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M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN,
M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND.

SIR CHARLES DALRYMPLE, BART.,
M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND,

AND
THE GRAND MASTERS OF MANY FOREIGN LODGES.

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THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1895.

[PRICE 3D.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN 1894.

The statements of receipt during the year which terminated on Monday, with which we have been furnished by the Secretaries of our Masonic Institutions show clearly that, whatever fortune may befall our Order, the brethren are determined that nothing in the shape of impecuniosity shall be allowed to mar the efficiency of our Charitable Institutions. In 1893 there was a falling off in the receipts in consequence of the unexampled efforts that had been made the year previous in order to ensure the success of the Benevolent Jubilee, yet the total of the sums received by the three Charities amounted to not far short of £60,000—the actual sum was £59,051 14s. 9d.—or more than a year's interest on £2,000,000 Consols. In 1894, the receipts were as follows: Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £24,186 16s. 8d.; Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £20,782 3s. 11d.; and Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £20,043 7s. 1d.; giving a grand total for the three of £65,012 7s. 8d. The bulk of this money is derived from the donations and subscriptions which are raised by means of the Anniversary Festivals, and the Returns from which were finally represented by the following figures, namely: Boys' School, £19,092 6s. 6d.; Girls' School, £18,056 12s. 7d.; the Benevolent Institution, £13,086 6s. 7d.; the total of the three being £50,235 5s. 8d. But the amounts entered under the head of "Donations and Subscriptions" in the statements which are appended to these remarks are Boys' School, £20,333 2s. 2d.; Girls' School, £17,567 19s. 7d.; and Benevolent Institution, £14,112 10s. 3d.; or together, £52,013 12s. Thus the total of the receipts under this head exceeds that of the Returns announced by £1778 6s. 4d., the excess in the case of the Boys' School being £1240 7s.; and in that of the Benevolent Institution, £1026 3s. 8d.; while, in the case of the Girls' School, the actual receipts fall short of the sum announced by £488 13s. The reader who is not familiar with the ins and outs of our Festival figures may run away with the idea that a mistake must have occurred in compiling these last figures, or that an excess of zeal on the part of the officials may have led them to include a few shadowy promises just in order to give the figures a more imposing appearance. Yet there is seldom a year passes in which the Returns from one or other of the Festivals do not fall short of the Donations and Subscriptions which are actually paid over to the Institution it relates to. Thus, as regards the year in which the Girls' School Centenary occurred—that is in 1888—the Donations and Subscriptions received were less than the Donations and Subscriptions announced by between £6000 and £7000. In 1891, when the Boys' School held so successful a Festival at Brighton under the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., and the Returns amounted to some £29,000, the receipts from all sources, including dividends, Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter grants, &c., &c., did not greatly exceed £27,000; while in 1892, when the Benevolent Jubilee was celebrated, the difference between the Returns announced (£69,000) and the total of receipts from all sources was rather more than £7000. In 1893, too, while the Girls' School and Benevolent Institution both received more than was announced at their respective Festivals; the Boys' School was £1448 9s. 2d. to the bad as regards this particular head of receipt. These differences are to be accounted for by the fact that every year at the Festival of each of the Institutions, there is included in the Returns as announced, an amount, more or less considerable, of what is known as "Association Money," that is, of Donations qualifying as Life Subscribers and Life Governors, the payment of which is spread over five years. Thus, as regards the Girls' School in 1894, the Donations and Subscriptions are less than the Festival announcement by not quite £500, but there is outstanding to its credit over £1100, the bulk of which will be paid over in the course of the next two or three years. We may add, as regards the same Institution, just to show how uncertain is the time when the payment of a subscription may be looked for, that cheques for about one-third of this *apparent* deficiency of nearly £500 were received within 48 hours after the accounts for 1894 had been closed. However, we need not dwell longer upon details of this kind. It is enough for us to know that the receipts of our three Institutions during 1894 reached the handsome total of £65,012 7s. 8d., which, as compared with the £59,051 14s. 9d. received in 1893, shows an increase of nearly £6000.

The following are the statements of receipts we have been referring to:—

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	...	£20,333 2s 2d
Grand Lodge	...	...	...	150 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	...	10 10 0
Perpetual Presentation (Kent)	...	...	...	1260 0 0
Life do. (Warwickshire)	...	...	...	525 0 0
Dividends and Interest on Cash at Call	...	...	...	1570 1 1
Legacy	...	...	...	120 1 7
Music Fees	...	...	...	60 7 6
Prize Funds	...	...	...	21 0 0
Science and Art Department (Grant earned)	...	...	...	35 7 0
Sundry Receipts	...	...	...	89 6 10
				£24,186 16s 8d

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Donations, &c.	...	...	...	£14,112 10s 3d
Grand Lodge	...	...	...	1600 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	...	150 0 0
Dividends	...	...	...	3592 3 5
Perpetual Presentation	...	...	...	1260 0 0
Profit on Sale of Stock	...	...	...	42 10 0
				£20,782 3 11

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Donations and Subscriptions	...	...	...	£17,567 19s 7d
Grand Lodge	...	...	...	150 0 0
Grand Chapter	...	...	...	10 10 0
Dividends	...	...	...	1923 15 7
Interest on Deposit	...	...	...	38 0 8
Receipts for Musical Instruction	...	...	...	218 8 0
Window Memorials	...	...	...	28 2 0
Income Tax Recovered	...	...	...	85 14 1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	20 17 2
				£20,043 7 1

	R.M.B.I.	R.M.I.G.	R.M.I.B.	Total.
1888	£21,361 15 1	£49,259 4 4	£12,283 2 5	£82,904 1 10
1889	18,729 18 7	14,986 9 6	14,727 10 2	48,443 18 3
1890	21,305 13 4	21,763 19 1	12,472 6 9	55,541 19 2
1891	22,233 14 5	13,190 18 2	27,333 11 3	62,703 3 10
1892	61,849 2 6	12,778 2 1	15,837 18 0	90,465 2 7
1893	20,436 2 8	17,052 3 2	21,563 8 11	59,051 14 9
1894	20,782 3 11	20,043 7 1	24,186 16 8	65,012 7 8
Total for the 7 years.	£186,703 10 6	£149,074 3 5	£128,404 14 2	£464,182 8 1

Average for the 7 years.	£26,671 18 8	£21,296 6 2	£18,343 10 7	£66,311 15 5
Average per Institution...	...	...	...	£22,103 18 6

The following is a statement, month by month, of the cases relieved, and the sums expended in relieving them, by the Board of Benevolence:

	CASES RELIEVED.	AMOUNT.
January	20	£630
February	35	720
March	33	705
April	33	875
May	36	930
June	33	835
July	24	505
August	12	225
September	14	255
October	47	1430
November	40	1040
December	35	810
		£8960
	371	

On comparing these figures with the returns for 1893, we find there has been a slight reduction—from 373 to 371—in the number of Cases Relieved, and a substantial decrease of £565—from £9525 to £8960—in the aggregate of the sums distributed amongst them. In 1892, there were 334 cases relieved with £8320, so that as regards amount the year just concluded occupies a position about midway between 1892 and 1893, though there is an excess of 37 in the number of Cases as compared with the former.

HIRAM, THE BUILDER.—A name given to Hiram Abiff. Some modern writers have contended that Hiram was not an architect, but simply a metallurgist; but such writers are entirely mistaken. Josephus especially records on the contrary that he was "an eminent architect, over and above" his fame for "working in gold, silver, and other metals." The Bible also expressly declares that he was "skilled to work" in "stone" just as in "gold and silver," in "brass and in iron," in "purple, blue, and fine linen, and in crimson," as well as to "grave any manner of graving, and to find out any device which shall be put to him with thie-cunning men." Thus it is perfectly clear that, artistically and intellectually, Hiram was ahead of his contemporaries, and well fitted to build that glorious Temple of the Most High. In reading the accounts in the Books of Kings and Chronicles, we must bear in mind that they are repetitive, containing the same statement more than once, and must be taken as a whole. The argument that Hiram Abiff was not a builder is a perverse chimera in our humble opinion. Some have confounded him with "Abdemon," mentioned by profane historians, but quite erroneously.—*Kenning's Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry*.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—A meeting was held on Thursday, 27th ult., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea. Present: Bros. Marriott-Matthews, W.M.; A. W. Thompson, S.W.; Winsborrow, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutsfield, Sec.; Austin, S.D.; Thomas, J.D.; H. Thompson, I.G.; Holland, P.M.; I. Davis, P.M.; Beauchamp, Ham, Schott, and Tuckfield.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Holland, P.M., who rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Tuckfield being the candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Schott, 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 and the dues were collected. The W.M. rose for the second time, when Bro. A. W. Thompson was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the third time and the lodge was closed.

Bro. Holland, P.M. 1604, will give a lecture on "Free-masonry," on the 10th inst.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE (No. 538).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. J. Mason, W.M.; E. Kraus, S.W.; E. Dukes, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; W. E. Willby, P.M., Sec.; H. C. Parker, S.D.; T. A. Tidy, J.D.; G. A. Sturgess, I.G.; Jackson, P.M.; Cizzio, and Beedle.

The lodge was opened in due form with prayer, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. E. Dukes. The 2nd Section by Bro. J. Mason. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Beedle being the candidate. The 4th Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Preceptor. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the dues were collected. At the second rising, the S.W., Bro. Kraus, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. After the third rising, all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed. The ballot for the Charity was arranged for Wednesday, the 16th inst.

CHAUCER LODGE (No. 1540).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Old White Hart Hotel, Borough, S.E. Present: Bros. J. O'Dea, W.M.; W. H. Bird, S.W.; Morley, J.W.; Roots, P.M., Preceptor; Hattersley, P.M., acting Sec.; Kite, S.D.; Osmond, J.D.; and Benedict, I.G.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Osmond, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Osmond, being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. O'Dea acting as Installing Master. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree. Bro. Roots worked the 2nd Section of the Lecture. The officers for the next meeting were elected, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

STAR CHAPTER (No. 1275).—The usual weekly meeting of the above was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Friday, the 28th ult., when there were present: Comps. T. H. Salmon, M.E.Z.; Elgar, H.; Belchamber, J.; F. Hilton, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Osterstock, S.N.; Meinerhoff, P.S.; Beecroft, Telling, Pullen, Lightfoot, and Curtton.

The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Beecroft personating the candidate. Comp. Elgar, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comps. Elgar, H., and Belchamber, J., for so ably performing their respective duties for the first time. After "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

ST. BOTOLPH'S, ALDERSGATE.

Bro. the Rev. T. Selby Henrey is contributing to the *City Press* a series of articles on "St. Botolph, Aldersgate, its Church and Parish Records." Part IV. appears in last Saturday's issue, and deals with important events in the parish from 1824 to the present year. The Beadle's Mace comes in for two notices, when, in 1837, the second silver-headed Beadle's Mace was presented to the parish, and in 1850 it was superseded by another with the representation of Aldersgate. But more important records are also to be found.

The laying out of the churchyard as a public garden, in 1820, and the subsequent series of services commenced by Bro. Henrey in 1889, will be remembered with gratitude by all parishioners, as well as those whose business calls them to the City in the day time.

During the past year, the open-air churchyard services were carried on by Bro. Henrey daily, from one till two, from July to the end of September, and thousands of operatives, male and female, were attracted to these services who probably would never have entered a church.

We should not omit to mention in this connection the fact that Bro. Sir John Staples, who, in commemoration of his election as Lord Mayor in 1885, placed a stained glass window in the ancient structure, was also a founder and first Master of Lodge St. Botolph, No. 2020, which meets at the Albion, in Aldersgate, and still flourishes.

THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL has been opened just 12 months. The number of vessels which have entered the port from foreign ports during the year is 501, and the coasting vessels which have arrived numbered 782, making a total of 1283. The number of vessels which arrived at other places on the canal, including Runcorn, Saltport, and Weston Point, was 1603.

NEW YEAR'S ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, CROYDON.

The annual New Year's entertainment to the residents in the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution's establishment at Croydon, the first of which Bro. Terry, the Secretary, arranged in 1874, was given this year on Wednesday last, and was numerously attended. The favour in which these gatherings are held by the Craft, and the ladies, members, and friends of the brethren's families, was strongly evinced by the size of the party which left Cannon-street Station by the 1 p.m. train, for whom special saloon carriages had been set apart. The party included, among others, the following brethren and ladies:

Bro. J. Newton and Mrs. Newton, Bro. J. J. Mustard, Bro. A. Grain and Mrs. and Miss Grain, W. G. Norman and Mrs. Norman, Bro. Dr. H. J. Strong, P.A.G.D.C. (Hon. Surgeon of the Institution), Bro. Saml. Hugh Price and Mrs. Price, Bro. W. Wells and Mrs. Wells, Bro. J. Aldis and Mrs. Aldis, Bros. A. H. Hickman, J. A. Farmfield, P.A.G.D.C. (Treas. of the Institution), C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., and H. Trask, Bro. A. Mullord and Mrs. and Miss Mullord, Bro. T. Hastings Miller, P.G.S.B., Mrs. F. W. Stanley, Miss Edith Miller, Bro. W. H. Hubbert, Bro. Chas. Kempton and Mrs. Kempton, Bro. H. Massey, Miss Massey, and Miss Ellen Massey, Bro. Charles Frederick Hogard, P.G. Std. Br., Miss Mary L. Raiker, Miss Ada Gordon McKenzie, Miss Lilian Raiker, Mrs. Jessie E. Faull, Mrs. Gertrude M. Terry, Miss Kate Terry, Margaret Gordon McKenzie, Bro. Hugh Cotter, Miss Annie Cotter, Miss Harriet Cotter, Mrs. Emma Murray, and Bros. J. G. Stevens and John Mason.

On arriving at the Institution, after a nice walk from the East Croydon Railway Station, in bright bracing winter weather, the visitors were most cordially received by Bro. Terry, who had a warm welcome and a Happy New Year for each individual. The annuitants had already begun to leave their residences for the beautifully arranged and hospitable hall, where the tables were laid for the New Year's repast, and these residents were also welcomed by Bro. Terry. It was with sincere satisfaction that both visitors and residents found Mrs. Terry once more among them, for her absence was particularly noticed in 1894, and her illness, which was the cause of her absence, was greatly regretted. That was the only occasion when she was not among the company, and her previous 19 annual New Year's visits made her almost a necessary member of the party, and the top table without her at the left hand of Bro. Dr. Strong, who presided, did not present its usual appearance. However, on this occasion the table presented its wonted aspect, and Mrs. Terry never looked in better health. Bro. Dr. Strong was at the headtable, and the three other tables were presided over by Bros. Terry, Keyser, Hastings, Miller, John Newton, and Charles Kempton, while the other brethren assisted in looking after the proper attendance on the annuitants and the ladies who sat down with them to the repast. This consisted of some magnificent turkeys, with sirloins of beef, roast and boiled fowls, and ham, plum pudding, and mince pies, and it must be remembered that the cost of the entertainment throughout is defrayed by voluntary donations, and the subscriptions to the Institution are not encroached upon to defray it. On this occasion each old lady annuitant in the Institution was presented with a packet of tea and a packet of sugar, and each of the aged brethren, half a pound of tobacco and a new pipe, by the generosity of Bro. W. J. Crutch. Bro. G. F. Cook presented a dozen of port for the toasts after dinner. Bro. Thomas Hastings Miller, P.G.S.B., sent two magnificent hams, and Mrs. Terry, as usual, furnished the mince pies, and Mrs. Strong, the plum puddings.

Before the annuitants left the table, "The Health of the Queen" was drunk, and Bro. Dr. Strong proposed "The Founders of the Feast," informing the company of the fact above stated, that the funds of the Institution were not laid under contribution to the entertainment. Several old kind friends who were present found the funds, and one of them, Bro. T. Hastings Miller, who had been a frequent contributor, he would ask to respond.

Bro. T. HASTINGS MILLER, in acknowledging the toast, said the givers of the feast were really indebted to the Committee of the Institution for allowing them to come and see their old friends. It cheered their hearts to see their old friends, who, he could not help saying, looked younger than ever. He hoped that for many years they might come and see them enjoying these little festivals.

Bro. Dr. STRONG next proposed "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," coupling it with the name of their esteemed and beloved Secretary, Bro. Terry. It was a great pleasure to attend, year after year, and see the same faces, and to hear from Bro. Terry a statement of the progress of the Institution.

Bro. TERRY said once again it was a very great pleasure as well as a privilege to respond to this toast so kindly given. The toast did not comprise only the welfare of the annuitants in the building in which the company were now assembled, but it spread over the whole of England and extended to the colonies, for at Toronto, in Canada, they had a lady annuitant. Therefore, their toasts were not that day confined to the present gathering, but extended to the whole of the 480 annuitants. The past year had been a very eventful one, because it had been a difficult matter to obtain the usual supplies owing to the badness of trade, but when

they totalled up the finances at six or seven o'clock on the previous Monday evening, they were able to say they were in a better position than they were at the same time in 1893. As they would remember, the Festival last February produced £11,400; the Girls', in May following, realised a total of £18,000; and the Boys', the next month over £19,000; so that the Benevolent was some £7000 behind the Girls' and £8,000 behind the Boys', and he certainly concluded that the year 1894, for the first time in 19 years, the Benevolent would be at the bottom of the poll. It was not, however, in that position; it was second with a total of £20,748. The Boys' School was first, as was naturally to be expected with £19,000 at the Festival; it had reached the total in the year of £24,208, and the Girls' had £20,083. The Benevolent was very nearly being at the bottom, but it had not come to that position yet, and he hoped it never would. The coming year was looking a little brighter. At this time last year they had 172 Stewards for the Festival; they had 184 now for the next February Festival—12 in advance of last year: and the Province of Somersetshire, whose Provincial Grand Master, Viscount Dungarvan, was to be their Chairman, was working very zealously to bring up the highest amount Somersetshire ever had. One Steward he had heard had £200 on his list. He mentioned this in case any Steward from London lodges should be ambitious of taking a larger amount. He hoped that at the meeting of the Board of Stewards, which would be held tomorrow, he would have an increase in the number of Stewards for February. In the Institution during the past year there had been little illness and not one death, and that, he ventured to think, was due, first, to Bro. Dr. Strong, who laid the foundation of health by the care he took of the old people, and, next, to Dr. Waite, who took his place when he retired. Bro. Hastings Miller said he thought the old people looked younger; he (Bro. Terry) thought so too, after having seen them 30 years, and he hoped and trusted they would get younger; they had evidently learned the secret, and if they would give the recipe to him he might sell it to the public for the benefit of the Institution. Bro. Terry then thanked the Chairman, the founders of the feast, and the ladies and gentlemen who had honoured him with their company, and assured them that those connected with the Institution considered it their duty to administer to the comforts of the male and female annuitants in the Institution.

Bro. FARNSFIELD proposed "The Health of Bro. Dr. Strong," which Bro. Dr. Strong acknowledged, and Bro. JOHN NEWTON proposed "The Health of the Matron, Miss Norris."

Alderman RYMER (Croydon), who entertained the old people last year, in responding to the toast of his health proposed by Bro. Terry, assured the brethren that during his mayoral period in 1894 nothing gave him greater pleasure than to meet the brethren and sisters on the occasion referred to. He only hoped that all who were present then, and were present now, might long live to enjoy the benefits of this noble Institution.

At a later period of the afternoon, Bro. TERRY replying to the toast of "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," proposed by Bro. J. NEWTON, who presided at the repast provided for the brethren who had assisted at the dinner to the annuitants, said that in keeping up the time honoured custom of drinking this toast it had sometimes been said he had a little budget of news for those who took so much interest in the Institution and the success of it. As he had previously stated they had had a most successful year, far more successful than he thought they would have or their most sanguine friends thought they would have. The result of the year had been £20,780. At the annual festival in February they got £11,400 to start with, and they realised with donations and subscriptions which had come in since, a total of £14,000, or £2600 above the announcement at the Festival. This was due to a great extent to the energy and perseverance of the collector, Bro. John Mason, who in season and out of season had been about the town getting in outstanding amounts of previous years in order to make the last year successful. He (Bro. Terry) did not know the particulars of the Girls' whether they had got in the whole of the £18,000, but as far as regarded the Boys' they had £19,049 at the Festival, and their total was £20,300, so they had realised £1,300 more than their announcement. The Benevolent Institution had realised £2600 beyond their announcement, which was much to be commended. The dividends which had been £3600 had realised last year £3,559. The Institution had had £1260 for a perpetual presentation, in addition to the £14,000; Grand Lodge gave them £1600, and Grand Chapter £350; the other items of receipts were very small indeed. But all these sums had resulted in a total of £20,700. The outlook for the election next May was rather discouraging; the country had been very healthy, and there had been but few deaths, and in addition to 36 men and 34 women not elected last time they had the enormous number of 37 extra men and 16 widows as candidates for the fund, making 73 men and 53 widows to take seven vacancies for the men and four for the widows. Unless, therefore, great mortality among the annuitants should occur, the outlook for the ensuing election in May was rather discouraging. They had been successful hitherto in taking on extra numbers when there was a pressure, and he would venture to put it to members of the Committee present to consider not as Committeemen, but as subscribers to the Institution, whether, when the Committee met in February,

they might not reasonably adopt a suggestion—that £2000 surplus in 1893, and more than £2000 surplus in 1894, might not be invested, and that, with the interest, annuities be provided for five more men, making 200 men on the fund, and 240 widows. He merely threw this out as a suggestion. In all other respects he thought the Institution was gaining ground. Whenever he had visited a lodge he had never been refused a Steward. That spoke highly of the confidence the Craft had in the Committee of Management in the performance of their duties, and he hoped that confidence would be continued in years to come, and that the brethren seated round that table might for years have the pleasing intelligence conveyed to them that the Institution was still prospering and going on to prosper. They could not expect to compete with the Boys' and the Girls'; if they went to those Institutions they saw the whole work done under one roof; but the Benevolent was a small Institution at Croydon having only 32 residents out of 470 annuitants; and therefore it was not fair to judge it by comparison with the educational Institutions, where the young children were full of life and vigour, and on a show day the places were in apple-pie order. With the Benevolent Institution there was more to do to induce persons to subscribe. It had, however, never failed to get support, and he hoped the day would never come when the Secretary would have to announce that there must be a reduction in the number of annuitants. Regarding the executive officers and the staff, he might say that no time was too much, no labour too heavy, no exertions too overpowering for them in doing their duty to the Committee to bring about a good result. In Bro. Stevens he had a right-hand man that no other office possessed: his exertions on behalf of the Institution were great; the manner in which his work was done was perfect; and in every way he (Bro. Terry) did not know what he should do without him; he should almost ask the Committee to think of his retirement. However, as long as he had Bro. Stephens to help him he felt he should be able to go on making the Institution a great success.

Some other toasts followed, and, the hall having been cleared, a beautiful musical entertainment was given in the evening by Madame Ada Patterson, Miss Ethel Bevans, Mr. Sydney Tower, and Mr. Franklin Clive, with humorous sketches by Mr. Walter George, an excellent ventriloquial interlude by Mr. E. Longstaffe, and some good humorous songs by Mr. James Kift, who also accompanied the other vocalists at the piano. The whole of the proceedings were a great success.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF THE ISLE OF MAN.

The annual meeting of the Manx Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Friday, the 28th ult., Major Taubman, P.G.M., presiding. Most of the lodges were reported as being in a satisfactory condition with regard to membership and finance.

Bro. BRUCE, who had occupied the post of Treasurer for the past six years, having expressed a desire to retire from office, was accorded a cordial vote of thanks, and Bro. G. C. Heron, one of the Past Deputy Prov. Grand Masters, was elected in his stead.

Bro. John A. Drown was invested as Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. W. J. Brown, having vacated the position of Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Nesbit was appointed.

The new officers were invested.
We hope to give a full report in our next.

WOR. BRO. COLONEL HENRY STUDHOLME BROWNRISS, 32¹, P.D.D.G.M. PUNJAB.

The Indian Freemason for November has the following notice of Bro. Col. Brownrigg, together with an excellent full-page portrait:

The name Brownrigg is so well known in the Masonic world that we feel we need make no apology for producing in this number a portrait of Wor. Bro. Colonel Henry Studholme Brownrigg, Past Deputy District Grand Master of the Punjab. His Masonic career is almost as universal as Freemasonry itself, in that he has practised the Art in every quarter of the globe.

He comes of a Masonic family. He is the son of the late General J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., who was for over 20 years Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, and brother of the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Past Grand Chaplain, and at present Dep. Prov. Grand Master of Buckinghamshire.

He was initiated in Lodge Friendship, No. 278 (E.C.), at Gibraltar, in 1864. Took the Royal Arch Degree in St. Paul's Chapter at Montreal, No. 374, in 1867, and the 18^o in the Grand Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1, in London, in 1875, and has been a member of the 32^o since 1883.

He has served as W.M. of four Craft lodges—in England, India, and Australia, and is the present W.M. of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 639, at Mussoorie. He is also a P.P.Z., Past Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works of Bucks and Berks, Past Warden of Bengal, and a P.M.W.S. of three chapters.

In the Mark Degree he has twice served as W.M., and is a Past Grand Overseer of England and Wales. He is also a P.W.C.N. in the Ark Mariner's Degree.

He is a Kt. Templar, a Kt. of Malta, and Kt. of Rome and of the Red Cross Constantine, in all of which Orders he has held Grand Office.

Not many Freemasons have such a record of Masonic service as the above, service which is maintained up to the present date, since W. Bro. Brownrigg is now serving his fourth term of Mastership of a Craft lodge. W. Bro. Brownrigg is a perfect master of ritual, and a very strict observer of the ceremonies and working of the various Degrees.

He has recently been appointed Assistant Adjutant-General on staff of the Bengal Army, and at present is serving in the Meerut command, so that India is fortunate in being able to command his Masonic services for a further term of more than four years.

He belongs to the Rifle Brigade, and is a full Colonel in the Army.

CHARITY CONCERT AT MALTA.

The concert given at the Valletta Gymnasium on Friday evening, 21st December, in aid of the Masonic Charities in England and Malta, was a complete and unreserved success.

The hall was beautifully decorated, and the whole affair carried through in the most efficient manner by a very strong working Committee consisting of Lieut.-Colonel Moore, A.S.C., Captain Wishart, R.A., Surgeon-Captain Louis Hughes, Mr. Myatt, Mr. Wakeman, Bandmaster Cameron Highlanders, Mr. Box, A.S.C., Professor Riechelmann, and others.

Space does not permit of our mentioning all the excellent songs and recitations that were presented, but it is impossible to refrain from alluding to the intense pleasure afforded to all present by Madame Riechelmann in the two songs she sang, and by Miss Dieseldorf, who has so often before charmed a Malta audience. A recent addition to the musical talent of these Islands in the person of Mrs. C. K. Wood, also delighted all hearers by her rendering of "She wandered down the mountain side."

A sword dance by pipers of the Cameron Highlanders formed an agreeable and novel interlude, and the string band of that distinguished Regiment performed with its usual skill.

The hall was completely filled, and amongst those present we noticed Lady Lyon Fremantle, Mr. Ralph Hall, Major and Mrs. Wyncoll, Captain, Mrs., and Miss Wishart, Captain Robinson, R.N., Lieut. Inglefield, R.N., Captain Egerton, A.D.C., Lieut. Macbean, Cameron Highlanders, Captain Hobbs, Conn. Rangers, Colonel and Mrs. Hewson, Major and Mrs. Frodsham, Captain and Mrs. Hume, Commander and Mrs. Burney, Rev. G. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. Maurice Jones, Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. McDonald, R.E., Colonel and Mrs. Hughes, Messrs. Haddy, North, Elbrow, Webb, Bannister, Sharp, Currey, Carr, R.N., Mr., Mrs., and Miss Geoghegan, Mr. Hare, Mr., and Mrs. Cook, Insp. of Machinery Finch, Mr. Wood, of the Admiralty, Dr. Meikle, R.N., Dr. and Mrs. Eamies, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Starkey, and others.—*The Daily Malta Chronicle.*

BRO. COL. DAVIES SEWELL.

Under the heading of "Half a Century of City Life," the *City Press* of last Saturday contains an interesting interview with Bro. Col. Davies Sewell. It is accompanied with a portrait which appears at a glance to convict the head-line of falsehood, it being scarcely possible to conceive that the original could have had a record of 50 years as an official of the Corporation, but such is the fact, and the many incidents connected with the civic life of London which Col. Sewell was able from personal knowledge and observation to communicate to the writer was proof, if any were needed, that he had not only been connected with the Guildhall for that period, but had been a prominent and active official from the first. From the article in question we gather that Bro. Sewell commenced his official career in the year in 1815, not, as he remarked, before he had attained an age of usefulness, having come direct from the City of London School. His father, as "Yeoman of the Channel," was a member of the Lord Mayor's household. As may be supposed, the Colonel knows everything and everybody connected with the Corporation, and his mind is a perfect storehouse of events in which the City for the past half century has taken a prominent part. The interviewer elicited from Bro. Sewell that he is the oldest Volunteer in London, having been the first man enrolled in the London Rifle Brigade in 1859; that he has been from that time an enthusiastic supporter of the volunteer movement; that he became a liveryman of the Grocers' Company just thirty-five years ago; is a Past Master of the Pattenmakers' Company, and a member of the Court of Assistants of the Glass-sellers, the Gardeners, and the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Companies; that he is a churchwarden and vestryman of St. John's, Westminster; was one of the founders and is now a Past President and was Hon. Secretary of the John Carpenter Club; an enthusiastic Mason, a member of Lodge Emulation, No. 21, and Past Grand Steward of England, a founder and Past Master of the Alliance Lodge, which is composed of Guildhall officials, and of which the Town Clerk, Sir John Monckton, was the first W.M. He is also a Life Governor of the Three Masonic Charities.

The Colonel married a daughter (since deceased) of Bro. Under Sheriff Burt, by whom he had three children, all of whom are living.

NEW MASONIC HALL AT LINCOLN.

A social evening on Friday, the 14th ult., was a temporary inauguration of the excellent building in Mint-street, erected by Messrs. H. S. and W. Close, from the plans of Messrs. W. Mortimer and Sons. The brethren assembled in considerable numbers, and, with their relatives and friends, the gathering numbered about 100, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment provided for them. The first part comprised a programme of songs, solos, recitations, &c., by Bro. W. Dixon, who played a violin solo, and was very ably accompanied on the pianoforte by Master J. P. Rayner, a recitation by Miss Harrison, and a song by Miss Grace Harrison (daughters of Bro. Dr. Harrison), a dance by Miss Dashper (a juvenile daughter of Bro. G. J. Dashper), who was deservedly encored, two songs by Bro. J. J. Sale, and two songs by Bro. G. Peck, who was well accompanied on the piano by Mr. Stanley Dunkerton.

The Mayor (Bro. A. W. Hall) honoured the occasion by his presence, and the Mayoress (Mrs. A. W. Hall) sang "Come back to Erin" in excellent style, and took the solo in the National Anthem, thus commemorating the advent of the new buildings in true Masonic form and dignity.

The concert over, an elaborate supply of light refreshments was taken advantage of by the guests assembled, and every credit is due for the complete way in which everything was arranged. Bro. J. L. Rayner, the estimable and energetic Secretary of the Witham Lodge, was responsible for the success of the affair, together with Bros. Mortimer, W. H. Close, and J. J. Sale, who, with their wives, spared no pains to have everything pass off with that *éclat* that brings success to such undertakings.

At 10 o'clock the lodge room was cleared for dancing, which was thoroughly appreciated and kept up until about two o'clock a.m., the programme being one of admirable choice, and danced to the strains of the violin of Mr. C. Harrison and the piano of Mr. Layton. The two Worshipful Masters of the Witham and St. Hugh Lodges, Bros. W. H. H. Moore and J. E. Dickinson, were indefatigable as M.C.'s, and the City Sheriff (Mr. Harry White) lent his willing aid to a highly gratifying and thoroughly enjoyable arrangement.

MASONIC STANDARD OF UPRIGHTNESS.

Masons are bound to observe the moral law—are pledged to walk uprightly before God and man. The Masonic standard of individual honour and honesty is an exalted one, and brethren who conform thereto will certainly express the graces and virtues which belong to manly character and useful living. Falsehood and deceit are ignoble vices especially opposed to both the letter and the spirit of Freemasonry. It is better to lose one's life than to sacrifice personal integrity is the lesson of the Third Degree.

Honesty of word, honesty of deed, and honesty of heart are required of the individual Craftsman. He must avoid insincerity and hypocrisy in his speech. He must be above misrepresentation and deceit. Think of the variety of forms in which lying appears. There is the cowardly lie, as when one because of the fear of consequences hesitates to speak the truth. There is the selfish lie—false words spoken to secure some personal advantage. There is the conventional lie—the speech of careless exaggeration or misrepresentation, which the world regards as comparatively harmless, but which does not conform to the Masonic standard of uprightness. And then, worst of all, there is the lie of malice. How often bitter words are spoken—words of slander and detraction—which injure the good name of another and perhaps cause him a life-long sorrow!

"Twas but a breath—
And yet the fair, good name was wilted;
And friends once warm grew cold and stilted,
And life was worse than death."

A Craftsman who has respect to the Masonic standard of uprightness will be cautious in his speech. He will not indulge in detraction. He will keep silent when he cannot approve, unless some principle is at stake and a sense of duty impells him to utter words of rebuke and severity.

Honesty of deed is likewise demanded. It is worse to live a lie than it is to speak the words of evil and misrepresentation. A false friend who speaks fairly when his actions show hostility is most to be dreaded. The dishonesty which finds expression in covered practices intended to do injury to others is most repellent to that sense of honour and truth which Freemasonry so much exalts. A true Mason must be straightforward, honourable, and just in the affairs of daily life.

Above all things else an honest heart has pre-eminence. A thorough simplicity and sincerity of soul will alone meet the highest test of uprightness. Truth in the heart, in the character, in the whole expression of the daily life, is the royal stamp of manhood—the sign and attestation of genuine Freemasonry. The Mason of highest degree is he who feels and acts and speaks the truth with Charity toward all mankind.—*Freemasons' Repository.*

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EADE'S PILLS. 2, College Park Villas, Kensal Green, London, W., May, 1891.

EADE'S PILLS. Dear Sir,—I feel it my duty to tell you I had Rheumatic Gout twice, and had to stop at home for three weeks. I cannot describe the pain I suffered. I read your advertisement, and looked upon it as all others. A brother salesman said, “Try them.” I did so.

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in a few hours, and I was able to resume my work. No one need be frightened to take them. I have recommended them to all whom I have heard complaining of Rheumatism, Gout, Lumbago, Neuralgia, &c. I hope no one will doubt my statement.—Yours sincerely, JAS. PETTENGALL, Mr. G. Eade.**EADE'S GOUT & RHEUMATIC PILLS.**Prepared only by George Eade,
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HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.GRAND PATRONESS:
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF
WALES.A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers
of this Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great
Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on THURSDAY,
the 10th day of January, 1895, at Twelve o'clock precisely,
on the General Business of the Institution, to place Candidates
on the list for the Election in April next, to declare the
number of girls to be elected, and to consider Notice of
Motion as under:—

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Upon recommendation of the House Committee.

By R.W. Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., Patron:—
“That in consideration of her long service on the Staff
of the Institution, commencing as Pupil Teacher
on the 20th November, 1851, and, after serving as
Assistant School Mistress and Assistant Governess,
filling the office of Sub-Matron of the Junior
School from the 1st January, 1881, to the present
time, at a salary of £80 per annum (with Board
and Residence), a period in all of 43 years, Miss
MARY ANN KERNOT be allowed on her retirement
a pension of £60 per annum.”F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.The 107th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place on
Wednesday, 8th May next, under the presidency of the
R.W. Deputy Grand Master, the Right Hon. THE EARL
OF MOUNT EDGCUMBE, R.W. Prov. Grand Master of
Cornwall. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this
important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their
names to the Secretary as early as convenient, Stewards
being urgently needed.**FRANK HASWELL,**
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Amount paid Annually in Annuities £16,000
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Nearly 110 Candidates for next election.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at the
FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,
On WEDNESDAY, 27th FEBRUARY, 1895,
Under the distinguished Presidency of
THE VISCOUNT DUNGARVAN,
R.W. Prov. G.M. for Somersetshire.

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship upon this most important occasion, and to kindly forward their names as soon as possible, with full particulars, to

JAMES TERRY (V.-Pat., P.G. Swd. Br.),
Secretary.

Office—4, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

**ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION
FOR BOYS,
WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.**

OFFICE—6, FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND PATRON:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 11th day of JANUARY, 1895, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution :

To consider the following notice of motion—By V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treasurer, Patron, and Trustee, Chairman of the Board of Management: "That in consideration of the eminent services rendered to the Institution by W. Bro. W. Fentiman Smithson, P.G.D., Vice-President of the Institution, and in recognition of his exertions in assisting to bring about so good a result from the Province of West Yorkshire at the recent Festival, the rank of Honorary Vice-Patron be conferred upon him under Law 15."

To consider, and, if approved, to adopt a recommendation from the Council as to the number of Boys to be elected at the Quarterly Court on FRIDAY, the 10th APRIL, 1895, and to determine the List of Candidates.

The Chair will be taken at Four o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By order,
J. M. McLEOD,
Secretary.

London, 4th January, 1895.

** The NINETY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held in JULY, 1895, under the distinguished presidency of the Right Hon. the LORD EGERTON, of Tatton, R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Cheshire. The services of Brethren representing Lodges or Provinces, and of Ladies as Stewards, are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

YOUTH WANTS A SITUATION.
Just left the Blue Coat School.—Address, "R.W.", office of Freemason.

WANTED.—A Tyler for All Souls' Masonic Lodge, Weymouth. Applicant must have a pension or other source of income. Preference given to a man accustomed to the duties of a Club, or Steward in the Navy or Mercantile Marine. He must be a good Waiter, and his wife understand cooking. Applications, with copies of testimonials, to be sent to Mr. J. F. WHETTAM, 5, Wilton Terrace, Weymouth, on or before Jan. 10th inst.

CRY again in the Ears of the House of Israel, that the Spirit is among them, and if they ask for it and obey His Voice it shall give them all things they stand in need of.

THE FREEMASON—FOR SALE a complete set from the commencement; bound in cloth; price £20. Apply H. C., Freemason Office, 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

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AFTERNOON TEAS IN THE RESTAURANT.

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BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE. Dinners 3s. 6d., 5s., and a la Carte in the RESTAURANT (with Band). Grills and Special Dishes in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTER THE PERFORMANCE. Grills and Special Dishes in the GRILL ROOM until 12.30.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1895.

Masonic Notes.

The Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has appended to the Statement of Receipts for 1894, with which he has furnished us, a few notes, which enables us to form a tolerably correct idea of what has been accomplished since the inauguration of the present régime. It was in 1890 that the old House and Audit Committees were done away with, and that Bro. J. McLeod entered upon the duties of his office, so that the Board of Management, which occupies the place of the said Committees, has been long enough in existence for us to judge of its administrative ability and the fitness of its Secretary for the duties devolving on him. The result is undoubtedly satisfactory. The Board works well, and so does its Secretary, and, as a

consequence, the Institution is now accomplishing as good work as any other institution of its kind in England.

The particulars furnished show, firstly, the income of the Institution for the eight years—from 1887 to 1894 both inclusive; the average income, firstly, for the four years from 1887 to 1890, and, secondly, for the four years from 1891 to 1894; and the invested capital in 1890, when the new order of things began, and at the present time. An examination of these figures discloses a marvellous improvement in the brief period to which they relate. The average income from 1887 to 1890 is set down at £13,777 17s. 4d. and from 1891 to 1894 at £22,151 12s. 1d., the increase amounting to between £8300 and £8400. In 1890 the invested capital was £17,500; at the present time it is £51,550 10s. 7d.; the increase in these four years being represented by upwards of £34,000, of which close upon £13,500 was invested in 1894.

Of course, it is hardly fair to the old régime to institute a comparison between the financial position of the Institution during the closing years of its existence and its condition during the opening years of the new administration. The period from 1887 to 1890 was one of depression. The Festival of 1887 was an average one, but in the following year the Girls' School celebrated its Centenary, and the Boys' School Festival, which was held about three weeks after that event, not unnaturally fell short of the average by some thousands of pounds. During the two remaining years the administration had fallen into discredit, and people do not as a rule subscribe to a Charity which they consider is badly managed. Our surprise, therefore, is not so much that the income during 1887-1890 reached no higher a figure than £13,777, but that, under the circumstance, it reached that figure.

Still, when we have made proper allowance for the depressed condition of things at the close of a long period in which some wonderful successes had been achieved, enough remains to make it clear that the Board of Management and its Secretary must have worked "double tides" to have achieved so much in so short a time. An average income for four years of £22,151 means the accumulation of £88,604 in that period, and out of this sum no less than £34,150 has gone to swell the invested capital. Thus, the School has been both economically and efficiently managed, while the income has been permanently enlarged. We congratulate the authorities of the Institution and Bro. McLeod on the splendid work they have done during this period.

The Prov. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will meet at the Masonic Hall, Woolston, on Monday, the 28th instant, under the presidency of the Grand Superintendent, Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., who has lately been very busy in the Southampton District in the discharge of his Masonic duties. The most recent of these was at the celebration of the coming of age of the Clausentum Lodge, No. 1461, at Woolston. The annual festival of the Provincial Masonic Benevolent and Educational Institutions will be held at Southampton also in January.

On Wednesday, the 9th instant, the Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 504, will celebrate its jubilee. It was consecrated by the late Bro. William Stuart, Prov. G. Master of Hertfordshire, on the 1st January, 1845, its first Master being Bro. the Rev. Stephen Lea Wilson, of Berkhamstead, its first Treasurer Bro. Richard L. Wilson, representative of the Grand Lodge of Texas at our Grand Lodge; and one of its first initiates, the late Bro. John Lane, who was made on the day the lodge was consecrated, and died in harness as Treasurer in the summer of 1889, after an unbroken membership of 44 years. The Master and Treasurer-elect are Bro. the Rev. Quennell, P.P.G. Chaplain, and Bro. F. Q. Lane, P.M., who was elected to the office on his father's death. It is expected there will be a large attendance of visitors on the occasion.

Our Exonian brethren had quite "a warm time" on Christmas Eve. A serious outbreak of fire in Gandy-street, on premises adjacent to the Freemasons' Hall and Club, at one time threatened the destruction of that commodious building. As it is, the roof and the upper part of the premises have suffered considerably by both fire and water; the whole of the decorations of the main lodge room were destroyed, as also the rooms used by the Mark Masons and the lodge of instruction. Owing to the active and intelligent energy of the firemen the damage is much less than it might have been.

Hope "up a tree." We heartily congratulate the members of St. John the Baptist's Lodge on the safety of all their highly valued Masonic treasures, and also on having a W.M. both willing and able to climb a tree in the early hours of Christmas Eve. We understand that it was entirely owing to the skill and activity in this direction of Bro. Andrew Hope that the famous warrant of the lodge, issued as far back as 1732, was saved from injury. Fortunately the early warrants were very much smaller than those since issued, or even Bro. Hope might have found some little difficulty in his ascent with a framed lodge warrant under his arm.

At the risk of being thought officious, we venture to suggest that all future candidates for the office of W.M. of the old St. John's Lodge, should submit themselves to an examination in gymnastics as well as in the ordinary lodge duties.

A correspondent has sent us a copy of a printed circular which has apparently been sent broadcast to influential members of the Craft. The circular is headed "The Underwriting Bureau Limited," and is signed "Yours fraternally R. B. Oakley," better known perhaps as Richard Banner Oakley. With its contents we have little or no concern, except that we feel bound to protest against the growing habit of company promoters and persons who are desirous of airing their private grievances or fancied wrongs, making use of their Masonic position to further their schemes amongst the members of the Craft. In this instance the proposals are so wildly fantastic that it is a matter of doubt as to whether the circular should be treated seriously or not, but in any case the fact remains, that on the strength of a little over six years membership of a lodge, to the funds of which he ceased to be a subscriber nearly 30 years ago, the writer calmly appeals to his brother Masons to join him in attacking a powerful newspaper, and to provide him with funds to re-establish a company, the name of which it had been wiser to let pass from the memory. We do not for a moment suppose our readers need be cautioned in respect to such productions, but we think it right to call attention to them nevertheless.

Correspondence.

ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Taking up the *Freemason* of the 22nd ultimo, I find a letter signed "Fair Play," in which the writer suggests an alteration in our Constitutions to admit of voting for the election of Grand Treasurer by means of voting papers, sent to all those throughout the world who, under the present rules, are compelled to attend Grand Lodge to record their votes.

I quite agree that the present system is unsatisfactory, as it practically places the election in the hands of London brethren and those provincial ones able and willing to incur the expense of a journey to London.

But, has your correspondent estimated the enormous labour or calculated the cost such a change would involve? Is he aware that at the present moment there are, as I am informed, upwards of 25,000 brethren entitled to vote at the election of Grand Treasurer? Has he considered what addition it would be necessary to make to the staff of the Grand Secretary's office for the purpose of preparing and keeping the necessary register of the names and constantly changing addresses of such an enormous and ever fluctuating constituency, not an inconsiderable proportion of whom have qualifications in respect of several lodges, although entitled to exercise but one vote? Has he considered the amount of daily correspondence in connection with the acquisition and loss of qualification and the changes of address?

If, however, Grand Lodge should so will it, and is prepared to meet the cost, there should be no insuperable difficulty in giving effect to the suggested change.

But, in the name of common sense, let me ask, is the object sought to be obtained worthy of the employment of such cumbersome and expensive machinery?

Does it not mean the perpetuation of what, with its canvassing, its touting, its rivalries, and its jealousies, bids fair to become as great a Masonic scandal as it is already a Masonic nuisance?

If the election were that of a high official, on whose position, ability, and influence the welfare and prosperity of the Craft might depend, I admit that no consideration of labour or expense should prevent the accomplishment of the object to be secured.

Can it for one moment be pretended that the office of Grand Treasurer, which, shorn as it has been of all responsibility, is little more than an empty title, is one of importance sufficient to justify the employment of the means I have indicated?

I have no hesitation in expressing the opinion which I know is shared by very many well-wishers of our Order, that at the present moment, there could be

no greater benefactor to the Craft, than he who could devise some satisfactory method of putting an end, once and for all, to the un-Masonic and unseemly struggle which annually distracts Grand Lodge, and which threatens seriously to impair, if not destroy, that fraternal feeling which should be, and I trust is still, the very spirit and essence of our existence, and without which Freemasonry, with its forms and solemn ceremonies, its high-sounding titles, and its multitudinous decorations, would be little more than an empty farce, unworthy of the support of right-thinking and intelligent men.

I have no hesitation in affirming that the greatest enemies to our Order are those who do not scruple to throw down the apple of discord, who attempt to set class against class, to encourage the idea that the interests of our provincial brethren are not in every way identical with those of the brethren in London, and that there is antagonism between those whom the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint to office in Grand Lodge and those who have not been so fortunate, but are no less desirous to be so appointed.

The greatest friends to our Order are those whose aim and object, without the taint of personal ambition, is to maintain in every way the dignity of the Craft, to strengthen by all means in their power those brotherly bonds by which we, as Masons, ought to be united, and to make the Craft and its members looked up to and respected by the outside world.

With such an object in view, may I be permitted to lift my voice against the annual conversion of Grand Lodge into an arena for party conflict and factious rivalry.—Yours fraternally,

A SINCERE LOVER OF MASONRY.

RE WILLIAM PRESTON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am reading through, and making notes from, the old minutes of "The Lodge of Emulation," for what purpose for the moment is of no consequence; but, seeing a short notice in the *Freemason* of last Saturday of the career of William Preston, I think that perhaps the few extracts I give you below may be of some use in tracing his early history; if not, they may be interesting to some of your readers:

"Lodge of Emulation, No. 324."

Pauls Head Tavern—3rd September 1771."

On the visitors' list for this evening I find—

"Preston—R.W.M. Lodge of PROSPERITY."

On the next lodge night, 18th September, 1771, I find as a minute: "The Master, Wardens & Brethren of the Philanthropic Lodge paid us a Visit in form this Night."

Referring to the visitors' list, I find:

Preston R.W.M.	PHILANTHROPIC LODGE.
Gleddon S.W.	
Pugh I.W.	
Sexton P.M.	

Alcock

Following the minutes I find that Bro. Preston was a constant visitor at the fortnightly meetings of this old lodge, but always from "The Philanthropic Lodge." When, on the 10th February, 1772, a minute is as follows: "Bro. Wm. White proposed that Bro. William Preston be admitted an Honorary Member, for his kind attention to the interests of this Lodge," which motion, being seconded, it was

"Ordered

"That the Admission of Br. Wm. Preston as an Honorary Member, be ballotted for the next Lodge Night."

At the next lodge night, 4th March, 1772, the following minute is recorded:

"The Lodge (agreeable to order) proceeded to ballot for Bro. William Preston, who was unanimously admitted an Honorary Member of the Lodge."

On 16th September, 1772, the following minute was passed: "Br. Auster made a motion & was seconded, that the Book wrote by Br. Wm. Preston, & lately published, intitled 'Illustrations on Masonry,' be purchased by the Lodge, and elegantly bound, with an inscription on the back."

And the question being put, it passed in the affirmative.

From this time Bro. William Preston appears to have been a regular attendant and worker in the lodge.

Trusting the above information may be of some use and interest,—Believe me, truly and fraternally yours,

ROBERT BERRIDGE, P.M. 21, P.G.D.

Enfield, December 31st.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Your extract as to William Preston induces me to ask if there is any explanation as to the numbering of the editions of the "Illustrations of Masonry." I believe the total No. is 14, yet the last is the "17th edition," and the fifth is the "8th edition."

Their dates are: 1772, 1773, 1781, 1788, 1792, 1796, 1801, 1804, 1815, 1821, 1829, 1840, 1846, and 1861; and are named respectively: 1st, 2nd, new, new, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th.

I should be glad to give value for the 1781 and 1846 editions.—Yours fraternally,

J. E. LE FEUVRE.

Southampton, 30th Dec., 1894.

COLONIAL GRAND LODGES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your Masonic notes in alluding to the so-called New Zealand Grand Lodge at the bottom of page 167 (of October 27th) you allude to "South Australia, New South Wales and Tasmania, where the lodges were absolutely unanimous in their" &c.

This statement is absolutely incorrect, and I feel sure that it has by mistake got into print, and that you will at once correct it by giving the facts as follows—in South Australia the "Duke of Leinster," No. 363, Irish Constitution, Adelaide; in New South Wales the "Cambrian Lodge of Australia," No. 656, English Constitution, Sydney, and in Tasmania the "Tasmanian Union," No. 536, English Constitution. Hobart declined to fall into the local Grand Lodges. The Tasmanian, however, at a later stage joined the Tasmanian Constitution, but the letter which I have before me from a member does not show anything like unanimity. At the present moment the Duke of Leinster, Irish Constitution, is working in Adelaide; the Cambrian Lodge of Australia, No. 656, English Constitution, in Sydney; and the Coimberne Lodge, No. 752, English Constitution, in Melbourne.

Regarding New Zealand, you might have gone a little further and said how the 15 new lodges are formed, and also ask why their so-called Grand Lodge members visit other Colonies as Past District Grand So-and-so, English Constitution, Irish Constitution, or Scotch Constitution, as the case may be. Thanking you in anticipation.—I remain, yours fraternally,

GEO. ROBINSON, S.W. 656.

Sydney, 30th November, 1894.



Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Albion Lodge (No. 9).—This ancient lodge held its installation meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 1st inst., when Bro. E. Stratton Gerrish was installed as the W.M. by Bro. S. Valentine, P.G.P., who has acted in a similar capacity in this lodge for over 30 years. Last year Bro. Valentine was unable to be present owing to illness, and his re-appearance as installing Master on the present occasion was hailed with satisfaction by the members present. These included Bros. J. Beardmore, W.M.; E. Stratton Gerrish, S.W.; S. H. Meyers, J.W.; S. H. Friend, P.M., Treas.; L. W. Harvey, P.M., Sec.; W. Dennis, S.D.; B. F. Cain, J.D.; George Pritchard, P.M., Org.; F. Evans, I.G.; E. H. Bradley, P.M., Stwd.; S. Valentine, P.M., P.G.P.; G. A. Bickerton, P.M.; W. Drew, P.M.; W. H. Holroyd, P.M.; W. Davis, H. W. Brown, W. Meyers, E. F. Japp, E. Cohen, W. H. Jones, and W. H. Betts. Visitors: Bros. J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.; S. V. Abrahams, P.G.P.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. W. Gibbs, I.P.M. 1801; F. J. Eddle, W.M. 2184; C. C. Burrows, 829; C. J. Page, I.G. 190; C. Dearney, P.P.G.S. of Works Berks; C. Townley, 2190; C. Wallington, P.M. 856; L. V. D. Anley, P.M. 1201; Victor Stevens, 2127; F. Hurdle, 15; J. W. Martell, J.W. 1563; C. Slater, J.W. 2409; W. J. Tilling, D.C. 2500; and W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897, P.M. 2381.

Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. A candidate having been passed to the Second Degree, Bro. S. Valentine, P.G.P., assumed the chair, and installed Bro. E. Stratton Gerrish as W.M. in his well-known style. The following officers were invested: Bros. S. Meyers, S.W.; W. Dennis, J.W.; H. S. Friend, P.M., Treas.; L. W. Harvey, P.M., Sec.; B. F. Cain, S.D.; F. Evans, J.D.; W. Holroyd, P.M., D.C.; G. Pritchard, P.M., Org.; E. Bradley, P.M., Steward; Francis, I.G.; and Rawles, Tyler. The W.M. commenced his year of work in an auspicious manner by initiating Mr. W. H. Betts with ability and impressiveness.

A grant having been made from the Benevolent Fund, the lodge was closed.

A banquet was afterwards held at Freemasons' Tavern, which was well served and heartily enjoyed, and the usual toasts were subsequently given.

The loyal toasts having been disposed of, "The Grand Officers" was proposed from the chair, with appropriate allusions to the distinguished brethren present.

Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.G.P., in response, said that although the lodge possessed a Grand Officer far more capable of acknowledging this toast than he was, their courtesy and hospitality was shown by deputing one who was not a member to reply. The Grand Officers thoroughly appreciated the compliment paid them, and the manner in which at all times their services were acknowledged. There was one point to which he would refer which was that when the W.M. in the lodge rose for the third time he observed that most of the visitors greeted him with "Hearty good wishes." It might have been noticed that the three brethren present representing Grand Lodge did not respond in that manner, and he wished it to be understood that it was through no disrespect. It was a debatable question how far brother could go, and many said that no visitor had a right to speak within the walls of the lodge unless called upon by the W. Master. The Grand Officers felt as deeply as any brother present their good wishes to the W.M. of the lodge, and whilst the body of Grand Officers were recruited from such brethren as the W.M. and officers of the Albion Lodge, it would tend to the improvement and advancement of the Craft.

Bro. H. Sadler, G. Tyler, also responded, and thanked Bro. Valentine for the opportunity of paying his first visit to that lodge, although he had known it for some considerable period—nearly 30 years—his acquaintance having been mostly with the members outside. He had a desire to see his old friend do the installation ceremony—a cere-

mony he took some interest in himself. He was glad to have had that privilege, and only wished Bro. Valentine had been in better health, and done himself justice. He (Bro. Sadler) was fond of old things, and old Masons, and was glad to see one of the real old school in harness and doing work. It was not many years ago when a dozen brethren in London could not be found to do the installation ceremony, but now there were a dozen in a lodge. He did not think he had ever seen the installation ceremony done better than by Bro. Valentine, and the W.M. and his officers gave promise of following his example.

Bro. G. Beardmore, I.P.M., gave "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and said it was easy and, at the same time, difficult to propose this toast—easy, for they could say so much about their W.M., and difficult, as there was a long programme and time was short. They had seen Bro. Gerrish work to the satisfaction of all, and had seen him work his way through the offices previously. Their W.M. was the most regular attendant at the lodge of instruction, and now that he occupied the proud position of the chair, he was a credit to the lodge and the lodge of instruction. He (the I.P.M.) took particular pride in the W.M., having introduced him to the Albion Lodge, and they would all wish him a most successful year of office.

Bro. F. Stratton Gerrish, W.M., said he hardly knew where to begin in responding to the toast so kindly proposed and received. He thought a short time ago that that would be the proudest moment of his Masonic career, but he found it was not unmixed with anxiety that the interests of the lodge might not suffer. It would be his sincere wish to maintain the dignity and honour of that lodge. It seemed but a short time ago since he came amongst them, and the last occasion on which they met on New Year's Day he was initiated, but on the present occasion he was their W.M. He appreciated the honour, and was sensible of the responsibility of the office. His year opened brightly, and he knew he should have the assistance of every Past Master and officer. It gave him special pleasure that evening to welcome Bro. Bickerton, P.M., who had not been with them for some time, but who performed a portion of the ceremony when he (the W.M.) was initiated. He had, in the lodge, said that he thought this lodge should be represented every year at one of the Charities. He did not know if any other brother had an idea of serving, but he wished to go up for one of the Institutions, and his choice lay between the Boys' and the Old People. He should be pleased to leave it to Bro. Terry, who was present, to say which Institution he should represent.

Bro. L. W. Harvey, P.M., Sec., proposed "The Installing Officer," and said that with the exception of Bro. Friend, he had known Bro. Valentine longer than anyone present. It must have given them all peculiar pleasure to once again see the chair occupied by Bro. Valentine, and it was not that brother's fault that he made a break last year in a Masonic record of installing over 30 consecutive Masters in one lodge. Bro. Valentine had proved himself equal to the occasion, and had delighted them all, and satisfied the critics. Personally it was a treat to him (the Secretary), for he liked the old installation ceremony, and not the new curtailed ceremony they heard now. He did not believe there was the same amount of importance attached to it where it was common property as there used to be when only four Grand Officers were capable of performing it. His only hope and prayer was that it might be many years before the Grand Architect was pleased to displace Bro. Valentine as Installing Master, and it was the wish of all that he would live many years to be with them.

Bro. S. Valentine, P.G.P., said he had now done the installation ceremony for many years, and he agreed with the advisability of having a relay of Installing Masters. He should like to give them a short history of installations in that lodge. When he became a member there were two members who did the work well—one a celebrity and man of note, and the other an exceedingly useful man. The man of note aged until he was incapable, and the other carried it on, but one evening said to him (Bro. Valentine): "I am the only man who can work the installing ceremony here. It would be hard if the lodge should lose its credit by having its work done by others. You must learn the ceremony and carry it on." He did so, and it soon fell upon him to perform the duty. He thought some endeavour should be made to preserve the old ceremony which was fast dying out in their lodges. As he felt he could no longer perform the ceremony, he would suggest that no better opportunity would be afforded of obtaining an Installing Master than by inducing the present Worshipful Master to install his successor. Whatever he could do to assist the W.M. in attaining that end he should be most happy to do.

Bro. S. Valentine, P.G.P., then proposed "The Initiate," which was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Betts, and the W.M. then submitted "The Past Masters." He said there was one Past Master included that night who had not been included before, the I.P.M. It would be presumptuous to review the I.P.M.'s good working, for he had been everything that a Master should be and had spared no expense to make their entertainments enjoyable. It was a very great pleasure to present Bro. Beardmore with a Past Master's jewel and collar as a slight acknowledgment of the able services rendered by him during the past year.

Bro. G. Beardmore, I.P.M., said he should always regard their gift with pleasure and pride. During the past year he did the best he could for the lodge and its members, and if his work, which was now before them had given satisfaction, he was pleased.

Bro. Bickerton, P.M., also replied, and expressed his gratification at again renewing his acquaintance with the lodge.

Other toasts were given before the pleasant proceedings terminated.

Bro. G. Pritchard, P.M., Org., was in charge of the excellent musical arrangements, and was ably assisted by Miss Phyllis Hope and Messrs. E. Owen and Geo. Leipold. Bros. Victor Stevens and Townley also kindly contributed to the enjoyment of the brethren.

THE GROCERS' COMPANY have arranged to place their magnificent hall in Princes-street at the disposal of the Asylum for Idiots, Earlswood, for the purpose of the festival dinner of the charity, on Tuesday, April 9th. Bro. Alderman Sir Joseph C. Dimmick will preside.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

CARLISLE.

Union Lodge (No. 310).—On Wednesday, the 26th ult., the brethren of the above lodge met for the purpose of installing Bro. John F. Grant in the chair as Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. John Slack, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., who also invested the officers. Many visitors were present from various parts of the province and also from the province of Dumfriesshire. Among the visitors was Bro. Davidson Burnie, representing the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, N.S.W., who gave a very interesting account of the progress of Masonry in that colony. During the evening it was remarked by one of the brethren from Lodge Caledonian, No. 238, that as far back as the year 1814 there were records in their lodge of brethren from Union Lodge having visited them, and much pleasure was expressed at the resumption of these fraternal relationships.

A banquet was held at the Great Central Hotel, where a Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Ratsey, the retiring W.M., and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

HULL.

Humber Lodge (No. 57).—The installation of Bro. M. J. Martensen into King Solomon's chair took place on the 20th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Osborne-street, before a large assemblage of brethren of the lodge and also of members of sister lodges in the town and district. Bro. Geo. Wilson, M.P., was the Installing Officer, and assistance was rendered by Bros. Corris, P.M.; Henderson, P.M.; and King, P.M. Throughout the ceremony was most impressive, and gave great pleasure to all the brethren present. At the opening of the lodge, Bro. Jas. Wildbore, the retiring Master, was in the chair, and on his subsequently giving place to Bro. Wilson, P.M., the installation ceremony was proceeded with, after which the new Worshipful Master invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Jas. Wildbore, I.P.M.; Peter Atkinson, S.W.; H. J. Oldroyd, J.W.; E. Corris, P.M., Chap.; Thomas Thompson, P.M., Treas.; W. Tesseyman, P.M., Treasurer of the B. and P. Fund; J. Henderson, P.M., Treasurer of the Sinking Fund; J. Mackaill, P.M., Treasurer of the Poor Fund; Geo. Wilson, P.M., Lecture Master; Geo. D. Storry, Secretary; Geo. W. Richardson, S.D.; H. Glassman, J.D.; James Milestone, D.C.; J. R. Stringer, Org.; W. W. Fletcher, Librarian; P. J. Drasdo, I.G.; T. E. Field, B. Westerhoff, Wm. Smith Sharp, Jas. Baynes, Geo. Everingham, George M. Poskitt, S. J. Cooper, and J. C. Manley, Stewards; H. Preston, P.M., Tyler, and D. Swallow, Asst. Tyler.

Prior to the closing of the lodge, Bro. Milner, the retiring Senior Warden, presented to Bro. Wildbore, the I.P.M., a very beautiful Past Master's jewel, subscribed for by the brethren of the lodge as a token of their high appreciation of the services rendered by Bro. Wildbore during the 12 months in which he had ruled the lodge. Bro. Milner said it afforded him sincere pleasure to present the jewel, and he only wished that the duty had been placed in more able hands. For 12 months Bro. Wildbore had been in the chair of that lodge, and the token he had to present him with that night fittingly expressed the high appreciation of the members of the manner in which he had fulfilled the duties appertaining to so high a position. He hoped that it would inspire Bro. Wildbore with a desire to continue to do his best to further the interests of the Humber Lodge, and also of the Craft in general.

Bro. Wildbore feelingly acknowledged the kindness of his colleagues and other members of the lodge.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Installing Officer, after which the lodge was closed.

The annual installation banquet, at which more than 70 brethren sat down, followed, the W.M., Bro. J. E. Martensen, being honoured by the distinguished company of Bro. M. C. Peck, P.M., P.G.S.B. England, a large number of the Past Masters of the lodge, and many other brethren. Bros. Peter Atkinson, S.W., and H. J. Oldroyd, J.W., occupied the vice-chairs.

As is the rule on these festive occasions, "The Queen and the Craft" and other well known Masonic toasts were duly proposed by the W.M., and were received with every demonstration of loyalty by the assembled brethren.

Bro. M. C. Peck, P.M., P.G.S.B. England, made one observation which went straight home to the hearts of all present. He said we lived in revolutionary times, but a society of gentlemen like the Masons was one of the strongest bulwarks which the Crown could possess.

Bro. Edward Corris, P.M. gave "The Worshipful Master of the Humber Lodge and the newly-appointed Officers." He observed that the installation of the Worshipful Master was one of the milestones in the history of the Humber Lodge, and there were circumstances which made it doubly interesting on this occasion. The new Worshipful Master was surrounded with a most able lot of officers. By perseverance, patience, and consistent attention to his duties he had been placed in the high and distinguished position of the Worshipful Master of that lodge, and he believed that his year of office would prove satisfactory to himself and to the members of the Humber Lodge.

The Worshipful Master said he could not find words to express to them his thanks for the kind words which had been spoken. He felt he had a difficult task before him, but he hoped when his year of office was completed they would have no occasion to complain, but that on the contrary, they would find that he had maintained the honour and dignity and had advanced the best interests of the Humber Lodge. He had a strong conviction that he would have the good will and support of all the brethren. The choice of his officers, he was pleased to find, had met with general satisfaction. He knew they would render him the best possible assistance in carrying out the onerous duties attaching to his position, and he felt that the future was full of hope for the Humber Lodge.

Bro. P. Atkinson, S.W., expressed, on behalf of the officers, their thanks for the very hearty manner in which the toast had been received. He took this opportunity of heartily congratulating the Worshipful Master upon the proud and honourable position in which he found himself that night. Placed in that position by a vote of the brethren, which he ventured to think had never been exceeded in the annals of the Humber Lodge—18 out of 118

—it was another evidence that conscientious and loyal devotion to duty had won the hearts of the brethren, and they had shown their confidence in Bro. Martensen by selecting him as their ruler. He (Bro. Atkinson) hoped that their Worshipful Master would have health and strength given him by the Grand Geometrician of the Universe, and that when the close of his official life arrived he would still have the confidence of those who had supported him. On all occasions, during the coming year, he should earnestly endeavour to give the Master loyal and consistent support.

Bro. H. J. Oldroyd, S.W., also replied to the sentiment.

Bro. W. Tesseyman, P.M., next submitted the toast of "The Retiring Master and his Officers," in eulogistic terms.

Bro. Wildbore, I.P.M., Bro. Milner, ex-S.W., and Bro. Panton, ex-J.W., acknowledged the eulogies of the proposer in terse terms.

Other toasts followed, a harmonious and most enjoyable evening was spent.

LIVERPOOL.

Marlborough Lodge (No. 1620).—This lodge celebrated its 15th anniversary in the Derby Hall on the 2nd inst., when, in the presence of about 70 brethren, including many of the athletic fraternity, Bro. Frederick Parry was installed W.M. in succession to Bro. William Naylor, who performed the duties of Installing Master in an exemplary manner. After his installation, Bro. Parry invested the following as his officers: Bros. R. Parry, S.W.; Josh Griffiths, J.W.; Luke Bagnall, Treas.; A. Beeston, Sec.; Thomas Airey, P.M., D.C.; W. Hudson, Org.; O. G. James, S.D.; H. Gale, J.D.; P. McGuire, I.G.; W. E. Marshall, A. Baguley, T. Fraser, Jas. Cooper, and C. A. Young, Stwds.; and R. Neville, Tyler.

Amongst the members present, in addition to those mentioned, were Bros. J. Gresham, P.M.; Henry Peers, P.M.; and R. M. Stephenson, P.M.; whilst the visitors included Bros. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.S.; J. R. Bottomley, P.P.G.D.C.; Thomas Vernon, P.G. Stwd.; J. C. Robinson, P.P.G.D.C.; John Lee, P.M. 2375, P.P.G.S.B. Cheshire; A. Wright, W.M. 2290; Robert Foote, P.P. G.T.; and J. W. Hughes, W.M. 1547.

An interesting feature of the proceeding at the banquet which followed was the presentation of a Past Master's jewel, together with a gold watch and albert, to Bro. Naylor, in recognition of his excellent services in the chair during the past year.

A very enjoyable programme of music was organised by Bro. Hudson, and rendered by the following: Bros. J. J. Griffiths, J. Clayton, E. Edwards, J. Cooper, J. Higginbotham, James Wylie, Geo. Platt, F. J. Barford, S. Kirkham, G. Watson, and Luke Bagnall.

PORTSMOUTH.

Phoenix Lodge (No. 257).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Lodge Rooms, High-street, on Thursday, the 22nd ult., when Bro. G. E. Kent was installed as Worshipful Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. The retiring W.M., Bro. E. Gillman, carried out the duties of Installing Master in a most correct and careful manner. The following were appointed officers of the lodge: Bros. W. Gillman, I.P.M.; W. Haynes, S.W.; Rev. C. E. Crowley, P.G. Chap.; J. W.; Rev. W. Hawksley, Chap.; E. M. Bewlay, Treas.; C. W. Long, Sec.; A. E. Gibson, S.D.; C. Brietzche, J.D.; J. Cornelius-Wheeler, P.M., D.C.; G. D. Lovegrove, P.G. Org.; Organist; Capt. A. H. Hare, R.M.A., I.G.; G. W. Edmonds, and J. Uriel Thyne, Stwds.; and G. Carter, Tyler. A handsome and elaborate Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Gillman by the W.M. on behalf of the members of the lodge, in recognition of the zeal shown by him during the past year.

The Worshipful Master presided at the banquet held subsequently in the lodge dining hall.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was represented by the Deputy P.G. Master, Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, the P.G. Treasurer, Bro. J. W. G. Eve, and the P.G. Secretaries, Bros. Edgar Noble and G. Felton Lancaster, and others; representatives attended from all the lodges in the district, and there was a very large attendance of members.

Arrangements are being made for holding the meetings of the Hundred of Bosmere Lodge in the Royal Sussex Lodge room, St. George's-square, Portsea, instead of at Havant as heretofore; the lodge will in future be named the St. George's Lodge.

RICHMOND.

Lennox Lodge (No. 123).—The anniversary in celebration of the festival of St. John by the above lodge was held in the Masonic Hall on the 27th ult. Bro. Robert Murray was duly installed W.M., and the ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. the Hon. W. T. Ord-Powlett, P.G.W. of England, and D.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire. The following officers for the ensuing year were appointed by the W.M.: Bros. George Peacock, J.P., P.G.S.; I.P.M.; F. Gillings, S.W.; E. V. Schofield, J.W.; Rev. J. Baker, M.A., Chap.; John Gibson, P.M., P.P.G.S.; D.C.; S. W. Clise, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; W. Brown, Sec.; J. A. H. R. Wiggins, S.D.; J. Elliott, J.D.; R. H. Glenton, Org.; M. B. Lambert, I.G.; Sergeant-Major G. J. Smith, Stwd.; and Wm. Grieves, Tyler.

Owing to the large party entertained at Aske Hall and the festivities connected therewith, the banquet was adjourned until Wednesday, the 9th inst.

WIGTON.

St. John's Lodge (No. 327).—The 87th anniversary of the above lodge was celebrated on St. John's Day, when there was an unusually large attendance. Bro. R. G. Twynman, S.W., was installed in the chair of the W.M., by Bro. G. T. Burgess, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. of Carlisle and Starthwaite. After his installation the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. E. Hope, I.P.M.; A. J. Livesey, S.W.; J. W. Reid, J.W.; J. E. Ewbank, P.G.C.; Chap.; H. Bewes, P.M., P.P.G.J.W., Treas.; J. E. Dowie, Sec.; J. R. Clark, S.D.; T. M. Pirt, J.D.; J. Hall, I.G.; J. Pearson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Tyler; E. Lindop, Org.; J. H. Hall, and F. J. Livesey, Stwd.

The usual banquet followed.



LADY NOTTAGE is, we regret to hear, laid up with influenza at Holly Spring, Bracknell, Berks.

BRO. SIR J. BLUNDELL MAPLE, M.P., has been initiated a member of the Peckham Rye Lodge of Druids.

MR. JOHN BURNS, L.C.C., M.P., sails for home from the United States on Saturday.

BRO. UNDER SHERIFF BEARD.—There is no change in the condition of Bro. Under-Sheriff Beard, who, however, continues bright and cheerful and bears up as well as can be expected under the circumstances.—*City Press*.

THE LONGEVITY of the "Friends" continues. In 1894 there died no fewer than 45 members between 80 and 90 years old, nine members between 90 and 100 years old, and one member aged 101 years. The deaths below 80 years old form only about 3 per cent. of the total deaths reported.

AT THE WEEKLY MEETING of the Dock Board at Liverpool on Thursday it was decided to incur an expenditure of £36,000 to enable Atlantic liners to go alongside the landing stage instead of discharging passengers by tender; also to provide direct railway communication between the stage and London. Liverpool would then have superior arrangements to Southampton. The present scheme is said to be only the forerunner of a larger undertaking to meet the rapid development of traffic.

THE SAVAGE CLUB.—Bro. Alderman Treloar, the chairman for the evening, will entertain the Lord Mayor and his two sons, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Samuel, Mr. Sheriff Hand, Sir Stuart Knill, Sir Walter Wilkin, Mr. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, Sir E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Mr. Bayard (the American Ambassador), Mr. H. M. Stanley, Mr. A. Dioso, and Mr. J. M. Cook as his guests at the house dinner of the Savage Club on Saturday, 26th instant.

WE LATELY came upon an interesting little brochure upon the origin of the honorific titles in Freemasonry. These appear to differ in various Constitutions. Under the English Constitution members of Grand Lodge are known as Most Worshipful, Right Worshipful, Very Worshipful, and Worshipful. The Grand Master and Pro Grand Master are known as M.W., the Deputy G.M., District and Provincial G.M.'s and Grand Wardens, and, of course, Past ditto are R.W. The Grand Chaplains, Treasurers, Registrars, Secretaries, and Presidents B.G.P. are V.W., and Masters of private lodges are Worshipful only. Quite so, but where do the Wardens come in? Grand Lodge is composed of some 7,500 Worshipful Brethren and 4,700 Wardens, and the latter are quite influential, or, at all events, quite numerous enough to claim independent distinction. At present the Constitutions ignominiously rank them as "Brethren" along with the most recent initiates. All the same, it does not seem what title is left for them, unless all the other members of Grand Lodge move up one, and leave them to be called Worshipful, as in the Scotch Constitution. How would *Rather Worshipful* do?—*Indian Masonic Review*.

THE LARGE CIRCLE of friends of the late Bro. Edmund Yates, editor of the *World*, will be greatly interested in the forthcoming sale of his library, which is to take place at Messrs. Sotheby's rooms about the end of the month. The books range throughout nearly every class of modern literature, and include many valuable first editions, notably those of Tennyson, Thackeray, Alfred Austin, Browning, Swinburne, O. W. Holmes, W. Irving, Leigh Hunt, Jefferies, A. Lang, W. Morris, Rossetti, Albert Smith, and G. A. Sala. But undoubtedly the chief interest of the sale will be centred in the Charles Dickens relics. These comprise copies of the "Tale of Two Cities," "The Un-Commercial Traveller," and "Great Expectations," each having autograph inscriptions, and having been presented to Mr. Yates by the great author; also a selection of the letters from Dickens to Yates, written between 1854 and 1870, mounted and bound in a volume; and last, but not least, Charles Dickens' writing slope, used by him until the day of his death, and given by his executrix to Edmund Yates as his most familiar friend.

MASONIC STRENGTH.—A clipping handed us a few days ago containing the following tremendous and startling presentation of the strength of Freemasonry: "In connection with the cable dispatch from Madrid it may be interesting to know that, according to the statistics presented during the recent and latest convention or assembly of the Grand Orient, held in Paris, the Masonic strength is as follows: European lodges number 7,906,148 adherents or brethren; in the United States there are 5,805,320; in Canada and South American republics, 4,532,238; in Asia and Oceania, 695,955; in Africa 87,882, and 29,717 in Cuba and Porto Rico. The total number of the Freemasons is therefore about 22,000,000. It has increased by 533,140 during the last 12 years. In 1880 there were 137,065 lodges, and at present there are 141,385." That is about as ridiculous as the "cable dispatch" referred to, which stated that the boy King Alfonso XIII. of Spain had been enrolled as a Mason. The King Alfonso is eight years old, hardly of lawful age. Just what sort of statistics were presented at the "convent" of the Grand Orient is not revealed, but certain it is they are very much out. According to statistics for 1893, in the United States and Canada there were 57 Grand Lodges, 11,676 subordinate lodges, with 7,474,922 members. The total membership in the world is something over two million, leaving about twenty million difference between the Grand Orient and our own. These twenty million are—possibly—"adherents" or may be "unaffiliates." This thing of being "big" is a big thing.—*New York Dispatch*.

BE KIND TO THE LITTLE ONES.—There is no tyranny so hard to bear as the tyranny of parents who, without meaning to be cruel, do not understand their children. How continually do we find a child punished simply because it is fretful. It does not seem to occur to some parents that in nine cases out of ten a child's fretfulness arises from ill-health or from some temporary ailment. But this is assuredly true, and instead of punishing their children, parents will do well to take steps to keep them healthy and strong. They will not find this difficult if they take care to keep Holloway's Pills and Ointment always by them. These are remedies which never fail.

"THE FATAL CARD" was successfully produced at Palmer's Theatre, New York, on the 31st ult.

THE GOVERNOR AND DIRECTORS of the Bank of England and Mr. Richard Benyon have each sent a donation of £100 to the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland-road.

THE SUM OF £20 from the Clothworkers' Company has been received as a donation to the Guildhall Police-court poor-box. At West London £10 is acknowledged from "F. J."

ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.—Notice is given, that interim interest on the paid capital of the company, at the rate of five per cent. per annum, for the half year ending the 31st December, 1894, is now payable.

THE QUEEN has appointed the following gentlemen to be Companions of the Order of St. Michael and St. George: Colonel H. E. Colville, C.B., Grenadier Guards, Acting Commissioner in Uganda; Commander C. H. Robertson, R.N., and Lieutenant G. Shadwell Carr, R.N., for various arduous operations against the natives in the Nyassaland Protectorate.

HIGHGATE ARCHWAY is to be reconstructed by the London County Council, and steps are being taken to ascertain the condition of the foundations and the nature of the soil upon which they rest. Erected in 1813, the Archway was long considered a triumph of engineering skill; but its significance has been dwarfed by recent metropolitan works, notably the Tower Bridge.

AT THE ANNUAL SUPPER of the Langthorne Lodge of Instruction, No. 1421, held at the Angel Hotel, Bro. F. Evans, the W.M. elect of the mother lodge, presided. He remarked upon the gratifying progress made by the lodge during the past year, it being stated by the speakers that this marked success was very largely due to the energy of the Preceptor, Bro. J. R. Johnson. In the course of the past 12 months a Benevolent Fund has been formed in connection with the lodge, and by this means upwards of 200 guineas have been subscribed to the Masonic Charities.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR'S SILVER WEDDING.—The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress celebrated their silver wedding at the Mansion House on Tuesday and received a large number of congratulatory telegrams from friends and acquaintances in the City, at Nottingham (their birthplace), and elsewhere. In addition a considerable number of appropriate and interesting silver wedding gifts were received. In the evening his Lordship and the Lady Mayoress gave a private dinner party in the Long Parlour, the guests numbering about 50.

THE MASONIC PRESS.—The Masonic press cannot rely upon the means of gain and sustenance that the popular press does. The importance of the Masonic press as an institution can scarcely be over estimated. It occupies a higher and more tranquil field of journalism than that of the secular press. Its influence, however, must not be forgotten in the estimate of the social forces. Unobtrusive in its utterances, when compared with the clamorous voices of the political newspaper, its tones, nevertheless, fall upon calmer hearts, and sink deeper into the convictions and life of society. As a medium for communication of moral and Masonic intelligence—an educator, refining and elevating—a fire-side mentor, quickening the intellect, expanding the heart, and bearing treasures to minds, the Masonic journal yields an influence which cannot well be dispensed with, and one that no other moral force can well supply. The duty of the Mason is therefore plain. He has a duty to perform in extending the circulation and in widening the influence of the Masonic press. He should not excuse himself from this duty. If he is a Master, or officer of the lodge, he may recommend it to the members. If he is not an officer, he can urge its claims whenever an opportunity occurs. The Fraternity should awaken to the importance of a more general and decided effort in behalf of the Masonic newspaper and Masonic literature.—*N. Y. Times*.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES IN 1894.—The past year, taken as a whole, was not a remarkably stormy one, but both early in the year and during the latter part, gales, storms, and devastating floods were very frequent and disastrous. Many occasions, therefore, presented themselves calling for the help of the life-boat crews, who on no occasion were found wanting when their services were requisitioned. Much good work was done by them in the saving of life and property. The worst gale of the year was that of the 22nd and 23rd December, during which many of the life-boat crews all round the coast, but more particularly on the north-west and west coasts, rendered splendid service, resulting in the saving of 117 lives. Between the 1st January and the 31st December, 1894, the life-boats of the Royal National Life-boat Institution were launched on service 398 times, resulting in the rescue of 625 lives. The cost of maintaining the Institution's fleet of life-boats in thorough efficiency is increasingly heavy, and the amount received in annual subscriptions and accruing from assured income is insufficient for the purpose. Further help is therefore greatly needed. Annual subscriptions and donations will be gladly received by the Secretary, Charles Dibdin, Esq., 14, John-street, Adelphi, London, by any of the Branch Honorary Secretaries, and by all the bankers in the United Kingdom.

A BROTHER has forwarded us a unique experience. Last August he was out in the district during the rains, and on one occasion took refuge from an exceptionally heavy burst in the hollow trunk of a tree. When, however, he tried to get out, whether the wood had swelled or he had swelled himself, he does not yet know, but he was a tight fixture. Evening was coming on, and the prospect of a night in the jungle under such circumstances was sufficiently appalling; but all his efforts to extricate himself seemed but to wedge him the tighter. Thinking his last hour was not far off, his past rose up before him, as we understand generally does happen under such circumstances, and especially those incidents in his past which gave him least pleasure to reflect upon. Among other things, he reflected with regret that for the last 18 months, instead of buying his own copy of the *Review* and paying for it like a man, he had been in the habit of reading the lodge copy. As he thought upon this, the recollection of it made him feel so small that he extricated himself with ease. We didn't know how far this brother's story was to be credited until we observed that as he narrated it he drew a cheque for two years' subscription in advance, which fact gave it a *prima facie* claim to credit, and we hope the moral will not be lost on other brethren.—*Indian Masonic Review*.

COLONEL COLVILLE, Secretary of the Newport Market Refuge and Industrial School, has written to Mr. Charles Wyndham to say that he has been unanimously elected by the committee to be its vice-president, as an acknowledgement of the great services he rendered to the institution in organising the benefit at the Garrick Theatre on the 17th ult., and the interest he had taken in the charity.

THERE ought to be an exhaustive inquiry into the supposed connection between oysters and typhoid fever. If only the cheap bivalves which appear on the costermongers' barrows were concerned, the charge would be less surprising. But when we hear of City men and invalids being attacked, it is obvious that the lordly native is under suspicion. Now, it is bad enough to pay 4d. for a mouthful of oyster, but it is worse if the mouthful may include a dose of typhoid. The oyster's character must be examined and, we trust, cleared.—*Globe*.

A NEW YEAR'S treat was provided for the invalid soldiers at the Guard's Hospital, Rochester-row. One of the large wards was tastefully decorated, and the entertainment took the form of an afternoon concert, arranged by the Rev. Reginald Moseley, chaplain to the Guards. The vocalists included Lady Arthur Wellesley, the Hon. Mrs. Cavendish, Lieut. Sir A. Webster, and the chaplain. Miss Wellesley played the pianoforte, and the Rev. F. St. John Corbett evoked much merriment by his comic recitations. Altogether the venture proved most successful in banishing gloom for an hour or two from the scene of suffering.

CIGARETTE SMOKERS are a much pampered class. Almost every shade of taste is provided for, and it would be difficult for the most fastidious to complain of not being able to satisfy his taste; but Messrs. C. Phillips and Son, the well-known manufacturers, of 112, Commercial-road, are evidently of the opinion that they can "go one better," and we must admit that for all-round excellence which is exhibited in each small detail of manufacture, we have met with nothing better than their new imperishable mouthpiece cigarette. Their speciality is a paper which at the mouthpiece is impervious to wet and does not stick to the lips.

WE REGRET to hear of the death of Mr. Alexander Keys Moore, the editor of the *Morning Post*, which took place on Thursday morning. Mr. Moore, who was an Ulsterman by birth, had a distinguished career at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Oxford, where he took a First in Mods. and a First in Law. He became connected with the *Morning Post* in 1881, and was appointed editor on the death of Sir William Hardman in 1890. Of his ability, insight, and energy, his work is a sufficient proof, while his geniality and kindness of heart endeared him to all his colleagues and friends. He was only 42, and had been in failing health for the past year.

THE "TELESEMI" is a domestic telegraph invented by Heir Herzog, and doing duty in the New York hotels, where it is preferred to the telephone. It consists of two dials, one a receiver, placed in the attendant's office of the hotel, the other in the guest's room; the other, a transmitter, having 128 specific messages inscribed on it, and a pointer. When the guest wants anything he presses a button and turns the pointer to the corresponding message, which is duly received by the attendant, who answers it. Telephones were found objectionable, owing chiefly to their ease of communication with the head office, and the use made of them by ladies to lodge complaints.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES PELHAM VILLIERS, M.P., who enjoys the proud position of being "Father of the House of Commons," entered upon his ninety-fourth year on Thursday, when he was the recipient of numerous congratulations from a large circle of friends. Considering the many serious illnesses from which he has suffered in recent years, the veteran member for South Wolverhampton is in possession of excellent health, and hopes to be seen in his place on the reassembling of Parliament next month. Mr. Villiers, a statue of whom was erected in the constituency some years ago, has now represented Wolverhampton continuously since 1835, when he succeeded Mr. Fryer. The Right Honourable gentleman spent his birthday quietly at his residence in Cadogan-place, where he was visited in the course of the day by a number of friends and colleagues.

ITS FOUNDATION.—The foundation of Freemasonry is a belief in a Supreme Being, its great light the Holy Bible, and its crowning glory the practice of social and moral virtue. That it is ancient is beyond question—and honourable it must be, as the wise and good who have from the beginning approached and learned its mysteries, hallowed its practices, and endorsed its principles in all ages of time, conclusively established. Its tendencies are to assist, elevate, and ennoble mankind, and to make its votaries honourable, just, and charitable. If not bound together by a cement such as this, its pillars would have crumbled and tattered to their base, and the whole superstructure long since have been a magnificent ruin. Its inherent excellence, however, has bid defiance to the assaults of its enemies and withstood the power of time. While other institutions have fallen beneath the malice of the one and submitted to the oulterating progress of the other, Freemasonry has survived, and still spreads her glory over the world, and is destined to last while "the earth bears a plant, or the sea rolls a wave."—*Canadian Freemason*.

The Australian Freemason announces its own demise in the following words: "It may surprise some of our readers, who have still a cherished belief in the reality of Masonic practice, to hear that we have not a few, but scores of 'subscribers' who have received, and presumably read our paper for four years, and have never as much as paid us the postage, and that the balance of good names only about suffices at the present time to pay our actual working expenses, without leaving a penny for contingencies or for literary remuneration. I've read the *petty* childishness, and, we had almost said, meanness, shown in some of the letters that are sent to us when we press these brethren to the point by means of a draught or the personal call of an agent, would be equally a revelation to many. And it is curious to note that the brethren who are so ready to solemnly affirm that they never ordered the paper; that they countermanded the order long ago; that they only ordered it for a year; that they were forced into taking it by some zealous brother; or that they do not consider it worth reading, never find these facts out when they are receiving the publication in its regular visitations."