

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.

VCL. XXXIV. NO. 1374.]

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1895.

[PRICE 3d.]

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The 97th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held on Wednesday evening at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, under the presidency of Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, who was accompanied by his wife, the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos. Among a company of some 600 ladies and brethren there were present:

Bros. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; W. E. Brymer, M.P.; Gerald Loder, M.P.; A. de Tatton Egerton, M.P.; Edward Terry, P.G. Treas.; George Everett, P.G. Treas.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; James Lewis Thomas, A.D.C.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; V. P. Freeman, Prov. Grand Sec. Sussex; James Stephens and Mrs. Stephens, Bros. J. W. Burgess, Robert Pierpoint, Major J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D.; Geo. E. Fairchild, A.G.D.C.; James Willing, jun., F. Mead, C. Martin, Wm. Maple, H. L. Wynne, R. C. Clowes, J. M. Klenck, H. E. Diamond, H. H. Nuding, Hy. Rose, F. West, P.G.D.; C. F. Hogard, George Scott Miller, T. Blanco White, W. M. Stiles (Grand Treasurer), and Capt. Knightley.

Dinner was served at half-past five, and was provided by Bro. John Sayers, of Brighton, Vice-President of the Institution. The usual toasts were afterwards proposed.

Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON, in proposing the toast of "The Queen," said that as Masons they drank the toast of her Majesty the Queen, not only as a model constitutional Sovereign of the great Empire over which she presided, but also as a mother and a grandmother of Masons. He asked the company to drink her Majesty's health also as Grand Patroness of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON again rose, and said the next toast on the list was that of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master, President of the Institution; the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family." It was unnecessary for him to tell the brethren who were present the interest the Prince of Wales took in Masonry; it was only lately he was present at the consecration of a new lodge. The company were now present in the Province of Sussex, of which his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught was Provincial Grand Master. All brethren recognised that members of the Royal Family from time immemorial had given their countenance and support to Freemasonry.

The toast having been honoured,

Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON said he was following the example of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in giving the toasts as shortly as possible. He did not think it necessary for him in an assemblage of Freemasons to dilate on the merits of the rulers of the Craft whose health he had now to propose. The toast was "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., M.W. Pro Grand Master; the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Patrons of the Institution; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." Both the Earl of Lathom and the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe were old and valued and respected members of the Craft, and the brethren had on previous occasions had Lord Lathom as President of the Boys' Charity, as he (Lord Egerton of Tatton) was that day, and when Lord Lathom did preside he received a very large response in the shape of a sum of £29,000 being subscribed. He called on Bro. Richard Eve, P.G.T., to respond.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G. Treas., in replying, said he could assure the brethren that the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of England endeavoured to do their utmost to uphold the prestige of the great Institution of Masonry, and above all things they showed their deepest interest not only in their Boys' School, but in the other Institutions of the Order. He felt it a great honour to be called upon to respond for the Grand Officers, and, following the Chairman's lead, he felt it was unnecessary for him to take up the company's time in responding to the toast. On behalf of the Grand Officers, he thanked Lord Egerton of Tatton for his kind reference to those brethren, and he also thanked the brethren and ladies for their cordial response to the toast.

Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON next said he had now to propose the toast of the evening—"Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." He felt very proud in having been asked to take the chair on this occasion—a chair which had been filled by so many distinguished Masons in past times, and which had resulted in such magnificent results for the Boys' School. He only trusted that the good example that had been set on previous occasions would be followed to-day. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to see so large a number of brethren of his own province present, and he felt that the generous contributions they had in past years raised for this School had perhaps induced those who were responsible for the present Festival to ask him to preside at the 97th Anniversary of the School. It was on account of their names that he willingly accepted the office of Chairman. It remained for him now to plead the cause of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and to wish it every success. There were a very large number of Masons present, and he thought it might not be out of place to say that Masonry was now more than ever it had been—a living Institution—by reason of its splendid Charities. It was an Institution entirely in harmony with this democratic age, because it included all ranks, from the Heir to the Throne down to the toiler and labourer, and, therefore, was a bond of union which cemented all classes together. It had also proved itself to be loyal to the Crown and to the institutions of the country, and to the Heir to the Throne. He believed it to be one of his first duties—if not the first duty—of Masons to provide for those of their body who, by sickness or by old age, were unable to support themselves. (Hear, hear.) They had these Masonic Institutions for that purpose, and he was glad that not only his own province, but other provinces as well had local Masonic Charities—Institutions for the same object. It was the first duty of every Mason to see that those who had been loyal and good Masons in their prosperous times should not suffer when times of adversity came upon them. (Applause.) Their next great duty was to see to the children of Masons. (Hear, hear.) He would say a few words later about the origin of this Institution, but he would only say now that the rising generation of Masons and Masons' sons would be the Masters of the future, and as they were educated so would their future be too. (Hear, hear.) He was sure it was the aim of those who supported this School that the rising generation—the sons of Masons—should tread in their fathers' footsteps in order that they might be ornaments to the Craft. (Hear, hear.) The brethren's object to-day was to place the Masonic Boy's School on a more sound and satisfactory footing. (Applause.) He was not going to enter into the ancient history of the School, but he might inform the company that it was founded ninety-seven years ago when the ideas of education were very limited as compared with the ideas as to education now. However, from the year 1856, which was the time when the grounds on which the School now stood were bought, a new start was made. Up to that time the education was of a very small character—of the smallest—and only a very few boys were educated by the Institution. But, as he had said, a start was made in 1856, and in 1865 more buildings were erected. In 1884 a new hall was built, and it was under the presidency of his brother-in-law, Lord Amherst, that the large sum was raised which enabled this large building to be erected. (Hear, hear.) He now came to more modern times, viz., the year of 1890. In that year a new administration was given to the School, and it must be satisfactory to Masons to find that in that administration the Committee of Management comprised most valued and practical Masons from various parts of the kingdom. This administration had carried on the School since that time. (Applause.) The School now had assumed very considerable proportions, and he was told only yesterday that there were 282 students at present on the roll. Yet the annual income from investments and otherwise was still very small, and very, very disproportionate to the cost of maintenance, which was between £12,000 and £13,000 a year.

It was, therefore, quite clear that not only at the present time was it necessary to support the School and to make up the deficiency he had mentioned, but it was also necessary to form a permanent investment fund in order that the School might not be subject to fluctuations from time to time, or in bad years, or in any way have its position crippled for want of funds. He only hoped, however, that this year they might raise a sum not only sufficient for the requirements of the year, but also a sufficient sum to put by to increase the Endowment Fund, and make a larger permanent income, which might be useful for the School. The School was splendidly supported by every province in the kingdom. As far as his own province was concerned, he might say it had six boys in the School, and Cheshire was perfectly satisfied with the administration of the School. (Hear, hear.) He did not wish merely to speak of the School in the abstract; he should like to speak of it as one who had visited the School on Tuesday last, and he felt quite certain that anyone who had visited the School must see that it was an Institution which was well managed, that the boys had a good tone about them, that they looked thoroughly healthy and happy, and quite alive to the advantages they received at the School in many ways. (Cheers.) Now every child in this country had the benefit of free education, but the brethren wanted Masons' children to have a superior education—a good education—next to the university, and they would like to see the best of those boys kept at the School long enough to compete for scholarships at the universities. (Applause.) Understand, that the examinations by the Cambridge Local Examination bodies had been very satisfactory to all those who visited the School on Tuesday, who saw under what good discipline the boys were, and how many of them carried off prizes, which he had no doubt were well deserved. One prize, which was a novel one to him, was for the boy who was most popular among his fellows. Now, the most popular boy might not be the most lively boy; but it showed that the boys were sensible of the advantages offered to them, and that they had the highest respect and esteem for those who made the most of their advantages. (Applause.) He should add that there were very admirable dormitories equal to the high sanitary requirements of such an establishment; he had seen many similar, but none better. He was also glad to see that the range of instruction covered a wide field, and went down to carpentering, printing, and various other things. His wife, the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, and himself were struck with the way the boys were instructed, and he was quite certain they knew their parts so well that they must eventually succeed in life whatever the position they might be called upon to fill. In conclusion he could only trust that the Institution would go on and prosper and be enabled to educate and keep as large a number of sons of Masons as might be found desirable. (Hear, hear.) There was only one drawback to the Institution; it seemed not to have sufficient grounds about it. It seemed unfortunate that 40 or 50 years ago a larger site was not secured. Still they must not forget the boys at Westminster had not got so much ground, and he had no doubt they would be able to get a sufficient distance so as to carry out the games properly that boys delighted in. He had the greatest possible pleasure in wishing success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, coupling with the toast the name of Bro. C. E. Keyser, Patron and Trustee of the Institution, and President of the Board of Stewards.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., in acknowledging the toast, said he esteemed it no small honour to be called upon to respond to that toast, as the Boys' School was the Institution they were all met to honour that night. He was sure the company would allow him to make a few remarks in response to the very kind statement which had been made by the Chairman, because Bro. McLeod would not be ready to announce the lists for some little time. The R.W. Chairman had given some statistics of the Institution, and, therefore, it was not necessary for him (Bro. Keyser) to explain these again: but he might emphasise one or two statements the Chairman had made, and show the great necessity there was to keep up a constant and unremitting support to this great Institution. (Hear, hear.) They had now about 250 boys in the School, who were receiving their education at the hands of the brethren. He believed that the amount required in order properly to maintain and educate them was now approaching £14,000 a year. That was a very large sum, and, as had been proved, the invested funds of the Institution were not sufficient to provide the education. A very small part of that £14,000 came out of the investments; the rest had to be provided annually. It was, therefore, necessary to look to their friends and brethren, and also, he was proud to say, to the ladies. (Cheers.) Personally, he was glad to feel that the ladies were proud to take an interest in these Charities, and their number was increasing every year. There were a good many ladies

serving as Stewards that day, and it was getting now a regular thing at all the Masonic Festivals. The lady Stewards brought a large amount to the Institutions, and they greatly popularised them. (Hear, hear.) His lordship had mentioned that in the year 1890 there was a considerable change made in the management of the Institution. He was not going to say that before that date the Institution was not well managed; he believed it was, and those who managed it did their best; but somehow or other things went out of gear, and it was thought wise to have a change in the administration. Since then the Institution had been regarded with the highest favour by the members of the Craft. A series of splendid festivals had been held, which he hoped would be repeated. He was not in a position to prophesy what would be the result that day, but he hoped it would be gratifying to all those who had attended. Anyhow, the present Board of Management had done the best they could with regard to the minutest details of the Institution. They met on many occasions; the Committees met once a week and they went most minutely into any detail, and if any people were to blame the blame could not rest on the shoulders of the Secretary or the Head Master; but anything which was wrong must be shared equally by the members of the Board of Management. That Board at the present time were most fortunate in their two principal officials; they had a treasure in their Head Master, and a splendid fellow as Secretary, unremitting in his exertions on behalf of the Institution. Without any reflection on the members of the Board, he might say it was in a great measure due to the Secretary's able management that the Institution had had since 1890 such a splendid series of Festivals in aid of the Institution. Twelve months ago, at a very largely-attended meeting, his services were duly recognised, as he (Bro. Keyser) thought most strongly they ought to have been, and he was placed, as regarded his remuneration, on the same basis as the Secretaries of the two other Institutions. That was as it should be. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the School itself, his lordship had said what pleasure it gave him and the Duchess of Buckingham to go to the Institution; they were pleased with the way the establishment was kept up—with the building, with the *régime*, with the appearance of the boys, with the tone which was ordinarily observed. The Head Master told them the result of the management—he went into the question of the education of the boys, which was most important, showing there was a certain curriculum to be gone through. He also went into small details as to the provision made for the amusement of the boys, their athletic instruction, among which was cricket wherein one boy made 50 runs. Where boys under 15 could do that he was sure the School need not be discouraged. (Hear, hear.) The Board of Management supported the Head Master in his endeavours to increase the health of the School. He hoped that those who had not been to the School would take an early opportunity of going there. The brethren were proud of it, and should be proud of it. On behalf of the managers, he thanked the brethren and ladies for attending in such large numbers; and he thanked Lord Egerton of Tatton for taking the chair and bringing his province to support him so strongly. (Hear, hear.) Even in this time of agricultural depression the provinces were going to give a splendid account of themselves that evening. If the amount fell below the expectations of any one present, it would not now be too late to contribute a little more. (Laughter.)

Bro. McLEOD then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS

LONDON.				Lodge			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1 Bro. Thomas Dinwiddy ...	15	15	0	534 Bro. Henry Birkbeck ...	18	17	0
2 " Wm. H. C. Payne ...	37	16	0	657 " William Maple ...	19	19	0
3 " John Cooper ...	35	14	0	700 " Henry Tufnell ...	141	15	0
4 " W. Kesbury Few ...	21	0	0	754 " Benjamin Stocker ...	122	17	0
5 " Aubrne S. Read ...	40	19	0	766 " Robert C. Wilson ...	64	1	0
6 " Alex. Henderson ...	21	0	0	862 " G. H. Wavell ...	60	7	6
8 " John H. Jenks ...	13	13	0	901 " Frederick Eade ...	120	15	0
10 " Henry L. Floornee ...	26	15	6	1017 " Henry A. Tobias ...	32	10	0
15 " Charles James ...	44	12	6	1139 " William Hamsher ...	89	5	0
18 " George Burt ...	20	9	6	1155 " James S. Mountford ...	33	12	0
21 " C. Swinfen Eady, Q.C. ...	31	10	0	1201 " J. H. Haworth ...	54	1	6
23 " Charles Martin ...	30	17	0	1259 " John Lusty ...	90	5	6
26 " W. E. Clifton ...	10	10	0	1201 " Henry W. Pritchett ...	37	5	6
28 " Frederick Clark ...	36	15	0	1261 " A. F. Roberts ...	21	0	0
29 " John H. Stark ...	34	13	0	1278 " A. Weston ...	28	17	0
30 " W. S. Wright ...	15	15	0	1287 " George Ridout ...	178	10	0
30 " A. E. Remington ...	90	0	0	1305 " R. Wright ...	...	...	...
34 " E. A. Ebblewhite (see also Somersetshire) ...	46	4	0	1319 " W. S. Penley ...	162	15	0
60 " Otto Polentz ...	120	0	0	1328 " R. Philip Upton ...	63	0	6
65 " Wm. C. Thomas ...	110	5	0	1365 " R. Eaton Fairclough ...	54	1	6
72 " George Horton ...	42	5	0	1366 " R. Pain Walkden ...	63	10	6
90 " J. H. Usmar ...	52	10	0	1381 " Dr. Geo. B. Millson ...	58	5	0
92 " E. D. Oppert ...	34	8	0	1383 " Edward Devas ...	98	12	0
141 " A. C. White ...	45	3	0	1421 " Frank Evans ...	89	5	0
173 Mrs. Geo. E. Fairchild ...	320	0	0	1446 " Geo. Wm. Perry ...	45	0	0
176 Bro. William Kirkness ...	24	3	0	1475 " Chas. J. Hayes ...	39	15	0
180 " Frederick Jas. Street ...	40	5	0	1538 " G. J. Reading ...	16	10	0
197 " Hy. Lipton Wynne ...	22	1	0	1540 " Victor Cahn ...	53	11	0
198 " James F. Cartwright ...	50	0	0	1571 " Arthur Watts ...	60	0	0
259 " E. de Q. Quincey ...	21	0	0	1607 " W. Berkeley Vaile ...	73	10	6
				1632 " W. Robt. Barr ...	26	7	0
				1635 " J. M. Pritchard ...	36	15	0

Table listing members of the COMMITTEE DINNER CLUB and UNATTACHED members, including names like George T. Peall, James Willing, and Arthur Adams, with columns for £ s. d.

Table listing members of BERKSHIRE, BRISTOL, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, CHESHIRE, and GLOUCESTERSHIRE, including names like W. J. Maurice, Rev. W. L. Harnett, and John Clayton, with columns for £ s. d.

Table listing members of MARK LODGE, CORNWALL, DERBYSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, DURHAM, ESSEX, GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY, HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT, HERTFORDSHIRE, and JERSEY, including names like Bro. R. Newhouse, Miss F. M. Bratt, and Bro. George A. Mursell, with columns for £ s. d.

Table listing members of LODGE, LANCASTHIRE (EAST DIVISION), LANCASTHIRE (WEST DIVISION), LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE, MIDDLESEX, MONMOUTHSHIRE, NORTHANTS AND HUNTS, NORTHUMBRLAND, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, NORTH WALES, and OXFORDSHIRE, including names like Bro. H. W. Dodd, John W. Elvin, and Bro. Philip W. Margetts, with columns for £ s. d.

Lodge	SOMERSETSHIRE.	£	s.	d.
446	Bro. E. A. Ebbelwhite (see also Lodge No. 34, London) ...	11	11	0
1755	W. W. Rice ...	37	16	0
SOUTH WALES (EAST DIVISION).				
The Province and Lodge				
671	Bro. J. Llewellyn Thomas	220	0	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
482	Bro. G. Shread ...	6	6	0
546	W. R. Blair ...	31	10	0
637	Thos. Reeves Yoxall ...	22	16	6
726	James T. Marson ...	10	10	0
726	W. Hall ...	11	10	0
Chapter				
624	Comp. J. Fisher ...	31	10	0
	Mrs. G. Shread ...	5	5	0
	Provincial money ...	178	10	0
SUFFOLK.				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
81	Bro. Rev. N. A. Bosanquet	28	7	0
	Bro. Capt. J. H. Leslie (see also Punjab)	21	0	0
SURREY.				
889	Thomas Long ...	58	17	6
1362	Arthur Wood ...	44	2	0
1638	J. Hammond Sumner ...	23	2	0
1851	F. Jacob ...	39	19	6
1920	T. H. Griffiths ...	100	0	0
1981	Samuel Ellis ...	52	10	0
2095	A. F. White ...	60	0	0
2473	J. R. Cleave ...	57	4	0
2502	T. H. Roberts ...	60	0	0
2521	A. H. Gale ...	31	10	0
Unattached				
	Bro. Fred. West ...	21	0	0
	R. S. Cobden ...	10	10	0
	W. J. Mason ...	15	15	0
	C. Offord Burgess ...	10	10	0
	G. Wardell ...	10	10	0
	Mrs. T. H. Roberts ...	5	5	0
	Mrs. T. H. Griffiths ...			
LEWIS.				
	*Master H. T. Griffiths ...			
SUSSEX.				
Province		£	s.	d.
	Bro. J. M. Reed ...	110	5	0
Lodge				
38	Bro. E. Booth Wannop ...	21	10	0
732	J. Billing ...	10	10	0
1110	George Fowler ...	12	1	0
1110	Joseph Welch ...	10	10	0
1466	Frederic Carr ...	38	17	0
1636	John Sayers ...	10	10	0
2187	J. C. Buckwell ...	36	15	0
2201	Gerald W. E. Loder, M.P. ...	107	2	0
2434	Rev. W. Wakeford ...	10	10	0
2434	Howard ...	21	0	0
2483	H. J. Capon ...	23	12	6
Unattached				
	Bro. V. P. Freeman ...	10	10	0
	C. W. Hudson ...	10	10	0
	Richard Clowes ...	10	10	0
	W. Dawes ...	32	11	0
	W. J. Geller ...	10	10	0
	Chapman Marshall ...	10	10	0
	Mrs. John Sayers ...	5	5	0
WARWICKSHIRE.				
Jubilee Life Presentation		525	0	0
Lodge				
74	Bro. W. P. Hoskins ...			
74	Charles Lee ...			
74	Thomas Surman ...			
74	Josiah Collins ...			
74	Walter Ginder ...			
74	E. C. Newey ...			
74	Fred J. Collins ...			
74	Henry Pinnell ...			
74	Joshua Scowen ...			
74	G. Huggins ...			
473	John Harris ...			
587	W. A. Bindley ...	5	5	0

SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.

Bedfordshire ...	105	0	0
Berkshire ...	370	0	0
Bristol ...	210	0	0
Buckinghamshire ...	174	13	0
Cambridgeshire ...	10	10	0
Cheshire ...	2000	0	0
Cornwall ...	39	18	0
Derbyshire ...	190	1	0
Devonshire ...	196	7	0
Dorsetshire ...	245	0	0
Durham ...	84	0	0
Essex ...	597	19	0
Gloucestershire ...	297	3	0
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	527	6	0
Hertfordshire ...	333	7	6
Kent ...	1838	4	6
Lancashire (East Division) ...	106	1	0
(West Division) ...	278	3	0
Leicestershire and Rutland ...			
Lincolnshire ...	538	7	0
Middlesex ...	73	11	0
Monmouthshire ...	116	11	0

Lodge		£	s.	d.
587	Bro. R. J. R. Mackenzie ...	10	10	0
887	Howard J. Collins ...	52	10	0
938	Hans I. Graaf ...			
1031	W. Young ...	26	5	0
1180	Frederick Hobday ...			
1180	William Hillman ...	63	0	0
1180	John T. Harcourt ...			
1180	John Palmer ...			
1431	A. E. Currell ...			
1431	M. F. Jeffery ...	57	15	0
1431	Emile Chatrian ...	11	11	0
1551	Thos. Rowbotham ...	10	10	0
Unattached				
	W. H. Skinner ...	36	15	0
LEWIS.				
	Frank Bastick ...			
WILTSHIRE.				
The Province		£	s.	d.
	Bro. W. J. Mann ...	279	6	0
WORCESTERSHIRE.				
Unattached				
	Bro. Thomas R. Arter ...	10	10	0
	Richard Westwood ...	57	15	0
YORKSHIRE (N. AND E. RIDINGS).				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
312	Bro. Rev. E. Fox-Thomas	30	19	0
543	W. Lowther Garrick	10	10	0
YORKSHIRE (W. RIDING).				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
154	Bro. George H. Park ...			
306	W. Blackburn ...			
306	J. C. Malcolun ...			
439	Horatio S. Wood ...			
904	John Gibbs ...			
1019	John J. Martin ...			
1102	Thomas Bailey ...			
1102	Thos. G. Howell ...			
1239	Charles Stokes ...	285	10	0
1513	James Wood ...			
1513	Horace B. Nash ...			
1513	Isaac Longley ...			
1542	Geo. H. Schofield ...			
2069	J. Thornton James ...			
2259	John Constable ...			
Unattached				
	John Hanson ...			
	Mrs. G. H. Parke ...			
	W. F. Smithson ...			
ISLE OF MAN.				
The Province		£	s.	d.
	Bro. G. Chilwell Heron ...	26	0	0
SCOTLAND.				
	Bro. Davis ...	1	1	0
	Robert Bail ...	5	5	0
FOREIGN STATIONS.				
CYPRUS.				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
2277	Bro. Surgeon Captain W. Kiddle ...	10	10	0
EGYPT.				
1105	Bro. Dr. H. P. Kestinge ...			
BOMBAY.				
2438	Bro. D. Morris ...			
BURMA.				
1268	Bro. P. Rigby Nicholson ...			
PUNJAB.				
1960	Bro. Capt. J. H. Leslie, R.A. ...	113	3	0
Chapter				
1485	Comp. J. W. Gerard ...			
JAPAN.				
Lodge		£	s.	d.
1401	Bro. T. C. Thornicroft ...			
WEST AFRICA.				
1171	Bro. J. Blackall Benjamin			
ST. HELENA.				
488	Bro. Guy W. Hogg ...	27	3	6
NORTH AMERICA.				
442	Bro. David B. Kennedy ...			
DEMERARA.				
247	Bro. David H. McGowan			

Bro. DE TATTON EGERTON proposed "The Other Institutions," to which Bro. HEDGES replied; Bro. Baron DE FERRIERES proposed "The Stewards," to which Bro. NEWHOUSE responded; and Bro. LE FEUVRE proposed "The Ladies," for whom Bro. JAMES STEPHENS replied; but none of these speeches were audible, as there was a general exodus into the grounds and the concert and coffee-rooms.

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

It is always a pleasant, if a laborious, task to analyse the Returns of such a Festival as that we have just recorded. We know they represent an immense amount of work on the part of the ladies and brethren who volunteered their services, and it must afford them an immense amount of gratification to find their labours have been so successful. Even those who hoped to compile large lists and found their hopes unrealised feel their disappointment less keenly when they discover that, as a whole, the subscriptions and donations exceed the limit which was looked for. However, it is unnecessary for us to speak further in general terms. It is enough for our present purpose to state that, including 29 ladies, there were in all 533 Stewards, and that the total, as announced by the Secretary in the course of the evening, was £18,773 12s. 6d. Of these Stewards

LONDON

furnished 175, who amongst them raised £7131 14s., the brother to whom belongs the credit of having obtained the highest list being our respected Bro. Edward Terry, Past Grand Treasurer, who handed in a Return of £500. The next in order was a lady, Mrs. G. E. Fairchild, who acted for the Phoenix, No. 173, one of her husband's lodges, her total being £320. Bro. W. H. Bailey, the first W.M. of the Lodge of Fellowship, No. 2535, who took charge of its interests on this occasion, compiled a list of £210. Bro. George Ridout, of the Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287, took the fourth place with £178 10s., but was very closely pressed by Bro. George T. Peall, of the Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361, whose list was £175 5s. Bro. W. S. Penley, Asaph Lodge, No. 1319, who has been doing great things for our Institutions during the present year, sent in a list amounting to £162 5s., his lists for the Girls' School last month, and the Old People in February, at both of which he represented the same lodge, having been £210 and £212 11s. 6d. respectively. Bro. G. Scott Miller, of the Chough Lodge, No. 2264, and Bro. H. Tuffnell, Nelson Lodge, No. 700, had the satisfaction of returning, both of them, excellent lists, that of the former amounting to £146 11s., and that of the latter to £141 15s. Bros. Benjamin Stocker, High Cross Lodge, No. 754, Fred. Eade, City of London Lodge, No. 901, and Otto Polentz, Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60, formed a group by themselves, Bro. Stocker's list being for £122 17s.; Bro. Eade's for £120 15s.; and that of Bro. Polentz for £120. Bro. W. C. Thomas, of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65, compiled a total of £110 5s., and then came another small group consisting of Bro. W. S. Harper, Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488, who compiled a list of £106 11s. 6d.; Mrs. James Stephens, who acted as Steward for the Viator Lodge, No. 2308, and handed in as the result of a very successful canvass the sum of £105; and Bro. T. Whitford, of the Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500, whose total was £102 6s. In addition to the foregoing array of three-figure lists, we note also the following, namely: the sum of £80 17s., compiled by Bro. Charles Martin, Globe Lodge, No. 23; £90 by Bro. A. E. Remington, United Mariners Lodge, No. 30 to which belongs in great part the honour of founding the School; £89 5s. by Bro. W. Hamsher, South Norwood Lodge, No. 1139; £90 5s. by Bro. John Lusty, Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259; £98 12s. by Bro. E. Devas, of the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383; £89 5s. by Bro. Frank Evans, Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421; £73 10s. by Bro. W. Berkeley Vaile, Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607; £75 by Bro. Alfred Goode, Crusaders Lodge, No. 1677; £94 10s. by Bro. W. B. Neville, Kensington Lodge, No. 1767; £80 6s. by Bro. Henry T. Telling, Sterndale Bennett Lodge, No. 2182; £70 by Bro. Capt. J. W. Stephens, of the Cheerybles Lodge, No. 2466; £73 10s. by Bro. Robert Cranston, W.M. of the Barnet Lodge, No. 2509; and £71 8s. by Bro. Tom Green, Fulham Lodge, No. 2512. Considering the moderate number of lodges in the Metropolitan area which took part in Wednesday's work, the average of the London Stewards is high, being over £40 each, while the general average for London and country together is only slightly in excess of £35.

As regards

THE PROVINCES,

we must congratulate Bro. McLeod on having obtained the support of a far larger proportion than usual. Ordinarily, we expect to find between 30 and 35 or 36 of them represented, but on this occasion as many as 42 out of the 40 into which England, with the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, is sub-divided, sent up Stewards, the number of ladies and brethren who acted in their behalf being 358, and the total amount of Donations and Subscriptions which they had the good fortune to return, £11,641 18s. 6d. The four absentees were CUMBERLAND and WESTMORLAND (21 lodges), which figured among the contributors to the Festival of the Benevolent Institution in February, when Bro. W. F. Lamonby, as its representative, compiled a list of £102 18s. Last year it gave its attention to the Girls' School, and Bro. P. A. Argles, who did duty for the Province generally, had the satisfaction of raising £178 10s. In 1893 it raised £63 8s. for this Institution, and in 1892 it was represented at the Benevolent Jubilee by its then Deputy P. Grand Master, Bro. Mackay, whose list amounted to £420. As for HEREFORDSHIRE, though it has only five lodges on its roll, we suggest that it would be better if it occasionally exhibited some interest in these important Anniversaries. It is so long since it has done anything worthy of notice that brethren must be on the verge of imagining that it has been blotted out of existence. NORFOLK (17 lodges) was represented to very good purpose at the Girls' School Festival last month, when Bro. H. J. Sparkes, as Steward for the whole of the Province, handed in a list for £205 5s. The remaining absentee was the EASTERN DIVISION OF SOUTH WALES, with its 19 lodges, which raised £300 for the Girls' School last month; £350 for this Institution in 1894; £325 10s. for the Girls' School in 1893; and in 1892 £180 for the Benevolent Jubilee and £321 15s. 6d. for this Institution. These four Provinces number amongst them 62 lodges.

As to the Provinces which took part in Wednesday's celebration, we note that

BEDFORDSHIRE,

which musters seven lodges, sent up one Steward—Bro. Henry R. Rose—who took under his charge the Province generally, and the Sir William Harpur Lodge, No. 2343, of which he is a P.M., in particular, the list he handed in amounting to £105. In February, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 803, Biggleswade, did duty for the Province, Bro. Chaundler, who acted for it as Steward, being responsible for a list of £43 1s. These sums represent a total for the year of £148 15s. as against £238 9s. in 1894, £183 17s. 6d. in 1893, and £152 5s. in 1892. However, it is a satisfaction to note that during these four years there are only two Festivals that of the Boys' School in 1892 and that of the Girls' School last month—from which the Province has been absent.

Bro. BRYMER, M.P., proposed "The Health of the Chairman."

Bro. Lord EGERTON OF TATTON, in replying, said he had been supported most earnestly on the present occasion, and he hoped all the company had enjoyed themselves. He was very proud of the result of the efforts of the Stewards, and he thanked them very much for their support.

175 STEWARDS—LONDON	£	7131	14	0
358 STEWARDS—PROVINCES	£	11,641	18	6
533 GRAND TOTAL	£	18,773	12	6

BERKSHIRE

has acquitted itself well during the present year. In February, at the Benevolent Festival, six of its 15 lodges, represented by five Stewards, contributed amongst them no less than £450 17s., while at the Girls' School Festival last month, five Stewards, doing duty for three lodges, raised £131 10s. On Wednesday, as many as eight lodges and two chapters took part in the proceedings, the number of Stewards being 11, of whom Mrs. Charles Edward Keyser was Unattached. The total obtained by these amounted to £370, the principal item being £73 10s., compiled by Bro. E. W. Baxton, of the Ascot Lodge, No. 2460. Thus the total for the whole year is £952 7s., which compares very favourably with the £583 13s. 6d. which the Province distributed among the three Institutions in 1894. In 1893, the amount was £724 7s., while in 1892, including £661 9s. 6d. to the Benevolent Jubilee, it reached the still higher figure of £954 11s. 6d.

BRISTOL,

with its nine lodges, entered an appearance on a modest scale at the Benevolent Festival in February, when its respected D.P.G.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. R. Bramble, P.A.G.D.C., as Steward Unattached, contributed a personal donation of £10 10s. On Wednesday, however, the whole Province was represented by Bro. E. T. Collins, who had the satisfaction of handing in a list of £210. Last year the Girls' School received the kind attentions of the Province, the same Bro. E. T. Collins, as Provincial representative, handing in the large sum of £430 10s. which the D.P.G.M. supplemented with £10 10s., while the latter figured in the Returns at the Boys' Festival for £16 16s. In 1891 and 1892 this Institution was very liberally supported, the total raised in the former year being £595, and in the latter, £310

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

like its neighbour and old associate of the late Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch's days, has done yeoman service for our Charities during its existence as a separate and distinct Province. In 1891, when Bro. Lord Carrington was P.G.M. and presided at the Girls' School Festival, the sum total it raised, including £300 in support of his lordship's Chairmanship, was £511 1s. In 1893, it reached £705 15s., and in 1893 £479 16s., while last year it amounted to £590 16s., of which this Institution was the fortunate recipient of £429 15s. In February three lodges, with Bro. James Stephens Unattached, compiled the modest total of £52 10s., while last month three lodges, with the same brother Unattached, sent in lists which amounted to £219. On Wednesday, five out of the 18 lodges on the roll and the chapter attached to one of them, with Bros. Stephens and Fendick acting independently, made up the excellent total of £174 13s. We have no doubt that the same generous interest in the Charities will be taken under Bro. Lord Addington as under his predecessor.

The Province of

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

has not done quite so well during the present, as in past years. On Wednesday a well-known brother—Oliver Papworth—member of the Board of Management, handed in a donation of £10 10s. as Steward Unattached, and in May Bro. R. Percy F. W. Simpson, acting for the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, compiled a list of £131 5s., but last year it raised £239, and in 1893 £290 17s. for the three Institutions, while in 1892 it gave its whole attention to the Benevolent Jubilee, its contributions to which amounted to the handsome total of £326 8s. If we bear in mind that it has only six lodges on the roll we cannot too highly commend the liberality of Cambridgeshire, and we have little doubt that next year the very capital average it has maintained for some years will be established.

Though

CHESHIRE

has taken a prominent part in many of our Festival celebrations, we must go back to the early years of the late Bro. Lord de Tabley's Prov. G. Mastership for the time when it enacted the *role* of the "Chairman's Province." It was in the year 1867 that Lord de Tabley presided at the Anniversary of the Benevolent Institution, and it is needless to remind our readers that in those days the duties and responsibilities of a Festival Chairman were far more exacting than they are now. A few thousands of pounds, such as we have known to be subscribed of late by a single Province, amply sufficed for the requirements of our Institutions. But now it is what our American brethren would describe as a "big" thing to undertake the advocacy of the claims of one of them upon the generosity of the Craft. However, the advocacy must be undertaken, and Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, having very kindly placed his services as Chairman at the disposal of the Boys' School administration, Cheshire, of which he has been ruler for close upon 10 years, resolved on doing its utmost in support of his lordship. That it has acquitted itself handsomely there cannot be the slightest shadow of a doubt. It is one of the oldest Provinces under the Grand Lodge of England, and there are not more than about half-a-dozen others which can justly claim to be of greater strength. It has 46 lodges on its roll, and the total it raised on Wednesday, including a donation of £52 10s. from the noble Chairman, and £105 contributed by the Prov. Grand Lodge—which appeared upon Bro. Richard Newhouse's list—reached £2000. In 1891 it contributed £1050 to this Institution, and in 1892, £1988 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee. Since then it has raised some £3000 for a Benevolent Institution of its own, while for 30 years and upwards it has maintained an Educational Institution, which is admitted on all hands to have done an incalculable amount of good in assisting the children of its deceased and indigent brethren. Thus, on Wednesday it splendidly upheld the prestige it has long enjoyed—but in a more prominent degree during the last five years—and we gladly take this opportunity of congratulating the lodges and brethren of Cheshire and its respected chief on the success of their combined efforts in behalf of the Boys' School; and, as showing how earnestly many of the — Stewards who acted on this occasion must have worked in the discharge of their self-imposed duties, we mention the most prominent among the lists, which, together, made up the aforesaid total. These were: Bro. Newhouse's, for the Province £115 10s., £26 5s. for Lodge No. 1045, and £31 10s. for Prov. G. Lodge and No. 148 in the Mark Degree; £105 per Bro. G. R. Brady, Lodge No. 322, and £121 16s. for the representatives of the Alan Lodge, No. 2368. Bro. James Cookson's Return for himself and other representatives of Unanimity, No. 257, Stockport, was £52 10s.; the joint list of Bros. Slack and Wylde, Lodge of Concord, No. 323, was £64 1s. Bro. J. Mills, Christian Lodge, No. 425, Chester, raised £58 11s. 6d.; Bro. H. Jackson, £52 10s. for himself and other representatives of the Lodge of Benevolence, No. 336, Marple; a like sum was handed in by Bro. G. H. Brown, Zetland Lodge, No. 537, Birkenhead; and Bro. A. E. Coveney £75 12s. for himself and his fellow Stewards of Combermere Lodge, No. 605, Birkenhead.

It is exceedingly gratifying to find

CORNWALL

among the represented Provinces. It has 30 lodges on its roll, but it is neither a strong nor a wealthy body. Moreover, it was only last month that it was called upon to fulfil the duty which has this week devolved on Cheshire, and then it subscribed £750 towards the requirements of the Girls' School. Still, on Wednesday, Bro. James Auten Bell took upon himself to represent the Province as a whole and returned a list of £39 18s. Last year Cornwall apportioned £241 10s. about equally between the Schools, while in 1893 it was content with raising £225 15s. for this Institution. In the year of the Benevolent Jubilee,

at which the Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Deputy G.M., presided, it contributed £776 15s., while in 1891 the contributions to the Benevolent Institution and the Boys' School amounted together to £289 15s. This is an enviable record for a body of lodges which, as we have said, are not strong in respect of numbers or funds.

DERBYSHIRE

with its 25 lodges, has done well during the present year, not so well as in some previous years, but decidedly well, if we bear in mind that even the most generous Provinces cannot always be contributing on a large scale. In February, it raised by the hands of Bro. W. H. Marsden, J.P., as Steward for the Province, and the representatives of five lodges, a sum amounting to £207 10s. In May, the contributions from a lodge Steward and a brother Unattached reached £68 5s., while on Wednesday, four lodges, a Rose Croix chapter, and Bro. Dr. W. H. Wright, Unattached, together raised £190 1s., making the total for the year £555 16s. In 1894, the total was £648 5s. 6d., of which the Boys' School secured the lion's share, the Girls' School having to content itself with a modest £47 5s. In the three preceding years, however, the Returns were on a far larger scale, amounting in 1893 to £1025 8s. 6d.; in 1892, to £1738 14s.; and in 1891, to £980 7s., the Boys' School being the largest recipient in the first and last of these years, while in 1892, the "Old People" obtained £1362 16s. towards the Jubilee of that Institution.

Till Wednesday, the large Province of

DEVONSHIRE,

with its roll of 52 lodges, had taken no part in these public celebrations, but the present Returns include the names of two Stewards, that of Bro. F. B. Westlake, as the Provincial representative, and that of Bro. John Taylor, J.P., Steward for the Jordan Lodge, No. 1402, Torquay, the former's list amounting to £52 10s., and that of the latter to £142 16s. This gives a total for the whole year of £195 6s., which candour compels us to affirm is not quite in keeping with the strength and prestige of this important Province. It is in excess of the 1894 and 1893 totals, that of the former having been only £135 12s., and that of the latter £181 2s. In 1892, it came forward prominently, raising altogether £923 8s. 6d., of which £807 18s. 6d. was in behalf of the Benevolent Jubilee. But the total for the whole four years is under £1450, and that cannot be described as a large amount for such a Province. In extenuation, however, it is but just to say that Devonshire maintains a Fortescue Annuity Fund and an Educational Fund, which both do good service locally.

The Province of

DORSETSHIRE,

as a whole and one of its 13 lodges figure in the Returns of Wednesday's gathering, Bro. W. E. Brymer, M.P., D.P.G.M., representing the former and handing in a list of £210, while Bro. Major W. Watts, as Steward for the Lodge of Honour and Friendship, No. 1266, Blandford, raised £35, the total being £245. The Province was an absentee from the Girls' School Festival in May, but in February Bro. S. R. Baskett, acting for Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter, handed in a list for £105, the total for 1895 being £350, as compared with £192 10s.—of which the R.M.B.I. received £157 10s.—in 1893; £233—of which this Institution secured £150 15s.—in 1892; and £521 6s. contributed to the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892.

DURHAM

is a regular contributor to all our Charities, though it is only now and then that it puts forth its full strength. Thus, in 1892, when the Benevolent Institution celebrated its Jubilee, it raised £1034 2s., of which £720 5s. was contributed to the favoured Charity, £105 to the Girls' School, and £209 to this Institution. In 1893, the figures stood as low as £338 2s., while last year they reached £509 2s. This year the total is about the same, Bro. G. L. Woolley, as Provincial representative, raising £315, and Bro. E. S. Cockell, of the Stranton Lodge, No. 1862, West Hartlepool, £15 15s., or together, £330 15s. for the Old People; Bro. John Robinson £105 for the Girls' School; and Bro. G. L. Woolley for this Institution on Wednesday £84, making the sum total £519 15s.

There are some 37 lodges in the Province of

ESSEX,

and of these seven, with a chapter attached to an eighth, were represented by nine Stewards, in addition to whom there were five brethren and two ladies Unattached. The total from all sources amounted to £618 10s., the most conspicuous lists being those of Bro. J. R. Johnson, who represented the Brooke Lodge, No. 2005, Chingford, and had the satisfaction of raising £262 10s., Comp. Steward, of the Ixion Chapter, No. 2501, for £70, and Bro. F. J. Eedle, of the Royal Victorian Jubilee Lodge, No. 2184, Rainham, for £63. Last month the Province raised donations and subscriptions to the extent of £207 2s. 6d., the credit of doing this being shared among seven lodges, while in February nine lodges, each represented by a brother and an Unattached Steward, compiled a total of £324 7s., giving a grand total for the year of £1150 18s. 6d. Considering how regularly, and on what a large scale this Province has helped our three Institutions, this total is most creditable. In 1894, the sum apportioned among the Charities was £1123, of which the Girls' School was fortunate enough to obtain £823 13s.; in 1893, when the Prov. Grand Master—then Lord Brooke—presided as Chairman at the Festival of this Institution—it reached £2258 3s. 6d., of which only £102 17s. 6d. was raised for the Old People and the Girls' School; in 1892, including £2318 2s. 6d. contributed to the Benevolent Jubilee, it was £2603 5s.; and in 1891, it was £1648, of which £1265 15s. 6d. was raised for this Institution.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

albeit a smaller Province, with a contingent of only 15 lodges, has also been bestirring itself to excellent purpose during the present year. It began in February with a modest contribution of £44 11s. to the Benevolent Institution; but last month it raised £224 14s. for the Girls' School, and on Wednesday, through the medium of eight Stewards, of whom seven represented lodges, and the other—Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith, D.P.G.M.—was Unattached, it compiled the still higher total of £297 3s., thus placing the aggregate of the year's subscriptions at £566 8s. This is in excess of 1894's figures, which stood at £428 6s. 6d., while in 1893 they were smaller still, amounting only to £304 18s. 6d. But this is to be accounted for by the heavier demands made upon the Province in 1892, when Bro. Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., was Chairman of the Festival of this Institution, and her lodges supported him to the extent of £1615 11s., the year's total standing at £1729 11s.

We are pleased to find

GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY,

which were erected into a Province last year, taking its part in these celebrations. It musters only five lodges, and its figures, therefore, are not on a large scale, but its contributions are welcome notwithstanding. Last month the P.G.M., Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn, contributed £10 10s. to the Girls' School, while on Wednesday he and his lately-appointed Prov. S.G.W. together raised £31 10s. Last year the P.G.M. was Steward for the Old People and the Girls' School, while in 1892 the Province, which, by the way was not then a Province, raised £240 for the Benevolent Jubilee and £57 10s. for "Our Girls."

There are 48 lodges on the roll of

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

and of these, 12, with the chapter attached to one of them, took part in the proceedings of Wednesday, there being likewise three Unattached Stewards. These 15 Stewards raised in all £527 6s., Bro. Capt. M. Emanuel, of Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 359, Southampton, taking the foremost place with a list of £88 14s., while Bro. George A. Mursell, who represented the Medina Lodge, No. 35, Cowes, the Albany Lodge, No. 151, Newport, and Osborne Lodge, No. 2169, East Cowes, compiled a total of £73 10s., and Bro. George J. Tilling, of the Royal Gloucester Lodge, No. 130, Southampton, £63. In February the sum raised by three lodges and a chapter was £142 5s. 6d., while last month the total contributed by five lodges reached £185 5s. These figures contrast not unfavourably with those of 1894, when the Old People received £208 18s. 6d.; the Girls' School, £477 19s.; and the Boys' School, £264 12s.; the total for the three being £951 9s. 6d. In 1893, the contributions only realised £680 4s., but the year preceding they amounted to £1650 17s., of which £1345 19s. 7d. was subscribed in behalf of the Old People's Jubilee. Nor do these sums represent the total devoted by the Province to Charitable purposes, as the Educational and Benevolent Fund which was organised a few years since is maintained in a creditable state of efficiency, and is able, therefore, to do a large amount of good among the distressed brethren of the Province and the families of those brethren who have died in poor circumstances.

Five lodges and a chapter did duty for

HERTFORDSHIRE,

out of 22 lodges and seven chapters, and there were a member of the Watford Lodge and a lady who acted independently. The sum raised by the six Stewards was £333 7s. 6d., Bro. C. E. Keyser, who acted for the lodge which bears his name and meets at Hoddesdon, No. 2518, and the Watford Chapter, No. 404, heading the list of contributions with a sum of £115 10s., while the lists of Bro. the Rev. W. Quennell, W.M. of the Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 504, and Bro. H. J. Grimwade of the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, Barnet, were £54 12s. and £53 0s. 6d. respectively. In February, the total compiled by eight Stewards for the requirements of the Benevolent Institution was £452 3s. 6d., and last month the same number of brethren amongst them raised £353 5s. 6d. Thus the year 1895 has yielded the very substantial crop of £138 16s. 6d. in donations and subscriptions, as compared with £958 6s. 4d. in 1894, when the Old People were supported to the extent of £464 9s. 6d.; the Girls' School, with £227 6s. 6d.; and this Institution with £266 8s. 6d. In 1893, when Bro. C. E. Keyser was Chairman at the Benevolent Festival, the total stood as high as £2106 14s., of which £1444 3s. 6d. was in support of his Chairmanship, while in 1892, when the Old People celebrated their Jubilee, it was £2135 6s. 6d., the favoured Institution receiving support to the extent of £1883 6s. 6d.

Bro. John Kenyon, whose name is familiar to students of our Festival Returns, as Steward for the Mechanics Lodge, No. 245, one of the seven on the roll of

JERSEY,

handed in a list of £10 10s., this being the only contribution from this quarter during the present year. But in 1893, it raised £263 for this Institution, and in 1892, £63 for the Benevolent Jubilee. These contributions, like the occasional contributions from the neighbouring Province of Guernsey and Alderney, are always welcome.

At the Festivals previously held during the present year, the Province of

KENT,

with its formidable array of 61 lodges, has shown to less advantage than usual, the Benevolent Festival in February producing Returns which amounted to only £253 11s. 6d., while last month they were still lower, and yielded £228 18s. On Wednesday, however, not only were the contributions from the 14 lodges and one chapter represented and a Lady Steward Unattached more considerable in the aggregate, but a sum of £1260 will be found entered to the credit of the Province as a whole, the sum having been raised for the purpose of purchasing a Perpetual Presentation, as a memorial of the many important services rendered by Bro. J. S. Eastes, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., during the many years he has been connected with Masonry, but more particularly during his long tenure of the important office of Deputy to Earl Amherst. Opinions are divided as to the propriety of including such a sum as this in the Returns at a Festival, but, as it has been done in other instances, it would be an act of injustice to Kent to have omitted the £1260 which it has set apart for honouring one of its most distinguished members. Thus the figures on Wednesday amount to £1838 4s. 6d., inclusive of this particular amount, and raise the general total for the year to £2320 14s. In 1894 they reached £1225 10s. 6d.—the Old People obtaining out of it £582 17s., the Girls' School £239 5s. 6d., and the Boys' School £403 6s. In 1893, 1892, and 1891, the totals were very high, standing at £2103 12s. 6d. in the first mentioned; at £3003 13s. 6d. in the second; and at £4018 8s. in the last, it being the year in which the Prov. G. Master presided at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution. We congratulate the Province which has so splendid a record as this.

LANCASHIRE (EASTERN DIVISION).

has not greatly strengthened its position by the amount of its subscriptions on Wednesday. It has 109 lodges, and we believe there are two or three others which will be constituted in the course of the present year, but only four of them are entered in the Returns, and the lists from these amount to £106 1s. In February it raised £21 for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and in May £102 14s. for the Girls' School, so that the total for 1895 stands at £229 15s., as compared with £772 7s. 4d. for 1894 and £389 18s. in 1893. What it is capable of doing will appear from the 1892 Returns, when its total was £2824 15s., of which £2667 5s. was raised for the Benevolent Jubilee; from those of 1891, when it totalled up £1278 0s. 6d., of which over three-fourths were assigned to this Institution; or from those of 1838, when it supported the Old People to the extent of £2873 and the Girls' School at its Centenary Festival with £1356 16s. 6d., and as it freely avails itself of the benefits conferred by our Charities, these latter figures harmonise better with what it ought to do than with what it has been doing more recently in furtherance of their interests. However, on Wednesday it was holding high Festival in behalf of its own Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, for which a very large amount of subscriptions—over £4000—was obtained, so that the modesty of its contributions to the Central Charities during the present year is well and creditably explained. Only we trust that our East Lancashire brethren will not forget the general Masonic Charities altogether.

Of the 111 lodges on the roll of

LANCASHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION)

there were 9 represented by a band of 11 Stewards, and two brothers acted independently, the total announced from all sources being £278 3s. Of this, Bro. Thos. Forrester, West Lancashire Lodge, No. 1403, Ormskirk, compiled £128 2s., while Bro. J. M. McLeod, acting independently, handed in a list of £37 16s., in addition to the amount which appears against his name in the London Section of the Board. In February the Province raised £131 5s. for the Old People, and in May £95 14s. 6d. for the Girls' School, so that the total for the year is £505 2s. 6d. This is not a very large sum for so large a Province, but then it subscribed heavily last year, when the Earl of Lathom was Chairman at the Girls' School

Festival, the total for all three Charities being £2768 2s. 6d. In 1893 the Returns were as low as £792 18s., but in 1892, including its contributions to the Benevolent Jubilee, they reached £1679 14s. 6d., while in 1891, when its Prov. Grand Master presided at the Festival of this School at Brighton, they were £6341 19s. 4d., of which £6126 14s. 4d. was in respect of his lordship's Chairmanship.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND,

as we have many times remarked, is one of those Provinces which gives its support to each Institution in turn, occasionally supplementing its yearly subscriptions with a contribution to one of the other Charities. It has 14 lodges, and in February Bro. H. Howe, as the representative of the Province, compiled a list of £300 6s. for the Benevolent Institution. On Wednesday, Bro. W. S. Allen, of the Ferrers and Ivanhoe Lodge, No. 779, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, acted as Steward, but his list will be found under Derbyshire. In 1894, the amount was £393 10s., of which the Girls' School received the main portion—£330 10s.; while in 1893, this Institution was favoured to the extent of £267 17s., and in 1892, the Old People with £388 10s. in respect of the Jubilee.

This is the first and only Festival of the present year in which

LINCOLNSHIRE

has borne a part, and the sum it raised on Wednesday is very considerable. Its lodges are 24 in number, and of these four, with the chapter belonging to one of them, were specially represented, while Bro. B. Beeson was the Provincial Steward, Bro. E. T. Wigglesworth doing duty on his own account. The total reached £538 7s., of which the Provincial representative was responsible for £256 10s. 6d., and Bro. F. Barrett, Pelham Pillar Lodge, No. 792, Grimsby, for £195 16s. 6d. Last year and the year before it contributed on a small scale to the Schools; but in 1892 it subscribed £660 5s. to the Benevolent Jubilee, and in 1891, £481 to this Institution. These are creditable Returns, and we dare say that, under Lord Yarborough's auspices, the prestige of the Province will be maintained.

The Metropolitan Province of

MIDDLESEX

with its array of 41 lodges is a regular and, at times, a large supporter of all our Charities. In February it gave £168 19s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and last month £227 17s. to the Girls' School, there being four lodges which took part in the former Festival and seven at the latter. On this occasion five were represented, the total raised by four of these being £73 11s. Thus the year 1895 has produced £470 7s., which is below the average, the product of 1894 having stood at £1043 17s. 6d., of 1893 at £630 18s.; of 1892 at £1619 15s. 6d.; and of 1891 at £540 2s. But the falling off is to be accounted for, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, Prov. Grand Master, having volunteered his services as Chairman at the Benevolent Festival for next year, and for this our Middlesex brethren are no doubt very properly reserving themselves.

This is the first appearance at any Festival of the compact little Province of

MONMOUTHSHIRE,

which, like other Provinces of about the same strength, gives its main support to each of the three Institutions in turn. Last year, for instance, the Girls' School received £297 11s. 6d., while in 1893 the Benevolent was the recipient of £272 8s. 6d. In 1892, this Institution was favoured to the extent of £316 18s., a supplementary £21 being handed over to the Benevolent Jubilee, while in 1891, the Old People had £325 1s. raised for its requirements. At this Festival Bro. F. A. Powell took the Province generally under his charge and compiled a list of £21, while seven of the 10 lodges sent Stewards of their own, and Bro. W. L. Paynter was Steward on his own account. The total from all sources reached £116 11s.

Three of the 14 lodges on the roll of

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS

were represented on this occasion, while Lord Euston, the Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. Henry Carman were Unattached Stewards, the aggregate of their lists being £126. Add this to the £10 10s. placed to the credit of Benevolent Lodge, No. 2380, Daventry, in February, and the £31 10s. contributed by the Prov. Grand Master and Bro. Adkins, of Lodge No. 1911, to the Girls' School last month, and we have a total of £168 for 1895. Last year, the figures stood at £328 7s., of which £202 7s. was contributed to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £26 5s. to the Girls' School, and £99 15s. to this Institution. In 1893, owing to the Prov. Grand Master being Chairman at the Girls' Festival, the total was £1107 12s., of which £1050 was contributed in support of his lordship's Chairmanship, while in 1892, £388 10s. was subscribed, the greater part of which was absorbed by the Benevolent Jubilee. Indeed, during the whole time Lord Euston has presided over the Freemasons of this Province, they have given a steady support to all three Institutions, his lordship being himself one of the most frequent contributors and having twice occupied the position of Festival Chairman.

After the very grand contribution of £2315 5s. which

NORTHUMBERLAND

made by the hands of Bro. R. H. Holmes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., to the Girls' School last month, we are very agreeably surprised to find that three of its 26 lodges took part in Wednesday's proceedings, the sum total of the amounts raised by the five brethren who acted as Stewards being £185 17s. This, of course, is only a small sum, but it has the effect of raising the year's figures to £2501 2s., and establishes a record for this important Province which some day we hope to see beaten. The last occasion on which it showed to advantage was at the Festival of this Institution in 1891, when, including the sum of £1050 paid for Perpetual Presentation, it contributed £1364 4s. In 1892 it gave £105 towards the Benevolent Jubilee, £94 10s. to the same Charity in 1893, and £80 17s. to this Institution in 1894. It will be seen, therefore, from the experiences of past years, that the current year's record will require a good deal of extra exertion on the part of our Northumbrian brethren to exceed it.

At the Benevolent Institution in February, one of the 16 lodges in

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

and the chapter attached to it—the Commercial, No. 411, Nottingham—were represented by Bro. Allred Page, whose list amounted to £107 12s. 6d., and on Wednesday Bro. Lieut.-Col. Joseph Wright, of the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 402, Nottingham, had the pleasure of raising £162 15s.; the total for the year thus standing at £280 7s. We welcome the re-appearance of this Province, which has had no share in our Festival celebrations since May, 1893, when it raised £131 5s. for the Girls' School. In 1892, it contributed £157 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee and £34 13s. to this Institution, while in 1891 the Schools were the recipients of its favour, the Girls' School receiving £37 16s. 6d. and this School £203 9s., making the year's total £241 5s. 6d. We trust that Nottinghamshire will maintain the advance it has made on previous Returns during the period we have traversed.

NORTH WALES

was represented at the Benevolent Festival in February and at that of the Girls' School last month, there being four Stewards, who raised £57 15s. for the former and four, including Bro. C. K. Benson and a lady as Unattached, who also made

up a total of £57 15s. These modest efforts, however, were surpassed on the present occasion, when four of the 19 lodges, represented by five Stewards and the veteran Bro. Benson, Unattached, amongst them totalled up £171 18s., Bro. Benson's £52 10s. being the most important item. This gives a sum of £287 10s. for the whole year, but is below the average of the three preceding years, the year 1892 having yielded £495 12s., of which the Girls' School received only £36 15s., the balance being pretty equally apportioned between the "Old People" and "Our Boys;" 1893, £474 18s., of which this Institution absorbed the bulk; and 1894, £400 17s. 6d., of which the same Charity secured £291 4s. However, the Province has done admirably during these four years, and it is probably by chance that the Returns are lower in the present year.

We were not a little surprised, when, analysing the returns from

OXFORDSHIRE,

at the Benevolent Festival, in February, we noted that it figured as the contributor of £21 2s. But the feeling soon passed away. We felt that the Province would do its part as usual, and our anticipations have been verified. In May, it raised by the hands of six Stewards, of whom three did duty for the Alfred Lodge, No. 340, two for the Bertie, No. 1515, and one for the Wychwood, No. 2414, Burford, £150 19s., while on Wednesday, it did even better, the number of its Stewards being 10, representing seven out of its 12 lodges. The total reached £154 18s. 6d., and included £50 8s. from Bros. P. W. Margetts and C. M. Taphouse, of No. 340, and £51 9s. from Bros. J. Hastings and A. E. Hunt as joint Stewards for No. 1515. Thus the year has produced a total of £326 18s. 6d., as against £312 1s. in 1894, £440 6s. 6d. in 1893, and £631 19s. 6d. in 1892, the Benevolent Jubilee being supported to the extent of £428 7s. In 1891 the total was £414 2s., of which this Institution secured £246 9s.

Of the 12 lodges in

SHROPSHIRE,

two were represented by Stewards, while the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir O. Wakeman, Bart.—represented the Province. The total obtained by these brethren was £160 13s., the Prov. Grand Master's list of £60 18s. and Bro. Graham's for £63, being the most important. In February, when Bro. Sir O. Wakeman was a Steward for the Old People, and took up a list of £73 10s., the total was £136 10s., while in May, the Girls' School was supported to the extent of £36 15s., the aggregate of the contributions to the three Charities being £333 18s. Last year and the year before the Province was content with minor donations, but in 1892 it raised in all £615 15s. 6d., of which £456 1s. was contributed to the Benevolent Jubilee. In 1891 the year's total stood at £455 9s. 6d.; in 1888, the year of the Girls' Centenary, at £770 15s.; and in 1887, when the Prov. Grand Master was Chairman for the Girls' School, at £1022 7s.

It was gratifying to note that after its splendid performance in February, when it supported Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, P.G.M., as Chairman at the Benevolent Festival to the extent of £1657 17s. 6d.,

SOMERSETSHIRE

should have held a little in reserve for the Schools. Yet Bro. W. W. Rice, of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, Portishead, raised £37 16s. for the Girls' School in May, and this week this brother has repeated his list for "Our Boys," while Bro. Ebbelwhite, who was Steward for a London lodge likewise, raised £11 11s.; making the total £49 7s., the grand total for the year being £1745 0s. 6d. These figures throw all previous Returns completely into the shade, the amount raised in the year of the Benevolent Jubilee having been only £841 15s., while, in 1888, the Girls' Centenary year, the total was a little short of £1000. We heartily congratulate our Somersetshire brethren on the excellent work they have done during the year 1895.

Our anticipations have been realised that the 10 lodges in the Province of

SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION),

would be represented at this Festival. The Province supports each Charity in turn. Thus, in 1892, it raised £161 1s. 6d. for this Institution; in 1893, £177 19s. for the Girls' School; and last year £154 12s. for the Old People. On Wednesday, Bro. J. Llewellyn Thomas, as Steward for the Province generally, and the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 671, Llanelly, particularly, compiled the excellent list of £220, and by so doing has earned the thanks of the Governing Body.

Four of the 31 lodges in

STAFFORDSHIRE,

with a chapter attached to a fifth, did duty for the whole body, and did it to very good purpose, the total of the lists, including £178 10s. from the Prov. Association, being £297 17s. 6d. In February, the Benevolent Institution was benefited to the extent of £152 5s., and, in May, the Girls' School fared still better, the subscriptions reaching £240 9s. On both these occasions Bro. W. H. Bailey did duty as Steward, our worthy brother on Wednesday being also a member of the Board, but included in the London Section. The total for the year is £690 11s. 6d., and will bear comparison with that of last year which reached £428 8s., or that of 1893, which was £424 7s. 6d. But, in 1892 and 1891, the amounts were larger, being £762 2s. in the former, and £761 15s. 6d. in the latter.

We suppose it is owing to the great spurt which

SUFFOLK

made in February in support of the Old People that the Province shows to such slight advantage on the present occasion, the sum of the two lists included under its banner being only £49 7s. However, it has done well notwithstanding in 1895, eight of its 22 lodges and three of its chapters having raised £655 17s. in February, while the representatives of three lodges raised £125 9s. 6d. for the Girls' School. Thus in spite of the falling off, the total for 1895 amounts to £840 13s. 6d. Last year the total reached £809 5s., and in 1893 it was £533 9s. 6d., but in 1892, when the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution celebrated its Jubilee, it amounted to £1449 4s., of which £1291 14s. was raised for that important celebration.

SURREY

which now musters 40 lodges and to-morrow (Saturday) will have a new Prov. Grand Master in the person of Bro. Lord Onslow, has good reason to be satisfied with what it has done for our Charities this year. It began in February with a total of £178 3s. 6d. raised by eight Stewards, of whom one was Unattached, the other seven representing six lodges. Last month it did still better, the sum of £253 13s. being raised for Our Girls by a contingent of seven Stewards. On Wednesday, however, it did best of all, 10 Stewards acting for as many lodges, with five brethren and two ladies Unattached, together raising £591 15s., thus giving a grand total for the three Charities of £1623 11s. 6d., and showing clearly enough that Surrey is a regular and determined friend of all our Institutions. Last year, including £1399 2s. which it subscribed in support of the late Bro. Col. Money's Chairmanship at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, it raised in all £1673 4s. 6d., while in 1893 it stood at £913 3s. 6d. In 1892, it amounted to the exceptionally large sum of £2817 19s. 6d., out of which £2148 9s. 6d. was subscribed in behalf of the Old People's Jubilee.

Whenever the Festival of this Institution is celebrated at Brighton, a considerable amount of responsibility devolves upon the Province of

SUSSEX,

and, we need hardly say, that responsibility is always met successfully. This was the case in 1891, 1893, and 1894, and a glance at the Returns will show that it was the case also on Wednesday. Bro. J. M. Reed, the Prov. Grand Treasurer,

represented the Province generally, and will be found with a list of £110 5s. to his credit; Bro. Gerald W. E. Loder, one of the M.Ps. for Brighton, as Steward for the Earl of Sussex Lodge, No. 2201, took up one of £107 2s.; while the sums raised by the other 10 lodge representatives, and the six brethren and a lady who were Unattached, augmented the total to £503 8s. 6d. Last month the Province subscribed £418 3s. to the Girls' School, and in February £320 15s. 6d. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, so that the aggregate of the three contributions is £1242 7s. Last year the total was £1477 17s.; in 1893, £1234 16s.; in 1892, when the Benevolent Jubilee was celebrated, and H.R.H. the Prov. Grand Master acted as Chairman at the Girls' School Festival, £2227 4s.; and in 1891, £1347 2s. These are formidable figures for a Province which is largely agricultural, and has no more than 30 lodges on its roll. We again congratulate our Sussex brethren on their achievements in aid of our Institutions.

The Province of

WARWICKSHIRE

shows to great advantage. Firstly, there is the amount paid for a Life Presentation namely, £525, and then, in addition, the contributions obtained by the representatives of 10 of its 31 lodges and sundry Unattached Stewards, of whom one is a Lewis. The total number hailing from the Province is 26, and the sums to their credit reach £379 1s., which, with the aforesaid £525, gives a total of £904 1s. In February, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was the better for £5 5s., contributed by a member of one of the lodges, but last month £212 2s. was raised for the Girls' School, so that the aggregate for the year is £1121 8s. Last year, the total was £637 16s. 3d., and in the preceding year, £530 7s. 6d., but in 1892, it stood at £2410 4s., of which £2186 was raised for the Old People's Jubilee.

This is the first—and will at the same time be the last—appearance of

WILTSHIRE

at these anniversary gatherings. With such a limited number as 11 lodges it cannot do much, and it prefers doing this in the same fashion as other moderate sized Provinces by giving each Charity its turn of support. Thus in 1894 it raised £175 14s. 6d. for the Old People, and £120 4s. for this Institution; in 1893, £185 17s. for "Our Girls," and £110 5s. for "Our Boys;" and in 1892, £483 14s. for the Old People, with minor contributions to the Schools. On Wednesday, Bro. W. J. Mann, as Steward for the whole Province, compiled a total of £279 6s., which is not far short of the amounts raised last year and the year before.

There are 13 lodges in

WORCESTERSHIRE,

but the two Stewards, who are entered in the Returns, were Unattached, and the total of their lists was £68 5s., of which £10 10s. came per Bro. T. R. Arter, and the rest from Bro. R. Westwood. In February, Bro. Arter at the last moment gave his services as Steward, Unattached, and handed in a list of £42, but in May three lodges bore a part in the work of raising funds for the Girls' School, and with Bro. Arter had the satisfaction of compiling a total of £153 5s. Thus the product of this year's labours is £263 10s., as compared with £193 0s. 6d. last year, £308 3s. for the two Schools in 1893, and £498 5s. for all three Charities in 1892.

Two of the 32 lodges in

YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST RIDINGS)

will be found in Wednesday's Returns, the sum total of their lists being £41 9s., while in May two lodges raised £82 0s. 6d. for the Girls' School. As the Province was an absentee from the February Festival, the total for the year stands at £123 9s. 6d. In 1894, it raised £441 15s., of which £301 19s. fell to this Institution; in 1893, £424 4s.; and in 1892, £733 4s., of which all but £15 15s. was raised for the Benevolent Jubilee.

It is in the order of things that

YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING)

show to less advantage than usual. Last year its total was £6697 5s., of which £4559 15s. was raised in support of Bro. Jackson's Chairmanship for "Our Boys." However, the £441 which it subscribed to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February last, with the £921 raised last month for the Girls' School and the £285 10s. which was raised on Wednesday for this Institution, make up a goodly total amounting to £1647 10s. This may be below the yearly average of West Yorkshire, but it is aright handsome total, notwithstanding.

Bro. G. C. Heron, P.D.P.G.M. of the

ISLE OF MAN.

acted as Steward for the Province on Wednesday, and has £26 5s. to his credit, while the same brother as Steward for one of its nine lodges—the St. German's, No. 2164, Peel—also figured in the Girls' School Returns last month for £26 10s., the total for the year being £52 15s. This is slightly in excess of last year's total, which was £46 4s., while, in 1893 and 1892 the Returns were £31 10s. and £98 13s. respectively.

Of representatives from

FOREIGN STATIONS.

there were as many as 13 at this Festival, the total thus far returned being £157 2s. 6d. of which Bro. Capt. J. H. Leslie, R.A., the Dist. G. Sec. of the Punjab, is responsible for £113 3s. he being Steward for the Stewart Lodge, No. 1920, Rawal Pindi. We are always pleased to see Stewards from outlying stations, as it shows that our Charities are not lost sight of by the brethren in foreign parts. In February, £47 5s. was contributed by them to the Benevolent Festival, and last month £30 10s. to the Girls' School.

Reviews.

"THE AUSTRALASIAN KEYSTONE."—W. Hearne and Co., 208-210, Little Lonsdale-street, Melbourne.—The May number, which, by the way, has an additional attraction in the shape of a very excellent portrait of Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, M.W. Grand Master of Victoria, is well furnished with news of lodges, and has several columns of tidings concerning the Craft in the various Australasian colonies. In the editorial portion of the paper it is good enough to quote from our summary of the address delivered by Bro. J. M. Shields, Dep. Dist. Grand Master Bombay, and expresses its strong approval of certain of the recommendations tendered by that brother to the District Grand Lodge of Bombay at its last half-yearly Communication.

"THE MASONIC VISITOR." 12, Dawson-street, Dublin.—The June number is an exceptionally good one. In the first place it contains a portrait and brief biographical sketch of Bro. W. J. Chetwode Crawley, LL.D., D.C.L., S.G.D. Ireland, author of "Cimentaria Hibernica," together with a very able review of that most important work by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. England. There is also a full and interesting account of the opening and dedication of the new Masonic Hall in Carlow, as well as of the address recently presented to Bro. the Rev. Francis E. Clarke, LL.D. M.D., Deputy Prov. Grand Master of North Connaught.

ST. MAGDALEN CHAPTER, No. 242.—A meeting was held in the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday evening, the 28th ult., when there were present Comps. F. Webb, M.E.Z.; J. Constable, H.; C. Goldthorpe, J.; C. H. Woodhouse, S.E.; S. Lester, S.N.; and visitors—Comps. F. Rans, P.Z., P.P.G. Treas.; and P. Jenner, 657. Comp. Rans having been unanimously elected a joining member, the chapter was closed.

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FRIENDS & FOES. A MASONIC

SONG (suitable for any Masonic occasion). Words by W. Bro. NELSON PROWER, M.A. Music composed and inscribed to the Rt. Hon. Lord George Francis Hamilton, M.P., by W. Bro. J. W. HINTON, Mus. Doc. Sung by W. Bro. EGBERT ROBERTS, at the banquet of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex, June 29th, 1895. Price 2s. Messrs. WEEKES & Co., Publishers, 14 Hanover-street, W.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

During JULY, AUGUST, and SEPTEMBER, SPECIAL FAST EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION, as under:

NEW DAYLIGHT SERVICE between WEYMOUTH and CHANNEL ISLANDS.

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EVERY SATURDAY.—At 9.15 a.m. (SPECIAL DAY-LIGHT SERVICE EXPRESS, and at 9.15 p.m. (NIGHT BOAT EXPRESS) for GUERNSEY and JERSEY, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. RETURN FARE. THIRD CLASS and FORE CABIN, 24s. 6d.

3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days in NORTH WALES.

WEEKLY EXCURSIONS to SHREWSBURY, ABERYSTWYTH, BARMOUTH, RHYL, LLANDUDNO, &c. EVERY SATURDAY. At 8.10 a.m. for SHREWSBURY, Oswestry, Borth, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangoen, Corwen, BALA, Blaenau Festiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Harlech, Criccieth, Rhyll, LLANDUDNO, Conway, BETTWS-Y-COED, Bangor, CARNARVON, Llanberis (for SNOWDON), etc.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT. At 10.10 p.m. for EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, Bodmin, Wadebridge, NEWQUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

EVERY SATURDAY. At 7.55 for MINEHEAD (for LYNTON and LYNMOUTH), Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, NEWQUAY, Truro, Falmouth, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

At 8.20 a.m. for WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Kingswear, DARTMOUTH, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

At 11.15 a.m. for FROME, Shepton Mallet, Wells, YEOVIL, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH (for the CHANNEL ISLANDS), Portland, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

At 12.5 p.m. for Newbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Warminster, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

At 12.35 p.m. for CLEVEDON, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, MINEHEAD (for LYNTON and LYNMOUTH), Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Wellington (Som.), TIVERTON, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

At 3.30 p.m. for SWINDON, Chippenham, BATH and BRISTOL, for 3, 10, or 17 days.

At 4.0 p.m. for Cirencester, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, Chepstow, Newport, CARDIFF, Neath, SWANSEA, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

At 10.10 p.m. for WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Kingswear, PLYMOUTH, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

Tickets, pamphlets, and lists of Farmhouse and Country Lodgings can be obtained at the Company's Stations and at the usual Receiving Offices.

Hv. LAMBERT, General Manager.

LONDON & NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

A FORTNIGHT IN NORTH WALES.

ON EVERY SATURDAY DURING JULY, AUGUST, AND SEPTEMBER.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS will be run, leaving LONDON (Euston) 8.15 a.m. and Willesden Junction 8.25 a.m., with trains in connection from Broad Street, Mansion House, Victoria, Kensington (Addison Road), for Shrewsbury, Rhyll, Abergelle, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Aberystwyth, and other Stations in North Wales, for 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 days.

SUMMER EXCURSIONS.

Cheap Excursions will be run from London (Euston), Broad Street, Kensington, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Greenock, and Gourock for ELEVEN DAYS.

ON FRIDAY, JULY 12th.
To Carlisle, Moffat, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Greenock, and Gourock for ELEVEN DAYS.

To Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Montrose, Brechin, Arbroath, Forfar, Kirriemuir, Blairgowrie, Coupar Angus, Dundee, Perth, Oban, Lochawe, Dalmally, Fort William, Dunblane, Stirling, Inverness, &c., for FIVE AND ELEVEN DAYS.

NOTE.—By these trips CHEAP THIRD-CLASS TICKETS will be issued at a Single Fare for the Double Journey, available for 16 days.

ON SATURDAYS, JULY 13th, and 20th (Friday midnight).

To Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle, and the English Lake District, for 3 and 6 days.

ON SATURDAYS, JULY 13th and 20th.

To Blackpool, Birkenhead, Chester, Northwich, Blackburn, Bolton, Southport, Wigan, Preston, Crewe, Hereford, Leominster, Ludlow, Stafford, the North Stafford Line, Ashton, Halifax, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, Rochdale, Oldham, Runcorn, Stockport, Widnes, Warrington, Burton, Derby, Leicester, Nuneaton, Rugby, Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, &c., for 3 and 6 days.

For times, fares, and full particulars, see small bills, which can be obtained at any of the Company's Stations and Town Offices.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

London, July, 1895.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

INSTITUTED 1788.

CHIEF PATRONESS: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT: HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

GRAND PATRONESS: HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, W.C., on THURSDAY, JULY 11th, 1895, at 12 o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution; to place Candidates on the List for the election in October next, and to declare the number of Girls then to be elected.

F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

5 Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., 4th July, 1895.

The 108th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held in MAY, 1896, and the names of Stewards willing to act on the occasion will be gratefully received.

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

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

GRAND PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 12th day of July, 1895, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To consider and, if approved, to adopt a recommendation from the Council as to the number of Boys to be elected at the Quarterly Court on Friday, 11th October, 1895, and to determine the List of Candidates.

The chair will be taken at 4 o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

By Order, J. MORRISON McLEOD, Secretary.

London, 4th July, 1895.

The 98th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held in June, 1896, under distinguished presidency. The services of Ladies and Brethren as Stewards are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

A GOOD INVESTMENT. £1 Debenture Shares for sale bearing a preferential dividend of 6 per cent. For prospectus and full particulars apply, "SAFETY," c/o F. W. Sears, Advertising Contractor, 138 Fleet-street.

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NOTES ON THE CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION, by H. SADLER, P.M., P.Z. Author of "Masonic Facts and Fictions," with a Masonic Biography, Portrait, and Autograph of SIR ALBERT W. WOODS, C.B., Garter King of Arms, Past Grand Warden of England and Grand Director of Ceremonies. 2s. 6d. GEORGE KENNING, 16, Great Queen-st., London, W.C.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

THE "DIRECT" ROUTE TO EAST COAST WATERING PLACES. ACCELERATED TRAIN SERVICE, JULY, 1895.

Table with columns for Weekdays, London (King's Cross), Sheringham, Cromer (Beach), Skegness, Hkeley, Harrogate, Scarborough, Whitby, Filey, Bridlington, Saltburn. Includes departure and arrival times for various stations.

† Through carriages to Sheringham and Cromer by these trains. A From 13th July to 21st September inclusive. B On Saturdays due Saltburn 6.22 p.m. C On Sunday mornings arrives Harrogate 8.5, Filey 8.54, Bridlington 8.16 and Saltburn 8.6. Illustrated Tourists' Guides, Farmhouse and Country Lodging List can be had on application at Great Northern Stations and Receiving Offices, or to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross Station.

CHEAP HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON.

FRIDAY, JULY 12th, for 11 days, to Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Helensburgh, and for 5 or 11 days to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, &c., from Woolwich (Arsenal), Woolwich (Dockyard), Victoria, Moorgate, King's Cross, &c. By this excursion tickets at a single fare for double journey will also be issued, available for return on any day up to and including July 27th.

SATURDAY, JULY 13th, for 3 or 6 days, from Woolwich (Arsenal), Woolwich (Dockyard), Victoria, Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., to Huntingdon, Spalding, Stearford, Gainsboro, Leicester, Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, Ilkeston, Derby, Burton, Tutbury, Stoke, Burslem, Grimsby, Huddersfield, Macclesfield, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Southport, Liverpool, &c., returning July 15th or 18th.

To Skegness for 1, 3, or 4 days July 13, 20, and 27, and to Sutton-on-Sea and Mablethorpe, July 20, from Moorgate 6.51 a.m., Aldersgate 6.53, Farringdon 6.55, King's Cross (G.N.) 7.15, Holloway 7.5, Finsbury Park 7.20. To Sheringham, Cromer, and Yarmouth, July 15, from King's Cross (G.N.) 6.15 a.m., Finsbury Park 6.20, returning from Yarmouth (Beach) 6.0 p.m., Cromer (Beach) 6.55, Sheringham 7.5. 5s., 3rd class fare. For further particulars see Bills.

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager. London, July, 1895.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS FROM ST. PANCRAS AND CITY STATIONS. A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.

On WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th, to BELFAST, &c.; and on SATURDAYS, JULY 13th and 20th, to LONDONDERRY. On THURSDAY, JULY 18th, to Dublin and South of Ireland. See Bills for Times.

TO SCOTLAND FOR 5, 11, OR 16 DAYS. On FRIDAY, JULY 12th, for 11 days, from St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m., to Carlisle, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Greenock, Helensburgh, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, &c.

Also for 5 or 11 days to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Forfar, Brechin, Montrose, Stonehaven, ABERDEEN, INVERNESS, Fort William, &c.

RETURN TICKETS at a THIRD-CLASS SINGLE ORDINARY FARE for the DOUBLE JOURNEY will also be issued by the above train to SCOTLAND, to return any day within 16 DAYS from date of issue.

On FRIDAY, JULY 12th, for 11 or 16 days, from St. Pancras at 8.30 p.m., to Northallerton, Richmond, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, and Berwick.

SATURDAYS, JULY 13th AND 20th. To LEICESTER, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Matlock, Buxton, Stockport, Southport, Liverpool, Manchester, Accrington, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury, Lancaster, Morecambe, the Lake District, Barrow, Whitehaven, Carlisle, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, &c. Tickets will be available for returning on Mondays, July 15th and 22nd, or Thursdays, July 18th and 25th.

Also on SATURDAY, JULY 13th, for 3 or 6 days, to Newark, Lincoln, Sheffield, Barnsley, Wakefield, Halifax, Leeds, Bradford, York, Hull, Scarborough, Darlington, Durham, Newcastle, &c.

On SATURDAY, JULY 20th, to DOUGLAS (Isle of Man), from St. Pancras at 5.15 a.m. (via Barrow), and 10.5 a.m. (via Liverpool); returning any Week-day within Ten Days. TICKETS and BILLS may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS and City Booking Offices, and from THOS. COOK and SON, Ludgate Circus, and Branch Offices.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

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Table with columns for INCOME AND FUNDS (1893). Rows include Fire Premiums (£716,000), Life Premiums (£224,000), Interest (£169,000), and Accumulated Funds (£4,293,000).

To Correspondents,

The following have been received: Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656; Concord Lodge, No. 1135; Broxbourne Lodge, No. 2353; St. Luke's, La Tolerance, Kanelagh, Harrow, and Kensington Lodges of Instruction; Excelsior Mark Lodge, No. 226; Boscawen Mark Lodge, No. 101; Pythagoras Chapter, No. 38; Margaret Chapter, No. 1929; Coryton and Rougemont Chapter (A. and A. Rite), No. 2; Metropolitan Council (T.I.M.), Allied Degrees; Consecration of the Papyrus Lodge, No. 2562; Masonic Bazaar at Lurgan; Annual Outing of the Abbey Lodge of Instruction; Annual Outing of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928; Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Bucks; Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076; Correspondence: The Grand Treasurership.



SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1895.

Masonic Notes.

The third and last of the three great Masonic Festivals of the year was held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Wednesday, and proved an even greater success than had been anticipated. The weather was fine, there was a goodly muster of guests, and, above all, there was a formidable array of donations and subscriptions, amounting, as will be seen elsewhere, to close on £18,800. We heartily congratulate the Institution which has been so generously supported, the noble Chairman, his Province of Cheshire, and the Stewards generally, on the splendid result which has attended their efforts, both on the day itself and during the preceding period of preparation, and the Craft which has responded so loyally to the advocacy of Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton and his supporters. Nor must we, while dispensing these congratulations, forget to offer a word of praise to Bro. McLeod, on whom, as the principal executive officer of the Institution, there fell the burden and heat of the day. For many, many months he has been traversing the country in all directions, seeking the support of Provinces, lodges, and individual brethren, and he now has his reward in the splendid something that was accomplished at Brighton on Wednesday, the 3rd inst. May his labours be always as productive of such grand results.

So heavy have been the demands on our space, that we have been compelled to hold over most of our ordinary reports, and some of a special character, for which we would gladly have found space had it been possible. Among the latter is the report of the very successful festival which our East Lancashire brethren held on Wednesday in behalf of their Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The amount received in donations and subscriptions exceeded £4000, and is the largest amount ever contributed by this Province to any single festival, whether local or general. In 1888 it raised upwards of £4000, but the amount was apportioned between the Benevolent Institution and the Girls' School. We shall give a full report of the meeting next week.

A Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Masonic Hall, Liverpool, this (Friday) evening at 7 p.m., when six children will be elected on the Educational branch of the Fund, two on the Combined Fund, and four on the Advancement Fund.

The School Quarterly Courts will be held at Freemasons' Hall next week, that of the Girls' School being fixed for Thursday, the 11th instant, at the hour of 12 noon, and that of the Boys' School the day following at 4 p.m. At both Courts the lists of candidates for the October Election will be settled, and the number of vacancies to be competed for declared.

It will be seen from our report of the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent at Maidstone, on Wednesday, that Bro. J. S. Eastes, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M., was presented with a testimonial in recognition of his long and meritorious services to Freemasonry both generally and in his own particular Province, and we gladly tender to him our warm congratulations on the honour thus conferred upon him. The subject of "Masonic Vagrants" was also considered, but upon this we shall take occasion to offer some remarks next week.

We beg to remind our readers that the anniversary Festival in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday next, the 10th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, Past S.G.W. We trust it will prove even more successful than its predecessors.

It is a kindly and pleasant annual custom of the Board of Stewards at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to give the children a day at the Crystal Palace. As a rule, indeed, it is the greatest treat they have in the year, and Monday last proved no exception. Save a short mid-day shower which rather cooled the air, the day was bright and lovely, and the various amusements the Palace provides were enjoyed by the girls to the full, not the least of their satisfaction proceeding from the liberal catering in the way of dinner and tea of Messrs Bertram. The Chairman and several of the House Committee, the Secretary, and the various members of the educational staff were present throughout the day, which will be long remembered, especially by those who are now leaving school, as a very delightful one.

Correspondence.

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

MASONIC VAGRANTS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Some few weeks since I wrote you on the subject of "Masonic Vagrants." I now give you my latest experience, trusting you will think fit to give it publicity in the *Freemason*.

On the 21st inst. a man called on me asking for Masonic relief. I asked for his certificate. In reply he handed me a letter on Masonic note paper, of which the following is a copy:

"Annesley Lodge, No. 1435, Nottingham.
April, 1895.

"This is to certify that the Grand Lodge Certificate of Bro. E. C. R.—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 1874, and Past Master over 10 years. Through ill-health has drifted into adversity.

"(Signed) ARTHUR PHELPS, Secy."

Also signed by E. C. R.—, whose signature is supposed to be verified by Thos. Pegg, W.M.

Suspecting a fraud, I told him I would make enquiries, and if a genuine case would relieve him. I need hardly say he did not call again. I enclose you Bro. Phelps' reply, for you to use as much of as you think fit. These rascals ought to be stopped.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

June 30th.

WILLIAM SMITH, P.M. and Sec. 996,
Prov. G. Treas. Norfolk.

"Smedley's Hydropathic Establishment,
Matlock, June 27th, 1895.

"My Dear Sir and Brother,

"Your favour to hand regarding E. C. R.—. I regret to say he is a 'fraud,' and unworthy any decent man's aid, much more a Mason's. He was employed at the request of the Nottingham Town Missionary by my late brother, William Phelps, afterwards by Thomas Pegg, whom he robbed. Since then I have lost sight of him.

"Anyway, I was never Secretary of the Annesley, 1435, and did not write or sign the letter.

"Thomas Pegg, whose address is Long Eaton, Derbyshire, is not, I believe, a brother, and certainly not of 1435. I think you have the party fast.

"Sorry for delay in replying. I am laid up with neuralgia.—Truly yours,

"ARTHUR PHELPS,
Clevedon, The Park, Nottingham.

"W. Smith, Esq."

IT IS ANNOUNCED that the Queen will visit Aldershot on the 10th inst. Her Majesty will, it is believed, stay at the Duke of Connaught's residence at Bagshot Park, and will probably pay a visit to the Empress Eugénie at Farnborough. The Queen and Court will be present at an operatic performance which is to be given on Monday evening at Windsor Castle.

CONSECRATION OF THE RAHERE LODGE, No. 2546.

CONSTITUTED BY THE M.W. GRAND MASTER.

On Saturday last a new lodge for the London district was consecrated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, under the title of "The Rahere Lodge," after the name of the founder of the Church of St. Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, and of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The lodge was founded for the convenience of the Medical Staff of the Hospital, and on the presentation of the petition for a warrant the Most Worshipful Grand Master expressed his intention to attend and take part in the ceremony of consecration. The warrant was granted on January 5th, and the founders awaited the convenience of his Royal Highness for appointing a day for the ceremony. The convenience was signified 11 days before the meeting, and the brethren lost no time in getting everything ready. Their efforts were so successful that the arrangements were complete, and the gathering lacked nothing that could give brilliancy to the celebration.

The founders of the new lodge were Bros. Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D.; Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., P.G.D.; W. J. Walsham, F.R.C.S., P.M.; D'Arcy Power, F.R.C.S., P.M., P.J.G.W. Warwickshire; T. G. A. Burns, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Surrey; W. Haig Brodie, M.D., P.M., P.P.G.D. Surrey; F. Swinford Edwards, F.R.C.S., P.M.; J. H. Gilbertson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Herts; B. Latter Tandy, P.M., P.P.S.G.W. Essex; W. Gripper, M.B., P.M.; P. S. Abraham, M.D., E. Clarke, F.R.C.S., G. H. R. Holden, M.D., A. G. R. Foulerton, H. D. Lauchlan, G. H. Forman, J. E. Sandilands, C. A. Parker, F.R.C.S., A. A. Bowlby, F.R.C.S., F. W. Clark, M.B., W. T. Partridge, J. Pickett, M.D., W.M. 2410; C. B. Lockwood, F.R.C.S., W.M. 1150; R. J. Reece, M.D., P.M.; C. P. White, M.B., and Thomas Trollope, M.D., P.G.D.

The lodge was opened by the Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Robert Grey, J. C. Parkinson, Frank Richardson, and P. Hickson Waterlow, and immediately afterwards the Most Worshipful Grand Master was announced. The brethren all stood to order, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales entered the lodge, which was held in the beautiful large hall of the hospital, accompanied by the Crown Prince of Denmark, Bros. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, Lord Skelmersdale, General Laurie, Dr. Balfour Cockburn, The Dean of Gloucester, W. M. Stiles, Grand Treasurer; R. Loveland Loveland, Frank Richardson, J. H. Matthews, Dr. F. Ernest Pocock, Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, and Col. Ward, C.B., G.S.B.

There were also present in the lodge:

Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Philip H. Waterlow, P.G.D.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.D.G.R.; Fred. Coles, P.G.S.B.; Gen. John Corson Smith, P.G.M. of Illinois, U.S.A., and Rep. Grand Lodge of England; Hugh Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C.; George E. Fairchild, Asst. G.D.C.; W. H. Sissons, P.A.G.D.C. Lieut.-Col. W. Newton, J.G.D.; Chas. Martin, P.A.G.D.C.; G. H. Hopkinson, P.D.G.D.C.; Col. J. Ward, G.S.B.; Edwd. Cutler, P.G. Org.; Rudolph G. Glover, F.S.A., P.D.G.D.C.; J. S. Cumberland, Dep. G.S.B.; George Beech, P.G. Std. Br.; Peter de L. Long, P.G.D.; Col. Lorenzo G. Dundas, G.D.; W. S. Hoyte, P.G. Org.; Henry F. Frost, G. Org.; Robert Grey, President Board of Benevolence; W. de M. Sergison, P.G.O.; Captain N. G. Philips, P.S.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G.M. Somerset; Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.W., Prov. G.M. East Lancashire; J. Balfour Cockburn, P.G.M. Guernsey and Alderney; Lieut.-Col. John A. Bindley, P.G.D.; E. J. Barron, P.G.D.; Sir J. R. Somers Vine, P.G.D.; Thomas Trollope, M.D., P.G.D.; Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, P.G.C.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; W. C. Beaumont, P.A.G.D.C.; H. J. Strong, P.A.G.D.C.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Dr. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; A. S. Tomkins, J.G.D.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; F. Mead, P.G.S.B.; and a large number of visitors.

The Earl of Lathom, who was to consecrate the lodge, took the chair that had been occupied by the Grand Secretary, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales sitting on his immediate right, and next to him sat the Crown Prince of Denmark. Bro. Lord Roberts acted as Senior Warden, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale as Junior Warden, Bro. the Dean of Gloucester, the Very Rev. Henry Donald Spence, D.D., as Chaplain, and Bro. Frank Richardson as Director of Ceremonies, Bros. J. H. Matthews and Dr. F. Ernest Pocock assisting.

The lodge being thus duly formed, the first business was to salute the M.W. Grand Master, which was done in the usual form.

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM then announced that the lodge was honoured with the presence of the Crown Prince of Denmark, M.W. Grand Master of Denmark, and the salute due to a Grand Master was thereupon given to his Royal Highness.

After the opening hymn—the musical portion of the ceremonies being performed under the direction of Bro. H. F. Frost, P.M., Grand Organist, assisted by Bros. W. A. Frost, A. Kenningham, A. L. Fryer, and G. Stubbs—

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM said: Brethren,—We are met here to-day to consecrate the Rahere Lodge, No. 2546 on the roll of United Grand Lodge of England, and the lodge is appropriately named after the founder of this great hospital. Brethren, I can only wish that this lodge may prove of vast benefit to the Craft; that it may be the means of many more members being enrolled in our body. I wish it every success, and I think, brethren, you ought to be glad and thankful that it has been possible for his Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to be present on this occasion.

After the usual formalities of the Grand Secretary addressing the Consecrating Officer, the founders being arranged in order, the Grand Secretary read the warrant, and the brethren signifying their approval of the officers named in the warrant in reply to the Consecrating Officer, the Earl of Lathom called on the Dean of Gloucester for the oration.

The Dean of GLOUCESTER, who was attired in the scarlet robes of a Doctor of Divinity, delivered the following oration:

Some seven-and-a-half centuries ago Rahere, a knightly minstrel of the Court of Henry Beauclerc, was lying sick unto death. In a vision of the night a man of unearthly beauty and majesty came and stood by him, and said, "Rahere

I am Bartholomew, the Apostle of Jesus Christ. Build in my name a holy house of God in Smithfield, by London, and lo I will help thee."

The sickness of Rahere passed away. The minstrel of Beauclerc was not disobedient to the heavenly vision. He devoted his life henceforth to the building of that stately church we know so well. Close by the church he placed the hospital. When these were building, men say how at the hour of evensong a strange bright light from heaven would play upon the yet unfinished walls, and then would flash up into the sky and disappear. For several hundred years the house of prayer and the house for God's suffering poor stood side by side. The hospital was famous in mediæval times for gifts of healing—as then, so now. In the stormy Reformation days, for a brief season the church and hospital were swept away; King Henry VIII. restored the hospital and endowed it. Since then the House of Rahere has grown with the City's growth. A splendid record of noble work belongs to this great house for sorrow and sickness. It is well known amongst us now as perhaps the greatest of our famous English hospitals.

It was a noble thought to connect this storied house of the Royal Minstrel Rahere—which for so many centuries has been one of the blessed homes of suffering in London—with our Masonic Brotherhood. Masonry belongs to the Court and the camp, to the great centres of commerce, to the scholar's study, to the cottage of the artisan; but its true home is where it may best assist and comfort them that mourn and are in need. Our great Order makes but little noise; it does its quiet work. But without Masonry, surely our England would be poorer. It aids not only its own homes, touched with sorrow, where our widows and orphans are tenderly cared for, not only its own suffering, sad-hearted brothers. Not only is it ever doing its quiet work among those specially linked to it by solemn vows, but it is ever whispering its noble maxims to many a heart. Not a few generous high-souled deeds done amongst us are due to English Masonry. Well and wisely then has it placed a garrison here in our greatest London Hospital—the hospital with a story stretching over seven centuries!

So much for our newly-founded lodge, called after Henry Beauclerc's Minstrel "Rahere"—the honoured founder of this famous Home for Suffering—so grandly inaugurated to-day with so much solemnity and splendour, in the presence of the illustrious Master of our great Order. Henry Beauclerc, the great Plantagenet, saw and approved Rahere's first design. Beauclerc's descendant and heir to-day gives his high sanction to the latest outcome of Rahere's enduring work.

Brother Masons of England, let me yet speak one word of our famous Order, and I am silent. Masonry has, I believe, a noble future before it. Men say dark days of bitter strife are in store for our favoured land. There are many dark and threatening clouds now overhanging Europe and England—not war clouds—the clouds I refer to are far more dangerous than war clouds. Please God the clouds will yet disperse and the gloomy shadows flee away. But if the dark days come upon us, what a mighty bulwark of order will our brotherhood of Masons be! We form a numerous company and a strong one, a company welded together by bands forged in no earthly workshop, a company made up of all sorts and conditions of men, from the Princes of the House of England down to the artisan living on a daily wage. With us every rank and condition is amply represented. Every city has its Masonic garrison, each district its faithful lodge of Masons. What a mighty influence will the Order exercise, if days of trouble ever come upon us! Brothers, let us be ready, standing shoulder to shoulder, quietly teaching, wherever our influence reaches—and the area of that influence is a broad one—teaching sympathy and Charity, order and obedience, reverence—so often now lost sight of—reverence for all that is higher, nobler, better than ourselves, holding fast those sublime teachings we Masons know so well, living up as best we can to that high Masonic ideal which ever sets before us—self-sacrifice for others, loyalty to our Queen, patriotism to our country, and above all clinging to that pure and simple religion, which our fathers have taught us, and which has made our England free and great and strong.

Then, in coming days, whether of sunshine or of storm, will you, brothers, be the noblest, truest, patriot army of which men have ever dared to dream. Surely our English Masonry has before it a great—a blessed future! May that light from heaven which in the eventide shone on the work of Beauclerc's friend and servant—Rahere—shine upon Rahere's Lodge to-day—shed its pure white heavenly light upon all our Masonic works and days, not only in the eventide, but the long day through for ever.

The consecration and dedication of the lodge were then proceeded with, and H.R.H. the Prince of WALES himself formally constituted the lodge as follows: "By virtue of the power in me vested as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, I hereby constitute you, my good brethren, into a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, under the name or style of the Rahere Lodge, No. 2546 upon the register of the Grand Lodge of England; and henceforth I empower you to meet and act as a regular lodge, to initiate, pass, and raise candidates, and perform all the rites and ceremonies in conformity with our ancient charges and regulations, and may the Most High counsel, direct, and prosper you in all your doings."

The Grand Secretary afterwards installed Bro. Dr. Clement Godson, P.M., Past Grand Deacon, as first Worshipful Master of the lodge. The other officers were as follows: Bros. Thomas Trollope, M.D., P.G.D., acting I.P.M.; Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., P.G.D., S.W.; W. J. Walsham, F.R.C.S., P.M., J.W.; D'Arcy Power, F.R.C.S., P.M., P.J.G.W. Warwick, Treas.; T. G. A. Burns, P.M., P.P.G.D. Surrey, Sec.; Walter Gripper, M.B., P.M., S.D.; Phineas S. Abraham, M.D., J.D.; G. H. R. Holden, M.D., I.G.; F. Swinford Edwards, F.R.C.S., P.M., D.C.; Ernest Clarke, F.R.C.S., Org.; J. H. Gilbertson, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Herts, C. B. Lockwood, F.R.C.S., W.M. 1150, and C. P. White, M.B., Stwds.; and Madden, Tyler.

Before closing the lodge, Bro. Dr. GODSON said: Brethren, I have the gracious permission of his Royal Highness the Grand Master to make the following proposition—"That the Prince of Wales honour the Rahere Lodge by becoming its first honorary member."

This was seconded and carried, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master bowed his acknowledgments.

Bro. BURNS, Secretary, thereupon read out a long list of names of intending initiates and joining members with the names of the proposer and seconder of each, and the lodge was then closed.

The Grand Master and the Crown Prince of Denmark returned to Marlborough House where the Prince of Wales was to entertain the Shahzada at dinner; the royal party were enthusiastically greeted when they left.

About 150 brethren dined together at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, under the presidency of Bro. Dr. Godson, who had on his right Bros. the Earl of Lathom, the Earl of Euston, Viscount Dungarvan, Lord Skelmersdale, Gen. Laurie, the Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, D.D., and Archdeacon Sinclair, and on his left Bros. Gen. John Corson Smith, Past G. Master Illinois, Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, the Dean of Gloucester, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the Grand Secretary.

The banquet, which was an excellent one, and admirably served, was followed

by the proposition and drinking of the usual toasts, but the Worshipful Master said there would be no "firing" as the room was not "close-tyled."

Bro. Dr. GODSON on rising to propose "The Queen and the Craft," was received with loud and continued cheering. He said: Brethren, the first toast that I have the honour to give you is that of "The Queen and the Craft." In all assemblages of her Majesty's loyal subjects the toast of her health is always received with the greatest possible enthusiasm, but in none more so than among Masons. The Queen has just completed the fifty-eighth year of her reign, and the anniversary of her coronation was yesterday. We are happy to say that her Majesty is in the enjoyment of excellent health. Long may it continue for her to reign over us! I give you "The Health of the Queen and the Craft."

Bro. Dr. GODSON then said: Brethren,—The next toast is that of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." That is a toast of which I am sure the reception will be especially enthusiastic; it is always so; but as his Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to come among us to-day, we give it, if possible, a more hearty reception. We welcomed his Royal Highness at St. Bartholomew's this afternoon in two capacities—first, as our Grand Master and, secondly, as our President. The Prince of Wales is always glad to come forward to further any good object that he considers worthy—it does not matter what it is; but it is perfectly wonderful what he does for our profession. Just think of the present time—the few days that are passed and the few days coming before us—his Royal Highness came down to St. Bartholomew's yesterday afternoon with her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, to go among the patients with the staff; it was done in a quiet way, just knowing how the patients would appreciate it; and then he came before us this day to help us to consecrate this lodge. I am sure you will feel how greatly we are indebted to him for having done so. We know the Princess of Wales was only the day before at St. Mary's Hospital, that the Prince is going next week to the Royal Free Hospital, and also in the week after to the Royal Medical Benevolent College at Epsom to lay the foundation-stone. All these things in the course of a few days—it is perfectly miraculous what the Prince has to do. I give you with all heartiness the health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER,

Bro. Dr. GODSON said: Brethren, the next toast is that of "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom." Immediately the warrant for this lodge was granted, his lordship said that it would be his wish to consecrate it, and I think that we must all be most grateful to him for that. The Pro Grand Master at that time was taking a voyage to the West Indies, and he said we must wait his return; he also said he hoped to get his Royal Highness the Grand Master to give us his presence, and we have to thank him for that. The ceremony to-day was performed by the Pro Grand Master in an admirable manner; we had an excellent oration, and we have to thank Lord Lathom for being with us to-day.

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM, in acknowledging the toast, said: Worshipful Master and Brethren,—I thank you sincerely for the kind way in which you have received this toast. I assure you that when first I heard that this lodge was to be founded, I at once said, as our W.M. has told you, that I should be only too happy to have the honour of consecrating it. I have felt that intimately connected as his Royal Highness was with this hospital, he ought to be present on this occasion, and I took the opportunity of making the suggestion to him, and I am happy to say it was received. Brethren, I congratulate you on having the presence of the Grand Master here to-day. I am pleased. I am not quite sure, but I believe it is only the second occasion when his Royal Highness has been present at the consecration of a lodge, and it is memorable in another way, and that is that it is the consecration—if I may use the term—of a professional lodge. On the previous occasion it was a professional lodge—the Chancery Bar Lodge. Brethren, I think, and I hope you will agree with me—that it is an admirable thing that what we may call these professional lodges should exist, because it brings into our ranks a number of men who would not otherwise join, but they would in their hearts accept the membership of a lodge belonging to their own profession where they will meet men they know, where they will have mutual topics to discuss, and where they are all good fellows. I will speak of my own Province of West Lancashire, and I find that in that I have a dramatic lodge, and there is a very good reason for having a dramatic lodge, and why? Because as a rule dramatic artists are employed

all the evening, and if they attend a lodge they must attend in the afternoon. I have a bar lodge also. The next one may not be a professional lodge, but it is a Jewish lodge; it is professional to some extent; there is a reason why there should be a Jewish lodge; Jews do not eat the food Christians do—food not killed the same way as ours. That is a very good reason for a Jewish lodge. Then there are naval lodges; there are several most admirable instances in our naval stations and sea ports, and men come in with their ships and ask where is there a lodge. Then there are military lodges; there are several of those too. And then I come to another lodge that I consecrated not very, very long ago, which is a flourishing lodge—a cycling and athletic lodge. I am a cycling man. Now, that is why I say I approve of professional lodges, and I say they are extremely useful to the Craft, and I am very glad when I hear of anything of the sort being constituted. I congratulate you, Sir, on the inauguration of this lodge. Everything has gone on well. It is very pleasing to me to see how you conducted it. I am sure it is in safe hands; the officers worked and showed they knew their work. You have put old hands in—which you had a right to do—to teach others. I congratulate you most sincerely, and wish the lodge long life and perfect success, and may all brotherly love always remain in it.

Bro. Dr. GODSON then said: Brethren, the next toast is "The R.W. the Deputy Grand Master and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." I hold a letter in my hand from Lord Mount Edgcumbe expressing his deep regret at not being present; he was obliged to be away on some very serious business. (Dr. Godson read a list of distinguished brethren who were not able to be present.) We have been fortunate enough, however, to have many distinguished Grand Officers with us, and we heartily welcome them. We are exceedingly fortunate in having our Senior Grand Warden, Lord Roberts, with us; and I very deeply regret that the Junior Grand Warden, Lord Barnard, has been prevented coming by a most serious illness, and we express the hope that he may soon recover. We know he is now in a most critical condition. We are glad to have among us Lord Skelmersdale, Past Junior Grand Warden, who acted as Junior Warden; he is a worthy son following in the footsteps of his noble father. Without further remarks I give you the toast, coupling with it the name of Col. Starkie, Prov. G. Master for East Lancashire.

Bro. Col. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE, in reply, said: On behalf of the Grand Officers, Present and Past, of the Grand Lodge of England, I beg to return to the new lodge and to you, Worshipful Sir, our most grateful acknowledgments for the fraternal reception you have given us on the present occasion, and to express to you that while we regret others were unable to attend, we feel that by seeing such a commencement of a lodge it will be an honour on the roll of England, and will carry out those principles on which Masonry is founded. We wish it success in every possible way. This is not, but it may be an age of enlightenment, and though that peculiar mystic light which first shed itself so beautifully on Rahere, and was the cause of the commencement of the building of this institution, which is alleviating the pains of mankind, may not anew shine upon us, still let us hope that light from heaven may never depart from this lodge, and may it be a signal to us that the good the hospital has done to humanity by curing their ailments and diseases, by this new collection of intellectual, kind-hearted, charitable persons may be worthy of the hospital so munificently founded, and may various other advantages and benefits to mankind accrue. One cannot but feel that this lodge is a great addition to our Order, and we trust that as it has begun so auspiciously it may continue, and that the noble institution of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which in the past has done so much good in various ways, now may obtain for itself a name in Freemasonry, and equally distribute the benefits of our Order for the amelioration of the condition of mankind, and become an ornament to Freemasonry.

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM: Brethren,—by permission of the W.M., I propose the next toast to you: it is one that will be drunk, I know, with enthusiasm by all of you, for it is "The Health of the W.M. of the Rahere Lodge." Bro. Godson has been connected so long with this great institution, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, that he must be well known to all who are associated with it. I will not attempt to describe what good he has done, what work he has performed; that is not my province: but I congratulate the Rahere Lodge most sincerely on having at its head a man and brother who has done so much not only for Freemasonry but for the alleviation of the sufferings of humanity. Without any other preface, I give you "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Dr. Godson," and I am happy in that he has set the example, which is an augury for good for the future of the Rahere Lodge, of brevity in making speeches. If that will not carry on the lodge I do not know what will.

Bro. Dr. GODSON, W.M., in reply, said: Brethren, you may imagine that after the 20 years consecutive work in the wards of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and 16 years on the permanent staff, I did not sever my connection with the hospital without the deepest regret and pain; and therefore it is with the heartiest rejoicing that I find myself again connected with my *Alma Mater*, which I love so well, by being on the governing body, and being in the proud position in which you have placed me this evening. I shall love the hospital as I have ever done, and I shall love this lodge. I thank you, brethren. The next toast which is always well received in our lodge is that of "The Visitors." On account of the short notice of this consecration, many could not come. We have, however, many distinguished brethren as visitors, but I shall couple with this toast the name of Bro. Smith, P.G.M. of Illinois.

Bro. JOHN CORSON SMITH, in reply, said: Worshipful Master and Brethren,—Did I follow the dictates of my own mind, I would do as the priest did in Convention in which he was a candidate for a Minister of State or Finance, in appealing to the Almighty before the opening of the Convention, he said—"Do thou endow this Convention with wisdom to select the best man, and then, oh Lord, do Thou help elect him." It is unnecessary to say that the speaker was nominated and elected by a large majority. That advice will serve you in the coming campaign for members of your Parliament. Select the best men, and the good Lord will help you elect them. But, brethren, this lodge has started in the right direction. There is nothing that will give a greater reputation to a lodge than courtesy to visitors. When a visitor enters a lodge and no one speaks to him, the W.M. does not come near him, no brother asks him who he is or whence he comes, he feels as though he was among strangers, and wishes he was outside of that lodge. Now, as the W.M. of a lodge for five years, I made it my duty to speak to every visitor that entered, learn who he was, where he came from, and introduced him to the members. This lodge has commenced in that direction, and royally received the visitors. Coming as I do, brethren, from one of

the States of the Federal Union—the greatest Republic on the face of the earth—I was the Grand Master of 50,000 true and ancient Craftsmen, and I give you their greetings. Coming from that Grand Prairie State of Illinois, I may say the annual products of which from field, farm, and mine are more than thrice the gold and silver output of the entire United States, its plant, stock and farm products are more than three times the entire gold and silver output, and in that estimate we do not value the blood of our boys and girls. Now, then, I bring you the greetings of these 50,000 true and tried Craftsmen, and as a member of all the lodges of the United States, when I return in August, I shall say I brought the greetings of one million tried Craftsmen of the Federal Union. I love Freemasonry because it teaches me to reverence the one Almighty and Supreme Architect of the Universe, and also I love it because it teaches me to be loyal to my country, and to bravely defend its flag. We were taught that by you, the Mother Grand Lodge of England. Our genealogy is correct. We received our parentage from Pennsylvania, and Pennsylvania from England, and as the son of one born in Scotland, and a mother that reared me born in the border city of Carlisle, I come among you as a brother in the flesh and the blood, and a brother of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. As I said, I love Freemasonry because it teaches me first to reverence God. In one address which I had occasion to make to some Freemasons in the Orient but a few weeks ago, I said that were I the Sultan of Turkey or the Shah of Persia I would connect myself with a lodge of Freemasons under the Grand Lodge of England; and why? Because they would teach them to reverence Allah, and to be loyal to their country and devoted to their flag. But a few days after that a Col. Risk Allah Bey, educated in this country forty years ago, was informed that a Freemason had been arrested because he had spoken disrespectfully of the Sultan. He was thrown into prison, and he sent for Risk Allah Bey because he was familiar with the Governor of the province. He told him there was not a word of truth in the story, that it was an enemy who had so reported him, and that he was loyal to the Government. The Colonel, a distinguished medical officer of the British Army, went to the Governor of the province and he quoted my speech before those Freemasons as an evidence of the loyal teachings of the Freemasons; and the brother was liberated. But, brethren, a word more and I am done. A distinguished statesman of America once said that the drum-beat of England accompanied the rising sun around the globe. I will say to you that Freemasonry has preceded the drum-beat of England—that the Freemasonry of the Grand Lodge of England has preceded civilisation around the world, and with the Royal Standard of Great Britain and the Union Jack, its battle flag, it has carried civil and religious freedom around the entire globe. I thank you, brethren, for your courteous reception of myself and the other visiting brethren whom I represent on this occasion.

Bro. Dr. GODSON, in proposing "The Officers of the Lodge," said at present very few of them have had the opportunity of doing any work, but he knew they had good stuff in them and that excellent work will be done. There are two, however, who have done an immense amount of work, and they are our Treasurer and our Secretary. I do not think the brethren can realise exactly what work has come upon them during the last 10 days. It is just 11 days ago that we had notice from the Grand Secretary that he had heard from Lord Lathom that the Prince would come and do the consecration. We thought it would be impossible, but we said we would strain every nerve possible in order to get ready. It has been done by enormous work on the part of the Treasurer and Secretary. I do not want to make a long speech, but I had intended to give you some account of the origin of the lodge; I will, however, call for our Junior Warden—the Senior Warden, Bro. Cooper, a most excellent Mason, having gone—to respond to this toast.

Bro. WALSHAM, J.W., in replying, said: Worshipful Master and Brethren,—In the absence of our first S.W., I return you thanks on behalf of my brother officers for the very kind words you have used in proposing this toast. No doubt we shall have a strong bond of union in that word which the founders of this lodge have the honour and the privilege of taking for their name, and we hope that this lodge which has been consecrated in such a charming way may strengthen those bonds of friendship, which I trust will always exist among those who have been educated in our borders. We are all proud of our hospital; we love it; we have attached to it the most flourishing and the largest medical school; we believe it to be the best; and last, but not least, have we got as our President the Grand Master himself. Such, sir, as it is possible, we desire to make this lodge—second to none—worthy of our ancient institution, worthy of our founder—Rahere—whose name we bear; worthy, indeed, of our President, the Grand Master. If, sir, the labours, the energy, the zeal which have been brought to bear on the formation of this lodge by our Treasurer and our Secretary may be taken as an earnest of what your officers will do, then, sir, I am sure the lodge during your year of office will be a success, and it will not be the fault of your officers if it fail to be so.

The Tyler's toast closed the successful proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF KENT.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent was held at the Palace, Maidstone, on the 3rd inst., under the banners of the Belvidere, Douglas, and Robinson Lodges, when the Prov. Grand Master, Lord Amherst, presided, and was supported by between 300 and 400 brethren. Amongst those present were Bros. J. S. Eastes, Dep. Prov. G.M.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Sir F. Seager Hunt, G.D.; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P.; Rev. A. Jackson, M.A., Prov. G. Chap.; W. Russell, Prov. G. Treas.; A. Spencer, P.G.S.B.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G.S.B.; and many others.

Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, and the minutes confirmed, the Treasurer's report was received and adopted.

Bro. W. RUSSELL was then unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer, and in tendering his thanks, expressed gratification at the increasing sum placed in his hands.

The sum of five guineas was voted to the Rev. Dean Payne Smith Memorial Fund.

Bro. LITTLE drew attention to a circular drawn up by the Kent Almoners, with reference to the subject of Masonic vagrants, and on his proposition, a copy was ordered to be sent to each lodge.

The Prov. Grand Master was authorised to re-nominate Bro. W. Russell, Prov. G. Treas., as a member of the Board of Management for the Boys' School.

The following Provincial Grand Officers were appointed and invested:

Bro. F. S. W. Cornwallis, M.P., W.M. 1725	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" George D. Warner, P.M. 1678	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. A. Jackson, M.A., P.M. 77	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. J. E. Player, P.M. 2237, P.G. Chap. Norfolk, 558	...	
" A. Spencer, P.M. 1063 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Major E. B. Stephens, P.M. 1174	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" George F. Baker, P.M. 503	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" George Church, P.M. 20	...	
" Henry Corbett Jones, P.M. 2009	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Alfred F. Church, W.M. 2205	...	
" Frederick Stanley, P.M. 127	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Solomon Brice, jun., P.M. 1050	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Albert H. Pilcher, P.M. 972	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" Thomas William Porter, P.M. 1915	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" Rufus Stevenson, P.M. 2200,	...	
" Frederick Gordon, P.M. 1063	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" William Brown, P.M. 1424	...	
" Edward T. B. Allen, P.M. 784	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Edwin Cockersell, P.M. 1449	...	
" John B. Groom, P.M. 2046	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Joseph Auty, P.M. 158	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" George Peden, P.M. 125	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" William Norrington, P.M. 1089	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Edward Lyne Dixon, P.M. 429	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" James Holmes, P.M. 1208	...	
" Samuel R. Wilson, P.M. 1209	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" W. B. Kennett, P.M. 1436	...	
" Robert Vine Harman, P.M. 1692	...	
" William Henry Kirby, P.M. 1965	...	
" Joseph Orum, 20	...	

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then said a duty devolved upon him, most agreeable to himself and all assembled. On many previous occasions of this kind he had spoken of the way in which Bro. Eastes had discharged his duties. The brethren had always testified, by their fraternal applause and the manner in which they received the toast of his health, how much they valued his services. Twenty-one years had passed since Bro. Eastes first received his collar. They had thought that the completion of that time was a fitting moment to recognise his great services and testify to the place he bore in the heart of every Mason in the province. Not only in Kent, but in other capacities Bro. Eastes had rendered good service. As a Grand Officer—a Past Grand Deacon—he was well known in Grand Lodge, and always welcomed. As representative of Kent he had served for six or seven years on the governing board of the Boys' School, and no more efficient brother ever watched over the interests of that Institution. In all capacities they were right in combining to confer some token of their esteem and regard. The movement was set on foot, and resulted in the collection of about 500 guineas. As on all occasions such as these the recipient had been asked what form it should take. They saw part of his answer on the table before them. There was one article—a grand piano—which was not present as it was in course of building. Bro. Eastes also desired a signet ring as a souvenir of the occasion, which he (the Prov. G.M.) had the pleasure of handing over. No Prov. Grand Master ever had a more able supporter, no Mason ever had a truer friend, and no province ever had a more devoted servant. They also presented him with an album, in which would appear the names of the subscribers. He (the Prov. G.M.) had also the pleasure of presenting an address, which asked Bro. Eastes' acceptance of several pieces of plate in recognition of his valuable services as Dep. P.G.M., and to the Craft at large, in various capacities, and in memory of many pleasant gatherings at which his social qualities had so much contributed, and expressed the hope that he would be spared for many years of health and happiness.

The inscription on the principal piece of plate is: "Presented with 12 other pieces of plate by the Freemasons of Kent to Bro. James Smith Eastes, Dep. Prov. G. Master, on his completing 21 years in that office, and in grateful recognition of the long and valuable aid he has rendered to the Craft. July 3rd, 1895."

Bro. J. S. EASTES, P.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master, in response said that their kindness was so overwhelming that although his heart was full he could not find words to adequately express his thanks. He need not tell them he was a proud recipient of their magnificent testimonial and was indebted to the Prov. G. Master for the great pains taken and the more than generous manner in which the presentation had been made. It was now 21 years since the Prov. G.M. honoured him by selecting him for the position, and although he accepted with diffidence, knowing he was following a man more able and eloquent than himself—Bro. Deason—he relied upon his habits of business, but he could not have foreseen that great kindness and forbearance he had received from every brother in the province. Twenty-one years had passed away in sunshine and prosperity, and he knew nothing to cloud or darken his enjoyment. For the testimonial, which he believed was given from their hearts, he thanked them most thoroughly. Last year, when it was proposed that a presentation to the Boys' School should be purchased in his name, he felt they had more than rewarded him for all his services, but that day the climax had been reached, and the manner in which it had been presented would leave a lasting impression with him and be a red-letter day in his life. He trusted to be spared for a few years to perform any services he could, but they could rely upon it that he looked back with pride to the many years they had been together. Masonry had been to him the luxury of his life, for he had found it was the most enjoyable thing one could have.

The brethren then proceeded in procession to All Saint's Church adjoining, where an eloquent sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. A. JACKSON, M.A., Prov. G. Chap. On returning to Prov. Grand Lodge, votes of thanks were passed to the Prov. Grand Chaplain for his sermon, Rev. Canon Dyke for the use of the church, and to the trustees of the Old Palace for the use of the rooms.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed, and a banquet was afterwards held at the Corn Exchange, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand Master, who subsequently gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts.

Bro. Sir J. B. MONECKTON, P.G.W., responded for "The Grand Officers," expressing the pleasure it afforded him to do so in his native province—a province native to him as a man and a Mason. He took care never to forget the fact, although the Prov. Grand Master made him feel a little guilty

in looking upon him as a visitor, which implied that he had not attended Provincial Grand Lodge as often as he should. He well remembered his first visit in 1857, when he attended as a young Mason, full of fire and ambition. He had gone on, but had not yet achieved Grand Office in the province, although he had had it elsewhere, and probably more than he deserved. From the Prov. Grand Master downwards they saw a great deal of the Grand Officers in town and country, and felt that those offices were well bestowed. Personally, although a Mason of nearly 40 years' standing, his Masonry was getting a little slack, and he was only able to devote himself to the benevolent part of the work. Whenever he could do a turn for the Province of Kent he was glad enough to do it, and he might remind them that a girl of that town was elected last time to the Girls' School with assistance, and they would be proud indeed if she turned out as well as her sister, who was now the esteemed governess of a noble family. He again thanked them, and was pleased to do so in the good old town of Maidstone.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., also briefly replied, and said it had been a great pleasure to him to witness the presentation to Bro. Eastes, who was his twin brother in Masonry—both having been invested as J.G.D. on the same occasion.

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER, in giving "The Prov. G. Master," said he knew there was no toast so dear to them as that. When they looked back to the time when Lord Amherst was appointed in 1800 there were 17 lodges and 870 members, but now there were 61 lodges with a membership of 3700, and that increase was due in a large measure to the exertions of the Prov. G. Master. That increase of members had been effected without deteriorating the quality, but rather the reverse. They were now spending between £600 and £700 for the benefit of the Masonic Institutions.

The PROV. G. MASTER, in reply, said he could add very little new to his response after the continual repetition of 36 years. It was true they had had a continued monotony of prosperity, but it was a monotony he was not adverse to. They had gone on for many years steadily increasing and upholding their name as a province. Last year there were two new lodges and two chapters started, all the ceremonies of which were carried out in the midst of winter. Perhaps they would be spared such extreme temperature in future, and perhaps he would learn wisdom and not perform such ceremonies in winter. All were started under auspices which made them hope they would be creditable to the province. They had not had a large increase in any one year, but had found out the places where new lodges could justly be recommended, and in this way they had more than trebled the lodges since he had been Provincial Grand Master, and had trebled their influence. To this success the brethren had contributed by their support, and he hoped that would not change so long as he held his present position. So long as they cordially received the toast of his health, so long would he cordially drink the health of the Masons in the province.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER next proposed "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master," and said that what had occurred in Prov. Grand Lodge was more eloquent than anything he could say, but no better Kentish Mason was ever honoured in Prov. Grand Lodge than Bro. Eastes. It reminded him of the story of a little girl, who, seeing the presents at her sister's wedding, said she thought it was really worth while getting married in order to have such beautiful gifts. It was quite worth while having served the province for 21 years to receive the esteem and friendship of every member in the province.

Bro. J. S. EASTES, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, said he quite agreed with the sentiment of the Prov. Grand Master. When he thought for one moment of their splendid testimonial he felt it was far more than he deserved for his duties had been a labour of love. He wished to thank them on behalf of his daughters for the handsome piano he was to receive. He also intended to say a few words with reference to his active connection with the Boys' School. He felt that the perpetual presentation made in his name—and with which his name would be perpetuated for ever—was an ample reward and one he deeply rejoiced in. He was glad that Bro. Russell had taken his place on the Board of Management, as he was an active and energetic brother. He valued the ring on his finger as it would continually remind him of the red letter day of his life. He could only express his deepest thanks for all they had done for him.

Bro. F. S. W. CORNWALLIS, M.P., Prov. S.G.W., on behalf of the Provincial Grand Officers, said they looked forward to their year with some diffidence and hope—diffidence because they did not submit to the axiom that what had gone before was always the best, but because they felt the difficulty in following the footsteps of their successors; and hope because they would have the assistance of every brother in the province.

Bro. COUPLAND, P.P.G.W., replied for "The Past Prov. Grand Officers."

Bro. JAMES TERRY, Sec. R.M.B.I., in an effective speech, responded for "The Masonic Charities."

Bro. Sir F. SEAGER HUNT, M.P., G.D., in answering for "The Visitors," said a more pleasant day could not have been arranged, whilst the pleasure of witnessing the well-deserved presentation to Bro. Eastes was greatly enhanced by the eloquent and graceful terms in which it was made.

Bro. KITE having replied for "The Reception Committee," the excellence of whose arrangements left nothing to be desired throughout the whole day's proceedings, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Under the direction of Bro. F. W. Dutnall, a musical programme was carried out by Miss A. Sargent and Messrs. Saunders and Portway.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge took place on the 29th ult., at the Parish Rooms, Teddington, when there was a large attendance of brethren. Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G. Master, presided, and was supported by Bros. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., Dep. Prov. G.M.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; Jabez Church, Prov. S.G.W.; Dr. N. Goodchild, Prov. J.G.W.; Rev. P. H. Aitken, Prov. G. Chap.; R. W. Bilby, Prov. G. Treas.; H. H. Room, G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec.; J. Adams, Prov. G.D.C.; Dr. A. E. Sanson, P.P.G.W.; G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D.; W. H. Lee, P.P.G.D.; H. W. Roberts, P.P.G.D.; Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.P.G. Chap.; W. A. Scurrell, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; A. H. Scurrell, P.P.G.S. of Wks.; T. J. Bird, P.P.G.S.B.; W. T. Peat, P.P.G. Org.; J. W. Hinton, Prov. G. Org.; W. G. Kentish, P.P.G.D.; J. Laurence, P.P.G.D.C.; His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., Prov. G. Stwd.; W. H. Glynn Smith, Prov. G. Stwd.; Dr. J. Beresford Ryley, Dr. W. Cock, P.P.G.D.; and many others.

Provincial Grand Lodge was duly opened and the minutes confirmed. The Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts and the reports of the Audit and Charity Committees were received and adopted. The latter report proved of great interest, and showed that a sum of £82 had been devoted to Charity during the past year out of the limited income of the province. The efforts of the Elections Committee had been crowned with great success. Four candidates had been elected to the Masonic Institutions, and the total number of votes polled for various cases amounted to 16,587. The Committee expressed their indebtedness and thanks to Bro. G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D., the Special Secretary for Elections, through whose indefatigable exertions a large proportion of the votes were obtained.

A vote of thanks was accorded the retiring Prov. G. Treasurer, Bro. Bilby, for his services, and, on the motion of Bro. W. G. KENTISH, P.P.G.D., Bro. B. J. Jacob, P.M. 1293, was unanimously elected to succeed him.

The Prov. G.M. re-appointed Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp as Deputy Prov. Grand Master (for the 14th time), and the following Prov. Grand Officers were invested:

Bro. His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., 708 ...	Prov. S.G.W.
" C. E. Cassal, 1415 ...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. P. Henderson Aitken, 1597 ...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, 1503 ...	
" W. H. Glynn Smith, 1691 ...	Prov. G. Reg.
" B. J. Jacob, 1293 ...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Howard H. Room, 1777, G. Std. Br.	Prov. G. Sec.
" Thos. Barlow, 2087 ...	Prov. S.G. Deacons.
" J. E. Lane, 2183 ...	
" W. Ramsey, 1777 ...	
" W. T. Angel, 1871 ...	Prov. J.G. Deacons.
" E. T. Taylor, 1567 ...	
" H. B. May, 1237, 1579 ...	Prov. G. S. of W.
" H. W. Greenwood, 1579, 1702 ...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. J. Robinson, 788 ...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" R. Dunstan, 1326 ...	
" W. J. Trewinnard, 2325 ...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" G. Ransford, 1512 ...	
" H. Sapsworth, 1656 ...	Prov. G.S.B.
" S. Meech, 2163 ...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" W. H. Lee, 1897, P.P.G.D.	
" R. F. Tyler, 1597 ...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. J. Wilson, 382 ...	Prov. G. Org.
" R. M. Surridge, 2048 ...	Prov. G. Purst.
" J. Gilbert, 1194 ...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" C. J. Davison, 1897 ...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" E. R. Bartley Denniss, 1460, 2548 ...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. W. Lee, 1897, 2381 ...	
" R. C. Read, 1309 ...	
" Guy Repton, 778 ...	
" E. Swain, 1293 ...	

Thirty guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at the next Festival of which the Prov. Grand Master will preside, and 15 guineas to each of the other two Masonic Institutions.

Thanks were accorded the Vicar of Teddington for the use of the Parish Rooms, and an offertory amounting to over £10 was placed at his disposal for local charity. Thanks were also given to the Sir Charles Bright Lodge for the use of furniture, and especially to Bro. R. W. Forge, who renders excellent service at the annual meetings in carrying out the arrangements.

The following oration on "Some popular misconceptions regarding Freemasonry" was then delivered by Bro. the Rev. P. HENDERSON AITKEN, Prov. G. Chap., after which the Prov. G. Lodge was closed:

"O wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see ourself as others see us,
It wad frae mony a blunder free us
And foolish notion."

So sang the Scottish bard, and we admit the truth of his lines, while we also endorse the old heraldic proverb: "They say." "What say they?" "Let them say!" In other words, as members of this ancient and honourable Fraternity, we cannot be indifferent to the judgment and opinion of those who are without, when that criticism is intelligent and fair, as we may admit it sometimes is; while at the same time we are supremely unconcerned at the silly or spiteful things that are said in disparagement of our Order. Needless to remark that most of the prejudices that prevail in the uninitiated or popular world are due in great measure to the folly and indiscretion of our brethren. To begin with, the atrocious rigmarole about the pretended exposure and torture of initiation, the fables regarding red-hot branding irons, and bare-back goat riding, have doubtless contributed not only to deter many simple, but sincere and self-respecting souls, from entering the Masonic world, but also, and especially, to discredit and lower the Institution, in the estimation of serious and sober minds, to the level of a mere fantastic buffoonery. It is plainly the duty, therefore, of all right-thinking Masons to abstain from, and generally to discountenance, such thoughtless and ill-timed travesties of what are really solemn and significant ceremonies. I have myself been told by more than one member of the Order that repugnance at such supposed treatment kept them for years from joining, while others have expressed sincere regret at having been first presented by friends with a grotesque caricature of what would otherwise have been a most impressive and memorable experience, but whose good effect was in great measure spoilt by those only too well remembered prophecies of pain and shame. Only the other day a friend, after his initiation, confided to me his absolute conviction that on his entrance to the lodge he was being marked with some sort of indelible stamp or dermatograph pencil, so universal and so deep-rooted is this belief in a secret visible brand or sign. Another misconception prevails in regard to our secret bond of brotherhood. Freemasonry has always had its miserable and mischievous detractors, who decry the system as a dangerous secret society, a political conjuration, a hole and corner revolutionary combination, a masked and muffled foe alike to Church and State, the congener, in short, of the ancient German Vehm-Gericht, or the modern Italian Camorra. But Lessing, though (as I understand) not himself a Mason, declared in no uncertain tones the fallacy of such fancies by stating that the existence of Freemasonry in any country was in itself a proof of the strength and stability of that Government, while its suppression was a conclusive evidence of weakness as well as tyranny. In this connection I cannot refrain from stigmatising the opprobrious appellation "Anti-Christian" as wickedly false and cruel. Freemasonry, like Jerusalem that is from above, is free—free alike from political rancours and theological hatreds. It is founded on the purest principle of piety and virtue, yet without confinement or compromise in the shape of creed, confession, or

catechism. It realises the consummation of a generous and unsectarian Catholicity, the ideal of a living and practical faith unperplexed by formulas. On its neutral ground all worshippers may meet and find, on a closer mutual inspection, that doctrinal or systematic differences do not, after all, constitute impossible barriers or prevent men from kneeling side by side, as brethren, to address one common God and Father. But there is another misconception quite as mischievous as the last, which persistently presents the be-all and end-all of Masonry as simply "dining and wining." Now, this is a reproach on which certain representatives of the Order can hardly be acquitted. But it is far from a fair judgment to assert of the whole Fraternity what may be true only occasionally of particular members. No doubt there are, here and there, Masons to whom the labours of the Fourth Degree are apparently more congenial than any of the former, and for whom the only "chairs" they care to fill seem to be those set round the banquet table. I would not say one word, however, in seeming disparagement of the enjoyable social aspects of the Institution. They are a real privilege, and should be shared by all judiciously and temperately, and, therefore, to the fullest advantage. Geniality may well on occasion broaden to joviality without incurring the censure of any but sour and senseless ascetics. One other popular prejudice I shall notice ere I close. Freemasonry is too often regarded as a species of life insurance, a variety of the mutual benefit business. Here, I am afraid, brethren are to blame for so representing the nature of our Institution, in urging its claims upon the notice of their friends. No doubt relief and brotherly love are two of the great principles on which the Order is founded. No doubt Charity may justly be denominated the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart. At the same time, the Masonic Order does not for one moment wish to compete with the insurance offices, and the attraction of new members by means of such representations is distinctly reprehensible for several reasons. Firstly, it lowers the moral tone of the Order. Secondly, it introduces into Freemasonry those whose positions in life do not fairly warrant such a step; and, thirdly, as a consequence of this, it brings upon the resources of our various Benevolent organisations an overwhelming number of applications for relief, qualified neither by age nor by services rendered to the cause of Masonry. No man should be led to join with the intention or even the remotest prospect of getting as much out of it one day as he now puts in. Such belief and practice can issue only in the degradation of the Order and the ultimate destruction of its usefulness. "If ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thanks have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners to receive so much again. But, do good and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest; for He is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye, therefore, merciful, as your Father also is merciful."

The brethren having been photographed by Bro. Fehrenbach, proceeded to the Town Hall, where dinner was provided, and the usual toasts were afterwards given.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER first proposed "The Queen and the Craft"—the best of all living governors, and the best of all living governed. Governments came and went, and those who went out of office had some relaxation; but for her Majesty there was no such relaxation. During a period of 58 years her Majesty had been the amiable Sovereign who had formed the highest conception of what a constitutional monarch should be.

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," was heartily given, after which

The PROV. GRAND MASTER gave "The Grand Officers," with which he associated the name of Bro. Thrupp, D.P.G.M. There was another brother whom he should have liked to associate, but whose modesty prevented him. He alluded to the latest, but he was perfectly certain by no means the least, efficient of the Grand Officers—Bro. Room, the Prov. Grand Secretary. When he (the Prov. Grand Master) accepted office in the province, as a cautious man, he made preliminary enquiries, and he found there were two pillars of Freemasonry in Middlesex—Bros. Thrupp and Room—and it was not until he was satisfied of the admirable manner in which they discharged their respective offices that he thought he might take upon himself with the reflected glory of those distinguished officers, the office of Prov. Grand Master. He was glad to be able to associate the name of Bro. Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., with the toast, for they were all delighted to see him present, and hoped that whatever little fancies or ideas there might be concerning his health would be disseminated by the fine weather, and that for years to come he would be associated with Freemasonry in Middlesex and the duties he so ably discharged.

Bro. RAYMOND H. THRUPP, P.A.G.D.C., Deputy Prov. G.M., in reply, said that the M.W.G.M., the Pro G.M., and other Grand Officers were that day at St. Bartholomew's Hospital consecrating a new lodge, and a week hence the Pro Grand Master would install Lord Onslow as Provincial Grand Master and Grand Superintendent of Surrey. When they had chiefs showing such desire for the good of the Craft, surely the minor Grand Officers must do what they could to support them. He had hoped that a Present Grand Officer would reply, but Bro. Room was one of those workers in and out of a lodge, and the grandest organiser that ever slept in bed—for it wanted a lot of sleep to get the necessary energy. The way in which the present meeting had been carried out had been perfect, and it was a great relief to himself and the Provincial Grand Master to know that all the work was carried out for them by their Provincial Grand Secretary, and that was characteristic of a Grand Officer. If every Grand Officer deserved the honour as thoroughly as Bro. Room, well, they might perhaps have better Grand Officers than they had.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER then said they had arrived at the toast of the evening—"The Health of their Prov. Grand Master." They had been hoping against hope that he would be present, and were delighted to see him, and only wished they could see him more often, but, as they were aware, Bro. Lord George Hamilton had very little time to visit their lodges. Without broaching politics, they could sincerely congratulate her Majesty on having once more appointed their Prov. G. Master as one of her Secretaries of State, and, knowing what he had done for the government of their province, they felt sure he would carry the same good feeling and wisdom for the government of the country—the country would be happier, and they poor Masons would be happier, too.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in responding, said it was always with reluctance that he saw his gavel pass into the hands of his Deputy, for Bro. Thrupp always led the "fire" so much better than he could. As an old military officer, he liked to keep his company as compact as possible; but had not been able to retain the position a commanding officer should. The Deputy Prov. Grand Master had alluded to the fact that he had other duties to perform. He always thought they should try to conduct themselves by the guiding principles they learnt as Freemasons. First, to respect authority. Next, that all persons were more or less on a condition of equality and should be treated with consideration, and lastly that those who either by accident or misfortune were in a less happy condition should be helped to the best of their power. Those

were three rules that should influence men and were the conditions that governed those who held high office. During the last few years he had the honour conferred upon him of being asked to accept the office of Prov. G. Master. He afterwards found himself the biggest Schoolmaster in the world, and he found that a little consideration for other people's feelings and a due allowance for their opinions, tended to make things easier. He was now in another position, but in that position he thought the governing traits of Freemasonry would actuate him. Her Majesty ruled over a large portion of the human race, and she in her supreme position knew, so far as justice was concerned, no difference of colour or race—and that was the governing principle of Freemasonry. All persons were in a position of equality so long as they performed their various functions under supreme authority, and on these conditions he had endeavoured to perform his functions. If he could attain the ideal which was undoubtedly presented in the principles of Freemasonry he could not but feel that his success was due to association with the Craft.

Bro. his Honour Judge LUMLEY SMITH, Q.C., responded on behalf of "The Prov. Grand Officers," and said it was well known that possession of office in the province was highly esteemed, and rightly so. A meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was a most interesting gathering, because one saw that every brother was one who had been, or was, a centre of Masonic influence in his own district. In this province office was a high position in consequence of the great number of brethren found in it and the consequent difficulty of selection. The compliment paid to each brother put into office would be shared by the lodge to which he belonged.

Bro. JAMES TERRY, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied for "The Masonic Charities," and referring to the Chairmanship of the Prov. Grand Master at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution, said there were at present 23 brethren from the province who had sent in their names as Stewards. That was not one half the number that would be enrolled by the time the Festival came round. He hoped that on the 26th February 1896, the Prov. Grand Master would have the privilege of presiding over one of the largest meetings ever held in connection with the Institution. When the Prov. Grand Master consented to act as Chairman he did not anticipate being able to announce that the Secretary of State for India would preside, and he was proud to think his duties would not compel him to visit that far-off country, and thereby deprive the Benevolent Institution of his presence. Whatever had been accomplished in Middlesex would be beaten in 1896. It was easy to do so if every member in the province put down 10 guineas, for this would enable them to place 10 additional annuitants on the Fund. They might call them Hamilton or Middlesex annuitants, or whatever they pleased, so long as they sent in the money. Since he had been in office the number of annuitants had increased from 180 to 475, and the amount required each year was now about £20,000. They had thus endeavoured to meet that glorious thing that so many statesmen had attempted—providing pensions for old age. Masons had solved that problem, and Masonry had guided them to what they should do. He hoped that at the next Festival the Provincial Grand Master would be as gratified with the result as the province would be at being presided over by so distinguished a brother and so illustrious a statesman.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Bro. J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., P.P.G. Org., presided over the musical arrangements, which included an original Masonic song, "Friends and Foes," by Bro. Hinton, which should speedily prove popular with the brethren, both for the excellence of the words and the melody of the air. Bros. E. Roberts, D. James, and Davies also assisted.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BERKSHIRE.

The annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Berkshire was held in the large Town Hall, at Reading, on Tuesday afternoon, the 25th ult., when there was a numerous attendance of members, a large proportion of whom were Provincial Grand Officers, who wore their handsome and distinctive collars and badges, as well as an array of jewels, which more or less bore evidence of the valuable services rendered to the Order by the respective possessors. The Council Chamber was appropriated to the use of the Provincial Grand Officers, while one of the Committee Rooms was set apart for the ordinary members.

Notwithstanding the multiplicity of engagements which press upon most people of any position at this season of the year, there was a very fair contingent of visitors, including eight or nine brethren from Gloucester, who thus returned the compliment extended by some of the Reading Masons who recently made a fraternal visit to that city.

The hall had been admirably fitted up, and the assembling of the Provincial Grand Lodge was preceded by a special lodge of emergency held by the three Reading lodges, under the presidency of Bro. W. J. Maurice, W.M. of the Union Lodge, the Wardens' chairs being respectively filled by Bros. the Rev. J. M. Guilding, W.M. of the Greyfriars' Lodge, and A. S. Cooper, W.M. of the Kendrick Lodge.

At about half-past four o'clock the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge entered the hall in proper Masonic order, and were accorded the accustomed honours, after which the transaction of the usual business proceeded under the able and genial direction of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master in Charge, Bro. John Thornhill Morland, wearing the handsome gold braided collar of Past Junior Grand Deacon of England.

There were a large number of brethren present.

Bro. J. W. MARTIN, the indefatigable and much esteemed Prov. Grand Secretary, first read the roll of the lodges, when it appeared that all, with one exception, were represented. The names of the Prov. Grand Officers for the year were also called.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY read letters of apology for non-attendance from a number of distinguished brethren, including Bros. Viscount Valentia, M.P.; Sir Lionel Darell, C. T. Murdoch, Keyser, and others.

The general financial statement for the year showed total receipts of £258 15s. 3d., and a balance in hand of £120 11s. 11d., which was rather more than the previous year's balance. The Charity account was of a similarly satisfactory character, and the finance report was unanimously adopted on the motion of Bro. F. J. FERGUSON, seconded by Bro. R. C. MOUNT.

The Secretary's report upon the lodges in the province was likewise of a gratifying nature, showing a total of 622 members, and 171 Past Masters. The regular lodges held during the year had numbered 100, and nine lodges of emergency had also been held. There had been 23 joining members in the course of the twelvemonth, and 33 initiations.

Bro. E. MARGRETT, Secretary to the Provincial Charity Committee, presented an interesting report, which recorded the success of the candidate put forward by the province on this his first and last chance.

The DEPUTY PROV. G.M. complimented Bro. Margrett and the Committee upon the satisfactory result of their strenuous and untiring efforts to promote the success of the deserving case in question, and urged the great importance of the brethren sending all their votes to the Committee, who would exercise the voting power of the province to the best advantage, as they had done in the instance referred to.

The report was unanimously passed on the proposal of Bro. E. HORNE, seconded by Bro. S. KNIGHT.

Bro. J. TOMKINS proposed, and Bro. S. G. KIRCHHOFFER seconded, in complimentary terms, the re-appointment of Bro. Charles Stephens as Provincial Grand Treasurer, which was cordially agreed to, and Bro. STEPHENS briefly returned thanks.

The Prov. Grand Secretary reported that Bro. Margrett had been elected on the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a well deserved recognition of his labours in the cause of Masonic Charity.

The Deputy P.G.M. then invested Bros. E. Prince, P.M. 2091, and J. S. Liddle, W.M. 574, with the Provincial Charity Jewel; and Bros. Captain A. Tupman, P.M. 414; G. H. Morland, W.M. 945; and F. Kedge, 2460, with the Charity Bar.

The Deputy P.G.M. next appointed and invested the Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. William Ferguson, 1101	...	...	Prov. G.S.W.
" Alex. C. A. Higerty, 2437	...	...	Prov. G.J.W.
" Rev. A. E. Farrar, 1887	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. W. Muirhead Hope, 574	...	...
" Charles Stephens, 414 (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" A. E. Preston, 945	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" John W. Martin, 414 (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Dr. J. B. Isaac, 1899	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Harcourt Lee, 209	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Wm. Powell, 1770	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" Henry Ponking, 1887	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Frederick Hunt, 771	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. S. Cooper, 2043	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Lieut. J. G. W. James, 795	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" G. S. Galt, 414	...	...
" T. W. Walford, 2460	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" D. Manders, 1879	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Edwin Hewett, 1566	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" C. L. Lovett, 945	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" W. J. Maurice, 414	...	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" E. A. C. Bouquet, 209	...	...
" G. H. Morland, 945	...	...
" Dr. C. E. Peterson, 1899	...	...
" Bernard Ruddock, 414	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" W. Hemmings, 1101	...	...

The newly-appointed officers having been saluted the P.G. Lodge was closed in due form.

The annual banquet was subsequently partaken of in the small Town Hall, when over 100 brethren assembled; a *recherché* repast being served by Bro. W. G. Flanagan, of the Great Western Hotel. At the close of the repast,

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER (in charge) proposed "The Queen and the Craft" and also "The M.W. Grand Master of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.; the M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the R.W. the D.G.M. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe; and the Grand Officers of England, Present and Past."

Bro. KIRCHHOFFER having responded, proposed "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master (in charge) and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past." They had, he said, at the head of the province a gentleman whom they honoured as a distinguished Mason and loved as a friend. The Grand Officers, Present and Past, were also well deserving of the distinctions conferred upon them.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER (in charge) remarked that he was pleased to do anything he could to promote the interests of the Craft, and if his humble efforts met with the approbation of the province, he was amply repaid. Bro. Morland concluded by thanking the Mayor and corporation of Reading for granting the free use of the halls for Provincial Grand Lodge, and requested the Prov. Grand Secretary to convey the thanks of the province to them for their kindness.

Bro. CHARLES STEPHENS submitted "The Health of the Visitors," and Bro. BURTON, P.P.S.G.W. Gloucestershire, and Bro. BOWEN, P.G. Sec. Bucks, responded.

Bro. Canon GARRY, in giving "The Charities," said the real meaning of the word Freemasonry was Charity. The three Masonic Charities had developed very largely of late years, and as the Charities had grown so had the Craft grown in strength and stability. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. Terry and Margrett.

Bro. JAMES TERRY, Sec. R.M.B.I., thanked the Province of Berks for the generous assistance it had given to the Benevolent Institution, £450 having been taken to the last Festival by the five brethren who attended from Berkshire lodges.

Bro. MARGRETT also responded. He said he was very proud of what the province did in regard to the Charity votes.

The D.P.G.M. proposed "The Worshipful Masters of the Union, Greyfriars, and Kendrick Lodges," and Bros. O. MAURICE, the Rev. J. M. GUILDING, and S. COOPER replied.

"The Health of the Prov. Grand Treasurer and Secretary" was also enthusiastically drunk, their valuable services being highly praised.

THE INSTALLATION MEETING of the Lodge of Rectitude, No. 335, took place on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at Corsham. There was a good attendance of brethren, and the meeting was a very pleasant one. Bro. M. St. John Maule was installed into the chair of K.S. by the retiring W.M., Bro. C. B. Oliver, who received the congratulations of the brethren on recovery from his long and serious illness. The officers invested were as follows: Bros. C. R. Oliver, I.P.M.; Col. Gwynn, S.W.; Rev. J. Dunlop, J.W.; Rev. J. McConnell, S.D.; Basil A. Dyer, J.D.; E. Noke, Sec.; B. H. Watts, Treas.; W. B. Gregory, I.G.; and S. Bigwood, Tyler.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH AS PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

Some 600 Freemasons of the Province of Lincolnshire assembled on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Corn Exchange, Lincoln, for the installation of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarborough, Past Grand Warden of England, as Provincial Grand Master by Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., M.W. Pro Grand Master of England.

Prov. Grand Lodge was opened by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Harling Sissons, J.P., D.L., Past Asst. G. Dir. of Cers. of England. The financial statement showed a substantial balance in hand.

The Prov. Grand Registrar, Bro. Watson presented the annual returns of the lodges, which showed an increase in the number of the members, there being now 1131 Masons in Lincolnshire.

The reports of the Committees of the Fund of Benevolence, the Oliver Memorial, the Smyth Scholarship, and the Sutcliffe Memorial, were presented, and Bro. Nesbitt submitted the accounts of the Funds, which were in a satisfactory condition.

Bro. Nesbitt was re-appointed Prov. Grand Treasurer, and Bros. Norfolk and Smith, of Louth, were appointed Auditors.

A sum of 25 guineas was granted to the Prov. Grand Charity Stewards, Bros. Beeson and Barratt, as a contribution to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Fifty guineas were granted to the expenses of holding Provincial Grand Lodge from the General Fund.

It was decided to take an office in Lincoln for the use of the Provincial Grand Lodge in which the archives of the province might be deposited. The Pro Grand Master of England, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., the Prov. Grand Masters, the Deputy Prov. Grand Masters, and other distinguished visitors entered in solemn procession and were saluted by the brethren. The visitors included the Duke of St. Albans and a large number of Grand Officers.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER reviewed the history of Masonry in Lincolnshire, and expressed gratification at the visit of Lord Lathom to the province, and presented him with an address of welcome. He alluded to the death of Bro. Alfred Kirk, of Gainsboro', and to the retirement of Bro. Smyth from the Provincial Mastership. Every Freemason in Lincolnshire rejoiced at the choice made by the M.W. the Grand Master of England of the Prov. Grand Master of Lincolnshire, the Right Hon. the Earl of Yarborough, of whose qualities he spoke in laudatory terms.

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM thanked the lodge sincerely for the kindly address of welcome, and said it gave him great pleasure to visit the province.

The roll of Prov. Grand Officers and lodges having been called, the valedictory address of Bro. W. H. Smyth, Past Prov. Grand Master, was presented, and a resolution of regret and gratitude was moved by Bro. HALL, seconded by Bro. NESBITT, and adopted. The address referred to Bro. Smyth's 50 years connection with Masonry.

In addition to Bros. the Earl of Lathom and the Duke of St. Albans, Prov. G.M. of Notts, there were also present Bros. J. W. Woodall, P.G. Treas.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Col. W. Newton, J.G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Henry Smith, P.G.D.; Hamon Le Strange, P.G.D.; Judge Masterman, P.G.D.; Col. Bindley, P.G.D.; James Matthews, Past Dep. G.D.C.; J. Bodenham, Past A.G.D.C.; J. Chadwick, Past G.S.B.; S. S. Partridge, Past A.G.D.C.; F. Mead, P.G.S.B.; T. Fenn, P.G.S.B.; C. F. Matier, Past G. Std. Br.; and M. C. Peck, Past G. Std. Br.

The Charity Stewards reported having received the sum of £533 in aid of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. It was decided to support the Girls' Institution for the next year, and Bros. Beeson and Barratt were again appointed Charity Stewards.

The Prov. Grand Master invested the Prov. Grand Officers as follows;

Bro. Hon. Victor Pelham	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" F. C. Hett	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" B. Vickers (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Canon Moor	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. G. W. Borham	...	...
" G. W. G. Beaumont	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" David Smith	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" R. A. Machiar	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" Barrell (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" Major A. Bannister	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" Capt. D. P. Kingston	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Casterton	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" F. A. Aldridge	...	...
" — Wilkins	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. J. Kell	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" R. N. Brunyee	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" T. M. Porter	...	...	Prov. A. G. Purst.
" R. H. Dix	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" R. Ramage	...	...
" S. J. Coupland	...	...
" S. Randall	...	...
" William Fletcher	...	...
" T. Beulah	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" W. Donner	...	...

A banquet, attended by 500 brethren, was held in the Drill Hall, Bro. Lord Yarborough presiding.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

The Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Cheshire was held on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at the Mechanics' Institute, Stockport. Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, presided. There was also a large gathering of brethren present. The brethren assembled in the large hall, awaiting to receive the Prov. Grand Master and other Grand and Prov. Grand Officers (marshalled by Bro. Gordon Small, Prov. G. Dir. of Cer.).

After being duly saluted, the roll of lodges was called, and it is gratifying to know all were represented.

The Prov. Grand Officers answered to their names with but few exceptions, apologies being sent in all cases.

Bro. RICHARD NEWHOUSE, P.G.D., P.G. Sec., read the minutes of the meeting held at Altrincham in June, 1894, which were confirmed.

At this stage, Bro. Col. Dean, D.P.G.M. elect, was announced, and received by the brethren, conducted by the P.G.D.C., who presented him to the Prov. Grand Master, who installed him very effectively as his Deputy.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts were passed, showing that the state of the province is in a perfectly healthy and prosperous state, the AUDITOR speaking in high terms of the manner in which the books were kept.

The election of Prov. Grand Treasurer fell to the hands of Bro. W. Cartwright, P.P.J.G.W.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER moved a vote of condolence to Mrs. Salmon, the widow of the late Deputy Prov. Grand Master, in a few sympathetic terms.

Bro. MORRIS seconded, and it was unanimously adopted.

Bros. Morris, Jaffrey, and Danby were then appointed Auditors for the ensuing year.

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

Bro. Col. Dean	...	...	D. Prov. G.M.
" F. Brodsmith	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" H. E. Heywood	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Owen Jones	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" J. Clarke	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" J. R. R. Jeffery	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. E. R. Johnson	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" W. Cartwright, P.J.G.W.	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Richard Stephenson	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Richard Newhouse, P.G.D.	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" A. S. Derbyshire	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" John Wagstaffe	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" G. Forrester	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. H. Jackson	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" H. G. Small	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. J. Newton	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" J. Taylor	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" H. Powell Jones	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" G. S. Smith	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Geo. Brown	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Dykes	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" G. Bourne	...	...
" Burgess	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Alfred Huxley	...	...

An invitation to visit Birkenhead next year was accepted by the Prov. Grand Master.

It was proposed by Bro. DANBY—"That the best thanks of the Prov. Grand Lodge be given to W. Bro. Stephenson, who has faithfully performed the duties of Treasurer for 17 years."

This was seconded by Bro. Col. DEAN, and carried unanimously.

At the close of business, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

Subsequently many of the brethren partook of a banquet, presided over by the Prov. Grand Master.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to.

CONSECRATION OF THE EASTBOURNE MARK LODGE, No. 484.

On Saturday, the 22nd ult., by desire of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Provincial Grand Master of Sussex, the Eastbourne Mark Lodge was consecrated by Bro. the Earl of Euston, at the Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne. The Pro Grand Master was accompanied by Bros. Frank Richardson and Robert Berridge, Past Grand Wardens; K. R. Murchison, G.O.; Jabez Church, P.G.O., G.S.B.; Sir G. Harris, P.G.O.; R. Clowes, P.G.O.; Chas. Belton, P.G.O.; Rowland Plumbe, P.J.G.W.; Stewart Brown, G.D.; C. W. Carrell, P.A.G.D.C.; E. Monteuius, P.A.G.D.C.; F. J. Cox, P.A.G.D.C.; Fred. West, Dep. Prov. G.M. of Surrey, and others. There were also present:

Bros. the Rev. E. R. Currie, Dean of Battle and Deputy Prov. G.M. of Sussex; W. E. Morrison, G.O.; A. King, P.J.G.W.; E. E. Street, W.M. 453, Prov. G.M.O.; John Wood, W.M. 426, Prov. G.S.O.; Rev. P. Crick, Prov. G. Chap.; Jos. Farncombe, Prov. G. Treas.; R. L. Thornton, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Wright, Prov. G. Sec.; G. B. Simpson, Prov. G. I. of W.; P. Clowes, Prov. S.G.D.; J. A. Thilthorpe, Prov. G.S.B.; A. Lloyd, Prov. G.D.C.; W. E. Hughes, Prov. A.G.D.C.; Chapman Marshall, Prov. G. Org.; T. H. Challis, Prov. G.I.G.; F. Carr, Prov. G. Stwd.; Thos. Wickham, W.M. 75; J. C. Buckwell, W.M. 164; G. H. Gaze, W.M. 166; W. W. D'Albiac, W.M. 168; A. F. Lamette, W.M. 391; E. Smith, W.M. 449; J. Bray, J. A. Skinner (Mayor of Eastbourne), Franklyn, J. H. Ewart, A. J. Howard, F. Bolton Sutton, J. H. Wright, G. Fowler, F. E. Young, J. O. Lewis, J. Potter, MacQueen, J. Lawson Lewis, John Easter, and others.

The proceedings commenced by luncheon served in Mr. Steine's best style. Bro. W. E. Morrison, the W.M. elect, presided. The vice-chairs were filled by Bro. Jos. Farncombe and Bro. J. A. Skinner, the two Wardens elect.

The loyal and Craft toasts were pledged heartily, also that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Euston and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

For these the Consecrating Officers, Bro. RICHARDSON and Bro. MURCHISON responded.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON spoke in hopeful terms of the prospects of the new lodge and in high praise of its first Master and list of founders. He expressed the pleasure it gave him to find Bro. Morrison in renewed health and as W.M. designate of the new lodge.

"The Health of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and the other Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge" was responded to by Bro. Rev. E. R. CURRIE, Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Sussex.

"Success to the Eastbourne Lodge" was heartily drunk and responded to in genial terms by Bro. W. E. MORRISON.

"The Visitors," concluded the toast list, and the brethren adjourned to the lodge room, where the ceremony of consecration was performed in a most impressive manner by Bro. the Earl of Euston assisted by the other officers of Grand Lodge present.

The ceremony of installing the new Master was performed by Bro. Rev. E. R. Currie. The following brethren were appointed and invested the first officers of the lodge: Bros. Farncombe, S.W.; J. A. Skinner, J.W.; J. H. Wright, M.O.; F. B. Sutton, S.O.; T. MacQueen, J.O.; A. J. Howard, Treas.; J. C. Foran, R. of M.; F. Lawson Lewis, Sec.; J. H. Ewart, S.D.; G. Fowler, J.D.; F. J. Cox, D.C.; J. Easter, Org.; and F. E. Young, I.G.

An oration on the nature and principles of the Institution was delivered by Bro. Rev. E. P. Crick, Provincial Grand Chaplain, and an eloquent address by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The proceedings ended about five o'clock.

Craft Masonry.

Industry Lodge, No. 48.

For a midsummer meeting there was a very numerous attendance on Monday, the 24th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Gateshead, which indicates the great interest taken by the members and visitors in this favourite old lodge. The W.M., Bro. Adam Dodds, presided, and was supported by Bros. R. B. Reed, P.M., P.P.G.T.; M. Corbett, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; Robt. Whitfield, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; Wm. Brown, P.M., D.C.; M. R. Wright, P.M.; W. J. Jobson, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; Wm. Stafford, I.P.M.; T. W. Bagnall, S.W.; H. Jackson, J.W.; T. R. Jobson, P.M., P.G.S.B., as Sec.; T. Chegwidan, S.D.; W. Holzappel, J.D.; R. Ferry, Org.; J. Armstrong, I.G.; J. T. Pragnell, Stwd.; J. Curry, Tyler; W. Blyth, H. H. Pitt, T. Smith, R. Dobson, R. Forsyth, G. Gilhespy, R. Hewett, W. L. Young, A. Dodds, J. Carr, G. Humble, J. Bovill, C. B. Anderson, J. Charlton, J. Lightbown, J. D. Todd, P.M. 94; L. F. Allan, P.M. 991; J. Banks, J.W. 406; W. Smith, 481; T. R. Short, W.M. 424; J. A. Stelling, W.M. elect 481; H. Pollard, P.M. 1648; C. B. Ford, P.M. 481; J. W. Simpson, P.M. 406; W. H. Nixon, W.M. 406; and many others.

After the preliminary business, Messrs. J. T. Gibson, Isaac Danwood, and Wm. Laws, all duly balloted for, were initiated, the working tools and charge being explained by the J.W. Bros. Dodds, Young, Carr, Huntley, Mattison, Gilhespy, and Messer were passed as F.Cs. Bro. R. B. Reed, P.M., in the name of the lodge, in an eloquent and spirited speech, imbued with kindly feeling, and displaying the beauties of both material and immaterial symbols of Freemasonry, presented to Bro. Michael Corbett, P.M., a beautiful silver kettle and stand, to commemorate the respect of the members to him for his services as Treasurer during a period of 13 years. Bro. Corbett, P.M., replied in a feeling manner, and thanked the brethren for their kindness. The testimonial bears the following inscription: "Presented by Lodge of Industry, No. 48, Gateshead, to Bro. Michael Corbett, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., on his resigning the office of Treasurer, in recognition of his long and faithful services. March 25th, 1895."

Propositions for initiation and joining were announced, and, after receiving the "Hearty good wishes" of the visitors, the lodge was closed, when an adjournment took place to the refreshment room.

Florence Nightingale Lodge, No. 706.

The above select and harmonious lodge—for it has always looked to the quality of its members rather than to the number of them—held its installation meeting on Monday, 24th ult., at the Royal Mortar Hotel, opposite the Royal Arsenal Gates, Woolwich, which meeting was both a brilliant and successful event. Bro. Sydney Horton, W.M., presided, and passed a candidate. He then, in admirable style, installed his successor, Bro. Allan Burnett, S.W., and W.M. elect, for which he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks and presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel. Bro. Burnett invested his officers as follows: Bros. Sydney Horton, I.P.M.; H. Eek, S.W.; A. L. Fell, J.W.; Rev. C. Swainson, M.A., Chap.; H. Christie, P.M., Treas.; F. G. Nichols, P.M., Sec.; Capt. G. F. Fishenden, S.D.; F. S. Thomas, J.D.; Dr. H. L. Bernays, P.M., D.C.; E. Lonergan, I.G.; H. G. Mason, A.D.C.; and E. Wood, D. G. Jelly, and G. Standing, Stwds. Among the other brethren present were Bros. Major Eugene Livery, P.M.; F. G. Down, P.M.; Moir, Oram, Scantlebury, Kimber, E. W. Jelly, Webber, Kent, Gunningham, Walford, Foster, and Hickson of the lodge. The visitors included Bros. W. J. Barnes, W.M., W. Russell, S.W., W. Anson, J.W. and J. Harper, of 13; H. Tufnell, W.M., G. R. Nichols, S.W., W.M. elect, and G. H. Porter, J.W., of 700; Dr. E. Bryceson, W.M., R. J. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Kent, W.M. elect, W. C. Taylor, P.M., J. J. Collins, and R. Saunders, of 913; G. W. Ingle, S.W., and W. Fowler, J.W., 1536; J. Lee, W.M., F. Hulley, S.W., and H. Crowdey, J.W. of 2399; Capt. G. Woollett, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Eng.; V. P. Freeman, P.G.D. Essex; H. T. Bailey, W.M. 1719; F. Ireland, 198; C. B. Gallow, 1321; G. Horton, 1319; G. H. Searle, 2029; and G. Gabbett, 33. Letters of regret at inability to attend were read, the absence of Bro. C. Jolly, through the rheumatic fiend, being especially regretted, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet, served under the direct supervision of Bro. H. Mason, P.M. 913, P.P.G.S.B. Kent, the esteemed proprietor of the hotel, was the perfection of taste and elegance.

The speeches, usually brief and to the purpose at this lodge, and at its festive gatherings, nevertheless bore indubitable evidence to the hearty love the brethren have for "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," "The Pro Grand Master," "The Dep. Grand Master and Grand Officers, Present and Past," &c., while the personal toasts were pleasantly eulogistic and gratifying to those concerned. Bros. Fowler, F. Nichols, Anson, H. G. Mason, D. G. Jelly, and Tufnell poured out their souls in song, Bro. Horton drew melody in streams from his beloved fiddle, Bro. Kent manipulated the banjo in a style eminently Moore and Burgess, and the spirit of Freemasonry breathed its divine influence into the hearts of the brethren and reigned supreme in the brotherly love that shone around.

Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320.

The installation meeting of this very popular and flourishing lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel on Thursday, the 20th ult. Present: Bros. T. R. Cass, W.M.; A. W. Le Cren, S.W.; E. A. Rice, J.W.; W. H. Morson, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Stunt, P.M., Sec.; G. C. Pike, S.D.; E. Morson, D.C.; W. Wright, I.G.; T. Hobbly and A. Smith, Stwds.; J. Whiteman, Tyler; J. Hooper, P.M.; H. Cornford, T. W. Spencer, W. T. Tempest, W. R. King, H. Broadway, and T. Tucker. The visitors were Bros. A. Robinson, 1897; Wm. Hill, 1512; G. R. Langley, 2381, P.P.G. G.W. Middx.; F. Dunstan, P.M. 1326; W. H. Guy, 1314; G. Thompson, J.D. 1743; F. G. Searle, 2409; H. C. Turner, W.M. 1662; W. C. Griffiths, S.D. 2255; C. P. Hodgson, 1641; A. Cooke, 1539; J. Sparks, S.W. 720; F. E. Choveaux, Org. 1622; S. J. Derham, P.M. 1622; W. F. Temple, 1320; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Tempest was passed in a masterly and perfect manner by the W.M. Bro. A. W. Le Cren, S.W. and W.M. elect, was next presented by Bro. J. Hooper, P.M., to the W.M., Bro. T. R. Cass, to receive the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in a most exemplary manner, the Installing Master receiving quite an ovation. The W.M., Bro. Le Cren, invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. R. Cass, I.P.M.; E. A. Rice, S.W.; Geo. Pike, J.W.; W. H. Morson, P.M., Treas.; H. A. Stunt, P.M., Sec.; W. Wright, S.D.; T. G. Hobbly, J.D.; G. Morson, I.G.; J. Hooper, P.M., D.C.; A. Smith and Harry Broadway, Stwds.; and Whiteman, Tyler. The addresses were

rehearsed in a perfect and impressive manner by the Installing Master. The balance-sheet was presented and adopted, which showed the lodge to be in a sound financial position. Propositions for a joining member and an initiate were handed in for the next meeting, which augurs well for the new Master. A Past Master's jewel, value 10 guineas, was unanimously voted to Bro. T. R. Cass for his excellent service rendered to the lodge during his Mastership, as also a Past Master's collar, with silver jewel attached, and most prettily chased, presented by the brethren of the lodge to mark their love and esteem.

The business of the lodge ended, it was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet, provided by Bro. Pearce, the proprietor, in his usual efficient style.

The cloth removed, the W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts in a most becoming and effective manner, remarking of her Majesty that the only new thing he could present them about their beloved Queen was it was the 58th anniversary of her ascending the throne.

The toasts were received most royally.

The toast of "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. remarked, always received its just reponse, as their labour was bestowed most ungrudgingly towards benefiting the Craft, as those who had the privilege of attending Grand Lodge could testify.

Bro. Cass, I.P.M., next presented the toast of the W.M. remarking once more that he grasped the emblem of power with all sincerity, and proposed "The Health of the W.M." For nearly 20 years he (the W.M.) had been a member of the lodge, and only through the various vicissitudes the lodge had undergone he had not been an active working member. That fact would explain why the I.P.M. had been voted to the chair before him although only a member for 10 years. However, during the while the W.M. had not forsaken his mother lodge, but had fully qualified himself in the beautiful ceremonies, and had carried out the tenets of Freemasonry in their entirety. Thus fully equipped, he would be enabled to carry out the duties of W.M. as the Past Masters had done in such an efficient manner, and every brother knew if it were possible, the W.M. would not only emulate those worthy brethren who had preceded him, but still hope to carry out the important duties even to a higher degree of perfection.

The toast was received with acclamation.

The W.M., on rising to reply, thanked Bro. Cass, I.P.M., for the very kind expressions he had made towards him and also the cordial reception of the brethren. In corroboration of what the I.P.M. had stated, it was 19 years that very night that he was initiated, but although absent so often from the lodge since that time his attachment was still firm. He had always associated himself with lodges of instruction, which had enabled him to perform any ceremony he might be called upon to carry out. He was proud to respond as W.M. of his mother lodge, and should continue to carry out the duties to uphold its prestige. His earnest hope was that the lodge would have a happy year, and one thing which gave him great pleasure was the hearty reception and kindly spirit in which the brethren had met him.

The W.M. next presented what, to his mind, was the toast of the evening, that of "The Immediate Past Master and Installing Master, Bro. T. R. Cass." He said the year had been a jubilee for the lodge, and one which had not been equalled in its history. Words failed him in expressing the esteem the brethren held for Bro. Cass, and on their behalf he presented to him a most beautiful jewel for the very excellent manner he had performed his duties, and also the Past Master's collar and jewel so unanimously given by them. Might he live for many many years to wear the same, and honour the Blackheath Lodge by his presence was their earnest hope.

The toast was drunk most enthusiastically.

In reply, Bro. Cass, I.P.M., who received quite an ovation, said words failed him adequately to express his thanks for their very great generosity and also the hearty support he had received from the brethren since the time he had been connected with the lodge. Since his initiation by Bro. Stunt, P.M., Sec., he had endeavoured to promote the best interests of the lodge and was proud that he merited the esteem of the brethren. He certainly took a great delight in Freemasonry, and had been fortunate in introducing good men and true into the lodge. The handsome jewel they had presented and decorated him with he assured the brethren he should treasure and wear with pride and admiration. He would, before closing his remarks, once more thank the officers of the lodge, who had been most faithful and had assisted him most efficiently throughout the term, especially in bringing the ladies' night to such a successful issue. Once again he most heartily thanked them.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Visitors," in terms of great cordiality, giving them all a most hearty greeting.

This was replied to most effectively by Bros. G. R. Langley, Dunstan, Stone, Turner, Derham, and Sparks, who complimented the lodge upon its work, generosity, and benevolence, and specially referred to the admirable work of Bro. Cass, the Installing Master.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary and the Past Masters of the Lodge" received at the hands of the W.M. high eulogiums, well merited, and he congratulated himself upon having two such valuable officers.

In reply, Bro. Morson, P.M., Treas., stated the lodge was in a sound position, but last year had been the most successful in more ways than one; in its benevolence especially, as Bro. Cass had taken up to the Charities 100 guineas.

Bro. Stunt, P.M., Sec., also thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks. He was proud of Bro. Cass, I.P.M., his child, and was delighted with the excellent manner he had performed the installation ceremony.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," which he gave with great gratification, being proud of such a worthy array.

Bro. Rice, S.W., most ably responded, pledging each to do their utmost, and support the W.M. as far as possible.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy and eventful evening.

An excellent programme of music was given, under the direction of Bro. Francois E. Choveaux, ably assisted by Miss Spells, Mdme. Alice Sampson, Mr. Geo. Goodwin, and Bro. John Woodley. Bro. Choveaux ably presided at the piano.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn Viaduct, on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. N. P. Lardner, I.P.M., as W.M.; C. Bachoffner, S.W., Master elect; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., G. Stwd., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. M. Murphy, S.D.; J. Evans, J.D.; W. R. Witt, D.C.; H. Harden, A.D.C.; J. D. Webb, I.G.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.M., P.G. Org. Eng., Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., Asst. Org.; and E. Mallett, P.M. 141. Tyler. Among the visitors were Bros. E. S. Lardner, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; L. W. Harvey, P.M. 9; Carpenter, 15; Wynne-Jones, M.D., Edwards, Brasted, and Rivers.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Beech was raised to the Third Degree in a highly impressive manner. Bro. N. P. Lardner then installed Bro. Bachoffner as W.M., assisted by Bros. Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; J. Strugnell, P.M.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; and Nelson Prower, M.A., P.M.; the ceremony being performed in an excellent manner. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. M. H. Woodhill, S.W.; J. M. Murphy, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. Evans, S.D.; W. R. Witt, J.D.; H. Harden, D.C.; J. D. Webb, A.D.C.; Dr. Lott, Org.; Dr. Hinton, Asst. Org.; C. J. Cawthorne, I.G.; C. R. Chapman, T. A. Woodbridge, P.M., B. P. Lucas, and W. Leach-Lewis, Stwds.; and E. Mallett, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee, a most gratifying one, was received and adopted. A pleasing duty then devolved upon the W.M., viz., to present Bro. H. J. Lardner, Grand Steward, with the clothing and jewel of his rank. The recipient was loudly cheered at the conclusion of his modest speech of thanks. The W.M. then presented Bro. W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec., with a watch, and a handsome ring for his wife, as a souvenir of their silver wedding. A vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to the Installing Officer. In consequence of illness Bro. H. Herbert, I.P.M., was unable to attend to receive the Past Master's jewel of the lodge. Numerous apologies were received and read from absent members.

The lodge was then closed, and a banquet followed.

Bro. H. J. Lardner, C. Stwd., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. E. S. Lardner, P.G. Stwd., for "The Visitors."

During the proceedings Bros. Dr. Lott, Dr. Hinton, H. Harden, E. Schultz, and J. Young instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren.

Royal Arch.

Sir Francis Burdett Chapter, No. 1503.

A convocation of this chapter was held at the Clarence Hotel, Twickenham, on the 10th ult., among those in attendance were: Comps. W. J. Hakim, P.G.P. Sof. Middx., M.E.Z.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, M.A., P.P.G.J., P.Z., as H.; A. Toulman, jun., P.P.A.G.S., P.Z., as J.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., S.E.; E. W. Davis, S.N.; and G. Harrison, Janitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the S.E. read communications regretting inability to attend from Comps. W. Taylor, P.P.G.J., P.Z., H.; G. J. Dunkley, P.Z., Org., P.P.G. Org.; and Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.S. The chapter was then closed. A banquet followed.

Only two toasts were given, namely, "The Queen," and "The M.E.Z." The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Urmston Chapter, No. 1730.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 24th ult., at the Coffee House, Stretford, when Comp. J. Chadderton, P.Z., P.A.G.S.E., M.E.Z., presided. The minutes of the previous regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. Comp. Chadderton, M.E.Z., said before he retired from the chair, he wished particularly to thank Comps. J. Slyman, W. Goodacre, C. Cooper, and all the officers, for the valuable services they had rendered to him during his year of office. And in recognition of such services he thought the least he could do was to ask the chapter to accept from him a present which he had noticed they required—that was a set of large candlesticks and a Principal's suit of clothing. He hoped they would be accepted. Comp. G. A. Myers, P.D.G.D.C., I.P.Z., proposed "That the best thanks of the chapter be given to Ex. Comp. Chadderton for the handsome present, and the same be recorded on the minutes." Bro. Slyman also presented a large curtain and four kneeling hassocks. Comp. F. Goodacre, P.Z., proposed they be accepted and recorded. Comp. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., P.G.S.E., was then requested to take the chair in order to install the First Principal, Comp. J. W. Leathley. The Second Principal, Comp. Fred. Batty, was installed by Comp. J. Slyman, and the Third Principal, Comp. Geo. R. Lloyd, by Comp. Cooper. The following officers were then invested: Comps. R. E. Stringleman, S.E.; Harold Nickson, S.N.; Wm. Goodacre, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., &c., Treas.; R. Swindells, P.S.; J. Ormrod, 1st A.S.; Evans Jackson, 2nd A.S.; Chas. Cooper, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; R. H. Ibbotson, Org.; George Bell, Wm. Toombs, and John Walton, jun., Stwds.; and Wm. Chesyre, Janitor. Comps. T. W. Bone and R. Swindells were appointed Auditors.

The following were present: Comps. Joseph Chadderton, P.A.G.S.E., M.E.Z.; J. W. Leatherley, H.; Fred. Batty, S.E.; Geo. R. Lloyd, P.S.; R. E. Stringleman, 1st A.S.; H. Nickson, 2nd A.S.; W. Goodacre, P.G. Std. Br., P.G.S.E., Treas.; Chas. Cooper, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Chesyre; G. A. Myers, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; John Slyman, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N.; Thos. William Bone, P.Z.; Fred. G. Goodacre, P.Z.; R. H. Ibbotson; R. Swindells, D.C.; F. Ridsdale Bowley, T. T. Doyle, J. Walton, jun., and W. Toombs. Visitors: Charles S. Allott, P.G.T. E. Lancs.; S. Mamlock, J. 204; W. A. Doherty; Henry Nall, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; C. J. Hall, J. M. Balt; and Geo. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org. E. Lancs.

Obituary.

BRO. W. H. HAYES, 610.

On Monday, the 24th ult., the funeral of the late Bro. Walter H. Hayes, for many years head master of Christ Church Schools, Clifton, Bristol, who died at the residence of his brother, 11, The Mall, Clifton, was held at the parish church, Winscombe, Somerset, the first part of the service having taken place at Christ Church, Clifton. The procession left the above address at about 9.45 a.m., the coffin and the roof of the car being completely covered with floral tributes. The following were the chief mourners: First carriage—Mrs. Nobbs (sister), Messrs. C. A. Hayes, Joseph Hayes, and James Hayes (brothers). Second carriage—Miss Eliza Hayes (sister), Messrs. James and John Hayes (uncles), and Mr. Nobbs (brother-in-law). Third carriage—Mr. Henry Wild (cousin), Mr. Rogers, Mrs. Howell (cousin), and Mr. Allen Hayes (cousin). Fourth carriage—Mr. J. H. Machin (N.U.T., S.C.C.), Mr. J. A. Howell (cousin), and Bertie Hayes (nephew). Assembled at the church were a large number of friends of the deceased, and the various institutions with which he had been identified were represented by the following: Freemasons—Bros. H. J. Spear, Pearce, H. J. Davies, W. B. Gange, W. Cass, J. S. Gover, E. J. Grubb, Smith, A. Barratt, Rossiter, Machen, C. L. Thomas, Stoate, Hughes, and J. H. Davis. Master Builders—Messrs. G. Wilkins (President), G. Humphreys, Church, and Hatherley. Schoolmasters' Cricket Club—Messrs. J. Rowlands, C. Davis, W. J. Somerton, J. Chard, and H. Harris. Y.M.C.A. Cricket Club—Mr. F. R. Alderwick. Olympic Club—Messrs. C. G. Davis, H. Harris, C. Gigg, and C. Barrett. Bristol Orpheus Glee Society—Members of the Committee—Messrs. G. Riseley, E. Cook, T. E. Seymour, and S. Gane; also the following members—Messrs. Milton, A. Hall, H. Francis, D. Churchill, R. McGregor, and W. H. Lewis. In the course of an impressive address the Vicar said: We have met at a most solemn service. God has called from our midst one whom we all respected, and whom many of us loved. To know Walter Hayes was to be drawn to him. His manly presence, his open face, his keen clear eye, his whole demeanour marked him as one of strong personal character. Where was that character mainly formed? There are some present to-day who knew him best on the cricket field. No doubt his love of sports tended in no small measure to develop the manliness we all admired. Others knew him especially as one who rendered valuable service with his fine and powerful voice in our church choir, the Orpheus and other choral societies. He loved such work, and it again would all tend to bring out the refinement he possessed. Others, again, are here who knew him as a Freemason, or as connected with the Teachers' Benevolent Association. All such work strengthened the warmth of heart and kindness of thought for others amid forgetfulness of self and personal labour which marked him in no small degree. Some knew him as a loving, thoughtful brother. But where were the seeds of all his character sown? In his home and in our Christ Church Schools. In his home—for Walter Hayes, like all noble characters, was proud of his earthly father. In our Christ Church Schools—for it is as our faithful and zealous schoolmaster that, as a parish, we principally mourn his loss. Entering those schools at five years of age, I believe, he passed through the various standards until he became a pupil teacher. He then made it his ambition to become headmaster of those schools one day. After a short absence at college and as a teacher at another school he attained his object, and was appointed headmaster when barely 22 years of age. His influence for good there during 12 years of faithful work has been untold. The one word "duty" seems to have been his great principle through life. Amongst others present at the graveside at Winscombe were—The Rev. Mr. Tredinnick and the Rev. Mr. Bell (curates), Mr. William Hayes, Mr. Crank (N.U.T.), Mrs. Carter (headmistress girls' school), Mr. Ernest G. Murdock, with 24 boys (headmaster of boys' school), Miss Jenkins (mistress of infants' school), Mr. J. Chard, Mr. E. Watts, Mr. J. Lowman, Mr. W. Somerton, Mr. A. J. Hore (all S.C.C.), Bro. Owner (P.M. and Treas. 610), Miss E. Hodge, Miss Nicholson, the Misses Hammond, Mr. T. F. Miller, Stoke Bishop, Miss Irwin, Mr. A. J. Woodland, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mr. T. W. Davey, Mr. H. Rossiter, Mr. W. Sprat, Miss Pavey, and Miss Chalmers. Here the last rites of the ceremony were performed, and the coffin, which consisted of an elm shell and English oak case, with brass fittings, and bore the inscription: "Walter Henry Hayes, died June 20th, 1895, aged 34," was interred in the family vault. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Bro. Chandler.

Masonic and General Tidings.

A REPORT OF THE COMPLIMENTARY DINNER given to Bro. George Rawlinson, I.P.M. of the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657, will appear in our next issue.

A TELEGRAM from Hamburg reports that the Drury Lana drama, "A Life of Pleasure," was produced there at the Volks Theatre, on Monday evening, in German, with great success.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Crown Prince and Princess of Roumania, accompanied by her Serene Highness Countess Erbach, visited the Lyceum on Monday evening to see Bro. Irving in "Becket."

THE QUEEN'S DINNER-PARTY at Windsor Castle on Monday night included Prince Egon von Ratibor, the Earl and Countess of Derby, and the Lord Chamberlain. Her Majesty's guests remained at the Palace.

WE ARE PLEASED to hear that Bro. Ernest E. Norris has been engaged by Bro. George Conquest as leading man for the Surrey Theatre. If years of hard work and a long provincial experience count for anything, Bro. Norris should acquit himself well in his new position.

MR. CHARLES MARLOWE writes: "In many of the very kindly notices of 'Miss Brown,' just produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, it is suggested that Mr. Buchanan's collaborateur has no actual existence. In order to prove the reality of such a person, I enclose you my card."

BRO. LORD HARLECH, Prov. Grand Master, has fixed Wednesday, August 7th, for the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of North Wales. The meeting will be held at Menai Bridge, under the auspices of the Anglesea Lodge, No. 1113, of which Bro. W. A. Foster is W.M. The banquet will be at the George Hotel.

IN CONFERRING upon Bro. Sir Augustus Harris the Cross of the Order of Knight Commander of Ernestine, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha has shown a very gracious appreciation of the untiring zeal which has so long distinguished Sir Augustus in his indefatigable efforts to introduce to the English public all that is best and most deserving of patronage and approval in the Continental schools of musical art. The compliment thus paid will certainly be eminently popular in this country.

ON THE OCCASION of the marriage of his Royal Highness the Duke of Aosta, the King of Italy conferred on Dr. Vintras, Senior Physician to the French Hospital and Physician to the Italian Embassy, the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazare (officer), for the services he has rendered for many years to the poorer members of the Italian colony in London.

THE PROV. GRAND LODGE of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, of which Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., is Prov. Grand Master, and Bro. J. E. L. Feuvre, J.P., Dep. Prov. Grand Master, holds its annual meeting at Winchester, on Friday, August 9th. During the lengthened tenure of office of Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., the numerical strength of the Craft has largely increased, and the register of the province now contains the names of 3503 members.

THE FESTIVAL in connection with the Alfred Rose Croix Chapter, No. 13, was celebrated on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Taunton, when Bro. Henry Powell was duly installed M.W.S. of the chapter for the ensuing year by Ill. Bro. F. T. Elworthy, 31st, P.M.W.S. Bro. Powell afterwards appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. A. E. Perkins, Prelate; W. H. Wake, 1st General; G. H. Kite, 2nd General; F. T. Elworthy, 30th, Treas.; T. H. Chaffin, Recorder; J. G. Vile, Marshal; John Gill, 3rd, Raphael; F. T. Hussey, 3rd, D.C.; F. B. Smith, Herald; R. Knight, Captain of the Guard; C. H. Samson, Org.; and T. Tidbury, Janitor. The brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet at the Castle Hotel, presided over by the newly-installed M.W.S. There was a large gathering of the brethren to welcome him, and the usual Masonic toasts were proposed.

REV. A. E. AND MRS. CONSTABLE.—It was doubtless seen by most of our readers that the above lady and gentleman were found drowned in the River Derwent, near Derby, on Sunday, the 23rd ult. The reverend gentleman was the third son of Bro. J. Constable, P.P.G. Std. Br., and P.P.G.D. of 2259 and 1482, and the lady was the sister of Bro. the Rev. G. H. Naylor, 632. We give this short account, as the deceased gentleman was the object of the particular interest of the late Bro. Tew, West Yorkshire, inasmuch as he was anxious to join the Craft, and Bro. Tew, from personal knowledge was anxious to promote, and even take part in his initiation, although totally blind. He was named as a candidate in No. 2259, but from unforeseen circumstances was postponed, partly with the hope that the late P.G.M., Bro. Tew, might be sufficiently restored in health to be present. The terrible calamity caused a widespread and deep sympathetic feeling throughout the provinces, both in behalf of Bro. Constable's family and also Bro. Naylor's.

MR. LEONARD C. SMITHERS, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, has published a "Catalogue of Rare Books" of considerable interest and value, the illustrations inserted of several of the books of special importance, being quite a feature of the publication. The binding of the "Codex Redactus" of 1796 is a very chaste specimen, and was Pope Pius VIth's copy, with his arms. Another noble volume is "Holbein's Portraits of Illustrious Persons of the Court of Henry VIII., 1792," in morocco binding, with crowned cypher of King George III., and a beautiful copy of "Etrennes Mignonnes pour l'an de Grace 1749," is in raised gold embroidery on satin, the sides being in the form of frames, enclosing lovely pictures of the God of Love and the Goddess of Fortune, rightly described as "A remarkable example." The only Masonic work is a copy of the "Book of Constitutions" 1723, in crimson levant morocco extra, by Revivre, £50; styled "The Crowning Glory of any Masonic Collection." The catalogue may be had post free for 12 stamps.

SCOTCH FREEMASONS IN BELFAST.—Among the numerous party of passengers who crossed from Ardrossan, on the 28th ult., on board the Royal mail steamer *Alder*, were the members and friends of the Lodge of Glasgow, St. John 3bis, Bro. Jas. Laing, W.M. This lodge, it may be stated in passing, is one of the oldest and most influential in Scotland. Hitherto the annual excursions connected with the lodge have been confined to places of comparatively local interest. This year it was decided to make a departure from the custom, and to visit the commercial capital of Ulster. The party who took advantage of this arrangement numbered about 100. Four-in-hand brakes awaited the arrival of the steamer, and conveyed the party to the grounds of Miss Richie, Glentoran, where arrangements had been made with Mr. Kirkpatrick to have several group photos taken. This part of the proceedings over, the party spent the remainder of the time at their disposal in driving round the city, returning in time for the departure of the steamer, on board of which dinner was served. The appearance of the four well-filled four-in-hand brakes, with pipers stationed alongside the drivers, created a good deal of sensation as they passed through the streets of the city.

ON SUNDAY LAST, at the invitation of the esteemed vicar of the parish, Bro. Rev. A. Jackson, M.A., Prov. G. Chap. Kent, the brethren of the Gravesend lodges visited All Saints' Church, Perry-street. The brethren joined heartily in the bright choral service, and listened with the deepest interest to a very impressive sermon by Bro. the Rev. J. E. Player, P.P.G. Chap. Norfolk, the subject being "Hiram—the Widow's Son." After church, the brethren, to the number of over 40, were entertained by the genial vicar, and took refreshments on the lawn, under the canopy of heaven and the grateful shade of noble trees. Amongst the brethren present we noticed the Mayor of Gravesend, Bro. E. C. Paine, also Bros. W. Russell, P.G. Treas.; Alderman Russell, P.G.D.; Beamish, P.A.G.D.C.; Biggs, P.P.A.G.D.C.; A. Carter, P.P.G.D.; W. Barlow, P.P.G. Org.; T. Nettleingham, W.M.; T. Deane, F. Teece, V. Moore, J. Solomon, W. H. Hedger, F. Hitchens, W. Hills, — Hayward, W. Rowstone, — Whitfield, — Masters, — Fowle, S. Macartney, W. Hayner, E. Wilks, — Davies, Dr. Sells, S. Stanley, W. Stanley, — Bowen, F. Swaffer, R. Gates, — Buckle, Gunn, Mitchell, Solomon, Axell, Austen, Nash, Ross, and E. Davies. The churchwardens—Bros. Collyer, Ferguson, and J. Russell—made all arrangements for the comfort of the large congregation.

COMMERCE, WITH ITS SPREADING WINGS, has traversed the globe many times, and binds nations together with the strong ties of mutual self-interest. Through its influence London has become the metropolis of the world, and her merchants have amassed wealth sufficient to make them the envy of princes. Holloway's Pills and Ointment have now become essential articles of commerce with all parts of the world. They have effected cures which have seemed miraculous, and given relief in complaints when all hope had been lost. In all known diseases their success has at all times been wonderful. In cases of disorders of the stomach, bile, liver complaint, indigestion, fevers, ague, &c., they act like a charm, as the cure is speedy and certain.