

THE FREEMASON.

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

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF

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

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CONTENTS.

LEADERS—	PAGE.
A Critic on the Bounce...	583
The Old Charges of British Free-masons...	584
Mark Patent and Endorsements—1853—1892...	585
Consecration of the Earl of Lathom Lodge, No. 2560, at Bury...	586
Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Lancashire...	586
Provincial Grand Lodge of South Wales (Western Division)...	587
Installation of the District Grand Master of Natal...	587
RED CROSS—Divisional Grand Conclave of Kent	587

OBITUARY—	PAGE.
Bros. Thos. Rix and D. Edwards	588
Reviews...	588
Mark Masonry...	589
OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY—	
Bros. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, Will E. Chapman, and E. Crosoer	589
Board of Benevolence...	589
Masonic Notes...	591
CORRESPONDENCE—	
A Grand Lodge for South Africa	592
Craft Masonry...	592
Royal Arch Masonry...	596
Masonic and General Tidings	598
Lodge Meetings for Next Week	iii

A CRITIC ON THE BOUNCE.

It is hardly necessary we should go back to the days of ancient fable in order to demonstrate the impossibility of pleasing everybody. It is within the daily experience of nearly every one that, no matter how excellent a thing may be said or done by some person, or body of persons, there is always at hand the carping critic to prove that it might, could, would, or should have been something different. We have recently had a conspicuous or, more properly speaking, deplorable instance of this. Some few weeks since a worthy correspondent of ours sent us a paragraph to the effect that the Lodge of Friendship, No. 44, Manchester, "commenced the 141st year of its existence on the 18th June last," and had elected a certain brother to be its W.M. during the ensuing 12 months. A fortnight later we published a letter from Bro. JOHN CHADWICK, who is a P.M. of No. 44, and Provincial Grand Secretary of East Lancashire—which might certainly have been couched in gentler language—to the effect that "the authenticity of" our correspondent's statement, which displayed such ignorance, "might have been ascertained by reference to Bro. JOHN LANE'S valuable 'Masonic Records.'" At the same time, and in the belief that the tone of Bro. CHADWICK's letter was not altogether to our informant's taste, we penned a "Note," in which we pointed out that the latter had certainly just this amount of justification for his statement, namely, that Grand Lodge Calendar gave 1755 as the "date of origin" of the said lodge, and suggesting that as he might not be in the habit of carrying Bro. LANE'S "Records" about with him, or had it not at hand when writing, he had taken the Grand Lodge statement as sufficient. The following week Bro. N. HEYWOOD rejoined, however, that the warrant of confirmation which hangs in the lodge room, and is signed by the Duke of SUSSEX and the Earl of DURHAM, recited that "the lodge was warranted on the 18th day of June, 1755," and remarked that Bro. CHADWICK's objection came "too late in the day to carry much weight in face of such documentary evidence." On the top of this comes Bro. LANE, who has made this branch of Masonic History his special study, and who informs Bro. HEYWOOD, with all due courtesy, but with a sledge-hammer-like accuracy, which brooks no trifling, that No. 44 is descended from the Athol No. 39, of 1803, that it was not in any way connected with the Athol, No. 39, which was revived in 1795, and had still less to do with the original No. 39, for which the Ancient Grand Lodge granted its warrant on the 18th June, 1755. All this might have been learned from his "Masonic Records" had they been at hand for Bro. HEYWOOD to refer to. Still, nothing of moment would have resulted from the passage of arms between these worthy brethren; nothing, at all events, of such importance that it might not have been set right by a reference to LANE'S "Records," as it has, indeed, been set right by that brother himself.

Unfortunately, one of those people we have already referred to as "carping critics" has intervened, for reasons best known to himself, but which we do not profess to understand, and, after lashing out savagely at everybody within reach, invites us to believe that this important work, of which the Grand Secretary of England has spoken in terms of the highest encomium, which every member of the Grand Secretary's staff has found invaluable as an aid in the discharge of his duties, which every brother who has ever had occasion to dip into our archives for the purpose of tracing the continuity of any lodge, has found similarly invaluable; of which Grand Lodge thankfully and gracefully accepted the copyright last year, and has since published a second edition at its own cost—we say this "carping critic" comes forward and invites us to believe that these "Masonic Records," in the very teeth of the overwhelming commendation they have received from all these authorities, are of little or no value for the purpose for which they were compiled and have been published. But in our righteous indignation at this unwarranted aspersion upon a work which has won for its author a praise which is almost universal, we must not allow ourselves to be hurried into anything like mistatement of fact. The critic does not go so far as to assert directly that the book is worthless for its purpose. He gives Bro. LANE'S reason for preparing a second edition of his work—that he might have an opportunity of making "many hundreds of important corrections" in the first—and then propounds an extraordinary question in the following form. "Having admitted that the first edition needed many hundreds of important corrections, what guarantee have we that the second is any better?" Thus contemptuously does this critic who, in everything that he has written, betrays his absolute ignorance of the subject he has taken upon himself to write about, dispense of a work which has taken Bro. LANE whole years of the most laborious work to compile, which all who know anything of the difficulties entailed in preparing such a compilation have praised unstintedly, and which the officials of Grand Lodge, who have principally benefited by its publication, have again and again declared to be invaluable. But let us for one moment dismiss this contemptuous statement of this ignorant critic from our minds and turn to what was said by Bro. THOMAS FENN, President of the Board of General Purposes, from his place in Grand Lodge at the Quarterly Communication on the 6th June, 1894. Bro. FENN, in officially announcing that Bro. LANE had presented Grand Lodge with the copyright of his work, gave in full the terms of the recommendation of the Board he presided over that Grand Lodge should accept the proffered book, and in that recommendation will be found the following: "Many years of patient labour and careful research were spent by the compiler in its preparation, and it is, perhaps, the most useful Masonic work ever published. To the Secretarial Department of the Grand Lodge it is simply *invaluable*, giving, as it does, information at a glance which otherwise could only be obtained, if at all, at the cost of much time and research. The book has been out of print some years, and ever since its issue Bro. LANE has been collecting materials for a new and revised edition which will contain many hundreds of important corrections, and will also include all lodges warranted down to the present time." This is what the Board of General Purposes said in its recommendation to Grand Lodge to accept the book. What Bro. FENN himself said when proposing the adoption of the recommendation was as follows: "He had no doubt the book was well known to the brethren. The Grand Secretary could

testify to the truth of what was stated in the report, that it was a most invaluable book and ought to be in the possession of Grand Lodge. He (Bro. FENN) thought the brethren ought to feel very much indebted to Bro. LANE—for the work had cost him a great deal of labour—for offering the copyright. . . . It contained statistics of the most valuable description." The gift was accepted, the second edition has been published and at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge on the 5th June last the M.W.G. Master in the chair announced that his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, in recognition of his literary services to the Craft, had been pleased to confer upon Bro. LANE the brevet rank of Past Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies. Thereupon the acting Grand Master (Bro. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P.) invested him with the insignia of his rank "amidst the loud applause of the brethren," adding "I am very glad to be the medium of placing this collar round you, and I congratulate you upon the honour conferred upon you, and I express to you at the same time the thanks the Craft owe to you for your labour and your handsome gift." Let us add that the clothing, &c., of a Past A.G.D.C. was presented to Bro. LANE by Grand Lodge, the jewel having inscribed on it: "Presented to Bro. JOHN LANE, F.C.A., Past A.G.D.C., by the United Grand Lodge of England, in recognition of his literary services—5th June, 1895." This then is the man and these the services which an unknown critic, in the plenitude of his ignorance, has thought fit to treat with contemptuous indifference.

As regards the facts of the case concerning Lodge No. 44, we publish the following from our own private notes from the Ancient Grand Lodge Records: At a meeting of Grand Lodge held on the 18th June, 1755, there was presented a petition for a warrant from Bros. COLLINS, RADFORD, and BRIDGE, &c., of Manchester, when it was "Order'd that a Warrant shall be made and convey'd to the Pet^{rs}, and with such other things as the Grand Secy. shall think prudent and necessary." The Warrant thus granted was the original No. 39. In the minutes of Grand Lodge of 5th June, 1793, Bro. AGAR, D.G.M., being in the chair, we read that Lodges Nos. 39, at the Blackamoor's Head, Manchester; 43, Golden Lion, Butcher Row, Coventry; 53, Stockport; 160, Norwich; and 171, Manchester, were cancelled, "having neglected to correspond with and refused to pay due respect to the Rt. W. Grand Lodge." On the 4th March, 1795, Bro. W. DICKEY, D.G.M., being in the chair, the Grand Lodge minutes record that an application "from Bro. JOHN WATSON and others, late of Lodge No. 39, Queen's Head, Old Church-street, Manchester," was read praying for "a renewal and revival of" the warrant, and it was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the prayer be granted, "the old warrant to be transmitted previous to renewal." This will be found quoted almost *verbatim* in GOULD'S "Athol Lodges." As regards the No. 39 of 1803, which still exists as Lodge of Friendship, No. 44, we have no reason for questioning the statement contained in Bro. LANE'S letter of 12th inst.—that the proceedings of 1803 "show the payment on the 20th February, 1803, for the warrant No. 39 as a new lodge." As for the recitals in the warrant of confirmation of the 29th June, 1835, bearing the signatures of the Duke of SUSSEX, M.W.G.M., and the Earl of DURHAM, as D.G.M., the responsibility for making them rests with the Grand Secretaries—Bros. W. H. WHITE and E. HARPER—and their staff who drew up the warrant, not with the Grand Master and his Deputy. But the recitals were made 60 years ago, when few people in Masonry thought it worth their while to concern themselves about the correctness or incorrectness of a date. It was enough for them that the document containing the date was official.

As for the conclusion at which Bro. LANE has arrived, and which was stated as clearly in the first, as it is in the second, edition of his Records, we have not investigated the whole of the circumstances with that exceeding care and as minutely as the justice of the case demands. We incline to the believe that he is right in regarding the cancellation of the original warrant of No. 39 in 1793 as the determination of that lodge, and that the grant of the renewed warrant two years later was equivalent to the grant of an entirely new warrant for the constitution of a second lodge located in the same town of Manchester, and bearing the same No. 39. But whether he is right or wrong—

and, so far as our present argument is concerned, the point is not material—what we are before all things desirous of setting before our readers is that when a critic declares himself to be in favour of one of two parties to a controversy and opposed to the other, we have a right to expect clear, indubitable evidence that he has some knowledge of the matter he is criticising. When we find this critic declaring that a certain combination, of which he speaks as a "Mutual Admiration Society," "has done a great amount of harm in the past, and must continue to do so, unless a check is put upon it, as it stifles honest criticism and tends to perpetuate errors, which, under more rational treatment, might soon be corrected and set at rest on a really substantial basis," we naturally ask ourselves, in the first place, what this means, and, in the next, what it has to do with the difference between Bros. HEYWOOD and CHADWICK *re* Lodge No. 44, of Manchester. As for the men whom we suppose the critic refers to as the "Mutual Admiration Society," they are the very men who have been engaged all their lives in doing their utmost to prevent the perpetuation of errors, and it is because they have done so much towards the correction of errors, and have set them at rest, in the majority of instances, for ever, that their services have been recognised by his Royal Highness the Grand Master and Grand Lodge.

THE OLD CHARGES OF BRITISH FREEMASONS.*

For some time past we have been looking forward to the publication of this important work, a second edition of one which was compiled many years ago by the same author, but which has long been out of print. Bro. HUGHAN has devoted himself to many branches of Masonic Study. Nothing, indeed, seems to come amiss to him, and whether it be an old charge, an old medal, an old warrant, or an old custom, he seems equally ready and competent to offer an opinion upon its characteristics, while his opinion, if not in all cases conclusive, contains invariably much show of reason, and is worthy of all respect. But as regards these Constitutional Rolls, or Old Charges, as they are more commonly known, Bro. HUGHAN has long been accepted as a foremost authority as to their age and respective merits. As he points out in the opening pages of the present volume, when he and the late Bro. the Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD began their researches "as to these Manuscript Constitutions of the operative Masons," less than a score of them had been traced. In 1872, when his "Old Charges of British Freemasons" was published in its earliest form, considerable progress had been made, and a reference to that volume will show that his and our late Bro. WOODFORD'S labours had brought forth good fruit abundantly. In the 23 years that have since elapsed, still more satisfactory progress has been made. Many valuable manuscript Constitutions have been discovered, and their several values been subjected to the keenest criticism. Others, too, have given their time and attention to the study of these important documents, and to crown all, the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, by the encouragement it gives to the severer class of Masonic studies and the facilities it is able to afford for the determination of the greater difficulties which present themselves in the pursuit of such studies has been the means of still more rapidly promoting the general acquaintance with these rolls, and augmenting the interest which is taken in them. The result of all this separate and combined effort on the part of individual brethren and communities of brethren will be found carefully recorded in the pages of this Second Edition of a work which Bro. HUGHAN brought out 23 years ago, when the study of constitutional rolls was limited to a very few brethren, while, save for those who may have been at the pains of glancing through the Cook MS., as published by SPENCER AND CO., the number of brethren to whom the contents of our Old Charges were known was infinitesimally small. It appears from the new edition of Bro. HUGHAN'S work that there are upwards of 60 "Old Charges" now known to be in existence, together with a few which have been printed, while

* The Old Charges of British Freemasons. Including a Reproduction of the "Haddon Manuscript," and Particulars of all the Known Manuscript Constitutions from the Fourteenth Century. By William James Hughan, of Torquay. Second Edition. With Illustrations. London: George Kenning, 16 and 16a, Great Queen-street. 1895.

if we take into account those which are referred to incidentally in old records, but of which no present trace can be found, we have a total of no less than 85 "Old Charges," which have been grouped together by Dr. BEGEMANN in a number of families, and concerning which Bro. HUGHAN has been pleased to furnish a highly interesting critical dissertation in these pages.

It is not our intention—nor indeed is it necessary—to quote particulars respecting the whole of the MS. or printed versions, or even of the groups or families into which, as we have said, they have been classed by Bro. Dr. BEGEMANN, the classification having been accepted and adopted by Bro. HUGHAN in his commentary. Class A is limited to what was known as the Halliwell MS., because it was first recognised as a Masonic document by Mr. J. O. HALLIWELL, and included by him in his work entitled "The Early History of Freemasonry in England," published in 1840. It has since been re-christened, at the suggestion of Bro. GOULD, the "Regius," because it is among the MSS. contained in the "Royal Library" at the British Museum. This is the oldest of the Constitutional Rolls, and has been assigned by CASLEY to the end of the 14th century—circa 1390—though others are inclined to place it early in the 15th. It was published in Vol. I. of the "Masonic Reprints," brought out by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, and had the great advantage of being accompanied by what Bro. HUGHAN justly designates as "a most scholarly 'commentary'" by Bro. GOULD. Class B comprises the Cooke MS., so-called because the version published by SPENCER and Co. in 1861 was taken by the late Bro. MATTHEW COOKE from the MS. in the British Museum—additional MS. 23,198—and the Woodford and Supreme Council MSS. of A.D. 1728, marked respectively according to Bro. HUGHAN'S numeration as B₂ and B₃, which are copies of the Cooke. Group C. includes Dr. PLOT'S version (C₁), printed in 1686, the recently discovered "William Watson MS." (C₂) of 1687, which Bro. HUGHAN esteems of the very highest value, second only to the "Regius," while we are told that Dr. BEGEMANN considers it even more valuable as regards its important character in explaining a good deal of the historical development of Masonic tradition. This is properly named the "William Watson," as it was purchased by him for the West Yorkshire Masonic Library, the late Bro. TEW, P.G.M. being the donor. The Crane MS., No. 2, of the 18th century, also belongs to this group. The D group or family comprises no less than 39 versions, among which may be mentioned "Grand Lodge, No. 1," assigned to 1583, the "Lansdowne," the "York, No. 1," the "Phillips, Nos 1. and 2," the "Buchanan," "Kilwinning," "Ancient Stirling," all of the "17th century," together with "Atcheson Haven," 1666, in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the "Aberdeen," 1670, "Melrose, No. 2," of 1674, the "Stanley" and "Carson," of 1677, the "Antiquity" and "Col. Clerke," both of 1686, the "Haddon," which is given in full, of 1723, and many others. The E family is headed by the Sloane MSS. in the British Museum of the years 1646 and 1659 respectively, and includes 13 other versions. The F group includes "Roberts' Pamphlet"—printed version of 1722—Grand Lodge, No. 2, and Harleian, 1942, of the 17th century, with the Rawlinson, of the 18th century, in the Bodleian Library. Group G comprises the Spencer, the Inigo Jones, and Cole's and Dodd's reprints, while H comprises three MS. versions and one printed of the 18th century, and two printed versions of the present century. Brief particulars are given of these, and where it has been found necessary, the remarks and annotations extend to the length of a most elaborate commentary. Such particulars as were obtainable have also been given of the missing MSS., which are 10 in number, and include the MS. roll of prodigious length which is said to have been in the possession of MORGAN, the first Grand Secretary of the "Ancient" Masons; and that upon which his successor in that office—the famous LAURENCE DERMOTT—lectured, and which he said had been given to him about the year 1748. However, it is not necessary we should give any further account of the contents of the Volume. Suffice it to say that it has been compiled with the utmost care, every point of importance having been noted, and, where necessary, analysed, so that we are in no way surprised to hear that it is by far the most laborious of the many literary tasks which Bro. HUGHAN has undertaken. There are, however, two

features on which we have not laid sufficient stress. They are in the first the entire reproduction of the Haddon MS., which occupies no less than 10 full pages; and the 19 Illustrations, being reproductions in facsimile of portions of sundry versions. These add greatly to the appearance as well as to the importance of the work. They have been taken, in some cases, from blocks lent by the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire and by the West Yorkshire Masonic Library, while the others have been specially prepared for this Edition.

We will add that the work has been issued at 12s. 6d. nett, and can be obtained only from the Publisher, Bro. GEORGE KENNING, 16 and 16A, Great Queen-street, or of the author himself—Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, "Dunscore," Torquay, Devon. Only 250 copies have been printed, but more than half of these were subscribed for before the work was published, so that those brethren who may be desirous of possessing the work must lose no time in securing copies. Lastly, the work is dedicated to Bro. G. W. SPETH, Secretary of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, and Editor of its Transactions and Reprints, to whom more especially in this particular branch of study Masonic literature is so deeply indebted.

MARK PATENT AND ENDORSEMENTS, 1858—1892.

My friend, Bro. John T. Thorp, has kindly transcribed, from the original document, the following patent and endorsements granted to the lamented brother, the R.W. William Kelly, F.S.A., of Leicester, as Prov. Grand Master of Leicester, &c., in Mark Masonry. I do not know of another such, its interest being so great as to render its publication most desirable. Bro. Henry Stocker, in an admirable introduction to the Mark By-laws of Devon, claims that his (our) province was the first of its kind to be inaugurated, and I believe rightly so, though, as a matter of date, those of Wilts and Kent have preceded it. The patent to the revered and Rev. John Huyse, M.A., was dated 11th December, 1857, and the one to the R.W. Bro. Wm. Kelly was signed some six months later. In no province has the Mark Degree been more prosperous and continuous than in Leicestershire. The valuable original is, I believe, in the library of Freemasons' Hall, Leicester.

W. J. HUGHAN.

PATENT OF 23RD JUNE, 1858.

To all to whom these Presents shall come. The Right Honorable The Lord Leigh Grand Master of Mark Masters in England and Wales and the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown.

Sends Greeting

Be it known that the Grand Master reposing great trust in his well beloved Brother William Kelly, of Humberstone Road Leicester in the County of Leicester Doth hereby Appoint him to be Provincial Grand Master of Mark Masters in the County of Leicester for a period of Three Years from the date thereof With full power and authority to regulate Lodges within his Province and to do every other act appertaining to the Office in accordance with the constitution taking special care that the Members of all Lodges within his Province do observe the regulations contained in the Book of Constitution except such as may have been repealed at any General Meeting.

And also all such regulations and instructions as shall from time to time be transmitted to him by the Grand Master or the Deputy Grand Master for the time being. And it is especially required that the said Provincial Grand Master do cause at least one General Meeting to be held within his Province in every year that he do promote on these and all other occasions whatever may be for the honor and advantage of Mark Masonry that he do yearly send to the Grand Master an Account in writing of the proceedings at such Meeting and transmit a particular Statement of the Lodges working within his Province and when and where they are holden with a List of the Members of each and copies of all such regulations as shall be made for the good Government of the same with a Report of whatever else shall have been done by virtue of these presents In Witness whereof the Grand Master hath hereunto set his hand, and caused his Grand Registrar to affix the Seal of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters this twenty third day of June One thousand eight hundred and fifty eight.

LEIGH



ALEXR. RIDGWAY
Gd. Registr.

ENDORSEMENTS.

(No. 1).

I William Wither Bramston Beach M.P. Grand Master of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown do hereby nominate and appoint Brother William Kelly of Stoneygate Leicester Provincial Grand Master of Mark Master Masons in the County of Leicester for a further period of Three years from the date hereof and do confirm to him all the powers and privileges contained in the Patent of his original appointment.

W. W. B. BEACH
G.M.

14th. March 1868.

(No. 2).

This patent to be in force until a successor shall have been duly installed in the stead of the R.W. Brother herein named should no fresh appointment of a Provincial Grand Master be made on the expiration of three years from the date hereof.

GEO. RAYMOND PORTAL
G.M.

Dec. 5, A.D. 1870.

(No. 3).

The powers contained in these Presents to be further extended for a period of Three Years from the date hereof under the Conditions named herein.

PERCY

5 December, 1873.

Grand Mark Master.

(No. 4.)

The powers contained in these Presents to be further extended for a period of Three Years from the Date hereof under the conditions named herein.

LIMERICK,

G.M.M.

5th December, 1876.

(No. 5.)

By order of the M.W. Grand Master, Lord Skelmersdale, dated 1st October 1879, of which a copy was sent to you on 6th October, the Simon de St. Liz Lodge, No. 245, at Northampton, and the Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 246, at Derby, are hereby placed under the rule and jurisdiction of the R.W. Bro. the Provincial Grand Master of Leicestershire, until further orders.

By Order

DON. M. DEWAR, Gd. Ass. Secy.

London, 18th Oct. 1879.

(No. 6.)

The powers contained in these presents to be further extended for a period of three years from the date hereof, under the conditions named therein.

LATHOM.

27th May, 1880.

(No. 7.)

The powers contained in these presents to be further extended for a period of three years from the date hereof under the conditions named therein.

HENNIKER.

London, 28th May, 1883.

(No. 8.)

The powers contained in these presents to be confirmed and extended for a period of Three Years from the date hereof under the conditions contained therein.

ALBERT EDWARD.

London—

1st. July 1886.

(No. 9.)

The powers contained in these presents to be confirmed and extended for a period of three years from the date hereof, under the conditions named therein.

London, 8th July 1889.

By command of H.R.H. the Grand Master.

EUSTON

P.G.W., Pres. of the General Board.

(No. 10.)

The powers contained in this patent of appointment are hereby further extended for a period of three years from the eighth day of July One thousand eight hundred and ninety two.

By command of H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master.

C. F. MATIER, P.G.W.

Grand Secretary.

London, 6th September 1892.

CONSECRATION OF THE EARL OF LATHOM LODGE, No. 2560, AT BURY.

A new lodge was consecrated at the Town Hall, Bury, East Lancashire, on Friday, the 18th inst., by Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, P.G.M. East Lancashire, assisted by his Prov. Grand Officers, and in the presence of upwards of 100 brethren. All having assembled in the Concert Hall of the Town Hall, the Consecrating Officer, with the assistant officers, together with such other Grand and Prov. Grand Officers as were present, entered in procession under the direction of Bro. A. H. Duffin, P.M., Prov. G.D.C., when the Presiding Officer took the chair.

Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P., who was unable to attend the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge in May for investiture as Senior Grand Warden of the province, was present, and by virtue of his powers Bro. Col. Starkie constituted this meeting into a Provincial Grand Lodge for a brief period, whilst his lordship was invested with the jewel and placed in the chair of his high office.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said he had great pleasure in so investing the Senior Grand Warden. Many illustrious brethren had worn the jewel, and he was perfectly certain that it would be worn by Lord Stanley in as worthy a way as by any of his predecessors in the office of which it was the emblem.

The SENIOR GRAND WARDEN expressed his thanks to Colonel Starkie. He added that he felt proud of the high honour which had been conferred upon him (Lord Stanley.) He hoped he would be able to follow in the footsteps of those who had gone before him in the position and, if, possible, add to the credit of Freemasonry in East Lancashire and the country generally.

Bro. Clement R. M. Royds, P.P.S.G.W., acted as Deputy G. Master; Bro. H. Whitehead was in his place as P.J.G.W.; Bros. Rev. John Kelty, P.G. Chap.; John Chadwick, P.G.S.B., as P.G. Sec.; R. T. Sutcliffe, P.G. Reg.; A. H. Duffin, P.G.D.C.; Thos. Wolstenholme, P.G. Org.; and Ollier, as P.G. Purst.

There were also present:

Bros. C. R. U. Beswick Royds, P.P.S.G.W.; Edmund Ashworth, P.S.G.D.; John Chadwick, P.G.S.B., P.G.S.; J. H. Sillitoe, P.G. Std. Br.; N. A. Earle, P.P.J.G.D.; James Newton, Prov. A.G. Sec.; F. W. Wollaston, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Frost, P.D.G.D.C.; J. Bromley, P.G.S.B.; W. Thornley, P.G.S.; Thos. D. Foreman, P.P.G.D.; J. B. Goulburn, P.G.D.; John Wrigley, P.G. Treas.; Thos. Rigby, P.G.S.B.; Thos. Ramsay, P.G.D.; Arthur Middleton, P.G.D.; J. W. Millward, P.G.S. of W.; Wm. Barrett, P.G.D.; E. H. Flowers, P.G. Tyler; Jno. Cliffe, P.P.G.D.C.; Geo. Jackson, P.D.G.S.B.; John Redfern, P.P.G.P.; Wm. Balmer, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. T. Newbold, P.P.J.G.D.; F. W.

Purcell, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. W. Kenyon, P.P.G.S. of W.; R. Pilkington, P.P. G.S.B.; Geo. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org. E. Lancs., P.P.G.O. W. Lancs.; J. Beardmore, P.G.S.; Wallworth, P.G.S.; John Redfern, P.P.G.P.; J. E. Williams, P.D.G.D.C.; and many others.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and a hymn sung.

The PRESIDING OFFICER then addressed the brethren in regard to the object for which they had met together. He said it was highly gratifying to find that Masonry had made such progress in Bury as to justify the establishment of a sixth lodge in the town. The large attendance proved that Masonry took up no small portion of the time and the thoughts of the brethren in that part of the province, and this was also proved and emphasised by the liberality of the brethren of Bury towards the Masonic Charities of the province. The name of the new lodge was most appropriate, in that it was the name of one who was highly esteemed in the Order everywhere. He believed that Lord Lathom felt deeply the compliment paid to him by the founders. He (Colonel Starkie) hoped the members of the lodge would strive to reach and maintain a high reputation in the Order.

The P.G.M. called upon the Chaplain for prayer, and the P.G. Sec. was called upon to state the wishes of the brethren, and when the brethren were properly arranged, the warrant was read by the P.G. Reg., and the founders approved of the officers appointed.

The following oration was delivered by Bro. JOHN KELLY, P.G. Chap.: Freemasonry has been described as a body of brethren numbering many thousands, knit together by the most solemn vows, to be true and loyal, generous and pure, chivalrous and brave. And this, so far as it goes, is a good definition. But it does not go far enough. Freemasonry is something more. It is a Brotherhood in the best sense of the word—a Brotherhood which lays upon its adherents the first and great Commandment—to love the God of all the universe, as well as the second Commandment—to love one's neighbour as one's self. In the words of one of its most exalted officers—"it is a band of Servants of God—pledged to brotherly love, relief, and truth, devoted to Queen and country." Have you ever thought what is the magnet which draws together our brethren from every rank in society? The Prince and the peasant, the Statesman and the ecclesiastic, the lawyer and the doctor, as well as the artisan of our race? It must be something more than mere enjoyment—it must be something more than good fellowship—it is the power of love and sympathy, in the practice and fulfilment of which the human draws nearer to the Divine. The day is past, we may well hope and believe, when Freemasonry could be attacked either as a secret or disloyal Society. Liberty of thought and toleration in religion has long been our characteristics, and every detail of our organisation points to truth, and freedom, and loyalty. May our hearts, as we gather together to-day, be impressed with the real Masonic spirit—the spirit of brotherly kindness and affection—the spirit of desire to relieve a brother's need—and the spirit of longing for that great truth which alone shall make us free. May the richest blessing of the Universal Father attend the work which has been commenced here to-day. May the cords of fraternal love, and the golden bowl of life's best deeds be with us to bind us and cheer us, and prepare us for the everlasting lodge above.

An anthem followed, and the Consecrating Officer dedicated and constituted the lodge, and was closed by the final Benediction. The lodge was resumed in the Second Degree.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER requested Bro. N. A. Earle, P.P.G.R., to occupy the chair, for the purpose of installing the W.M., Bro. T. Mellor, P.M., who was presented by the D.C., and duly installed, greeted, and saluted in the different Degrees.

The officers invested were the founders, viz.: Bros. T. J. Hutchinson, S.W.; James Bailey, J.W.; G. W. Yapp, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Grigale, Sec.; Robert A. Wistrose, S.D.; R. Bridge, J.D.; R. B. Hardman, I.G.; and J. R. Ragdale and W. Noar, Stew.

The addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and brethren were delivered by Bro. DUFFIN.

The Grand and Prov. Grand Officers having retired, the business of the lodge was completed under the able gavel of the W.M. There were several proposals for initiation.

At the conclusion of all business, the lodge was closed, and the members with their guests adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a most recherché banquet had been prepared by Bro. Ballard, the proprietor. The tables were profusely and tastefully decorated with roses and other rare flowers and plants, which gave them a most brilliant and picture-que appearance.

The usual loyal and Masonic toast list was gone through, and all were heartily given and responded to.

We may add that the lodge was richly furnished, and displayed as it was in the handsome room looked remarkably well.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held at the Town Hall, Southport, on Saturday, the 19th instant, when the attendance was larger than usual. Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Past G.M., Prov. Grand Master, presided. Nearly all the 36 lodges in the county were represented.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY, in his report, stated that during the year two lodges had been consecrated—the Bootle, No. 478, at Bootle, and the St. Austen's, No. 479, at Warrington. The membership, which was not increasing rapidly, had reached 904.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER remarked that the report was very satisfactory, and so long as Mark Masonry held its present high position in Lancashire, he did not think they should aim at an increase of numbers. Indeed, an increase of numbers need not be thought of save in its natural course. Respecting a decision of the Grand Mark Lodge communicated to the province, and of which all Mark Master Masons were cognisant, he need only say that they must bow to the higher authority, though he wished some concession could have been granted. The matter being settled, should now be dismissed from their minds. He had been gratified to hear a most satisfactory financial statement from the Grand Mark Lodge, and hoped the flourishing condition of the province would long continue.

Bro. Lord Lathom was nominated Prov. Grand Master for the next three years, and accepted the office amid enthusiasm.

The election of Prov. Grand Treasurer was unanimous, and the investiture of Prov. Grand Officers took place as follows:

Bro. W. J. Fleetwood, 359	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Richard Robinson, 143	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" William Forrest, 32	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" P. L. Booth, 36	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" John L. Wolfenden, 406	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. C. C. Bluett, 158	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" John Hatch	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Chadwick	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Nicholas A. Earle, 156	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Somner Fisher, 296	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Bromley, 141	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. Henry Holland, 313	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" John Lee Board, 156	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" William Spencer, 18	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" R. H. Webster, 161	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Christopher Ainsworth, 189	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" John H. Worsley, 136	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Geodacre, 359	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Max Boyd, 268	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Connard, 473	...	...
" C. Watson, 268	...	...
" R. W. T. Hatch, 268	...	...
" P. Rawshorne, 473	...	...
" J. J. Hankin	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Preston was selected for the next meeting.

Bro. Lord Lathom subsequently presided at the banquet.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Carmarthen, under the banner of St. Peter's Lodge, No. 476, on Thursday, the 17th instant. The Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord Kensington, presided over a very large attendance of the brethren, every lodge in the province being well represented.

Service was held in St. Peter's Church, to which the brethren marched in procession, and a sermon was preached by the P.G. Chaplain, Bro. W. EVANS. Mr. Wesley Martin presided at the organ, and the choir of St. Peter's assisted in the service. The anthem, "Behold how joyful a thing it is to see the brethren dwell together in unity" was very finely rendered, the solos being taken by Bro. Walter Spurrell and Miss Alice Phillips.

After the business of the lodge was concluded, a banquet was held at the Ivy Bush.

The Prov. Grand Master presided, and was supported by his officers, who, for the ensuing year, are the following:

Bro. Vaughan Davies, 1072	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" T. W. Barker, 476	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" W. Evans, 1072	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Perrott, 1072	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" D. H. Brown, 464	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. James, 464	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. L. Thomas, 671	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Coram, 990	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. S. Phillips, 476	...	...	Prov. G. S. Wks.
" T. Rogers, 464	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" C. E. Sparks, 1177	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. G. Beer, 378	...	...
" J. T. Robinson, 1748	...	...
" J. W. Gardiner, 1177	...	...
" R. M. J. Leonard, 366	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. F. Hancock, 990	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" W. H. Daysh, 366	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" E. Aslatt, 378	...	...
" T. Lewis, 2001	...	...
" H. Studt, 476	...	...
" J. W. Forbes, 476	...	...
" E. Bowen, 464	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

INSTALLATION OF THE DISTRICT GRAND MASTER OF NATAL.

After a 13 years' tenure of the office of District Grand Master of Natal by Bro. R. I. Finnemore, recently resigned, the members of the Craft in this District have been afforded an opportunity of witnessing the installation of his successor in that high and important position. The newly-appointed and installed Dist. G.M., Bro. Wesley Francis, has, since the establishment of a District Grand Lodge in Natal, occupied the office of Deputy D.G.M. with ability and success, and on the retirement of Bro. Finnemore, he was appointed by the M.W.G.M., his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to the vacancy so created.

The ceremony of installation was fixed for the annual half-yearly communication of District Grand Lodge on Tuesday, the 17th September, in the Masonic Temple, Pietermaritzburg, the function being witnessed by a very large and representative assembly of distinguished brethren, amongst whom were visiting brethren from England as well as from other parts of South Africa outside this district.

Punctually at four o'clock in the afternoon of the day named, the installation proceedings were inaugurated by the entry of the P.D.G.M. and the officers of District Grand Lodge, who were received with the usual ceremony, and District Grand Lodge was thereupon opened in due form.

Certain formal initiatory business having been transacted, the P.D.G.M., in the chair, briefly addressed the brethren present on the subject of the installation and immediately thereafter Bro. Wesley Francis, the D.G.M. designate, was announced as being without, and requesting to be installed as Grand Master of the District of Natal. The P.D.G.M. thereupon required the patent of appointment to be produced for his inspection, and this having been obtained and presented by the D.G.D. of C., was declared to be in order. Seven Past Masters were accordingly nominated to introduce the D.G.M. designate, who was admitted

in their midst, the brethren standing to order, and an anthem being rendered during the advance to the pedestal. The patent issued by the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, appointing Bro. Wesley Francis to the position of D.G.M., was thereupon read by the D.G. Secretary, Bro. J. B. Cottam, and prayer having been offered up, the P.D.G.M. proceeded to obligate his successor, delivering, thereafter, a brief exhortation as to the office of the D.G.M. The new District Grand Master was then inducted in the chair and invested with the regalia pertaining to his rank by Bro. R. I. Finnemore, who conveyed his congratulations and expressed the pleasure it afforded him to present this regalia to Bro. Francis as a token of appreciation of the many and able services rendered by him as Deputy D.G.M. for so many years past. Proclamation was thereupon made of the new D.G.M. who was saluted with ceremony, and who announced the appointment by him of Bro. George Russell as his D.D.G.M., at the same time expressing his regret that serious illness prevented that brother from leaving Durban to personally receive his patent and his investiture. He further formally confirmed all the District Grand Lodge officers in their several appointments as conferred upon them at the preceding half-yearly communication held in March last. The newly-obtained and handsome banner of the Natal District Grand Lodge was then unfurled with ceremony, a short address on the subject being given by Bro. the Rev. Dr. Ikin, and the ornate and ponderous District Grand Lodge sword was placed before the pedestal.

An interesting and lengthened address was then delivered by Bro. Francis, who expressed his appreciation of the high and dignified honour conferred upon him, and his full sense of the responsibilities it entailed. He had, however, the advantage of the example of his predecessor, Bro. Finnemore, whereby to guide his steps, and he knew, moreover, that at all times he could confidently rely upon that brother's valuable advice, assistance, and experience begotten of a long and enthusiastic Masonic career, as well as of his great natural abilities and legal training and knowledge. In the discharge of the important office he had assumed that day it was his earnest desire to advance the interests of Freemasonry in the district in strict and perfect accord with the principles of the Order, and in this desire he trusted, and felt assured, that he would receive the unanimous support of the brethren. He would like to impress upon Worshipful Masters of lodges a full sense of the great responsibilities which rested upon them, and to remind them of the great after effects that might result from their action in one direction or the other. Whilst, of course, in the propagation of the Fraternity, an extension in the numerical membership of lodges and good financial positions for the lodges were desiderata in themselves, yet he must caution them against attaching a too high importance to these points, and against pursuing them without due regard to the quality of the membership and without good grounds being present for expecting that candidates, if admitted, would ultimately reflect credit on the Order. More honour, he considered, was to be acquired by a Master, even though his lodge was not numerically strong nor particularly well off, if he maintained the members of that lodge in true Masonic affection and Charity, than was due to a Master of a lodge in which the principles of brotherly unity and benevolence were less conspicuous than a long muster-roll of members and a heavy bank account. He further advocated the combination by all the lodges of the district in a centralisation of funds for the purposes of benevolence and Charity, and expressed his intention of endeavouring to further some scheme for this object. Under the present system of individual and isolated benevolence on the part of separate private lodges, although there were many bright records of well-doing in the district in the past both remote and immediate, yet there was no doubt but that a great deal of money had from time to time been wasted in misdirected charity bestowed indiscriminately upon unworthy recipients to the neglect and detriment of worthy and pressing cases. It was, therefore, his earnest wish to see this matter placed upon a sound and practical basis; and he trusted that before long some movement would be initiated and generally supported with a view to the furtherance of the object aimed at. In all points of difficulty and in questions involving differences of opinion, he hoped that the full confidence of the brethren would be accorded to him; and he could assure them that in all cases every facility would be afforded by himself to enable authoritative decisions to be obtained upon controversial matters requiring interpretation and settlement.

The ordinary business of the District Grand Lodge was then proceeded with, including the adoption of amended by-laws, and the inauguration of a fund for the purpose of a suitable testimonial to the P.D.G.M., Bro. R. I. Finnemore.

In the evening the D.G.M. entertained the officers of District Grand Lodge, the Masters of the lodges in the district, and other brethren at dinner, and a remarkably pleasant social evening brought the interesting functions of the day to a close.

RED CROSS OF ROME & CONSTANTINE.

DIVISIONAL GRAND CONCLAVE OF KENT.

The annual meeting of the above was held on Tuesday, the 1st instant, at the Green Man Assembly Rooms, Blackheath Hill, the new headquarters of the Saye and Sele Conclave, and under its banner.

The ordinary business of the conclave having been transacted, including the installation as a knight of the Order of Comp. F. J. Down, M.E.Z. of the Saye and Sele Royal Arch Chapter, the Intendant General, Sir Knight the Rev. Hayman Cummings, was received under the arch of steel and assumed the throne, supported by his Deputy, Sir Knight A. H. Bateman, P.G.A. Eng., and many of the Divisional Officers.

Divisional Conclave having been opened in form, the notice of meeting and the muster roll were called and the minutes read and confirmed.

On the motion of the INTENDANT GENERAL, a cordial expression of regret at the lamented death of the late Divisional Recorder, Sir Knight Cobham, and of sympathy with his family, was ordered to be entered on the minutes and communicated to the proper quarter.

This was seconded by Sir Knight KIDDLE, and unanimously carried.

The Treasurer's report was received and adopted, and, on the motion of the DEPUTY, seconded by Sir Knight VOSEY, Sir Knight Bryant was unanimously re-elected to that post.

The Intendant General then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Sir Knight Bateman, P.S. 122 and 148, P.G. Arch	England	...	Deputy.
" F. A. Jewson, M.P.S. 122...	...	...	Viceroy Eusebius.
" G. P. Carter, M.P.S. 148...	...	...	Senior General.
" S. A. Dunn, M.P.S. elect 147	...	...	Junior General.
" Rev. C. H. Fielding, M.A.	...	...	High Prelate.
" B. R. Bryant	...	...	Treasurer.
" W. Campbell Taylor	...	...	Recorder.
" G. H. Kitson	...	...	Chamberlain.

Sir Knight F. Williams	...	Marshal.
" G. H. Dowsett	...	Prefect.
" W. H. Burney	...	Inspector of Regalia.
" J. G. Dunkley	...	1st Std. Br.
" A. Rollington	...	2nd Std. Br.
" J. O. Pook	...	Sword Br.
" W. Jones	...	Organist.
" F. J. Down	...	Herald.
Frater Spinks (elected)	...	Sentinel.

The INTENDANT GENERAL then announced that he had reported to the Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign of the Order that Sir Knight Dr. Burney, P.G.D. Treas., had performed many and signal services for the good of the Order in general, and the division of Kent in particular, and had retained his office of Recorder and Treasurer to the Invicta Conclave, No. 148, for many years, instead of proceeding to the chair, and recommended him for the honorary rank of Past Sovereign, as provided by the statutes of the Order; also that such recommendation had been graciously accepted, and that he had accordingly received special dispensation to confer that rank on the knight named.

A College of Viceroy was accordingly formed, and Sir Knight Dr. Burney was formally consecrated to that office, and a Senate of Princes being established, the further rank of Most Puissant Sovereign was conferred, and Sir Knight Burney duly enthroned on the seat of Constantine, according to ancient usage, by the Intendant General in his well-known eloquent and perfect style.

The new PAST SOVEREIGN feelingly returned thanks for the honour, and promised unremitting continuance of his interest.

Divisional Grand Conclave being closed, the Saye and Sele Conclave resumed and completed its business, and the sir knights then adjourned to refreshment, under the presidency of the Intendant General, supported by Sir Knight Jeeson in the vice-chair.

The loyal and Masonic toasts usual to Christian Masonry were duly given and suitably responded to, and the proceedings much enlivened by some excellent music discoursed by the talented M.P.S. of the Saye and Sele Conclave, Sir Knight Jeeson.

Entire satisfaction was expressed at the admirable accommodation and service provided at the new head-quarters by the proprietor, Mr. Parsons, and the hope expressed that the greater accessibility would lead to considerable increase in numbers to this very interesting and ancient Christian Masonic Order.

The present address of the Recorder, Bro. A. H. Bateman (formerly of Belvedere) is Amberley, Rosenthal-road, Catford, S.E.

Obituary.

THOMAS RIX, P.M., SEC. 697, P.P.G.S.B. ESSEX.

A very old officer of the Province of Essex was laid to rest in Colchester Cemetery on the 9th inst., in the person of Bro. Thomas Rix, P.M., Sec. 697, P.P.G.S.B. Initiated in the United Lodge, No. 697, Colchester, in 1867, he passed through various offices, and was installed as W.M. in 1872. In the following year he was appointed Secretary, and continued to hold the office till his death—nearly 23 years. In recognition of his services, the members in 1888 subscribed for, and presented him with, a handsome marble clock, which was one of his most cherished possessions. The first portion of the burial service was held in the Church of St. Botolph's, Colchester, of which he had for some years been Parish Warden. The vicar, the Rev. J. R. Corbett, officiated, assisted by the curate, the Rev. W. O. E. Oesterley. Psalm xxxix. was chanted by the surpliced choir, and hymns 257 and 401 were sung. During the service most of the business establishments in St. Botolph's-street were partially closed, and a large number of the members of Lodge No. 697 attended, including Bros. F. J. Motum, W.M.; A. Gosling, P.M.; G. A. Eustace, P.M.; J. T. Bailey, P.M.; H. J. Skingley, P.M.; J. G. Renshaw, P.M.; John Howe, P.M., D.C.; G. J. Booth, P.M.; R. G. Cooke, P.M.; J. Lewis, P.M.; James Bradbury, P.M.; J. G. Bryan, S.W.; Walter Mayhew, S.D.; F. W. Richards, I.G.; J. H. Johnson, J. G. Potton, R. Emson, W. Chambers, C. J. Cole, J. F. Flux, R. J. Godfrey, I. W. Godwin, R. W. Mutton, J. Brown, J. Rayner, D. Prior, I. Leach, C. H. Archer, J. T. Wade, F. G. N. Offord, J. G. Smith, H. M. Ommanney, and A. Wright, Tyler. The Angel Lodge, No. 51, was represented by Bros. T. J. Ralling, P.M., Sec.; W. Sowman, P.M.; R. H. Ives, P.M.; S. D. C. Abblitt, P.M.; W. Blatch, Wm. Peck, and J. E. Cheese. The members of the United Lodge sent a very handsome floral wreath; the card attached was inscribed as follows: "A token of high esteem and sincere regret from the W.M., officers, and brethren of the United Lodge of Freemasons, No. 697, of which lodge Brother Rix was the trusted Secretary for nearly twenty-three years." Several brethren were prevented attending the funeral, including the Mayor (Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, W.M. 51), Bros. Rev. E. H. Crate, J. P. Lewin, Captain McKenna, and others. Besides his Craft Masonry, the late Bro. Rix was P.Z. of the Patriotic Chapter, attached to Lodge No. 51, and a founder and many years Registrar of the Constantine Lodge of Mark Masters.

BRO. DANIEL EDWARDS, P.M.

The Craft in general, and East Lancashire and Manchester in particular, has sustained a loss by the somewhat sudden death of Bro. D. Edwards at the early age of 53. He was initiated in the Callender Lodge, No. 1052, many years ago, and served as W.M. in the year 1875-76. Since that time he has served many successive Masters as Secretary, and it is not too much to say he was a model Secretary. Although by no means bigotted, our deceased brother was a life long abstainer, and, to further the cause of the cardinal virtue, temperance, conceived, and to a great extent assisted in forming, a lodge on temperance principles in Manchester—the Wolseley, No. 1993. The "fourth degree" was almost an insurmountable object, but this was ultimately overcome through the co-operation and untiring energy of Mrs. D. Edwards—the much-respected wife of our departed brother—who undertook the catering for the brethren on temperance lines. So well and ably did both work for the Wolseley Lodge in its early days that the brethren saw fit to recognise their assiduity by presenting Mrs. Edwards with a diamond bracelet and Bro. Edwards with a marble timepiece and oil painting of himself and both with a handsomely-illuminated address setting forth their appreciation and good wishes. On the suggestion of Bro. Edwards, Bro. Lord Wolseley kindly permitted Lodge No. 1993 to be named after him, and he also attended at the consecration, it he did not perform the ceremony. On that occasion there was a large and distinguished gathering of the Craft in Lancashire

and our brother who has just passed away was the first W.M. of the new lodge. We have no date of his exaltation to the Royal Arch Degree. That he was a sincere and enthusiastic Mason is very certain, and we have known him negotiate a bicycle run of nearly 200 miles to be present at an installation in which he was interested. As an illustration of the certainty of the teachings of the Third Degree we may say that our friend and brother had arranged to celebrate his silver wedding by a visit to Paris and Switzerland, and was about starting when he was struck down by paralysis, from which it was destined he was never to rise again, and, a blood vessel bursting upon the brain, he succumbed. He was laid to rest in a quiet and unostentatious manner in a quiet country cemetery a few miles from Manchester on a recent Saturday, the mourners including three sons—Frank, Harry, and Arthur, nephew—Mr. Edwards, Bros. Roger Walker, P.M.; Harry Derbyshire, P.M.; A. J. Tonkin, P.M. 1755 (Somerset); W. Sharpe, C. J. Tonkin, 1755; Mr. J. C. Linney-Caunce, and others. A large representative body of brethren of the above lodges met the *cortege* at the cemetery gates, but we were not successful in obtaining the names of the many brethren. There were numerous floral tributes of respect and handsome wreaths from the lodges. At the last regular meeting of the Callender Lodge, No. 1052, it was the painful duty of Bro. Roger Walker, P.M., to propose that a letter of condolence be sent from the lodge to Mrs. Edwards and family, and this he did in feeling and sensitive terms. The place of Bro. Edwards in the Callender Lodge, and his place in Masonry generally, will be hard to fill. No single individual will ever know his acts of kindness and charity; his many quiet and unperceived ways of relieving distress; his method of frequently doing a little bit of good here and there, and his sincere, thorough, and hearty manner of extending the right hand of fellowship in act and deed to a friend and brother—of studying him first and self afterwards—these and other actions on similar lines have gone to make up the life of the true and worthy Mason. Besides the three sons named above, our brother leaves a widow and daughter to mourn his loss.

THE DEATH has taken place of Bro. Alderman Powell, three times Mayor of Monmouth, in his 73rd year. His sister presented him the last time he was Mayor with a massive gold chain and badge, and each successive Mayor has added a link to the chain. He was an active Mason, a Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Vice-Chairman of the School Board, and held a number of municipal offices.

THE DEATH is announced, at the ripe age of 92, of the Rev. C. Bury, who till a year ago was vicar of Teckhill, Yorkshire. The deceased was a descendant of Sir William Bury, the celebrated Roundhead captain, and of Sir Thomas Bury, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer in the reign of George I. He was a contemporary at Oxford of the late Lord Winemarleigh and the Bishop of Chichester, and was ordained 69 years ago.

Reviews.

"THE MINERVA LODGE DIRECTORY, 1895."—This handy lodge manual is in its Fifteenth Year of Publication, and, as usual, is printed and published by the esteemed firm of M. C. Peck and Son, Hull. The present roll of members of the lodge begins in 1848 (William Thompson), 11 being credited to 1895, so that the lodge is as active as ever, and flourishing as the "green bay-tree," being in its second centenary. The roll of W.M.s. from 1782 is unbroken, and makes a most pleasant page to look at, suggestive as it is of continuous working. The present membership of the Royal Arch chapter begins in 1836 (Thomas Massam), and six companions are entered to the present year, the names of the First Principals being given from 1785 *without a break*. The Mark Lodge, No. 12, existed long before the inauguration of the Mark Grand Lodge, the W.M., previous to 1853, being also the *Mark Master*, if in possession of the Degree. The names run on from that year regularly to 1895, and the register of members begins with Bro. M. C. Peck, P.M., in 1861, nine names being the work for the portion of 1895 to date of publication. The Knights T. Degree is worked under very old auspices, the Eminent Commanders being traced back to 1784, the senior on the present roll of members being the Earl of Londesborough, seven additions being made during this year. The Rose Croix chapter was originally worked under the wing of the Knights Templars, the present list of members and M.W. Sovereigns being from its union with the Supreme Council, the former having Bro. M. C. Peck, 30°, as its oldest member, and Bro. W. Reynolds, 32°, heading the roll as M.W.S. in 1876-7. The annals are continued from the Directory of 1891, and are ably compiled.

"THE BELFAST FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE YEAR 1895."—This complete and well-arranged annual has been compiled from official sources by Bro. William Stanfield, P.P.S.G.D., the Assistant Sec. Prov. Grand Lodge Antrim, and is published by Olley and Co., of 8, Royal-avenue. The ordinary calendar for notes, which contains the meetings of all the Masonic bodies in Belfast, runs from January to December; then come four pages of a calendar only, for the Province of Antrim and Down (country districts), the names of the places of meeting being alphabetically arranged, *there being a column for the numbers of each lodge, another for the day of the week, and then 12 for the days of the months*. This table must have meant a lot of labour. The information relative to the Provincial G- and Lodge, historical and official, is most valuable and interesting, and so as to all the Degrees worked in Antrim and Down, over 90 pages being well filled with a lot of most useful and entertaining facts, which should be much appreciated locally. Copies are sold at 6d. each, bound in cloth.

THE "VOICE OF MASONRY"—John W. Brown, Editor and Publisher, Chicago, Ill.—for the current month has for its frontispiece a portrait of the Hon. Mrs. Aldworth, the lady Freemason, and a number of minor illustrations. Among its articles we note in particular one by Bro. William H. Upton, Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Washington, entitled "If not this, then what?" in which the writer very ably considers the question of the origin of Free and Accepted Masonry, and a further instalment of Bro. Gruther's "What is Freemasonry?" The number is stronger than usual in its "Masonic Gleanings," and the author's notes are rather more varied than we have ordinarily found them. There are, of course, the usual epitomes of Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Commandery proceedings, but, at the same time there are sundry addresses and matters of a cognate character, which are not so frequently to be found in the "Gleanings" of this admirable periodical.

In the "SCOTTISH FREEMASON" for October—Glasgow "Scottish Freemasonry" Publishing Company—will be found several contributions of considerable merit, as well as the usual Notes and News. Perhaps the most valuable is the "Historical Sketch of St. John's Operative Lodge, Banff, No. 92," which is announced to be continued in future numbers. The earliest record of this Lodge dates from the year 1764, but it had been in existence, we are told, for a number of years prior to that date as "a Lodge of Operative Masons (no doubt working the same degrees as lodges of Free and Accepted Masons), for a meeting on the 6th January, 1775, we find one (Alexander Gorden) present, who was entered a member of the lodge 17 years before." There is also an account of a "Masonic Demonstration and Bazaar at Langham, the former taking place on the occasion of the inauguration of a new Masonic Hall, while the latter was in aid of the building fund for the Hall, and was opened by the Duchess of Buccleugh. One other paper calls for notice, namely, that in which, "Masonry among the Negroes" is traced back to the initiation of Prince Hall and 14 other coloured men in an army lodge in Boston, on the 6th March, 1775, from which simple facts the existing negro Grand Lodges in the United States, with an aggregate membership of over 30,000, derive their origin.

THE "AUSTRALASIAN KEYSSTONE"—208-210, Little Lonsdale-street, Melbourne—well maintains in its September number the high character it has long held among Craft periodicals. Among the most valuable of its contents is a further instalment of Bro. Rev. E. Rodda's "Sketches of Freemasonry in Port Phillip (Victoria), 1838 to 1850," in which is continued the "History of the Australian Felix Lodge of Hiram,

I.C., 1843." There is also the concluding portion of an article by Bro. W. H. Kingsbury, W.M. No. 40, on "Masonic Signs, Emblems, and Symbols." In the news columns we find a report of the annual meeting of the "Masters' and Wardens' Association (Victoria)," which was held on the 15th August. We congratulate our contemporary on the permission—to which we refer elsewhere—it has just had granted to it to publish reports of the Proceedings of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, and the extension of its influence to that colony. We trust this will have the effect of strengthening the position of the "Australasian Keystone."

"THE KEYSTONE"—237-9, Dock-st., Philadelphia.—"Objections to Freemasonry by the late Grand Master, Bro. Joseph R. Chandler, has been the leading article in this journal for several weeks past, the instalment in the issue for the 5th instant being the sixth. These "Objections" are very able and vigorously combated by the writer, the particular objection which is considered in the sixth article being that religion is able to accomplish whatever Freemasonry proposes, and that to establish a separate society "for a special object of good is to deny to religion part of its efficacy, and to deprive it of a portion of its legitimate exercises." In the same number there is an article, written by S. Beswick, on "Ritualistic Masons," which the Editor has published in full, though not approving of the whole of the views expressed by the writer, because, as he says, "it contains some thoughts that, if well digested, would prove of benefit to the Craft in general." It is undoubtedly a very able written paper, and we think the Editor has done wisely in finding a place for it in his columns.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND, AT THE QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION ON THE 18TH JULY, 1895.—The District Grand Treasurer reported a balance of £59 6s. 2d. to credit of open account and £200 on deposit account, while it appears from the report of the District Board of Benevolence, that there was a total balance to its credit of £341 8s. 5d., of which £300 was on deposit. Bro. W. R. Mitchell, Past Dist. G. Sec., drew the attention of District G. Lodge to sundry items of news and rulings of Grand Lodge, among the latter being included the following, which was received from the Grand Secretary as a communication bearing date the 15th June last. "After the expiration of the year of office no distinction is made between Past Senior and Junior Wardens. They all rank as Past Wardens. Consequently a brother who was Junior Warden in 1875 takes precedence of another who was Senior Warden in 1893."

Mark Masonry.

Joppa Lodge, No. 11.

The installation meeting of this old lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., when Bro. John Armstrong was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. Among the members present were Bros. T. C. Thorburn, P.P.S.G.W.; O. Jones, P.P.G.M.O.; P. Duff, P.P.S.G.D., W.M.; J. Frazer, P.P.J.G.O.; E. Marston, P.P.S.G.O.; J. H. Jackson, P.G.I. of W.; T. Cowley, P.P.G.D.; H. Murphie, P.G.S.B.; and others. Visitors: Bros. F. Broadsmit, P.S.G.W.; J. Daken, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Platt, P.P.G.W. West Lancs.; J. C. Robinson, P.P.G.D.C. West Lancs.; J. Warren, P.P.S.G.O.; J. Clarke, P.S.G.O.; L. Ellis, P.P.G.M.O.; J. Poole, P.P.G.D.; S. Marple, P.P.G.D.; J. Wolfenden, W.M. 466; J. Shaw, S.D. 196; and others.

After the lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed, Bro. J. Morris, P.P.G.W., took the chair, and installed the W.M. in a manner only possible when a perfect knowledge of the ritual and a commanding presence are combined, and for which he received the hearty vote of thanks of the lodge. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. P. Duff, I.P.M.; J. Frazer, S.W.; J. H. Jackson, J.W.; E. Marston, M.O.; J. Watt, S.O.; Wm. F. Robinson, J.O.; O. Jones, P.M., Treas.; H. Murphie, R. of M.; E. W. Armstrong, Sec.; Dr. C. A. Brewer, S.D.; R. Robinson, J.D.; J. Morris, P.M., D.C.; G. Barclay, I.G.; A. H. Baird, J. Smith, and A. J. Thompson, Stewards; and J. Holtaway, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented by the W.M., on behalf of the lodge, to Bro. Peter Duff, I.P.M., for his valuable services in the chair, and suitably acknowledged. The accounts for the past year were submitted, passed, adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated. They showed the lodge to be in a very flourishing condition, and with a large balance in hand. Three candidates having been proposed for advancement by the W.M., the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired to the banqueting-room.

An excellent dinner was served by and under the personal superintendence of Bro. Moyse, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts submitted.

Bro. F. Broadsmit, P.S.G.W., replying for "The Prov. Grand Mark Master, and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," said he was pleased that Mark Masonry was beginning to flourish in the province, and had no doubt it would continue to do so in a much more marked degree under the guidance of their present distinguished Prov. Grand Master, the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., who was a most enthusiastic Mason, and his able Deputy, Bro. Colonel Dean. He must, however, call attention to one thing, viz., that the Mark Benevolent Fund had been up to this date entirely neglected by the Province of Cheshire, not one item appearing in the books of that fund to the credit of the province. That, he hoped, would at no distant day be remedied.

In proposing "The Health of the W.M., Bro. John Armstrong," the I.P.M., Bro. Duff, said in the W.M. they had a brother who had greatly distinguished himself in both Craft and Arch Masonry, and as a worker in those Degrees he had few equals. During the ensuing year they might look forward to a rendering of the ritual as perfect as it was possible to render it, and from the popularity of their W.M. they might hope to have a record year in the old Joppa Lodge.

The toast was received with musical honours, after which Bro. W. Platt sang "Here's to his health in a song."

Bro. Armstrong, W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Duff for the far too flattering terms in which he had proposed the toast of his health. In becoming the W.M. of the lodge he had reached the pinnacle of his ambition, and nothing should be wanting on his part to make No. 11 as powerful and respected as it was undoubtedly ancient amongst Mark lodges. The charter in the lodge-room which had that day been placed in his custody was one of the first issued by the Mark Grand Lodge of England, but a far more ancient charter was that which he now held in his hand, and which would be passed round for inspection. The old charter emanated from the Grand Chapter of Scotland, being No. 5 on the Scottish list, and was in existence years before the Mark had taken any hold in England, and, although their lodge had had many ups and downs, being at one time reduced to four members, by the devoted attachment of such brethren as Bro. F. C. Thorburn, who had been a member some 40 years, it had preserved a continuous working career since the issue of its old Scotch charter. The days of adversity had happily passed, let them hope, for good; the lodge was now in a sound financial position, in which he trusted to leave it, and, at the same time, to see voted a substantial sum in the course of the year to the Mark Benevolent Fund, and thus show that they were not altogether forgetful of one of the greatest objects of their ancient institution—Charity. He hoped with the increasing prosperity of that and the other lodges in the province, the default pointed out by Bro. Broadsmit would soon be redeemed. In conclusion he thanked them for their confidence, and if his experience of 22 years as a Mark Mason, coupled with the assistance of officers, almost all of whom had proved their worth as Installed Masters in the Craft, was any criterion, then the lodge ought to be well worked during the next 12 months.

"The Health of the Past Masters" was given from the chair.

Bros. Thorburn, the father of the lodge, Jones, and Duff responded.

Bros. Wolfenden, Tilley, Ellis, J. C. Robinson, Poole, and J. H. Tyson responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

Valuable musical assistance was rendered in the course of the evening by Bros. J. B. Galt, J. H. Jackson, A. H. Baird, G. Barclay, W. Platt, and A. P. Thompson.

BRO. THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN has acquiesced in the proposal of the Mayor and Corporation of Cardiff to entertain his lordship at a banquet and present him with a testimonial in appreciation of his gallant attempt to win the America Cup. It is believed that the presentation will take the form of a silver medal of Valkyrie III. with a suitable inscription. His lordship has requested that the banquet shall be arranged to take place some time before the 26th November.

Our Portrait Gallery.

We give below portraits of the first Worshipful Master, B.o. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, and the Secretary, Bro. Will E. Chapman, of the Empress Lodge, No. 2581, the consecration of which took place on the 14th inst. A report of the proceedings appeared in our last issue.



BRO. SIR JOSEPH DIMSDALE, W.M. 2581.



BRO. WILL E. CHAPMAN, Secretary 2581.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.D., President of the Board, occupied the President's chair; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, took the chair of Senior Vice-President; and Bro. C. J. R. Tijou, P. Asst. G. Purst., acted as Junior Vice-President. Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Sec., was in his usual place, and Bros. W. Lake, A.G. Sec., W. Dodd, and W. H. Lee were the other representatives of the secretarial department. The other brethren who attended were Bros. David D. Mercer, William Vincent, John Chadwick, Charles Dairy, S. Valentine, George B. Chapman, William Fisher, Henry Garrod, George R. Langley, R. H. Evans, T. W. Whitmarsh, Robert A. Gowan, Walter Martin, W. Kipps, George Graveley, James Bunker, E. C. Mulvey, Frederick Thomas, Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler, and many others.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the amount of £90 made at the September meeting. The new list contained 36 cases, which were qualified through lodges in the London district, and at Paignton, Bromley (Kent), Sunderland, Eccles, Monkwearmouth, Mussoorie, E.I., Peterborough, Ilford, Ross, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Calcutta, Oxford, Valparaiso, Boston, Gibraltar, Longton, Rochdale, Hampton Court, Newport (Mon.), Leeds, and Newton Abbot. In the course of a sitting extending over three hours, the brethren made a total grant of £805. They deferred two cases and dismissed one petition. One petition was recommended to the Grand Lodge in December for a grant of £50; and the Grand Master was recommended to make a grant of £40 in each of five cases, of £30 in each of 10 cases, and £25 in each of two cases. Immediate grants were made of £20 to each of six petitioners, of £15 to one brother, of £10 each to six petitioners, and there were two grants of £5 each.

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INCOME AND FUNDS (1894).

Fire Premiums	£701,000
Life Premiums	232,000
Interest	171,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	-	£4,444,000

To Correspondents.

The following communications unavoidably stand over:

CORRESPONDENCE—

Lodge of Friendship, No. 44.

CRAFT—

All Saints' Lodge, No. 1716.
Attingham Lodge, No. 1821.
Citadel Lodge, No. 1897.
Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278.
Duchess of York Lodge, No. 2482.
Willesden Lodge, No. 2489.

Also several reports of Lodges of Instruction.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1895.

Masonic Notes.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire, which was originally fixed for July, but postponed in consequence of the General Election, will be held in the Town Hall, St. Albans, on Wednesday, the 13th November. The business to be transacted is of the usual character, and the customary banquet will follow.

* * *

We have to remind our readers that the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland will take place at the Grand Assembly Rooms, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Wednesday next, the 30th instant. The gathering will be of exceptional importance, as it has been arranged that no less than three new lodges—the Temperance, Delavel, and Holmes, numbered 2557, 2568, and 2571, respectively—shall be consecrated.

* * *

Our esteemed contemporary, the *Australasian Keystone*, which is published in Melbourne, and is the

organ of the Craft in that colony, announces in its September issue that it has received the permission of the authorities of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales to publish its proceedings, and editorially comment on such matters as are likely to prove of interest to the general body of Masons in New South Wales.

* * *

We learn from the same source that a Masonic Ball, which was held in the Sydney Town Hall, on the 31st July, in aid of the funds of the New South Wales Freemasons' Benevolent Institute, resulted in an augmentation of its resources to the extent of upwards of £300. It also states that the brethren in Newcastle and East Maitland had organised similar fêtes in behalf of the same Institute, the Newcastle Ball having been fixed for the 23rd August. We trust we shall learn from a subsequent issue of the *Australasian Keystone* that these balls have been attended with results equally or even more beneficial.

* * *

The *Canadian Craftsman* for last month contains reports of the 12th annual conclave of the Sovereign Great Priory of the Order of the Temple in Canada, which was held in St. John's, New Brunswick, on the 23rd August last, and of the annual convocation of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, which was held in the same city two days later. Sir Knight Shepard, Supreme G.M., presided at the former meeting, and in the course of his address expressed regret that the number of fraters present was not greater, and that the members of the Scottish Encampments of St. John and St. Stephen had declined to unite with the Canadian Templars. Warrants for two new Preceptories were ordered to be issued, and Grand Chancellor Sir Knight D. Spy reported a substantial increase of membership during the past year. The new Grand Master of the Order is Sir Knight William H. Whyte, of Montreal.

* * *

The *Australasian Keystone* announces with deep regret the loss of a very distinguished member of the Craft in the Colony of New South Wales—Bro. Dr W. Gillett Sedgwick, upon whom at the constitution of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales the rank of Past Grand Master was conferred. Our deceased brother was initiated in Sydney under the Scottish Constitution in 1861, and was installed W.M. two years later. In 1869-70 he was acting Prov. G. Master of New South Wales, and the following year received the appointment of Prov. Grand Master, the title of his office being changed in 1880 to that of Dist. Grand Master. He was also Grand Superintendent (S.C.) of Royal Arch Masonry in the colony, the local chief of the Red Cross and Order of the Temple, and one of the founders and first M.W.S. of the first and only Rose Croix Chapter ever established in the colony. Bro. Dr. Sedgwick had attained to a ripe age, having been born in 1819. He was educated at Christ's Hospital, and received his diploma as M.R.C.S. Eng. in 1844. Ten years later he received a medical appointment in New Zealand, but he migrated thence to Sydney in 1856, and continued in practice from that time forward till his death. He was highly esteemed and respected both by his brother Craftsmen and the general public.

* * *

The *Voice of Masonry* for the current month contains the announcement of the death, at Fairfield, Connecticut, on the 30th August, of Bro. General Ely S. Parker, a full-blooded Indian, who was born 75 years ago on the Towanda Reservation in New York, and was chief of the Seneca tribe and King of the Six Nations. Bro. Gen. Parker served as Colonel on the staff of Gen. Grant during the war from 1862 till its close, when, in recognition of his services, he had conferred upon him the rank of Brigadier-General.

* * *

The proceedings of the Grand Commandery of Maine for 1895 are interesting, because of the attention paid to statistics. It is calculated that there are over 107,000 Knight Templars in America, though there are not more than 5000 or so elsewhere. The number of Templars in several Grand Commanderies such as New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, &c., is far in excess of the total membership in Europe, so popular is this Degree in the United States. The Master Masons number over 765,000 in North America. More than half the Royal Arch Masons in the "New World" are Knight Templars, the percentage now of Knights to Craftsmen being about 14, whereas 25 years ago it was but 5 per cent. Bros. Stephen Berry, J. H. Drummond, and E. P. Burnham form the Committee, and prepared this excellent report.

Royal Arch Masonry appears to be advancing slowly but surely in the estimation of the brethren in the District of Bengal. Numerically there are 13 chapters on the roll of the District Grand Chapter. Of these three are in abeyance, but the Grand Superintendent, in his address at the Regular Convocation on the 10th August last, expressed the hope, that as the lodges to which they were severally attached were strong numerically, one, if not more, of the three might be in a position to resume work. Of the 10 chapters at work two were reported to be in arrear, one for half a year only and the other for a year. However, one of these had subsequently made good its default, so that it was found possible to give a full return of members for nine out of the 10 chapters in actual working. According to these Returns, the aggregate membership of these nine has increased from 323 in June, 1894, to 357 in December of the same year, and to 393 in June of the current year. An increase of 70 members in one year on so small a total as 323 is a very substantial one, on which we congratulate the Grand Superintendent and District Grand Chapter.

* * * * *

We announce with regret that the Masonic Hall, Boston, Mass., was almost totally destroyed by fire on 7th September. According to the *Voice of Masonry*, it was a handsome building, and formed one of the great attractions of the City. It was erected in 1867, and contained "very valuable furniture, regalia, and paraphernalia, and many priceless Masonic relics." Some of the property was saved, but all the Masonic bodies which met under its roof have suffered severe loss, the greatest sufferers being the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Our brethren of Boston, and of Massachusetts generally, have our sincere sympathy.

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.]

A GRAND LODGE FOR SOUTH AFRICA. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I noticed some little time back in your columns a reference to a proposed Grand Lodge for South Africa. It may interest your readers to know that there is not the remotest chance of such a project being realised. The matter was considered and debated, and deliberately rejected by the vast majority of South African Freemasons, acting through their duly accredited representatives. For my own part, I hope that the question is finally closed, and that it will never be re-opened. We have three Constitutions at work in South Africa, the English, Scottish, and Dutch. The lodges working under the G.E. of the Netherlands are the oldest in South Africa, and the warrant of Lodge "Goede Hoop," in Cape Town, dates from 1772, which is 23 years before the first occupation of the Cape by the British in 1795. There are certain peculiarities of working under the Netherlands Constitution, which our B. B. of that Constitution would never surrender, although at the present time there is no bilingual difficulty, as I do not know of any Dutch lodge that does not work in the English language. Therefore, even if our Scottish brethren consented to adopt English working (and there are strong tendencies in this direction), we could never expect the Dutch lodges to conform to Emulation ritual. It may be said with truth that, so long as the landmarks are observed, absolute uniformity of working is not to be expected, but a South African Grand Lodge would be bound to attempt to enforce *some* uniformity, and the result would probably be a compromise which English Freemasons would much prefer to avoid. There are four English District Grand Lodges in South Africa, namely, the Western Division, of which the Very Rev. the Dean of Cape Town is D.G. Master; the Eastern Division, under R.W. Bro. Dr. Egan; Natal, under R.W. Bro. Francis; and the Transvaal, under R.W. Bro. Richards. All these District Grand Lodges are working well and prosperously, and our roll of lodges is steadily increasing. The political condition of South Africa, divided as it is into the two British Colonies of the Cape and Natal, and the two Dutch Republics, gives Englishmen a tendency to drift apart politically and socially.

The Masonic bond which unites our four District Grand Lodges to the Grand Lodge of England is in itself a good thing for English Freemasons, whose ties of citizenship tend to divide them, and a South African Grand Lodge could never supply that central authority and control which the Grand Lodge of England supplies to bind together English Freemasonry in South Africa. It has been said that a South African Grand Lodge would give an impulse to our local Masonic Charities. I do not for one moment believe it. We have no reason to be ashamed of their present position, and I feel sure that our withdrawal from the Grand Lodge of England, with the splendid example it affords of the organisation of Masonic Charity, would hinder our Charities rather than help them.—Yours fraternally,

A. T. WIRGMAN, D.C.L.,
W.M. of No. 711, and D.J.G.W. of South Africa (E.D.).

Craft Masonry.

Union Lodge, No. 127.

Great interest was attached to the last regular meeting of this prosperous lodge, held on the 16th inst., as the occasion of opening the New Masonic Temple, just erected, the memorial-stone of which was laid on the 6th of November, 1894, by Bro. E. Crosoer, the W.M. who has held that office for two successive years to enable him as the originator of the scheme to be in the chair at its completion. The external appearance of the building is of a quiet character, in red brick with dressings of stone, and is finished in front and rear by lofty ornamental gables, relieved in the centre by a square and compass worked on stone, each gable having large elliptical headed windows glazed with enamelled glass with the emblems of the Craft in prominence. The entrance is by means of large double doors opening into a lobby artistically paved with black and white marble, beyond which is a spacious ante-room 23 feet by 10 feet, whilst farther on is an apartment for the use of candidates, both rooms being in direct communication with the lodge. The comfort of the brethren has been consulted by well fitted lavatories. The main or lodge room is singularly handsome and commodious, measuring 45 feet by 24 feet, and 16 feet to the roof plates, the roof being of open construction of ornamental wood and iron trusses covered with varnished matchlining. Quite a feature are the gas pendants and brackets of Masonic design, neatly executed in wrought iron and brass, the whole being set off by the furniture, pictures, and portraits. The architect was Bro. A. Lathom, C.E., a member of the lodge, and Bro. L. Seager, P.M. 1275, the builder.

The lodge was opened, when there were present Bros. E. Crosoer, P.M., W.M.; J. Moore, S.W.; J. L. Hume, P.M. 144, J.W.; Francis W. Willett, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; F. Stanley, P.M., P.G. Supt. of Works, Sec.; W. F. Franklin, S.D.; H. Woodward, J.D.; Leonard Hill, J.G.; T. Russe, F.C.O., Org.; T. Jephcott, D.C.; J. J. Hermitage, Stwd.; George Lawrence, Tyler; A. Wootton, P.M. 127, 1299, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Brighthurst, P.M.; Lieut.-Col. H. W. Bamber, I.P.M.; G. H. Cluxfield, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; J. G. Henning, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; John Healing, P.M.; H. Price, P.M.; B. L. Moor, P.M.; Wm. Bushell, W. H. Hughes, Rev. H. J. Daniell, M.A., S. Davies, J. B. Friend, J. Phipps, E. L. Dixon,

W. J. Clarke, P.M. 133; W. Bourne, R. Rapson, C. Curtis Gray, H. H. Jones, F. L. Pettman, J. W. Sayer, J. M. Munns, A. Lathom, C.E., J. Hosking, P.M. 1347; E. Whitehead, A. B. Pilcher, H. Manning, E. Bush, P. Brown, W. H. Bennett, Thomas Goodey, and G. W. Macfarlane. Visitors: Bros. J. E. Eastes, D.P.G.M.; W. Cowell, W.M. 2448; T. H. Tomlinson, P.M. 1238, P.P.A.G.D.C.; George Goble, P.M. 1273, P.G.D.C.; H. Black, P.M. 1273, P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. Hooker, W.M. 1273; G. J. Baldwin, W.M. 1209; D. H. Wilson, W.M. 1208; R. Gardiner, I.P.M. 1273; J. Ellcott, I.P.M. 429; J. F. May, P.M. 429; S. Holbourn, P.M. 429; A. G. Harvey, P.M. 2448; H. Morris, P.M. 1273; L. R. Wilson, P.M. 1209, P.G.S.; L. Seager, P.M. 1273; E. H. White, P.M. 2448; G. Hiller, P.M. 429; S. H. Hale, P.M. 1209; G. Goodbourn, P.M. 429; M. H. Gill, P.M. 1209; H. Keep, P.M. 1464; R. Marley, P.M. 429; R. A. Fawesett, S.W. 2448; J. E. French, J.W. 1273; F. J. Harding, J.D. 2421; N. F. Merriman, R. H. Lovett, W. Pennefather, J. J. Roach, and C. F. J. Briggs, all of 429; J. Collins, 1209; W. Green, 1824; John Bristed, A. Friend, 233; N. Tannenbaum, 588; J. Emery, T. P. Swain, W. H. Price, and R. Barlow, all of 2448; H. J. West, 1209; H. J. Bines, 1915; and A. E. Millbourn, 1237.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. the Rev. H. A. Daniell was invested as Asst. Chaplain. The key of the Temple was next presented to the W.M. by the architect. A deputation of Provincial Officers then escorted the Dep. P.G.M. into the lodge, who was saluted. After a short prayer by the Chaplain, the W.M., in a brief address, gave the history of the building from the inception of the idea until the realisation, cordially thanking the brethren who so earnestly co-operated with



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

him, and whose efforts had assured the success of the undertaking. The lodge had been the recipient of numerous gifts from various brethren, to each of whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded, which was also extended to the architect and builder, and on the proposition of the W.M., Bro. L. Seager, was elected as honorary member of the lodge. Then followed the presentation of a jewel to Bro. Stanley as a slight acknowledgment of the valuable services he had rendered as Secretary to the lodge, and also of the Temple Trust. In returning thanks, Bro. Stanley assured the brethren that their approval was a great reward in itself, and he had the greatest satisfaction in thinking that the gift was the outcome of their approbation. Bro. Seager handed the W.M. the trowel which was used in laying the foundation-stone, on which was a silver band, with a suitable inscription. After the report of the Board of Past Masters had been read, and various propositions made, including the names of two candidates for initiation at the next meeting, the lodge was closed. The working throughout was most efficient.

The brethren then adjourned to an excellent banquet at the King's Head Hotel.

The following toasts were given by the W.M.: "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. the Grand Master," "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and "The Prov. Grand Master."

Bro. A. Wootton then proposed "The Deputy Prov. G.M., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," coupled with the names of Bros. Stanley, Dixon, Wilson, Willett, and Goble, who each responded.

The toast of "The W.M.," which was proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bamber, met with an enthusiastic reception, and was gracefully acknowledged in well-chosen words.

Bro. A. Lathom replied to the toast proposed by Bro. Reeve, of "The Architect and Builder," on behalf of himself and Bro. Seager, who was unfortunately compelled to leave earlier in the evening.

Bro. J. G. Henning's toast of "The Masonic Charities" was answered by Bro. A. Wootton, as the Charity Representative.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was next given by Bro. Price, who in paying a tribute to the excellent manner in which the work of the lodge was always done, suggested the desirability of a universal ritual as the one used in the lodge of instruction had been handed down from Preceptor to Preceptor, and which differed in a few instances from the Emulation working. These differences could be obviated by having one ritual. Bro. Price, in conclusion, coupled the names of the S.W., J.W., Sec., and Treas., who each spoke in reply.

A lengthy programme of songs, well rendered by Bros. Bennett, Harding, Henning, Hosking, Stanley, and H. Wootton, and recitations by Bros. Hughes and Macfarlane, greatly contributed to the enjoyment of the evening, which was concluded at a late hour by the Tyler's toast.

St. John's Lodge, No. 167.

The installation meeting of this old-established lodge was held on the 8th instant at Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead. Bro. H. Hibberd, W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. W. B. Morle, I.P.M.; F. Stansell, J.W.; J. T. Rowe, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; Edwin Storr, P.M., Sec.; J. B. Thompson, S.D.; W. A. Scurrah, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Middx., Vice-Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps., D.C.; G. Brown, I.G.; J. Hearnsum, P.M.; A. Lane, P.M.; H. C. Coffin, P.M.; W. Wilkinson, P.M.; C. H. Fry, P.M.; W. E. Lane, T. Edinborough, H. C. Minnitt, E. Lambert, E. Maas, G. H. Whitaker, T. Hooper, and T. Bowler, Tyler. The visitors were: Bros. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; J. J. Thomas, 753, Prov. G. Treas. Bucks; Jas. Stephens, P.M. 1425; W. J. Mason, 1328, P.P.G.D. Surrey; Arthur H. Scurrah, P.M. 2048 and 2206, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx.; J. M. McLeod, P.P.S.G.W. Derby, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; R. J. Grimwood, 2427; R. T. Redfern, P.M. 753; W. J. Stratton, P.M. 753; J. F. Forbes, 788; R. B. Vick, S. G. Murray, 619; H. W. Copleston, W.M. 704; W. Lincoln, 2398; J. Swinyard; J. Carey, 1623; Jno. Dale, 1613; F. Morgan, 1155; J. J. Goode, 1964; W. H. Lee Davies, of South Africa; and R. T. West, 1744.

The confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting and the audit meeting having been taken, Bro. J. T. Rowe, P.M., the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.M., and installed in the chair by Bro. H. Hibberd. The following brethren were appointed officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. B. Thompson, S.W.; G. H. Whitaker, J.W.; H. E. Coffin, P.M., Treas.; Edwin Storr, P.M., Sec.; G. Brown, S.D.; A. White, J.D.; E. Lambert, I.G.; W. A. Scurrah, P.M., D.C.; H. C. Minnitt, Stwd.; and T. Bowler, Tyler. The usual addresses were given by Bro. Edwin Storr, P.M., in a manner that made it impossible for them to have been better rendered, and was much appreciated by the members and the numerous visitors. The next duty of the W.M. was, as he observed, a very pleasing one, to present to Bro. H. Hibberd a Past Master's jewel. He had done good service for the lodge, and he had well earned and richly deserved the jewel. Bro. Hibberd acknowledged the jewel, remarking that he should always honour it. Upon the motion of Bro. Edwin Storr, P.M., a hearty vote of congratulation to Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.M., was unanimously carried on his election as Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes.

A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after other business the lodge was closed, and a superb banquet followed, for which Bro. W. E. Lane was responsible.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured,

The W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said they were honoured that evening with the presence of the Grand Treasurer, Bro. W. M. Stiles, who was so well known to them and to the Craft, and he hoped he would be able to find time to pay them another visit during his year of office.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., on rising to respond, had a very hearty reception. He said it was 17 years ago that night when he saw his old friend, their present W.M. installed, and he was glad to be present to see him again installed into the chair of the St. John's Lodge, and although he had had the pleasure of attending many installation meetings of their lodge, he was glad he had not missed being there that evening. He took that opportunity of tendering his sincere thanks to the members for the great efforts they made on his behalf on his election as Grand Treasurer, and which he should never forget.

Bro. H. Hibberd, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He wished the toast had been in better hands as he felt he could not do it justice. Nothing he could say would be too good or too great in the praise of the W.M. It was many years since he was first installed in that lodge and he had been the Treasurer ever since. He was a very good fellow and one of the best of friends and he had done, and would do, everything to promote the interests of the lodge.

The toast was received with enthusiasm.

In response, Bro. J. T. Rowe, W.M., said that he appreciated the many kindnesses he had received at their hands since he was first installed. To be elected Master twice in the same lodge was a surprise and a great honour to him and he hoped nothing would be wanting on his part to uphold the great reputation of their very old lodge.

"The Masonic Charities" was next given by the W.M., and he associated the toast with the name of Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.

Bro. McLeod responded in very eloquent terms, giving elaborate and interesting details of the three Institutions, and, in conclusion, he made a very earnest appeal on behalf of the Boys, and urged the members to give liberally to the W.M., who would go up as Steward for the Boys' School, and make his list the premier list at the Festival.

In proposing "The Visitors," the W.M. stated that it was the toast of the evening. They were honoured with the presence of some of the best in London. They were all more than welcome, and he hoped they would come again. He joined with the toast the names of Bros. J. J. Thomas and W. J. Mason.

Bro. J. J. Thomas responded. It was a great pleasure to be there once again, and he was delighted to have seen the W.M. installed, who was beyond doubt the right man in the right place. The members had entertained the visitors in a lavish manner, and the floral display on the table was splendid.

Bro. W. J. Mason also replied. He was glad to visit their old and distinguished lodge, which was well known for its excellent working of the ritual.

After repeated calls, Bro. J. Stephens, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, remarking that he was glad to meet the Grand Treasurer, which reminded him of a forthcoming very important election, and might he mention that Bro. Bailey was a candidate for the high office of Grand Treasurer. He was an ardent worker in Freemasonry, and was in every way qualified for Grand Lodge, and if the brethren supported Bro. Bailey in his candidature they would never have cause to regret it.

In submitting the toast of "The Past Masters," the W.M. stated that the lodge had some of the best Past Masters it was possible to have. They had all rendered great service, and he felt sure they would do in the future what they had in the past.

Bro. H. Hibberd, I.P.M., responded in a very few words. He was so young a Past Master that he would defer his remarks until he was older.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.M., also replied. The Past Masters would be only too pleased to do everything they could add to the prosperity and happiness of the lodge. He, on behalf of the Past Masters, congratulated the W.M., and they were unanimous that they could not have a better ruler, and he would have the loyal support of all.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary." He said that the Treasurer was initiated in the lodge, and had occupied all the offices, and he would carry out his new duties with credit. Then as to Bro. Storr, he was also an initiate of the lodge, and had been their indefatigable Secretary for many years, and they could not do without him. The office of Secretary was not always a bed of roses, but with Bro. Storr, he did his duty in such a nice manner that was pleasing to all, and for a Secretary to give satisfaction all round was somewhat unique.

Bro. H. E. Coffin, P.M., Treas., responded, remarking that the W.M. gave him his first collar in Masonry.

Bro. Edwin Storr, P.M., Sec., on rising to respond, received a hearty welcome. His speech, the shortest one of the evening, was—Thanks, thanks, nothing but thanks.

"The Officers" having been honoured, and responded to in appropriate terms by Bros. J. B. Thompson, S.W., and G. H. Whitaker, J.W., the Tyler's toast brought to a close one of the most happy and successful gatherings in the annals of the St. John's Lodge.

Bros. A. Lane and G. Brown contributed some excellent songs.

Beacontree Lodge, No. 619.

The annual meeting of this lodge for the installation of a new W.M. was held on the 16th inst. at the Royal Crystal Palace Hotel, Upper Norwood, when Bro. James C. Hayes, P.M., who has acted as Master since the lamented demise of Bro. John Rawle, W.M., in January last, presided. As usual at this comfortable lodge, there was an excellent attendance of members and visitors, the ranks of the former including the names of Bros. Moss Chapman, S.W. and W.M. elect.; F. W. Upton, J.W.; W. Sharratt, P.M., Treas.; Charles Norrington, P.M., Sec.; Jas. W. Harrison, S.D.; E. Croft Wise, J.D.; W. Slatter, I.G.; C. Meierhoff, P.M., D.C.; M. G. Hall, Stwd.; Past Masters H. Massey, A. W. Biilow, Albert E. Austin, and Carl T. Fleck. Visitors: Bros. J. S. Gornton, 1901; A. Lundie, P.M. 1381; James W. Avery, P.M. 619; C. R. Wilman, P.M. 2262; J. O'Dea, P.M. 1178; S. Leng, G. Leng, and S. Clarke, all of 1178; J. Hodgkyn, P.M. 1056; J. Yaulden, P.M. 1981; Alf. Attkin, 1348; L. Joseph, 1881; E. W. Ellis, P.M. 1314; H. Hubberde, I.P.M. 167; J. Lockett, W.M. 2222; Arthur J. Millington, 1227; Henry Danson, 1178; William Roats, P.M. 1273; George Harris, 1772; J. J. Wright, P.M. 1081; John Holt, 1339; Frederick James Cross, 1732; W. H. Rivers, P.M. 1772; W. Brogden, 902; and J. Woodcock, 1638.

Bro. Hayes installed Bro. Moss Chapman, who had been unanimously elected at the August meeting, as W.M. for the next 12 months, performing the work in admirable style. The brethren to assist the W.M. for the year were Bros. James C. Hayes, acting as I.P.M.; Frederick W. Upton, S.W.; J. W. Harrison, J.W.; Francis Sharratt, P.M., Treas.; A. E. Austin, P.M., Sec.; E. Croft Wise, S.D.; William Slatter, J.D.; M. G. Hall, I.G.; Meierhoff, P.M., D.C.; L. A. J. Faull, Org.; C. A. Adams, and T. Bowles, Tyler. Bro. Hayes, who was Master of the lodge in 1885 and 1893, besides acting as Master in 1895, was presented with a handsome cigar case of silver, the W.M. stating that as Bro. Hayes had already occupied the chair twice, the brethren could not offer him another Past Master's jewel as a token of their esteem and regard, and, therefore, they varied the testimonial in a way which they thought he, as a good smoker, would appreciate. There was also engraved on the cigar case—"Presented to Brother James Charles Hayes, P.M., by the members of the Beacontree Lodge, 619, 16th October, 1895." He trusted that Bro. Hayes would live many years to use it, for he knew he would treasure it as much as if it was of far more value

judged from a commercial point of view. Bro. Hayes having briefly thanked the brethren, the balance-sheet was adopted, which showed that there was £121 8s. in hand, and £21 in the Benevolent Fund. The alms-box afterwards added 32s. to this amount.

The brethren, having closed the lodge, subsequently partook of a choice banquet, and finished the evening by honouring the customary toasts and listening to some good singing by Bros. James Chilcott, Alfred Attkin, Harry Cooper, and the Apollo Part Singers.

Bro. Hayes, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M." said the toast was not only the toast of the evening, it was also the toast of the year. It was very sad to contemplate that the lodge had been without a Master for a long time—groaned on more and more disconsolate under the embarrassing weight of having one P.M. and another in the chair. Last year, however, their late worthy Bro. Rawle was installed, and they were all delighted to see him so because he was the father of the lodge. Bro. Rawle had worked and struggled hard to attain the proficiency which was deemed necessary for the occupation of the chair of the Beacontree Lodge. They had still the idea that they liked their Masters to be Masters; they liked them to be Masters in Freemasonry, and then when they were Masters of the Beacontree Lodge they were a credit to it. Unfortunately for the lodge and his family, Bro. Rawle joined the majority, and the lodge had to get a Past Master again to do the work. But now they had got one of their own men in the chair, one who, though for three or four years they despaired of getting up to concert pitch, had got himself up, and the Beacontree Lodge was proud to own him as its Master, and when he ordered in the lodge the brethren would have only one thing to do—to obey him. He wished Bro. Chapman a very happy and prosperous year, and might no cloud ever rise to mar the sky of prosperity of the Beacontree Lodge.

Bro. Moss Chapman, W.M., in reply, said that though he was a bit of a dunce when he started, he had worked up and tried to make himself acquainted with the ritual, and acceptable to the chair. But now he had arrived at the most difficult part of his task. He might learn the ritual, but he could not find words sufficient to express his gratitude for the honour conferred on him on this occasion. One good thing, Bro. Hayes had shewn him an excellent example that evening by making the speeches short, but he (Bro. Chapman) could not sit down without thanking Bro. Hayes for placing before the brethren expectations to be realised. If he conducted himself in the chair to the satisfaction of the brethren, he should feel that he had attained the highest honour in Freemasonry. In proposing the toast of "The Installing Master," Bro. Chapman said that Bro. Hayes had the benefit of Freemasonry, and the benefit of the Beacontree Lodge at heart.

Bro. Hayes, P.M., responding, said it was his duty to instal the Master. Every brother who went out of the chair ought to instal the successor. He believed it made a great impression on the mind of the successor, and was an incentive to him to follow the same course. When he was initiated in 1877, he heard Bro. James Avery go through the ceremony, and listened to him in the same way as he listened to Christine Nilsson with his mouth wide open, wondering what kind of man that could be to have such a memory for the beautiful words and such an expression in the delivery. The same thing happened the following year, and the year after, and he began to think that the Installing Master's was a sort of family office. But when he became Master he determined to break the record and to instal the W.M. himself. He did so. Bro. Hayes then thanked the brethren for the present they had made him, which he was sure his wife and children would cherish. He could be but seldom accused of forgetting his duties to the lodge; he did not think he should forget them in the future, but if it was thought he was a hard taskmaster, it was because he loved the Beacontree Lodge. He must give a word of praise to the W.M., for he had worked with a persistency which was characteristic of his race—he had nailed his colours to the mast, and intended to stand or fall by the act. He (Bro. Hayes) trusted that the confidence the W.M. had put in his officers would prove not to have been misplaced, but that they would work with tenfold vigour during the coming year.

Bro. O'Dea responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

Bro. Moss Chapman, W.M., in submitting the toast of "The Officers," trusted he should have those brethren's support during his year, and that at the end the brethren might say the officers were worthy of his confidence, and that he did right in appointing them. He was sure they would give him their undivided support.

Bros. Upton, Harrison, Slatter, Hall, and Austin, P.M., replied, each promising to do his best to make Bro. Chapman's year successful, and to leave a good record behind them.

Bro. O'Dea acknowledged the toast of "The Masonic Charities," and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Bro. Moss Chapman, W.M., undertook the office of Steward for the lodge at the next Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and hoped that the lodge and the brethren would give him their support.

Bro. Hayes gave notice that he would move at the January meeting that the lodge vote 10 guineas to Bro. Chapman's list.

St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 630.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Howden, on the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. E. Shaw, W.M.; R. Briggs, P.M., as S.W.; G. Brindle, J.W.; Rev. W. Hutchinson, M.A., P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; H. B. Anderson, P.M., P.P.G.W., Treas.; W. L. Rowntree, Sec. and Org.; G. G. Everingham, S.D.; W. H. Rylatt, J.D.; G. H. Anderton, P.M., P.J.G.W., D.C.; W. Stather, I.G.; W. Drury, Tyler; N. Shaw, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; I. G. Loan, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd.; T. Coulson, P.M.; T. C. Turton, P.M.; W. Baldwin, P.M.; W. Parker, W. Brown, E. Twivey, and Philip M. Crow. Visitors: Bros. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. W. T. Ord-Powlett, P.G.W. Eng., D.P.G.M.; M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., Prov. G. Sec.; J. Henderson, P.P.G.W.; Wm. C. Bradley, P.P.G.D.; W. N. Cheesman, P.P. A.G.C.; J. Constable, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Wildbore, I.P.M. 57; T. Morrill, 57; G. Shepherdson, 57; S. Cooper, 57; Wallis Jenkins, F.C.S., Org. 250; G. H. Metcalfe, 250; G. A. Buckingham, S.W. 566; H. B. Thorpe, 458; and J. L. Rogers, 1901.

The lodge having been opened and the usual business transacted, the chair was taken by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, who installed Bro. G. H. Anderton, P.J.G.W., with the customary ceremonial, the addresses being delivered by the Prov. Grand Secretary. The following officers were then appointed and invested by the W.M.—Bros. G. Brindle, S.W.; G. G. Everingham, J.W.; Rev. W. Hutchinson, P.M., Chap.; H. B. Anderson, P.M., Treas.; W. L. Rowntree, Sec.; W. H. Rylatt, S.D.; W. Stather, J.D.; N. Shaw, P.M., D.C.; Philip M. Crow, I.G.; and W. Drury, Tyler. The Prov. Grand Secretary made an appeal on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and later in the evening was ably supported by Bro. Bradley, resulting in a handsome contribution of above £20, the W.M. undertaking a Stewardship.

After the proposition of a candidate, the lodge was closed, and the brethren subsequently dined at Bowman's Hotel, where the amiable hostess provided a sumptuous banquet, a noticeable feature of which was a real Swedish "Smorgas," consisting of a wonderful variety of appetising *hors d'œuvre*, washed down with genuine schnaps.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and the proceedings were enlivened by excellent vocal and instrumental music.

Beacontree Lodge, No. 1228.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C., on the 9th inst., when there was a large attendance of members and visitors, including Bros. L. J. Powter, W.M.; H. D. Kemp, I.P.M.; S. D. Wade, S.W.; Geo. Chillingworth, J.W.; Chas. Vile, Treas.; R. J. Chillingworth, Sec.; F. W. Bird, S.D.; W. S. Emden, D.C.; E. R. Ray, I.G.; Wm. Dawson, P.M.; Edwin Bare, P.M.; W. D. Kemp, P.M.; W. J. W. Cole, F. J. Morrison, C. J. Rawlinson, John A. Tharp, John Mills, Wm. Kendall, Saml. G. Paithorpe, Jesse Jackson, and Jas. Stillwell. Visitors: Bros. C. Lauderdale, Stwd. 2005; J. Rowe, 2191; D. L. Gould, I.G. 2005; H. J. Skelton, 231; J. B. Johnson, P.M. 2005; W. R. Simmons, S.W. 1421; H. Emlyn, W.M. 1348; John Almond, J.W. 2500; B. Bridgeman, P.M. 144; James Leigh, Org. 1624; W. Hamshire, J.D. 1139; H. G. Harper, I.P.M. 171; James Barrett, P.M. 1421; F. J. Cubitt, P.M. 2020; E. Nelson, I.P.M. 177; F. Fairweather, J.D. 394; W. Reynolds, J.W. 2184; W. A. Tharp, J.W. 49; E. J. Reynolds, S.D. 1612; and Jas. Kift, Org. 1791.

In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. L. J. Powter, the chair was occupied by Bro. W. S. Emden, P.M., who, in a very impressive manner, initiated Mr. James Stillwell, after which the W.M. elect, Bro. Samuel Duncombe Wade, was presented and installed. The new W.M. then, in a very effective manner, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. Chillingworth, S.W.; F. W. Bird, J.W.; C. Vile, P.M., Treas.; R. J. Chillingworth, P.M., Sec.; E. R. Evans, S.D.; E. R. Ray, J.D.;

J. A. Tharp, I.G.; W. S. Emden, P.M., D.C.; and A. K. Turbifield, Tyler. The Installing Master (Bro. W. S. Emden) was congratulated by the brethren on the efficient way in which he had carried out the installation ceremony.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for the banquet, which was admirably catered for by the proprietors of the Guildhall Tavern (Messrs. F. W. Smith and Co.).

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, Bro. Langeridge J. Powter, the I.P.M., who had subsequently arrived, proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," which was received with enthusiasm.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he desired to express his appreciation of the very kind and all too flattering terms in which the I.P.M. had proposed the toast, and to thank the brethren for the very hearty reception they had accorded it. It would, he said, be his pride and pleasure to uphold and maintain the prestige and good name of the lodge during his year of office. He might say that from the moment he took office in the lodge, or rather from the moment he became a member of it, he had received nothing but kindness and consideration at their hands and they might rest assured he would stand on the great trust he had received that day to his successor unimpaired.

The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of "The Initiate," and observed that by the initiation of Bro. Stillwell into the lodge he believed they had that day added another good man and true to the great muster roll of Freemasonry, and although he would not go so far as to say that a man must necessarily become a better man when he became a Freemason, yet this he would say, that a brother witnessing our ceremonies, studying our ritual and grasping that great ideal of brotherhood, which was the grand characteristic of the Order, must become a better man for so doing.

The toast having been received with acclamation, and Bro. Stillwell having feinely replied,

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the I.P.M." and presented him with a Past Master's jewel in recognition of his services to the lodge during his year of office.

The I.P.M. having expressed his thanks for the honour done him, and the remaining toasts having been duly proposed and responded to, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close, the genial W.M. being congratulated on all hands upon a most successful inauguration of his year of office.

The musical arrangements were admirably carried out under the able direction of Bro. Jas. Kift, assisted by the following artistes—Bro. Herbert Emlyn, Bro. Bare (Initiate's Song), Master Percy Kahn, Master Mox Kahn, and Messrs. Wood, Barrett, Fred Wilson, and Arthur Wade.

Great Northern Lodge, No. 1287.

The members of this lodge assembled in goodly numbers, on the 17th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, and appeared in Masonic mourning in consequence of the death of the W. Master, Bro. Jas. Bastow, which occurred since their last meeting. The chair was taken by Bro. George Ridout, I.P.M., who was supported by Bros. C. Davis, S.W.; A. C. Doughty, J.W.; S. Webb, P.M., Treas.; W. Cleghorn, P.M., Sec.; T. G. Doughty, S.D.; E. T. Homewood, J.D.; C. T. Wilkinson, I.G.; Alfred Kenningham, Org.; Thomas Steer, Stwd.; and Reed, P.M.; together with other Past Masters, a large number of private members of the lodge, and the following, among other visitors: Bros. Boeck G. O. France, H. Heck, P.M. 766; W. T. Wilkinson, J.D. 742; E. Woodcock, 742; S. Marsh, 2502; W. J. Rayner, 1362; Henry Potter, 2502; O. Fenerstein, 766; W. W. Lee, P.M., Prov. G. Stwd., Middx.; W. W. Morgan, 177; W. E. Wellby, P.M. 538; and others.

The confirmation of the minutes was followed by the passing of Bro. Kain to the Second Degree. Messrs. J. J. Lee, B. Shayer, J. L. Atkinson, J. Gough, and S. Punter were then initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry. The acting W.M. then addressing the brethren, said: The work of the lodge being so far accomplished, before it closes I feel we must do justice to the memory of one whom we all loved and respected, for to do it justice is to do it honour. Our late Brother James Bastow added lustre to the history of Freemasonry, the sunshine of his genial presence seemed to touch with gold the prose of common life. We all knew and valued his work and his worthiness. There are those who ridicule the Craft and say that the Freemason's work, his memory, and his influence closes with the closing of the tomb. This very silence, coupled with part of the work done to-night, seems to me to be a living proof to the contrary. Good work never dies. Our esteemed brother was ever zealous of the best interests of the lodge, and most enthusiastic in introducing good men and true as members. In proof of this I need only remind you that two of the initiates to-night, together with the three or four he himself initiated, were of his introduction, not forgetting the many others he introduced since he joined the Great Northern Lodge 12 years ago. In addition to this he filled—and ably filled—the whole of the minor offices. By such conscientious work as this, time cannot dim his fame, but will rather enhance it, so that anything I can say to his loving memory can not be a sufficient mark of the influence he left on all who had the good fortune to know him. I shall now ask our Treasurer, Bro. Webb, P.M.—the father of the lodge—to submit a letter of condolence to the widow and children of our late brother, after which Bro. Owen (as Bro. Bastow's oldest friend) and the honoured Chaplain of our lodge, will each say a few words expressive of our great regret at our Master's death.

Bro. S. Webb, P.M. (the first W.M. of the lodge), referred to the feeling and graceful terms in which Bro. Ridout, I.P.M., had introduced the subject, and said it was unnecessary for him to speak at any length, as they all admired Bro. Bastow as a man, and perhaps if little were said the more sorrowful it would be felt. He, therefore, without further preface, moved the following resolution: "That the members of the Great Northern Lodge do hereby express their sincere regret and sorrow that their highly esteemed and excellent W.M., Bro. James Bastow, should have been taken from them so suddenly during his year of office as Master, and that every brother of the lodge desires to express his heartfelt sympathy with the widow and children in their severe loss, and trusts that the Great Architect of the Universe will comfort and protect them in their sore affliction."

Bro. Owen, P.M., who seconded the resolution, said it was 25 years ago since Bro. Bastow joined the firm with which he was associated and although that brother moved to the City to a busier life, scarcely a week passed without their seeing each other. It was his privilege when in the chair to propose Bro. Bastow as a joining member of this lodge, and all who knew him would say that a more genial and loving brother could not possibly exist, and he was sure that the words on the memorial card—"Never forgotten"—would be uttered by all.

Bro. the Rev. C. Rose, Chap., said he had lately had a strange experience, as one of his churchwardens died—which was an unusual occurrence whilst in office—but it was much more unusual for a W.M. to die during his year. He had been associated with the lodge as Chaplain during Bro. Bastow's membership, and regarded him with a deep feeling of affection and respect. The highest praise that Bro. Bastow thought he could bestow was to say a brother was a good Mason—Bro. Bastow was a good Mason, and that smoothed his end. Masonry taught them many lessons, and among the most important—how to die—and it taught that in the best of all possible ways by first teaching them how to live. It taught them to perform their allotted task while it was yet day, to look forward to the bright morning star and feel that the Great Architect was ever with them. Bro. Bastow was one whom all would say looked into himself, and that introspection taught him to be gentle to everyone else. They ought to try and follow in his footsteps, and if they took him for an example, when the end came they need have no fear, but rather triumph over death, and do something to bring about the fulfilment of that wish oft repeated at the grave—that virtue, like the sprig of acacia, might forever bloom over the tomb of their deceased brother.

Propositions were received, Charity was dispensed, and the lodge closed.

The brethren adjourned to the Crown Room, Freemasons' Tavern, where a choice dinner was well served.

A few of the customary toasts were subsequently briefly given, but the usual routine was departed from in memory of the late W.M., and the few musical selections, given in an excellent manner by Bros. A. Kenningham and G. Stubbs, were of a sacred character appropriate to the occasion.

Bro. S. Webb, P.M., proposed "The Health of the Acting W.M., Bro. Ridout, I.P.M.," remarking that they were pleased to have his services in the chair, although they regretted the reason. Had their W.M. been still alive he would have been delighted to be present, but they could only hope he was in a better world. The I.P.M. in the chair was an excellent Mason, and it was a pleasure to know that the lodge never suffered for want of a substitute so far as the Past Masters were concerned.

Bro. G. Ridout, I.P.M., said he felt he did not deserve one half of the flattering things said of him. For 12 months he was their W.M., and had since endeavoured to

do his best, and had appealed to them all as Steward for the Boys' School. He was thankful he was able to take up a very respectable list—one worthy of the lodge—£183 10s., which, he was proud to say, gave him the enviable position of being fourth for London. It was true that during his year there was little work in the lodge to do and that he had received the customary jewel without perhaps earning it; but he should have his recompense now, as there was plenty of work to do, and he would do his best.

"The Initiates" was honoured, and the proceedings terminated.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

The first meeting of this lodge since the summer recess took place at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 1st inst., when there were present, among others, Bros. Dr. Millson, W.M.; Colwell, S.W.; Barry, J.W.; G. Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas.; J. Hearn, I.P.M., acting Sec.; Chisholm, J.D.; Davis, I.G.; Hopkins, Org.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Kohler, P.M.; W. Porter Webb, P.M.; Cockburn, P.M.; La Feuillade, P.M.; Dennis, P.M.; and Bro. Beadel was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The discussion, postponed from the last meeting, as to the advisability of having a ladies' banquet and concert in connection with the lodge, was resumed and the matter was adjourned *sine die*. Bro. W. Stuart, P.M., the respected and venerable Secretary of the lodge, sent an apology for non-attendance through indisposition—a circumstance which every member regretted.

The lodge was then closed. At the banquet which followed Bro. Capt. Walls was asked to preside in the absence of the W.M.

Bro. G. Everett, P.G. Treas., replied to the toast of "The Grand Officers." He told his hearers that he had but recently recovered from a long and wearisome illness, and was by no means well enough to make anything like a speech; but he thanked them all from the bottom of his heart for the more than usual warmth with which his health had been received. With regard to his colleagues, he could only say that they were all worthy of the distinguished positions which they occupied and had occupied in the Grand Lodge of England.

Bro. Beadel having responded to the toast of "The Visitor," "The Health of the Past Masters," coupled with the name of Bro. Hearn, I.P.M., followed.

Bros. Colwell and Barry acknowledged the toast of "The Officers."

During the evening Bros. Hopkins, Davis, Lundie, and Webb instrumentally, vocally, and dramatically entertained the brethren.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.

The 23rd installation meeting of this lodge was held at Cannon-street Hotel on Saturday, the 12th inst., the W.M., Bro. J. K. Gwyn, presiding. There was a very full attendance of members and visitors, and amongst those present were Bros. R. Brookman, S.W., W.M. elect; Frank E. Bailey, P.M. 167, J.W.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, Chap.; R. Fendick, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Stevens, P.M., Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*); G. M. Fraser, S.D.; R. Lawson, J.D.; J. H. Guyton, P.M., D.C.; Edwin Wareham, Org.; R. Thomas and J. Boyton, Stwd.; R. Potter, P.M., Tyler; W. F. G. Cook, P.M.; G. W. Blackie, P.M.; D. T. Keene, P.M.; L. B. Mozley, P.M.; J. Eeex, P.M.; E. T. Smith, P.M.; William Kibble, P.M.; G. W. R. Brown, P.M.; R. Greening, P.M.; F. G. Joy, Alf. F. Randall, Dr. Thos. Halliwell, W. Parton, and S. W. Newcomb. Visitors: Bros. Thos. Sweeney, 16 (S.C.); W. Brookman, F. C. Lintott, J. C. Sales, P.M.; J. M. Murphy, Wm. Klover, W. H. Gardiner, P.M.; C. Garton, W. D. Church, P.M.; W. R. Patterson, T. Liscombe, and H. S. Mendelsohn.

The lodge was opened punctually at the appointed hour, and the minutes of the last regular meeting and the emergency meeting of May 11th having been read and confirmed, Bro. Dr. Thos. Halliwell was raised to the Degree of M.M. by the W.M. Mr. Samuel Walter Newcomb was most ably initiated by his proposer, Bro. F. E. Bailey, P.M. 167, J.W. The W.M. having resumed the chair, proceeded to instal his successor, Bro. Brookman, as W.M. for the ensuing year. The whole of the beautiful ceremony of installation was carried out by Bro. Gwyn in the most efficient manner, and at the termination of the addresses the Installing Master was cordially greeted and congratulated on the able performance of his final duty. The newly-installed Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Frank E. Bailey, P.M., S.W.; G. M. Fraser, J.W.; Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., Chap.; R. Fendick, I.P.M., Treas.; J. K. Gwyn, I.P.M., Sec.; R. Lawson, S.D.; J. H. Guyton, P.M., J.D.; R. Thomas, I.G.; Jas. Boyton, D.C.; E. Wareham, Org.; F. G. Joy and W. Parton, Stwd.; and R. Potter, Tyler. Two candidates were proposed for initiation in November. There were two circumstances in connection with Scotland, first a letter from Bro. F. T. C. Keeble, P.M., regretting his inability to attend, accompanied by a haunch of venison from Inverness, and the return of Bro. Stevens from a long sojourn in Glasgow. In the course of the evening Bro. Stevens, to the gratification of the brethren, acknowledged the very cordial reception he had met with during his Scottish tour, particularly from the lodges in Glasgow.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet, and under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Brookman, one of the most enjoyable and interesting evenings in connection with the lodge, was spent in harmony and good fellowship.

Both in the lodge and during the after-dinner proceedings the W.M. and other brethren referred in the highest terms to the great services rendered to the lodge by Bro. Jas. Stevens, as acting Secretary *pro tem.*, during the last three years.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Edwin Wareham, Org., assisted by Miss Holding (medallist R.A.M.), Miss Edith Buxhill, Miss Gwyn (pianist), and Bro. Thomas Sweeney, and gave the greatest pleasure and satisfaction. It will be long before the installation meeting of 1895 will be forgotten by the brethren of The Great City Lodge and their visitors.

Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607.

A reputation for a high standard of excellence in working creates a responsibility which some Masonic lodges might shrink from, but the visitors to the above-named lodge on Saturday, the 12th instant, at the 20th installation meeting, discovered that the determination of the W.M. and officers to maintain the character and prestige which the lodge has gained in the past has been amply justified, and the personnel of the officers leaves no room for doubt that for, at any rate, several years to come, there is no fear of any falling off in point of excellence. The magnificent working for which the lodge has long been famous, is due in no small measure to the lodge of instruction held under its authority, and which for many years was conducted under the able Preceptorship of Bro. Fredk. Carr, whose mantle has now worthily fallen upon the shoulders of Bro. George Cunningham. The lodge, which is held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch-street, was opened in the presence of a numerous gathering of members and visitors, including the following: Bros. W. B. Vaile, W.M.; G. E. Wilkinson, S.W.; W. L. Barker, J.W.; R. S. Cushing, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Webb, P.M., Sec.; J. Lawson, S.D.; M. W. Jameson, J.D.; G. Cunningham, I.G.; E. Godfrey, Org.; H. MacLachlan, Stwd.; John Newton, P.M.; G. Purst.; James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; T. Jones, P.M.; W. Gayton, P.M.; J. R. Large, P.M.; A. J. Clark, P.M.; E. Hoisworth, P.M.; C. H. Haldorff, P.M.; J. Hattersley, P.M.; F. W. Rose, P.M.; G. Denney, P.M.; W. F. Darnell, P.M.; A. R. Osley, P.M.; W. J. Hafford, P.M.; H. T. Thompson, P.M.; and others. Visitors: Bros. McClure, 2319; Knibbs, 1692; Garner, P.M. 1152; Gile, 1655; Briggs, P.M. 157; Matham, P.M. 1539; G. Matham, 2680; Bright, P.M. 1931; Paul, 2020; Apperly, 1361; Carter, 2241; Magee, P.M. 1742; Morris, S.D. 1348; Hattersley, Org. 2262; Johns, I.P.M. 1571; St. Johns, W.M. 1348; Osley, P.M. 1307; and others.

After the usual formal business of reading the minutes of the last regular and a subsequent emergency meeting, a Board of 25 Installed Masters was formed, and the W.M., Bro. Vaile, proceeded with the ceremony of installation, Bro. G. E. Wilkinson being presented as W.M. elect. It is the invariable rule in the Lodge of Loyalty that every out-going Master shall instal his successor, and Bro. Vaile most worthily upheld the tradition of the lodge in this respect. To say that the working was perfect is but faint praise, the beautiful ceremony from beginning to finish was rendered with an eloquence which will long be remembered by those who had the privilege of listening to it. After receiving the usual salutations of the brethren, the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. B. Vaile, I.P.M.; J. Lawson, S.W.; W. L. Barker, J.W.; R. S. Cushing, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Webb, P.M., Sec.; M. W. Jameson, S.D.; G. Cunningham, J.D.; R. C. Haldorff, I.G.; H. MacLachlan,

D.C.; F. Godfrey, Org.; J. Hattersley, P.M., and T. Cole, Stwds.; and J. Very, Tyler. The W.M. then gracefully presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Vaile, in the name of the lodge, a handsome jewel which had been previously voted to him. Bro. Vaile feelingly returned his thanks.

At the close of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting hall, where a *recherché* repast was provided, under the careful supervision of Bro. Start.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured,

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Grand Officers." The Grand Lodge was, the W.M. said, the central pivot round which Freemasonry revolved and it was to the just and conscientious manner in which the Grand Officers discharged their duties that they owed the confidence which the Craft undoubtedly reposed in them. Since they last met, the M.W. Grand Master had been pleased to bestow grand honours upon a member of the lodge—Bro. John Newton, G. Pursuivant. In the name of the lodge, he heartily congratulated Bro. Newton upon that high distinction which reflected honour upon the lodge. He sincerely trusted that Bro. Newton might long live to enjoy the honours which he had so justly merited.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and

Bro. Newton eloquently responded. His juvenility as a Grand Officer made him somewhat diffident in replying for the first time to so voluminous a toast. Undoubtedly the officers of Grand Lodge had onerous duties, duties with which they were well acquainted, and which they discharged fearlessly. There was a great deal of work to be done in the various Committees of Grand Lodge, and the responsibility was great; they knew that the eyes of all thinking Freemasons were upon them. Speaking of the personal honour which had been conferred upon him, he said that he knew that the honour was meant equally for himself and the two lodges of Sincerity and Loyalty to which he belonged. As he was the first member of those lodges to attain the distinction, he earnestly hoped that he might live to see others enjoying the same honour. All could not obtain them, but they could at least deserve them. He had that night been the recipient of a graceful act of kindness from the lodge, and he should always remember with gratitude and affection the dear Lodge of Loyalty.

Proposing the toast of "The W.M." the I.P.M. said that all had watched the progress of their W.M. through all the offices he had hitherto filled, and they were fully assured that the efficiency which he had brought to bear on those offices would not be wanting in the highest office in the lodge. He cordially congratulated the W.M. upon his accession to the chair, and said he was sure that he might rely upon the loyalty of all the members of the lodge during the coming year.

The W.M., on rising was enthusiastically received. He responded briefly, but to the point. He should do his best, and he trusted that when he came to the end of his year of office he would not be found wanting.

The Worshipful Master next proposed the toast of "The Masonic Institutions" and paid a high tribute to the value of those grand Institutions, they were, he said, the very backbone of the Craft. He had visited the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon and was greatly struck with the efforts put forward to brighten the lot of the old people there. But these Institutions whilst appealing to their sentiments required something more tangible to maintain them in their usefulness and in announcing the fact that he should represent the lodge as a Steward at the next Festival of the Old People's Institution, he trusted that he should receive the hearty support of the brethren.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., replied to the toast, and after paying a well merited tribute to the rendering by the I.P.M. of the installation ceremony, made an earnest and vigorous appeal on behalf of the funds of the Charities.

The toast of "The I.P.M." was most cordially received, the Worshipful Master saying that Bro. Vaile had more than realised the high hopes which they had formed of him. He had had a brilliant year of office and he deserved their warmest thanks.

The rising of the I.P.M. to respond was the signal for an unusual display of enthusiasm. Quoting from Childe Harold's "Pilgrimage," Bro. Vaile said:

"Farewell! a word that must be and hath been,
A sound which makes us linger, yet, farewell."

Every I.P.M. would fain linger and reflect on the year that had past with its manifold interests, and perhaps if he were permitted to take office for a second year would endeavour to improve and alter some things of the past. But Masonry was a progressive science and younger blood must come on in turn to take its share of the sweets and the responsibilities of office. It was gratifying to him to know that the funds of the lodge had improved and that the brethren were in a better position financially to-day than they were 12 months ago. It was the duty of every lodge to be thrifty and to keep within its resources. They all remembered Mr. Macawber's advice, "Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result, happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pounds ought and six, result, misery." And what was true of individuals was true of lodges. He was thankful to know that he was handing the reins of office to one who was worthy of holding them. He concluded by expressing his thanks to all who had assisted him during his year of office.

The toast of "The Visitors" was heartily honoured, and was responded to by the several Worshipful Masters of other lodges present.

The toasts of "The Past Masters of the Lodge" and "The Officers" were duly honoured.

A programme of excellent music was provided by Bro. F. W. Stephens, who himself contributed in his usual effective manner to the harmony of the evening. A word of special praise must be given to Bro. R. B. Hopkins, who held his audience spell-bound with his solos on silver bells. Bro. Hopkins is an accomplished musician and his masterly performances delighted his hearers.

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 21st inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, when there were present Bros. James Shotter, W.M.; Septimus Croft, S.W.; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec.; Thos. Briggs, S.D.; H. N. Bennett, J.D.; E. Anderton, P.M., D.C.; H. Thomas, Tyler; Arthur B. Hudson, P.M.; Matthew R. Webb, P.M.; John Larkin, P.M.; Geo. Rawlinson, I.P.M.; and Rupert Smyth.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the lodge was closed in due form. The brethren adjourned to a banquet, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Shotter, the usual toasts being duly honoured.

Crusaders Lodge, No. 1677.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on Wednesday, the 16th instant, when there were present Bros. Thos. Taylor, W.M.; Dr. W. J. Hunter, S.W.; J. Mansell, J.W.; J. J. Stockall, P.M., Treas.; S. J. Fletcher, S.D.; H. A. Sheppard, J.D.; U. B. Ladler, D.C.; A. W. Humphreys, I.G.; B. M. Moss, Stwd.; F. J. Humphreys, Asst. Org.; G. Glover, P.M.; J. H. Collingridge, P.M.; W. Mackie, P.M.; besides many other members and visitors.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. G. Glover, P.M., and Bro. Leutford was raised to the Degree of a M.M. Bro. Dr. W. J. Hunter was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year. Mr. F. F. Nichols, for whom the ballot had previously been taken, was initiated, the ceremony being performed by special request by Bro. J. J. Stockall, P.M., Treas.

The lodge was then closed, the brethren afterwards dining together, a programme of music being given during the evening.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 30th ult. Among those present were Bros. C. Bachofner, W.M.; Nelson Prower, M.A., P.M., as S.W.; N. P. Lardner, P.M., as J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Grand Steward, Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. Evans, S.D.; W. R. Wise, J.D.; J. D. Webb, I.G.; T. Simpson, P.M.; Dr. L. M. Lott, P.G. Org. Eng., Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.P.G. Org., Asst. Org.; and Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. S.d. Br. Bros. Lone, P.M., and Harvey were visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Woodhill, S.W.; Murphy, J.W.; H. Herbert, I.P.M.; J. Young, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; and others. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Bros. H. J. Lardner, Grand Stwd., and Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

The acting I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M." regretted exceedingly that Bro. Bachofner, on the first occasion of his occupying the chair since his installation, should have had no work to do. For some years past the W.M. had been an attendant at lodges of instruction, and no doubt was anxious to try his "prentice hand" on an actual candidate for the privileges and secrets of Freemasonry. He was a most genial and pleasant brother, and doubtless would continue to retain the esteem and consideration of the brethren.

The W.M., having briefly replied, gave "The Visitors."

Bros. Lone and Harvey responded.

"The Past Masters" and "The Treasurer and Secretary" followed, and gave Bros. T. Simpson, Nelson Prower, N. P. Lardner, H. J. Lardner, and W. H. Jackson the opportunity of saying many eloquent things.

"The Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Stanley, Wise, Webb, Dr. Lott, and Dr. Hinton, terminated the proceedings.

Londonderry Lodge, No. 2039.

On Monday, the 7th inst., the annual meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall Park-terrace, Sunderland, for the installation of the W.M. and the investiture of officers for the ensuing year. The W.M., Bro. William Scott, presided, and was supported by Bros. Dr. C. D. Hill Drury, P.P.S.G.W.; Jos. R. Pattison, P.P.S.G.W.; James Lee, I.P.M.; John Deans, I.P.M.; John C. Moor, P.M., P.J.G.W.; F. S. Cowper, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; Nicholas Lee, S.W., W.M. elect; T. E. Campbell, Sec.; T. G. Garrick, P.G.P.; F. Teogood, P.P.G.P.; J. Mitchinson, P.P.A.G.D. of C.; G. Warless, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. D. Todd, P.P.G.S.B.; C. M. Wake, P.P.G.S. of W.; E. Laubach, W.M.; F. W. Ingram, I.P.M. 949; James Hudson, P.M. So.; and others.

The lodge having been opened, the W.M. elect, Bro. Nicholas Lee, was presented by Bro. J. C. Moor, D.C., to the Installing Master, Bro. Wm. Scott, W.M., by whom he was ably installed in the chair of K.S. The newly-installed W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Wm. Scott, I.P.M.; Thomas E. Campbell, S.W.; Thos. Naisbett, J.W.; F. S. Cowper, P.M., Treas.; Henry Havelock, Sec.; Ernest Hooper, S.D.; E. J. Willis, J.D.; Jas. Lee, P.M., D.C.; J. E. Miller, Org.; John G. Phillips, I.G.; G. Dove, W. J. Oliver, W. Kirton, and G. W. Clark, Stwds.; T. Grieve, P.M., Tyler; and J. C. Moor, P.M., representative of the lodge on the Charities Committee of the province. The sum of 10 guineas to the Durham Masonic Education Fund, two guineas to the Children's Ward of the Sunderland Infirmary, and one guinea each to the Eye Infirmary, the Orphan Asylum, and the Monkwearmouth Dispensary were voted, on the motion of the W.M., Bro. N. Lee, seconded by the I.P.M., Bro. Wm. Scott.

The annual banquet was afterwards held in the banqueting hall, under the presidency of Bro. N. Lee, W.M. Bros. T. E. Campbell, S.W., and T. Naisbett, J.W., occupied the vice-chairs.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. J. C. Moor, and received with considerable enthusiasm, to which the W.M. suitably responded.

The toast of "The Installing Master and I.P.M." was proposed by Bro. F. S. Cowper, P.M., and acknowledged by Bro. Wm. Scott.

"The Past and Present Officers" was given by Bro. T. G. Garrick, P.G.P., and acknowledged by Bro. T. E. Campbell and J. G. Phillips, I.G.

Other toasts followed.

Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361.

A large number of brethren assembled at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., to enjoy the goodly entertainment provided of excellent working and bountiful hospitality, and last, but by no means least, to congratulate Bro. James Stephens, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks—whose name is a household word in Metropolitan Masonic circles—on being installed as Worshipful Master for the seventh time. The members in attendance included Bros. G. T. Peall, W.M.; Walter Ginger, S.W.; J. Willing, jun., P.M., Treas.; James Stephens, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, Sec.; J. Hutton Haylor; A. H. Oldrey, J.D.; S. W. D. Ball, Major Willing; Stanley Spooner, I.P.M.; B. Hayler, and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. Wilson, 2501, P.P.G.S.B.; H. F. Bromhead, P.M. 2501; J. Irvine, P.M. 862; E. A. Pelt, P.M. 186; N. Turner, P.M. 72; F. Craggs, P.M. 34; A. Williams, P.M. 34; Walter Martin, P.M. 2500; R. Wright, I.P.M. 1305; W. A. Scurrah, P.M., Vice-Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; C. Penny, I.P.M. 1637; J. H. Warden, 1875; S. Hussey, W.M. 1637; W. Clark, Org. 733; H. Dehane, P.P.G.S.D. Essex; T. G. Hodges, P.M. 1695; W. R. Platford, I.P.M. 1608; A. M. Barnard, S.W. 1964; T. P. Hayward, 1580; C. Cowley, 2045; H. Bradford, 957; W. Memory; J. S. Lovatt, P.M. 709; C. J. Williams, W.M. 72; G. E. Gratton, Org. 2504; W. H. Bailey, W.M. 2535; W. Chapple, W.M. 2308; W. E. Collison, 1425; G. V. Wood, P.M. 1608; Arthur Weston, 101; J. M. McLeod, P.P.S.G.W. Derby, Sec. R.M.I.B.; and W. W. Lee, I.P.M. 1897, P.M. 2381.

After the formal opening of the lodge and transaction of routine business, Bro. James Stephens was presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Peall, who rendered the impressive ritual in a highly creditable manner that elicited well-earned encomiums from those present. The following officers were invested: Bros. W. Ginger, S.W.; A. H. Oldrey, J.W.; J. Willing, jun., P.M., Treas.; J. Hutton Haylor, Sec.; S. W. D. Ball, S.D.; Major Willing, J.D.; J. A. Adams, I.G.; B. Hayler, D.C.; J. N. Acheson Gray and Dr. Griffiths, Stwds.; and Lee, Tyler. The Worshipful Master then presented Bro. Peall, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel in the name of the lodge, expressing the pleasure the presentation afforded him, for no jewel had been more deservedly earned. The I.P.M. briefly returned thanks for the gift. A contribution was voted to the Lake Testimonial Fund, and letters of regret were announced from Bros. H. H. Room, G.S.B.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; G. Read, Openshaw, and others.

Lodge was closed, and an adjournment made to the banqueting hall, where a choice repast was admirably served.

The formal toasts having been briefly disposed of,

Bro. G. T. Peall, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M." and said he should divide the toast into two parts. First, to speak of Bro. Stephens as the good W.M. of the lodge. What had they found him? Amiable, genial, and courteous, ready at all times to look after the comfort of the brethren, and help the young Masons with his knowledge and experience. Secondly, what had they found him outside the lodge? At the elections of the Institutions he was always there working hard with his good wife to help the cause in hand. If they went to the Board of Benevolence they would find him pleading the cause of a distressed brother, and, what was more remarkable, he was invariably successful. Ought they not to be proud of such a W.M.? He (the I.P.M.) felt he had had a great honour indeed in installing Bro. Stephens into the chair. He would remind the W.M. that having been elected by the unanimous vote of the brethren, it was a guarantee of their affection towards him and their intention of giving him a happy and successful year of office. He (the I.P.M.) had hoped that Bro. Stephens would have been a candidate for the Grand Treasurership, but the *flat* had gone forth that Bro. Bailey, P.P.S.G.W., would stand, and they would follow their W.M. and vote for their brother.

Bro. J. Stephens, P.P.S.G.D. Bucks, W.M., in reply, said: I had hoped that the speeches would be short, but the I.P.M. having said so many kind things of me, and in particular of my esteemed, beloved, and excellent wife, I cannot refrain from making one or two observations, but I will make them as brief as possible. I have been a Mason about 19 years and in my little experience I have taken somewhat an active interest in the foundation of different lodges. I am pleased to say that Providence has been kind to me in order that I might be a little charitable towards our Masonic Institutions. I have taken an active interest in Masonry and to-night is the 7th chair into which I have been installed in the Craft, which will tell you at least that I have done some little work. That I have given satisfaction is my hope, but it is very evident in this lodge at least that I can own many friends. I was a founder, and with the esteemed father of the lodge, Bro. Willing, have worked with Bro. Peall—than whom no Master has ever worked harder—and for the first time in the history of the lodge a balance-sheet has been presented showing something in favour of the lodge. The I.P.M. had done much towards that, and, he doubtless, gives me a little credit for bringing about that satisfactory result. It is at all times an incentive to one to aspire to take the chair in a lodge of which he is founder. When you are kind enough to elect me from the Secretary's chair to the W.M.'s chair, it imbues me with a determination to appreciate that mark of your confidence. That I will do my best during the current year to increase the prosperity of this

lodge, I assure you, and that I will vacate this chair at the end with the esteem and good wishes so kindly expressed towards me is my very earnest hope, and I trust you will give me plenty of work. I thank you very sincerely for your cordial reception.

In giving "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. alluded to the presence of Bro. McLeod, Secretary R.M.I. for Boys, and said that Bro. McLeod came to London five years ago a comparative stranger, and no man in so short a period had ever won his way in the hearts of the London brethren. That he had worked hard for the Institution those who knew him best were able to assert, and they hoped the Institution would go on and prosper in the future under his *régime*.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. Boys, in response, said the W.M. was always kind to those he honoured with his friendship, and to him (Bro. McLeod) it was a great gratification to see Bro. Stephens installed as W.M. He congratulated the lodge on its W.M., who would doubtless receive the consideration he deserved. It was true, as the W.M. had said, that he came to London as a provincial Mason, but in five short years of hard work he had made more friends than he had met in previous years, and that was a bright feature of his work. He should ever remember the hearty reception he met with at the consecration of this lodge. He had had one unchequered career of prosperity for the Charities in connection with this lodge, which he thanked for liberal support. He thanked the I.P.M. for taking up a Stewardship with very great effect, bringing up the second largest list at the last festival.

"The Visitors" was next proposed by the W.M., who gave one and all a cordial welcome. He should couple the names of three brethren to reply. Bro. W. H. Bailey, W.M. of the Fellowship Lodge, who would represent the Master's present, was, as they were aware, a candidate for the Grand Treasurership. It was not for him to put forward Bro. Bailey's claims, but he would say that that brother was deserving and worthy in every way to fulfil all the duties devolving upon that dignified office. He hoped the brethren would do their best to show their appreciation of Bro. Bailey by recording their votes in his favour. Bro. W. A. Scurrab, who was the Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes and would reply as representing the provincial purple, was a hard worker in Masonry, and Bro. Hillier, P.M., would reply for what was generally known as the "blues."

Bro. W. H. Bailey, P.P.S.G.W. Staffordshire, expressed his gratification and pleasure at being present. He was also pleased the lodge had honoured Bro. Stephens by installing him as its Master, for a better and worthier Mason did not exist in the whole of Masonry under the Grand Lodge of England. For himself, he was pleased to see the pure and clean Masonry displayed in the lodge room, and was particularly charmed by the manner in which the installation ceremony was rendered by the I.P.M. With regard to his unworthy self and his candidature for the high office of Grand Treasurer, he would only say that if they gave him their suffrages he would endeavour to deserve them, and he thanked them for their kindness that evening.

Bro. W. A. Scurrab, P.P.G.S. of W. Middx., Vice-President Board of General Purposes, also responded, and said he need not remind them that the W.M. and himself were old friends. He knew the W.M. long before they entered Freemasonry, and he well remembered when Bro. Stephens was installed for the first time in his mother lodge. He also remembered the tone of Bro. Stephens' speech on that occasion, for he said he was determined to do everything he could for the benefit of Masonry in general, and especially for the three noble Institutions. He had often thought how nobly the W.M. had redeemed his word. He would only say again how delighted he was to be present and that he hoped the brother on his left (Bro. Bailey)—than whom none could deserve the honour more—would be the favoured individual and be clothed in the purple as Grand Treasurer on the next occasion.

Bro. Hillier also responded, after which the W.M. proposed "The Installing Master," and said that no brother ever worked more zealously as W.M. than had their esteemed friend, Bro. Peall, and from the foundation of the lodge he had taken a very active and keen interest in its welfare. The I.P.M. had finished his year by rendering that charming ceremony in a manner seldom if ever equalled and certainly never surpassed. Bro. Peall had moreover won the love and esteem of every member and they hoped he would remain that true friend in the future he had proved himself to be in the past.

Bro. G. T. Peall, I.P.M., in response, said that when he looked upon the jewel presented to him it would remind him of a most happy year of office, and of the friendship and cordial support he had received from the officers. He could assure them that in years to come, if he was spared, he should look back with great pleasure to their meetings. They had an excellent first Master in Bro. Willing and in Bro. Spooner, and with such examples he could not but be imbued with the spirit of emulation.

Other toasts were given and the proceedings terminated.

The following artistes assisted in the musical arrangements—Miss Ethel Winn, Miss Emily Foxcroft, Bros. J. H. Haylor, Barnard, S.W., D. Bell, and A. Watson. Bro. R. B. Hopkins, as usual, was eminently successful in two hand-bells solos.

Cornish Lodge, No. 2369.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on the 12th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, London. The lodge met at 3.30 for the purpose of balloting for and initiating candidates, and at 5 o'clock a large number of members and visitors were present to witness the installation of Bro. John Leach Barrett as W.M. The ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M., Bro. C. Rawle, and Bro. Barrett then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Charles Rawle, I.P.M.; John Curnow, M.D., S.W.; Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, M.A., J.W.; Rev. H. V. Tyrell, Chap.; William Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; Treas.; R. Greenwood, Sec.; Rev. Edmund Geard, S.D.; J. O. Widger, J.D.; T. Hawken, I.G.; R. Bullen, D.C.; E. Symons, A.D.C.; S. T. James and G. Lory, Stwds.; S. Cope, Org.; and E. J. Mills, Tyler. The I.P.M. was then presented with a Past Master's jewel, together with a Past Master's collar and jewel, in recognition of his valuable services to the lodge during his year of office.

After the usual business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Freemasons' Tavern, where, under the presidency of the W.M., an excellent banquet was served. The W.M. was supported by several distinguished brethren, including Eros, the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; G. Everett, P.G. Treas.; and other Grand Officers.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly proposed and heartily drank, most of the speakers offering their congratulations to the W.M. on his occupancy of the chair of the lodge, the interests of which he had worked so hard to promote, and the success of which had been so marked.

The musical programme was of the usual excellence. Bro. Robert Bullen sang "Freelawny." Bro. Rule also rendered one or two songs in his usual style, and a party of artistes was present, which included Miss Rosabelle Beste, Miss Beatrice Semmence, Bros. Trefelyn David, Frank Swinford, and W. R. J. McLean, Mus. Bac., with Bro. E. Easton as conductor.

Lancastrian Lodge, No. 2528.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on Wednesday, the 9th instant, when Bro. J. J. Marsh was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chaplain, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M. The W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., I.P.M.; Ed. E. Life, S.W.; R. J. Raitton, J.W.; the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, M.A., P.G. Chaplain, Chap.; Thomas Evans, Treas.; T. H. Openshaw, Sec.; Edward Bartlett, S.D.; W. H. Booth, J.D.; Peter Horrecks, P.M., D. of C.; Robert Maguire, Organist; John Haynes, P.M., I.G.; R. H. Hampson, and J. R. Hosker, Stwds.; and Patrick, P.M., Tyler.

Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet in the banqueting hall, the table being very tastefully decorated with red roses of Lancashire, a button-hole, composed of red roses and maidenhair, being placed opposite every seat.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured,

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom," combined the toast of "the I.P.M." with it, and said that having been associated with the estate and family of his lordship for nearly 12 years he could testify to the love which everyone bore him. He (the W.M.) had never heard a wrong or unkind word said against his lordship from one end of the estate to the other, and he felt sure that no man was more universally beloved, especially among Masons, and the Lancastrian Lodge felt proud of having had such an officer as its W.M. for the first year of its infancy.

The toast of "The Installing Officer" was next given, and the W.M. said the thanks of the lodge were due to the Installing Officer for the very excellent and courteous manner in which he had acted as W.M. (during the absence of the Pro G.M.), and so taught the lodge to walk. He (the W.M.) felt he was under a personal obligation to

the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg for all the kindness he had shown to him, and also for the magnificent way in which he had undertaken and gone through the installation ceremony. In connection with that toast he had a very pleasant duty to perform, and that was to ask Bro. Brownrigg's acceptance of a miniature Past Master's jewel, for all his kindness during the lodge's first year of existence. (The jewel was then pinned on by the W.M.)

Bro. Brownrigg, in reply, said it had been a very great pleasure to him to be able to assist the lodge. He was not a Lancashire man, but after receiving such a handsome jewel, which he had not the slightest idea was being given to him, he felt he was justified in a way in calling, or certainly looking upon, himself as a Lancastrian. He was exceedingly obliged for the gift, and would value that more, from its associations, than any other jewel in his possession, and, in conclusion, having been appointed Chaplain to the lodge, he would be only too glad to render any assistance he possibly could.

The toast of "The W.M." was next given by the Installing Officer. He said the W.M. had Masonry at heart most thoroughly, and that the lodge should prosper, and become for working almost second to none in London. It was a very hard thing to follow in the steps of so illustrious a Master as the Pro G.M. of England; but he congratulated the lodge upon having such an energetic and painstaking Master as the one just installed. He (the W.M.) had been of very great assistance to him whilst acting W.M., and he was quite sure that, from the knowledge he had of his character and working, that it would not be his fault if the lodge did not make itself prominent.

In reply, the Worshipful Master said he felt that no words he could utter would properly express his feelings at the present moment. He felt highly honoured at being put into the chair and was willing to do all he possibly could for the lodge, but he must ask the officers and brethren to put up with his shortcomings. It was only five years ago last April that his much esteemed friend, Bro. Stoddart, P.P.G.W. West Lancashire, and Treasurer of Lodge No. 32, who he was delighted to see that evening, made sport with his feelings on his being initiated into that lodge poor and penniless, and he had to thank that lodge for having given him his first grounding in Masonry.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was next given. The Worshipful Master said he felt sure no Master could have a better set of officers to work with, but he must urge them to assist him in the regular work of the lodge with all their zeal, for being a young lodge the work was heavy and they must all recollect that as a Lancastrian Lodge they were the representatives of the largest and one of the best Masonic counties in England, and as such they must make the lodge a credit to that county.

Bro. Life, S.W., replied, saying the officers were quite willing to do all they could to assist the W.M. in the performance of his duties, that they saw the necessity of it and trusted that they might all work together comfortably, and be a credit to Masonry.

Bro. Brownrigg gave the next toast—that of "The Past Masters." He said that the Lancastrian Lodge was the only lodge in existence that he knew of who could boast of having both sides of the Legislature represented, viz., the House of Lords and House of Commons, and he sincerely hoped that the honour would be continued, for who knew but that the present W.M. might become a member of the Legislature before his term of office expired, and, therefore, would consequently add another to the number of the Past Masters.

Bro. Tomlinson, M.P., P.P.S.G.W. West Lancs., replied, saying that he had often been called upon to reply for the Legislature, as well as for the Past Masters. He was exceedingly obliged to the brethren for the way they had received the toast. He took a great interest in the lodge, and was always willing to be of any service when called upon.

Bro. Tomlinson, M.P., then gave the toast of "The Visitors," which was responded to by Bros. A. Stoddart, 32; E. Owen, 1591; and Dawes, 1253.

"The Lancashire Lodges" was given by Bro. Lancaster, and responded to by Bro. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., P.G. Sec.

The toast of the brethren who had so materially added to the pleasure of the evening by their musical talent was given by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. Batty and Shaw.

Much praise was given to these brethren, as well as to Bro. Mountfield, for the music they rendered. Bro. Shaw's violin solos, accompanied by Bro. Mountfield, are not to be easily forgotten, and Bro. Batty for his vocal help.

At the close of the evening, every brother expressed his great delight at the very enjoyable time spent.

It is satisfactory to know that a very good balance is in the bank belonging to the lodge at the end of the first year of its existence.

A miniature Past Master's jewel is to be given to the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., I.P.M., on his lordship's return to London.

Staines Lodge, No. 2536.

The above lodge, which was consecrated last January, commenced its second season in the Town Hall, Staines, on Tuesday, the 15th instant, when the W.M., Bro. W. H. Gardner, P.M. 771, 1900, 2460, P.P.S.G.W. Berks, P.P.A.G.D. of C. Surrey, was installed for the second time, the ceremony being performed by Bro. H. H. Room, Prov. G. Sec., G.S.B. The W.M. re-invested Bro. K. J. Ball, P.M. 209, P.P.G. Reg. Berks, as S.W., and Bro. R. Fox-Warner as J.W., the minor officers also retaining their offices, excepting Bro. the Rev. G. V. Briscoe, P.G. Chap. Berks, who relegated the office of Secretary to Bro. F. Morford, P.P.G.S.B. Berks, in order to accept the collar of Chap. of the lodge.

The lodge has been most fortunate in having the greater part of its furniture, &c., presented by the founders and friends, the latest addition being a very handsome silk banner, bearing the device of the lodge jewel, worked and presented by Mrs. E. H. Blamey.

The lodge was followed by an excellent dinner at the Pack Horse Hotel, when Bro. Room congratulated the lodge on its present position and marked success.

Royal Arch.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

This old chapter met at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on the 8th inst. Among the members in attendance were Comps. Dr. Frye, M.E.Z.; Cisellmann, H. elect; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Hamley, 1st A.S.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C.; Nathan Moss, J.P., P.Z.; Cleghorn, P.Z.; E. A. Harris, P.Z.; Staley, P.Z.; A. Hardy, P.Z.; and T. C. Edmunds, P.Z., Janitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. G. Davis, P.Z., installed Comp. Cisellmann as Second Principal in a most able manner. The notice of motion to change the date of the installation meeting was, with the consent of the chapter, withdrawn by the mover. The resignation of Comp. Wm. Harris was received with regret.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet. The M.E.Z. presided in a most genial manner, his utterances being characterised by much originality and spirit.

Comp. N. Moss, P.Z., responded in eloquent terms on behalf of "The Past Principals."

In proposing the toast of "The Scribe E. and Treasurer," the M.E.Z. said the chapter owed all its present prosperity to the untiring exertions and zeal of those two old and distinguished members.

This pledge having been warmly received, Comps. G. Davis and Harfeld acknowledged the compliment in a few well-chosen words.

Comp. Hamley responded on behalf of "The Officers," and the proceedings terminated.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK has consented to become President of the Endowment Fund in connection with the Ladies' Association of the Great Northern Central Hospital, and has promised a donation of £20, while she has been pleased to express the hope will receive the support of all interested in the welfare of the hospital. Subscriptions will be gratefully received by Bro. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., Hon. Treasurer, and Mrs. Harkness, Hon. Secretary of the Fund.

NELSON'S COLUMN in Trafalgar Square was decorated with a large number of elaborate wreaths and floral decorations on Monday, which was the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar, fought on the 21st October, 1805. The credit of the idea of decorating the column belongs to the Navy League, while the duty of arranging the wreaths, &c., was carried out by the officers of her Majesty's Commissioner of Works.

"THE TIMES" Dec. 29, 1894, says in a leading article on "OUR DAUGHTERS,"

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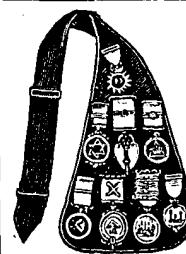
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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY have presented a donation of 50 guineas to the funds of the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital.

THE FIRST AUSTRIAN lady doctor has been installed as chief of the medical staff in the Military Orphanage at the Western Vienna Suburb at Hernal.

THE GOLDSMITHS' and Vintners' Companies have forwarded donations to the extension fund of the Miller Hospital and Royal Kent Infirmary, that of the former company amounting to £100, and that of the latter to £10 10s.

BRO. B. BARNATO and his friends have sent to the Lord Mayor £15,000, to be divided between the Hospital Sunday Fund and other indicated charities.

THE EARL OF IDDESLIGH, Lord Ribblesdale, and many notable golfers have been playing of late on the Measden Golf Club course.

A SPECIAL COURT OF ALDERMEN was held at the Guildhall on Wednesday, when Bro. F. P. Alliston, the Alderman elect of Bread-street Ward was admitted and sworn in to office.

THE PARISHIONERS at the village of Wentworth, in Yorkshire, have subscribed amongst them the sum of £130 for the purpose of placing a lectern in their church as a memorial of the late Countess Fitzwilliam.

THE VISIT of the Earl of Rosebery to Cobber Hill, Clington, near Scarborough, the country residence of Bro. Sir Frank and Lady Lockwood, was brought to a close on Monday, when his lordship proceeded to Dalmeney.

AT THE AUTUMN MEETING of the London Athletic Club, held at the Stamford Bridge Grounds on Saturday last, Mr. W. J. Sturges, the amateur champion walker, covered eight miles in 58 minutes 56 seconds.

IN OUR BIOGRAPHY of Bro. Jolly, which appeared with his portrait in our last issue, we stated that he helped to found the "Henley Chapter." This was in the form of an actual founder, and his name appeared fourth on the warrant.

THE CORNUBIA LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONs, Hayle, has unanimously elected Bro. Thomas A. Taylor, S.W., as W.M., and Bro. Joseph G. Osborn, P.P.J. G.D., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer.

THE QUEEN has had erected in Crabtree Churchyard, near Balmoral, a handsome granite headstone over the grave of the late Mr. Francis Clark, her personal attendant, a suitable inscription recording the services of the deceased to her Majesty, being placed thereon.

ON FRIDAY, the 18th inst., the Warrant Officers Lodge, No. 2346, met at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, at 6 p.m. On the conclusion of the business on hand, the brethren adjourned to dinner at the Holborn Restaurant, the Tyler's toast bringing a very pleasant evening to a close.

AN ORGAN has recently been erected in St. Margaret's Church, Somersby, with the inscription placed on it—"To the Glory of God in memory of Alfred Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate, this organ was given by subscription to St. Margaret's, Somersby, the church of his birthplace and of his baptism. September, 1895."

ACCORDING to advices from Zanzibar, Captain Laurence, of the Rifle Brigade, who had only recently arrived from England to take command of the troops, was shot in a recent skirmish with the rebels under M'Bauk, near Gazi on the main line. H.M.'s ships *Phœbe* and *Swallow* have been ordered to the spot.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to confer the office of Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports upon the Marquis of Salisbury, the Marquis of Dufferin, who was appointed to the post in 1891, on the death of the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, having tendered his resignation.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, accompanied by Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and attended by Col. Gordon and Miss Emily Loch, visited the "Hostel of St. Luke," in Nottingham-place, Marylebone, on Saturday last, and was conducted over the establishment.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, accompanied by his aide-de-camp and a Staff-Captain of the French Artillery, paid a second visit to Vincennes, where he was received by the General commanding and his staff. His Royal Highness, after visiting the stables, the military hospital, the prison, and the museum, passed in review six batteries of the 12th and 15th Artillery Regiments.

THE BANQUET which is to be given by the United Service Club to the Duke of Cambridge on his retirement from the Army, will take place in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on Monday, the 11th prox., and will be attended by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Saxe Coburg-Gotha, the Duke of York, the Duke of Teck, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar.

THE 17TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Brewing and Allied Trades at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, was opened for private view on Saturday last, when the executive gave a luncheon at which the exhibitors and their friends were invited to be present. Bro. W. H. Bailey, of the firm of Bass and Co., presided, and proposed the principal toast on the occasion, namely, success to "The Exhibition and Market." The Exhibition was opened to the General Public on Monday.

A NEW BLOCK of buildings attached to the Homes for Little Boys at Swanley, which, thanks to the generosity of Bro. J. Passmore Edwards, has recently been erected at a cost of £1200, was inaugurated on Saturday last, the brief opening ceremony being performed by Mrs. Passmore Edwards. A vote of thanks, on the motion of the Mayor of Gravesend, was subsequently carried with acclamation to Bro. Edwards, who congratulated the Committee on the success with which they had grappled with the debts and difficulties of a twelvemonth since.

BRO. SIR H. TRUEMAN WOOD presented the prizes and certificates won by the successful competitors from the Polytechnic Institute in the recent Society of Arts Examination, on Monday. Mr. Quinton Hogg presided, and there was very full attendance. When he had finished the distribution, Bro. Sir H. Wood addressed a few remarks, in the course of which he congratulated the Institute on the success it had achieved. In the course of the evening a selection of vocal and instrumental music was given.

LORD WARKWORTH, son of Bro. Earl Percy and grandson of the Duke of Northumberland, has been unanimously adopted by his party as the candidate for the seat at South Kensington, rendered vacant by the approaching elevation to the peerage of Bro. Sir Algernon Borthwick. For the vacancy in the representation of Dublin University there is every appearance of a contest.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT at the first part of the funeral service of the late Arch-deacon Palmer in the Cathedral, Oxford, on Monday, were Lord and Lady Coleridge, Bro. the Earl of Jersey, Lord Cotterloe, Sir W. Hunter, Bro. Sir John Conroy, the Vice-Chancellor and Proctor, the Mayor and Sheriff of Oxford, Sir John Stainer, Mr. Jolf, Q.C., most of the Heads of Houses, professors, and members of the University, and many clergy from the diocese and all parts of the country. The remains were interred in Oxney Cemetery.

MEMBERS OF THE Royal Navy Club, of 1795 and 1795, dined together in the White Hall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Monday evening, in commemoration of the battle of Trafalgar, fought on the 21st October, 1805, and the battle of Camperdown, fought on the 11th October, 1797. Vice-Admiral Richard Wells, Commandant-in-Chief at the Nore, presided, and Lord William F. E. Seymour, Commanding the South Eastern District, was the Guest of the evening. Among those present were Admirals Sir W. Hunt Goulde, K.S. Blomfield, Saumarez; Bro. Sir Leopold McClintock, Sir Vesey Hamilton, and others.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and her daughter, the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, visited the Empire of India Exhibition on Monday, and were conducted over the building by Bro. Imre Kiraly and other members of the staff. The spectacle of "India," the Indian jugglers, and other attractions were visited, and the Royal party expressed themselves pleased with what they saw.

THE BRITISH CYCLE MANUFACTURING Co., Liverpool and London, have secured a large space at the forthcoming Stanley Cycle Show, Agricultural Hall, London, where they will exhibit a special display of 20 safeties, all of their 1896 design. We understand that they have some important novelties in store, and their exhibit will doubtless attract considerable attention.

SIR FRANCIS JEUNE has undertaken to preside at the annual dinner, which will be held about the middle of December, on behalf of the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY presided at the annual conference of the Diocesan Sunday School Teachers' Association, which was held in the Chapter House of Canterbury Cathedral, on Monday.

MR. H. D. G. LEVESON GOWER, of Magdalen College, has been elected Captain of the Oxford University Cricket Club, in succession to Mr. G. J. Mordaunt, while Mr. G. R. Bardswell, of Oriel College, has been appointed Secretary.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will take the chair at the banquet which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on the 9th December in behalf of the Trinity College Mission.

BRO. THE RIGHT HON. DAVID PLUNKET, M.P., has forwarded his farewell address to his constituents of the Dublin University on his approaching elevation to the peerage. Bro. Plunket had represented the University for a quarter of a century.

THE TRINITY HOUSE has issued an order that for the future Dover shall be the head-quarters for the pilots engaged in taking vessels through the English Channel, instead of there being one section located at Deal and the rest at Dover.

AT A GATHERING in connection with the Universities Lodge, No. 2352, held at Durham, on Thursday night, the 17th inst., Bro. Dr. E. Jepson was elected to the position of W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Dr. Jepson is a P.M. of another lodge, in

BRO. LORD BRASSEY, the new Governor of Victoria, accompanied by Lady Brassey, arrived at Adelaide, the Capital of South Australia, on Tuesday morning on board his yacht the Sunbeam.

THE NEWLYN ART GALLERY at Penzance, presented by Bro. J. Passmore Edwards, was opened by the Right Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P., on Tuesday, in the presence of a large and distinguished company.

THE BANQUET to the survivors of the Balaklava Charge will be held this (Friday) evening in Birmingham. The famous war correspondent, Sir M. H. Russell, who was invited to be present, has written expressing regret at his inability to be present.

ORDERS HAVE BEEN GIVEN for the new fast cruiser *Melase*, attached to the Medway Reserve, to be commissioned on the 5th November as the Drill Ship of the Royal Naval Reserve at North Shields.

THE QUEEN has graciously transmitted 100 guineas to the Royal Academy of Music, being the amount her Majesty has contributed annually to the Institution since her accession to the throne. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has also forwarded his annual contribution.

THAT FISH grow much quicker out of water than in it was demonstrated by a humourist at this week's re-union of the Piscatorial Society at the Holborn Restaurant, the case being quoted of a recently caught pike, which had already grown to twice its weight in the angling reports, and threatened to go on growing.

OF THE £60,000 received this year for the Sunday Hospital Fund, upwards of £20,000 has been paid to the Lord Mayor, at the Mansion House, by individual donors and others, who have given in this way in addition to those who contributed through the churches.

THE MAYOR AND CORPORATION OF COLCHESTER held their annual Oyster Feast in the Corn Exchange, on Tuesday, there being a numerous company present, including Bro. General Sir Evelyn Wood, Bro. the Earl of Warwick, Bro. Col. Lockwood, M.P.; the Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, M.P., President of the Board of Trade; Bro. Sheriff Cooper, the High Sheriff of Essex, and others.

BRO. THOMAS HESTER, of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862, is a well-known Friendly Society official, and in the capacity of Grand Corresponding Secretary of the South London Unity of Odd Fellows was, on Friday, the 18th instant, the recipient of a valuable gold watch, suitably inscribed, presented to him as a mark of appreciation of his honourable career in that Society.

THE WORK of telephonically connecting the coastguard station on the cliff at Ramsgate with Ramsgate Harbour was completed on Saturday last, the object being to enable information of disasters on the Goodwin sands to be more speedily communicated to the Ramsgate tug and lifeboat.

IN A SPEECH he delivered at Bolton on Saturday last, Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P., declared himself to be a lover of all English games, and especially horseracing, declaring, as regards the latter, that it was ridiculous for people to affirm that it could not be indulged in without gambling.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED at the meeting of the board of delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund, which was held, under the presidency of Mr. R. B. D. Acland, on Saturday last, that the receipts from January 7th to the 28th September amounted to £11,427, or about £250 less than during the corresponding period of last year. During the past three weeks about £2000 had been forwarded from the Metropolitan workshops, raising the total to about £13,500.

THE YORKSHIRE BAZAAR AND FANCY FAIR in aid of the funds of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was opened in the Exhibition Buildings, York, on Tuesday, by the Duke of Cambridge. The Duke was very cordially greeted, and after receiving purses from children coming from all parts of the country, had the satisfaction of announcing the amount thus obtained in aid of the Society reached £1843 11s. 7d.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, during his stay in Newmarket, on Wednesday visited the workhouse there and the new little church to which his Royal Highness liberally subscribed. The Prince went into the kitchen and saw a suet pudding cut for the inmates' dinner. In the visitors' book he wrote the following: "I have visited the Newmarket Union Workhouse with great pleasure and interest, and found the whole establishment in excellent order; the inmates well cared for, and the rooms clean and airy.—Albert Edward, Oct. 23, 1895."

BARON DE COURCEL, the French Ambassador, called upon the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, and presented to him, in the name of the president of the French Republic, the insignia and diploma of Officer of the Legion of Honour, which had been conferred upon his lordship in connection with his recent visit to Paris and Bordeaux. His Excellency expressed the pleasure it gave him of being the medium of investing Bro. Sir Joseph Renals with this distinction, and the Lord Mayor requested Baron de Courcel to convey to President Félix Faure his acknowledgments for the distinguished honour bestowed upon him.

THE NEW BATTLESHIP, *Victorious*, of 15,000 tons, with engines of 12,000 indicated horse-power, calculated to give the vessel a speed of 17½ knots under forced draught, was successfully launched at Chatham on Saturday last, the ceremony of christening the huge vessel being performed by Mrs. Goschen, wife of the First Lord of the Admiralty. Among those present were the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, First Lord, Bro. Captain Lord Charles Beresford, Bro. Field-Marshal Viscount Wolseley, Earl Darnley, Rear-Admiral Sir John Fisher, Vice-Admiral and Mrs. Morant, the United States Ambassador, Bros. Major-General Sir Charles Warren and Sir John Pender, Sir John Macgregor, and Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P., for Chatham. The ceremony was witnessed by thousands of spectators, and Chatham was *en fête* in honour of the occasion. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the First Lord and Mrs. Goschen lunched with Rear-Admiral Andoe, Superintendent of the Dockyard.

HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.—On Tuesday Mr. Henry G. Burdett, the Secretary of the Loan and Share Department of the Stock Exchange, handed to the Lord Mayor a cheque for £3,400, collected in the Stock Exchange through Messrs. Burdett and Harris, and Messrs. Pitt, Vaughan and Co., on behalf of the Hospital Sunday Fund, in response to the appeal recently made in *The Hospital* newspaper. This handsome contribution raises this year's fund to over £50,000, a sum never received before since its foundation in 1873. The amount of the fund for 1895, up to Tuesday, was £45,755, to which was added £904, being the interest on the munificent bequest of the late Mr. W. A. Guesdon. This left a balance of £3,391 to be raised to bring up the total to £50,000, which was more than effected by the Stock Exchange contribution. This result also enables the Council to claim the promised additional contribution of £100 from Mr. T. A. Denny. The Lord Mayor requested Mr. Henry G. Burdett to return his sincere thanks to the donors, and congratulated him on his own indefatigable efforts in the interest of the fund, especially through the columns of *The Hospital*.