

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
SIR CHARLES DALRYMPLE, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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THE APPROACHING BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

Now that the Anniversary Festivals of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls have been celebrated, the way is clear for us to appeal to the Craft generally in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys for that support which is necessary to its efficient maintenance. We are not in a position—indeed we imagine we should be nonplussed if we attempted—to advance any new reasons for our advocacy of the claims which this School has upon the brethren for their generous support. We can point with satisfaction to a very successful year, both as regards the management of the Institution and its educational efforts in respect of the children under its charge, since we made our last annual appeal in its behalf. The number of Boys in the establishment has been increased from 268 to 277; the result of the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last shows that the standard of education has been well maintained; while the statements of account exhibit a rigorous adherence to the policy of economy combined with efficiency by which the management of the School under the new régime has been uniformly characterised. Thanks, likewise, to the careful attention paid to the sanitary condition of the premises at Wood Green, the School has been able to show a comparatively clean bill of health, notwithstanding that the neighbourhood in which it is located has been visited during the past two years by a serious epidemic of scarlet fever. In short, whether we have regard to the increased number of pupils for which the School now provides, the manner in which they are trained and educated, both mentally and physically, their comparative freedom from illness, or the exceeding care with which the expenditure has been regulated, there is no contesting the fact, which stands out so prominently in the Report of the Board of Management for 1894, that the career of the Institution during that year has been most satisfactory. To crown all, the tone of the School has been raised to a level with that of other institutions of a like character, while the invested funds have been increased by something like 35 per cent. during the 12 months; and therefore, so far as it is in the power of the brethren to continue their support, we have no misgivings as to the result of our present appeal. We say, in effect—On your part, brethren, you have supported the Institution during the five years in which its administration has been conducted by the present Board of Management most generously, and on its part the Board has not only most thankfully received your contributions, but it has likewise faithfully applied them to the purposes for which they were given. But many a long term of years must elapse ere the Institution will be able to maintain itself out of the dividends and interest on its own accumulated funds, if—which is exceedingly doubtful—that much desired period ever arrives. The Permanent income, though more than double what it was five years ago, is still only about £1500 a year, while the expenditure, as shown by the latest statement of accounts, falls very little short of £13,000. You see, then, how large a sum must still be raised annually in order to meet our expenditure, and how absolutely we depend for the production of that large sum on the success of our annual Festival. We, therefore, appeal to you, brethren, most earnestly, but at the same time with every confidence that our appeal will not be made in vain, for those donations and subscriptions, without which the good work which you recognise we have been doing cannot be continued. We have, as we have said, a permanent income of about £1500, and a permanent expenditure of close on £13,000, and we address ourselves to you now in the hope that you will enable us in the first place to make good this large deficiency, and in the next place, to increase still further our invested funds.

But perhaps it may be said, if you have such confidence in the result of your appeal, why impress it upon the brethren with so much urgency? To this we reply in the first place that men's lives are so busily occupied nowadays that the Institution which does not keep its requirements continuously before the public stands but little chance of obtaining what it needs. No matter how great may have been the success which attended an appeal in any given year in behalf of an Institution which is mainly supported by voluntary contributions, it must be renewed annually with the same earnestness or the Charity stands a fair chance of becoming out of sight, and consequently out of mind. Yet the expenditure remains at the same figure, or it may be, has been increased on the strength of that success. In the next place, the competition for public support amongst our Charitable Institutions is so much keener than it was only a few years since. If we confine our attention to those which have been established by the Craft we find there is the Benevolent Institution, which is, in fact, two Institutions under one Management. Twenty years ago the number of its annuitants on the Male and Widows' Funds was about 200, now it is 440. The Girls' School provided for some 150 Girls, now it has a fixed establishment of 263, while

the Boys' School, which numbered about 175 pupils, now provides for 277. Twenty years ago, the aggregate of the expenditure on these three Charities, speaking roughly, may have amounted to some £25,000 a year, whereas now it amounts to about £45,000. If, then, these facts, on which it has been our duty for years past to lay so much stress, are not constantly kept before our readers, if those whose special business it is to obtain the services of Stewards for our Festival do not impress them continually on the attention of the lodges, what likelihood is there of so large a sum being obtained; and if it is not obtained, what becomes of the modest amount of invested funds which each of the three Institutions has been at such pains to accumulate? No, there can be no relaxation in the urgency of our annual appeals in behalf of each of these Institutions in turn, or, if there is, the relaxation must be detrimental to their interests. In these cases we have no option but to keep on "pegging away."

As regards the Festival, which has led to our formulating these remarks, the celebration has been fixed, as we announced a fortnight since, for Wednesday, 3rd July, when the chair will be occupied by Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON, Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire. Up to the present time, Bro. McLEOD, the Secretary of the Institution, has had the good fortune to enlist the services of about 380 ladies and brethren, and, as there are still between six and seven weeks remaining in which to obtain further help, we have no doubt that the Board, when fully constituted, will number not far short of 450. It is an additional piece of good fortune that the Chairman's Province of Cheshire has not far short of 50 lodges; and knowing what it did for this Institution in 1891, and for the Benevolent Institution at its Jubilee Festival in 1892, we are not without some hope that the support it will give to the Boys' School on this occasion will be worthy of its past services to our Charities and of the prestige it has won for itself as a practical exponent within its own borders of the distinguishing characteristic of our Order, we mean the virtue of Charity. As to how the Board is distributed between town and country, we are not yet in a position to furnish any particulars. We must content ourselves with the hope that as at the Festivals which have been held during his Secretaryship, Bro. McLEOD has succeeded in winning support from about three-fourths of the Provinces and from a due proportion of lodges in the London District, the same or a somewhat similar measure of success will attend his efforts in behalf of the approaching Anniversary. At all events, the prospects are very encouraging, and with so distinguished a President as Lord EGERTON OF TATTON and so numerous a body of Stewards as there is every likelihood will be enrolled to support him, we are naturally sanguine as to a successful result—not so successful, it may be, as that of last year when the Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire occupied the chair and a Board of 522 Stewards obtained donations and subscriptions amounting to £19,092; or as in 1893 when, under the auspices of the Prov. Grand Master of Essex, the sum of £21,840 was raised; but still one that will be in every way creditable to the noble Chairman and his supporters, and beneficial to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. May our expectations be realised or, if possible, exceeded!

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES AND VISITORS.

Almoners all know that the Masonic impostor is always nervous about his certificate, but as a rule it is only used amongst brethren he calls upon at their residence or place of business. At a lodge or in an interview with a lodge Almoner he has no certificate—it has been "lost, stolen, or strayed," and a very plausible account he has to give of the circumstance. As a matter of fact, the Grand Lodge certificate is a wonderful safeguard against imposition; at the same time, we should be sorry to think that a brother could not obtain relief, if worthy, without producing one. There are three reasons why English certificates can never be extensively utilised by impostors. 1. The difficulty of procuring one exactly suitable in point of age; 2. The dates and signatures on it; and, 3, the revelation of the name and number of the lodge from whence it came enables prompt communication in cases of doubt.

Probably this confidence in a Mason's certificate, so long established, was the reason why certain lodges invariably insisted on the production of that document by all visitors not vouched for; but we did not know that any lodge, still less that referred to by a correspondent, made it a *sine qua non* of admission.

Bro. KAYE's question, "Is the production of Grand Lodge certificates indispensable when visiting lodges?" can only be answered fairly as connected with the circumstances. Notwithstanding that our brother seems pretty confident that it is "almost always dispensed with in other lodges both in London and the provinces," thereby somewhat modifying his query, we may

inform him that a visitor has the right to admission *after due examination, provided he be personally known to or vouched for by one of the brethren present* (see Book of Constitutions, 150), and therefore we should say the production of a Grand Lodge certificate is *not indispensable*. A demand for it would no doubt be likely to arise, however (and this in *any lodge*), in the event of a visitor being entirely unknown, the context of par 150 reading, "*Or until he has produced the certificate of the Grand Lodge to which he claims to belong, and has given satisfactory proof that he is the Brother named in the certificate, &c.*"

We were told not long ago by a friend and brother who prides himself on his working that he attended a lodge *by invitation*, and what Bro. HAYE would call the "ordinary tests" were gone through quite differently to the practice in his own Province. "I could no more have worked my way into that lodge," said he, "than have read a Greek play." So that the old notion that a lodge *cannot* refuse admission to a Mason who demands to be proved, might in certain cases defeat its own purposes. We know this idea is still tenaciously held by a few; but it is advisable to avoid visiting lodges in which we are absolutely unknown. As a rule there is little excuse for any Provincial Officer being without a voucher if he will ask for it; and surely Great Queen-street is not the least likely place to obtain such an introduction as would effectually insure him against annoyance such as Bro. KAYE has experienced. We believe it to be the rule to demand a certificate *only* in case a visitor cannot be vouched for. The latter is invariably preferred, and we are disposed to think that neither the Emulation, nor any other lodge in London, holds the production of a certificate *indispensable* to the admission of visitors.

LOOKING BACK.

Whatever we may think of Freemasonry as Masons, it is clear enough that with its expansion has commenced a desire to modernise it that is not at all satisfactory. Is not this spirit the lever which during late years has been instrumental in the formation of new lodges on "class lines?" And is it not a remarkable fact that during the last 10 to 15 years other Orders have been founded, the members of which are *Masons*, to carry out the identical principles upon which Freemasonry is founded? We may indeed be proud of brethren who do these things, but is it a healthy sign that they should be necessary? We think not. It would appear that there is in many lodges to-day a class of men who so recently as 20 to 30 years ago would be forced out under the pressure of Masonic opinion, now they are tolerated. We may say, however, that in those days, if they existed at all, they were a very small section, so small as to be almost unknown. If we go much farther back, we have only to look into lodge minutes and by-laws to find that the eighteenth century Mason found much more brotherly love, relief, and truth within his lodge than exists to-day, whatever fault might be found with his habits, moral, social, and general, outside.

We have no doubt a good many old customs and perhaps a few laws have been allowed to sink into disuse since the first Book of Constitutions was printed; but it would be interesting to know about what period the old office of Hospitaller became unnecessary. The present lodge Almoner is the nearest to it, but the duties are in but a minor degree the same. The first duty of the old lodge Hospitaller was "to visit all sick and distressed brethren and extend relief, if worthy," which clearly shows that the "Brotherhood of Masonry" was more of a recognised element than now.

The formation of societies by Masons under other names is a strong proof, and certainly an unwelcome one, that they at least consider the ordinary Masonic lodge but imperfectly fulfils its mission, and we are the more sorry because the active interest of such Masons must necessarily be concentrated rather on that society which carries out a fundamental Masonic principle, than their own lodge which they think does not.

The difference between the latter eighteenth century and latter nineteenth century lodge seems to us to be that the former was a *school*, and the latter is the *playground*. The lessons still form the curriculum, because otherwise the name of Freemasons could not apply; in theory they may be said to lie open for the brethren to moralise upon, but in practice they are a closed book through the sheer force of bad example.

"The lessons are there, if you want to learn them; help yourself, and much good may it do you" was the answer of a W.M., who owned that he was sick of trying to raise the Masonic tone of his lodge, and apparently had lost all hope, even when an opportunity of doing good occurred. But does such fretfulness deserve success?

We are not surprised at the complaints which reach us, and should be very glad to feel that they were not justified; but the effort to improve must begin within the lodge itself, and then only can it succeed. The press is a powerful advocate, but it must not be forgotten that the more a Mason ignores his duties and obligations as such, *the less he cares to read a Masonic Journal*. There is nothing much more regrettable than the sickly sentimentalism which sees a lodge degenerate and contents itself with lamentation outside. There is not a lodge in England that cannot be reformed if the members set earnestly about it. Example does more than precept; and so unanswerable are the unchangeable principles of the Craft (which nobody would ever dream of questioning) that we have known the entire character and status of a lodge completely changed in a few years by the zeal and Masonic example of one member!

When Socrates was asked his opinion of the works of Heraclitus, presented to him by Euripedes (who knew them to be very obscure) he said something to this effect: "What I understand of them I find to be excellent; therefore what I do not understand I believe must be equally good." Our initiates, almost without exception, are impressed with this charitable feeling towards Freemasonry, but if, by the example of the older brethren, they are led

to consider what they have already been taught *as mere form and ceremony*, are they not likely to regard their lodge (to go no farther) as a pious fraud on Society? We are glad to know that notwithstanding the complaints against the few, the many really know their duty to the Craft, and do it. It is not sufficiently understood that in a lodge a move in the wrong direction is difficult to overcome; however, the same rule applies also to a good beginning. But the fire won't burn without fuel, and Masonry itself may decay through sloth and inanition.

CONSECRATION OF THE BENEVOLENTIA LODGE, No. 2549.

This latest of the new lodges was consecrated on Tuesday the 7th inst., at Mrs. Gladstone's Convalescent Home, South Woodford, by Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Sec., who was assisted by Bro. Robert Grey, President of the Board of Benevolence, as S.W.; Bro. Henry Garrod, P.G.P., as J.W.; Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C., as Chaplain; Bro. J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C., as D.C.; and Bro. Sutton Abbott, as I.G.

The other brethren who attended were Bros. Edgar A. Gibbs, S.W. 1804; Walter Latter, 704, P.P.G. Org. Essex; J. Sutton Abbott, jun., J.D. 2077; T. R. Foreman, 1804; W. J. Hewett, W.M. 1185; C. E. Lloyd, P.M. and Sec. 1185; Robert J. Scriven, S.D. 1489; W. J. Tylor, 1598; J. S. Henderwett, W.M. 1625; J. E. Skipper, 2396; W. K. Shipman, 2396; J. I. Skellom, W.S. 1185; Louis Alfred Pearce, J.D. 1185; Henry Perks, P.M. 209; George Chuter, 1373; Alfred Ford, 171; W. C. Farness, 73; R. A. Harris, 1421; W. Lucas, P.M. 1669; Fred. G. Bishop, 1056; W. H. Jones, Treas. 2077; Thomas Ringrose, P.M. 2184; Edwd. Mileson, 2484; H. Brack, 1804; T. H. Lloyd, 2501; John Sulley, J.D. 1804; W. Chappel, W.S. 1804; G. Hooper, P.M. 1486; J. Holland, J.W. 1804; H. R. Moffatt, W.S. 1805; F. A. Slater, 1804; Edward Holland, I.G. 1804; W. G. Holland, 2291; Otto Polenz, S.D. 238; C. Featherstone, S.D. 1540; F. Ranger, 1278; W. F. Keddell, P.M. 1185; H. B. Holland, P.M. 1076; W. J. Scrivener, 1489; G. Chatterton, P.M. 1185; R. E. Fairclough, W.M. 1365; J. W. Neave, P.M. 1228; Arthur F. Phelps, 1891; J. H. Howell, 2206; E. Gaypoint, 65; H. T. Nell, P.M. and Sec. 45; W. Banks, J.D. 1365; A. T. Dimbrell, P.M. 1598; J. H. Merbett, 19; A. R. Green, P.M. 1804; J. Prentice, P.M. 1185; O. Meyer, jun., 145; Henry Thom, W.M. 1839; A. W. Weston, P.M. 1278; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; J. Powles West, 1804; Henry Times, W.M. 165; Alfred Buck, P.M. 453, P.P.S.G.W. Essex. The founders of the lodge were Bros. Charles J. R. Tijou, P.M., P.A.G.P., W.M. designate; H. W. Lee, P.M., S.W. designate; H. French Bromhead, P.M., P.P.G. S. of W. Essex, J.W. designate; J. Taylor; J. W. Gibbs, P.M.; Ben. Johnson, J. G. Hammond, jun., P.M.; A. Glaeser, R. Logan, Sutton Abbott, W. Maxfield Mead, J. Wilson, H. Grimsdall, J. W. Tyler, Basil Stewart, W. T. Griffiths, Alex. H. Stokes, H. A. Lee, S. Barfoot, H. Lindus, W. J. W. Cole, J. A. Osborn, H. E. Herman, G. S. Manuelle, E. Purkess, and A. G. Shenstone.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. F. H. Lloyd, who was assisted by Bros. A. Weston, H. Thom, and A. Scrivener, the Organist, the accompanist being Bro. Walter Latten, R.A.M., P.P.G. Org. Essex.

The chairs and pedestals, which were very massive and handsome were presented to the lodge by the Clapton Lodge, that lodge having moved to quarters where all the furniture is provided. The Benevolentia Lodge desired to buy the furniture of the Clapton Lodge, but as Bro. Fairclough, the W.M., said in the course of the evening, the brethren of the Clapton Lodge thought it would be acting in a truly Masonic spirit if they gave it, and so helped a young lodge on its career.

Bro. LETCHWORTH, after the opening formalities, said it was unnecessary to occupy the brethren's time for many moments with any words of his own. They were all aware of the purpose for which they were met. It was a most interesting and solemn occasion, for they were there to start into existence a new lodge; to constitute it, and to dedicate it to the service of Almighty God, and he would express the hope that the new lodge might have before it a very prosperous future, that it might be the means of advancing the interests of Masonry in that part of the county of Essex, and that the members of it might be distinguished by their Charity, their good will, and their Benevolence. He thought the name they had selected for the lodge was a very happy one, and he was pleased to think there were so many connected with the lodge who were connected with the Board of Benevolence, the President of which had honoured him and the brethren by coming on this occasion. He was sure he was expressing the wish of those who were associated with him in this ceremony when he said he hoped the lodge would have a most happy and prosperous future.

Bro. the Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF delivered the oration, in which he dwelt particularly on the practice of benevolence, and the work of the Board of Benevolence, which he was sure in many cases restored brethren to the good position they had occupied before they were reduced to straitened circumstances.

The ceremonies were then continued, and at their termination Bro. Tijou was installed as W.M. of the lodge. Bro. Gibbs, P.M., was then appointed to act as the I.P.M., and the other brethren honoured with office were: Bros. H. W. Lee, P.M., S.W.; H. French Bromhead, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks. Essex, J.W.; J. Taylor, P.M., Treas.; H. Grimsdall, Sec.; W. P. Griffiths, S.D.; J. G. Hammond, jun., P.M., Prov. G. Stwd. Essex, J.D.; H. A. Lee, I.G.; Ben. Johnson, P.M., D.C.; A. H. Stokes, Org.; E. Purkess, and W. J. W. Cole, Stwds.; and D. Legg, P.M., Tyler. The Consecrating Officers were elected honorary members of the lodge, and presented with jewels as mementoes of the occasion. The brethren then made a contribution to the Convalescent Home in which they were assembled, the W.M. stating that it was doing an immense amount of good in the East End of London, and was much in need of funds. The W.M. was thereafter elected to represent the lodge at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, for which he was promised the hearty support of the brethren.

After the lodge had been closed the brethren adjourned to the George Hotel, where they partook of an excellent banquet, and honoured the usual toasts.

Bro. HENRY GARROD, P.G.P., responded to the toast of "The Grand Officers."

Bro. TIJOU, W.M., proposed "The Consecrating Officers." He said it was really the toast of the evening, and when he said that, he was not speaking of the Consecrating Master simply as Grand Secretary or as Consecrating Master, but as a brother and as a man. Many of the brethren had opportunities of meeting Bro. Letchworth; they met him in his arduous labours very very often. Whenever he met him, whether in the performance of his duties or outside, he was always the same gentleman, and he had no greater friend than he. Bro. Letchworth and Bro. Grey were the two

brethren in whom he felt he had perfect friends. There was no greater pleasure to him that night than to have Bro. Letchworth there. He had heard Bro. Letchworth consecrate lodges before, and had had opportunities of assisting him, but his feelings that night when Bro. Letchworth was consecrating the lodge were very different to what they were when he was consecrating other lodges. There was now a bond of friendship between Bro. Letchworth and the brethren of the lodge which there was not before. Bro. Letchworth, he hoped, would feel that the Benevolentia Lodge was one of his lodges.

Bro. LETCHWORTH, in acknowledging the toast, said he could not refrain from expressing his warmest thanks to the W.M. for the more than kind manner in which he had been pleased to couple his name with the toast, and the brethren for the kind reception they had been pleased to give to it. He knew he was only expressing the feeling of all those who had been associated with him in the ceremony of the day when he expressed the hope that the lodge might have before it a most successful future. He confidently believed that it would, because he knew it contained all those elements which could not but secure success. That that might be so was the wish of everyone in the room. It now became his most agreeable duty to propose "The Health of the W.M.," whom he had had the great pleasure of installing, and he most heartily congratulated the members of the lodge on having as their first Master one so able to rule over them in that their first, and certainly the most critical, year of their existence. It had been his good fortune to be associated with Bro. Tijou in various ways, and it was a very great pleasure two years ago to convey to him the news that the M.W.G.M. had been pleased to appoint him to Grand office. He ventured to think that the fact of Bro. Tijou being designated the first Master of the Benevolentia Lodge might have had some influence with his Royal Highness in granting a warrant for that lodge.

Bro. TIJOU, in replying, said he should very, very shortly thank the brethren for the reception they had given him as the Master of that lodge. Properly to thank them could not possibly be done in less than a quarter of an hour. He should therefore simply thank them. He then proposed "The Visitors," and took occasion to thank the Clapton Lodge for its handsome gift.

Bro. FAIRCLOUGH, in reply, said it had been a great treat to him to witness the installation ceremony, but as to the gift mentioned by the W.M. it was only what brethren should do. There ought to be in brethren that feeling which would prompt them, whether individuals or lodges, to assist one another.

Bros. BUCK, GREEN, and HOOPER also responded.

Bro. HENRY GARROD, P.G.P., proposed "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. TIJOU, W.M., in replying, said he was very gratified at the way in which the brethren had received the toast, but he should be better gratified that time next year when he saw how the lists of the three festivals between now and then had been made up. He was fond of the Charities, and did the best he could for all of them. He worked as well as he could for the Old People. He should be pleased to be on the Committee of the Girls; he would put aside a lot of work for that. But it mattered very little on what brethren worked as long as they did their best for their Masonic Charities, no matter what they might be. They had plenty of opportunities before them. He did not plead the cause of the Benevolent Institution because he was one of the Committee; but he did that of the Girls' and the Boys'. He was on the Board of Benevolence. He loved all the Charities. He was sure the brethren would not let him go up empty-handed next February.

The toast of "The Officers" followed, and was responded to, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings of a very happy and successful day.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 8th instant, at the Drill hall, Walsall, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, P.G.M. There was a large assemblage of members of Grand Lodge and brethren of the province; among those present being—Bros. Col. J. A. Bindley, D.P.G.M.; W. H. Bailey, P.S.G.W.; J. Gilbert, P.J. G.W.; the Rev. L. C. A. Edgworth, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. W. McGregor, P.G. Chap.; C. A. Newnham, Treas.; Maj. Walker, P.G. Sec.; W. Hampton, P.J. G.D.; J. Hackett, P.G.S. of W.; J. Woolridge, P.G.D.C.; J. Stone, P.G. D.G.D.C.; W. Burton, P.A.G.D.C.; S. B. Wheway, P.G.S.B.; J. Dunbar Steen, P.A.G. Sec.; W. H. Smith, P.G. Purst.; J. Moseley, E. Martin Scott, and E. T. Beck, P.G. Stwds.; W. Tyler, P.G. Tyler; Frank James, P.D.P.G.M.; J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C. Eng.; T. Ryder, P.P.S.G.D.; Capt. Burrough, P.P. G.D.C.; H. Payton, P.G.R.; Jacobs, and others.

Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the minutes of the last annual meeting were read by the PROV. GRAND SECRETARY, and confirmed on the motion of Bro. Col. BINDLEY, seconded by Bro. FRANK JAMES.

Before proceeding with the investiture of officers, the PROV. GRAND MASTER thanked the members of the province for the consideration they had extended to him during the year, and congratulated them on the position of Freemasonry in Staffordshire. He thought he might congratulate them on the fact, as far as he knew, that everything connected with the province was most harmonious and satisfactory, and he hoped that state of affairs would continue. He referred to the proposal of Provincial Grand Lodge to vote a sum of 50 guineas towards an amount being raised to provide a foundation at the Orphan Asylum, Wolverhampton, for the children of Masons in the province. Speaking on his own behalf, he said that he had great pleasure in being associated with that work as his first official ceremony in connection with the province. He was gratified with the response the various lodges had made to the circular sent round, and desired to make it clear that there was no idea on the part of the originators of the scheme to unduly press upon any lodge. It might be thought that it was too much to sink £755, in order to secure a return of something less than £20 annually, but in that case he considered the value could not be actually gauged by the financial return. His lordship then invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. E. V. Greatbach	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" C. Taylor	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. O. M. Holden	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" C. H. Newnham	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" George Bennion	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Major G. W. Walker	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Moseley	...	...	Prov. G.S.Ds.
" W. H. Bamber	...	...
" Captain Longden	...	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Major T. C. Bird	...	...

Bro. Samuel Jenkins	...	...	Prov. G. S. of W.
" J. Woolridge	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" F. T. Beck	...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" G. H. Tortoiseshell	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" D. Mould	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" E. Martin Scott	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" T. M. Heape	...	...
" W. Edwards, A.R.C.O.	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. Dunbar Steen	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.
" G. W. Bradford	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. White	...	...	Prov. A.G. Pursts.
" Josiah Wedgwood	...	...
" E. Jones	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. H. Newby	...	...
" W. J. J. Heath	...	...
" J. Mason	...	...

The members subsequently formed into procession, and proceeded to St. Paul's Church, where Divine service was held. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. W. MCGREGOR.

The lodge afterwards re-assembled at the Drill Hall, when it was announced that the collection made had realised £13 6s. 7d., which amount was divided between the Blue Coat Schools and St. Paul's Organ Fund.

A resolution was carried pledging the Provincial Grand Lodge to support the candidature of Bro. W. H. Bailey for the office of Grand Treasurer of England.

A banquet was held later in the evening, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth.

The toast of "The Queen" was proposed by the CHAIRMAN, who also submitted "The Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., the R.W. the Deputy Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past;" "The Worthy Deputy P.G.M. of Staffordshire, Lieut.-Col. Bindley;" "The Staffordshire Masonic Charitable Association;" "The Worthy Masters and Officers of the St. Matthew's and Hatherton Lodges;" and "The P.G. Stewards." The health of the Prov. G.M. was also drunk most cordially.

CÆMENTARIA HIBERNICA.*

We have read with the deepest interest the Letter-Press Introductions to the work generally and to its several constituent parts, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. Chetwode Crawley. We have in this country but few opportunities of learning anything about the proceedings of the Craft on the other side of St. George's Channel, and still fewer of hearing about its past history. The lack of trustworthy particulars is no doubt due primarily to the loss of the early records of the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the consequent difficulties in which any brother would find himself involved who should adventure upon the laborious task of obtaining from the records of private lodges and other and widely-scattered sources of information the details which are necessary to the compilation of a history of Freemasonry in the sister kingdom. Bros. Hughan, Gould, Sadler, and others have rendered valuable service to the cause of Masonic history by the occasional insight they have afforded us into the doings of the Craft in Ireland, but what they have written has been, as in the case of Bro. Gould, a part only of a general history of the whole Craft, or, as in the case of Bro. Sadler, has had reference only to a particular period in the career of Irish Masonry. Bro. Chetwode Crawley, in his "Cæmentaria Hibernica," is attempting the more serious task of compiling a record which shall serve, so far as it can possibly be made to serve, as material for some future complete and connected history of Masonry in Ireland from its earliest developments down to the present time. It is, indeed, a most serious undertaking upon which he has embarked, but he has made an admirable beginning, and we sincerely hope that he will be able to carry it to a successful issue in the manner he has proposed to himself.

For the present we must content ourselves with giving a brief description of the section of the work with which we have been favoured. There is, firstly, the Preface, in which Bro. Crawley sets forth the plan he has marked out. The first paragraph discloses this plan. "In undertaking this series," writes Bro. Crawley, "I do not propose to write a History of Freemasonry in Ireland, but I hope to render such a History possible. With this object I have prefixed to each division an introduction, which will enable the ordinary reader to take an intelligent interest in the reproductions." There is, however, a general or "Editor's Introduction" to the whole collection, in which the subject of English-speaking Freemasonry is treated at some length, in order, as the author says, that we may be in a position to "appreciate the value of the services rendered to Freemasonry by our Grand Lodge. We Irish Freemasons believe that through our Colonial Lodges, through our Military Lodges, and through our sister Grand Lodge of the 'Antients'—to all intents and purposes an offshoot of our own—we can claim a large share in the remarkable spread of Freemasonry among English-speaking men of the last century. We believe, too, that our Irish forefathers of the Craft can claim to have held to the Old Way when the Ancient Landmarks ran some risk of being shifted by the premier Grand Lodge." Of the value of these claims in behalf of Irish Masonry we shall take an early opportunity of writing more in detail on some future occasion. The other Introductions are prefixed to the three Parts into which the work is sub-divided, namely: (1) "The Grand Lodge of Munster," (2) "The First Warrant," (3) "The Irish Constitutions," and in each case the Introduction furnishes a clear insight into the contents of its proper part or section. On these, too, it will be our duty to offer such comments as may occur to us when we have had leisure to make ourselves more fully acquainted with the facts which Bro. Crawley has been at such pains to accumulate, and the running commentary with which his description of these facts is accompanied. But whatever form our comments may assume, we make bold to affirm that Bro. Chetwode Crawley's "Cæmentaria Hibernica" will constitute not the least meritorious among the many contributions that have been made during these later years to our very limited store of what he very fittingly describes somewhere in his "Editor's Introduction" as "authentic" Masonic history.

* *Cæmentaria Hibernica*. Being the Public Constitutions that have served to hold together the Freemasons of Ireland. Fasciculus Primus, 1726-1730. Re-issued with introductions by W. J. Chetwode Crawley (LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.G.S., F.R.Hist.S.), Senior Grand Deacon Ireland, Grand Secretary of G.L. of Instruction, Ireland (Quatuor Coronati Lodge, E.C.). Bro. Wm. McGee, P.M., 206 I.C., 18, Nassau Street, Dublin. Bro. G. Wm. Speth, P.M., Sec. 2076 E.C., 7, Lancaster Place, Margate, Kent. 1895.

UNITED ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND MALTA.

GREAT PRIORY.

The half-yearly meeting of the National Great Priory of England and Wales was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Friday, the 10th inst., the V.E. National Sub-Prior, the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., on the throne. There were also present the V.E. Prov. Priors for Lancashire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, and Warwickshire, and Somerset and Monmouth, the Great Officers and Officers of Great Priory, many Past Great Officers and Officers, and a numerous muster of Preceptors and other knights.

The National Great Priory having been opened in ample form and the minutes of the last meeting read, the report of the Council was taken as read.

The CHANCELLOR moved an address praying H.R.H. the M.E. and S. Grand Master to dissolve Convent General.

The motion was seconded by the E. Knight FRANK RICHARDSON, and carried.

The CHANCELLOR moved that as the Statutes are now out of print, the opportunity be taken for a thorough revision.

The motion was seconded by the V.E. PROV. PRIOR for Lancashire, and carried.

The V.E. GREAT SUB-PRIOR gave expression to the sincere regret with which the report of the deaths of the V.E. Knight Thomas William Tew, Prov. Prior for West Yorks, and of the V.E. Knight Col. G. Noel Money, Prov. Prior for Kent and Surrey, had been received, and moved that Great Priory should manifest their feeling of sorrow for the loss of two such worthy and distinguished members of the Order, by passing a vote of condolence with the relatives of the deceased knights.

The motion was seconded by the V.E. PROV. PRIOR for Somerset and Monmouth, and carried.

The Great Sub-Prior, in the name and on behalf of the Great Prior, appointed and invested the Great Officers and Officers for the ensuing year, as follows:

Sir Knight E. Mitford Weigall	...	G. Prelate
" R. Loveland Loveland, K.C.T.	...	G. Chancellor
" Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart.	...	G. Constable
" Major George Davie	...	G. Marshal
" R. Clutton, K.C.T. (elected)	...	G. Treasurer
" R. H. Thrupp, K.C.T.	...	G. Registrar
" Major-Gen. J. C. Hay, C.B., K.C.T.	...	G. Vice-Chancellor
" Charles Belton	...	G. Sub-Marshal
" Rev. P. R. Bent	...	G. Almoner and Chap.
" Lieut.-Col. Geo. Lambert, K.C.T.	...	G. Warden of Regalia
" Professor J. Reynolds Green	...	G. Herald
" Dr. Hill Drury	...	G. Std. Br. (Beau.)
" A. Green	...	G. Std. Br. (Vex. Belli)
" B. H. Watts	...	G. Priors Banner Br.
" J. Heelis	...	G. Aide-de-Camp.
" J. Church	...	G. Chamberlain
" A. Woodiwiss	...	G. Capt. of Guards.
" W. Stratford	...	G. Swd. Br.
" Will E. Chapman	...	G. Organist.
" Major T. W. Richardson	...	
" J. Paget Priestley	...	

On the G. Prelate designate being presented to the G. Sub-Prior to be invested, the E. Knight the Rev. C. E. L. Wright offered for the acceptance of Great Priory a magnificent cope, which was accepted by the Earl of Euston on behalf of Great Priory.

The following were appointed and elected members of the Council for the ensuing year:—Appointed: M.E. Knights Col. H. S. Burney, Ralph Gooding, Frank Richardson, and Charles Belton. Elected: M.E. Knights the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Sir George Harris, T. W. Coffin, James H. Keats, and Abraham Woodiwiss.

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

A Priory of Malta, under the banner of the New Temple Preceptory, was afterwards opened, and nine knights of the Temple were admitted into the Order.

The banquet was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, at which the Earl of Euston presided, supported by a large gathering of knights.

ORDER OF THE SECRET MONITOR.

THE ONLY CONCLAVE OF THIS IMPORTANT MASONIC BRANCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

Frequent reference has been made in the columns of this paper to the Order of the Secret Monitor, and many have regarded it as something of recent origin. This is not the case. The Secret Monitor, as a Degree in Masonry, has undoubtedly been known and conferred for upwards of 100 years. It seems altogether probable that it originated in this country prior to the Revolutionary War. About 1820 it was very popular, being then frequently mentioned as the Degree of David and Jonathan. During the anti-Masonic period, from 1826 to 1846, very little was done in this country in any of the orders of Masonry. When the various lodges which had survived the storm began to resume work, about the date last mentioned, they found much to do again get in working order, to act upon the many petitions which poured in upon them, and to confer the Degrees which followed the acceptance of those petitions. Under these circumstances, the David and Jonathan, or Secret Monitor Degree, was only occasionally conferred, and then in a greatly abbreviated form. Some of its most interesting features had been in a measure forgotten by those who had not exemplified the work in 30 or 40 years.

Some years ago, however, the Degree was taken to England and at once became popular, organised conclaves and a Grand Conclave being soon established. About that time Dr. D. C. Perkins, now of this city, being then a student of medicine in Hanover, N. H., obtained the Degree and soon after introduced it in Maine with nearly all its original ceremonies. About one year ago Dr. Perkins' attention was called by Judge C. E. Meserve to an article in a Masonic journal, giving the particulars already mentioned of what had been done in England. Correspondence with the Grand Secretary in that country was at once begun by Dr. Perkins, and it being learned that a charter could be obtained if sufficient interest was shown the matter was quietly urged by the two gentlemen named, with the result that some 50 or more entered the organisation as charter members. These include many of the leading Masons in this city and neighbouring towns.

The Grand Council granted the request and on receipt of the petition a

charter or warrant was made up and forwarded to the Earl of Warwick for his signature, but was lost in the mail. This caused considerable delay and not being able to trace the first, a new one was issued, which, receiving the necessary signatures, was forwarded to Dr. Perkins and was duly received by him. The charter or warrant provides that the stated meetings should be held on the fourth Thursday of each month so nothing could be done under it until Thursday evening.

This was the first meeting of the conclave and was the first and only meeting of its kind ever held in this country. The brethren, realising that this was the first conclave in America decided to name it the Pioneer Conclave. The number 24 is that given by the Grand Council, this being the 24th conclave so far as known in the world.

Last Thursday evening the conclave was duly organised and the officers installed by Dr. Perkins, who had been duly commissioned Right Worthy Grand Councilor by the Grand Council of England. The charter members are: Bros. D. C. Perkins, C. E. Meserve, J. F. Gregory, H. M. Sanborn, D. G. Morey, F. T. Barker, J. B. Higgins, Henry Jenkins, W. L. Rhodes, Tobias Smalley, C. E. Marshall, F. A. Peterson, F. I. Lampson, C. H. Pendleton, A. L. Richardson, John H. Brix, John Johnson, A. P. St. Clair, G. E. Clark, Joseph Ham, R. H. Carey, Elias Larrabee, W. H. Kittredge, C. E. Tuttle, D. A. Friend, J. F. Gilman, Lincoln Snow, H. B. Eaton, C. A. Sylvester, W. H. Meserve, L. M. Kenniston, Kennett Johnson, G. O. Andrews, J. H. Ham, Daniel McCloud, Thomas Hawken, J. A. Stover, F. C. Flint, O. E. Hahn, J. F. Hall, Nathaniel Ward, William Whitney, L. H. Snow, Benj. Williams, C. C. Cross, John Pettengill, George W. Story, G. S. Clark, J. B. Porter, J. T. Lothrop.

Officers were installed as follows: Bros. C. E. Meserve, Supreme Ruler; F. A. Peterson, Councilor; A. P. St. Clair, Guide; J. F. Gregory, Treas.; L. S. Robinson, Sec.; E. P. Rollins, J. B. Higgins, O. E. Hahn, and Lincoln Snow, Visiting Deacons; G. O. Andrews, D.C.; Joseph Ham, Guard; Rev. John Pettengill, Chap.; Henry Jenkins, Stwd.; and William Whitney, Sentinel.

These officers have had experience in the work of Masonic organisations, and in their hands Pioneer Conclave, No. 24, will be able to perform the work according to the rituals furnished by the Grand Council in a creditable and impressive manner, although they labour under the disadvantage of not having seen the Degrees actually conferred.—Rockland Express.

REPOINEMENT OF LODGE ST. JOHN, No. 162, AT NEWABBEY.

The Lodge of St. John's, Newabbey, No. 162, established in the year 1785, had in the early part of this century a very solid footing in the neighbourhood of the Lady Devorgilla's classic pile, as is attested to this day by the substantial building, now converted to the purposes of a parish hall, which bears on its front the inscription: "Masons' Lodge, 1806." But its history was a long one of decadence, and for a period of some 20 years it has been altogether dormant. Saturday, the 27th ult., saw it started on a new career, with the aid of a number of brethren from Dumfries, who have associated themselves with the few surviving members of the old lodge and a number of new initiates in order to help with the work of reorganisation.

The ceremony of reponement was performed by Bro. Maj. the Hon. Hew Dalrymple (third son of the Earl of Stair, K.T.), Prov. G.M. of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright; and some 60 members of the Craft attended to assist on the interesting occasion. Considerable contingents came from Dumfries (all the four lodges being represented), Castle-Douglas and Stranraer; and there were smaller delegations from Dalbeattie, Creetown, Glenluce, and Lockerbie.

The Provincial Grand Master was attended by the following office-bearers of the province: Bros. Maj. M'Haffie, P.G.M. depute; James Lock, S.W.; James Brand, J.W.; H. H. Adair, Sec.; Robert B. Dyer, Treas.; J. W. McDonald, S.D.; Major W. Kerr, acting J.D.; C. S. Robertson, Bible-Bearer; John Cameron, I.G.; and John M'Oriston, Tyler. Bro. W. A. Dinwiddle, Substitute Provincial Grand Master of Dumfriesshire, and the following other office-bearers of the sister province supported the P.G.M., viz.: Bros. Bailie Glover, J.W.; James Smith, Treas.; L. M. Dinwiddle, Bard; John Houlison, D.C.; James Geddes, and David A. Keppie, Stwds.; and Joseph Black, Tyler.

The ceremony, which began at three o'clock, took place in the commodious and comfortable Oddfellows' Hall of the village. The requisite furniture for a Masonic lodge has been provided by the gifts of various friends, viz.: Bros. Sulley, Ireland, and Smith, Dumfries, and Bro. Adam Edgar, Newabbey; and the different articles of carpentry have been made to their order in a thoroughly workmanlike manner by Mr. Alex. Fergusson, joiner, Maxwelltown. The original charter has fortunately been preserved, and also the jewels appropriate to the various offices, so that the lodge starts anew with a very satisfactory equipment.

The lodge having been opened in the Third Degree by the office-bearers of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the P.G. Secretary presented to the P.G.M. the charter of Lodge St. John, Newabbey, and the Grand Lodge certificate for its reponement. It was then intimated that the following office-bearers had been chosen by the members, and their election was now formally ratified, viz.: Bros. Philip Sulley, R.W.M.; James Smith, Depute Master; Dean Currie, Substitute Master; R. M. L. Ireland, Senior Warden; Dr. Cameron, Junior Warden; Adam Edgar, Secretary; Thomas Thomson, Treasurer; and William Irving, Senior Deacon. These brethren were installed in office, with the exception of Bro. Ireland, who was prevented by illness from attending, and the P.G.M. vacated the chair in favour of the new R.W.M.

Bro. SULLEY returned to the Provincial Grand Master the grateful thanks of the members for his presence and for the part he had taken in the re-opening of this ancient lodge. He also thanked the lodge for the honour they had conferred upon himself. When this was first talked about his wish and the intention was that one of the old members should take the chair, and he should be his deputy and do the work; but unfortunately none of them would face the ordeal. He proceeded to give a brief sketch of the history of the lodge. St. John's Lodge, Newabbey, No. 162 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, he said, came into existence on the 8th August, 1785, when a warrant was granted to a number of Masons resident in, and near, the village to assemble and act as a regular lodge. This warrant was followed by the charter, dated 7th November, 1785, under which the lodge celebrated its first St. John's Festival, and drew up a code of rules or by-laws. Some of these are peculiar. Anyone swearing at or striking another was fined 6d.; for laughing and unseemly behaviour, 1s.; for interrupting, 2d. To refuse office when nominated cost 2s. 6d.; to absent oneself from the St. John's dinner, 1s. The brethren were in close connection with the P.G. Lodge of Dumfries, attended meetings, charging 3s. a head for expenses, and assisting at the laying of the foundation-stone of the new jail and court house. From 1809 to 1819 there was a wonderful boom in Masonry at Newabbey, no fewer than 158 persons being admitted; while the number from 1823 to 1822 was 182, almost the whole male population of the country side. This is difficult to understand, but many seem to have been seafaring men and strangers. The fees then amounted only to 15s., and even this was not often paid, so much so that the lodge gradually dwindled and dried up, till the fine supper and ball on St. John's was followed by a supper at 1s. and drink at a moderate cost. Meetings are recorded only in 1839, 1843, and 1848, in which year Bro. Isaac Wood became Master for the first time, and matters improved. There were 15 initiates,

including Mr. John Stewart, of Arbigland, who was appointed Proxy Master, an office which he held until 1852, when he was appointed P.G.M. of Dumfries; so St. John's had the honour to be the mother lodge of a highly respected P.G.M. of Dumfriesshire. The lodge had many troubles and difficulties at this time, especially about their rooms; and it must have been no unusual sight for the inhabitants to witness the Masonic furniture, box, table, chair, and portrait of a brother carried backwards and forwards between the Masonic Hall, Bro. Lewis's, the Commercial Hotel, and a private house. Indeed, in 1853 the brethren are accused of holding a meeting on the public street, and peremptorily ordered to remove their goods and chattels from Bro. Mein's. This they did, being apparently unable to adopt the other alternative, and pay their arrears of rent. Few meetings were now held except on St. John's, and it was not uncommon to be unable to raise a quorum on St. Andrew's, whereby the existing officers had to continue for the next year. In 1863 the fees were raised to £1 6s. 6d., 8s. payable on entry, and it was decided to start a benevolent fund, which, however, was dropped early in 1864, "the amount being so very small." Similarly, in March, 1868, the Grand Lodge orders some of the brethren to take the Mark, and the obedient lodge directs the R.W.M. and S.W. to proceed to Dumfries for that purpose. But in May following it is resolved "not to think any more of the Mark at this time." They were then in debt to Grand Lodge for dues, and paying a composition of £1 per annum—or promising to pay. An offer of 5s. per annum was refused. In 1877 all meetings cease according to the minute-book, and the last entry is by the old and esteemed R.W.M., Bro. Isaac Wood, who had held the office, or the titular office at least, since 1848 without a break—probably a record in Masonry, 35 years of continuous Mastership—that "owing to there not being so many members about Newabbey as would enable me to open the lodge, there has been no regular meetings for some time." It is to be hoped that the lodge now opens under happier auspices and will go on prospering.

The Hon. HEW DALRYMPLE, replying, said: I can assure you that it has given me very great pleasure, as Provincial Grand Master of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, to come here to-day; and it is also a great satisfaction to me to see such a large gathering. I should like in the first place to thank the brethren who have come from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumfriesshire and also from the daughter lodges of Dumfriesshire for their attendance. It is a very friendly act on their part, and one which I for my part, and I am sure all the members of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, would willingly reciprocate. Although we have had a Provincial Grand Lodge in Galloway for some time, we are as it were in our infancy; and I feel very much indebted to the brethren who have come to help us. Bro. Sulley has given us a very graphic narrative of the past history of the lodge. It is therefore not necessary that I should enter into it. I should like, however, to express the hope that a very prosperous future is before it; that, to adopt Bro. Sulley's language, there may be "a boom in Masonry in Newabbey." In the province certainly things are looking much better; and it is a great gratification to see another lodge added to the roll to-day. There is now only one lodge dormant in the province, and we hope to get it resuscitated. Of course I know that in a small place like Newabbey you have great difficulties to contend with. Much of the credit of the resuscitation of this lodge is due to the Right Worshipful Master, Bro. Sulley, and to Bro. Adam Edgar. When Bro. Sulley takes a thing in hand he always goes through with it. You have a beautiful spot here. This lovely old Abbey and the surroundings are quite in harmony with the spirit and principles of Masonry. In conclusion I would wish this lodge every prosperity. I know that sometimes little difficulties arise in lodges. I hope they will always be smoothed over agreeably and quietly, and that brotherly love shall truly prevail among us.

Three candidates were then introduced and initiated as members of the lodge. Thereafter,

Bro. DINWIDDIE, as representing the Provincial Grand Lodge of Dumfriesshire, delivered a short address. It had afforded them, he said, great pleasure to be present, and he desired to express the extreme regret of the P.G.M. of Dumfriesshire that he was not able to attend. They were aware that Bro. Johnstone-Douglas, who so honourably and ably filled that position in Dumfriesshire, was an important factor in other matters than Freemasonry, and he was sorry to say the duties of another factorship deprived them of his presence that day. He was exceedingly glad to hear that Freemasonry had taken a fresh start in the Galloway Province. He had the privilege of witnessing one evidence of that at Castle-Douglas a short time ago, and it made him almost jealous of this province, because he felt that if they went on as they were doing now, they of Dumfriesshire would have to take a back seat. However, jealousy must have no place in a Masonic lodge. He wished on behalf of Dumfriesshire to extend to them their very hearty congratulations on their efforts to promote the principles of Freemasonry, and he congratulated them on the good start made with this lodge.

The lodge was thereafter closed, and a short toast list entered upon.

One of the sentiments proposed was "The Health of Bro. Joseph Robson, the oldest surviving member of the reposed lodge."

Bro. ROBSON, in acknowledging the toast, gave some reminiscences of its history, mentioning that his own family contribution to the membership numbered three sons and two sons-in-law.

Most of the visiting brethren left Newabbey shortly before six o'clock, a considerable company first having tea together at the Commercial Hotel.

The original charter of the lodge, dated 1785, was, we may mention, granted on the application of Bros. John Gordon, the first R.W.M.; William Allan, John Cramont, William Milligan, Nathaniel Black, William Crockett, and Alexander Rae.

FREEMASONRY AS KNOWN TO THE WORLD.

Freemasonry is a principle which has existed in all stages of civilisation. The state in which we know it, of a vast brotherhood of amateur Masons, who are not really builders, but who, as everybody is aware, have adopted the signs and symbols of the building craft to express their own secret principle, is, as far as we know, about two and a half centuries old. The first instance of a gentleman or amateur being accepted into one of the lodges of the old building crafts is that of Elias Ashmole, the antiquary (afterwards Windsor Herald to King Charles II.), who along with Colonel Mainwaring, was entered at Warrington in 1646. It is believed that there are now more than 10,000 lodges, and more than 1,000,000 members. The conception of Freemasonry implies, like the Christian Church, cosmopolitan or universal brotherhood, and was impossible to the ancient world, or until the brotherhood of man was taught by Jesus of Nazareth. But the principle of sacred, moral, and religious societies on the one hand, and the principle of brotherhood of the building craft on the other, are as old as civilisation itself; and it is of these two that speculative Freemasonry is the modern representative. The principle of moral and religious societies is represented in ancient times by the Pythagoreans and the Eleusinians among the Greeks, and by the Essenes amongst the Jews, and by the Carmathites and Fedavi, who were the mystic Rationalists of the Mahometans.

But the true historical precursors of our modern brotherhood of Freemasons were the mediæval building corporation, who try themselves have a remote connection with the East; whilst amongst the Romans there were *collegia*, or skilled fraternities for the same purpose. These Roman *collegia* had an exchequer, an archive, patrons, religious ceremonies, an oath, a benefit and burial fund, and a register. Their officers were masters, wardens, recorders, and consors, and they instructed their apprentices to a certain extent in the secret. There can be no

doubt that such fellowships existed for centuries in Gaul and Britain, and it is probable that they deposited in these countries the tradition of their ideas and habits. The taste and science of Gothic architecture were to a large extent the possession of the Bauhütten, or wooden booths, where the stonemasons during the progress of the work kept their tools, worked, held their meetings, and probably also took their meals and slept. Hence our modern institution of the lodge. In the 12th century there are distinct traces of a general association of these lodges throughout Germany, acknowledging one set of craft laws, one set of secret signs and ceremonies, and to a certain extent one central authority in the Grand Lodge of Strasburg.

The Jewish and Arabian symbols, which were so popular in these crafts, are supposed to have been introduced by Albertus Magnus early in the 13th century. The atmosphere of these mediæval building societies seems even at an early date to have been favourable to liberty of thought and religious toleration. Hence they were prohibited at the Romish Council of Avignon in the year 1326. The authority of the Grand Lodge was recognised at the great assemblies of Ratisbon and Strasburg in 1859, the statutes of which received Imperial confirmation. It was legally destroyed by an Imperial edict in 1741. England had imported much of her lodge organisation and learning from Germany. The causes which led to the introduction of the new class of members, the amateurs, those who are ordinarily known as Freemasons, and which gradually converted operative into speculative Masonry, were inevitable. The reconstruction of London after the fire, the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the patronage of the immortal Sir Christopher Wren, kept up the interest in the movement, and at last a formal resolution was passed that the Masonic privileges should no longer be confined to operative Masons. The modern phase of English Masonry may be said to have begun in London on June 24, 1717, when the four London lodges, having erected themselves into a Grand Lodge, named their first Grand Master. The leading spirits were the Huguenot Desaguliers, the well-known populariser of natural science, and James Anderson, a Scotch Presbyterian minister, who compiled the Book of Constitutions. From this time new lodges could only be formed by warrant from the Grand Lodge. In 1721 the Duke of Montagu was elected Grand Warden.

Whatever may be the case in foreign countries, in our own Freemasonry has always gone hand in hand with religion. It has emphasised the great Christian virtue of brotherly kindness, uniting men of different ranks, and often opposite views, in mutual esteem and respect. It is impossible, in writing for readers who are not Freemasons, to particularise its moral aims; it is sufficient to say that none who join it can fail to be impressed for good. Freemasonry asks all its members to cultivate in all the relations of life, whether in Masonry or without, that spirit of brotherhood. Too many are the divisions which separate us in many ways in the complex civilisation in which we live. The temper which they learn in their craft they will do well to extend to all the children of the Divine Father of mankind. The proud look, the cold hand, the unfeeling heart, the angry tongue, the quarrelsome disposition are altogether unfitting to those who have learnt the lessons of the association. Too little is thought in these our times of the fear of God. Much of our life seems spent without reference to Him. The recollection of His presence alone can curb our wayward wills and nerve us to high resolves and wholesome activities. It is one of the glories of English Freemasonry that in all their ways Freemasons acknowledge God.

If Freemasons can by way of example increase the respect for wisdom and understanding, and make men desire those great gifts for themselves, they will be conferring a benefit on the general character of society. "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and he that getteth understanding; for the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold." Fidelity is another principle which cannot be too highly prized. We are living in an age of restlessness, unsettlement, and change. Principles are easily abandoned, and friends shaken off. The old virtue of faithfulness to our convictions and loyalty to our friends is greatly to be desired and honoured. The world is too much given to gossip, and few indeed are able to hold their tongues, even about secret things, if they can raise a laugh. "A tale-bearer revealeth secrets, but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter. A faithful man shall abound with blessings; but he that maketh haste to be so rich shall not be innocent. The Lord preserveth the faithful." The very fact that the secrets of Masonry are so well kept is a perpetual witness to us of this high quality.—*Churchman's Magazine*.

Craft Masonry.

METROPOLITAN MEETINGS.

Strong Man Lodge (No. 45).—The installation meeting of this ancient lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C., on the 2nd inst., when there was a good attendance to witness Bro. D. A. Langdon assume the chair as W.M. for the ensuing year. Amongst the members present were Bros. J. G. Cobb, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts, W.M.; D. A. Langdon, S.W.; W. G. Mills, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., D.C.; H. T. Nell, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Sec.; Tom Taylor, S.D.; J. Crier, J.D.; W. R. G. Emerson, Org.; T. Ockelford, I.G.; E. J. Stafford, S. Armfield, and J. Jenkinson, Stwds.; A. M. Whitby, P.M.; C. Cordingley, P.M.; R. Hunt, P.M.; E. H. Dove, P.M.; and F. Fountaine, P.M. Visitors: Bros. G. H. Pizey, 2374; S. Fortescue, 2472; F. J. Maltby, J.D. 417; O. Heffen, P.M. 1457; R. Thomson, W.M. 1597; W. Sykes, P.M. 1597; H. A. B. Smith, 877; H. Tapley, P.M. 1076; Otto Lehman, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 10, Canada; J. Langdon, P.P.J.G.D. Essex; W. E. Jeanes, 548; M. Siegenberg, W.M. 188; S. C. Kaufman, P.M. 1766; G. W. Walke, S.W. 12; J. C. Sheffield, 1275; E. Purkess, S.W. 453; A. H. Cole, W.M. 1744; W. Smith, 1705; W. A. Medcalf, 312; E. F. Wood, 1000; W. Murrell, J.W. 1268; F. Mead, 812; Philip Sharpe, P.M. 869; H. W. Rance, 781; W. Wright, 1524; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897; and others.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and Bro. Gehringer passed to the Second Degree. Bro. D. A. Langdon was impressively installed as W.M. by Bro. J. G. Cobb, who was subsequently accorded a vote of thanks for his able rendering of the ceremony. The following officers were invested: Bros. W. G. Mills, S.W.; John Crier, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Nell, P.M. 2278, 2511, P.P.G.D. Herts, Sec.; A. M. Whitby, P.M., D.C.; T. C. Taylor, S.D.; T. Ockelford, J.D.; W. R. G. Emerson, Org.; E. J. Stafford, I.G.; S. Armfield, J. Jenkinson, and R. Medcalf, Stewards; and E. Mallet, Tyler.

All business being ended, lodge was closed, and an adjournment made to a well-served banquet.

After dessert the usual loyal toasts were briefly given and heartily received.

Bro. J. G. Cobb, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," and said they had installed into the chair a brother who would do credit to the lodge and perform his duties with dignity and grace. The brethren would doubtless render him the support they had accorded the Master in past years. It did not rest with the W.M. altogether to make a prosperous year, but with the members individually. The manner in which the W.M. invested his officers was simply superb, for he was occupying the chair for the first time. They would have every reason to be pleased they had installed Bro. Langdon into the chair.

Bro. D. A. Langdon, W.M., returned thanks. He had had many thoughts as to his ability for the office, for he could not but feel it was an exceedingly onerous position, and he had to follow two brethren who had filled the chair with the greatest credit. He would endeavour to fulfil every promise he had made, and when his year was ended he hoped to give a good account of his Stewardship. He felt sure they would give him that assistance which was absolutely necessary to enable him to do himself justice. He assured them he entered upon his year full of promise for the courteous treatment he had always received from the members.

In proposing "The Immediate and Installing Master," the W.M. said the past year had been a remarkably successful one, under the Mastership of Bro. Cobb, who had performed his duties admirably, and presided at the banquet table in a courteous and genial manner. The I.P.M. had given them every satisfaction, and they congratulated him on his success. He (the W.M.) had to invest Bro. Cobb with a Past Master's jewel as a small token to remind him of the many happy hours spent in the lodge.

Bro. J. G. Cobb, P.P.G.S.B., Herts., I.P.M., said he had never experienced a more gratifying moment. He had had a very pleasant year of office, and must thank them all for the courteous manner in which he had always been treated. He left the chair with reluctance, and thanked the officers one and all for the attention given in the fulfilment of their duties. It would always be a source of great pleasure to look back upon his year, and when he looked upon the handsome jewel, he should feel he had in some degree earned their respect. He should prize the jewel, and hoped that when his mission in life was finished, those who succeeded him would have some pleasure in regarding it as a mark of respect shown to one member of the family.

"The Visitors" was next given and replied to by Bros. Lehman, Murrell, Langdon, P.P.G.D. (brother of the W.M.), Sharpe, Thomson, and Sykes.

Other toasts were given before the brethren separated.

Under the direction of Bro. W. R. G. Emerson, the Organist, the following artistes assisted in an excellent musical programme: Madame Rich, Miss Mildred Shoubridge, and Bros. Tom Burgess, David James, and Carl Brandt.

Lily Lodge of Richmond (No. 820).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 8th inst., at the Inns of Court Hotel, Holborn, W.C. This lodge, like many others, has passed through various phases of success since its formation some 36 years since, still at present it ranks among the first class for the high efficiency of its officers. Bro. Joshua Nunn, P.G.S.B., was a founder of the lodge, which at that time was numbered 1122, and was by some brethren facetiously called "The two to one lodge." Bro. Nunn was also founder of the Benevolent Fund of the lodge, which after assisting several brethren and widows, now amounts to a considerable sum, £100 of which is invested in consols, and the Treasurer has about £40 in hand for emergencies. This fact goes to prove the brethren of the lodge practice Charity as well as preach it. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., and many other noted Freemasons, were formerly members of the lodge and have passed the chair. The lodge was, until the present meeting, held at Richmond, and was exceedingly popular. We remember one installation meeting at which there were 23 Past Masters present, and so great a number of other brethren that some had to be accommodated in another room, besides the large banqueting hall at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond. But changes take place in all mundane affairs, and Freemasons' lodges are no exception to the rule, the Lily Lodge in particular. In the course of years such changes took place in the lodge that the executive thought it wise to remove the lodge towards the centre of this great metropolis, and Bro. N. L. Western, the present W.M., thoroughly appreciating the motives, fully acquiesced in the proposition. Arrangements were accordingly made to carry out the resolution, and the W.M. being ably seconded by his Treasurer and Secretary, speedily obtained the sanction of the M.W.G.M. for its removal to the Inns of Court Hotel, which is most centrally situated in this "vast village," where we sincerely hope it will meet with all the success its members can wish.

The present meeting was called for a rather early hour, which, however, did not prevent the punctual attendance of its officers; there being a good muster also of Past Masters, among whom were Bros. A. Oliver, Treas.; A. Hubbard, W. H. Myers, C. G. Young, Org.; W. H. Nugent, and G. Cook. The visitors' list comprised the following brethren, some of whom are well known among London Craftsmen: Bros. M. F. Tuck, P.M. 901, P.P.G. Std. Br. Essex; H. O. Godwin, P.M. 569; G. Davis, P.M. 1642; C. B. Todd, P.M. 27; A. W. Fenner, P.M. 1693; J. Birks, S.D. 95; J. Buck, 2361; W. G. Carrington, 1512; W. H. Osborne, 901; R. Marshall, 2346; F. Kearton, late 820; and Devereux, 1365.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The balance sheet was next presented, together with the Auditors' report upon the same, and both were taken as read, and unanimously adopted. We may state that the manner in which the lodge accounts are kept reflects great credit upon the Secretary and Treasurer. Five members were then elected on the Committee of the Benevolent Fund. The installation of Bro. C. Godwin, the W.M. elect, was then proceeded with, and that brother, who is very popular in the lodge, was duly installed W.M. in a very masterly manner by Bro. N. L. Western, the addresses being listened to by the brethren with great attention, and was altogether a decided success. The installing Master was congratulated by all present on the excellent manner in which he had finished his year of office. The new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. N. L. Western, I.P.M.; C. M. H. Swan, S.W.; H. R. Williams, J.W.; A. Oliver, P.M., Treas.; J. Gilchrist, Sec.; C. Hubbard, P.M., D.C.; H. Meyer, S.D.; W. Ellis, J.D.; T. J. Atree, I.G.; G. Cook, P.M., Stwd.; G. C. Young, P.M., Org.; and J. Gilbert, Tyler.

Ordinary routine business followed, after which the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to banquet, which was well served under the superintendence of the courteous manager of the hotel, Bro. F. Blackley, and was fully appreciated by all.

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

Bro. Western, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said that he felt sure now the lodge had come to London it would meet with deserved success, as the W.M. was an energetic Mason, and one who would do credit to the lodge and honour to the Craft. As short speeches were to be the rule, he would only say that the W.M. had the hearty support of all the Past Masters as well as the officers of the lodge, and they had placed the right man in the right place.

The toast was received with all honours.

In replying, the W.M. observed he hardly knew how to commence. He felt his position as W.M. a very onerous one, and he thanked Bro. Western for his kind remarks, and assured the brethren he would do his utmost to further the interests of the lodge. Feeling assured of the co-operation of the Past Masters and officers, he would try and emulate the work of his predecessors, and thanked the brethren for the hearty reception of the toast.

In proposing the next toast, that of "The Visitors," the W.M. said the lodge was always proud of having brother visitors. They did not have that evening a long list of them, but the quality fully compensated for the quantity. The brethren who had honoured them by their presence were heartily welcome, and he trusted they would come on future occasions, when they might rest assured of as hearty a reception as they had that evening. The W.M. also paid a compliment to each visitor, and coupled with the toast the names of Bros. M. Tuck, H. Godwin, and A. W. Farmer to respond.

Bro. Tuck thanked the W.M. for his kindness in the way he had proposed the health of the visitors, also the brethren for the cordial manner it had been received. He congratulated the W.M. on his position, and on having such an excellent staff of officers to support him. He trusted the lodge would be successful now it had come to town, as in his own mind he had no doubt but it would grow rapidly in the near future, and he wished the lodge all the success it deserved.

Bro. H. Godwin (brother of the W.M.) said his remarks would be brief, as he was suffering from a cold. He thanked the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast, and the brethren for the courteous manner they had received it. He complimented the W.M. on the excellent manner he had invested his officers, and wished him a successful year of office.

Bro. Fenner replied by thanking the W.M. for the kind things he had said of him, and also the Past Masters and brethren for the very hearty manner they had received the toast. That being his first visit to the lodge, he felt honoured by having his name coupled with the toast. He congratulated the W.M. on having such able support from his Past Masters as also from his officers of the lodge, who were one and all most anxious for its success. The lodge having started a new era in its existence, he felt confident that the executive had done the right thing to ensure the future success of the lodge. He owed the pleasure of being present that evening to their I.P.M., Bro. Western, whom he had known for years, and whose Masonic career was marked with success, and he felt sure his efforts to forward the interests of the lodge would not be made in vain. Although the Lily Lodge had been transplanted to London, its prospects were as cheerful as any other lodge which had migrated from the suburbs to this mighty London. All that was needed to ensure success was unanimity of action in the lodge, and he hoped such might continue for many years in the future as it had done for so many years in the past.

"The Installing Master" was next proposed by the W.M., who said he had won the esteem of all the members of the lodge. He had discharged his duties during his year of office with satisfaction to all, and he now had the great pleasure of presenting him with a Past Master's jewel, which he had so richly deserved, and in placing it on his breast he trusted the G.A.O.T.U. might spare him many years to wear it.

Bro. W. L. Western, replying, said that he was indebted to the W.M. for his kind expressions of good feeling towards himself, and thanked the brethren for the hearty way they had received the toast. He assured them of his loyalty to the lodge, and that he would do his best to promote its future success. He took the present occasion to thank the Past Masters and officers for the very able assistance he had received from them during his year of office.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" next succeeded, and the W.M. warmly thanked them for the valuable aid they had rendered in removing the lodge to its present quarters.

The Treasurer and Secretary replied in very nice terms.

"The Past Masters" was next given and duly honoured and responded to by each Past Master, who promised his utmost to ensure future success of the lodge.

"The Officers" were the next to receive honour, which was well received and responded to in neat speeches from the Wardens' chairs, as also by the other officers.

The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close at rather a late hour. The speeches were short, but the musical programme being long comprehended the whole, which means the long and the short of this veracious report.

The musical programme consisted of the following items: Bros. Butler and Webb (duet, "Excelsior"), Miss Lily Honig (solo on the flute), Bro. Butler (song, "Come into the garden, Maud"), Herr Offermann (violin solo), Bro. Webb (song, "Deep Big Ben"), Miss Lily Honig (solo on the piccolo), Bro. Butler (song, "Alice, where art thou"), Herr Offermann (violin solo), Bro. Ellis (song, "Little Flo"), and Bro. Devereux (song, "Old Simon the cellarer").

With such an array of talent it would be almost invidious to praise any single one, but when we say that Miss Lily Honig is only a young girl, the manner she manipulated both the flute and piccolo gives great promise of a brilliant career in the future. Bros. Butler, Webb, and Ellis also deserve praise for the excellent rendering of their various songs. We must not forget Herr Offermann, who kept the brethren spell-bound by his wonderful performance upon the violin. He is, we are informed, Court player to the King of Hungary, and is a member of our English R.A.M. It is needless to say the brethren spent a very enjoyable evening, such as will long be remembered by members of the lodge.

Hyde Park Lodge (No. 1425).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Westbourne Restaurant, Craven-road, Paddington, W., when there was a numerous attendance. The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. E. G. A. Churchman, was proceeded with, the Installing Master being Bro. D. F. Gellion, P.M. 1425 and I.P.M., who conducted the work with skill and ability, and received a hearty vote of thanks. The W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. M. Rosenberg, I.P.M.; J. S. Hayes, S.W.; Edy, J.W. (owing to having broken his leg was deferred); James Stephens, P.M. 1425, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, Treas.; George Read, P.G.S.B. Eng., Sec.; Rev. W. C. Heaton, Chap.; B. Cox, S.D.; T. Dinsmore, J.D.; A. D. Thackwray, I.G.; C. Coleman, P.M. 1425, D.C.; J. Spink, A.D.C.; Cutchey and Lewis, Stwds.; and Lewis, Tyler. The W.M. then presented the lodge jewel to Bro. Rosenberg with a few appropriate remarks, the worthy recipient acknowledging the compliment in suitable terms. The Auditors' report was of a very satisfactory nature. "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the lodge was closed.

The following brethren were present: Bros. W. Craig, P.M.; C. Coleman, P.M.; D. F. Gellion, P.M.; H. C. Stephens, P.M.; J. Hutchings, P.M.; W. Chapple, P.M.; J. Whitehead, P.M., P.G.M. Aberdeen; J. Stephens, P.M.; A. Collman, E. Lewis, J. G. Seligman, A. W. Jones, and S. Barrow. Visitors: Bros. R. Kew, 865; J. Whitehead, I.P.M. 1446; Jos. Whitehead, W.M. elect 2319; A. Whitehead, 2319; H. E. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex; A. J. Monck, S.D. 228; Thos. Kelly, J.D. 1681; A. Wolsey, 228; H. E. Poole, 1744; Geo. Metzler, 2060; W. Gellings, 733; J. Smith, 733; G. Jones, 901; Tom Pooley, 2024; Jas. Brand, 1706; and A. Atkin, 1348.

After the banquet, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts, congratulating Bro. G. Read, who was received with much applause and responded.

Bro. Rosenberg, in the course of an eloquent speech, referred to the W.M. as simple, good, and an honourable man and brother, as good as a man could be, and wished him a prosperous year of office and work to do.

The W.M., in reply, expressed his thanks, and said he had only been but comparatively speaking a few years in the Hyde Park Lodge, and trusted it would be long before he left it. He promised to do the work to the best of his ability, and concluded by proposing "The I.P.M."

Bro. Rosenberg, who was received with continuous applause, thanked several of the Past Masters for valuable and kind services, also Bro. Stephens for introducing him to the lodge. He said he had been a better man in every sense of the word since, having a very vivid recollection of the day he was initiated; the jewel he was proud of, and it would be handed down to his children.

The toast of "The Installing Master" followed, the W.M. saying he was a Mason of many colours, being English, Scotch, and Royal Arch, and the work had been done in a manner that reflected credit on all the lodges he belonged to.

Bro. Gellion thanked the I.P.M. and Bro. Chapple for allowing him to instal his esteemed friend, whose work that evening, little as it was, augured well for the lodge and for the officers that would follow him. He concluded by saying that his heart was always with the Hyde Park Lodge, that he had not many years to live, but if his services were required, the brethren would find there was still life in the "old boy."

The W.M., in giving "The Visitors," had many kind things to say of and to them, as mostly all were known to him, calling upon Bros. Whitehead, Dehane, and Atkin to reply.

Bro. Whitehead, in responding, said he had known the W.M. from his infancy, and that it was like being at a meeting of relations, four or five present being connections of the W.M.

Bro. Dehane said the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction was always pleased to welcome any of the brethren of the mother lodge, and that the Monday before each lodge meeting was always kept for the officers, and the admirable work of the Installing Master showed the kind of instruction that was given by Bros. Read and Ferguson, the Preceptors.

Bro. Atkin also responded.

Bros. Craig, Chapple, Gellion, and Hutchin also replied.

Bro. Stephens, in responding for "The Past Masters," advocated the cause of Bro. Langridge, asking the brethren to do all they possibly could, as no more deserving case than his could claim their assistance. They all knew him in his prosperity, and if Freemasonry was carried out as it should be, they would still know him, to a measure, insured against absolute want for the remainder of his days.

The toast of "The Officers" was responded to by Bro. Hayes, the S.W.

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

During the evening the following brethren sang: Bros. Stephens, Spinks, Brand, Powley, Grant, Hutchings, and Alf. Atkins; the violin solo by Mr. Price being much appreciated.

Islington Lodge (No. 1471).—An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, Bro. Arthur Cox, W.M., presiding, the following officers and brethren being present: Bros. R. Loomes, I.P.M.; J. A. Blount, S.W.; D. C. Ritchie, J.W.; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Harrison, S.D.; C. Isler, J.D.; C. Horst, I.G.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C.; H. Stifford Trego, Org.; W. Taylor, Stwd.; G. Couchman, Tyler; H. B. Harding, P.M.; G. A. Hopkins, W. S. Woolcott, E. A. Wagstaff, J. H. Thurman, C. Weber, D. C. Altwaters, A. Kische, T. Spotswood, T. Hinton, W. Goring, G. E. Walker, J. R. White, W. Pannell, W. J. Barnes, T. Simmonds, A. Henning, T.

E. Newman, J. Amand, E. H. Bury, and W. Chetwin. Visitors: Bros. C. Chapman, E. Champness, and James Findlay, all of 2372; and W. Anderson, and C. T. Smith, of 1298.

The business for the evening was the raising of Bro. W. Chetwin, the passing of Bro. Kische, and the initiation of Mr. Albert Henning, for whom a unanimous ballot was taken at the last meeting. The ceremonies were performed by the W.M. in a manner which gained for him high commendation from the brethren and visitors.

The lodge having been closed the brethren sat down to a very agreeable repast, which had been provided by Bro. Tuck, the excellent manager of the hotel. The W.M. presided with his usual ability, and, with a large programme, wisely curtailed the after-dinner speeches by setting the example of brevity.

Under the direction of Bro. T. E. Newman, the lodge is acquiring a reputation for its after-dinner entertainment, the following are items from the programme, songs, Bro. Isler, "Twas never So"; Bro. Harding, "The Star of Bethlehem"; Bro. Attwater, "Cleansing Fires" and "The Devout Love"; Bro. Henning, "Oh, Promise Me" and "Leaving yet Loving"; Bro. Amand, "Speed on my Bark"; Bro. Goring, "Crossing the Line"; and Bro. Newman, "The Evening Party." Recitations by Bros. Coxon and Blinkhorn. Bro. H. Stafford Trego, Mus. Bac., Oxon., F.R.C.O., accompanied.

Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge (No. 1602).—This lodge, which is the strongest and one of the most successful of the North London group, held its installation gathering at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on the 8th inst. The popularity of the retiring Master, Bro. Cave, jun., and of the newly-installed occupant of the chair, Bro. Lieutenant James, was shown by a record attendance, the brethren present numbering 155. Lodge was opened by Bros. A. J. Cave, jun., W.M.; Lieut. J. G. W. James, S.W.; W.M. elect; H. Pickett, J.W.; J. Weston, J.P., P.P.G.P. Middx., Treas.; J. Osborn, P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Sec.; W. Wright, P.P.G. Org. Middx., Org.; J. Greenfield, P.M.; G. W. Larter, P.M.; C. Dearing, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; Dr. Geo. Brown, P.M.; F. C. Everitt, P.M.; and many others. The large number of visitors included Bros. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; R. Morland, D.P. G.M. Berks.; J. T. Ritchie, P.D.G.S.B.; the Hon. Massey Manwaring, P.G. Stwd.; W. T. Buck, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx.; H. Fenton, P.P.G.S. of W. Berks.; P. Jarvis, P.P.G.D. Jersey; W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx.; T. Humphries, P.P.S. G.W. Essex; D. Naoroji, M.P., P.M. 1677; J. H. Martin, P.M. 414; J. W. Chapman, P.M. 1922; G. Monslow, 1971; F. A. Baldwin, 2168; F. Burgoyne, 957; H. Vane Stow, S.D. 1718; Col. Tully, P.M. 1718; W. Robson, W.M.; A. I. Dale, P.G. Steward Essex; J. Swinyard, 1288; Capt. Nicholls, J.W. 2228; C. Townley, 2190; J. Reynolds, 1996; Capt. Lurcott, 1964; H. Sprake, W.M. 813; J. D. Irvine, W.M. 1928; Hoggins, P.M. 1891; T. I. Bird, P.P.G.S.B. Middx.; H. W. Coplestone, W.M. 704; J. Potter, 1698; J. J. Woolley, P.M. 2191; F. W. Spiller, 849; C. Weeden, P.M.; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897; and many others.

The minutes having been confirmed, Bro. J. Weston, P.M., acting D.C., presented Bro. Lieut. J. G. W. James, P.M. 795, P.G.S. Berks, as W.M. elect, and he was impressively installed into the chair by Bro. A. J. Cave, jun. The following officers were invested: Bros. A. J. Cave, jun., I.P.M.; H. Pickett, S.W.; G. F. Wheeler, J.W.; J. Weston, J.P., P.M. 1602, 1897, P.G.P. Middx., Treas.; J. Osborn, P.M. 1602, 1897, P.P.G. Std. Br. Middx., Sec.; H. G. Davenall, S.D.; E. Drew, J.D.; W. J. R. Littlewood, I.G.; W. J. Beckett, D.C.; J. J. Franklin, A.D.C.; W. Wright, P.M. 1897, M.E.Z. 1602, P.P.G. Org. Middx., Org.; W. Wiltshire, M. Woolf, J. Skewes, Capt. H. H. Tasker, and H. Hermann, Stewards; and C. Shepperd, Tyler. The first duty of the W.M., after the investiture of the officers, was to present the I.P.M., Bro. Cave, jun., with a handsome Past Master's jewel and a diamond ring, as a token of the appreciation of the brethren of his year's work as Master.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet by Messrs. Probyn and Co. was then enjoyed, the general arrangements for the comfort of the brethren being heartily appreciated by all present.

The usual toasts followed, and were duly honoured.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, Grand Treasurer, on behalf of "The Grand Officers," returned thanks for the magnificent manner in which the toast had been proposed and received. They all appreciated the high services rendered by the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the latter of whom was presiding that evening at the festival of the Girls' School, where they all hoped he would be supported as he deserved. He (Bro. Stiles) was pleased to find that representatives of the Past Grand Officers would have an opportunity of speaking, as it relieved him from that responsibility. He ought to say in that—the northern province of London—how much his position as Grand Treasurer was due to their support, and he had to thank them for standing by him for two years, and for their support and interest in his candidature. As the W.M. of the Clissold Lodge in the neighbourhood, he was glad to see so many old friends present, and to find the Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge so happy and prosperous.

Bro. Morland, Deputy Prov. G.M. Berks, also replied, and said the W.M. had lately presided over a lodge in the Province of Berks, and as he was unable to visit that lodge during his year of office it was a great pleasure to attend that night and see him installed.

Bro. Col. J. J. Ritchie, P.D.G.S.B., also replied.

Bro. A. J. Cave, jun., I.P.M., said he rose for the first time in his life to propose "The Health of the W. Master." As they were all anxious to proceed with the capital programme he would not dilate upon the Worshipful Master's good qualities, for his kindness to them spoke for itself. Since Bro. James found himself unanimously elected as W.M. his energy had been indefatigable for their comfort and enjoyment. The Worshipful Master's first night in the chair had attracted such a distinguished assembly that would never be forgotten by those present. He (the I.P.M.) asked the brethren to drink the health of the W.M. feeling sure that at the end of his year they would all entertain the same amount of esteem towards him.

Bro. J. G. W. James, W.M., returned thanks for the brilliant reception given him. Having a full knowledge of his own shortcomings he was afraid they had been too kind to him. He felt very deeply the honour of being W. Master of that lodge in which he was initiated by his dear and esteemed friend, Bro. Jobson, P.M., Sec. During his year of office he would do nothing that would cause them to regret having elected him, and at the end he hoped to receive their acknowledgments to show they were pleased with what he had done. He did not expect to prove as able as the I.P.M., but would do his level best to keep up the prestige of the lodge and carry out the work of Freemasonry to the best of his ability. He felt it a great honour to be surrounded by such a distinguished company, including Grand Officers and well-known men in the neighbourhood, and he felt he owed them a deep debt of gratitude for attending. He again thanked them sincerely, and hoped at the end of his year to have a larger circle of friends than he had at the present time.

Bro. Col. Onslow, on behalf of "The Visitors," bore testimony to the manner in which the ceremonial was performed. He was pleased to congratulate the W.M., whom he had known for 10 years as a real good fellow.

Bros. Col. Tully, Martin, Prov. G.S. Berks.; Walter Key, M.L.S.B.; D. Naoroji, M.P., P.M.; H. Sprake, P.M.; the Hon. Massey Manwaring, W. A. Scurrah, P.M.; and C. Townley, also replied.

The W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M.," whose working of the ritual had been perfect. They knew the good Masters who had preceded him, but not one had eclipsed the I.P.M. Bro. Cave also took up a good list for the Girls' School.

Bro. A. J. Cave, jun., I.P.M., in response, said he had had a brilliant year of office, the success of which he owed to the members of the lodge. He was afraid he should be unable to be present but had to thank his doctor for enabling him to do so. He thanked them for the handsome present given him, and assured them that he should never have a happier year than his term as W.M. He hoped to wear what they had given him for many years and assist in maintaining the reputation of the lodge.

Other toasts were given, including "The Masonic Charities," proposed by Bro. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., and replied to by the W.M.

"The Past Masters" and "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed, and the Tyler's toast closed a successful evening which will long be remembered by the members and visitors for the excellence of the arrangements, and heartiness of the proceedings.

During dinner the band of the 3rd Kent Royal Arsenal Artillery Band, under Conductor Anderson, discoursed sweet music. The speeches were interspersed with a programme of music which reflected the highest credit on the Organist, Bro. W. Wright, P.M., P.P.G. Org. The artists included Miss Ethel Winn, Miss Emily Foxcroft, Miss Alice Probyn, and Bros. C. Chilly, Dyved Lewis, Alex. Tucker, and Walter Churcher.

Fellowship Lodge (No. 2535).—The phenomenal success attained by this lodge in its brief existence of four months was evidenced at the regular meeting held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 6th inst. All the elements that ensure a successful gathering were forthcoming—a numerous and distinguished assemblage of brethren; a programme of work that was almost a "record," comprising as it did the Three Degrees including ancient charge, lecture in the Second Degree, and traditional history; and last, but not least, a profuse hospitality intermingled with that "Fellowship" which is the *raison d'être* of the lodge. The unqualified success attained is due to the excellent working and genial presidency of Bro. W. H. Bailey, Prov. S.G.W. Staffs, W.M., and to the indefatigable exertions of Bro. James Stephens, P.P. S.G.D., Secretary, to whom the formation of the lodge is due.

The members present included Bros. W. H. Bailey, Prov. S.G.W. Staffs., W.M.; J. R. Roberts, P.M., S.W.; E. Valeriani, P.M., J.W.; J. Stephens, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, Sec.; W. Thomas, P.M., S.D.; E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., J.D.; George Everett, P.G. Treas.; E. J. Reed, I.G.; B. Carter, D.C.; W. H. Making, P.M., and J. H. Haylor, Stwds.; M. S. Rubinstein, Org.; and many others. Visitors: W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; C. Sims, P.M. 861; A. H. Scurrah, P.P.G.S. of W.; W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Speller, P.P.G.D. Essex; J. Hattersley, P.P.G.D.; G. V. Wood, P.M. 1608; Col. F. E. Bennett, P.M. 773; E. Venner, P.M. 901; F. Deering, I.P.M. 2384; F. L. Chandler, W.M. 1793; R. Manuel, P.M. 1196; T. Hastings Miller, P.G.S.B.; Dr. Lott, P.G. Org.; R. A. Morgan, 169; S. Lucas, 2295; J. Banker, P.M. 1158; C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; W. Chapple, P.M. 1428; W. D. Church, P.M. 1365; H. J. Turner, P.M. 1608; C. Dearing, P.P.G.S. of W.; R. D. Cummings, P.M. 2168; W. Martin, P.M. 2500; W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897; and others.

Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. Five brethren were then raised to the Third Degree, and four brethren passed to the Second Degree. Messrs. H. Sams, R. W. Morgan, G. A. Bennett, A. Schomberg, and S. F. H. Thorn, were initiated into Freemasonry, and the W.M. concluded his arduous labours by an impressive rendering of the Ancient Charge. The following were elected joining members: Bros. W. F. Sanderson, 1363; L. A. Bourquin, 1897; H. Briggs, 749; E. H. Mawe, 227; and F. Morgan, P.M. 1115. Numerous letters of regret for non-attendance were received, and lodge was closed.

Ample justice having been done to a *recherché* repast, the usual toast list was proceeded with.

"The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," were first heartily honoured, after which the W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers," and expressed the hope that Masonry would long continue to have palladins to do battle for it such as those Grand Officers they delighted to honour.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., briefly responded, and said he appreciated being present at a young lodge which gave such good augury for the future. The W.M. had carried out his duties in a most able manner, and he congratulated the lodge on the successful gathering. In the presence of so many Grand Officers he would simply thank them for the kind way in which his name had been received and welcomed.

Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., also responded.

Bro. James Stephens, P.P.S.G.D., Sec., said he had a very grave responsibility thrust upon his shoulders, but whether they were broad enough for the occasion the brethren would judge after he had discharged the duty devolving upon him. He regretted the absence of Bro. Col. Lambert, the acting I.P.M., who would have removed the onus of this responsibility. He, however, rejoiced in the opportunity of proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and whatever he might lack in finding words necessary, they would believe he was not in the least insincere, and would appreciate his humble efforts in the spirit intended. The brethren had already been told that the lodge was only between four and five months old, and prior to that the formation of this lodge was a pet idea of his own. To go over an old story, the petition was kept back because of the war going on between the W.M. and himself. He was determined that Bro. Bailey should be the first W.M., knowing his value, and having known him for some years. He asked the brethren was he right? They were all proud of their W.M., who was a glutton for work and a splendid worker. On the night of the consecration 25 guineas was voted to each of the Masonic Institutions. He had that night to break to them, what was to many somewhat a secret, but in the course of the next two or three days that secret would be an open one, from the fact that on the following Wednesday at the Prov. Grand Lodge of Staffordshire of which the W.M. was P.P.G. Reg., and Prov. G.S.W., their distinguished W.M. would be nominated by the province for the high position of Grand Treasurer. The success of the lodge was due to the W.M., who was deserving of the recognition of the brethren, and of the very great honour of being selected by the suffrages of the Craft to the position for which he would be nominated. His past services to Masonry and to the central Masonic Institutions made him worthy of every honour they could give him. The brethren would rejoice in seeing their W.M. present, in thanking him for the interest he had taken in the lodge in the past, and in hoping it would predominate in the future, and that the success would continue.

Bro. W. H. Bailey, Prov. G.S.W. Staffs., W.M., said he did not know how to thank Bro. Stephens for the more than kind manner in which he had spoken of his unworthy self, or the brethren for the cordial reception of the toast which the flatterer of flatterers had so kindly proposed. When he looked back and thought of the long and miserable correspondence carried on between the most useful and the most unspurious of Masons, he thought how he had been hoodwinked into taking the chair. When he saw the brethren round the table, and the lodge which had grown so magnificently, he was doubly proud of being its first W.M. He had spoken of their Secretary as having an omniscient eye and ubiquitous presence, but when he thought of the programme of work they had gone through, he must add that he possessed a most omniferous appetite. He (the W.M.) was proud to do his utmost to make the lodge a success, and no effort should be wanting as long as he was in the chair to carry out that idea of fellowship which was the watchword and motto of the brethren. He begged them to forgive all those things left undone and which would have given him the greatest pleasure to have done. Possibly there was no lodge that had marched with such rapid strides. What they wanted was not quantity but quality, and the recruits they wanted were those whom they were proud to welcome, such as the five initiates of the evening, the four passings and the five raisings. He desired to place on record that he had been supported by the officers and brethren possibly as no W.M. was supported before. With regard to that mysterious communication made by the Secretary, he would only say that if in seeking the suffrages of the great body of brethren he should be successful he should feel proud, and if he should not be successful he should bow with the greatest pleasure and cheer with the greatest pleasure the election of one more worthy. He had to thank the visiting brethren who had honoured them by being present. Long might the lodge flourish and the members be animated with the same spirit of honest fellowship which bound them together and made their lodge united for good.

"The Visitors" was next given in felicitous terms by the W.M., and was responded to by Bros. J. M. McLeod, Sec. Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; W. A. Scurrah, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; J. Speller, P.P.G.D.; W. D. Church, P.M.; J. Hattersley, P.P.G.D.; and R. B. Cummings.

"The Initiates" and other toasts were duly honoured before the Tyler's toast closed a very successful and enjoyable gathering.

Bro. Dr. Lott, P.G. Org., kindly officiated at the piano, and the other items in the musical programme were carried out by Miss Ethel Winn, Miss Emily Foxcroft, and Bros. W. H. Making and D. Goldstein, and the Concord Part Singers, who elicited well-deserved applause for their well-balanced and highly finished rendering of several selections.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, who during their stay were the guests of the Duke of Norfolk at the Farm, Sheffield, visited the Corn Exchange, Sheffield, in company with his Grace on Saturday morning, and received addresses from the Corporation, the Cutlers' Company, and the Town Trustees. Subsequently the Royal visitors went to the Royal Hospital where her Royal Highness opened a new wing. Thence they made their way to the site of the new hospital extension and the Duchess laid the first stone amid general cheering, and received the women's and other gifts. Later in the day their Royal Highnesses were entertained at luncheon by the Corporation, after which they proceeded to Norfolk Park, where the Duchess presented the prizes won at Shoeburyness by the Sheffield Artillery Volunteers, and long service medals to other Volunteers.

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Life Premiums	224,000
Interest	169,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,293,000



SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1895.

Masonic Notes.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somersetshire was held at Crewkerne on Thursday, the 16th inst., among the visitors present being Bros. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who attended for the purpose of presenting Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Provincial Grand Master, with the illuminated vote of thanks which the Committee of Management had voted to his lordship in recognition of the great services he had rendered the Charity as Chairman at the recent Festival in its behalf.

The brethren who have given their services as Stewards at the approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, held their first meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 16th instant, when it was arranged that the Festival should be held on the day appointed—Wednesday, 3rd July—at Brighton. The brethren constituted themselves a Board, appointed officers, and made such further preliminary arrangements as are usual. Of these we shall give full particulars next week.

The Masonic and Miscellaneous Entertainment which Bro. F. H. Macklin, W.M., and the members of the Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319, were kind enough to give to "Our Boys" in the Great Hall of the School,

Wood Green, on Wednesday, the 15th instant, was admirable in its character, and we need hardly say, was most thoroughly appreciated. Indeed, the programme, which was in two parts, was most excellent, and would undoubtedly have attracted a house full to overflowing had it been submitted to the general public. Among the most attractive items were the musical entertainment, entitled "Our Smoking Concert," by Bro. Mel. B. Spurr, of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels; Bro. John Radcliffe's, "Fantasia on Irish Airs" on the flute; and the clever Ventriloquial Entertainment by Bro. John Le Hay. Bro. Geo. E. Fairchild, A.G.D.C., was the Chairman, and at the close of the performance, the boys, at the invitation of Bro. McLeod, the Secretary, gave three such cheers for the brethren who had afforded them such an entertainment as boys alone know how to give. There was a full muster of visitors, so that the large Hall was well, but not inconveniently, filled.

We regret that in the lists of Stewards and the amounts they raised for the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, we should have omitted to transfer Bro. Henry A. Tobias £30 19s. 6d. as Steward Unattached from West Lancashire to London. The correction, however, will be made in the usual reprint of the Festival Report, Returns, &c., &c.

We have recently heard with sincere regret of the death of more than one prominent brother, who, in his day, and according to his ability, has rendered material service to our Order, and more especially to the Institutions it has established and maintains with such loving care and generosity. Bro. T. Bateman Fox, a P. Prov. G.W. of West Yorkshire, and Chairman of its Provincial Charity Committee, is one of these brethren, while Bro. William Masters, a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is another. We have also to deplore the death of Bro. W. B. Williamson, a prominent Worcestershire Mason, who had taken an active part in the affairs of Freemasonry for many years, and who, if his life had been prolonged, would, no doubt, have proved as zealous a supporter of our Charities in future as in past years. To the families and friends of these brethren we offer our most respectful sympathies in the losses they have severally sustained.

The *Canadian Craftsman* contains a very temperate article on the difficulty over the three English lodges in Montreal which has so long existed between the Grand Lodges of Quebec and England, certain remarks which we published some time ago forming the text for its comments. But while we most cordially recognise the kindly tone which our contemporary has adopted, we cannot bring ourselves to see the justice of the course it proposes. There is no doubt the difficulty that exists is one that ought to be determined, if possible, and if the *Craftsman* is right in its conjecture that the English lodges in Montreal, if they were advised by H.R.H. the Grand Master to join the Grand Lodge of Quebec, would adopt the advice, by all means let the experiment be tried. We are convinced there is no desire on the part of our Grand Master and his advisers that the just influence of the Grand Lodge of Quebec should be lessened by any action of theirs. But it is a *sine qua non* that the separation of these lodges from their parent must be an act of their own volition, not of compulsion on the part of England.

Nor do we quite see the force of our contemporary's suggestion that the Grand Lodge of England should "so arrange its laws as to be in line with the usages of the Craft in the latter part of the nineteenth century." It is too much to ask that the Grand Lodge of England shall modify the conditions on which its Grand Master issues warrants for the constitution of new lodges, because a difficulty has occurred with the Grand Lodge of Quebec in respect of certain lodges in that Province of the Dominion which have desired to remain English. All the Grand Lodges which have been constituted on British Territory, with the solitary exception of that of Quebec, have accepted the terms on which our Grand Lodge agreed to recognise them. Then why alter conditions which have been found to work well generally just to meet a particular case?

Again, what is the "law of 'supreme Masonic jurisdiction'" which "has become so universal throughout the Masonic world as to be considered a 'landmark' by most of the Grand Lodges?" At what congress of representatives from all the Grand Lodges in the world was it agreed to be enacted as a "universal" law? And how can it be "universal," if, as our contemporary recognises when it limits its acceptance as a "landmark" to "most of the Grand Lodges, there are Grand Lodges which have not agreed to accept it as such—we may go further and say, which have never even been consulted as to the wisdom or otherwise of enacting such a law? We should like to have some information about these matters before we attempt to proceed further in the discussion.

Correspondence.

MASONIC VAGRANTS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The enclosed copy letter has been received by me from the Almoner of the Masonic Hall, Leeds, with the copy letter attached thereto purporting to be signed by the Secretary and W.M. of their lodge.

I need hardly remark that the certificate is a complete fabrication and void of all truth. F— M— never was a member of this lodge and therefore not a P.M., and consequently his G.L. certificate was not in our hands. Wm. Henderson was not Secretary, nor was F. W. Buck W.M. at the date of the so-called "certificate."

I may point out that "F— M—" evidently has been in Carlisle and found out what he could of the lodges, but has somewhat mixed the information received. F. W. Buck was I.P.M. on March 7th; "Wm. Henderson," properly "John Henderson," is Secretary of the Union Lodge, 310, Carlisle.

My desire in writing you is to call attention to the number of persons (purporting to be Masons) going about the country making Masonry a cloak for begging, and I am quite certain this man "F— M—," and I am sorry to say many like him, write these letters to suit their purposes, and trust to luck not to be found out.

In our city we have only one Almoner for the two lodges, and the plan, so far as the lodges are concerned, works very well, all deserving cases being relieved. Very few care to go to him, they prefer to sponge on private brethren, their excuse for so doing being that the Almoner is from home or says that he has no funds.—Yours fraternally,

J. W. HAYTON,
1532, Bective Lodge, Carlisle.

May 8th.

[COPY.]

"Masonic Hall,
"Gt. Georges St.,
"Leeds, April 10-95.

"Dear Sir and Bro.,

"The enclosed is a copy of a letter presented to me yesterday by a man representing himself as a Mason and a member of your lodge.

"I refused to relieve him, but not before proving if he was a Mason or not. He seemed to be mixed with a portion of the American working, otherwise his answers were very good through the three. Having my doubts about the case, I let him go but detained the letter. His description is about five feet four inches in height, between 50 and 60 years of age, bald pate, with a look of C. Peace about him. If you have no such man and the signatures are not genuine, make what use you like of this information, as one is liable to be led off in relieving such a plausible fellow.—Yours fraternally,

"Secty.
"1532, Bective.

"J. H. NEWTON,
Almoner."

[COPY.]

"No. 1532, Lodge Bective,
"Carlisle, March 7th, 1895.

"This is to certify that the Grand Lodge Certificate of Bro. F— M— has been forwarded by this Lodge to the Board of Benevolence, London, with a petition on his behalf.

"He has been a member of this Lodge since 1876 and P.M. over 10 years; through ill-health has fallen into adversity.

"WM. HENDERSON,
"Secty.

"Signature of Bro. F— M—
"Verified, F. W. Buck, W.M."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Your paper for the 30th March has been forwarded to me, and having carefully read over your leading article on "Masonic Vagrants," and having had 15 years of practical experience as Almoner for Lodges No. 425 and 721, in this City, I can vouch for the truth of what you have said in respect of that office. There is, indeed, no end to the deceptions which are, and have been carried on for a long time, and which, I fear, must be continually on the increase. I have a complete register for the last 15 years, and had over 400 cases to deal with, the great majority of which were impostures and frauds. I have advocated for a long time that some system should be adopted to check this evil. I have done my best in the matter here, and have found that few of them will face a regular Committee or an old Almoner if they can avoid doing so. I am glad to say that East Lancashire, as the enclosed card shows, has taken the matter up well, but what is most needed is a uniform system adopted generally throughout the Provinces.—Yours fraternally,

W. H. RICHMOND.

Hoole, Cheshire, May 8th.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I should like to bring under the notice of your readers a singular discovery of another Masonic vagrant, thanks to the Dublin *Masonic Visitor* of last September.

I am a member of the Wickham Lodge, No. 1924, Brockley, in the London district, and at our meeting on the 6th inst., was requested to assist the Junior

Warden in the examination of sundry applicants for relief. One of them was an Irishman, who had served in the Royal Engineers, and had been discharged through failing eyesight. A pedlar, his then application was for the modest sum of five shillings, to renew his hawkers' licence, which had then run out. He produced a discharge from one of the London Ophthalmic Hospitals. As to his Masonic credentials, he had been a member of a military lodge, attached to a cavalry regiment, the name or number of which I cannot at the moment call to mind, but which he said was defunct. Unfortunately we had not a calendar by us at the time, or this latter statement could have been verified, or otherwise. Certificate he had none; it had been stolen or lost during his sojourn in the hospital. This important documentary proof of identity, however, was overlooked, for the reason that the man had actually been similarly relieved by the Wickham Lodge three years ago. In the end he got the money for his hawkers' licence, and another five shillings besides. His name is John or James Donovan.

Now for the discovery I hinted at in the beginning of this letter. Only a few days ago I became a subscriber to your Irish contemporary, and, on looking over the back numbers, noticed a letter of complaint and exposure from Bro. T. H. Clarke, P.M. and Almoner Harmony Lodge, No. 555, Fermoy, which in every respect fitted in with the case of the individual applying to the Wickham Lodge last week. In addition, he is proved this time last year to have applied to other lodges in Ireland, under the name of Green, Greer, &c. Further, his exposure was brought about in Fermoy through his passing himself off as a former member of No. 555, when applying for relief to a Surrey lodge, name not given, in the *Masonic Visitor*. The Almoner of the latter lodge had written to the Secretary of the lodge in Fermoy. Hence the clumsy impostor was hoist with his own petard.

Donovan is now back again in his old haunts, and, before the majority of the London lodges break up for the summer recess, he may probably be improving the shining hour. Secretaries and Almoners will therefore please note.—Yours fraternally,

W. F. LAMONBY.

May 14.

THE RIGHTS OF A P.M.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Would you kindly insert the following, if you think it would be of any use to the Craft in general. There is one of our laws which I think would be of great benefit if it could be altered, namely, the law relating to a P.M. who has lost his seat in Grand Lodge through having been a non-subscribing member to any lodge for over 12 months. I can only state my own experience. I am an old P.M., and often carry on the duties of the W.M. in giving the Three Degrees and in the management of the lodge to which I now belong. If I were to accept the office of W.M. at the next election I should be keeping another younger brother out. Is this brotherly to do so? Why punish a lodge or its members because a P.M. has, from no fault of his own, been a non-subscriber for 12 months. All promotion in a lodge must be stopped to enable the P.M. to regain his lost rank. Would it not be better to state a number of years wherein a P.M. should be a subscribing member to a lodge—say three or five years—to be able to reinstate him in the books of Grand Lodge than to compel him to go through the chair again? Perhaps he might join a lodge wherein he could not get the opportunity. That also would be a hard case.—I am, Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

P.M. 32 YEARS.

London, May 8th.

ROYAL STANDARD LODGE, No. 1298.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your impression of the 20th ult., I notice a report of the meeting of the Royal Standard Lodge, No. 1218. As in that notice I am named as the Secretary, I presume it refers to the installation meeting of the Royal Standard Lodge, No. 1298, held at the Cock Hotel, Highbury, on Wednesday, April 3rd. As the notice contains very many inaccuracies, I shall esteem it a favour if you will permit me to say that it did not emanate from me, and that, in no sense, am I responsible for it having been sent for insertion in your valuable paper. I imagine it must have been written by a stranger to the lodge, and I doubt very much if he were present at the lodge meeting or at the banquet that followed.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

W. HAYNES DUNN, P.M., Secretary.

9, Brownwood Park, N., April 22nd.



"PROVINCE OF NORFOLK. FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY, 1895-96."—This is a small publication, in comparison with some of the Masonic annuals, but the information is so ably condensed and neatly arranged and printed, that the particulars are numerous and valuable, thus rendering it a positive boon to the members of the province, and to all interested in the progress, Masonically, of the county. The editor is the esteemed Prov. Grand

Secretary (Bro. G. W. G. Barnard), who has discharged the duties of that office in an admirable manner. All the Degrees worked in Norfolk are duly attended to, with the names of the officers, Past Masters, &c., Prov. and Grand rank (if any), dates of warrants, number of members, &c., &c. There are 17 lodges and seven Royal Arch chapters, the senior of the former being of 1736, and of the latter A.D. 1788. There is no account of any centenary warrant for the "Royal George" Chapter, No. 52, but it is to be hoped the members can trace their continuous working.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF ESSEX, 1895."—Bro. Thomas J. Ralling, the indefatigable Provincial Grand Secretary, is the editor of this excellent annual, which is now in its eleventh year of publication, the last issue being undoubtedly the best of this most useful series. A very pleasing portrait and brief sketch of Sir William N. Abdy, Bart., with a reproduction of the architect's view of the new Masonic Temple, Kelvedon, are the attractive features of this directory, the handsome building having been presented by this worthy brother (who is now the W.M.) to the members of the "Easterford" Lodge, No. 2342, as also the whole of the most complete furniture. There are kitchen, serving-room, and lavatories, hot water pipes and radiators, and every comfort and advantage possible for the purpose. Bro. Ralling has introduced a new page in this year's edition, devoted to a list of Provincial Grand Lodges since 1883, and there is also an additional one, so as to include another lodge, making the 37th, the latest addition being the "Thomas Ralling," No. 2508, Chingford. A novelty this year is the coloured page, with the title of the division, whenever a change of matter is introduced, i.e., "Craft Masonry," "Royal Arch Masonry," &c., thus enabling one to find any portion more easily. There are 11 Royal Arch chapters and seven Mark lodges in Essex, so that these two branches are not quite so strong as the Craft lodges in proportion. Bro. R. H. Ives, who has attended to the votes for the Charities, has done his part admirably, having the enormous total of 9366 to arrange and chronicle. The Calendar is, from first to last, a most creditable production, and would be perfect if the number of members in each lodge and chapter, with the total to the 37 lodges and the 11 chapters had been inserted at pages 31 and 71 respectively.

"MASONIC YEAR BOOK FOR THE PROVINCE OF SUFFOLK, 1895." S. H. Cowell, Butter Market.—This is an annual publication, issued by authority of the Prov. Grand Lodge, and edited by the Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. N. Tracey, whose services in this respect and many others have long endeared him to the local Craft. The information is much as usual in such publications, and is both varied and well arranged. There are 22 lodges in the Province, nine Royal Arch chapters, three Mark lodges, and other Masonic organisations. It looks strange to see the Royal Arch chapters arranged according to their dates of origin; the particulars as to the Charities are numerous and most interesting (with over 4000 votes, the two elections in the Girls and Boys being reckoned as one), and the very full proceedings of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, with all the reports of the W. Masters, add much to the value of the Directory, which cannot fail to prove most useful to the county.

"OLD CORNISH CROSSES," by Arthur G. Langdon.—This work is now in the press, and will soon be published. It will contain 32 large plates and many smaller ones, having in all over 300 examples of crosses in the county. There will also be an article by J. Romilly Allen on their ornament, and the book will be published by Mr. J. Pollard, Bookseller, Truro. We hope to refer to its chief features when published.

"ROSES—RED AND WHITE,"—By Bro. T. C. Walls, P.G. Std. Br., &c., author of "The Field of Hastings," "A Ballad of Flodden," &c.—In our last review of Bro. Walls's ballads, we advised him to continue to write in the traditional ballad metre, and we are pleased to see that he has done so in the poem now before us. In his present volume Bro. Walls describes the different battles during the Wars of the Roses, and the varying fortunes of the two parties. History is thus taught through the pleasant medium of poetry, and our children will have no excuse for growing up in ignorance of the events of those stirring times. Pathos, not unminged with humour, runs through every stanza, and there is no vein of sadness apparent. Bro. Walls deals with some of the more touching episodes with which the wars abounded, such as the flight of the Queen and little Prince of Wales, and their meeting with the hospitable outlaw; as well as the quarrel between Lord Wenlock and the Duke of Somerset, who reproached him with cowardice. Space forbids indulging in any quotations, but we commend the volume to the notice of our readers, who are doubtless well acquainted with the merits of Bro. Walls' poetry.

Craft Masonry.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS.

BROXBORNE.

Kingswood Lodge (No. 2278).—The opening meeting of the season was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., Bro. C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D., presiding (in the absence of Bro. E. H. Moore, W.M.), who is now on his way to the Cape, the following brethren being present: Bro. R. W. Nicole, S.W.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., acting J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; J. F. Bell, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd., Sec.; A. Ingram, acting S.D.; N. Pearce, I.G.; J. Gravatt, Stwd.; T. Williams, Tyler; R. Von der Sahl, F. W. Tomkins, C. C. Renaud, and E. N. Beningfield. Visitors: Bro. J. Duncan, P.M. 59, and S. Reichenheimer, Grand Lodge of Germany.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the brethren proceeded to elect a W.M. for the ensuing year, their choice unanimously falling on Bro. R. W. Nicole, S.W., and the following brethren were unanimously re-elected: Bro. J. Petch, P.M., Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., Representative of the lodge on the Charity and Finance Committees of the Province; and T. Williams,

Tyler. The brethren received with profound regret the resignation of two much respected members of the lodge on the ground of ill-health, and the Secretary was requested to communicate to them the feelings of the lodge. The names of six candidates for membership were proposed, so that the W.M. elect may look forward to a busy term of office. The sum of five guineas was voted to the list of Bro. J. F. Bell, Sec., a Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, this amount bringing his list up to the very creditable sum of 50 guineas, and the total contributed by this young lodge to the three Masonic Charities to something like £430. The accumulated correspondence having been disposed of, the lodge was closed.

After the brethren had dined, the usual toasts were proposed, "The Health of the W.M. Elect" being very cordially received.

Bro. Nicole made a suitable reply, promising to do his utmost to maintain the good reputation of the lodge, and promote the comfort and happiness of the brethren.

Bro. Coxon, P.M., in proposing "The Treasurer and Secretary," referred to the latter brother's Stewardship, and asked for a volunteer as Steward for one of the Charity Festivals next year.

"The Health of the absent W.M.," with best wishes for his safe return to his native land, was heartily received.

A very pleasant evening was spent, the speeches being brief, and interspersed with music; pianoforte solos by Bro. H. S. Trego, songs by Bros. Beningfield, Nicole, Bell, and Renaud, and a recitation by Bro. E. Blinkhorn.

CATERHAM.

Caterham Lodge (No. 2095).—The members had an opportunity of congratulating themselves on the completion of 10 years' existence of their lodge at the installation meeting, held at the Masonic Hall on the 11th inst. There was a good attendance to witness the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Dr. E. Diver, by Bro. Hugh D. Sandeman, P. Dist. G.M. Bengal, who was the first Master of the lodge, and who was presented with a handsome silver bowl, at the meeting under notice, to mark the completion of a second term of office. It may be of interest to note that this veteran brother has occupied the chairs of various lodges for a period extending over a seventh part of his whole life.

Amongst the brethren present were: Bros. H. D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. Bengal, W.M.; E. Diver, S.W.; A. F. White, J.W.; P. Hall, P.M., Sec.; J. M. Crosley, S.D.; W. Soper, J.D.; E. P. Furber, I.G.; W. J. Stride, P.M.; A. S. Tomkins, P.M., G.D.; H. E. Stenning, P.M.; W. Bligh, W. Newman, F. A. Guimaraens, jun., G. Stanley Elliott, A. Boyson, W. Johns, J. Shutter, F. M. Portlock Dadson, H. Lloyd, H. Tucker, and J. Sawyer. Visitors: Bros. F. West, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M. in charge; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; E. T. Pearce, J.D. 1260; H. Blackburn; P. E. Campbell, P.M. 1670; T. C. Sandeman, P.M. 1383; H. Prince, P.M. 1383; G. A. Coleman, 1707; G. Abernethy, I.G. 1537; S. H. Burslieu, P.M. 416; E. A. Kearny, P.M. 15; F. A. Edwards, S.W. 6; C. Hope Pearce, 1962; C. H. Gossage, 446; and W. W. Lee, W.M. 1897.

Lodge was opened by Bro. P. H. Hall, P.M., Sec., and after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. Dr. W. Bligh was raised to the Third Degree. Mr. Harry Lloyd was successful at the ballot, and was duly initiated. Bro. H. D. Sandeman, W.M., then installed Bro. Dr. E. Diver as W.M. for the ensuing year, and the following officers were invested: Bros. A. F. White, S.W.; J. M. Crosley, J.W.; P. H. Hall, P.M., Sec.; W. Soper, S.D.; E. P. Furber, J.D.; W. Johns, I.G.; and Austin, Tyler. A vote of congratulation to Bro. A. S. Tomkins, P.M., on his appointment to office in Grand Lodge was unanimously passed and duly acknowledged.

Lodge was closed, and after banquet the usual toasts were honoured.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the W.M. referred to the appointment to Grand Office of a Past Master of the lodge—Bro. A. S. Tomkins—whose Masonic virtues were well known, and who, he might mention, rendered good service under Garibaldi. Another Grand Officer in the lodge was Bro. Sandeman, and Bro. Letchworth, the Grand Secretary, had also honoured them by his presence.

Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., returned thanks for the hearty reception of the toast. He would hardly presume to return thanks on behalf of the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, who shared with H.R.H. the M.W. G.M. the management of the Order. Lord Latham had recently returned from the West Indies, and had given an interesting account of the levees he had held at Kingston and the Bahamas, where he received a most hearty reception. The Earl of Mount Edgumbe recently presided over one of the most successful festivals they had had in connection with the Charities for some years. In addressing a Surrey lodge, he could not but congratulate them on the fact that among the present Grand Officers there were no less than three hailing from that province—Bros. Bucknill, Q.C., M.P., Col. Dundas, and A. S. Tomkins—than whom none received a heartier welcome. He congratulated the latter brother as a member of that lodge, and also had to thank him for the opportunity afforded of visiting the Caterham Lodge again.

Bro. A. S. Tomkins, G.D., expressed the honour he felt at being included in the toast, and the honour conferred upon him through this lodge. It only showed that by steady work they could achieve a position in the Craft, and was an encouragement to the brethren to labour on and do the best they could for Freemasonry.

Bro. H. D. Sandeman, P.D.G.M. Bengal, I.P.M., proposed "The Provincial Grand Master, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and Provincial Grand Officers," and said he hoped the newly-appointed Provincial Grand Master would prove as good a friend as their dear friend the late Col. Money. They all appreciated the work done by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master in charge, Bro. West, who ruled over them so successfully after the death of Gen. Brownrigg.

Bro. F. West, D.P.G.M. in charge, said it was quite true he had had the province under his control for some years on a previous occasions, and it did not often fall to the lot of one Mason to go through these duties more than once. Their late Pro G.M. was present on the last installation in that lodge, and they worked well together and each knew all the details of the working. He could assure the new Prov. G.M. that all Masons would do their best to support him in his high office. As the Grand Secretary had said, three Grand Officers had been appointed from Surrey, and he hoped the day was not far distant

—although he feared it would be a long time—when a similar number would again be selected. The appointment of Bro. Tompkins was an encouragement to all Masons to seriously take in hand the duties of Masonry.

Bro. H. D. Sandeman, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," who was the third initiate of the lodge who had succeeded to the chair. Bro. Dr. Diver had been selected because he had passed through several offices and had done good suit and service. He might say comprehensively there were divers reasons why Bro. Diver was unanimously elected, although they might not all be Bro. Diver's reasons. He congratulated their W.M. on attaining the highest honour in the lodge, and hoped he would have a pleasant year, and that when his sun had set he would long continue to be a member of the lodge and by his genial presence take an interest in its welfare. He had never seen a lodge—and he had been Master of nine—where they worked together more harmoniously than in the pleasant little Caterham Lodge. He said it with pride, having been one of the founders and first Master. He gave them the toast of the W.M. with every good and hearty wish for health, strength, and ability to govern the lodge with satisfaction to himself and to their honour and credit.

Bro. Dr. E. Diver, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. for his kindly remarks, and said that Bro. Sandeman was what in after dinner phraseology was termed a jolly good fellow. The I.P.M. had said one good thing, and that was that they were harmonious. He knew he could rely upon the officers for their support and assistance, and thanked them for the hearty welcome accorded him and good feeling expressed.

"The Visitors" was next given and responded to by Bro. H. Prince, P.M. 1383.

The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters." He said the I.P.M. was the father of the lodge and its constant adviser. It became his pleasurable and honourable duty in the name of the lodge to present Bro. Sandeman with a silver bowl, as a token of their esteem and in recognition of the services he had rendered. The lodge further desired him to say that they hoped Bro. Sandeman would continue for many years in the lodge, and that the tie of good fellowship now existing would be long unbroken.

Bro. H. D. Sandeman, I.P.M., said that if he had been taught to blush, he should blush on the present occasion. A man might blush when he did not feel, but he felt when he could not blush. They had taken his breath away by their magnificent present, which he should keep as a very dear memento of a lodge which he loved and in which he had passed so many happy hours. It had been the custom to present a mug to the retiring Master, which he already possessed. He expected nothing but their good will, which was heartily reciprocated. He was opposed to the system of giving jewels, but the mugs presented to the Past Masters in that lodge would be handed down as heirlooms to their successors. All his family would rejoice that he was the recipient of such a handsome present. As long as he was resident there, and in any case he would continue a member, and always visit the lodge. He had been the Secretary for many years, but he had now been worthily succeeded by one—Bro. Hall—who was a good and capable Secretary.

Bro. Stenning, P.M., replied, and other toasts having been given, the proceedings terminated.

CHORLTON-CUM-HARDY.

Architect Lodge (No. 1375).—At its regular meeting, held on Friday, the 3rd instant, at the Masonic Hall, this lodge was honoured by the presence of many distinguished brethren of the province, the following being among those who signed the book: Bros. R. Wylie, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec.; Walter Simpson, P.P.S.G.W.; N. W. Helme, P.J.G.W.; W. Savage, P.P.G.T.; G. A. Harradon, P.P.G.T.; J. J. Lambert, P.P.G.R.; R. Armitage, P.P.G.R.; T. Brayshaw, P.P.G.R. West Yorks; H. W. Johnston, P.P.G.D.; J. H. Wells, P.P.G.D.; Alfred Cross, P.P.G.D.; and J. Slyman, P.P.G.D. The following visitors were present: Bros. Rev. C. C. Bluett, W.M. 2326; W. Toombs, W.M. 1588; John Travers, I.P.M. 1387; Rev. F. E. Thomas, Chap. 1387; and R. V. Critchley, J.W. 1730. The following members of the lodge were also present: Bros. A. Pickford, W.M.; W. T. Hesketh, acting I.P.M.; C. Rawle, S.W.; T. A. Holland, J.W.; W. Dyson Fryer, P.M., Treas.; H. Nall, P.M., Sec.; J. Coupland, S.D.; A. Redfearn, J.D.; A. A. Moss, P.M., D.C.; I. R. E. Birkett, I.G.; W. Rushton, Org.; J. M. Crone, E. M. Beebe, E. de Mincrak, and H. W. Bloomer, Stewards; E. Roberts, P.M.; J. Bradshaw, P.P.G.D.; J. Laidlaw, P.P.G.D.; C. H. Beever, P.M.; W. C. Flint, W. Moul, and W. Lea.

The business of the evening was the raising of Bro. Lea, the ceremony being rendered by the W.M., assisted by his officers, in a manner which fully maintained the reputation of the lodge, and elicited from the distinguished visitors present the highest praise.

At the social board the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and honoured.

Bro. R. Wylie, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., in responding to the toast of his health, congratulated the lodge on the way it sustained its reputation for correct, careful, and impressive rendering of the ceremonies, and hoped it and all the other lodges of the province would always be anxious that the impressions made upon all who joined our Order should be commensurate with the dignity of the ritual. He sincerely thanked the brethren of the lodge for that opportunity of renewing his acquaintance with the brethren of that corner of the province, as it enabled him to realise that the genuine interests of Freemasonry were being properly looked after.

Bros. W. Goodacre, W. Simpson, N. W. Helme, J. J. Lambert, J. Slyman, and Rev. E. C. Bluett also spoke during the evening in response to various toasts, and congratulated the lodge on the honour recently conferred on one of its Past Masters—Bro. Henry Nall—by his having been elected P.G.T. of R.A.M.

During the evening a recitation, and instrumental and vocal music were given by Bros. C. H. Beever, H. Nall, W. Rushton, and W. Moul.

COLCHESTER.

United Lodge (No. 697).—This lodge held its installation meeting on Wednesday, the 8th instant, at the George Hotel, when Bro. F. J. Motum, S.W., was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. H. J. Skingley, P.M., P.P.A.G. D.C. The officers for the year were invested as follows:

Bros. Geo. N. Watson, I.P.M.; James G. Bryan, S.W.; Hy. E. Baker, J.W.; Geo. J. Booth, P.M., Prov. G.S., Treas.; Thomas Rix, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; Walter Mayhew, S.D.; F. W. Swann, J.D.; F. W. Richards, I.G.; John Howe, P.M., D.C.; R. A. Mann, Org.; Charles H. Archer, O. W. J. Evans, and I. W. Godwin, Stwds.; and A. Wright, Tyler.

The Auditors reported that after meeting all liabilities there was a handsome balance in hand. The W.M. was unanimously elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee. A letter was read from the Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. T. J. Ralling, regretting his inability to attend, and mentioning that he believed it was the first time he had missed that meeting for 25 years.

Between 30 and 40 brethren dined together at the George, the host and hostess, Bro. and Mrs. Mutton, doing all in their power for the comfort of the guests.

DURHAM.

Universities Lodge (No. 2352).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, on the 18th ult. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. The W.M., Bro. Jas. Laurence, opened the lodge. The minutes of the last regular meeting being read and confirmed, Bro. Dr. Lionel Booth was presented by Bro. Rev. R. H. Yeld to the W.M., to be by him installed into the chair. The W.M. elect having taken the necessary obligations, was duly installed and saluted, and then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Jas. Laurence, M.D., Prov. S.G.D., I.P.M.; E. Jepson, M.D., S.W.; E. Ensor, M.A., J.W.; Rev. J. C. Biggs, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., Chaplain; Rev. Canon Kynaston, Past G. Chap., Treas.; C. D. Hill Drury, M.D., P.P.S. G.W., Sec.; Professor Philipson, M.D., S.D.; G. Middlemiss, M.D., J.D.; Rev. E. Boddington, M.A., I.G.; Rev. J. Lawson, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., D. of C.; Rev. F. D. Brookes, M.A., Org.; Rev. A. Boot, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., and Rev. P. W. Clarke, M.A., P.P.G. Chap., Stwds.; and Jas. Matthew, Tyler. A ballot took place for Bro. W. S. Plummer, M.D., as a joining member, and he was unanimously elected. A candidate for initiation was proposed, and alms were collected. "Hearty good wishes" were offered by the visiting brethren, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to the Three Nuns to celebrate the annual festival.

The usual toasts were duly proposed and honoured, the concluding toast, "The Sister University Lodges" being given by the Secretary, Bro. Dr. Hill Drury.

EAST GRINSTEAD.

Sackville Lodge (No. 1619).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Crown Hotel. The attendance was small, which was to be regretted, as the important subject of building the proposed Masonic Hall was to be discussed. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. D. Wood. A candidate for initiation was balloted for, and the ballot having been declared clear, he was prepared and initiated by the W.M. in a very impressive manner. Bro. Canon W. H. Cooper, P.M., Chap., referred to the resolution he had proposed, and which had been seconded by the W.M. at the last regular meeting, to the effect that the Building Committee should bring up a full report of all the circumstances and correspondence connected with the building of the proposed hall. The Secretary stated that a report had not been prepared, but that he had all the correspondence to lay before the lodge. Bro. Cooper said it was most important there should be a report as unanimously called for by the resolution passed at the last regular meeting, many of the brethren (himself amongst the number) wished to know exactly how they stood. He had received a letter from the W.M. a few weeks since asking him, as the mover of the resolution, to communicate with Bro. Budd-Budd, the I.P.M., who had promised a site for the hall and £100 towards the building fund. He had written as requested, and Bro. Budd-Budd had replied to the effect that as he had been informed sufficient money could not be raised to build the hall without going into debt, he must withdraw his offer of site and subscription. Bro. Cooper said he had made enquiries, and he found that no conditions of any kind had been made by Bro. Budd-Budd when making his generous offer, and that he had no doubt if exertions were made and the peculiar circumstances of the lodge brought before the Craft, not only would the brethren in the Province of Sussex help, but also the brethren all over England, but nothing could be done until the Building Committee furnished the report the lodge had ordered. The Secretary promised the report should be ready for the next regular meeting, and he also moved that Bro. Canon W. H. Cooper, Chaplain, be added to the Building Committee. This resolution was seconded by the W.M., and unanimously passed. During the evening a letter was read from the widow of a late P.M. of the lodge, expressing her gratitude for a letter of sympathy sent by the lodge with a donation of £5.

HARROGATE.

Harrogate and Claro Lodge (No. 1001).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 10th inst., this being the first meeting since the installation. Amongst those present were Bros. A. B. Booty, W.M.; W. P. Bell, S.W.; W. H. Turner, J.W.; E. J. Seaborn, Chap.; Thos. Linskill, Sec.; A. W. Lowe, S.D.; C. C. Trim, D.C.; G. Musgrove, Org.; W. Davey, I.P.M.; T. Laurence, P.M., P.A.G.P.; J. T. Walker, P.M., P.P.G.P.; W. T. Marshall, Cliff, W.M. 1221; Goodwill, C. Walker, and H. Ainsworth, Stwds.; H. Smith, H. Bodman, and others.

The W.M., Bro. A. B. Booty, passed Bros. H. A. Holmes and R. H. Swale to the Second Degree, and also initiated Messrs. Councillor Walter Battle and Heinrich Dittmar. The new W.M. did the whole of the four ceremonies. The charge in the Second Degree was given by Bro. W. P. Bell, S.W., and the first charge by Bro. W. H. Turner, J.W. The whole of the working was done in an excellent manner, for which the lodge is so celebrated, especially as this was the first working with the new officers.

There is to be a lodge of emergency on the 24th, to initiate two other candidates already balloted for. The lodge has a busy and successful year before it.

After supper the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, interspersed with harmony.

MANCHESTER.

Newall Lodge (No. 1134).—The regular meeting was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Freemason's Hall, Cooper-street. The W.M., Bro. Charles Driver, opened the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. There were three passings and one raising, the ceremonies being performed respectively by Bros. E. Webb, P.M.; Ben. Eckersley, P.M.; John Waring, P.M.; and A. H. Duffin, P.M. The following brethren were present: Bros. C. Driver, W.M.; B. Eckersley, I.P.M.; H. Waterhouse, S.W.; R. W. Martin, J.W.; John Waring, P.M., Sec.; J. Green, S.D.; A. K. Boothroyd, W.M. 2359, J.D.; A. H. Duffin, P.M., D.C.; E. H. Flower; J. Holroyd, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Treas.; E. Webb, P.M.; George S. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.O. E. Lancs., P.G.O. W. Lancs.; J. Holt, W. Featherstone, J. V. Gaen, W. H. Browne, R. W. Jarvis, A. Cadwell, T. Brierley, F. H. Gregory, J. O. Samuel, W. E. Hand, W. Flett, and T. Curtis. Visitors: Bros. G. Gaskill, J. Laurisch, J. Spilsberg, R. Race, and J. W. Millward, P.M.

PLUMSTEAD.

Ordnance Lodge (No. 2399).—This lodge, which was consecrated in 1891, and dedicated solely for the reception of officers, officials, warrant, and non-com. officers of H.M. Ordnance and Transport Corps, has had a remarkably successful career so far, especially as there is in the same locality, Woolwich, a United Military Lodge, open to all sections of H.M. Army, and the meeting under notice, the installation of the W.M. of the lodge, showed unmistakably its popularity among the service for which it was formed.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. Capt. W. C. Woollett, G.S., and after Quartermaster C. Cleary, of the corps had been initiated, the ceremony of installation was proceeded with, and in due course, Bro. Sergt.-Maj. J. V. Lee, S.W. and W.M. elect, was installed in the chair of K.S. and saluted, he appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Capt. W. C. Woollett, G.S., I.P.M.; Conductor F. Hully, S.W.; H. Crowdy, J.W.; Conductor R. Johnson, Treas.; Conductor W. G. Stackwood, Sec.; S. S. Maj. W. R. Johnson, S.D.; G. Dyer, J.D.; J. Wheatley, I.G.; Capt. G. Penstone, D. of C.; F. H. Widgery, E. C. Cook, and R. Rawlinson, Stwds.; and W. Redman, Org. Bro. Woollett then delivered the charges, and concluded a splendidly worked ceremony. He was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, and it was resolved that a vote of thanks should be inserted in the minutes of the lodge for his services as Installing Officer that day, for both of which, the jewel and the vote, he returned thanks. The lodge resolved to join the Woolwich Charity Association, with a view to qualify for Governorships on the several Charitable Institutions of the Craft, and then the lodge was closed.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. G. Spinks, P.M., P.M. 1536, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Capt. W. Weston, P.M. (Hon.), P.M. 1789, P.P.S.G.D.; C. Jolly, P.M. (Hon.), P.M. and Sec. 1472, P.M. and Sec. 2184; Lieut.-Col. Booth, Hurst, J. Cowley, G. F. Wright, J. Reid, E. Woods, J. Biddows, A. W. Maundell, W. Steer, E. Reynolds, W. Hallick, J. H. Porter, T. Godfrey, C. Mills, W. Hitches, J. Huddey, G. Ingle, and W. Gardiner. Among the visitors were Bros. W. J. Barnes, W.M., W. A. Anson, S.W., and A. W. Russell, J.W., of 13; H. Tufnell, W.M., G. H. Nichols, S.W., and J. H. Porter, J.W., of 700; Dr. E. Bryceson, W.M. 913; J. Delo, W.M., T. Reeve, S.W., and W. Turvey, J.W., of 1472; E. W. Linnett, W.M. 1536; Sydney Horton, W.M. 706; G. Kennedy, P.M. 1536, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Moulds, P.M. 1536, P.P.G.P.; Capt.-Surgeon Kiddle, P.M. 2277; Major A. H. Murdock, R.A., Sec. 1789; W. Shackleton, J.W. 1789; J. Le Fuillade, S.W. 2041; J. Parsons, J.W. 2091; G. B. Davies, P.M. 13; J. Brooks, 615; W. Dunliffe, 2061; and R. J. Nickolds, 2372.

The banquet having been disposed of, the W.M. gave the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," and that of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of the Order," both of which were most loyally received.

Bro. Woollett, whose name was associated with that of "The Grand Officers," briefly responded, thanking them for their enthusiastic reception of the toast and his name, but as he would most probably have to speak no less than three times that night in his official capacity, he would content himself by saying that the Grand Officers were in every way worthy of their loyalty and support.

The I.P.M. having briefly proposed the toast of "The W.M.,"

Bro. Lee, in response, said he did not deserve the flattering praise given him by their esteemed I.P.M. So far as his duties were concerned, he felt that it was the place of anyone who aspired to the position of Master of a lodge to prepare himself in the duties appertaining to it, and to do his work in a manner that would be satisfactory to the brethren and creditable to the lodge. Since the consecration of the lodge, when he was appointed Deacon, he had never missed but one meeting, and that non-attendance was unavoidable. He trusted they would give him plenty of work; they had made 25 members since the consecration, and if they could find him live and twenty candidates as good and as worthy as those already initiated, he would only be too happy to initiate them; at any rate, he would promise them that whatever he had to do would be done, he trusted, so as to conduce to the still higher prestige and prosperity of the lodge.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "The Installing Officers." He said most of the brethren present had not had an opportunity of witnessing all the ceremony, but they had seen some of it; and, from what they had seen, they would be enabled to appreciate his remarks, when he said that the whole of the working in and out of their presence was splendidly done. He thanked Bro. Woollett, and could assure him and them that as the greatest compliment he could pay Bro. Woollett was to try, as he intended to, to imitate him both in his work in the lodge and also in his final effort at the termination of his year of office.

Bro. Woollett, in response, said that if he had carried out the duties of Installing Officer to their satisfaction, he was amply repaid for his services.

The next toast was that of "The Visitors." The W.M. said that the Ordnance Lodge was always pleased to see a goodly array of visitors. That night there were 23 present, and he hoped they would always come and find a hearty welcome at the Ordnance Lodge.

Bro. Barnes said he had the honour of belonging to the

oldest lodge in the district, and had that day seen the installation of the Master of the youngest lodge of the district. He promised to attend their excellent lodge as often as he could.

Bro. Tufnell thanked the lodge for becoming subscribers to the "Woolwich Charitable Association," of which he was Secretary, which, he said, would be the means of sending up over £1000 to the Charities in the course of the next few years.

Bro. Horton, in reply, thanked the brethren for their hospitality.

Bros. Dr. E. Bryceson and J. Delo added their testimony to the gratification the occasion had afforded them.

Bro. Major Murdock gave the history of, and recited "The Gunner's story," a patriotic ditty that was sung at Dettingen and Quebec, and was set to music by Handel or one of his contemporaries.

Bro. Duncliffe, of the Himalaya Lodge, India, also responded.

In returning thanks for "The Past Masters," Bro. Capt. G. Spinks said he felt his position very much that night, because he usually sat at the immediate left of the W.M., and now he had to give way to one who was the youngest Past Master in England, as far as he knew; however, he should always endeavour to do any service that lay in his power for the benefit of the lodge, for the lodge would always have his hearty good wishes, whether he was absent or present. He wished the W.M. a happy year of office, to reign over a prosperous and contented lodge.

Bro. Capt. Weston, P.M. (hon.), said it was some nine or ten years ago that he proposed their W.M. as a member of the United Military Lodge, so that he might fairly claim to be Bro. Lee's father in Masonry. They would find their W.M. no drone, but such a Master that, at the end of his year of office, he would hand down the warrant of the lodge, pure and unsullied, into the hands of his successor.

Bro. C. Jolly, P.M. (hon.), also responded. The other toasts were "The Initiate," "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Horton played a piano solo splendidly, as did Bro. Parsons on the ophicleide. Bro. Jolly recited, and the vocal music was sustained by Bros. Anson, Leavy, Delo, Rawlinson, and others.

WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE.

Arnold Lodge (No. 1792).—The installation meeting was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., when Bro. A. R. Chamberlayne, who occupies a similar position in the St. Osyth's Priory Lodge at Clacton, was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being ably performed by Bro. W. E. Sutton, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C. At its close the officers for the year were invested as follows: Bros. C. W. Randall, I.P.M.; William Wright, S.W.; H. Finer, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; J.W., Edward Osmond, Treas.; R. H. Scott, P.M., P.P.A.G. Sec.; George Gardiner, S.D.; J. W. Franks, J.D.; John Carter, I.G.; S. T. James, D.C.; Robert Scarlett, Org.; and H. Cutter, Tyler. The Auditors' report showed the finances of the lodge to be in a very satisfactory condition, and further stated that there had been an addition of seven new members during the year—five joining and two initiates. The I.P.M. was unanimously elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee.

After business, the brethren dined together at the Marine Hotel, the repast being well served by Bro. and Mrs. King.

Royal Arch.

King Solomon Chapter (No. 2029).—The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall. Bros. Dr. Richard Paramore, 1201; J. N. Kingwill, 2029; and H. T. A. Chidgey, 2029, were exalted to the Supreme Degree, Comp. Major I. W. Richardson, P.Z., P.G.S.B., Surrey, occupying and doing the work of the first chair. The Principals were installed and the officers invested as follows: Comps. Lewis, E. Newham, P.Z., M.E.Z.; Dr. H. W. Williams, H.; Major F. Sheffield, J.; Edward Macbean, Treas. (by proxy); Major T. W. Richardson, P.Z., S.E.; Thomas Knights, S.N.; Reginald Mills, P.S.; Dr. F. J. Allan, 1st A.S.; W. F. Roberts, 2nd A.S.; Harry Tipper, P.Z., D.C.; and T. H. Browne, and F. H. Searle, Stwds. After which the M.E.Z., on behalf of the chapter, presented the I.P.Z., Comp. Robert A. Gowan, with a handsome 18ct. P.Z.'s jewel. The balance sheet for the second year, which was in circulation, was taken as read. It showed a balance in hand and no liabilities, so that this young teetotal chapter may well be congratulated on its prosperous condition.

On the convocation being adjourned, the members joined their lady friends for supper and a social evening.

Entertainment in the form of piano solos, songs, recitations, tricks, &c., was provided by Miss Roberts, Miss Florrie Hardie, Miss May Carey, Mrs. Gertie Richardson, and Comps. Roberts and Major Richardson.

Mark Masonry.

CARLISLE.

Cumberland Lodge (No. 60).—The annual installation meeting of this—the oldest lodge in the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland—was held in the Masonic Rooms, Castle-street, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. Lodge was opened by Bro. Lockyer, P.P.G.D.C., W.M., supported by his officers, the minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed, and the ballot taken for Bro. Mounsey Heysham, P.M. 1532, who was duly elected, and, being present, was advanced to the Degree of M.M.M. by Bro. J. O. Scott, P.M. 151, P.P.J.G.O., in a very impressive manner. The chair was then taken by Bro. Gardiner, P.M. 151, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.S. England, as Installing Master, to whom Bro. T. J. Richardson, P.P.G.I. of W.M. elect, was presented by Bro. Lockyer, W.M., &c., and was duly installed in the chair of A. in Bro. Gardiner's able manner. The following officers were then appointed and invested: Bros. Lockyer, I.P.M.; J. A. Wheatley, S.W.; W. Mathews, J.W.; G. A. Mounsey Heysham, M.O.; Court, S.O.; Bewley, J.O.; C. J. Nanson, Treas., Sec., and R. of M.; Cowick, S.D.;

Murray, J.D.; and Compton, Tyler. Bro. T. Atkinson, P.M. 229, P.P.S.G.O., gave the charges in very good style. Votes of thanks were given to Bros. Scott, Atkinson, and Gardiner for their services. In replying, Bro. Gardiner impressed upon the newly-invested officers and members the importance of endeavouring to get the lodge back to its former high standing.

On the conclusion of the ceremonies, the brethren were entertained at the Central Hotel by the newly-installed W.M., and a pleasant evening was spent.

The following were also present: Bros. C. J. Nanson, P.M., P.P.S.G.O.; T. J. Richardson, P.P.G.I. of W.M., S.W., W.M. elect; J. A. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; W. Mathews, J. Gardiner, P.M. 151, P.P.S.G.W., P.G.S. England; J. O. Scott, P.M., P.P.J.G.O.; T. Atkinson, P.M. 229, P.P.S.G.O.; and others.

Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE (No. 65).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at the Old Parr's Head, Knight-riding-street, E.C. Present: Bros. Thomas, W.M.; Mansfield, S.W.; Meadows, J.W.; Sarson, Sec.; Saunton, S.D.; Gale, J.D.; J. Smith, I.G.; Harlow, Preceptor; Tidder, Oakes, Fisher, Holmes, Crawshaw, Portwine, White, King, Loyer, and Hughes.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Tidder personating the candidate. Bro. Tidder answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. Brethren below the rank of Master Masons having retired, the W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree. Bro. Crawshaw then answered the questions leading to the Third Degree, and was entrusted. The W.M. opened the lodge in the Third Degree, and Bro. Crawshaw was raised to the Third Degree. The W.M. resumed the lodge in the First Degree. Bros. Crawshaw and Tidder having been elected members, the lodge was closed.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE (No. 144).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 2nd inst., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea. Present: Bros. Beauchamp, W.M.; Royle, S.W.; Lightfoot, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutfield, Sec.; Matthews, S.D.; Larkin, J.D.; Schott, I.G.; Holland, P.M.; Wits, P.M.; Austin, Nicholls, Thomas, Winsborrow, and Murdoch.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The lodge was opened and closed in the Second and Third Degrees. The 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by Bro. Holland, P.M., and the 2nd Section of the First Lecture by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Winsborrow being the candidate. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, and Bro. Royle was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The W.M. rose for the third time, and a hearty vote of thanks was ordered to be recorded on the minutes to the W.M. for the able manner in which he had presided for the first time in the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE (No. 538).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at the Frascati, Oxford-street, W., when there were present: Bros. Dukes, W.M.; Hill, S.W.; Burgess, J.W.; Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; Terry, S.D.; Zeppensfeld, J.D.; Goldberg, I.G.; Hazlitt, P.M.; Jackson, P.M.; Smale, P.M.; Gibelli, Mason, and Leather.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The 1st Section was worked by Bro. Hazlitt, P.M. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Burgess, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Gibelli being the candidate, and the W.M. gave the charge in an excellent manner. Bro. Baker then took the chair of K.S., and rehearsed the investiture of officers. Bro. Dukes again resumed the chair of K.S., and the 5th Section was worked by Bro. Hazlitt, P.M. Bro. Baker, W.M. elect 2331, was elected a member. Bro. Hill was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 29th ult., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. H. Campbell, W.M.; J. C. Conway, P.M. 1891, S.W.; W. Craig, P.M. 1425, J.W.; G. Read, P.G.S.B. Eng., Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.G.S.D. Essex, Sec.; G. Weaver, S.D.; S. N. Isaacs, J.D.; F. Corthine, I.G.; T. M. Lamble, Stwd.; W. J. Ferguson, P.M. 177, Dep. Preceptor; D. F. Gellion, P.M. 1425; Major E. Read, W. C. James, and A. Clark.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Weaver being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and after the usual preliminaries, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Clark being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. As a mark of appreciation and a lasting testimony of the many and valued services and his distinguished position in the Craft, a handsomely-framed portrait of the highly esteemed Preceptor, Bro. George Read, P.G.S.B. Eng., presented by the brethren to the lodge of instruction, was uncovered, and the compliment acknowledged by Bro. Read, in feeling and grateful terms. The W.M. having risen the usual number of times, "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE (No. 1471).—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. Milton Smith, W.M.; C. Smith, S.W.; W. Rapley, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. Isler, S.D.; R. P. Upton, J.D.; J. E. Thomas, I.G.; G. T. Peall, R. W. Nicole, M. Miroy, M. Tuck, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Essex; R. Eddie, F. A. Balls, and E. P. Woodman.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Peall being the candidate. The lodge was opened in

the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of raising, rehearsed, Bro. Miroy being the candidate. Bro. C. Smith was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE (No. 1767).—A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at the Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, when there were present: Bros. A. J. Taylor, W.M.; W. B. Neville, W.M. 1767, S.W.; Lewis Beale, J.W.; George Read, P.M., G. Std. Br. Eng.; Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; T. T. Gething, S.D.; C. C. Barber, J.D.; M. Moss, I.G.; J. R. Roberts, P.M.; A. J. Turner, E. J. Green, T. W. Blott, P.M.; J. A. Battersby, J. J. Mackay, P.M.; K. A. Bench, and A. Williams, P.M.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the 1st Section of the First Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Battersby acting as candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The 3rd Section of the Lecture was worked by the brethren, under the direction of the Preceptor. Bro. Neville was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and Bro. Bench elected a joining member. The lodge was then closed.

MAIDSTONE.—ROBINSON LODGE (No. 2046).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 4th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Brewer-street. Present: Bros. E. Gratwick, W.M.; W. Jenkinson, S.W.; J. P. Dickinson, J.W.; H. Whyman, Preceptor; H. Potvine, Sec.; P. Good, S.D.; F. Tyrer, I.G.; J. Gowen, Tyler; T. D. Lyle, P.M.; F. Blake, P.M.; A. Barton, L. W. Stansell, and J. Dyke.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, when the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising. The lodge was closed in the Third and Second Degrees. The W.M. rose for the first time, when Bro. Whyman proposed and Bro. Gratwick seconded "That the season of the lodge of instruction terminate at the meeting to be held on the 15th June, followed by a supper." The W.M. rose for the second and third times, when "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by the brethren, and the lodge was closed.

NORTH LONDON CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT, Cock Tavern, Highbury Corner. A meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 29th ult., when there were present Comps. Lardner, M.E.Z.; Davison, H.; Radcliffe, J.; Gregory, S.E.; Bunker, S.N.; Walkden, P.S.; McDonald, P.Z.; George, P.Z.; Hewark, P.Z.; Edmonds, P.Z.; Galloway, P.Z.; Paine, Haines, Sage, and Tuck.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Galloway being the candidate. The whole ceremony was carried out in a very efficient manner, and reflected great credit on the officer. The chapter 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 3rd inst., when there were present: Comps. Belchamber, M.E.Z.; Loader, H.; Dunn, J.; T. Grumman, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; Lewis, S.N.; Elgar, P.S.; Cureton, Dawson, Cornford, Block, G. R. Langley, Willcox, Salmon, and Cass.

The chapter was regularly opened, and the minutes of convocation of April 26th were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Block personating the candidate. Comp. Geo. R. Langley, P.Z. 1326, P. Prov. G. Treas. Middx., was elected a member. Comp. Loader, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the M.E.Z. for rehearsing the ceremony so ably for the first time. The annual supper was decided to be held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on the 29th inst., at 7 p.m. Comp. C. H. Stone, M.E.Z., of the mother chapter, 1275, will preside. Companions interested in this important London chapter will be welcomed on Friday next, at 8 p.m. Preceptor, Comp. T. Grumman. The chapter was closed in due form.

LADIES' BANQUET OF THE LODGE OF KING SOLOMON, No. 2029.

The members of the above lodge, which was founded in 1884 for the purpose of providing a meeting place for Freemasons who are abstainers, held their customary May banquet, at which it is their delight to invite their wives and daughters to share in their pleasures, on Saturday, the 4th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant. The brethren and guests to the number of 70 having assembled at six o'clock, sat down at 6.30 to a very excellent repast provided by the management. Amongst the brethren present were Bros. Alfred Wells, W.M.; Major Sheffield, I.P.M.; T. P. Baptie, J.P., P.M., Treas.; R. A. Gowan, P.M.; T. W. Richardson, P.M.; A. Jardine, P.M.; W. Green, S.W.; T. Knights, J.W.; Wallace, S.D.; Penny, P.M. Unity Lodge, Stwd.; Memory; and Bro. Tipper, A.G.P., Sec.

After the banquet the only toasts proposed were "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The Ladies."

Bro. BAPTIE, P.M., in responding to the toast, made a very humorous speech in his dual capacity as a brother of the lodge, and as a lady for the time being, thanking the members for the pleasant dinner and the prospect of the after part, and also explained to the ladies what he considered to be the benefits derived from a brother becoming a Freemason. He also congratulated the lodge and Bro. Tipper upon his appointment as Assistant Grand Pursuivant.

An adjournment was then made to the ball-room where an excellent programme of music and dances had been provided by the Secretary, which combined made the evening the most pleasant the brethren had ever experienced.

The remarks made by many of those present, who, although not abstainers, yet expressed their great gratification at being able to spend so pleasant an evening with the Lodge of King Solomon, gave great satisfaction to the Committee who were responsible for the arrangements.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE GENERAL LODGE
OF INSTRUCTION FOR WARWICKSHIRE,
No. 587.

The above festival took place at the Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, on the 26th ult.

The lodge was opened and the ceremonies of initiation and raising, and the explanation of the tracing board were delivered by specially appointed officers, in strict accordance with the "Emulation" working.

The brethren afterwards partook of a banquet in the adjoining room, the chair being taken by Bro. J. T. Collins, Past G.S.B., Dep. Prov. Grand Master, who was supported by Bros. A. W. Adams, P.P.G.S.B., Preceptor; J. Graff, I.P.M. 938, W.M. for first ceremony; J. Gittings, W.M. 1246, W.M. for third ceremony; T. R. Arter, P.M. 925, P.P.S.G.W.; R. B. Morgan, P.M. 925, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Dr. N. H. Turner, P.M. 2000; C. Lamsdale, W.M. 739; W. H. Rollason, 887, Sec.; and many other visitors and members.

A pleasant evening was spent, during which the satisfactory announcement was made that, owing in a great measure to Bro. Sudlow's visits, the lodge was in a most flourishing condition, both as regards membership and general proficiency in the "Emulation" working.

MASONIC BALL AT DAVENTRY.

On Thursday evening, the 18th ult., a Masonic ball, under the patronage of the P.G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Euston, D.C.L., the Mayor (Mr. J. T. Lawrence) and Mayoress of Daventry, the Mayor (Mr. W. Tomes) and Mayoress of Northampton, and the Master, Wardens, Officers, and brethren of Benevolent Lodge, No. 2380, was held in the Assembly Hall, which had been very tastefully and effectively decorated and prepared by Mr. T. Warren, with a refreshment bar under the efficient management of Bro. Ward. Mr. Warner, of Northampton, supplied a capital string band near the stage, which was converted into a very comfortable lounge. The vestibule of the hall was utilised for cloak rooms.

The following were of the company: Mr. T. H. Reynolds and the Misses Reynolds (two), Mr. Weston and Miss A. Weston, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Underwood, Mr. F. Willoughby, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Bowers, Mr. W. Drape, Miss Knight, Mr. W. Edgar, Mr. M. Edgar, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Montgomery and the Misses Montgomery (two), Miss Bottrill and Mrs. L. Bottrill, Miss S. Pettifer and Miss E. Pettifer, Mr. and Mrs. Reeve and Miss Riley, Mr. and Mrs. Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. T. Boys, Miss Kent, Mr. and Mrs. Izzard, Mr. E. Ellard, Mr. and Mrs. E. Parkinson, Mr. and Mrs. F. and Miss A. Billingham, Miss Warner, Miss J. Whiken, Miss Bradshaw, Miss D. Wykes, Miss Wills, Miss Turner, Mrs. and the Misses Billington (two), Mr. Knight, Mr. H. Law, Mr. F. F. Rodhouse, Mr. Snow, Mr. Starmer, Mr. M. Marriott, Mr. J. Stanton, Mr. Bates, Mr. E. Neal, Mr. W. Wright, Mr. J. Cotterill, Mr. J. Morris, Mr. J. Lawrence, Mr. T. Farmer, Mr. D. Farmer, Mr. Gilling, Mr. Allmett, and others. Bros. Willoughby and Whitford were M.C.s.

Obituary.

BRO. T. BATEMAN FOX.

It is with the most unfeigned regret that we have to record the death of Bro. Thomas Bateman Fox, J.P., of Dewsbury. It is only some few weeks since a large and representative gathering of West Yorkshire Freemasons assembled in the country church at East Hardwick to pay their last tribute of respect to their late Provincial Grand Master, Bro. T. W. Tew; now has fallen upon them this additional and terrible blow. We venture to say that no more highly esteemed or more devoted Mason could be found in the province than Bro. Bateman Fox. His strong personality, his strict integrity, his hardworking and persevering attention, his prompt and vigorous action, but, above all, his unswerving loyalty and attachment to his province, not only conspicuously distinguished him amongst his brethren, but made him a power in the executive, and a force to be reckoned with, if any subject arose which in his opinion might be in any sense prejudicial to the interests of the Order. Bro. Bateman Fox was initiated in the Three Grand Principles Lodge, No. 208, Dewsbury, in 1876. He was W.M. in 1882, and from the time that he passed the chair has taken a prominent and beneficent interest in the concerns of his lodge. In 1885 he was made Prov. G.S.B., and in 1890 Prov. S.G.W. of West Yorkshire. Having always exhibited the greatest sympathy for our Masonic Institutions, Bro. Fox, by example and precept, lost no opportunity of advocating their claims. Regular in attendance as Charity Steward, after serving for some time as Deputy, he was elected, in 1891, to perhaps the most highly esteemed post in the province—that of Chairman of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee. It is perhaps not too much to say that it was in this capacity that he became best known to his brethren. His excellent business abilities, together with that power of mind, which, without neglecting details, could yet seize upon and bring out principles, enabled him to conduct the affairs of the Committee with promptitude and despatch. Unable, through illness, to attend the last meeting of that Committee on the 30th March, it was with very great regret that the members received

an intimation that he intended to resign. The fact was, Bro. Fox had more work on his hands than it was possible for one man to accomplish, and how he contrived to give so much time to Masonic matters, amid his other multifarious occupations, has often been a puzzle to his friends. Energetic, industrious, and thorough, he mastered all difficulties. In the Royal Arch, which he joined in 1877, he became Z. in 1885, and J. in the Provincial Grand Chapter in 1888; he was a member of the Rose Croix Chapter in Leeds, serving as M.W.S. in 1891; a Knight Templar; and a Past Master of the Northern Counties Lodge, London. He rarely missed attending the meetings of his own lodge and chapter, and in his capacity of Chairman of the Charity Committee, was frequently present at Masonic gatherings all over the province. A native of Dewsbury, Bro. Fox, took the keenest interest in all its concerns. He entered municipal life in 1880, was for three years in succession unanimously elected Mayor, and was an Alderman and J.P. of the borough at the time of his death. Besides being a County Councillor, he was a member of the Dewsbury Chamber of Commerce; a founder and first President of the Technical School; an ardent promoter of the Free Library; Chairman of the Town Hall and Corporate Property Committee; and took a most active and important part in promoting the building of the Town Hall and the erection of Public Baths. He was at the same time carrying on an extensive business as a yarn spinner and wool merchant. The name of Bateman Fox, by which he was familiarly known, was a household word in Dewsbury, and will be long, worthily, and gratefully remembered by his fellow townsmen. His death, at the early age of 47, after an illness extending over several weeks, is deeply lamented, and the respect and esteem which he has gained was exhibited at his funeral on Monday last, in a manner most pronounced and unmistakable. There was a very large gathering of friends, representatives from all the public bodies with which he had been associated, the Mayors of Dewsbury, Batley, Osssett, and Huddersfield, and a considerable number of brethren to form the procession. The streets in the route to the cemetery were lined on both sides with sympathising spectators; shops and places of business were closed; the minute bell boomed forth from the tower, and the flag on the Town Hall floated at half-mast. It was, in fact, a public funeral. The burial service was conducted by Bro. the Rev. Canon Lowther Clarke, P.P.G. Chap., and Bro. the Rev. L. S. Calvert, master of the Batley Grammar School, both of them members of Bro. Fox's lodge. The flowers and wreaths, gifts from all quarters, were most numerous and beautiful, in fact, it must have been clear to the minds of all who witnessed the funeral ceremony that Dewsbury and the West Riding knew that they had parted with a staunch friend and a faithful servant, and would fain express in some measure their recognition of his excellent qualities, and their sense of their own irreparable loss. It was a touching tribute to departed merit, and its spontaneous and heartfelt character only added to its intensity and value.

BRO. WILLIAM MASTERS, W.M. 60.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Bro. William Masters, W.M. 60, Past Grand Steward. The sad event took place very suddenly at his office, 340, Gray's Inn-road, W.C., about 11 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 7th inst. Although our brother had not been in the best of health for some four months, he had of late appeared to be recovering, and his cheery manner and activity were remarkable to the last. He left his residence apparently in good health and spirits, and, having attended to some matters of business, was preparing for the work of the United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128, of which he was P.M. and Secretary. Hearing a noise as of heavy breathing, his clerk (who had only for a few minutes left him) returned to the private office to find our brother had been suddenly seized with apoplexy, and he died in his clerk's arms instantly. In Bro. Masters the Craft has lost one of its most devoted members. Initiated in the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 458, Northwich, about 25 years ago; after serving the office of W.M., he removed to London. A founder and P.M. of the United Northern Counties, Lodge, No. 2128, he became its Secretary, and the many splendid meetings of that lodge were due in great measure to his strong individuality, genial presence, and business aptitude. A joining member of Peace and Harmony, No. 60, after serving the minor offices, he has died whilst actually the W.M. Nominated as Grand Steward in 1893, our brother will be remembered as one of the best Secretaries of the Board of Grand Stewards ever known. But it is with regard to the splendid work Bro. Masters has done in connection with our Charitable Institutions, and particularly the Boys' School, that his memory will live green. He was a Life-Governor of the Girls' School with two Stewardships, a Vice-President of the Benevolent with seven Stewardships, and a Vice-President of the Boys' with five Stewardships. Bro. Masters was one of the early members of the Provisional Management Committee appointed in 1889 to re-constitute the Boys' School—elected one of the Board of Management in 1891, and again in 1892, and so recently as April last without opposition for a further period of three years. During the whole of that period Bro. Masters' record of attendance at the Board and various Committees of which he was a member, was invariably the premier. As Chairman of the Buildings Committee, his practical knowledge

served the Institution to good purpose, and the many improvements in sanitary, lighting, and other matters, were largely done under his supervision. The loss to the Boys' School is truly expressed by the sentiment on the wreath sent by the Board of Management—"A much loved and valued member." The funeral took place at St. Albans Cemetery, on Friday, the 10th inst., being preceded by a service in the Parish Room, conducted (by request) by Bro. the Rev. Philip Deedes, P.P.G. Chap. Herts, assisted by the Rev. D. Carteret, and Bro. the Rev. H. A. Hebb, Head Master of the Boys' School. Bro. Giffin, the Organist of St. Peter's, presided at the organ, and the choir of St. Peter's also assisted. The church of St. Peter's is undergoing repairs by Lord Grimthorpe, and was not available. The funeral cortege was preceded by the choir of the Boys' School, who, to the number of 18, attended to pay a last mark of respect to one who had ever been kind to them. The scene at the cemetery was most impressive, and our Boys gave a happy and beautiful rendering of "Rock of Ages" at the side of the grave. Amongst those who attended were Bros. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., Vice-Chairman of the Board of Management; Charles E. Keyser, P.G.D., Treasurer; Fairchild, A.G.D.C.; Burgess, Corble, Diamond, Pritchard, Scurrah, Pulman, Stephens, Thomas, and McLeod (Secretary) as representing the Boys' School; Bros. Kempster, P.M., P.G. Stwd., H. Slade, P.M., P.G. Stwd., A. H. Debenham, E. Rogers, P.M., Secretary, O. Polenz, and H. and F. Slade, of Lodge No. 60; Bro. McLeod (by desire) representing Lodge No. 458; Bros. Smithson, Giller, Davidson, S.W., Haydon, Chant, Davis, Munro, Bourne, Moysey, and Nundy, representing Lodge No. 2128; Bros. Dixon, P.M. 231; Watts, 108; E. P. Debenham, J.W., and others, representing the Rose and Lily Lodge of Mark Masons, No. 354 (of which Bro. Masters was a P.M. and Secretary); Dr. Bates, W.M., and others, representing the Halsey Lodge, No. 1479; and others. Wreaths were sent by the following: Mrs. Masters (wife), Mrs. T. Masters (mother), Mrs. Stelfox (sister-in-law), Mrs. B. Bolas (mother-in-law), Mr. S. B. Bolas (brother-in-law), Bro. Horace Slade, Alderman and Mrs. Slade, Sydney, Mabel, Gerty, and Leslie Slade (basket of flowers), Bro. and Mrs. Smithson, Mr. R. Porter Keates, Bro. McLeod, Mr. Davidson, Mrs. F. Parker Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. F. Blanks, Mr. and Mrs. James Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Wright (box of orchids), Mr. and Mrs. Tagness, Mrs. Godden and Mrs. Harvey, and Miss Bagshawe; Lodge of Sincerity, No. 458; Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60; United Northern Counties Lodge, No. 2128; Rose and Lily Mark Lodge, No. 354; Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans; the Board of Management Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; the Boys from the Masonic School; the Employees in London; and the Campbell Tile Co., Stoke-upon-Trent (box of lilies). Bro. Masters leaves a widow to mourn, but no family

BRO. JAMES FISHER.

The funeral of Bro. James Fisher, whose death from influenza, at a comparatively early age, a few days ago, has excited deep regret amongst a wide circle of friends, took place at the Western Cemetery, Spring Bank, Hull, on Thursday, the 2nd inst. The deceased was the Director of Ceremonies of the Minerva Lodge, No. 250, a prominent member of the Hull Musical Union, and one of the vice-presidents of the Botanic Ward Ratepayers' Association. The Rev. Elmet Brown, M.A., vicar of St. Jude's read the burial service, and when the last sad offices had been performed, the Masonic brethren filed past the open grave, took a last look at the coffin containing the mortal remains of their deceased brother, and deposited sprigs of acacia thereon. There were several brethren from lodges at a distance. The Hull Musical Union was well represented.

Two lovely wreaths were placed on the coffin, one from the Minerva Lodge embodying a floral compass and square of forget-me-nots and other flowers, a unique and highly artistic arrangement. Attached with a satin ribbon were the words: "With deepest sympathy from the Minerva Lodge, No. 250." The second wreath came from the Hull Musical Union, of which the deceased gentleman was a highly respected member. It was fashioned in the shape of a harp. The strings were made of laburnum blossom, one being broken in the centre symbolising a useful life cut short.

BRO. T. GLASS, P.M.

We regret to announce the decease of Bro. Thomas Glass, which took place early on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at Hastings, whither he had gone for the benefit of the sea air. Bro. Glass, who was 55 years of age, was I.P.M. of the Dalhousie Lodge, No. 860, P.P.G. Std. Br. Jersey, J. elect of the Dalhousie Chapter, and a member of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1003. He was very popular in the north of London where he was highly respected, and his loss will be felt by a large circle of brethren. He was a generous supporter of the Charities, having served as Steward for all of them, and an active member of the various committees, being Vice-President of the Three Institutions. The funeral took place on Saturday last, at Highgate, and was attended by his relatives and friends, as well as by numerous members of the Dalhousie, Highbury, Kingsland, and other lodges, to pay their last mark of respect to his memory.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT has consented to occupy the chair at a Festival dinner which will be held at the Hotel Métropole on Saturday, the 6th July, in aid of the funds of the Westminster Hospital.



BRO. JAMES STEVENS resumes his lectures on behalf of the Australian Irrigation Colonies at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday next.

THE WILL of the late Bro. Baron Alcester, G.C.B., D.C.L., who commanded the British Mediterranean Fleet at the bombardment of Alexandria in 1882, has been sworn at the gross annual value of £92,019.

AMONG THE pictures belonging to the late Mrs. Lyne Stephens, which were sold by auction on Saturday last, at Christie's, An Infanta by Velasquez fetched 4300 guineas, and a picture by Antoine Watteau 3500 guineas.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has signified his intention of being present at the annual dinner of the 10th (Royal) Hussars, which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on Thursday, the 30th inst.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex will be held at Teddington, on Saturday, the 26th of June, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master, Right Hon. Lord George Francis Hamilton, M.P.

HER MAJESTY the Queen was represented at the funeral of the late Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe by Bro. the Marquis of Breadalbane. The late Duchess's remains were interred in the family vault at Bowden, St. Boswell's, on Saturday last.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY was present at the marriage of Mr. Fred. H. Jackson with Clara, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. Sir M. E. Grant-Duff, which was solemnised at St. Mary's Church, Twickenham, on Saturday last. Sir M. E. Grant-Duff gave his daughter away.

OWING TO THE death of the Countess of Kimberley, the Earl of Kimberley, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will not entertain the Corps Diplomatique on Saturday next, the 25th instant, when the Queen's birthday will be publicly celebrated, nor will there be the usual reception at the Foreign Office in honour of the occasion.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.—The quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held in Edinburgh on Friday, the 3rd inst., Bro. John Graham of Broadstone, Provincial Grand Master of Glasgow, presiding. Lieut.-Col. Johnston of Lesmurdie was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Elgin and Morayshire, in room of Major Johnston, resigned.

A "CLOSING DINNER" of St. Osyth Priory Lodge of Instruction, No. 2063, took place on Wednesday evening, the 8th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Clacton-on-Sea. Bro. J. Starling, Preceptor, presided, and was supported by Bros. Chamberlyn, W.M., and T. J. Sparling, and a number of other brethren. An excellent dinner was put upon the tables by host Bolton, and a pleasant evening was spent.

ON TUESDAY, the 7th inst., at a meeting of the Court of Aldermen, the Lord Mayor, in accordance with custom, nominated Bros. John Robert Cooper, citizen and farrier, and Robert Hargreaves Rogers, citizen and loriner, as candidates for the office of Sheriff of the City of London in the next year. Mr. Alderman Pound, who is also a candidate, does not require nomination, being an alderman.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Eastern Division of the County of Lancashire will be held in the People's Hall, Wilton-street, Denton, on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., at 2.30 p.m., on the occasion of the celebration of the centenary of the Duke of Athol Lodge, No. 210. Bro. Col. le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.W., P.G. Master, will preside. It is expected that a very large assembly of influential brethren will be present.

LISKEARD will be *en fête* on Tuesday, the 21st inst., on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the new Cottage Hospital by the donor of the building (Bro. Passmore Edwards), and the laying of a second stone by Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Dep. G.M., Provincial Grand Master of Cornwall, with full Masonic honours. Two days later—on Thursday, the 23rd inst.—Bro. Passmore Edwards will open the new public library at Redruth.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK, who at the time was the guest of the Viscount and Viscountess Cantelupe, of Manor Farm, Bexhill, distributed, on Saturday last, the medallions and certificates won by the students of the local branch of the St. John's Ambulance Association. Subsequently her Royal Highness, in company with her hosts and the Hon. Archibald Hood, Bro. Lord and Lady Brassey, Bro. Lord and Lady William Nevill, and others drove into Hastings for the purpose of attending a concert in aid of the Bexhill St. Barnabas Schools.

THE PRINCESS CHRISTIAN was unfortunately prevented at the last moment by indisposition from presenting the medals and certificates of the National Health Society at Grosvenor House, but her place was taken by the Duchess of Westminster. On the same day the Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne, was prevented by a like cause from presiding at a meeting of the London Branch of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, and her place was taken by Lady Audrey Buller, among those who attended being the Countess of Morley, Lady McClintock, the Hon. Lady Northcote, the Hon. Mrs. Monck, and Mrs. Stanley Clarke.

THE FARRIERS' COMPANY.—Bro. J. R. Cooper, who on Tuesday, the 7th inst., was nominated for the second time as Sheriff, has again been selected by the court of the Farriers' Company as their master, he having 14 years ago filled that office. During the first year of his mastership he presented the company with a beautiful gold chain of office, which has since been worn by the masters. This chain, by the by, is a very curious piece of antique workmanship, traced to have been formerly the old chain of the Mayors of Sandwich. Bro. Cooper's liberality did not end with this chain, as on retiring from office he further presented the company with a very handsome parcel gilt silver rose-water dish, bearing designs of some of the leading historical events associated with the guild.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG visited St. Martin's Town Hall, on Tuesday, and opened a bazaar in aid of the Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital. After declaring it open, her Royal Highness made a tour of inspection of the stalls.

THE REGULAR meeting of the Doric Lodge, No. 2359, was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at Didsbury, Bro. A. K. Boothroyd, W.M., presiding. The brethren assembled unanimously elected Bro. J. M. Veal, S.W., as W.M., and Bro. A. H. Jeffries, P.P.G.W., as Treas.

A GRAND vocal and instrumental concert will take place at the Memorial Buildings, Roscoe-street, Bunhill-row, E.C., to-morrow (Saturday), by the Bohemian Ladies and their friends, to commence at 8 p.m. Several well-known artistes are announced to appear.

THE BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS, who was accompanied by Bro. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., returned to London on Wednesday after an absence of five months on the Continent for the benefit of her health, and was cordially greeted by many personal friends and the representatives of the various philanthropic institutions with which she has identified herself. An address of congratulation on her restoration was also presented to her ladyship.

THE DUKE OF YORK was the principal guest of the Treasurer and Benchers of the Inner Temple on Wednesday evening, when "Grand Day" was celebrated with the customary festivity, among the other guests being the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Harris, Bro. Lord Halsbury, Bro. Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., the Earl of Northbrook, Bro. Lord Justice Lopez, and the Speaker of the House of Commons.

THE RECENT fine dry weather has been very favourable to tall scoring. Thus in the match Surrey v. Essex Abel compiled 217 and Holland 123 for Surrey, while Carpenter, in the first innings of Essex, made 145. In Warwickshire v. Derbyshire Lilley scored 139 in the first innings and H. W. Bainbridge 104 (not out) in the second innings of the former. For Cambridge University Mr. F. Mitchell made 191 against Somersetshire, and Mr. S. M. J. Woods 180 for the latter.

THE REMAINS of the late Bro. Henry Vincent Shaw, of Workop, who died at Buxton, on Tuesday, the 6th inst., were interred in the Workop Cemetery on Friday, the 10th inst. The funeral was one of the largest known in Workop for many years, and as the cortege passed through the streets business was entirely suspended. The remains were followed to the grave by the whole of the members of the lodge, of which deceased was member, and nearly the whole of the tradesmen in the town, together with a large number of friends and workmen connected with the firm of which the deceased was the head.

THE 38TH ANNUAL DINNER of the members of the Savage Club was held in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday evening last, under the presidency of Bro. Henry Irving, who closed the Lyceum Theatre for the evening in order that he might take the chair. Among the principal guests were Lord Kelvin, President of the Royal Society; Sir William Robinson, Governor of Western Australia; the Hon. J. G. Ward, Postmaster-General of New Zealand; Sir J. D. Linton, President of the Royal Institute of Painters; Bros. Lennox Browne, the Very Rev. Archdeacon Sinclair, and Alderman Treloar, Bros. Horton Smith, Q.C., Dan Godfrey, Col. Edis, and others.

THE MEMBERS of the City Lands Committee visited Olympia on Tuesday evening, and dined together under the presidency of the Chief Commoner. Among those present were the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir Joseph Renals), Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Alderman Sir Stuart Knill, Bro. Sir James Whitehead, Bart., and Sir John B. Monckton, Alderman and Sheriff Samuel and Mrs. Samuel, Sir Forest Fulton, Bro. Colonel Sewell and Mr. James Gannon. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Graham King, the late Chairman of the Committee, was presented with a handsome silver-gilt bowl in recognition of his very successful year of office.

BRO. SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY, Bart., M.P., and the Hon. Lady White Ridley gave a dinner party at their residence in Carlton House-terrace on Saturday evening last, at which there were present, among other guests, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and the Countess Deym, the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, Bro. Lord and Lady Barnard, Bro. Lord and Lady Ashbourne, the Earl of Carlisle, Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, and others. At the reception which Lady White Ridley held after dinner there were present the Netherlands Minister and Baroness Goldstein, the Swedish and Norwegian Minister, the Duchess of Cleveland, Bro. the Marquis of Zetland, the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, Bro. Lord Roberts, and others.

THE OPENING of the Empire of India Exhibition at Earl's Court has been definitely fixed for Monday, the 27th inst. H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge has graciously consented to perform the opening ceremony. His Royal Highness will be received at the Warwick-road entrance by the Chairman and Directors of the London Exhibitions Limited and the members of the Hon. Committee. Amongst the latter are the Earl of Cranbrook, the Earl of Warwick and Brooke, the Earl of Dundonald, Lord Roberts of Candahar, Lord Burton, Sir Frederick Seager Hunt, M.P., Sir John Blundell Maple, M.P., Sir West Ridgway, Gen. Sir Peter Lumsden, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Andrew Clarke, and Sir Samuel J. Browne. Holders of season tickets, members of the Welcome Club, and holders of special tickets for the occasion, will be admitted to view the opening ceremony.

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

Too much stress cannot be laid on the fact that in the whirl of unattractive excitement, and in the struggle for existence in this generation, no attention whatever is paid to the most ordinary rules of health. When the muscles become relaxed, the nerves over-sensitive and delicately strung, and the brain weary at the slightest task, these symptoms are part of Nature's warning that the delicate organism of the human frame is out of gear. In most cases a gentle stimulant and mild restorative is all that is required to impart fresh vitality to the jaded nerves, and it is a well-known fact that a few doses of Holloway's Pills work wonders and restore the lost tone of the nervous system.

IT HAS BEEN resolved to present Viscount Peel of Sandy, the late Speaker, with a gold casket containing the freedom of the City of London. The casket has been designed, and will be manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, Manufacturing Goldsmiths, London.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT personally superintended the practice of the bands of the 14 infantry battalions stationed at Aldershot on the Queen's Parade ground on Tuesday, the Duchess of Connaught, with the Princesses Margaret and Victoria Patricia, being also present.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to direct that Letters Patent shall be issued under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain, granting the dignity of a Viscount to the Right Honourable A. W. Peel, late Speaker of the House of Commons, by the style and title of Viscount Peel, of Sandy, in the County of Bedford.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE the Marchioness of Lorne, accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, visited Southend on Tuesday, and laid the foundation stone of a Home for Crippled Children established by the Ragged School Union. After laying the stone, her Royal Highness and her husband proceeded to the pier and opened a fancy fair in aid of the Home.

A CONCERT will be given on Tuesday next at Spencer House, St. James's-place, in aid of the Funds of the Hoxton Working Men's Club and Soup Kitchen, and among those who have volunteered their assistance are Miss Ellen Terry, Madame Antoinette Sterling, and Mr. Barrington Foote. The Duchess of Albany has promised to be present.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, accompanied by her daughter, the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, presided on Tuesday at the first of the four days' annual sale at the Royal School of Art Needlework, and herself disposed of some of the principal novelties. The Duchess of Albany, attended by Bro. Sir Robert Collins and Miss Maxwell, was present and made several purchases.

THE EARL OF ROSEBURY and the First Lord of the Admiralty left London for Portsmouth on Monday evening, and at once went on board the Admiralty yacht *Enchantress*. The First Lord is officially visiting some of the Southern ports, and has invited the Prime Minister to accompany him. Their lordships are expected to return to London to-morrow (Saturday) or Sunday.

THE MARQUIS CAMDEN, accompanied by his sister Lady Clementina Walsh, attended at the Athenaeum, Camden-road, on Monday, for the purpose of opening a three days' bazaar in aid of the funds of the North West London Hospital, Kentish Town-road. On Tuesday the bazaar was opened by Bro. the Hon. D. R. Plunkett, and on Wednesday by Lady Ribblesdale.

THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL in behalf of the Surgical Appliance Society was held at the Hôtel Métropole on Monday evening, under the presidency of Mr. P. Grace, who was supported by Bro. the Earl of Donoughmore, Mr. Allan Gibbs, M.P., and others. The amount received in donations and subscriptions was announced as £1100, including 100 guineas from the chairman.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales, with their daughter, the Princess Maud, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, and their daughters, the Princesses Alexandra and Beatrice, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, visited the Horse Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Monday, and witnessed a parade of the horses. The Royal party were enthusiastically cheered both on their arrival and departure.

THE DUKE and DUCHESS of YORK visited several Sheffield manufactories on Monday, and at each of them her Royal Highness was presented with a handsome specimen of local workmanship as a memento of the occasion. In the evening the Duke and Duchess attended a ball given by the Cutlers' Company in their honour, and unveiled the portrait of the Queen, presented by Sir Henry Watson. The Royal visitors returned to York House, St. James's, on Tuesday.

AMONG THE house party which Bro. the Earl and the Countess of Warwick have invited to meet their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of their visit to Warwick Castle during the present week are Bro. and Lady Roberts, Bro. Sir Evelyn Wood, Bro. Lord Leigh (Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire), the Marchioness of Hertford and Lady Victoria Seymour, Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, Bro. Lord and Lady Henry Bentinck, and the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.

LORD WELBY, who has just accepted the Chairmanship of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the administration of the Civil and Military expenditure of India, was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and after serving successively as Assistant Financial Secretary of the Treasury, Auditor of the Civil List, and Permanent Secretary of the Treasury, was created a peer last year on his retirement from the Civil Service. Among the members of the Commission are Mr. Leonard Courtney, Bro. W. L. Jackson, the Hon. G. H. Curzon, Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, Bart., Sir W. Wedderburn, Sir E. W. Hamilton, Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, Sir James Peel, Sir Andrew Scoble, Bro. D. Naoroji, Mr. W. S. Caine, Mr. R. H. Knox, and Mr. G. L. Ryder.

BY COMMAND of the Queen, a Drawing Room was held at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday afternoon by the Princess of Wales, presentations to her Royal Highness being considered as equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. Among the Royalties present were the Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughter, the Princess Maud, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha and their daughter, the Princess Alexandra, the Duchess of Albany, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Princess Victoria and Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein. The Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms was on duty in the State Saloons, under the command of Captain the Earl of Chesterfield, and the Yeomen of the Guard in the interior of the Palace, under the captain, Bro. Lord Kensington. Among the Great Officers of the State and others were the Dowager Duchess of Athole (acting Mistress of the Robes), Bro. the Marquis of Breadalbane (Lord Steward), Bro. Lord Carrington (Lord Chamberlain), Bro. the Earl of Cork and Orery (Master of the Horse), Lord Colville of Culross, and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys; Bro. George O. Trevelyan, Bart., M.P., the Duke of Northolt (Earl Marshal), Earl Howe, and Bro. Lord Blythswood. A number of presentations were made.