is such as to permit common courtesy and duty alike demand that it should reimburse a poorer lodge relieving its members."

The Grand Lodge of Indiana came to this same conclusion in 1869, just a quarter of a century ago, and has successfully maintained it ever since. It is so taught in the very First Degree in Masonry, in the grand lesson that a Mason's lodge extends from east to west, and between north and south, and that Masonic Charity should be equally extensive. This same idea of universality is expressed in the petition which a man presents to a lodge when he desires to become a Mason. Here is the form of it: "The petition of the subscriber respectfully sheweth that, having long entertained a favourable opinion of your ancient Institution, he is desirous of being admitted a member thereof if found worthy." Nothing is said about becoming a member of that particular lodge, or of any lodge, for that matter. In fact, it may be said that the present system of lodges is a modern invention in this "ancient institution." The obligation to aid a brother who needs assistance is a personal one, which every Mason has assumed, and the rendering of aid by lodges is only that the burden may be borne equally by many instead of a few, and thus make it light for all. The needy brother is entitled to assistance wherever he may be, and the duty of affording it rests where the application is made.

In sending out this circular, with a proposition for Grand Lodges to consider, one would naturally suppose that the committee would have presented some arguments to support it; but all we find in it is the recital of two cases in Wisconsin, where lodges had been compelled to expend a larger amount of money than they could afford, in the relief of masons holding a membership in some other State. Now, let us suppose that instead of this, two members of these same lodges had been away from home, and had received an equal amount of relief from lodges in another State, would not the demand for reimbursements from these foreign lodges have proved just as great a burden on them as though the aid had been given them at home? We can see no difference in it, and their members were just as liable to be away from home and need assistance as that a strange brother should come among them in that condition. Making one lodge responsible for aid afforded one of its members by some other party is narrowing Masonic Charity into a channel that the great Masonic Brotherhood will never accept. Such a plan is wholly contrary to the design and spirit of Masonry, and if we are not much mistaken the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin will stand alone with her proposition. There may possibly be a few Grand Lodges in the far West that will support it, but the great majority will continue to dispense Masonic aid without the hope of fee or reward.

NEW MASONIC TEMPLE AT MONTREAL.

At the laying of the foundation stone of the new Masonic Temple at Montreal, at which over 1200 Masons were present, the Grand Master, M.W. Bro. John Noyes, delivered an able address, in the course of which he said that we have no apologies to make for our institution, no justification to offer for the faith we hold sacred and dear. They have come to us by legitimate transmission, and, believing in the permanency of the one and the efficacy of the other, we willingly and obediently devote ourselves to their conservation and perpetuation, pure and untainted, for all time to come. Back through the centuries we trace our mystic succession from and through a goodly race of worthy Craftsmen, and conscious of our trust we fearlessly confront the world to-day as members of the oldest, the best, the strongest, and most respected secret organisation of the present time. With legitimate and pardonable pride we saluted her Majesty our Queen as the Royal Patroness of our Order, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, heir to the throne, as Grand Master of the largest and most powerful Grand Lodge in the world, and his son, his Royal Highness the Duke of York, also an heir to the throne, as well as two of his Royal uncles, sons of our Sovereign, as prominent, devoted and zealous members of the Craft. We greet with like pride and gratification, as worthy Craftsmen and brothers, his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Germany, his Royal Majesty the King of Sweden, his son, the Crown Prince of Sweden, and H.R.H., the

Crown Prince of Denmark, and turning westward, whither we are told "the course of Empire takes her way," we discover that nearly every President of the Great Republic to the south of us was a member—an active member of our Fraternity, whilst during nearly all the time this Dominion of Canada has existed, as such, her destinies have been confided to premiers who were likewise members of our Order. The statistics of Freemasonry disclose its remarkable strength and vigour, as well as the firm hold which it has upon the best men in enlightened countries—in countries where there exists a true spirit of progress, toleration and intelligence. In the cultivation of that spirit, as well as in its practice, the Society of Freemasons has ever quietly, unobtrusively borne an honourable part, has been faithful in those respects to its principles, its teachings and its traditions. Not so much with intent to laud unduly our Order, or to boast of its present prosperous state, are these references here made at this time, but rather are they made to point out for our encouragement, amid antagonistic environments, that as Masons we have a splendid, an honourable heritage, shared with distinguished brethren, and hence we can face present conditions with feelings of gratification and look forward to the future with feelings of hope and of courage. We are not unmindful of the fact that accusations have sometimes been made, the futility and falsity of which are known to every member of the Order—accusations to the effect that Freemasonry has for its political object the overthrow of established governments, and for its religious belief a negation, by means of which it sought to undermine and thereby overthrow the Church. It would be unseemly at this time, it would be contrary to Masonic tenets at any time, to publicly discuss Masonic doctrines or principles, but without trespassing very far upon that salutary rule, one may with propriety point out that it is not creditable to one's intelligence to believe that the Royal Princes of England, the Emperor of Germany, the King of Sweden, the Crown Prince of Sweden, the Crown Prince of Denmark, the Presidents of the United States and the Premiers of Canada just referred to, as well as so many distinguished men in all those countries, whose position, prosperity and honour depend upon the perpetuation of existing governments, would join or countenance by a continued alliance, a society, whose object would be the overthrow—the political suicide of themselves; rather is it to be inferred, that their interest in Freemasonry is, in a measure, due to the knowledge that they possess, that a Mason is "a peaceable subject to the civil power wherever he resides, and is never concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation," as quaintly declares our ancient charges. With equal propriety may it be said, that "darkened in understanding" is that man who declares the Masonic belief a negation, and the tendency of Masonic teaching to undermine and overthrow the Church. It is to the knowledge of every Mason when he joins the Craft that he is left free, absolutely free, to remain with whatever denomination or persuasion he is then connected with. Our ancient charges say that this practice is "the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance." To diminish, to control or keep within proper bounds that "perpetual distance," which the ancient Craftsman deplored, the discussion of religious tenets in the lodge-room is not permitted and to preserve peace and harmony in the Craft sectarian efforts are not tolerated. That does not constitute a religious negation. It is true our Order has no special declaration or formula of religious faith, and it would not be a Society of Freemasons if it undertook to lay down and define articles of religion, and sought to enforce acceptance of these articles by or through its organisation. It would at once become in effect an organised Church, subject to the vicissitudes of a church society for a sect and exposed to perils which would minimise, if not destroy, its usefulness as a fraternal, benevolent society for all mankind. The requirements of Freemasonry do not exact a religious belief so affirmatively direct in detail as, for instance, the multiplication table; but, on the other hand, it is content to work in and along with the negative averments of the 10 commandments. It seems hardly necessary to state that Masonry has no religious dogmas, no sectarian creed, no call to preach any denomination faith, no passion to organise, nor ambition to lead a religious crusade. And yet, Freemasonry, by alleviating human misery, aiding the unfortunate, stimulating charitable works, fostering mutual dependence, creating a particular bond of fraternal union, and teaching submission to the will of the Supreme Ruler and Grand Architect of the Universe, has enlarged human sympathies, has turned the attention of its votaries to godly things, and has opened the hearts of men within its influence to the reception of Divine truths of which the Church, in the broad meaning of the term, has reaped the advantage.

We often hear of a candidate for Masonic Degrees being ineligible because he has an artificial foot, or has lost the thumb of his right hand, etc. Ineligible because he could not give the grip or step of the ceremonies. Is not this strictly absurd? Does Masonry consist of grips, steps, etc.? Is a Mason a Mason because he has both feet or a right thumb? And is he less a Mason because he has them not? Would it not be better to have a few physical cripples and less moral cripples? In all the jurisdictions how many good men are denied admission because of a physical defect, and into the same lodge are admitted men morally defective, whose mouth belches profanity daily. Would it not be better to draw the lines a little stronger on head and heart decrepitude, and give the thumbs and feet a rest?—*Masonic Constellation*.

MASONIC AND GENERAL TIDINGS

BRO. SIR AUGUSTUS HARRIS has joined the Sporting League, the object of which is to influence public opinion without regard to party politics, in the interests of sport, so as to enable the people to amuse themselves in future without molestation.

A MEMORIAL expressive of the sympathy of the English people with the Russian nation in their bereavement is now lying for signature at the head-quarters of the Foreign Press Association in London, 7, New Coventry-street, W.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire will be held at Wisbech, under the invitation of United Good Fellowship Lodge, No. 809, on Tuesday, the 20th inst., and will be attended by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. R. Townley Caldwell, and the D.P.G.M., Bro. Rev. J. H. Gray.

ON THE 2ND INSTANT, at the meeting of the Loyal Cambrian Lodge, No. 110, at Merthyr Tydfil, Bro. Dr. Dyke, J.P., was presented with an oil painting of himself, in recognition of his prolonged services. Bro. Dr. Dyke is the oldest member in the province, his period of membership being 56 years. Bro. Sandbrook, W.M., presided, and Bro. D. Rees Lewis, P.M., made the presentation. The oil-painting was the work of Bro. G. F. Harris.

THE INSTALLATION MEETING of the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1310, was held on the 5th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, when Bro. Francis Henry Macklin, the well-known actor, was installed by Bro. Hambleton, the retiring W.M. The lodge, which was founded 24 years ago for the convenience of members of the dramatic and musical professions, has now, after liberally assisting many cases of distress, nearly £1000 in its benevolent fund.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY COMPANY announce that they have now extended their arrangement for the booking and delivery of passengers' luggage to their hotel or residence, to apply to all the towns served by the Midland Railway, in which the company deliver with their own carts. Smaller towns are, therefore, now placed in the same advantageous position as London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Nottingham, Leeds, Bradford, and the other principal centres in this respect.

THE LORD MAYOR.—On Wednesday, at the Mansion House, the members of the Corporation presented Lady Tyler, the Lady Mayoress, with a diamond star and brooch, in recognition of the genial way in which she has discharged the duties of her position, and a deputation of private friends and intimate acquaintances, headed by the Rev. R. B. Ransford, the chaplain, subsequently presented the Lord Mayor with a splendid service of silver, in token of their esteem and regard.

MASONIC BANQUET.—The usual banquet and Lodge of Instruction in connection with the opening of the winter session of the Lewises Lodge, was held at the Castle Hotel, Ramsgate, on Monday, 29th ult. The chair was occupied by Bro. J. Chapman, W.M., who was supported by Bro. J. Baldwin in the vice-chair. Twenty-five members and friends sat down to a capital spread, provided by the host (Bro. J. Neale). The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and during the evening a draw for the Masonic Charities took place, in which Bro. Geo. Page was the successful candidate.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF STIRLINGSHIRE.—The quarterly communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Falkirk, on Tuesday, 30th ult., Bro. George Christie, Prov. Grand Master, presiding. The other members of the Prov. Grand Lodge present were: Bros. Wm. Black, P.G.D.M.; J. Haddow, P.G.S.W.; R. Crawford, acting P.G.J.W.; Jas. Brown, P.G. Sec.; and Dr. Dyer, P.G. Treas. It was reported that the Prov. Grand Master had visited Lodge Zetland, No. 391; Carron Lodge, No. 139; and Lodge St. Servanus, No. 771, and was highly satisfied with the manner in which those lodges conducted their business. It was intimated that Bro. H. M. Shaw-Stewart of Carnock, M.P., was to be installed as Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West, at Greenock, on the 23rd inst., and a deputation of the office-bearers expressed their intention of being present at the installation.

CONVERSAZIONE OF THE QUATUOR CORONATI LODGE.—Bro. Speth, the Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge has issued the following circular: "Conversazione, final notice.—On Wednesday, 28th November next, the warrant of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati will be ten years old. It has finally been decided to commemorate the occasion by a conversazione in the new King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on that date. The proceedings will comprise an Address of Welcome by the Worshipful Master, Rev. C. J. Ball; an Oration on Freemasonry, specially addressed to the ladies, by Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson; and excellent vocal and concerted music at intervals; but the projected performance of Mozart's Masonic Cantata has been abandoned. Bro. F. J. W. Crowe, of Torquay, will exhibit a selection from his large collection of old and curious Masonic clothing. Bro. G. L. Shackles, of Hull, will exhibit his unrivalled collection of Masonic medals. Light refreshments will be provided throughout the evening. A dispensation has been granted by the M.W. Grand Master, authorising the brethren to wear Craft clothing. Brethren are permitted to introduce their friends, ladies and gentlemen (the latter need not necessarily be Masons). Tickets will be issued only to members of either Circle. The price of the tickets (to include refreshments) has been fixed at five shillings per head.

"POVERTY IN THE DITCH and the devil throwing stones at him." This was once a favourite toast in the days when heavy drinking and convivial meetings were commoner than they are now. It is a good toast, but unfortunately it is not always realised. As often as not, we are in the ditch, with poverty sitting complacently on our chest and the devil grinning hard-by. The fight for existence is keen, and we can only succeed in holding poverty at arm's length by keeping our heads cool, our nerves steady, and our frames healthy and vigorous. How are we to do this? There is only one sure way, my brothers. I speak in all seriousness when I say—use Holloway's Pills.

A NEW LODGE OF INSTRUCTION has been formed under the sanction of Grand Lodge, which will be called the Woodrow Lodge of Instruction, No. 1708, and be held at the Star and Garter, Pall Mall, on Monday afternoons, from 3 to 5 o'clock. Preceptor, Bro. C. Woodrow, P.M. Plucknett Lodge, No. 1708.

BRO. F. W. DRIVER, M.A., P.M., P.Z., &c., author of "The Noble Soul," "The Submerged City," "Toujours Perdrix" (poems), "A Novel Vengeance," and "The Four Henries" (prose), recites his original productions at musical entertainments, smoking concerts, &c. For terms, address 62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

MINEHEAD MASONIC HALL COMPANY, LIMITED.—This company was registered on the 29th ult., with a capital of £1000, divided into 200 shares of £5 each, to acquire by purchase a plot of land in Minehead, in the county of Somerset, for the purpose of erecting a building adapted for a Masonic hall, and other purposes. Registered office, 12, Hammet-street, Taunton, Somerset.—*Investors' Guardian*.

THE CITY LIEUTENANCY.—Her Majesty having been pleased to give directions, through the Secretary of State for War, for the issue of a new commission of the Lieutenancy of the City of London, and to give the Lord Mayor the privilege of nominating persons to fill such vacancies as have arisen during his term of office, his lordship has made the following nominations: Mr. Thomas James Barratt, Mr. Frederick Hill, Mr. Hoarce Brooks Marshall, jun., Mr. John Morgan, Mr. James Herbert Renals, Mr. James Ralph Truscott, and Mr. Frederick Charles Tyler.

RECENTLY SOME VALUABLE MANUSCRIPTS and other curios belonging to the early days of Methodism have come into the possession of the Wesleyan Book Room authorities at City-road. This week an album containing a unique collection of society tickets from the days of John Wesley, also valuable autographs of many of the Fathers of the Methodist Church, has been formally presented by the Rev. C. H. Kelly, one of the ex-presidents who received the gift from a gentleman in Australia. The value of the collection is increased by ecclesiastical and biographical notes contributed by the Rev. James Everett, principal founder of the United Methodist Free Churches.

MR. CLEMENT SCOTT delivered a lecture on Thursday night at Newcastle on "Thirty-five Years at the Play" in aid of the Crippled Children's Home, at Wallsend. A large and fashionable audience assembled at the Art Gallery. Bro. Sir Augustus Harris presided, and introduced Mr. Scott, who traced the history of the English stage from 1860; and, in dealing with that class of play in which certain phases of human nature were analysed and put prominently forward, said nothing was to be gained by flaunting upon the stage the worst vices of humanity, when there was so much of what was good and beautiful to be depicted. He believed there would be a revolution in the drama, but it was not likely to come from people who had doctrines to preach so much as from the individual playgoer.

MRS. KATHARINE FISK, an American contralto, who sang in London some time ago, is again amongst us, and on Thursday afternoon gave a "song recital." There was but a small audience, but Mrs. Fisk proved conclusively that she deserved one much larger. Her excellent voice and method, as well as her intelligence and feeling, were well displayed in a number of classical selections, such as "Creation's Hymn," "In questa tomba," "Death and the Maiden," and the "Sapphic Ode" of Brahms. Mrs. Fisk also sang with success the well-known air, "Amour, viens aider ma faiblesse," from Saint-Saëns' "Samson and Delila," and introduced a number of songs of a light character, presumably by American composers whose names are not familiar on this side. Mr. Chadwick we know, and two of his folk-songs, "Love and Joy" and "The Northern Days," met with much favour. Mr. Anton Schlosser was the accompanist.

THE ORDER OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.—Historically considered the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine commemorates the first elevation of Christianity from the position of a despised and proscribed heresy, to that of a legally recognised and honoured religion. Christianity had indeed existed for more than three centuries before the institution of the Order, but always under the ban of restrictive laws and proclamations, more or less rigidly enforced, according to the caprice of those entrusted with their administration, and it was not until Constantine won the battle which gave him supreme control over the Western Empire that it acquired an established place among the religions of the world. To preserve the memory of the event which rendered possible this great change, as well as testify in the most marked manner his sense of the Divine aid which had given him the victory, our ancient traditions assert that in the year A.D. 313 he established this Order of Knighthood, prescribed its insignia and committed to its keeping the Labarum, or sacred banner, behind which his legions ever after marched to victory.—*Masonic Chronicle*.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.—As the outcome of an after-dinner chat at the Mansion House some weeks ago, Bro. Horniman, M.J.S., F.R.G.S., gave a reception to the members of the Japan Society, of which he is a member, at Horniman's Museum, Forest Hill, last week. There was a crowded attendance, but great disappointment was expressed at the absence of the Japanese Minister, Viscount Aoki, the President of the Society, who sent the following telegram in explanation of his absence: "Frederick John Horniman, Esq., Forest Hill, London.—Pressure of official duties does not permit me to leave Berlin now, and I deeply regret my inability to be present at your reception. Accept my sincere thanks for the honour extended to me, and remember me kindly to members of our Society.—AOKI." Madame Shimoda, who is now in England on a special mission from the Imperial household to study English family life and the best methods of higher female education, was present, looking very picturesque in her native dress. Madame Shimoda has been for nine years the principal of the Empress's College for Peeresses in Tokyo, and on her return will have the charge of the Imperial Princesses' education. After the reception—which lasted about an hour—the guests made a thorough inspection of the interesting collection of exhibits, the Japanese portion of the museum coming in very naturally for the chief attraction. About eight o'clock the party adjourned to "Surrey Mount," Bro. Horniman's residence, where refreshments were served, and a pleasant programme of music discussed under the direction of Mr. Dalgety Henderson.

"JOHN-A-DREAMS" a new play by Mr. C. Haddon Chambers, was favourably received on its production at the Haymarket Theatre, on Thursday night.

We are asked to state that the Southwark Lodge of Instruction has been removed from the Sir Garnet Wolseley, and will in future meet at the White Hart, New Cross, Gate, S.E., every Thursday evening at eight o'clock.

SITTING at the Mansion House for the last time on Thursday as Chief Magistrate, Sir George Tyler bade an official farewell to all connected with the administration of justice at that court. His lordship sincerely thanked the staff for the assistance they had rendered him during the year. Referring to the distribution of relief through the poor-box, he was pleased to learn that the continued liberality of the public had enabled much good to be done after the careful inquiries and precautions which were invariably exercised. To the members of the legal profession and the press he also tendered sincere thanks for their courtesy and attention. The Chief Clerk (Mr. Douglas) acknowledged his lordship's tribute.

MESSRS. J. R. PARKINGTON AND CO., of 24, Crutched-friars, report: The improvement manifested of late in the demand for wines and spirits is still fairly maintained, though it cannot even now be claimed that the revival is sufficiently pronounced to warrant the assertion that a renewed era of prosperity has dawned upon us. From the multitude of conflicting, and even contradictory, reports emanating from the various vine-growing centres of Europe it is difficult to glean, in the absence of official statistics, the actual result of the recent Continental vintage. However, it is evident that the pessimistic accounts hitherto despatched are by no means justified by results, and that the yield, though far from rivaling the enormous crop of last year, is considerably in excess of the average. At present it would be most hazardous to venture a conjecture as to the quality of the general yield, more especially as it appears to be strikingly unequal.

WE FREQUENTLY HEAR the phrase "ancient constitutions," and appeals are frequently made to them as supreme authority. This is all a mistake. The "ancient constitutions" referred to are simply the constitution, or "general regulations," of the Grand Lodge of England as adopted by that body when they "approved" the charges as compiled by Anderson. These "regulations" for the government of the Craft in England are enactments based upon the charges; or, in other words, they are simply the constitution of that Grand Lodge, and are of no more authority beyond the jurisdiction of that body than is the constitution of the Grand Lodge of Michigan or that of any other Grand Lodge. Those regulations may be changed at pleasure, so that they do not contravene the charges; they have been changed frequently since they were first adopted, and will probably be again.—*American Tyler*.

THE LORD MAYOR and the Lord Mayor Elect, after entertaining the Aldermen, the Recorder, the Sheriffs, the high officers of the Corporation, and the Masters, Wardens, and Courts of the Stationers', Spectacle Makers', Fruiters', and Gold and Silver Wire Drawers' Companies at luncheon at the Mansion House, on Thursday, proceeded in State to the Guildhall, where Sir Joseph Renals was formally admitted to office. The numerous spectators of the ceremony of "swearing-in" missed the personalities both of Mr. Chamberlain Cotton—who, to everybody's regret, was absent on account of a sudden attack of illness—and of Mr. William Payne, late the Chamberlain's Principal Clerk, who for 40 years in succession had till now officiated on this occasion. The usual "reverences" were duly performed by the several officials, either as substitutes, or in their own proper offices, and the various insignia were handed over and returned to their respective custodians. The retiring Lord Mayor and the new finally drove off together, amid the cheers of a considerable crowd.

LORD COLERIDGE in presenting the prizes and certificates gained by the candidates at the examinations held by the metropolitan centre of Trinity College, London, of which he is the vice-president, confessed that he had once composed a melody which had, happily, never been published, or probably he would not have been asked to take the chair on that interesting occasion. Nevertheless he claimed a right to that honour as one who was passionately fond of music in every form, save, perhaps, when it emanated from a "German eleemosynary band" or a barrel organ, but he admitted a preference for the classics, and would rather hear "Bach often" than "Offenbach." His lordship defended the English from the charge of being an unmusical nation, declaring that the man who could solve the difficulty of enabling the public in this country to hear music as cheaply as abroad, would discover what a latent love of the art there is among the people. In the course of the proceedings, which took place at Princes' Hall, Piccadilly, it was stated that 1,173 candidates had been examined. The National Prize, awarded by the college, was taken by Eustace Turner, who had passed with honours in harmony and counterpoint.

THE "AUSTRALASIAN KEYSTONE" appears to experience the same difficulty in pleasing everybody that the Old World journals have done ever since the first news sheet was printed: In its October number the editor thus delivers himself: "Numerous verbal, and a few written, complaints have reached us regarding the curtness of our reports in last issue on ordinary meetings of Craft lodges. We would remind our esteemed readers what befell, according to the old fable, the owner of a beast of burden who endeavoured to please everybody. We decidedly do not intend attempting such an impossible task. Our object in curtailing reports is to gain space for matter of more general interest. The rituals contain fullest data of all ceremonies. It is true a proverb exists which says: 'Man is less expensive in his tastes than woman; the latter would appear in silks and satins, the former is content if he appears in print.' We sincerely trust the members of our institution form the exception to this saying; although one or two isolated cases have occurred when a brother has withdrawn his support from the paper owing to his name being omitted in connection with a choral or some other ceremony. We fervently hope the omission of the statement that any ceremony 'was performed in an impressive manner,' &c., &c., will be fully counterbalanced by the additional quantity of items of greater importance we shall be able to publish. We trust the brethren will give us plenty of 'copy' for our new column, 'Sayings in the South'; also that our kind honorary correspondents and contributors will not fail to report any 'pearls of eloquence' they may hear fall at the festive board."