

# 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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## EPISODE IN THE MASONIC HISTORY OF BENGAL.

It is not everyone who is in a position to boast that, in a certain sense, he has forced an entrance into a lodge of Freemasons, but the portrait we publish on another page of Bro. P. C. DUTT, Deputy District Grand Master of Bengal, and the pamphlet from which the brief sketch accompanying it of his Masonic career, disclose the fact that as recently as 30 years since the broad and generous principles of Freemasonry were not fully understood and appreciated even by brethren in high places. In the year 1863, Mr. DUTT, a Hindoo gentleman of repute, conceived the idea of becoming a Freemason, and, at his own request, was proposed for initiation in Lodge Courage with Humanity, No. 392, Calcutta. At that time, the By-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal—as the pamphlet informs us—contained an article to the effect that—"No Mohammedan or other Asiatic shall be initiated in any Lodge without the previous sanction of the Provincial Grand Master." Accordingly, the W.M. of No. 392 applied to the then Provincial Grand Master, Bro. HUGH D. SANDEMAN—who only a few months since resigned the office of Grand Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite—for a dispensation to ballot for, and, if approved, initiate the said Mr. P. C. DUTT. The request, however, was refused, and at the next Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal the question "Whether the admission of Hindoos into Freemasonry is in accordance with the principles of the Order as inculcated by the Grand Lodge of England" was discussed at length and decided in the negative, the Provincial Grand Master, in bringing the debate to a conclusion, remarking "that Hindoos were not eligible for admission into Freemasonry, and, moreover, that it was not desirable, with reference to social considerations, that they should be admitted, and so long as he held a veto under the By-laws, he would exercise the power rigidly and with the utmost caution." This decision was in due course communicated to Mr. DUTT, who appears to be a man of considerable determination, and, resolving not to be baulked in his desire to become a Freemason, addressed a long appeal to the Earl of ZETLAND, then M.W. Grand Master, in the course of which he mentioned, among other matters, as constituting a peculiar hardship in his case, that another Hindoo gentleman of his own rank in society had previously been proposed and initiated after making the following declaration: "I am not a Pantheist or a Polytheist. I do not identify my Creator with any one of His creatures. I believe in the existence of one Great Architect of the Universe, whose wish is the happiness of all His creatures, whose will is law, whose laws are impressed on the

heart of every right-thinking individual, and whose never-failing justice shall reach the transgressors of His laws on the Great Day of Judgment to come." This letter was dated the 9th November, 1863, and on the 7th February, 1865, Bro. W. GRAY CLARKE, the Grand Secretary, after apologising for a delay which had been "unavoidable, as letters had to be written to India and information had to be gathered from different sources," informed Mr. DUTT that the Grand Master was not aware "that any objections had ever been raised against the initiation of anyone who professed a belief in the Great Architect of Heaven and Earth, and who was in other respects worthy to be admitted to the Order," and was "surprised to find that the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal had passed and had acted upon, a prohibitory law." Bro. CLARKE added that this law had "since been removed," and consequently that there was nothing, "at least in as far as the Grand Master can infer, to prevent you or any other gentleman who believe in the one Omnipotent, Omniscient, and Omnipresent God, and who in private life practice the sacred duties of morality, from being initiated into the secrets and mysteries of our Order." The latter concluded with a reservation in respect of the Private Lodges, which had By-Laws of their own for the admission or rejection of candidates, and with which, provided they were not "inconsistent with the general laws of the Order," the Grand Master had no power to interfere. It may have been imagined that after such a letter, in which the law as to the admission of candidates—so far as the question of religion is concerned—was so fully and clearly explained, would have sufficed to enable Mr. DUTT to attain the object of his desires and become a Freemason, but the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal appears to have appealed against the order of the Grand Master, and again we find Mr. DUTT addressing himself to the authorities of Grand Lodge with a view to securing the removal of the obstacles to his admission into the Order. This we learn from a further letter from Bro. W. GRAY CLARKE, dated 19th October, 1865, in reply to one from Mr. DUTT of the 16th August preceding, in which the G. Secretary, after again explaining that the G. Master has no power of interference, much less any intention to interfere, with "the individual feelings or opinions of any member of the Order," or "with any decision a Masonic Lodge might come to upon a ballot," informs his correspondent that "the Grand Master has, since the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal to which you refer, again refused to allow the objectionable By-law to be retained," and that "any Lodge that is so disposed can admit you or any other native; but you must understand that no Lodge is compelled to do so."

The decision of Lord ZETLAND not "to allow the objectionable law to be retained" among the by-laws of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal had already been communicated to the District Grand Master in a letter dated the 23rd September, 1865, from which we extract the following paragraph concerning the initiation of Hindoos or other Asiatics: "Every Private Lodge has the undoubted right to decide for itself whom it will admit, provided the ancient landmarks and the laws of the Grand Lodge are not infringed. In one of the ancient charges it is expressly stated that 'Let a man's religion or mode of worship be what it may, he is not excluded from the Order provided he believes in the Glorious Architect of Heaven and Earth, and practises the sacred duties of morality.' The Grand Master cannot alter that rule, neither can he sanction any subordinate authority enacting a rule, compelling a Lodge to ignore it. And it must

be observed that although a District or Provincial Grand Lodge has the power to frame laws for its own government, it is simply authorised to make regulations for the guidance, not the government, of the Private Lodges in the District."

Further communications passed between Mr. DUTT and the Grand Secretary relative to the form in which the obligation should be taken by a Hindoo, and on this point the latter informed him that the Grand Master was of opinion, but without prescribing any set form of words, that "the obligation should be such as should be binding on the conscience of the Candidate, and such as the particular forms and tenets of his religious persuasion would require on other occasions, when a binding obligation was required." This correspondence belongs to the year 1866, but though the difficulties appear to have been at length removed from his path, Mr. DUTT does not seem to have taken any further steps towards the gratification of his wishes until 1869, and then he addressed letters to Bro. the Earl of MAYO, Governor-General of India; the Earl of DALHOUSIE, Grand Master of Scotland; and the Duke of LEINSTER, Grand Master of Ireland, inviting their opinions on the question of initiating Hindoos into Freemasonry; nor was it till the 13th June, 1872, that at last Mr. PROSONNO COOMAR DUTT was initiated in the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 234, Calcutta. Why this long delay should have been allowed to occur it is not our province to inquire, nor, indeed, does it concern us in any way. It is enough that Bro. P. C. DUTT was initiated in the lodge we have specified, and that last year Bro. Sir H. T. PRINSEP, District Grand Master, appointed him his Deputy D.G.M. In 1888 a full-length portrait in oils of our worthy brother, which had been painted to the order of Lodge No. 234, was presented to the Dist. G. Lodge of Bengal by Bro. the Maharajah of COOCH-BEHAR, P.M., on behalf of the subscribers, and in accepting it, the District Grand Master is reported to have said that "it gave him great pleasure in accepting, on behalf of District Grand Lodge of Bengal, this picture of Bro. P. C. DUTT. Bro. DUTT was, as had been properly said, the first Hindoo Mason in Bengal, and he might say in India. He had to contend with great difficulties at the outset in gaining admission into the Craft, but, with the perseverance for which he had long been known to them, he showed that he was determined to have his way, and succeeded, not only in gaining admission into the Order, but in rising to eminence in it, and these qualities have, with other qualities of a high order, raised Wor. Bro. P. C. DUTT to the high position of a Past Junior Grand Warden of this District Grand Lodge." Bro. DUTT has since been appointed, as we have said, to the still more important post of Deputy District Grand Master, in which, no doubt, he will acquit himself as honourably as in the previous offices of trust in which he has been placed. Thus by the irony of fate we find the Hindoo gentleman of repute, who in 1863 was declared by the then District Grand Master of Bengal "not eligible for admission into Masonry," and of whom the same dignitary affirmed that "it was not desirable, with reference to social considerations, that he should be admitted," is now the second in rank among the Craftsmen in the important District of Bengal.

#### MASONIC LITERATURE.

No just estimate is possible of the progress that has been made by Freemasonry during the last 20 or 30 years, which does not include some reference to the part played by Masonic literature in securing that progress, nor can there be a more healthy sign of the present stability of the Craft than the ever-increasing support and encouragement which are given in all directions to the more important works that are continually being published on the history, antiquities, symbolism, &c., of the ancient Craft. Formerly the reading Mason was *rara avis in terris*, and, as a consequence, the works that were compiled about Masonry were, with a few honourable exceptions, of the trashiest character imaginable. Now it is hardly possible to visit a lodge but you find some of its members not only exhibiting an interest in Masonic studies, but likewise, to a greater or less extent, familiar with the best and most trustworthy histories, pamphlets, treatises, guides, and records that have been compiled about our Society. Our English periodical literature goes no further back than 1834

—though the "Freemasons' Quarterly," which appeared in that year, was preceded by other Masonic periodicals, that lasted only for a few years—while for at least another 30 years almost the only works from which, with the exception of successive editions of the Book of Constitutions and a few others that might be named, any idea of the nature and history of our Craft could be gleaned were those of PRESTON and OLIVER, which, in so far as they attempted or claimed to treat of the History of Freemasonry, are of little or no value. Now all is changed, and there is hardly a branch of Masonic study which has not found at some time or other during the last quarter of a century one or more capable exponents. How this change is to be explained is no material consequence just for the moment. It is enough that men have been found in the ranks of Masonry who were not only competent to undertake the task of enlightening the general body of Craftsmen on subjects of interest that might properly be dealt with in print, but were likewise both ready and willing to impart their knowledge to others. At the same time, as our Society kept on increasing in numbers, the desire to make continued and continuous advancement in Masonic knowledge became greater and still more great. The works of such as Bros. HUGHAN, GOULD, the late Rev. A. F. A. WOODFORD, MURRAY LYON, and others, have found readers, while the readers in their turn have done all in their power to encourage our leading literary celebrities to produce ever and anon fresh evidences of their ability, learning, and research. The change is one on which our Order is decidedly to be congratulated, and while the general body of Freemasons continues to exhibit a desire for enlightenment, there is little doubt that those amongst them who are willing to devote their time and attention to the study of things Masonic will steadily pursue their task of communicating still further light.

Among the healthiest of the many signs which are to be met with almost everywhere that Masonic literature finds continued and increasing encouragement from the Order generally, is the desire exhibited by lodges and Provinces for the establishment of Masonic libraries and museums. For years past there has been a library at Freemasons' Hall, which contains not only the proceedings and registers of our Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and of many other Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters, but also all kinds of works relating to Masonry, and amongst them many of our most cherished literary treasures; and any Master Mason in good standing who desired to consult these records, and registers, and works on history, &c., &c., &c., might do so on obtaining permission from the Grand Lodge authorities. But till quite recently the Grand Lodge Library was about the last place that any brother evinced a desire to visit. Now there are many students to be found who regularly consult the valuable works of all kinds with which its shelves are furnished, and, what is still more important, Grand Lodge, by granting an annual allowance for the purchase of books of importance, and appointing Bro. HENRY SADLER as Sub-Librarian, is itself lending every encouragement to the studious Mason to avail himself of the opportunities which are at his disposal for satisfying his craving for more light. Then there are not a few cities and towns in the Provinces which have established institutions of a similar character, in which those who are studiously inclined will find available the means for gratifying their propensity. In addition there are to be found lodges such as the Quatuor Coronati in London, as well as the Newcastle, Wakefield, Worcester, Leicester, and other Masonic Literary Institutes in the country, which offer every facility in their power for Masonic study. That these advantages are greatly appreciated by the general body of Masons is shown by the generous readiness with which individual brethren present objects and works of interest to these central and local libraries and museums. These gifts are acknowledged as publicly and as handsomely as possible, with the result that our Masonic libraries and museums, both central and local, are becoming better and better furnished every day with whatever is valuable in Masonic literature and art and Masonic archaeology. We trust this desire for the accumulation in various centres of the literary and artistic treasures of the Craft will continue to exist, and that in time we shall have succeeded in freeing ourselves from the reproach formerly attaching to us of being about the only Society in the world that had little or no knowledge of its own character and antecedent and current history.

## FREEMASONRY IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The custom in the North American jurisdictions by which the Grand Master at the annual communication of his Grand Lodge delivers a long and elaborate address, in the course of which he reviews all the principal events of the previous year, and fully explains the reasons which prompted him to adopt a certain course of action under certain circumstances, is to be commended. Here where Grand Lodge holds its regular Quarterly Communications the need for such a course does not exist, or at all events does not exist to the same extent; but many of the Grand Masters of Provinces, where the meetings are annual, have adopted the custom with advantage. Our Prov. Grand Masters, however, are generally briefer in their observations than the American Grand Masters, who dearly love to amplify everything and introduce such a mass of details that their harangues, when published in the local press or in the Grand Lodge Proceedings, are decidedly heavy reading. Still, there is invariably something of interest to be gleaned from them, while in the case of those which are delivered at the annual communications of the older Grand Lodges much valuable information is not infrequently to be obtained. In Pennsylvania, notwithstanding that Grand Lodge meets regularly in quarterly communication, the address is delivered as usual on St. John's Day when the new Grand Officers are installed or invested, and on the 27th December last Bro. MATTHIAS H. HENDERSON, G.M., recounted carefully the events of 1895. Most of what he said is of local interest only, but there are one or two subjects he referred to which may be noted. Thus as regards the Masonic Hall in Philadelphia, which is undoubtedly one of the finest buildings of its kind in existence, full particulars were given by Bro. HENDERSON as to the cost of building, the manner in which the outlay was met, and the steps taken from time to time in providing for that outlay. The business is highly creditable to our Pennsylvanian brethren, who seem to have laid their plans from the outset judiciously, and carried them out strictly. In 1867, when the ground on which the Temple stands was purchased, and preparations for erecting it were begun, the income of Grand Lodge was, we are told, 65,000 dollars, and accordingly "The New Masonic Temple Loan" was authorised and placed on the market. Two years later, with a view to providing for the payment of principal and interest, it was resolved on the 7th April, 1869—"That five per cent. of the current receipts of the Grand Lodge be and the same are hereby appropriated and set apart for the Redemption of the New Masonic Temple Loan." But in order to make this provision more effective for the purpose, the initiation fees and dues were considerably increased in amount, and it was agreed that they should so remain until the liabilities on the Temple had been reduced to 500,000 dollars. The loan ultimately—in November, 1874—reached 1,470,525 dollars, the interest on which, at 7.3 per cent., amounted to 107,348 dollars. In December, 1875, the loan was reduced by the payment of 150,000 dollars, and the balance was funded at six per cent., a substantial diminution of interest being the result. In September, 1880, a further 41,025 dollars was paid off, and the balance refunded at five per cent. In September, 1890, 460,100 dollars were paid off, the loan being thus reduced to 813,400 dollars, and this was funded at four per cent. On September 1st, 1895, a further reduction was made by the payment of 322,150 dollars, and the balance of the loan now stands at 491,250 dollars, the interest on which at four per cent. is 19,650 dollars. Thus in the 21 years that have elapsed since the full amount of the loan was reached Grand Lodge has paid off 979,275 dollars of the principal, while the amount that has been paid annually in interest is stated as 1,661,357 dollars, giving a grand total of payments amounting to 2,640,623 dollars. As the loan has been reduced to within 500,000 dollars, the lodges are relieved of the additional fees and dues they have been paying since 1871, and the Grand Master expresses his belief that the income of Grand Lodge is such as to justify the hope that in the course of the next few years, the whole of the balance will be cleared off, a most notable achievement, and one of which, seeing that "no mortgage, judgment, lien, or other encumbrance has ever been placed" on the property, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania has the utmost reason to be proud. Indeed, the liquidation of the debt appears to have

proceeded till now without any serious effect, the measures taken for its gradual extinction having sufficed for the purpose, and as there remains less than 500,000 dollars due by way of principal, and the annual interest thereon is under 20,000 dollars, it seems tolerably certain that Grand Master HENDERSON'S anticipations that the whole will be extinguished at an early date will be realised. The credit of having accomplished this is ascribed by the Grand Master to the Finance Committee of Grand Lodge.

There is a further matter mentioned by the Grand Master to which we have great pleasure in referring. Some years ago the work of reprinting the minutes of Grand Lodge was undertaken and after a time abandoned. But Grand Master HENDERSON appears to have laid great stress on the importance of continuing the work which has been taken in hand by the Library Committee and will be carried out completely. But as the volume which was published in 1877 and the manuscript which had been compiled for subsequent volumes were found on comparison with the original minutes to be very imperfect, the Committee have determined to discard the work that had been done under the former scheme and prepare an entirely new work, which shall in all respects be a truthful reproduction of the original records. One volume has already been issued, and others will follow, so that in due course the whole of the minutes will be reprinted. The price charged is no more than will suffice to cover the cost, while those engaged in the work of compilation are doing their part without fee or reward, and the Grand Master very naturally hopes that such disinterestedness on their part will meet with the appreciation and recognition to which they are so justly entitled.

As for the statistics relating to lodges and their membership, Bro. HENDERSON mentioned that between the 27th December, 1894, and the corresponding date of last year the number of new lodges constituted was seven, raising the total to 425. On the 27th December, 1894, the aggregate membership was 48,472, the increase during that year having been 1076, and he is probably correct in his estimate that on making up the returns for 1895, the number of subscribing members in the jurisdiction will be found to be not far short of 50,000.

## OUR LARGER PROVINCES—KENT.

Our larger provinces are getting bigger still, year by year. West Lancashire, with its 112 lodges; East Lancashire, with 111; West Yorkshire, with 77; and Kent, with 62; all exhibit an increase during the past year, the greatest being in East Lancashire. Another quartette range from 41, 46, and 48 to 52, being Surrey, Cheshire, Hants and Isle of Wight, and Devon respectively.

The "Freemasons' Manual for Kent," published, with commendable promptitude, on the 8th January (the earliest issue yet achieved), and ably edited by the veteran Craftsman, Bro. Thomas S. Warne, and by Bro. Frank Hitchens, affords an excellent insight into the workings of one of our large and most prosperous provinces. There are 62 lodges, which return 3871 members, being an average of over 62 per lodge, thus proving that the increase in the number has not been at the expense of the membership of the individual lodges. In an excellent table, compiled by the Editors, the number of members of each lodge, and the total of each year, 1892-5 inclusive, exhibit a steady increase from 3521, in the first column, to 3871, as aforesaid, in the latter.

Sometime since, I tested the average membership of each lodge in 27 provinces, and found that 897 returned 46,457 members, being an average per lodge of nearly 52. Kent, it will be seen, averages 62, some of the larger provinces having still more. Durham at the time was the highest with 72, followed closely by North and East Yorkshire with 70, Hants making a good third with 68.

The Kent Manual is in its 19th year of publication, and was started by Bro. T. S. Warne as Editor, my esteemed friend still continuing at the helm, and, after so many years of service, may now be looked upon as fully complete as to all such onerous duties. Who the *senior* is of the editorial corps I do not know, but I began as early as 1865 with the "Devon and Cornwall Masonic Calendar," and shall be glad to be informed of those brethren who are still in the "land of the living," and preceded me as Editors of Provincial Masonic Calendars.

The one for Kent is about as complete as can well be. Of course, there are always additions that might be made, however much is given; but as already this handsomely-printed annual extends to over 200 pages, one does not like to suggest additional labour for the Editors, or to ask for more space.

Possibly, here and there, where a page is not quite filled, a few more particulars might be squeezed in, as in the final one completing the statistical table of the lodges. Could not the total of the membership of the Royal Arch chapters and Mark lodges be added? I find there are 25 chapters, and as under each abundant information is afforded, the total membership amounts to 587 companions, so it will be seen that the proportion of chapters to lodges in Kent is rather above the average. The Mark Degree is also well to the fore with 20 lodges, and by adding the membership supplied of each lodge, the returns of the score combined amount to 501 Mark Masters, being a most creditable total, and suggestive of the zeal and interest felt by the Craft throughout the province. Not a single lodge or chapter has failed to make its "return" to the editors.

There are four Rose Croix chapters, two Knights Templar preceptories, and three Red Cross conclaves, all duly represented, the whole of these 116 bodies (lodges, chapters, &c.) being arranged according to dates of warrants (carefully noted), places, and days of meeting being recorded, lists of all the Past Masters, &c., with rolls of the present officers, addresses of the Secretaries and Charity Representatives, and other particulars being likewise inserted. Then there are tables appended so as to exhibit in alphabetical order, or according to the days of the week, the days of meeting, towns in which lodges are held, and a *Calendar* for 1896, giving the "Dates of Installation and other Meetings in the different Lodges, Chapters, &c." A veritable *multum in parvo*.

As if this meant no labour (though it must have involved a deal of time, care, and anxiety to preserve such accuracy), there is another table of the "Votes in the Province of Kent for the Masonic Charities," showing the enormous totals of 5148 held by the lodges, &c., and 11,104 by the brethren, making a truly *grand total* of 16,252 votes. The by-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge and Chapter are also inserted, and in response to the request of my friend Warne, I have supplied a short account of the "Ancient" or "Atholl" lodges in the province, viz., Nos. 31, 125, 158, 184, and 199.

The list of attractions, even now, is not exhausted, so if any of my readers are curious they can send 13 stamps to the editor (Bro. T. S. Warne, Rochester) and procure copies for themselves.

W. J. HUGHAN.

#### CONSECRATION OF THE PRINCE LLEWELYN LODGE, No. 2570, AT CARDIFF.

A very imposing ceremony was performed at the new Masonic Temple, Guildford-street, Cardiff, on Thursday afternoon, the 16th instant, when the attendance, though not so large as expected, was a fully representative one, and included many Masons from the various lodges included in the Masonic Province of South Wales, Eastern Division. Masonry, like the commercial prosperity of the metropolitan town of South Wales, has made rapid progress in the town of Cardiff; and while some years ago the Craft held a seemingly stationary position with its two lodges—the Glamorgan and the Bute—yet it was soon found that the large accession of members to those lodges rendered it necessary that other branches should be founded. Then followed the constitution of the Tennant and the Llangattock, and in a short space of time the brethren of the lodges named joined in the erection of a new Masonic Temple, which was opened in September last by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Llangattock, when there was one of the largest gatherings of Welsh Masons to meet their chief. On that occasion the Duke of York Lodge was consecrated, and, remembering that there were already four lodges with branches at Penarth and Barry, not to reckon the other Degrees in Masonry exercised in the larger town, it might have been expected that for a long time to come Cardiff had reached the culminating point in Masonry. But the ceremony on the 16th inst. points to the contrary, when a goodly number of prominent Craftsmen assembled, and the Prince Llewelyn Lodge, No. 2570, was consecrated in due form. This new Masonic branch is more especially intended for professional brethren, and its first W.M. is Bro. Col. Rees Lewis, P.M. 110, P.P.J.G.W., in whose capable hands, with the aid of his officers, the new lodge may be expected to form an important branch of the Order. The foregoing brief notice will convey the fact that Masonry has made a rapid and important progress in the eastern town of Glamorgan, and we now pass on to notice the interesting function.

The business of the meeting was entirely conducted by Provincial Grand Lodge, and shortly before three o'clock the inner doors of the temple were thrown open, and Bro. Lord Llangattock was escorted to the dais by members of Provincial Grand Lodge, the Craftsmen having previously taken their seats in the body of the lodge-room.

The lodge was opened by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, P.A.G.D.C. England, and prior to the consecration Bro. Lord Llangattock took the chair, and his lordship was assisted in the interesting ceremonial by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tennant;

the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. D. Phillips; and Bro. the Rev. T. B. Nicholls, M.A., Past G. Chap. Northumberland. The Senior Warden's chair was occupied by Bro. Simons, P.M., Prov. S.G.W.; the Junior Warden's chair by Bro. C. Carey Thomas, Prov. J.G.W. Cardiff; the Director of Ceremonies being Bro. B. Sheridan. Among the occupants of the dais were Bros. Lyne, junr., Deputy Prov. Grand Master Monmouthshire; J. T. Morland, Dep. Prov. Grand Master Berkshire, and Past Grand Deacon England; Mason, R.M.B.I.; Dr. Henry Naunton Davies, C. E. Dovey, W. G. Davies, F. P. Adye, Arthur G. P. Lewis, W. Whittington (Prov. G. Sec.) T. G. Mathews, John Munday, H. W. Lewis, H. C. Ensor, M.P., S. Tozer, A. P. Seeds, Joseph Davies, Walter H. Key, Shaw, P.M. 2547; Henry Goddell, John Evans, Wm. Francis, Davies, R. R. Davies, P.P.G. S.d. Br.; W. Peace, P.M. 960; F. W. Hybart, P.P.S.G.D.; Jno. Joseph Jones, 115 P.P.A.G.D. of C.; Wm. Dobb, P.P.G. Supt. Wks.; John Howell P.P.A.G.P.; J. T. R. dley, P.P.G. Stwd.; Dr. De Vere Hunt; T. P. Kerman; J. F. Wordsworth; E. H. Pontifex; W. H. Lewis; C. Clarry, P.P.G.D. of C.; Llewellyn Phillips, 683; Dr. Edward Trebarn 2357; Chas. Holton, W.M. elect; H. E. Jones, 471; T. Smooh, P.A.D.G.S. Malta; George Palmer, S.W. Cambrian Lodge; and a large number of officers of various lodges and Master Masons belonging to various lodges in the United Kingdom.

The ceremony began with an opening hymn, after which the W.M. designate (Bro. Rees Lewis) presented the warrant for the new lodge to Bro. Lord Llangattock, and asked him to constitute the lodge.

The PROV. GRAND CHAPLAIN delivered an eloquent oration on the nature and privileges of the Institution. He said two questions were often asked, "What is Freemasonry?" and "What was its value?" These were answered and known to those admitted to Masonry in a way which must be satisfactory, as embodying the highest principles for the acceptance of the Craft. In the course of his address the reverend brother expressed a hope that that new branch of Masonry would not be cut off like its great Welsh namesake, "Prince Llewelyn," but that it would stand for those principles which it would be the duty of the members to uphold and defend.

At the conclusion of the address, a hymn was sung, the benediction was pronounced by the PROV. GRAND CHAPLAIN, and the National Anthem closed this part of the proceedings.

The installation of the new Master was then proceeded with, this ceremony being ably conducted by Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, D.P.G.M. Bro. H. Naunton Davies presented the W.M. designate, Bro. Rees Lewis, who was duly installed, and he then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. Dr. H. Naunton Davies, I.P.M.; Arthur G. P. Lewis, S.W.; T. Rodway Hunt, J.W.; Dr. E. Tennyson Collins, Sec.; Dr. C. Downing, S.D.; A. Macintosh, J.D.; Dr. Tatham Thompson, I.G.; and Dr. Morland and A. C. Tweedy, Stwds. Bro. C. H. Ensor was proposed by the W.M. as Treasurer, and Bro. Amos Jennings was elected Tyler. Bros. H. Naunton Davies and John Plews were appointed as Past Masters to serve upon Prov. Grand Lodge Committee. Letters of apology were read from brethren in various parts of the province for non-attendance. There were several propositions placed on record for initiates and joining members.

Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK was obliged to leave before the close of the lodge, but before doing so he addressed a few words to those present. He said he had no intention of making a speech on that occasion, because he felt that would be cut of place after the touching address of the Provincial Grand Chaplain and the solemn ceremony they had witnessed. He, however, did desire to offer his congratulations to the promoters of the new lodge, and the splendid assemblage which had come forward to greet them. Those who had assisted on that occasion could not look upon Freemasonry in any light manner, and the beautiful ceremony just concluded must tend to lead them to a better life. He congratulated all who had taken part in it. He tendered hearty good wishes to the Master appointed, and wished him and his officers every success. For himself, he could only say that he felt the great responsibility of his position as Provincial Grand Master, and having since his accession to the office opened three new lodges in the province he felt most anxious as to the welfare of the Craft under his care and rule. But he was encouraged by the zeal for Masonry which was displayed when he came amongst them, and greatly helped by the valuable aid he at all times received from the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Tennant. Under such conditions he could not but feel that the future prospects of the province were most propitious and must tend to encouraging results. He congratulated the brethren on having such an excellent and worthy Mason as Master of the new lodge, and he hoped that success and happiness would be with them all; finally, that in the words of the beautiful hymn sung that day, they would with "love unite our hearts in one."

Bro. LEWIS, W.M., in responding to the kind words of his lordship, thanked him most warmly on behalf of the brethren of the lodge and himself, and also the brethren who had come from all parts to support and give encouragement to the new institution.

The lodge was then closed, and a very large number repaired to the banquet, which was served at the Park Hotel in a manner reflecting great credit upon the management, and they placed before the company a very inviting menu.

The W.M., Bro. Colonel Rees Lewis, presided, the vice-chairs being occupied by Bros. Arthur Lewis and T. Rodway Hunt. The President was supported by the Deputy Prov. G.M. of South Wales (E.D.); Deputy P.G.M. of Monmouthshire; the Dep. Prov. G.M. in Charge of Berkshire; the Prov. G. Chap., Bro. Phillips; Bro. Nicholls, Prov. G. Chap. Northumberland; and about 60 brethren.

"The Health of the W.M." was given by Bro. TENNANT, and the former replying, emphasised the point that the brethren of Prince Llewelyn had no desire to isolate themselves from other lodges, but invited visits, criticism, and sympathy.

During the evening the Silvia Glea Singers sang a series of songs, under the conductorship of Mr. W. Towyn Thomas, and solos were given by Messrs. D. Thomas, W. Williams, E. Daniele, and Edgar Squires.

The toast list was of the usual kind.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The directors of the Crystal Palace have decided to hold during May and June an exhibition of every description of vehicle, from the historical stage and state coach to the latest development of auto-car, or horseless carriage, the latter being exhibited in motion in the grounds. The exhibition will also include all new inventions connected with carriages and harness. The Lord Mayor, who is Master of the Coachmakers' Company, has accepted the presidency of the Honorary Council of Advice, which will include Sir Frederick Bramwell, Sir David Salomons, Sir Henry Trueman Wood, and Mr. John Philipson, President of the Institute of British Carriage Manufacturers.



### CONSECRATION OF THE BOROUGH LODGE, No. 2589.

The above lodge was consecrated at the Bridge House Hotel, on Monday, the 20th inst., by Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. G. Everett, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., as J.W.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; F. Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and David D. Mercer, P.G.P., as I.G.

The founders of the new lodge, who were all present, are Bros. J. O'Dea, P.M. 1178; W. Roots, P.M. 1273; A. Atkin, J.D. 1348; J. Hattersley, P.P.G.D. Bucks; E. Bridges, 1178; H. Bulpitt, 2262; R. J. Morley, 2301; J. A. Cannon, 2262; and T. Woodbury, 1348.

The visitors present included

Bros. J. Newton, P.M. 174, G. Purst.; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; A. Brazier, 1178; W. Pottinger, 2262; J. Herron, P.M. 206; T. J. O'Brien, P.M.; E. Mullins, J.D. 2262; R. H. Blatchford, P.M. 1196; W. E. Hill, 879; H. C. Lonsdale, S.W. 1743; H. Langston, 1345; J. W. Gunn, 1607; J. W. Cain, P.M. 179; E. T. Clarke, S.W. 1586; J. E. Dixon, 1348; J. Youldon, P.M. 1931; V. Lurner, P.M. 157; O. Hepner, P.M. 238; M. Chapman, W.M. 619; T. H. Collings, 1981; J. Bartlett, Org. 2030; W. Bradford, I.G. 2168; W. Malham, P.M. 1539; F. J. Eedle, P.M. 2184; J. A. Davis, P.M. 2122; H. W. Clemow, P.M. 2262; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; A. Appleby, J. Pearce, C. Sodesberg, 1178; R. J. Robinson, 1507; O. Polenz, D.C. 238; E. Roberts, 1348; H. Lewick, 1539; T. Pickering, 1539; A. C. Cattle, 749; S. Levy, 1178; E. Ashby, 1489; F. Clark, 1348; W. Layton, 35; E. W. Hattersley, 2262; W. W. Lee, P.M. 1897; and others.

The Grand Officers having entered the lodge in procession and opened the lodge, the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressed the brethren and said: We are gathered together for a solemn purpose—the constitution of a new lodge and its dedication to the service of God. I can only express a hope that this lodge we are about to start into existence may accomplish all the objects the founders had in view, and be the means of advancing the best interests of Freemasonry in this important part of the metropolis. I heartily congratulate the founders on the fact that H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant a warrant, and I sincerely trust the lodge may have before it a career of great success and prosperity.

The founders signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, after which an excellent oration was delivered by Bro. Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIFF, D.P.G.M. Bucks.

The lodge was then formally and solemnly dedicated and constituted in the usual manner.

Bro. J. O'Dea, W.M. designate, was installed into the chair by the Grand Secretary, and invested the following officers: Bros. W. Roots, P.M. 1273, S.W.; A. Atkin, J.D. 1348, J.W.; J. Hattersley, P.M. 1607 and 2262, P.P.G.D. Bucks, Treas., acting I.P.M.; E. Bridges, 1178, Sec.; H. Bulpitt, 1178 and 2262, S.D.; R. J. Morley, 2501, J.D.; J. A. Cannon, 2262, I.G.; T. Woodbury, 1348, Steward; and Harding, P.M., Tyler.

On the proposition of Bro. J. HATTERSLEY, P.P.G.D. Bucks, the Consecrating Officers were unanimously elected honorary members, and were each presented by the W.M. with a founder's jewel, as a souvenir of the interesting occasion.

Both compliments were briefly acknowledged by the GRAND SECRETARY on behalf of himself and colleagues.

Several propositions were received for joining and one for initiation, and lodge was closed.

After banquet, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," were first honoured, after which the W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers," to which Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap., very briefly responded.

The W.M., in giving "The Consecrating Officers," said the consecration of a lodge was not a common event on that side of the water. They did not see these consecrations every day, and some Masons had been under the impression that the Grand Officers did nothing, and the Past Grand Officers less. That event had proved beyond all manner of doubt that they were not merely ornamental, but useful. The Grand Secretary clearly understood the ritual of Freemasonry as they knew it, and also the consecration ceremony, which was longer than any he (the W.M.) knew. He hoped the brethren would drink the toast in the most enthusiastic manner on account of the hard work of the Consecrating Officers, who had shown them what could be done in Freemasonry.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., said they had been good enough to give him a patient hearing in lodge, and he would not be so ungenerous as to inflict a speech upon them in reply. He wished in a few words to tender their thanks for the compliment paid them in the toast proposed in such very kind terms by the W.M., and which had been received with so much cordiality. He was glad that the Worshipful Master had at last discovered that the Grand Officers had some work to do. He knew of one Grand Officer who did a great deal of work, and it was a great relaxation to him to have the opportunity of meeting so many brethren and to assist in the consecration of a new lodge. He must acknowledge the services rendered on the present occasion by those who assisted him, and the brethren knew what good Masons they were. One and all were at all times ready to assist on occasions such as that, and he tendered them, personally, his thanks. They all wished that lodge the greatest prosperity, and he felt satisfied it contained in its ranks all those elements which could not fail to be successful and produce a very successful lodge. On behalf of the Grand Officers who had taken part in the ceremony he thanked the brethren for the honour paid them.

"The Health of the W.M." was then given by the GRAND SECRETARY, who said the pleasing duty had devolved upon him of proposing what was really the toast of the evening—the health of the W.M.—whom he had had the great pleasure of installing into the chair of that lodge. In the presence of so many members of the Perfect Ashlar Lodge, it was unnecessary he should say anything in praise of the W.M. He believed Bro. O'Dea had filled the chair of that lodge, and they all knew how admirably he discharged his duties, and he most heartily congratulated the founders of the Borough Lodge on their selection of a W.M. He felt quite confident that under Bro. O'Dea's rule the lodge could not fail to have before it a very prosperous year. He gave them "The Health of the W.M.," and it was

the wish of all that his year would be most agreeable and pleasant to him and prosperous for the lodge.

Bro. J. O'DEA, W.M., in reply, said he was in rather an embarrassing position, for he did not like to talk about himself. He must thank the Grand Secretary for the way in which he had enlogised him, and the brethren for the way they had received those remarks. He did not think he deserved all that had been said of him, but his mind was set on Freemasonry, and all who knew him would bear out that observation. To be Master of a new lodge was not so easy as it looked. There was some little trouble but they had friends who appreciated them. Small as their number was at present they intended to make it about 50 and keep it so if possible, and to get the best men they possibly could. They did not want little cliques, for two or three dissatisfied brethren would upset the lodge. There would be an unwritten law that no brother could fill the chair unless he could perform the Three Degrees creditably. Possibly the Grand Secretary would not express his opinion as to a by-law to that effect unless it was placed before him, but nothing in the world would prevent them getting the best Master they could to fill the chair of that lodge. A candidate would be initiated properly and no visitor would go away and say the Master was unfit to occupy the chair. There was not one founder of the lodge who could not perform the Three Degrees to the satisfaction of most people. On that side of the water they had not the inducements to go out of an evening that they had on the worldly side, and consequently they devoted a good deal of their time to the ritual of Freemasonry, and they flattered themselves that, with the exception of the Grand Officers, they could work far better than any brethren in London. Their lodge of instruction met three times a week and the ceremonies went like clock work. Without taking up any more of their time he would ask them to accept his sincere thanks.

Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, Dep. Prov. G.M. Bucks, in submitting the toast of "The Visitors," said he had learnt for the first time the truth that the Grand Officers were useful as well as ornamental, a truth he had long suspected. The visitors had been purely ornamental, but they could sometimes be useful. It was not for him to dispute the fact that low down the river the working was good, but a little higher up, when they reached Bucks, they could not admit that the brethren on the left were in any way inferior to the brethren on the right. He should couple the name of one distinguished brother from Bucks to respond, Bro. Clemow, who came from a lodge which he had the honour of consecrating.

Bro. CLEMOW, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks, responded, and returned thanks for the welcome extended to the visitors.

Bro. J. TERRY, Sec. R.M.B.I., replied for "The Masonic Charities," and in the course of a very able speech, said it was our brethren resident in the Rotherhithe district who instituted what they now knew as Masonic Associations, and the good these Institutions had done had simply been incalculable. He could tell them that in 1892—the jubilee year of the Benevolent Institution—of the total of £60,000 collected, nearly £10,000 was brought in by those Associations. The honour of instituting them belonged to that side of the river, nor could he forget what had been done by Greenwich, Deptford, and Bermondsey, and coming up nearer they saw, as the W.M. of the Borough Lodge, one who, as the Steward representing the Perfect Ashlar Lodge, brought in the highest amount ever sent by that lodge. It would not be the fault of the W.M., S.W., or officers if the Borough Lodge did not make itself known and felt for the benefit of the Institutions. With regard to the Girls' School, the Pro G.M. had said it was the best managed Charitable Institution in the Kingdom. The 260 girls were an honour and credit to any society to which they belonged. The Boys' School would in a short space celebrate its centenary, and they knew what good had been done in that Institution. The Old People's Institution celebrated its jubilee four years ago, and somehow, although the youngest of the three Institutions, it had sunk deep into the hearts of the Masons of England. They were now paying £16,400 in annuities yearly, and they could imagine what it meant for a poor person, without a penny in the world, suddenly to be elected to an annuity of £40 for men or £32 for women. It meant all care taken off the shoulders of those old men and women. At the next election there were 115 candidates and only 24 vacancies, and at the forthcoming Festival any support from that lodge would be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

"The Officers" was next given, and, having been responded to, the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of the Schartau Part Singers, and, both in the ceremonial and after the banquet, gave unqualified satisfaction to all present.

### CONSECRATION OF BALIOL CHAPTER, No. 1230, AT BARNARD CASTLE.

On Friday afternoon, the 17th inst., there was a large gathering of Principals and Companions, when the consecration of the Baliol Chapter, No. 1230, took place at the Masonic Hall, Barnard Castle, the ceremony being performed by Comps. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., G. Supt.; Rev. J. J. Brown, P.G.H.; Rev. R. Coulton, P.G.J.; and others. The chapter was opened by Comps. Dr. C. D. Hill-Drury, P.P.G.H.; Rev. J. J. Brown, Rev. R. Coulton, R. Hudson, Babington Boulton, J. Bailey, T. Dunn, R. Lock, M.A., J. Robson Cutter, F. H. Bennett, and others.

Among others present were Comps. T. Coulson, Andrew Farmer, J. W. H. Swan, W. Hodgson, J. K. Wilkes, F. Tovey, J. C. Moor, W. Hutchinson, J. R. Thompson, W. C. Barron, B. S. Beckwith, E. D. Walrond, J. Atkinson, J. W. B. Heslop, J. M. Moore, W. Hobson, W. J. Watson, W. Thorman, T. Grieve, G. C. Lee, J. Holt, J. Abbey, H. Lamb, G. Harland, and John Robinson.

The P.G.S.E., Comp. R. HUDSON, read the petition and warrant for the new chapter, the founders of which and first officers were Comps. Richard Luck, M.A., P.Z., P.P.G.J., M.E.Z.; W. C. Barron, H.; B. S. Beckwith, J.; J. W. B. Heslop, S.E.; J. R. Thompson, S.N.; J. Atkinson, P.S.; E. D. Walrond, 1st A.S.; J. W. Moore, Treas.; T. Dunn, P.Z., P.G.D.C., D.C.; and G. C. Lee.

The ceremony was impressively performed, Comp. Dunn acting as D. of C, and Comp. F. Tovey as Organist. The Principals were installed by Comp. R. Hudson, and the chapter was duly constituted.

In the evening a dinner was held at the King's Head Inn, when Comp. R. Luck, M.A., presided, and there was a large attendance.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM HARROP,  
P.M., P.P.G.W. WEST YORKS.

On Monday night, the 13th inst., the most important Masonic function that has taken place in Huddersfield since the demonstration made by the members of the Craft on the occasion of the visit to Huddersfield of the late Duke of Albany in 1883 was held at the Masonic Hall, South Parade. The occasion was that of the presentation by the members of the Huddersfield Lodge, No. 290, of a portrait and address to Bro. William Harrop, P.M., P.P.G.W., and Chairman of the Charity Committee of West Yorks, in recognition of his eminent services in Freemasonry and as a mark of their esteem and respect.

A banquet was held at 6 p.m., presided over by the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. John H. Hanson, who was supported on his right by Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of West Yorkshire; the Mayor of Huddersfield, Bro. J. Lee Walker; the Deputy Mayor, Bro. J. J. Brook, J.P.; Bros. W. O. Clough, M.P.; Colonel Day, J.P.; and Joseph Crowther, J.P.; and on his left by Bros. Wm. Harrop; Henry Smith, Deputy Prov. Grand Master; his Honour Judge Heaton Cadman, P.P.G. Reg.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; J. C. Malcolm, Leeds City Coroner; and Bro. Thomas Mallinson, J.P. Over 100 members and guests sat down to dinner, which was admirably served in the lodge-room by Messrs. Johnson Bros.

A band, provided by Bro. Joshua Marshall, performed musical selections during dinner.

At the conclusion of the *menu*,

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "The Queen," and the National Anthem was sung.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in proposing "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., Grand Master of England, and Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past," coupled with it the name of Bro. Henry Smith, a Past Grand Deacon of England and Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and remarked that Bro. Smith was very welcome as being an old and valued friend of the guest of the evening. Bro. Smith had given the best fruits of his life to directing the efforts of Freemasonry in the Province of West Yorkshire, and in view of his approaching retirement from the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, that would probably be one of his last official visits in West Yorkshire.

Bro. HENRY SMITH replied that he had much pride in being present at that presentation to his oldest friend in one of the largest lodges in the province. The Huddersfield Lodge was a credit and example to all other lodges for its good work, regularity, and punctuality, and owing to those qualities it was as well known in London as in Yorkshire as a lodge holding the highest position.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed the toast of "The Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P., R.W. Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of Prov. Grand Lodge, Present and Past." He said there was considerable wonder as to whom H.R.H. the Prince of Wales would appoint to fill the post so ably occupied by their late Bro. T. W. Tew on his resigning on account of failing health and years. The appointment had been equally ably filled by Bro. Jackson, notwithstanding his multifarious duties. A gentleman who was one of the Queen's Privy Councillors, who was the head of one of our largest railway companies, and could still find time to act as Mayor of Leeds, would probably not find the duties of Provincial Grand Master much additional burden. However, the Prince of Wales had appointed a typical Yorkshireman, who satisfied all the requirements of the province. He concluded by extending a very cordial welcome to Bro. Jackson on that his first Masonic visit to Huddersfield and to the Huddersfield Lodge.

Bro. W. L. JACKSON, M.P., in reply, thanked the W.M. for his personal references, and said: Huddersfield has long been distinguished as one of the bright spots upon the Masonic records, Grand Officers are always welcomed with a profusion of hospitality, which at the same time was real and heartfelt. The position of Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire had been made during a long course of years and it had no cause to hide its head when it came to Huddersfield. The Mayor of Huddersfield is a member of the Craft, the Deputy Mayor is also a member of the Craft; at Halifax they have appointed a Mayor who is a Mason and may I say that at Leeds also they have followed the same good example. The Mayor of Wakefield and probably the Mayors of other neighbouring towns are Masons. But much of the position of Provincial Grand Lodge is due to the zealous and devoted service of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master. The personal and other records of the province testified to that. They have always recognised the loyalty and wise counsel of the Deputy and other provincial officers. Our object is to maintain the dignity of Masonry in the Province of West Yorkshire.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER announced the object of the presentation. The recent appointment of Bro. Wm. Harrop as Chairman of the Charity Committee of the Province came as the climax of a long career and the members of the lodge wished to celebrate the occasion by paying a special tribute to Bro. Harrop. It had been decided to present an address and a portrait to Bro. Harrop and the brethren had requested the Provincial Grand Master to perfect the honour by making the presentation on their behalf. Bro. Harrop had been identified with Charity for many years. He was a good friend and wise counsellor to young and old.

Bro. W. L. WILMSHURST, Secretary of the lodge, then read the following address, which was in book form, each page being of richly illuminated vellum, and the whole bound in crimson Russian leather:

"Huddersfield Lodge, No. 290.

"To Brother William Harrop, P.M., P.P.G.W., Chairman of the Charity Committee of West Yorks.

"Worshipful Sir and Brother,

"As, in the ritual of our Order, the names of those good and wise men of olden time who were foremost in building up the principles of Freemasonry, have become enshrined and preserved for our example, so, in these latter days, the brethren have been anxious to make some fitting memorial, and to offer such recognition as they are able to those who have done special service in promoting the welfare, dignity, and objects of the Craft.

"We congratulate ourselves that our lodge, during an existence of over a century, has numbered amongst its members many brethren who have been distinguished upholders and exponents of Masonic science. The records and the walls of our lodge bear witness of many such, and it is well that the memory of such brethren should be so perpetuated, that generations yet to come may be reminded of their predecessors who in past time most conspicuously and brilliantly sustained the principles of Freemasonry in general and of our lodges in particular.

"The time has come when your brethren of the Huddersfield Lodge have thought fit to accord to you some acknowledgment of the eminent services you have rendered to them and the lodge, and to put upon lasting record such a tribute of their gratitude and good will as may do you honour, and be an ever present memory with our Masonic posterity in years to come.

"Your connection with our lodge commenced in 1870. Five years later you occupied the chair as Worshipful Master, and in due time you were called by the Grand Lodge of this province to occupy successively the exalted positions of Grand Deacon and Grand Warden. Since 1884 you have filled the responsible office of Treasurer of the lodge. In addition to these offices, you have been long and actively associated with the Committee of Provincial Grand Lodge for the organisation and administration of Masonic Charity, and your recent appointment to the Chairmanship of that Committee was greeted by your brethren with cordial approval as being both an honour to their lodge and a worthy climax to your devoted and unabated efforts towards this, the chief aim and purpose of our Craft.

"But your title to the present recognition is based upon something more than a distinguished Masonic career. The honours and dignities conferred upon you in various branches of the Craft were the well-merited rewards of active and valuable services, but it was impossible that they should convey an adequate interpretation of the respect and affection your brethren bear towards you, and while we trust you have not been ignorant of the existence of these sentiments we desire now to assure you of them in more tangible and permanent form by asking you to accept at our hands this present tribute; accompanied by what we consider to be an excellent portrait of yourself.

"We desire to express our opinion that to your upright conduct in private life, to your exertions and good deeds in the cause of Freemasonry, to the silent but far-reaching moral influence of your character, much of the present high reputation of our lodge is due.

"We acknowledge with gratitude your regular and unflagging services, your capable powers ever at the disposal of your brethren as a Preceptor and exponent of Masonic lore; the prudent and sagacious advice in all matters relative to the conduct and government of the lodge; the friendship and fraternity you have extended to every one of us, and which has evoked from the breasts of your brethren old and young alike, an affection which has only been strengthened by time and become

'Like a circle in the water,

Which never ceaseth to enlarge itself.'

"Of your benefactions to the Masonic Charities it is not for us to speak. They find their response in the grateful hearts of many aged Masons, widows, and orphans, and can be recorded only by the Great Giver of all Goodness.

"To Him we commend you and those dearest to you with fervent prayers that your useful life may long be spared to them and to us and be blessed with health and happiness.

"In asking your acceptance of this Address and the accompanying Portrait, which are the gifts exclusively of your brethren of the Huddersfield Lodge, we are, dear Brother Harrop, in all admiration, affection, and respect.

"On behalf of the Lodge,

"JOHN H. HANSON, W.M.

"WM. P. RAYNOR, I.P.M.

"J. MACKENZIE, S.W.

"JAS. BROOK, J.W.

"W. L. WILMSHURST, Secretary.

"Date 13th January, 1896."

The PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER then said: I think I might not have added a single word to what is contained in the address which has just been read. The address expresses what is foremost in the heart of every member of the lodge when he thinks of Bro. Harrop. But I cannot allow the occasion to pass without saying a few words of my own. Bro. Harrop was one of those who induced, and I will say emboldened, me to accept the position of Provincial Grand Master. We were then comparative strangers, but I was at once struck by the simplicity, geniality, and transparent honesty of Bro. Harrop and by the advice he then gave to me. Bro. Harrop appears before you to-night in a three-fold character; in the first place as a member of the lodge, secondly as Chairman of the Charity Committee of the Province—the province is truly grateful to him for accepting that position—in the third place he stands before you as a respected citizen of Huddersfield. There are other citizens who evince similar characteristics to those displayed by Bro. Harrop, for which they are rewarded by public honours, but the present occasion is the spontaneous effort and acknowledgment by his brethren to Bro. Harrop in his private life. My position is a difficult one. It is difficult, not to say what might be fulsome; it is difficult to leave out much one would like to have said; but if my position is a difficult one, what must Bro. Harrop's be to-night? Bro. Harrop has already celebrated his Masonic silver wedding, having been 26 years a member of this lodge. He joined it in 1870, and, after passing the offices of Junior and Senior Warden, he became Worshipful Master in 1875. Since that time his career has been one of active service in Freemasonry, and has never been blemished by a single spot. I feel privileged to be allowed to take part in this spontaneous expression of feeling. Bro. Harrop has my best wishes for his long life, health, and strength. May those dearest to him long continue to have the love and affection which his heart possesses, and may this lodge long have the benefit of his valuable services! I will now disclose the portrait of Bro. Harrop, which, I must say, is a truthful likeness. Brother Harrop, it is my great privilege to present this address and this portrait to you on behalf of your brethren. May you long live to remember, with heartfelt and agreeable satisfaction, this memorable occasion in the annals of Huddersfield Freemasonry!

Bro. W. HARROP, replying, said: It was written in old times that out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh. Well, my heart is very full to-night, and I feel utterly unable to express my feelings. I don't think that sentiment meant a man to make a long speech, but if the fulness of heart means "Thank you," I thank you most sincerely for the honour done me to-night. If I deserved all that has been said about me to-night, I should have done nothing more than tried to do my duty in any position in which I have been placed. It is 26 years since I joined this lodge, namely, in 1870. I was placed in office the year after, and, with one exception, I have held office every year since either in the lodge or in the chapter. I attained the summit of my ambition 21 years ago, when appointed Worshipful Master, and, though I have since held very high office in Provincial Grand Lodge, and am now the Chairman of the Charity Committee, still I always feel that the summit of my ambition was attained when I was made Worshipful Master of this lodge. Since then I have had a constant anxiety to see the Huddersfield Lodge second to none in the province. It is the third in point of numbers. There have been no arrears of subscriptions for many years. Its working and ritual cannot be excelled by any other lodge; others may be equally good but I claim that they cannot excel it. We have a number of good workers (and many of them have done more than I have, for instance, Bro. L. B. Brierley, P.M.), and a number of young members who are good workers and regular attenders. Few lodges have subscribed as freely to the Masonic Charities year after year as this, but there is a broader Charity in the lodge, a Charity which "Vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, seeketh not her own, and which never faileth." And this broader Charity has existed among the members of the lodge since I joined it and there has never been a jarring word among them. Brethren, I deeply feel your kindness to me. It has been said that it is better "to reign sovereign in the hearts and affections of men than to rule over their lives and fortunes." I desire to do the former, and to reign in your hearts and affections. I thank you, Prov. Grand Master, for the honour you have done me in coming here to-night, you Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and all the brethren for the kindness shown me to-night, which will always hold a place in my memory.

BRO. W. O. CLOUGH, P.M., M.P., proposed "The Visitors," and said: Having regard to the fact that several of our provincial guests must leave, I must be brief but brevity must not be accountable to any want of respect to their presence. We have 46 guests here to-night. First of all there is our Prov. Grand Master, who leaves the Councils of the nation all the poorer because he is unable to attend at the Board of State to help guide the ship through stormy waters. The stately dignity of the Law is present in Bro. his Honour Judge Cadman. East and west, north and south visitors have come to-night and we thank you for your presence, and if it were not that the limits of this building were circumscribed I am authorised to say the number would have been much larger. It was an Apostolic command to entertain strangers, and our lodge has not fallen short on the present occasion. Bro. Edward Armitage is unfortunately unable to come owing to his doctor's orders. Bro. Crosland Hirst is in the same position. But this gathering, great as it is, does not represent many others who would have been here had it been possible. Brethren, we are pleased to see you. I couple with the toast the names of Bro. Judge Cadman and Bro. Josh. Bottomley.

Bro. his Honor Judge CADMAN replied that he had been present with intense pleasure, and that every one of the visitors must have felt extreme gratification in being present. Most of the visitors knew Bro. Harrop personally, but if they knew him not before they know him now as one who has done his duty well. The thanks of all the visitors was due to them for being present at that lodge, which was reputed foremost in the province, and for assisting in the pleasant duty of the evening.

BRO. J. BOTTOMLEY, P.M. 275, P.P.G. Reg., also replied on behalf of the visitors from the other lodges in Huddersfield, and paid a compliment to Bro. Harrop.

The Provincial Grand Master then retired amidst applause, and the meeting shortly afterwards broke up.

The toast list was interspersed by music and songs contributed by Bros. Joshua Marshall, P.M., P.P.G.O.; Wm. Riley, P.M.; Ed. Haley, and Threapleton.

### PRESENTATION TO BRO. LORD HENNIKER.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge of the Province of Suffolk was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Ipswich, on Thursday, the 16th instant. The special object of the meeting was to make a presentation to the P.G.M., Bro. Lord Henniker, as an indication of the feeling of the members of the province on his appointment to the Governorship of the Isle of Man.

There was a fair attendance of members, and the presentation was made by the D.P.G.M., Bro. the Rev. C. J. MARTYN, who offered the P.G.M. very hearty congratulations on the appointment.

The gift consisted of a handsomely-illuminated album, containing a suitable inscription, and the signatures of the Masters and other officers of the province, a jewel of the office of P.G.M., and a pair of silver candlesticks for his lordship's library table.

Bro. Lord HENNIKER made appropriate acknowledgment of the presentation and the kind spirit which prompted it. His appointment to the Governorship of the Isle of Man would not, he said, necessitate the giving up of his office, and he hoped he should be able to continue his connection with the province for many years.

### PRESENTATION TO BRO. W. LAKE, ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY.

An interesting event took place on Wednesday, the 22nd instant, at Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, when Bro. Wm. Lake, Assistant Grand Sec., was presented with a cheque for £115 10s. and an illuminated address from numerous admirers and friends in recognition of valuable services rendered to the Craft as Editor of the *Freemason*. There was a numerous attendance of brethren to witness the presentation by Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., the President of the Testimonial Fund, who was supported by Bros. J. Leach Barrett, W.M. Cornish Lodge, and James Stephens, P.P.G.D., the Treasurer and Hon. Sec. respectively. The other brethren present included Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; G. Everett, P.G. Treas.; J. S. Cumberland, D.G.S.B.; S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.; Passmore Edwards, W. J. Mason, P.P.G.D.; J. J. Thomas, Prov. G. Treas. Bucks; W. A. Scurrah, Vice-Prest. Board Gen. Purps.; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. Boys; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org.; Captain T. C. Walls, P.G. Std. Br.; Will E. Chapman, W. J. Catling, W. Cleghorn, and E. Valeriani, P.M.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., in opening the proceedings, said they were all perfectly well aware of the reason that had brought them together—to show their respect for their worthy friend, Bro. W. Lake, who, until quite recently, filled the arduous post of Editor of the *Freemason*. They came there with two objects—first to express their gratitude to him for the unvarying courtesy shown in his position as Editor of the *Freemason*; and, secondly, to congratulate him most heartily on the high position he had attained as Assistant Grand Secretary in the Craft and Assistant Grand Scribe E. in Royal Arch Freemasonry. In this country it was not always necessary for the editor of a newspaper to sit with a revolver at his side to repel violence, but here and elsewhere an editor had a great deal of troublesome correspondence and a great many troublesome clients. An equal temperament was, therefore, a useful thing for an editor of a newspaper, and also a courteous manner to those with whom he had to deal. He (the Chairman) could say for himself that he had often invaded Bro. Lake's sanctum, and had always found, as he was sure they all had, he was received with the greatest kindness and the greatest attention as to any business. In making that presentation, it would be a pleasure to Bro. Lake to know that his services as editor were so far appreciated by their respected Bro. George Kenning that he made no charge for the printing, which came to many pounds, but did it all entirely gratuitously. That spoke volumes for the estimation in which Bro. Lake was held, and it was a great pleasure to those present to meet and make him a very tangible testimonial of the feelings they held for him. Mainly owing to the great exertions of Bro. James Stephens, who had acted as Hon. Secretary, and Bro. Leach Barrett, the Treasurer, he was in a position as Chairman to hand to Bro. Lake a cheque for £115 10s., a magnificent sum when it was considered that the maximum limit was one guinea. They were also able to present Bro. Lake with a handsome illuminated testimonial to go with the present. Of course, in handing that brother the cheque, they understood it was to be used exactly as he felt disposed. As was only natural, in Cornwall the testimonial was warmly taken up, and out of the total subscribed, over £30 came from that province. That would be gratifying, because if there was one thing they hoped to be in their own sphere, it was to be prophets in their own county, and they appreciated any form of appreciation coming from those with whom they had been intimately acquainted. He (the

Chairman) therefore handed to Bro. Lake the cheque for £115 10s., accompanied by their best wishes and heartiest congratulations.

Bro. JAS. STEPHENS then read the illuminated address, which was as follows: "To W. Bro. Wm. Lake, A.G. Sec., P.M. 131 and 2020, P.P.G. Reg. Cornwall.

"Dear Sir and W. Brother,—

"We are deputed by a number of your Masonic friends to beg your acceptance of the accompanying cheque for 110 guineas as a mark of appreciation of the uniform courtesy and valuable services rendered by you to the Craft in your late position as Editor of the *Freemason*. Your career as a journalist and your unceasing efforts on behalf of the best interests of our Order having marked you out for the position of Chief Clerk in the office of the Grand Secretary has culminated in the honourable distinction being conferred upon you of Assistant Grand Secretary to the Grand Lodge of England.

"We heartily congratulate you on having attained this high rank, for which we believe you are eminently fitted, and we trust the G.A.O.T.U. will be pleased to spare you for many years to discharge your onerous and important duties to the advantage of the Craft at large.

"On behalf of the numerous subscribers to the testimonial, yours faithfully and fraternally,

"C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., President.

"W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., Vice-President.

"J. LEACH BARRETT, Treas.

"JAS. STEPHENS, Hon. Sec."

Bro. W. LAKE, in reply, said: Bro. Chairman and Brethren,—I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all your kindness, and I should best consult my own feelings at this moment if I could be allowed to say that and nothing more, for I can assure you that no added words of mine could better express my thoughts, but I feel that the more than kind words you have just used, and the generous gift which has been handed to me demand something more than this. The address, although couched in much too flattering terms, I look upon as setting out what manner of Mason I ought to be, rather than what I have been. I admit at once that I have endeavoured to reach that standard, but nobody knows better than myself how short of it I have fallen. It has not been given to me to render much service to the Craft in the prominent field of Masonic ritual—in the presence of so many notable exponents of our beautiful ceremonies. I speak with all diffidence on this subject, neither has it been my good fortune to be enabled to support our Masonic Charities as I should have desired, but all important as this side of Masonry undoubtedly is, I hope I shall not be misunderstood when I say that the perfect rendering of the ceremonies and the support of the Charities do not sum up the whole duty of a Mason—there is that mysterious bond of brotherhood to be maintained, and there are a hundred ways in which a Mason can exemplify the principles of the Craft by extending to every brother that courtesy and ready help which, after all, go to make up the sum and substance of everyday Masonic life. In this direction I hope I have not fallen so far short of your estimate as in others, for I can honestly aver that during my long Masonic career, and especially during my connection with the *Freemason*, that I have endeavoured to be of some service to the Craft in helping to smooth over difficulties and in softening the asperities of controversy and opposition. I recognise most fully that the kindly words and the substantial gift accompanying those words, are more an expression of good feeling and personal regard than of any exceptional services that I have been able to render to the Craft. In this spirit I accept both with the utmost gratitude. I can only add that I hope in the position I now occupy I may still have opportunities for usefulness, and be able to ret in the goodwill of the brethren. I cannot sit down without thanking the Committee generally and you, Bro. Chairman, and the Secretary and Treasurer especially, for the kindly zeal and energy they have thrown into this matter. All who know our good Bro. Stephens need not be told by me how thoroughly he carries out everything he undertakes. Bro. Stephens's name spells success always, and my old friend and neighbour, Bro. Barrett, has also been most zealous. Nor must I forget my life-long friend, Bro. Hughan, to whom, I fear, must be accounted the original sin of having started the hare. I can only repeat my grateful thanks to all concerned.

Bro. PASSMORE EDWARDS, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said he must remark with all honesty that Bro. Keyser was a tower of strength and a model Chairman. He had never heard a speech more complete in its construction, more direct in its purpose, and more effective in its aim than that delivered by Bro. Keyser.

Bro. G. EVERETT, P.G. Treas., seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER acknowledged the compliment, and proposed a vote of thanks to Bros. Hughan, Vice-President; Jas. Stephens, Secretary; and J. L. Barrett, Treasurer of the Fund.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., in seconding the motion, said he could not resist adding his congratulations to those of the Chairman to Bro. Lake on what had taken place that day. There was one omission the Chairman had made, for he had congratulated Bro. Lake but not himself (Bro. Letchworth). He thought no one was more entitled to be congratulated than himself in having secured the services of so genial and competent a colleague, with whom it was a great pleasure to work, and with whom, he trusted, to be officially connected for very many years.

Bro. LEACH BARRETT returned thanks for the compliment, and was followed by Bro. JAMES STEPHENS, who said that having many irons in the fire he was reluctant to take the post of Secretary, but good counsels were brought to bear and he accepted. He, however, never contemplated that such a happy result would have been brought about. The Cornish motto was "one and all," and Bro. Lake was not merely "one and all" for his own countrymen, but for the multitude. Bro. Hughan had worked hard and had written to say he was pleased and proud of the result which was greater than he had anticipated.

Letters of regret for inability to attend were received from Bros. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Hocking, Sudlow, Jas. Terry, Hedges, Eastes, Colville, and Balfour Cockburn.

### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Miss Davis (Principal Governess) had the gratification of announcing this week to the House Committee at its monthly meeting the extremely satisfactory result of the December examination of the College of Preceptors. For this examination no less than 78 of the girls (excluding seniors who entered for the Cambridge Local) were sent up for examination, and of these 77 were successful. This will, we need not say, be very gratifying to the Governors and friends of the Institution. The result of the Cambridge Local Examination is not expected for another month.

### DEATHS.

SYMONDS—On the 20th inst., at Castle House, Bexley, Kent, John Symonds, in his 81st year.

STEVENS—On the 18th inst., at Evelyn, Catford, James Stevens, suddenly, in his 71st year.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1896.

**Masonic Notes.**

Deep and general sympathy will be felt by all classes and conditions of people with our gracious Sovereign, the Princess Beatrice, and the other members of the Royal Family in the sad and sudden loss they have sustained by the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg. The Queen and the Prince and Princesses of her house have endeared themselves to the nation by their numberless acts of kindness, and the services they have so willingly rendered at all times in promoting the welfare and happiness of the community, and at this moment, when they have been stricken with grief at the calamity which has befallen them, high and low, rich and poor, will vie with each other in the attempt to offer consolation, more especially to the widowed Princess and her children.

What intensifies the sorrow they must feel is the terrible suddenness with which the news has come upon them. According to the latest advices all was going well with Prince Henry. On Friday, the 17th instant, he embarked at Cape Coast Castle on one of her Majesty's cruisers for Madeira, there to recruit his health and strength. He had borne the passage through the surf satisfactorily, and as he was young and possessed a strong physique, there was every reason to hope that in a short time he would be enabled to return to England, and once again resume his place at the Court he had graced for the last 11 years as the husband of the Queen's youngest daughter.

But it has been ordained otherwise by the Supreme Ruler of all things. On Monday a relapse set in, and in a few hours the Prince breathed his last, to the consternation of those attending him. Our bloodless victory at Coomassie has been dearly purchased, seeing it has brought so grievous a calamity upon our beloved Queen and her family. May the Great Architect of the Universe endue them with strength to bear the great affliction by which for the moment they must be prostrated!

Quite a number of new lodges have been constituted within the last few days. Last week we published a full report of the consecration on the 15th inst. of the National Artillery Lodge, No. 2578, while in the present number will be found records of the proceedings at the consecration of the Borough Lodge, No. 2539, and the Prince Llewellyn Lodge, No. 2570, Cardiff, by Bro. Lord Llangattock, Prov. G.M. South Wales (Eastern Division), as well as of the Baliol Chapter, No. 1230, Barnard Castle, by Comp. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., Grand Superintendent for Durham. But this is not all. On Wednesday next, the 29th instant, the Old Priory Lodge, No. 2594, will be consecrated at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham. The ceremony will be performed, by dispensation of his Grace the Prov. Grand Master of Nottinghamshire, by Bro. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec., who will be assisted in his duties by Bro. his Honour Judge Masterman, D.C.L., P.G.D. Eng.; Bro. Lieut.-Col. William Newton, J.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. Notts; and other Officers of the Grand Lodge of England and Prov. Grand Lodge of Notts. The principal officers designate are Bros. Dr. W. Wright, P.M., P.Z., W.M.; Dr. W. J. Sprott, S.W.; and James Harrison, J.W. We trust the new lodge and those we have previously mentioned, as well as Chapter No. 1230, will have a long and prosperous career.

We beg to announce that the annual general meeting of the East Lancashire Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, at 3 p.m. on Monday next, the 27th instant, under the presidency of Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. The reports of the Financial and Audit and Almoners' Committees and the Treasurer's statement of account and balance-sheet will be submitted, and, if approved, adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The accounts for the past year will be exceptionally favourable, owing to the first festival ever held in behalf of the Institution having taken place in July last, when the total of donations and subscriptions was announced as amounting to upwards of £4000, a sum which, we understand, has since been very substantially increased.

It is our mournful duty to announce the death of Bro. James Stevens, P.M., P.Z. The sad event occurred quite suddenly on Saturday last, the 18th inst. Only a few days previously, our brother was, to all appearances, in the enjoyment of his usual health, and had arranged to repeat his lecture on "The Symbols of the Craft Degrees in Freemasonry," with limelight illustrations by Bro. W. C. Tyler, S.D. 862, which on a previous occasion—in November last—had been so greatly appreciated, in the Hornsey Lodge of Instruction, No. 890. We tender our most respectful sympathy to the widow and family in their great bereavement.

We deeply regret to learn, from the Proceedings of the Unrecognised Grand Lodge of New Zealand, at its half-yearly meeting, on the 30th October last, that Bro. T. Sherlock Graham, District Grand Master Otago, and Southland, under the English Constitution, in acknowledging receipt of sundry English lodge warrants returned to him by the Grand Secretary of the said Grand Lodge, should have considered it incumbent upon him to reply as discourteously as possible. The Rev. Bro. Ronaldson, in returning the warrants, was helping to remove a difficulty existing between the District Grand Lodge and some of its former lodges, and, under the circumstances, we think Bro. Graham would have done well to omit such expressions as "your honied phrases," "conduct exhibited (to your full knowledge) in offence against the dignity of the Grand Lodge of England." As for his statement that he will "proceed to deal with those particular Masters as directed, and leave the ultimate decision as to their Masonic fate" to the Grand Lodge of England, it strikes us as being silly in the extreme. These ex-Worshipful Masters have withdrawn from English Masonry, and, therefore, the fate reserved for them cannot seriously affect their position as New Zealand Masons.

It was a pleasant and successful meeting which was held under the auspices of Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., on Wednesday, when a testimonial, consisting of an address and cheque for 110 guineas, was presented to Bro. W. Lake, A.G. Sec., in recognition of the uniform courtesy he exhibited towards all he came in contact with, and the valuable services he had rendered to Freemasonry in various capacities, but more particularly as editor of this journal. A full report of the proceedings will be found in another column, and therefore it is unnecessary we should do more than offer Bro. Lake our most cordial congratulations on this recognition of his services to the Craft, and the high estimation in which he is held by all classes of the brethren. May he be spared for many years to enjoy that esteem and respect!

The duty, unfortunately, devolves upon us of chronicling the deaths of two Past Grand Officers who had attained to almost patriarchal age, and whose distinguished services to our Order were rendered many years ago, and long before many of the most prominent Masons of the present generation were initiated. The senior of these departed worthies was Bro. Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes, Bart., who was born in August, 1799, and was thus in his 97th year. The deceased had the reputation of being the oldest clergyman of the Church of England, while, as he was initiated as far back as 1819 in the Apollo University Lodge—now No. 357—Oxford, which was consecrated in that year, he had been a member of our Society for upwards of three quarters of a century, and we should say, with very little hesitation, that he must have been the oldest living Freemason. He held the office of Grand Chaplain of England from 1844 to 1846—that is half a century ago—while in 1841—when Berkshire was a Province by itself—he was appointed Prov. Grand Chaplain. From 1868 to 1874, he served as Deputy Prov. Grand Master of the late Province of Berks and Bucks; but it is needless to say that for some years past, owing to his very advanced age, he had taken no active part in Masonry. His death occurred on the morning of Thursday.

The other Past Grand Officer to whom we allude is Bro. John Symonds, who died on Monday last in the 81st year of his age. In 1861 Bro. Symonds was appointed Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies in Grand Lodge, and Grand Standard Bearer in Supreme Grand Chapter. He took a prominent part in the proceedings in Grand Lodge, and being a fluent and capable speaker, he was always able to command an attentive and oftentimes a sympathetic audience. But perhaps his most eminent services as a member of our Society were rendered to the Masonic Institutions. In 1858 he was appointed with Bro. the Rev. W. Lyall and Bro. Binckes, a Committee to revise the system of education in the Girls' School, while about the same time, and in conjunction with the same brethren, he was charged with a similar duty in respect of the Boys' School. He was also a Vice-President of the senior School and of the Benevolent Institution and a Vice-Patron of the Boys' School. Indeed, our Institutions have known no abler or more enthusiastic friend and supporter than the brother who departed this life on Monday full of years and enjoying to the full the esteem and respect of his brother Masons.

## Masonic Notes and Queries.

1079] "THE COSMOPOLITAN MASONIC CALENDAR, 1896."

This is an old and ever-welcome friend, as the years come and go. I remember well the first number, and now it is in its 26th year of publication. A complete set is a grand addition to any Masonic library, but most difficult to obtain, as the old issues disappear like "snow before the sun," and apparently are destroyed, because out of date. Yet, if brethren will keep their copies, they will be astonished to find how often the "back numbers" will be consulted for the names of Grand Officers of former years, particulars of lodge meetings, names, places, &c., of various Grand Lodges, and so on. The "Cosmo" has lately ceased to give the full information it formerly did as to the Grand Lodge of England, because the official Calendar ably discharges that duty, and thus the size is lessened, and so the price, the cost per copy now being only one shilling. For the Mark Grand Lodge and its Allied Degrees, the Ancient and Accepted Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland (fuller than usual this year), the Temple and Malta, the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine, and the Rosicrucian Society, &c., the "Cosmo" is indispensable and a never-failing guide. All the Grand Lodges in the universe, save England, are duly attended to in this annual (this time, however, Norway seems to have been overlooked, as it is distinct now from Sweden), and special prominence is given to Scotland and Ireland, and all the Degrees worked in those countries. There are some 200 pages of closely-printed matter, and in such a handy form, that our old friend cannot fail to be most useful to many thousands of Craftsmen who not only desire to know about the spread of Freemasonry in their own country, but take an intelligent interest in all that concerns the welfare of the Fraternity throughout the "Masonic world."

H.

### LADIES' NIGHT AT THE ECCLESTON LODGE, No. 1624.

The Eccleston Lodge—which claims to have been one of the first to introduce ladies to the festive board—still continues its successful career in this respect, and annually welcomes within its portals a large gathering of the fair sex, whose presence in search of pleasure and enjoyment never goes unrewarded. The ladies' night of the present season was quite up to the standard of its many predecessors, and was in every respect a most successful and enjoyable function. It was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., when the guests received a cordial welcome on their arrival from the W.M., Bro. W. Beresford Pugh, who was accompanied by Mrs. Pugh. The visitors had an opportunity of inspecting the lodge room—where lodge had been previously formally opened and closed—many of the ladies evincing evident interest in the furniture and accessories.

The company then adjourned to the Victoria Hall, where an excellent banquet was well served and heartily enjoyed.

A few toasts were subsequently given, the *post-prandial* speeches being necessarily short owing to the desire to commence the programme of dances. "The Queen and the Craft" having been loyally honoured, the W.M. gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and alluded to the great interest taken by his Royal Highness in Freemasonry.

"The Grand Officers" was next given, after which

Bro. F. ARNOLD, P.M., in cordial terms proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He said that Bro. Pugh, W.M., not only had the best interests of the lodge at heart, but at all times exerted his utmost endeavours to conduce to its welfare, and represent it at the Masonic Institutions. The Worshipful Master had been recently married, and was installed into the chair soon after his return from his honeymoon, so that any shortcomings would doubtless be overlooked. The Worshipful Master was an excellent worker, but subject to nervousness, which would disappear now that he was married. That would be a favourable opportunity of wishing Bro. and Mrs. Pugh every possible happiness and prosperity.

Bro. W. BERESFORD PUGH, W.M., expressed his obligation to Bro. Arnold for his kind remarks. He hoped the brethren would find some work for him during his year of office, in order that he might have an opportunity of showing what he could do. He would not detain them with a long speech, as there were many ladies present longing for a dance. He would simply say he thanked them most sincerely.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, in submitting "The Past Masters and Officers," said the P.Ms. were some of the finest Masons that ever lived. If it had not been for the P.Ms. he should not be occupying his present position, for they had taught him everything he knew in Masonry. They had a body of officers equal to any lodge in London, and these brethren would show their quality whenever opportunities occurred.

Bro. C. TAYLOR, P.M., returned thanks for the kind reception given the toast. The P.Ms. always carried out their duties to the best of their ability, which could also be said of the officers.

Bro. HOOPER, P.M., said he felt it was due to the kindness of the W.M. rather than to their merits that he had been called upon to repeat what Bro. Taylor had already so admirably expressed. So long as the lodge could muster such gatherings as they had that night, so long would the lodge be in a prosperous and successful condition.

Bro. I. ISAACS, P.M., Treas., responded for "The Treasurer and Secretary," and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a good meeting. He was pleased to inform all those interested in the lodge that it was in a very prosperous condition. He wished the ladies and gentlemen who were not concerned with the Craft to understand that it was not merely for the sake of "wining and dining" they were together. Freemasonry did not consist altogether in enjoying themselves, for there was one great essential thing connected with the Order that should emanate from every human breast, and that was the cause of Charity. If the brethren only continued to support the Institutions, the outside world could then say there was something in Masonry after all.

Bro. A. W. BECKHAM, Sec., in response, said that that meeting had caused him more trouble than all the ordinary meetings of the lodge. It was, however, a great pleasure to him to help all he could, and he believed he stood as well in their good opinion as he did 21 years ago. He was pleased to see so many ladies present. He hoped the lodge would continue to prosper, which it was bound to do with a good W.M. and officers.

"The Ladies and Visitors" was then submitted by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who said that Masonic lodges could not go on without visitors. The lodge cordially welcomed the ladies that evening and hoped they would thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Bros. WOODROW and YOUNGER, and Mr. MEADS responded in suitable terms.

The company then proceeded to the ball-room, where a programme of 18 dances was gone through. The music was supplied by Bro. F. W. Middleditch's band, the M.Cs. being Bros. C. Taylor, P.M., and W. J. Hillyar, and Mr. G. Longworth. The early hours of the morning were well advanced before the company separated, after having spent a most enjoyable evening, and the Eccleston Lodge having scored another success.

The ladies and brethren present included Bro. and Mrs. W. B. Pugh; Bro. and Mrs. T. Salter; Bro. and Mrs. W. T. Smith; Bro. and Mrs. Isaacs; Bro. and Miss Beckham; Bros. G. Lane, W. E. Lane, E. J. Badderly, C. Taylor, and J. Whalen; Bro. and Miss Craiger, and Miss Body; Bro. and Mrs. A. W. Deacons; Bros. Hooper, P.M., and Tibbatts, P.M.; Bro. and Mrs. Scarman, and many others.

### BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Robert Grey, President, in the chair. Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President, were in their respective places. Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., W. Dodd, W. H. Lee, and H. Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the Grand Secretary's department. The other brethren present were:

Bros. J. H. Matthews, T. W. Whitmarsh, Henry Garrod, Charles Dairy, Geo. B. Chapman, W. Fisher, James Bunker, George Read, Charles J. R. Tijou, William Vincent, George R. Langley, W. Kipps, Ralph Gooding, M.D., Charles E. Keyser, S. H. Goldschmidt, Robert A. Gowan, Walter Martin, A. E. Hubert, Henry A. Tobias, Havelock Collins, Frederick H. King, Joseph Mansfield, A. H. Lilley, Felix Kite, John Dorton, Charles G. Marcus, George Brown, H. Hooper, W. J. Stahlschmidt, W. B. Fendick, H. Massey, A. E. Reade, Richard A. Gedny, W. Harris, James George Thomas, James Joseph Hall, Henry Salter, Thos. Tully, J. Gibson, W. C. Thomas, Frederick A. Lewis, J. Hands, Thomas R. Cass, Hiram Davis, William E. Wigwood, C. H. Webb, A. Watts, S. G. Bonner, E. W. Nightingale, W. T. Christian and G. Booker.

The PRESIDENT, after the Board had been opened and before the proceedings of the evening commenced, referring to the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, said: I feel sure you would wish, as members of this Board, this being, perhaps, the first Masonic body that has met since the sad news reached this country, that we should express our heartfelt sympathy in their sorrow with her Majesty the Queen, our Patroness, with our Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, and, above all, with the widow of the Prince who has just sacrificed his life for this country. I feel that you would wish that some notice should be taken of this, and that it should be recorded that we, loyal Masons, sympathise with our Queen and our Grand Master in their troubles as we rejoice with them in their joys. I am sure this Board will endorse what I have said.

The Board, which was very numerously attended, received these remarks with general approbation.

The brethren then confirmed recommendations made at the meeting of December, 1895 to the Grand Master to the amount of £320. There were 43 cases on the new list, accredited from lodges in the London district, and at Winchester, Aspatria, Pembroke Dock, Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle-on-Tyne, North Shields, Middlesbrough, Cambridge, Aberystwith, Walthamstow, Alton, Walcott, Canterbury, Maidstone, Shipley Gate, Birmingham, Ryde, Margate, Ramsgate, Truro, Stonehouse, and Grand Lodge Netherlands. Five of these were deferred. No case was dismissed. Thirty-eight petitioners were relieved with a total of £892. Grand Lodge was recommended to make one grant of £50, and the Grand Master was recommended to make six grants of £40 each, and seven of £30 each. Immediate grants were made of £20 each in 16 cases, £15 in one case, £10 in five cases, and two grants were made, one of £5 and one of £2.

### SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

The Grand Lodge of All Scottish Freemasons in India met at Freemasons' Hall, Byculla, Bombay, on Saturday, the 30th November last, for the purpose of celebrating St. Andrew's Festival. Bro. Smith, M.W.G.M., presided, and there was a full attendance of brethren on the occasion.

Grand Lodge having been opened and the representatives of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay (E.C.) received and welcomed, the M.W.G.M. invested the following as Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. W. L. Harvey	...	G. Master Depute.
" Nowrojee Gwyder	...	Sub. G. Master.
" Lieut. W. J. Analtongh	...	S.G. Wardens.
" Arden F. Solon	...	
" G. P. Willett	...	J.G. Warden.
" Capt. C. W. Weir	...	G. Secretary.
" Ruston M. Chichgur	...	G. Treasurer.
" Rev. J. Dunlop	...	G. Chaplain.
" B. S. Kapordia	...	J.G. Deacon.
" T. G. Sweeny	...	Asst. G. Dir. of Cers.
" H. J. Gordon	...	G. Swd. Bearer.
" A. G. Fellows	...	G. Organist.
" H. I. Vakilna	...	G. Prest. Stwds.
" W. Pickering	...	G. Vice-Prest. Stwds.
" Lieut. G. Milne	...	Asst. G. Marshal.
" W. Wrigley	...	G. Pursuivant.
" C. M. Mehta	...	Asst. G. Purst.
" W. B. T. Hack	...	G. Stewards.
" F. Hogan	...	
" A. P. Nansvati	...	
" S. S. Battiwalla	...	G. Tyler.
" J. W. Watson	...	

When the remaining business had been disposed of, Bro. W. L. HARVEY, G.M. Depute, rose, and after a few preliminary remarks, read the following address:

"We, the undersigned, on behalf of the Scottish Freemasons under your jurisdiction, approach you, Most Worshipful Sir, with our most hearty congratulations on your marriage.

"The urbanity, tact, judgment, and ability with which you have discharged the responsible duties of the office of Grand Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, have won for you the esteem and regard of all under your rule.

"As a proof of this regard Scottish Masons from all parts of India have subscribed to make you a present on this auspicious occasion, and acting on their behalf we beg your acceptance of this jug and salver, together with a carriage, as a wedding gift.

"In conclusion, we pray that T.G.A.O.T.U. will be pleased to grant you and your bride every happiness and may you both be spared for many years to enjoy the blessing of domestic felicity."

Signed by W. L. Harvey, K. R. Cama, D. R. Chichgur, R. V. Reid, A. W. Seabrook, P. B. Wadia, Mirza Hossain Khan, and C. D. More.

The address, which was handsomely engraved and illuminated on parchment and bound in green morocco, was then presented with the jug and salver to the M.W.G.M., who, in acknowledgment, gave expression to the pleasure he experienced on the occasion. He thanked them most heartily for their kind congratulations and good wishes towards himself and his wife, and on his return home it would be his duty to bring these to her notice, and he felt sure that when she heard what had passed she would entertain even stronger feelings of regard for the Masonic brotherhood than she had felt previously. He should have been perfectly certain of the goodwill and esteem of the brethren as expressed in the address, but supported as they were by the accompanying handsome and valuable presents, there could be no room for doubt as the reality of their kindness.

Grand Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where dinner was served to about 50 guests.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, that of "The Grand Master," which was proposed by Bro. W. L. HARVEY, G.M. Depute, being received with the greatest enthusiasm, and most gracefully acknowledged by Bro. SMITH.

The toast of "The Dist. G. Lodge of Bombay (E.C.), with the Duke of Cornwall, Dist. G.M., and his Excellency Lord Sandhurst, Pro D.G.M.," was among the other toasts proposed by the G.M., and was briefly acknowledged by Bro. H. W. BARROW, Past Dep. Dist. G.M.

### Craft Masonry.

#### Derwent Lodge, No. 40.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Castle Hotel, Hastings, on Monday, the 13th inst. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. C. J. Ticehurst. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, and the balance-sheet, which showed the lodge to be in a thoroughly good financial position, was received and adopted. Bro. L. J. Jukes was then installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was performed in a most able manner by Bro. G. H. Gaze, I.P.M., assisted by Bros. C. W. Duke, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Botley, P.M.; and G. Randall, P.M., Prov. A.G.D.C. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. C. J. Ticehurst, I.P.M.; E. J. McCormick, S.W.; H. Boyce, J.W.; F. Rossiter, P.M., P.P.G.D.; Treas.: F. C. Edwards, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; Sec.: C. E. Botley, P.M., 1996, S.D.; T. Southcombe, J.D.; C. W. Duke, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., D.C.;

G. Randall, P.M., Prov. A.G.D.C., A.D.C.; J. B. Guy, Org.; A. Jones, I.G.; and H. A. Stratford and H. E. Smith, Stewards. A handsome gold Past Master's jewel was presented to the outgoing W.M. as a slight recognition by the brethren of his much valued zeal and ability in discharging the duties of W.M. during the past year.

The business of the meeting being ended, the brethren sat down to a banquet served in Bro. Boyce's best style.

The usual Masonic toasts were given, and a most convivial evening spent.

The musical arrangements, which gave great satisfaction, were under the direction of Bro. J. B. Guy, Assoc. Voc. T.C.L., Organist of the lodge.

Among those present in addition to those above mentioned were Bros. Freeman, P.M., Prov. G.S., P.G.D.; W. H. Russell, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. H. Cole, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Pearce, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Pattick, P.M., P.P.G. Chap.; C. M. Norris, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Lamborn, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Harvey, P.M.; J. B. Foster, P.M., 1184; Moore, W.M., 38; F. Duke, J.W., 1842; T. J. Lyne, W.M., 851; P. L. Hurst, W.M., 811; F. G. Ticehurst, W.M., 1184; H. Colgate, W.M., 916; W. R. Griffin, S.W., 2483; H. W. Ruff, P.M., 95; C. F. Baker, 1885; J. Wilson, 1208; A. S. Randle, W. Bourn, J. Inman, P. Beer, and others.

#### Unity Lodge, No. 132.

The installation meeting of this ancient and successful lodge was held on the 9th instant at the New Masonic Hall, Ringwood, which has been recently built, the lodge having outgrown its recent abode for some time, and the Hall having only been opened in October, this was consequently the first installation meeting held therein, and showed that it was most comfortable in every way. A goodly number of Prov. G. Officers and brethren were present to witness the ceremony of installing Bro. S. Minty.

The lodge being opened, and Messrs. J. C. Baines and G. Roberts duly initiated, Bro. Atkins, 195, 1764, proceeded with the installation ceremony, which he conducted in a most effective and impressive manner, to the mutual admiration of all present. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. F. A. Lane, I.P.M.; J. T. Fisher, S.W.; F. Hibbs, J.W.; A. T. Hicks, Treas.; W. Farrance, Sec.; J. C. Webber, D.C.; H. A. Woolf, S.D.; A. Macklin, J.D.; W. G. Abbott, I.G.; C. Wilkes, Org.; and A. Kitcher and J. W. Davis, Stwds. The W.M. then presented Bro. Lane with a handsome Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his ability in conducting the duties of the chair so successfully during his year of office.

Hearty greetings having been given by all the visiting brethren from their respective lodges, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet hall, where a sumptuous repast, which reflected great credit upon the caterer, was greatly appreciated.

The menu, which was a most substantial one, being got through, the W.M. gave the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

The W.M. then gave the toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Dep. G.M., and the rest of the G. and Officers, Present and Past," to which Bro. L. Harris, P.G.S., responded very suitably.

Bro. Johns proposed "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, W. W. B. Beach, M.P.; the W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, J. E. Le Feuvre; and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past," which was acknowledged very suitably by Bro. J. J. Brazier, P.M., 2208, P.S.G.D., and Bro. G. H. Rolls, P.P.G.S.B.

The toast of "The W.M." was then given by Bro. Cutler, J.W., 195, in a most hearty manner and in highly complimentary terms.

The W.M. responded, expressing his gratitude to Bro. Cutler and all the brethren for giving him such a hearty reception of the toast and their generous support on the present occasion, and thought Bro. Cutler had alluded to him in most flattering terms, and he wished to assure the brethren that nothing should be wanting on his part to endeavour to carry the duties of the chair to a successful issue, as he was sure of the generous support and assistance of the Past Masters and his officers, and that he would do all in his power to further the interests of the lodge and the Craft.

Bro. Fisher next gave the toast of "The I.P.M. and Past Masters of the Lodge," which was suitably responded to by Bros. W. B. Lane, I.P.M., and Webber.

Bro. Wilkes then proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. H. J. Atkins, P.M., 195, 1764, P.P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts," in very eulogistic terms, saying he felt sure the brethren had all been very much impressed by the very admirable manner in which he had performed the ceremony, and was sure the brethren all accorded him their best thanks for the very impressive address they had all had the pleasure to listen to.

Bro. Atkins suitably acknowledged the toast, and said it gave him very great pleasure indeed to come to the very ancient Lodge Unity to perform the ceremony, and as it was not the first time he had performed that ceremony in that lodge, he hoped it might not be the last, and took that opportunity to congratulate the brethren upon the very comfortable and spacious lodge they now possessed, and wished the W.M. a most successful year of office.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Bros. G. H. Rolls, P.P.G.S.B., who stated that Lodge Unity was always pleased to receive visiting brethren, and they were pleased to see so many visiting them that evening.

Bro. F. Oakley, 137, responded in suitable terms as to the very hospitable manner in which he, with other brethren, was always received when visiting Lodge Unity.

The toast of "The Initiates" was next proposed by Bro. J. C. Webber, P.P.G. Std. Br., and was received with general acclamation, the brethren giving them a most cordial welcome into their midst.

And was responded to by Bros. J. C. Baines and G. Roberts, both testifying as to the very interesting ceremony they had been conducted through, and to the great impression made upon them by the same, which augured well for the further interest they felt they should take as they proceeded further into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry.

Bro. Ward, P.P.S.G.D., next proposed "The Masonic Charities," and very ably enlarged upon the great amount of good being done by them throughout the country, both by the three great Central Charities, and by the numerous local Charities belonging to different provinces, but he would leave Bro. Farrance, Provincial Charity Representative, to give them further details as to what had been done.

Bro. Farrance, P.P.G.S.B., Life Governor of R.M. Benevolent Institution, and also the R.M. Institution for Girls, responded, and said it gave him a considerable deal of pleasure, as they had several new members amongst them since last year, he felt it as well a duty to inform them of the great amount of good done by the Girls' and Boys' Schools in educating the children to a high state of proficiency, and reflecting the highest credit upon the Institutions. In many instances these had achieved eminent success in after-life. He also felt it a duty to testify to the beneficent work being done by the Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows, by which many an aged brother and unprovided-for widow have been relieved from distress, and their closing years rendered happy and comfortable. He then gave the amount of the donations and subscriptions for the past year to the Institutions mentioned—for the Girls' School, £18,211; for the Boys' School, £22,696 18s.; and for the Benevolent Institution, £21,720 10s.; total £62,628 9s., rather less than last year, when the sum was £65,012 7s., and, taking the total for the last seven years, no less a sum than £443,906. The Board of Benevolence had also relieved during the year 373 cases, which received the sum of £8745. For the benefit of the younger brethren, he also stated that those splendid amounts were independent of the local Charities attached to a great many of the provinces throughout the kingdom, of which the Province of Hants and the Isle of Wight possessed a very flourishing Educational and Benevolent Institution, which was doing good work among the children of the province, besides individual lodges granting immediate temporary relief when necessary. These facts would convince the outside world and the ignorant of the Order that they were not merely what they were sometimes called—a social and convivial society. It was true they had their times of conviviality, those being but secondary parts of their Order, as the reports of their Charitable Institutions testified, and proved that the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart was Charity. That was, as it were, the watchword of their Order, being no unmeaning cry, but a substantial reality, that they did minister to the wants of their poor, distressed brethren, their widows, and helpless orphans, and that all was done without degrading the recipient, and that, judging by results, their Charities were the best managed and most successful organisations in existence, and that, with the knowledge of these facts, the best feelings of the heart were awakened to acts of benevolence and Charity, to the lasting advantage of their Institutions, and to the realisation on the part of the givers that in very deed it is more blessed to give than to receive.

The next toast—"The Officers of the Lodge"—was given by the W.M., who stated he felt sure the officers appointed that evening would do their duty in supporting him during his year of office.



Bro. Hicks, Treas., responded, stating that he would do as he always had done in the past—his best for the lodge. Bro. Davis also suitably responded.

The pleasures of the evening were considerably enhanced by being interspersed with vocal selections by the Bohemian Quartette, through the kindness of Bro. J. C. Webber.

The following brethren were present: Bros. S. Minty, F. A. Lane, C. Wilkes, J. Fisher, A. T. Hicks, Treas.; W. Farrance, Sec.; J. C. Webber, D.C.; F. Hibbs, H. A. Woff, A. Macklin, W. G. Abbott, A. F. Kitcher, W. E. Arthur, A. W. Ward, P.M.; F. A. Johns, P.M.; G. H. Rolfs, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Phillips, P.M.; S. B. Morse, P.M.; F. Walden, P.M.; D. Galbraith, J. W. Davis, W. E. Alexander, T. Brooker, O. H. Wood, W. P. Stickland, T. Bartlett, R. Homewood, E. J. Morgan, H. J. Curtis, G. M. Smucker, F. Everett, F. H. Withers, F. G. Travers, E. J. Cove, H. Potter, J. Brack, A. Owen, C. H. Frampton, and others. Visitors: Bros. H. I. Atkins, P.M., 195, 1764, P.P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts; J. J. Brazier, P.M., 2208, P.S.G.D.; L. Harris, P.G.D.; E. Whitley Baker, 622; F. Oakley, 137; A. Bist, 319; and F. J. Cutler, J.W., 195.

#### Perpetual Friendship Lodge, No. 135.

The above lodge celebrated the annual Festival of St. John in the Masonic Rooms, Royal Clarence Hotel, Bridgwater, on Monday, the 6th inst., when the following were installed in the various offices, Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M., and Past Grand Deacon England, being the Installing Master, viz.: Bros. W. T. Baker, P.M., W.M.; R. H. Garion, I.P.M.; T. Kelway, S.W.; W. Belcher, J.W.; D. Burston, Chap.; J. C. Hunt, Treas.; J. B. Soper, Sec.; C. E. Hagon, S.D.; E. R. Babbage, J.D.; A. B. Cottam, D.C.; B. Norris, Organist; E. G. Boulting, I.G.; E. W. Helps and G. Leigh, Stwds.; and J. MacGowan, Almoner and Tyler.

The following visitors were present: Bros. J. H. Sharpe, W.M., 291; W. H. Westlake, P.M., 261 and 1966; R. U. Hartnell, W.M., 261; G. Spiller, Stwd., 261; J. Burnett, 291, P.P.S.G.W.; T. F. Braithwaite, 119, P.G.S.; H. M. Kemmis, P.M., 291; and Rev. F. B. Smith, J.W., 329 and 680.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, the customary banquet was held in the Banquet Hall of the Royal Clarence Hotel.

#### Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 353.

The 78th annual festival and installation meeting of this lodge was held (by dispensation of the D.P.G.M.) in the Masonic Hall, Burton-on-Trent, on Monday, the 13th instant, and was well attended by distinguished brethren from Derbyshire and adjoining provinces. The lodge was opened by Bro. G. A. Capes, W.M., assisted by his officers, and Bro. W. H. Salter, S.W. and W.M. elect, was duly installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. A. Fox, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., D.C., the charge to the W.M. being given by Bro. C. F. Chamberlin, P.M., P.S.G.W., Sec., and that to the Wardens by Bro. G. Tarver, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the following as his officers, viz.: Bros. G. A. Capes, I.P.M.; W. Baker, S.W.; T. Hearn, J.W.; W. J. Drewry, P.M., Treas.; C. F. Chamberlin, P.M., P.S.G.W., Sec.; W. Bennett, S.D.; A. R. Price, J.D.; A. Fox, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., D.C.; W. C. Riley, Org.; J. Reden, I.G.; F. Madeley, J. B. Starbuck, R. B. Foster, and J. Ashwood, Stwds.; and E. Howes, Tyler; Bro. G. Tarver, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., being appointed Charity Representative of the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee.

The lodge was then closed, when the brethren, to the number of about 50, adjourned to the dining hall, where the usual installation banquet took place under the presidency of Bro. S. Itt.

Bro. T. Hearne, the caterer, provided a first-class menu, which gave every satisfaction, and he was deservedly complimented for the manner in which the arrangements were carried out.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to.

The pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by songs, recitations, &c., contributed by several brethren.

Bro. Salter was heartily congratulated on his election to the high office of Master of his lodge.

The brethren present included: Bros. C. F. Chamberlin, P.M., P.S.G.W.; W. J. Gothard, P.M., P.P.G.P.; G. A. Taverner, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; W. Walters, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; J. R. Cain, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; J. C. Webb, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Fisher, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; E. Stockton, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. Fox, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; and G. Tarver, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Visitors: Bros. T. Cox, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Wood, P.M., 624, P.P.S.G.D. Staffordshire; E. Horne, P.M., 731, P.P.G. Reg.; W. J. Stone, P.M., 1060, P.P.G.D.C. Staffordshire; Rev. J. T. W. Claridge, P.M., 1060, P.P.G.C. Salop; F. Gothard, W.M., 624; H. Rugg, I.P.M., 624; A. J. Roberts, S.W., W.M. elect 624; J. W. Squire, J.W., 624; and others.

#### Doric Lodge, No. 362.

The annual installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 2nd inst., at the Masonic Chambers, St. Peter's-hill, Grantham. Bro. James Rayner, who was elected at the meeting of the previous lodge, was installed W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro. Captain B. H. Russell, P.P.A.G.D.C. The following were appointed and invested officers for the ensuing year: Bros. H. H. Garton, I.P.M.; R. F. M. White, S.W.; T. Vincent, J.W.; the Rev. H. W. Hall, Chap.; E. T. Wigelsworth, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; W. W. Wright, Sec.; W. H. Lincoln, S.D.; C. James, J.D.; B. Beeson, P.M., Charity Stwd., D. of C.; W. Heaton, I.G.; W. S. Wilson, Almoner; R. T. Back, Organist; J. T. Hockley and Jeffrey Smith, Stwds.; T. Jackson, Tyler (invested for the 37th year); and C. Lockton, Assistant Tyler.

The annual banquet was afterwards held at the George Hotel, when there was a good attendance, guests being present from Lincoln, Sleaford, Peterborough, Bourn, Market Rasen, Nottingham, the Cape of Good Hope, and New Zealand lodges.

The usual Masonic toasts were given, while songs were interspersed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

The front part of the menu cards was specially prepared for the occasion, being quite a work of art. It was said to be a reproduction of a card in use in the Doric Lodge about a century ago.

#### Wellington Lodge, No. 548.

The installation meeting was held at Cannon-street Hotel, E.C., on Wednesday, the 8th inst. The W.M., Bro. J. Macgregor, occupied the chair, and over 30 brethren were present. Among the visitors were Bros. Ralph Gooding, Grand Stewards' Lodge, P.S.G.D.; Dr. Visger, W.M., 1588; W. Harding, P.M., 2168; C. Howlett, S.W., 1929; H. Christie, 1361; and C. J. Ozanne, P.M., 1765.

The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Riminton, was very ably performed by Bro. Macgregor, after which the W.M. appointed his officers as follows: Bros. H. W. Wyburn, S.W.; F. Jones, J.W.; W. Jones, P.M., Treas.; A. Holmes, P.M., Sec.; D. Jackson, S.D.; T. C. Hyslop, J.D.; and H. Groves, I.G.

After the usual "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room.

The toast of "Her Majesty" was proposed, and very loyally responded to.

"The M.W.G.M." was proposed, and very loudly responded to by the whole of the brethren.

"The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was next proposed.

Bro. Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D., &c., who was most enthusiastically received, said, in response, he could not but contrast the present unsettled state of European and American politics, with all their bitter inveiglements, with the placidity of Masonic life. With apt simile, he compared the unanimity and love throughout the Craft with the murmurings of the outside world, and urged upon the brethren assembled the necessity for furthering the noble objects of the Craft. He continued, in eulogistic terms, to praise the present government of Freemasonry, especially the M.W.G.M., who was a hard worker not only in his everyday life, but in the interests of the Craft. He then returned thanks for the way in which the toast of the Grand Officers had been received, and expressed the pleasure he had felt at witnessing the ceremony of installation so ably performed by Bro. Macgregor, I.P.M. It was five years since he had had the honour of visiting the lodge, and he was sensible of the fact that the lodge had grown in numbers, and had made most marked improvement in its work.

#### Dobie Lodge, No. 889.

At the meeting on the 15th inst., at the Kingston Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames, there was the now usually good attendance of members, with several visitors, and plenty of work to be done. Lodge was opened by Bro. Long, P.M., the "father" of the lodge, who occupied the Master's chair until the candidate for the Third Degree had been proved, when he gave way to Bro. Levy, P.M., by whom the ceremony of raising was performed. That done, the W.M., Bro. Tom. Wilkinson, who had travelled up from Dorsetshire in order to be present, was ready to take on the work which remained, consisting of a passing and an initiation, both ceremonies being well gone through. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year went, by a unanimous ballot, in favour of Bro. Arthur Watkin, whose rise in Masonry has been extraordinarily rapid, seeing that he was only initiated in March, 1892. He owes his advancement entirely to the assiduity with which he applied himself to acquiring knowledge of the Craft and of the duties of officers. Bro. John Drewett was re-elected Treasurer, and a Past Master's jewel was voted to the outgoing Master. Two candidates for initiation and one for joining were proposed.

After a full measure of work, the brethren enjoyed the refreshment which followed.

We may add that the lodge will send a Steward to the Boys' School Festival and also to the Girls', the W.M. elect and W.M. having respectively expressed a wish to go up.

#### St. Kew Lodge, No. 1222.

The annual festival in connection with the above lodge was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, when Bro. John Cooper was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The new W.M. was introduced by Bros. Dr. Wicksteed and W. E. Perrett, jun., his proposer and seconder respectively at his initiation nine years ago. The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. W. H. Webb, I.P.M. After the installation, the W.M. invested the following brethren with collars of office for the year: Bros. R. J. Dart, S.W.; J. J. Lovell, J.W.; Rev. E. J. Morris, Chap.; E. E. Baker, Treas.; W. E. Perrett, Sec.; W. C. Thomas, S.D.; S. J. Wilde, J.D.; W. H. Wooller, D.C.; A. W. Franklin, Org.; E. G. Lalonde, I.G.; T. Cogle, Almoner; T. Cox and E. G. Huntley, Stewards; and C. Cornelius, Tyler.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, the customary banquet was held.

Among the visitors present were Bros. R. C. Else, P.G.D. Eng., D.P.G.M.; F. W. S. Wicksteed, P.P.J.G.W.; H. S. Newnham, 1750; B. S. Leech, Hyndman, and Foster.

#### Anchor Lodge, No. 1337.

The celebration of the annual festival and installation of the W.M. took place recently, in the Masonic Lodge Room at Northallerton, and additional interest was lent to the proceedings by the fact that the lodge celebrated its 25th, or silver, anniversary. There was a very large attendance at the celebration, including Bros. C. R. Waistell, W.M.; C. Palliser, P.M.; W. Stead, P.M.; J. Ward, P.M.; W. Bell, P.M.; G. J. Robinson, P.M.; C. Tweedy, P.M.; J. S. Walton, P.M., S.W.; Rev. E. Richards, Chap.; Dr. Lovegrove, J. Vasey, C. Hodgson, J. Henrici, Geo. Atlay, W. Russell, jun., and E. Wilkinson. The visitors included Bros. S. W. Close, P.M., 1011, P.P.G.S.B.; A. G. Western, P.M., 1037, P.P.G.O.; W. Hodgson, W.M., 949, P.P.G.D.; H. Cheetham, W.M., 809; J. H. Smithson, P.M., 940; J. Holt, P.M., 809, P.P.G.P. Durham; C. H. Backhouse, P.M., 111, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Todd, P.M., 236, G. Std. Br. England; M. Bryson, W.M., 236; F. E. Rudd, 1416; J. Kemp, 1416; W. W. Hall, P.M., 1416; J. S. Farmery, 1416; and others.

The ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. Joseph Todd, P.M., P.G. Treas., G. Std. Br. England. After the ceremony, the newly-installed W.M., Bro. J. S. Walton, invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. C. R. Waistell, I.P.M.; G. J. Robinson, P.M., S.W.; C. Hodgson, J.W.; Rev. E. Richards, Chap.; James Vasey, Treas.; W. Bell, P.M., Sec.; A. E. Bartrum, S.D.; A. C. A. Lovegrove, J.D.; W. Stead, P.M., D.C.; C. Tweedy, P.M., Org.; J. Naylor, I.G.; and Atlay and J. Ward, Stewards. Bro. E. Wilkinson was elected Tyler for the 25th year in succession.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where a splendid repast was served by Mr. W. S. Warren, of the Old Golden Lion Hotel.

Bro. J. S. Walton, W.M., presided, and the vice-chairs were taken by Bros. G. J. Robinson, P.M., S.W., and C. Hodgson, J.W.

The W.M. then proposed "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft," which was heartily drunk, the brethren all joining in singing the National Anthem.

The W.M. then gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master of England."

The W.M. then submitted "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Pro Grand Master; the R.W. the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, R.W. Deputy Grand Master; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." They all knew that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had attended to his duties to the entire satisfaction of every member of the Craft. With regard to the other Grand Lodge Officers, they paid great attention to their duties. It was his pleasure to couple with the toast the name of a worthy provincial officer, viz., Bro. Jos. Todd, P.M., G. Std. Br. Eng.

After the toast had been drunk with full Masonic honours,

Bro. Todd, who was applauded, said he felt very highly the honour they had done him by coupling his name with so important a toast. It had been his privilege to have been present at many meetings of the Anchor Lodge, but he had never been present at a more auspicious gathering. He could assure them that the position of a Grand Officer was not by any means an ornamental office, as there was a great deal of work to do. He complimented the brethren of the Anchor Lodge upon their choice of a Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, as he had known Bro. Walton for a great number of years. He hoped that he might have the pleasure of being with them during the Mastership of Dr. Walton and on many future occasions. He thanked them heartily for the capital reception they had given him.

Bro. Charles Tweedy, P.M., proposed "The R.W. the Marquis of Zetland, Provincial Grand Master of North and East Yorkshire, and the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past." The Marquis of Zetland had set a good example to every Freemason in the province. With the toast he had pleasure in coupling the name of Bro. C. Palliser, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks., who was one of the founders of the Anchor Lodge.

After the usual Masonic honours had been accorded,

Bro. C. Palliser replied, and said they knew that the Marquis of Zetland was the right man in the right place, and he hoped they would all have the pleasure of serving under him for many years to come. He congratulated their Worshipful Master on his being installed W.M. for the second time, and he wished him a prosperous year of office. He had great pleasure in welcoming their Installing Master, Bro. Todd, who had taken a most active part in Masonry ever since he had known him. They met four times a year, and he was always cheerful and active in discharging his Masonic duties.

Bro. Todd then proposed "The W.M. of Anchor Lodge, and prosperity to the Lodge." It was a most important toast, and he felt greatly the privilege of being selected to propose it. He had the pleasure of knowing Bro. Walton, who formerly lived in the City of York, and since he had come to reside at Northallerton he had still kept up the acquaintance. Therefore nothing had ever given him more pleasure than to accept their invitation to Northallerton for the purpose of installing their W.M. It was most fitting that Dr. Walton, who had been the first Master of the Anchor Lodge, should be again its Master on its 25th birthday. It seemed rather strange, too, that it was exactly 25 years since he was Master of the York Lodge, and Bro. Dr. Walton Master of the Anchor Lodge, therefore, he had the greatest sympathy with him, seeing that they were amongst the oldest Freemasons in the province. He was certain that the interests of the lodge were safe under Bro. Dr. Walton's guidance, and that the brethren would have a prosperous year. He regretted that his dear old friend, one of the founders of the lodge, Bro. Chas. Waistell, was absent, and especially they regretted the cause of that absence; but he hoped that his indisposition would only be temporary, and that the next time he met them he would have pleasure in seeing Bro. Waistell, P.M., present with them. He then gave the toast, which was duly honoured.

The Worshipful Master returned thanks, and hoped the good wishes of Bro. Todd would be fulfilled to the letter. If he had studied his personal comfort then he would not have accepted the high position he then occupied, but, considering the fact that it



was the 25th birthday of the lodge, he felt compelled when the brethren unanimously asked him to fill the position of W.M. to accept the high office. He sincerely hoped that the lodge might prosper during his year of office. He was pleased to welcome such a large attendance of Past Masters and provincial brethren, but he regretted exceedingly the absence of Bro. Waistell, P.M., one of the founders of the lodge. He was, however, proud to have the company of Bro. Jackson, who was one of the founders of the lodge. In conclusion, he thanked the Installing Master for his kind remarks.

Bro. G. J. Robinson, P.M., S.W., submitted "The Visiting Brethren," and said he was pleased, on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, to welcome so many visitors. They were pleased to welcome Bro. Jackson, P.M., who was one of the founders of the lodge, who had come to support their W.M. He also had to ask Bros. Bryson, W.M. 236; Rudd and W. W. Hall, 1416; Weston, 1037; and Cheetham and Hodgson, of 940; to respond.

Bro. Jackson, P.M., returned thanks, and said he was present, along with Bros. Palliser, Waistell, and the late Bro. Marwood, when the lodge was founded, and attended its meetings for some two or three years, but for 20 years he had not had an opportunity of attending. Hearing from Bro. Miles Soppett that Bro. Dr. Walton was to be installed W.M., he determined to be present at their silver jubilee. He hoped the W.M. and brethren would enjoy a pleasant and prosperous year of office.

Bros. Bryson, W. W. Hall, Weston, Cheetham, P.M., Hodgson, and J. Holt also responded.

Bro. Weston then gave "The Officers of the Lodge."

Bro. C. R. Waistell, I.P.M., appropriately replied.

Capital songs were given by Bros. C. R. Waistell, James Naylor, Dr. A. E. Bartrum, and G. W. Pattinson, while Bro. Tweedy most ably presided at the piano. The toast of "All Poor and Distressed Masons" having been given, closed a very pleasant evening.

### Coleridge Lodge, No. 1750.

The annual meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Public Hall, Clevedon, when a large number of brethren and visitors were present. The ceremony of installing Bro. the Rev. T. H. I. Child as W.M. for the ensuing year was performed by Bro. R. C. Else, D.P.G.M., and P.G.D. Eng. The W.M. afterwards appointed his officers as follows: Bros. H. S. Newnham, I.P.M.; Rev. A. R. Cartwright, S.W.; T. Grant, J.W.; T. Barnes, Treas.; A. Dawes, Sec.; H. Coates, S.D.; H. W. Mackenzie, J.D.; F. G. Leman, I.G.; H. Hayman, Org.; A. B. Wilkenden, D. of C.; W. Amos and R. Ewings, Stwds.; and W. Somerton, Tyler.

The banquet was subsequently held at Regent House, when the usual Masonic toast list was gone through.

### London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1962.

This lodge, now in the 15th year of its existence, held its installation meeting on the 17th inst., at Anderson's Hotel, the W.M., Bro. Spencer William Morris, P.M. 231, presiding. The other brethren who attended were Bros. C. F. Elles, S.W., W.M. elect; Andrew McDowall, P.M., Treas.; A. Haig Brown, P.M., Sec.; Hiram Henton, S.D.; W. S. Wright, J.D.; W. J. Pearce, I.G.; S. H. Latham, A.D.C.; David McNish, Neville Green, H. F. Bing, John Green, H. H. Nuding, J. C. Tilt, L. V. Walker, A. A. Niblett, C. E. E. Brightman, H. R. Bishop, J. E. Carew, Wal. Secrett, J. Beveridge, H. Lintott, Alf. Collins, Edw. W. Davis, H. E. Cox, H. Mardell, Victor Wright, W. H. Latham, G. E. Hope Pearce, T. D. Hayton, Thos. R. Saxton, N. Cooper Morris, R. T. Swinscow, and W. Wilkie Jones. Visitors: Bros. F. J. Allan, S.D. 2029; Charles P. Bellerby, P.M. 2021; J. Hervey Frye, P.M. 201; George Green, 862; Edwin Linfoot, W.M. 1298; T. S. Anderson, I.P.M. 1613; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; W. M. Wites, P.M. 179; W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572; Laurence Walter, 1017; T. Wright, P.M. 1769; Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196; George Gregory, P.M. 2087; F. V. Turner, P.M. 1216; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex; J. Cruttenden, 779; W. Hillier, P.M. 1366; E. W. Allen, P.M. 173; F. Page, S.W. 1613; B. Hoddinott, P.M. 2005; Horace Tucker, 2095; Arnold Moss, S.W. 231; Rev. H. Vyvian Tyrrell, Chap. 2369; C. Townley, S.W. 2190; Charles J. Butler, 1627; and Henry A. Johnson, P.M. 869. As many as 17 members of the lodge being long-service men of the London Rifle Brigade wore the long-service medal during the evening. Bro. Morris, W.M., installed Bro. Charles Frederick Ellis, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year, and Bro. Morris received the collar of I.P.M., and subsequently a handsome gold jewel of a Past Master. The following brethren are the Worshipful Master's officers for the year: Bros. H. Henton, S.W.; W. S. Wright, J.W.; A. McDowall, P.M., Treas.; A. Haig Brown, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Pearce, S.D.; S. H. Latham, J.D.; F. F. Grimes, I.G.; H. H. Nuding, P.M., D.C.; V. J. Wright, A.D.C.; W. H. Latham and E. W. Davis, Stewards; and J. S. Lackland, Tyler. A vote of thanks, moved by Bro. A. Haig Brown, P.M., Sec., and seconded by Bro. W. McDowall, P.M., Treas., was unanimously carried, conveying the thanks of the lodge to the I.P.M., Bro. Spencer Wm. Morris, for his handsome gifts of Deacons' wands, in commemoration of his year of office. Moved and seconded by the mover and seconder of this resolution, another vote of thanks was unanimously adopted to Bro. W. G. Wright, J.W., for an altered, re-arranged, improved, and enlarged album of the lodge members. The following New Year's card was presented to every brother present by the Secretary, Bro. A. Haig Brown, P.M., the last three lines bearing, it will be observed, the acrostic L.R.B.—London Rifle Brigade:

"That the W.M., Wardens, Brethren, and Visiting Brethren of the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1962, may, each in his own sphere, in and out of Lodge, realise the comfort and joy of a Happy and Prosperous New Year is the heartfelt and sincere wish of the Secretary.

"Life's pathway we'll tread, with help from above,  
Relieving the needy, cheering the sad,  
Bound to our duty by brotherly love.

"January, 1896."

One of the usual bountiful banquets of the lodge followed the working, and in the intervals between the speeches, in proposing and replying to the toasts, was some capital singing by Miss Edith Scipell, soprano, Miss Dora Barnard, contralto, Mr. Charles Cutler, tenor, and Mr. W. H. Webb, baritone, with Mr. Frederic Dale at the piano. Bro. Clemow personally superintended the banquet, and Bro. W. S. Wagstaff, one of the Anderson staff, also attended to the comforts of the brethren.

Bro. S. W. Morris, I.P.M., said it was now his pleasure and privilege to propose for the first time "The Health of the W.M." They all recognised in Bro. Elles a thoroughly earnest Mason. Most of them knew him—several of them had known him for many years—as an enthusiastic Volunteer, and they always recognised in him a thoroughly good fellow. He felt sure that Bro. Elles might count on the hearty support of every member of the lodge, and it would be not only a duty but a very great pleasure to those who were Past Masters to assist him by every means in their power. He wished the W.M. a most successful year of office.

Bro. C. F. Elles, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, which was most enthusiastically received, said he hoped so to perform the duties of the chair that at the conclusion of his year of office he might not be considered below the standard of those (the W.M.s.) who had preceded him. He was now going to ask the brethren with great confidence to drink "The Health of Past Master Spencer William Morris." When Bro. Morris was elected W.M. he, on returning thanks, made use of the expression that he hoped to merit the brethren's regard. Bro. Morris had done that; in his year of office he had done more; by the tact, firmness, and skill with which he had managed the affairs of the lodge he had merited the admiration of the brethren, and taught them to feel that he was a Master worthy of the highest position in the lodge. He (Bro. Elles) was only too proud to have Bro. Morris as his I.P.M.

Bro. S. W. Morris, I.P.M., replying to the very flattering terms in which Bro. Elles had proposed the toast, said that to anyone who took a pride and pleasure in his work, it was with somewhat mixed feelings that at the end of his year of office he resigned the reins of office and handed them over to another. But at least he might be allowed to say for himself that during his year he had tried to do his duty: he had tried to work the beautiful Masonic ritual as he thought it should be carried out; but no one could be more conscious than he was that he had fallen short of his ideal. The handsome jewel the lodge had voted him would be a memento to him of one of his most happy years in the course of his Masonic career.

Bro. Elles, W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," referred to the Masonic challenge gavel, which was put up by the Queen's Westminster for competition, and which the London Rifle Brigade won last year.

Bro. F. V. Turner, P.M. 1216, in reply, said that was the first time he had visited the London Rifle Brigade Lodge, but it was with the greatest possible pleasure he did so, as he had an association with the lodge which called for some comment. He had been a long time associated with the 1st Surrey Rifles, and they were old comrades. Members of the different corps met on the competition ground, but it was much more to their taste to meet in lodge. He congratulated the London Rifle Brigade Lodge on being the holders of the great Masonic gavel which they won at the last match. It had been in the hands of the Queen's, the donors, and Bro. Bellerby would not mind his saying they were pleased at it. It showed that the London Rifle Brigade was a stronger and better shooting corps.

Bro. Bellerby, P.M. 2021, said he was very proud to be a guest that night at the invitation of the lodge; formerly he had been the guest of individual members, particularly of Bro. Taiton and Bro. Walker. One thing they had at heart was a Masonic gathering. With reference to the challenge gavel there was naturally a bit of jealousy; they all liked their own regiment to win, and he trusted the Queen's would win it on several occasions. They had done so, but they were pleased the London Rifle Brigade had won it. It lent a deal of life to the thing to see a good team win it by a good score. The London Rifle Brigade were now the challengers, and he would do his best to carry it off to the Queen's next year.

Bro. the Rev. H. Vyvian Tyrrell, Chap. 2369, also responded.

Bro. L. V. Walker, P.M., replied to the toast of "The Past Masters," and congratulated their old friend, Bro. Elles, on reaching the position of W.M. He had given the brethren a taste of what he could do in the shape of Masonic work by his investiture of the officers, and it was exceedingly improbable, however ready the Past Masters might be to assist him, that he would have to call upon them for any aid. All the officers of the lodge were desirous of keeping up the reputation of the lodge for good working, and they all could do their work well. He was glad to see representatives of other rifle corps present. The London Rifle Brigade had two fights with them on the ranges, and tried to win. They would have some others, and would be sure to have a good time of it.

Bro. Tilt, P.M., also replied, and referred to the circumstance that the W.M. would be Steward for the Girls' School.

Pro. McDowall, P.M., in responding to the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," was pleased with the satisfaction manifested at the way the lodge funds had been administered. The lodge had yet done much for Charity, and he hoped it always would, notwithstanding it put a good dinner on the table.

Bro. A. Haig-Brown, P.M., Sec., said the Treasurer had done his best, and so had he, and he was glad that what they had done had met with the brethren's approval. Bro. Tilt, P.M., had incidentally mentioned the subject of the W.M. going up as Steward for the Girls' Institution. The lodge had always been distinguished for its working and it had also a very high position for what it had done for the Charities. It had in the past subscribed annually a sum of upwards of £100 to the various Masonic Charities—ever since the lodge was consecrated it had done so. The responsibility, therefore, rested upon them not to let that annual amount be decreased: rather should they, as the lodge grew in numbers, increase the annual gift. They had in time subscribed £500 to the Benevolent Institution and £500 to the Boys; they had not got up to £500 for the Girls although the I.P.M. went up as Steward. Their system was if they did not succeed the first time to "try, try, try again," and they intended to "try again" this year to support their Master, and they flattered themselves they intended to increase the amount to considerably over £500. They could look with pleasure on the amount, as unfortunately they had had to make calls on the Charity in the way of having to put forward girls for its benefits. He could not impress upon the brethren too earnestly that it was their pleasure and their privilege to support the Masonic Institutions by every means in their power.

The S.W. responded to the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast closed the exceptionally happy proceedings.

The Charity box realised £2 1s.

### Talbot Lodge, No. 2231.

The installation meeting was held at Stretford Local Board Offices, Old Trafford, on the 17th inst. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors. They assembled at three o'clock, and the lodge was opened by Bro. Edwin Faulkner, W.M., assisted by his officers. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Auditors' report of the balance-sheet was considered and passed, being highly satisfactory. There was a notice of motion by Bro. Faulkner that the sum of five guineas be voted to the Alpess and Hamer Benevolent Institutions; also, a sum of 10 guineas was presented to the lodge by Bro. John Slyman for the honour the lodge had conferred upon him by electing him an honorary member. This sum also was voted for the Institutions above named. The Worshipful Master elect, Bro. William Lowby, Senior Warden, was presented to the Installing Master, Bro. Faulkner, Worshipful Master, who performed the ceremony of installation in a most impressive manner, and almost without a fault. There were 18 Installed Masters present. Bro. W. Lowby, W.M., was duly proclaimed and saluted in the different Degrees under the direction of Bro. Fred. Batty, P.M., who also presented the working tools in the different Degrees. The newly-installed W.M. then invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Edwin Faulkner, I.P.M.; Harold Nickson, S.W.; Frank Green, J.W.; George Cranston, Chap.; G. R. Lloyd, P.M.; P.P.G.T., Treas.; G. Unsworth, Sec.; T. K. Peacock, S.D.; Evans Jackson, J.D.; John Allan, Org.; R. E. Stringleman, P.M., D.C.; Alfred Dawson, I.G.; E. E. Levy, R. McConnell, F. G. Bennett, C. Baybutt, J. Chadderton, and F. J. Warburton, Stwds.; and Fred. Batty, P.M., Charity Representative; and their duties were explained to them by Bro. John Slyman, Bro. John Roberts, P.M., addressing the W.M., whilst Bro. John Bolen, P.M., P.A.G.D. of C., addressed the Wardens and brethren. A very handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Edwin Faulkner, I.P.M., for the estimable way he had conducted the business of the lodge for the past year, which was gracefully acknowledged.

The banquet, which subsequently followed, was held at the Grand Hotel, Manchester.

The usual toast list was gone through, and a capital programme had been arranged by Bro. John Allan, Org.

The following brethren were present: Bros. Edwin Faulkner, W.M.; Harold Nickson, J.W.; G. Cranston, Chap.; Geo. R. Lloyd, P.P.G. Treas.; Frank Green, Sec.; Geo. Unsworth, S.D.; Thos. K. Peacock, J.D.; Evans J. Jackson, I.G.; W. Chesshyre, Tyler; Jno. Roberts, I.P.M.; Fred. Batty, P.M., Charity Representative; P. E. Stringleman, P.M.; John Bolen, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C.; F. J. Warburton, James Chadderton, Charles J. Vickers, R. Cowell, Alfred Dawson, D.C.; J. J. Kent Faicicough, W. A. Doherty, and John Slyman, P.M., P.P.G.D. Visitors: Bros. Fred. Hilton, P.P.G.D. of C.; Henry Nall, P.G. Treas.; G. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org. East and West Lancs.; J. Lewis, P.P.G.D. of C.; E. G. Parker, P.P.G.D. of C.; John Walton, P.M. 1730; C. E. Downing, Wm. Mann, J. W. Leighton, W.M.; Wm. McCartin, W.M.; P. Walsh, W.M. elect 1147; and Jno. B. Wolstenholme, W.M. 1387.

### Ebbisham Lodge, No. 2422.

A most successful meeting of the members of this lodge took place at the King's Head Hotel, Epsom, on Monday, the 13th inst., when Bro. C. P. King, S.W., was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Jas. Andrews, P.M., P.G.S., W.M. 1892. The following officers were invested: Bros. W. Pile, P.M. 1892, I.P.M.; J. W. Green, S.W.; H. A. P. Genge, J.W.; E. L. G. Houndie, P.P.G. Chap., Chaplain; F. W. Coles, P.G.S.B. Eng., Treas.; J. O'Connell, P.P.G. Org., Sec.; E. G. Wilson, S.D.; W. G. Langlands, J.D.; J. O. Jacobs, D. of C.; G. C. Burry, P.P.G. Org., Organist; Capt. E. Northey and E. R. Capon, Stwds.; and A. Rowley, Tyler.

After the business of the evening, about 20 sat down to an elegant banquet, which was served in first-rate style by Bro. Large, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. Among the brethren present during the evening were Bros. T. T. Bucknill, O.C., M.P., P.M. 136, P.P.J.G.W., D.G.R. Eng.; J. O'Connell, P.M. 1851, 2157, P.P.G. Org.; Jas. Andrews, P.M., W.M. 1892, P.G. Stwd.; W. Pile, I.P.M., P.M. 1892, P.P.G. Stwd.; G. C. Burry, P.M., P.P.G. Org.; C. A. Hardwick, P.M. and Sec. 1357, P.P.G.D. of C.; E. L. G. Houndie, P.M. 1826, P.P.G. Chap.; and R. H. Ward, P.M. 1892. The visitors included Bros. Tyler, P.M., P.G. Sec.; E. Dorling, P.M. 376, 659, 957, P.G. Sec. Suffolk; J. Phillips, P.M. 2157; H. M. Grellier, 2140; J. B. Cooke, 1347, and others.

## Royal Arch.

### Fidelity Chapter, No. 3.

A meeting of this chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 3rd instant. Among those present were Comps. J. B. Stevens, M.E.Z.; A. H. Larcombe, H., M.E.Z.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.D.G.D.C., J. H. elect; W. J. Collins, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; C. W. Mapleton, S.N., J. elect; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br., P.S.; Lieut.-Col. W. Hart, 1st A.S.; H. Nash, 2nd A.S.; J. C. Pratt, Stwd.; F. McDougall, P.Z.; Weeks, P.Z.; Radcliffe, P.Z.; and S. Cochrane, P.G. Treas.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Comp. Radcliffe, P.Z., inducted Comp. Larcombe as M.F.Z.; Comp. Capt. Walls as H.; and the latter installed Comp. Mapleton as J. The following investitures took place: Comps. W. J. Collins, P.Z., S.E.; H. J. Lardner, P.Z., S.N.; J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; Lieut.-Col. W. Hart, P.S.; H. Mast, 1st A.S.; J. C. Pratt, D.C.; and C. W. Larter, Stwd. Comp. R. W. Goddard, P.Z., having resigned the position of Janitor, the election and investiture of a successor was postponed till the next meeting. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. J. B. Stevens. The report of the Audit Committee having been received and adopted, apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. F. Graves, P.Z.; Birch, P.Z.; and others.

The chapter was then closed, and an excellent banquet partaken of.

The numerous toasts were given in happy terms by the M.E.Z.

During the evening a most enjoyable and varied programme of music, under the direction of Comp. W. Wright, P.Z., P.P.G.O., was provided, and gave universal satisfaction, the artistes being Mesdames Lena Seymour, Jessie Hotine, Bros. R. Evans, G. De Pledge, and Mr. Will Ballard.

The M.E.Z. is to be congratulated on the success that attended the proceedings.

### Warrant Officers' Chapter, No. 2346.

The regular convocation of the above chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Monday, the 13th inst., when there were present Comps. A. Molony, M.E.Z.; C. A. Pugh, H.; R. Jennings, P.Z., Treas.; M. A. McNerny, P.Z., Scribe E.; W. A. Greene, Scribe N.; T. K. Pearce, P.S.; Howe, Edis, Iggulden, Betts, Wood, Dent, Bailey, and Williamson. Comp. H. Trask, Scribe N. 2372, was a Visitor. The business was to ballot for and if approved, to exalt Bro. Frank S. Parton, 2346. The ballot proved unanimous in his favour, and he being in attendance, was duly exalted by Comp. Molony, M.E.Z., assisted by Comps. Pugh and Jennings, the latter acting as J. in the unavoidable absence of Comp. Cook.

There being no other business, the chapter was closed, and the companions separated.

## Our Portrait Gallery.



BRO. P. C. DUTT, DEP. D.G.M. BENGAL.

Bro. Prosonno Ccomar Dutt, whose portrait is now added to our gallery of Masters, and whose difficulties in obtaining admission into our Order form the subject of one of our leading articles, was initiated in the Anchor and Hope Lodge, No. 234, on the 13th June, 1872, and having been passed and raised, was on the 1st September appointed Secretary. On the 26th December following, the collar of J.W. was conferred upon him, and on the 12th December, 1873, he was installed W.M. He was installed for the second time on the 18th December, 1874, and for the third and fourth times in December, 1876, and 1882 respectively. In October, 1876, he was presented with a Past Master's jewel and a full suit of regalia in recognition of his services to the lodge in connection with the admission of his countrymen into Freemasonry, and in December, 1887, his full length life-size portrait in oils, which had been subscribed for by the members of his lodge, was presented to the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, and accepted on its behalf by the District Grand Master. In District Grand Lodge Bro. Dutt has served as D.G. Std. Br. in 1874, D.A.G.D.C. in 1875, D.G.D.C. in 1882, and D.J.G.W. in 1888, and last year he was appointed by patent Dep. D.G.M. Bro. Dutt has been likewise a joining member or founder of several other lodges, such as the Eastern Bengal Railway Lodge, No. 444, under the Scottish Constitution, of which he was installed W.M. in December, 1874; Sandeman Lodge, No. 1374; Lodge St. Andrew in the East, No. 401 (S.C.); as one of the founders of Calcutta Emulation Lodge of Improvement held under the sanction of No. 218; Lodge St. John, No. 486, of which he was elected Treasurer in December, 1882; and W.M., in October, 1885, of St. David's Lodge, No. 738, Irish Constitution; founder of the Prinsep Lodge, No. 2037; Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, Correspondence Circle; Lodge of Fortitude, No. 131, Truro; and founder and first acting P.M. of the Nripendra Narayan Lodge, No. 2446, Cooch

Behar. In addition, he is an honorary member of many lodges under various Constitutions. He was exalted in Hope Chapter, No. 109, in April, 1874, and the following December was founder and first J. of the New Union Chapter, No. 234, being installed M.E.Z. for the first time in May, 1882, and for the second time in 1884. He is also a P.Z. of Chapter Kilwinning-in-the-East, No. 64 (S.C.); P.Z. Holy Zion Chapter, No. 486 (E.C.); and founder and first M.E.Z. of the Star of India Chapter, No. 203 (S.C.); while in the District G. Chapter of Bengal he has been appointed successively Dist. G.D.C., Dist. G. S.B., Dist. 1st Asst. G. Soj., Dist. G.P. Soj., Dist. G.J., and Dist. G.H. In the Mark Degree, to which he was advanced in the Capstone Lodge, No. 89 (E.C.), in 1878; he was W.M. of the said lodge in 1890, and, besides being a joining member of lodges in which he has held office, is Dep. Dist. Grand Master of Bengal and Past S.G.D. of England, and in 1895 had the honour of installing Bro. Sir John Edge as Dist. G.M.M. Bengal. He is also a Royal Ark Mariner and Past W.C.N. of that Degree; member of Grand Master's Council, No. 1, Royal and Select Masters; a member and Past Grand Officer in the Allied Degrees; and Past Grand Visitor in the Order of the Secret Monitor. Lastly, he is a Vice-President of the Bengal Masonic Fund of Benevolence and a Life Governor and member of the Managing Committee of the Bengal Masonic Educational Association.

## Mark Masonry.

### Ubique Lodge, No. 411.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly, on Thursday, the 10th inst. The chair was taken by Bro. Major A. Hansard, R.A., P.M., who, on the result of the ballot being declared, proceeded to advance Bros. Major P. MacMahon, R.A., F.R.S., and Capt. W. Barlow, R.A. At the request of the acting W.M. the chair was then taken by Bro. J. S. Iamburini, G.S., who performed, in most excellent style, the ceremony of installing Bro. H. Thomson Lyon, P.M., the W.M. elect. The following brethren were then appointed by the W.M. as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. J. D. Vicary, P.M., P.P.G.O. Madras, as S.W.; Lieut. W. Robson, R.A., J.W.; Major A. Murdoch, R.A., M.O.; Major A. C. Daniell, R.A., S.O.; Major J. W. M. Newton, R.A., J.O.; George Kennedy, Sec.; Capt. Victor Paget, R.H.A., R.M.; Capt. George Hearn, P.M., G.S., D.C.; Major Penton, R.A., S.D.; Lieut. J. G. James, J.D.; Sir Simeon H. L. Stuart, Bart., I.G.; and Quartermaster-Sergeant W. Shaktetn, R.A., Stwd. Bro. Lieut.-Col. W. T. Ritchie, P.G.S.B., who had been elected Treasurer, was unfortunately unable to be present. A telegram was received from Bro. Capt. Weston, P.A.G.I.G., offering his congratulations to the W.M. and apologising for his personal absence, after which the addresses to the W.M., officers, and brethren were most impressively delivered by Bro. W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C. The W.M. stated that he proposed serving as Steward for the R.M.I. for Boys at the next festival and a grant was voted out of the lodge funds.

The brethren then adjourned to supper in the Crown Room, where a most enjoyable evening was passed, concluding with the usual toasts.

That of "The Visitors" being responded to by Bros. Maitland, P.M. of Ceylon, and Henry Sadler, W.M. of the New Era Lodge.

Bro. Capt. Hearn stated that he would be willing to represent the lodge at the Mark Benevolent Festival. It was arranged to bring his kind offer before the lodge at the next meeting; several contributions being promised on the spot.

The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

## Lodges and Chapters of Instruction.

### ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 144.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, when there were present Bros. Cottis, W.M.; Thwaites, S.W.; Markland, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Lightfoot, Sec.; Thomas, S.D.; Rayner, J.D.; Weller, I.G.; Stutfield, P.M.; Fayers, P.M.; Ingram, Neighbour, and Beauchamp.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Neighbour being the candidate. Bros. Ingram and Neighbour answered the questions leading to the Second Degree. Bro. Thomas gave the three addresses. The 2nd Section of the First Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Thwaites was elected W.M. for the next meeting. After the third rising, the lodge was closed.

### LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present: Bros. F. A. Zeppenfeld, W.M.; J. Mason, S.W.; L. G. Genese, J.W.; J. Pau, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; Geo. Hill, P.M., Treas.; Wilby, P.M., and B. Dukes, Secs.; T. H. Tidy, S.D.; S. C. Cross, J.D.; G. A. Sturgess, I.G.; W. Preceptor, P.M., Tyler; and F. Jackson, P.M.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The by-laws were formally suspended. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, the questions having been previously answered. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree and then closed in the Second Degree. At the first rising the dues were collected. On the second rising, Bro. J. Mason was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. After the third rising, all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

### PYTHAGOREAN CHAPTER, No. 79.

The first meeting of this chapter, on its removal from the Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, to the New Cross House, New Cross-road, S.E., was held on Tuesday, the 14th instant, under the able Preceptorship of Comp. J. G. Milbourn, P.Z. 879, and M.E.Z. of the Pythagorean Chapter, No. 79, a well-known worker in Royal Arch and Craft Masonry in the south-eastern district, when the following large and influential gathering of companions assembled together: Comps. Thos. Prior, acting as M.E.Z.; T. Grummant, H.; T. D. Leng, J.; E. C. Talbot, P.S.; W. P. M. Penrose, S.E.; F. J. Eedle, S.N.; G. Brown, P.Z.; J. J. West, F.Z.; R. Trill, P.Z.; A. Holmes, P.Z.; J. Rosenstock, P.Z.; Mearing, Barrett, Fielder, Salter, R. Belchambers, Abbott, Cozens, Jones, C. Hart, Jorgensen, Giff, Sear, and others.

The chapter having been declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation read and confirmed, the ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. R. H. Gundry personating the candidate, the ceremony throughout, together with the addresses from the chairs, being rendered in the most efficient and impressive manner. Comp. Grummant, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, and in replying, spoke of his long connection with the chapter, and in feeling terms described the great services rendered to Royal Arch Masonry by the late Comp. Bumstead. A very hearty and cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Comps. Prior, M.E.Z.; Grummant, H.; Leng, J.; E. C. Talbot, P.S.; and F. J. Eedle, S.N., for the excellent and efficient manner in which they had carried out the duties of their respective offices. Comp. Milbourn read a letter from the G. Sec., expressing his approval of the removal of the chapter to the New Cross House, and the altering of the day of meeting from Friday to Tuesday. The whole of the visitors having expressed their desire to become members of the chapter, the same was put to the vote and unanimously agreed to, and after "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

The very advantageous and central position of the place of meeting of this chapter of instruction, midway between the New Cross Stations of the London Brighton and South Coast and the South-Eastern Railways, together with trams and busses to all parts of the Metropolis, and the large number of companions who have expressed a desire to be placed on its roll of members will, it is considered, not only supply a long felt want, but will become a rallying point for Royal Arch Freemasons in this part of London.

## MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, February 1, 1896.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 27.

#### CRAFT LODGES.

- 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.  
 26, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Savoy Hotel.  
 28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.  
 70, Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich.  
 183, Unity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.  
 222, St. Andrew's, Albion Tavern.  
 709, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.  
 709, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel.  
 702, De Grey and Ripon, Freemasons' Hall.  
 1057, Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel.  
 1540, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.  
 1615, Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall.  
 1632, Royal Savoy, Criterion.  
 1744, Farringdon (Without), Holborn Viaduct Hotel.  
 1745, Shepherd's Bush, Bush Hotel.  
 1828, Shepherd's Bush, Bush Hotel.  
 2396, Bishopsgate, Great Eastern Hotel.

#### ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle Tavern.  
 25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.  
 188, Joppa, Guildhall Tavern.  
 120, Eccletic, Freemasons' Hall.  
 1537, St. Peter Westminster, Criterion.  
 1694, Imperial, Clout's Restaurant, Victoria-street.  
 MARK LODGE.  
 4, Prince of Wales, Mark Masons' Hall.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.  
 Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.  
 Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.  
 Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.  
 Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.  
 Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.  
 Marouss of Ripon, The Bunch of Grapes, Lime-street, E.C., 6.30.  
 Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.  
 Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.  
 North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.  
 Perseverance, Old Parr's Head, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 7.  
 Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.  
 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.  
 Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.  
 St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance).  
 St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.  
 St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8.  
 Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.  
 Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.  
 United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 1.30.  
 Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.  
 Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.  
 Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.  
 Woodrow, Star and Garter Hotel, Pall Mall, W., at 3.  
 Zetland, York and Albany, Park-street, Regent's Park, at 8.  
 Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.  
 Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.  
 North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8.

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 28.

#### CRAFT LODGES.

- 14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.  
 40, Old Union, Ship and Turtle Tavern.  
 141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel.  
 145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.  
 186, Industry, Freemasons' Hall.  
 205, Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.  
 255, Harmony, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.  
 259, Prince of Wales, Hotel Metropole.  
 1158, Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel.  
 1348, Ebury, Criterion.  
 1441, Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall.  
 2108, Empire, Criterion.  
 2424, St. Stephen's, Green Man's Assembly Rooms, Lewisham.

#### ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 21, Cyrus, Blanchard's Restaurant.  
 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tavern.  
 899, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel.  
 1275, Star, Guildhall Tavern.  
 1395, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.

#### ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

- 10, Stewart, Mark Masons' Hall.  
 ROSE CROSS.  
 132, Camden, Anderton's Hotel.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.  
 Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.  
 Clarence and Avondale, Masonic Hall, Leytonstone, E., at 8.  
 Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.  
 Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.  
 Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.  
 Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.  
 Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Cheapside, at 7.  
 Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.  
 Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.  
 Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.  
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe, at 8.  
 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8.  
 Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.  
 Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Tues., at 7.30.  
 Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.  
 Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.  
 Joppa, Boundary Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30.  
 Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.  
 Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.  
 Mount Edgecombe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road, Peckham, at 8.  
 Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.  
 New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.  
 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.  
 Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Vale, W., at 8.  
 Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.  
 Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.  
 Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.  
 South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30.  
 St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.  
 St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.  
 So. thwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.  
 Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.  
 Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terraces North, Harrow-road, at 8.  
 Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.  
 Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.  
 Kin... Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29.

#### CRAFT LODGES.

- 898, Temperance-in-the-East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.  
 1708, Progress, Freemasons' Hall.

#### ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.  
 435, Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle Tavern.  
 1474, Islington, Great Eastern Hotel.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.  
 Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.  
 Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.  
 Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.  
 Dalhousie, Lord Stanley, Paragon-road, Mare-street, Hackney. 8.  
 Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.  
 Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.  
 Duke of Albany, The Clock House, Battersea-park-road, at 8.  
 Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.  
 Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.  
 Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, N., at 8.  
 Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.  
 Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.  
 Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8.  
 La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.  
 Lonsborough, Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, at 8.  
 London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30.  
 Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.  
 Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham.  
 Mount Lebanon, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.  
 Pimure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.  
 Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.  
 Prosperity, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, at 7.  
 Ravensbourne, Black Bull Inn, Lewisham, at 8.  
 Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.  
 Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.  
 Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.  
 St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.  
 Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.  
 Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.  
 Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.  
 United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30.  
 United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8.  
 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 7.30.  
 Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.  
 Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.  
 Domestic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.  
 Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross, 8.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 30.

General Committee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

#### CRAFT LODGES.

- 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tavern.  
 1524, Duke of Connaught, Anderton's Hotel.  
 1810, Victoria, London Tavern.  
 2192, Highbury, Cock Tavern.  
 2264, Chough, Cannon-street Hotel.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.  
 Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.  
 Covent Garden, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.  
 Creation, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.  
 Crescent, King's Head Hotel, Twickenham, at 8.30.  
 Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham.  
 High Cross, Coach and Horses, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.  
 Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.  
 Honor Oak, Crystal Palace Tavern, at 8.  
 Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.  
 Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.  
 Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.  
 Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.  
 Langton, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 5.30.  
 Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.  
 Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.  
 Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, at 7.  
 Priory, Berrymead Priory, Acton, at 8.15.  
 Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.  
 Royal Savoy, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.30.  
 St. John's, Court House, Haresden, N.W., at 7.30.  
 St. John's, Queen Victoria Tavern, Exmouth-st., Stepney at 8.  
 St. Luke's, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, at 8.  
 Sir Hugh Myddelton, Star and Garter, Upper-st., Islington, at 8.  
 Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st., Kennington, at 8.  
 Stockwell, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.  
 Tranquillity, Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, E.C., at 7.30.  
 Tredegar, The Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.  
 Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich.  
 Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.  
 Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.  
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Vale, W., at 8.

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 31.

Council Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

#### KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 29, Faith and Fidelity, Mark Masons' Hall.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Albion, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.  
 All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.  
 Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.  
 Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.  
 Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.  
 Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell-road, at 8.30.  
 Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 8.  
 Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.  
 Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.  
 Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.  
 Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.  
 Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.  
 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.  
 Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.  
 Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, High-street, Wood Green, at 7.30.  
 Loyalty, Private Rooms, 206, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8.  
 Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.  
 Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, W., at 8.  
 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8.  
 Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.  
 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.  
 St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.  
 St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.  
 Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terraces, at 6.  
 Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.  
 Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.  
 Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.  
 Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.  
 The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.  
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.  
 Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.  
 Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.  
 Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.  
 Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terraces, Bishop's-rd., Paddington, W., at 8.  
 Lily of Richmond Chapter, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.  
 Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8.  
 Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1.

#### CRAFT LODGES.

- 142, St. Thomas's, Ship and Turtle Tavern.  
 1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tavern.  
 1022, Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall.  
 1028, Gallery, Anderton's Hotel.  
 1049, Brixton, Horns Tavern.  
 2406, Cherybles, Freemasons' Hall.

#### ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.  
 2345, Duke of Fife, Anderton's Hotel.

#### LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.  
 Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, King-st., Hammersmith, at 7.30.  
 Duke of Connaught, The Lord Napier, West Side, London Fields, at 8.  
 Ebury, Grapes Tavern, 123, High-street, Borough, S.E., at 8.  
 Eccleston, Victoria Tavern, 46 Buckingham Palace-road, at 7.  
 Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, at 8.  
 King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.  
 Manchester, Old King's Head, Euston-road, at 8.  
 Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8.  
 Star, New Cross House, Deptford, S.E., at 7.  
 Vitruvian, Duke of Albany Hotel, Kitto-road, St. Katherine's park, Hatcham, S.E., at 7.30.  
 Mount Sinai Chapter, Red Lion Hotel, 14, King-st., Regent-st. W., at 8.

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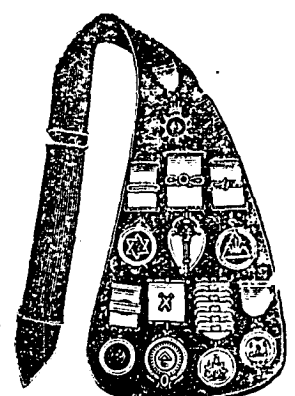
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Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of Oxon, Wilts, and Somerset,  
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## Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. DEPUTY R. HARGREAVES ROGERS will be installed W.M. of the North Kent Lodge, No. 2499, on Saturday, the 1st prox., at the Masonic Hall, Bexley Heath.

BRO. LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH, Secretary for Scotland, has appointed the Earl of Dalkeith, M.P., to be his private secretary unpaid.

A FIRE BROKE OUT in the library of the Royal Castle at Berlin on Monday night, but it was speedily extinguished. It is believed the damage done to the contents is considerable.

BRO. LORD WOLSELEY has consented to preside at the annual dinner of the North London Rifle Club, of which his lordship is President, which will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on the 26th prox.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY has consented to be present at the concert which will be given in aid of the Charities of St. Augustine's, Limehouse—a poor parish in the very heart of East London—on Tuesday, the 4th prox.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodion will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on Monday, the 17th prox., when the Duke of York will, by invitation, be the guest of the evening.

ON SATURDAY LAST, at Osborne, the Queen conferred the honour of Knighthood on several gentlemen, among whom were Bro. Col. C. E. Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P., and Bro. J. S. Goldie-Taubman, Speaker of the House of Keys, Isle of Man.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP PORCUPINE, one of the three torpedo-boat destroyers built by Messrs. Palmer at Jarrow-on-Tyne, covered the distance—about 300 miles—between the Tyne and the Thames in 15 hours. The ship was under easy steam the whole way.

IN THE REPORT, in our last issue, of the consecration of the National Artillery Lodge, No. 2578, we omitted to mention that Bro. W. M. Stiles, Grand Treasurer, was unanimously elected an honorary member of that lodge in addition to the Consecrating Officers.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING was entertained at a banquet at Richmond by the British Association of Virginia on Sunday last, and met with a very cordial welcome. During the previous week at Washington he had been entertained by our Ambassador and high officials of the United States.

THE VICEROY OF INDIA, the Earl of Elgin, accompanied by Lady Elgin, has left Calcutta for a short cruise in the Bay of Bengal on board the Indian Marine Vessel Warren Hastings. His Excellency had been suffering from intermittent fever, and the cruise has been undertaken by the advice of his medical attendants.

THE BRITISH EXPEDITION to Ashanti, under Sir F. Scott, entered Coomassie on Friday, the 17th instant, without fighting, and King Prempeh, the Queen Mother, and other members of the Royal Family have been taken prisoners and will be held as hostages. The late envoys to England have also been arrested for forgery.

THE ANNUAL general meeting of the Field Practice Association for Yeomanry and Volunteers will be held under the presidency of the Duke of Connaught in the theatre of the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, on Friday next, the 31st instant. His Royal Highness will also present the National Rifle Association Challenge Cup for 1895.

THE ROYAL CARL ROSA OPERA, which has been absent from London for five years, made its first appearance at Daly's Theatre on Monday afternoon, Wagner's opera of "Tannhäuser" being selected for the performance. The opera went well, and the audience, which was numerous, was liberal in its applause of the principal artistes.

THE FIRST MEETING of the Court of Aldermen, after the Christmas holidays, was held at the Guildhall, on Tuesday, under the presidency of Bro. Lord Mayor Sir W. Wilkin, and in the evening his lordship and the Lady Mayoress entertained the members of the Court, together with the Sheriffs, the Common Serjeant, and other officers of the Corporation at dinner at the Mansion House.

SEVERAL BRANCH INSTITUTIONS have been established in connection with the Central Library, Fulham, and one of them, which has been erected in the Wandsworth Bridge-road at a cost of £2000, was opened on Monday by Bro. Hayes Fisher, M.P., who expressed his belief that as the Elizabethan age had been famous for the development of English literature, so the Victorian age would be equally famous for the development of public libraries.

THE HACKNEY AND EAST MIDDLESEX BAND OF HOPE will commemorate its 21st anniversary this year, and her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has consented to open a bazaar in aid of its work. The appeal to her Royal Highness to undertake this duty was signed by a large number of influential people, among whom were Bro. Lord Amherst of Hackney, and several Members of Parliament as well as the Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex.

A COMPLIMENTARY DINNER to Lord Lamington on his appointment as Governor of Queensland, took place at the Hôtel Métropole on Tuesday evening. The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P., Secretary of State, occupied the chair, and among those present were Sir George Bowen the first, and Sir Henry Norman the retiring, Governor of the Colony, the Italian Ambassador, and Bros. Lord Amphil, Sir Frederick Abel, Sir Somers Vane, and R. G. Webster, M.P.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S Returns show that the death-rate of London last week was 19.1 per 1000, while that of Brighton was 20.3, that of Croydon 11, and that of Wolverhampton, which was the highest amongst those recorded, 30.1. The mild weather has had the effect of diminishing the deaths from disease of the respiratory organs, the number registered being 413 below the corrected average, while influenza is being held well in check, and was responsible for only 10, as compared with 13 deaths during the previous week.

IT IS PROPOSED to erect a new Opera House at the corner of the Haymarket and Charles-street, on the site formerly occupied by Her Majesty's Theatre. It will have a frontage of 195 feet to the Haymarket, 145 feet to Charles-street, and 198 feet to the Opera Arcade, and will provide sitting accommodation for 2232 persons. The plans for the new house, which will be known as the Imperial Opera House, have been submitted to the Theatres Committee of the London County Council. The Committee recommend the approval of the plans when altered in accordance with various suggestions.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.—An invitation has been sent to this Provincial Grand Lodge to meet this year at Kingston-on-Thames (not Surbiton) by four lodges which meet within the boundaries of the old town, viz., Dobie, Brownrigg, Ewell, and Noel, representing in the aggregate over 200 members of the Craft. We understand that the Prov. Grand Master (Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow) has expressed himself in favour of meeting at Kingston, to which town the Prov. Grand Lodge has not paid a visit for 10 years, but no definite decision has as yet been come to.

THERE WAS ONLY a small attendance at the annual general meeting of the subscribers and supporters of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which was held on the stage of the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday afternoon under the presidency of Mr. Charles Wyndham, among those present being Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, and Bros. S. B. Bancroft and Edward Terry. The report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Bro. Terry, and Bro. Sir Henry Irving was re-elected President of the Fund. Remarks in condemnation of the absence of so many leading actors and actresses and the small assistance they rendered the institution were freely made.

A PRIVATE theatrical performance was given at Osborne on Monday before the Queen, the Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne, and about 100 guests. The Indian Room was fitted and prettily decorated for the occasion, and the string band of the Royal Marine Light Infantry occupied the gallery opposite the stage. Pinero's comedy of "The Money Spinner" was the piece selected, and the several parts were ably filled by ladies and gentlemen connected with the Court and the Services. After the entertainment, the guests were presented to her Majesty in the Drawing Room, and supper was served in the Council Room. The performance was repeated on Tuesday.

THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC is the largest school of music in the world, having now considerably more than 3000 students.

"YE OLDE FRIENDS" fourth annual smoking concert will be held in the Grand Hall of the Freemasons' Tavern on Friday, the 7th prox., at 8 o'clock.

BRO. SIR GEORGE TAUBMAN GOLDIE, K.C.M.G., Governor and Political Administrator of the Royal Niger Company, left London on the 17th inst. for Akassa, and intends spending several months in the company's territories.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES returned to Sandringham towards the end of last week and rejoined the Princess and their daughters. The Duke of Teck also reached York Cottage on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of York.

AN IMPERIAL DECREE was published at St. Petersburg on Saturday last, fixing the date of the coronation of the Emperor and Empress for May next. A second decree directs that the municipal and other representative bodies of the Russian Empire shall be invited to attend the ceremony.

AMONG THOSE WHO were present at the funeral of the late Earl Delawarr, at Withyham, East Grinstead, Sussex, were Viscount Cantelupe (now Earl Delawarr), Lord Sackville, Bro. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, Lord Lamington, Bro. the Duke of Bedford, and Lords George and Henry Nevill.

IT IS IN CONTEMPLATION among the Livery of the Coach Makers and Coach Harness Makers' Company, of which Lord Mayor Bro. Sir Walter Wilkin is Master, to commemorate the fact of the head of their guild being the chief magistrate of the City of London by presenting a service of plate to his lordship.

BROS. THE RIGHT HON. A. AKERS-DOUGLAS, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), the Duke of Devonshire, and Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., were among the Ministers who attended the Cabinet Council, which was held at the Foreign Office on Saturday last.

AMONG THE GUESTS entertained at Mount Stewart, County Down, last week, by the Marquis of Londonderry and the Lady Helen Stewart, were the Duchess of Abercorn and Lady Alexandra Hamilton, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Erne, Bro. Lord and Lady Arthur Hill and Miss Hill, and Lord and Lady Lurgan, His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant and the Countess of Cadogan have returned to Dublin.

A MEETING of the Delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund was held at the Farringdon-road offices on Saturday last, when it was unanimously resolved to distribute the sum of £17,650 amongst 174 institutions, comprising 32 hospitals, 64 special hospitals, 20 convalescent homes, 36 dispensaries, and 22 miscellaneous. The total receipts for the year amounted to £20,039, as compared with £19,978 in 1894.

THE MEMBERS of St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 1902, Bedlington, have for some time held their lodge meetings in the Mechanics' Institute. The Committee of the institute have, however, decided to extend the usefulness of the institution, and the rooms occupied by the brethren are now required for other purposes. At a meeting of the lodge the subject was brought up, and it was agreed that the Finance Committee take the matter in hand. At a subsequent meeting it was resolved that a Company be formed for the purpose of building a hall for the use of the Freemasons. A suitable site has been picked out, and it is stated that £300 worth of shares were taken up at the meeting referred to. Bro. A. E. Burdon, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., is interesting himself in the matter. The idea is to build a large hall which could also be let for public entertainments at the place.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE LATE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—A few days since the staff of the traffic department of the Great Northern Railway presented Mr. Francis P. Cockshott, who retired from the position of superintendent of the line on the 13th December last, with a handsome service of plate. Representatives of all ranks in the department and from all parts of the company's system were present. At the quarterly meeting of the conference of superintendents of the English, Scotch, and Irish railways, held at the Railway Clearing House, on the 22nd inst., an important and finely executed drawing of a scene on the Yorkshire coast, near Filey, was presented to Mr. Cockshott as an indication of the high esteem in which he was held by his late colleagues, and their regret at his retirement from the conference. On Saturday evening, the 18th inst., Mr. Cockshott entertained the staff of his old office, that of superintendent of the line, to dinner, at the Great Northern Hotel, King's Cross, a very pleasant and thoroughly enjoyable evening being spent.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.—There is everything to indicate the fact that this magnificent establishment is striking deeper and deeper into the soil, and that its excellent formula is exciting unabated interest as the result of the last 20 years' Tontine period. Numerous letters of acknowledgment were evoked by the unprecedented consummation under this system, some of which appear in a neat pamphlet entitled "Satisfied," and carry with them conviction, inspired by the character and standing of the signatories. The highly interesting report of the Society at once became a document in very great demand from all parts, and it soon became evident that the public had not thoroughly grasped the notion of "equitability" until its pages had been perused, when it was soon found that every line within the covers of this pamphlet breathed essential vitality into the nostrils of policy-holders, and one eminent English divine—the Rev. Charles Croslegh, D.D.—emphatically declared that had he known the office earlier he certainly should have insured in it for a larger amount; whilst another correspondent says: "The result is so satisfactory, that I am willing to take out policies for double the amount." These letters are only a few selected from the many; but they speak volumes in favour of this establishment, as well they may, for to be covered by a policy of insurance for 20 years, and to find at the end of that period you have all your premiums returned and a proportion over, representing interest on such premiums, must be productive of emotions even more supreme than satisfaction. An admirable feature in the economy of the Society is its instalment principle. Either from a personally inadequate knowledge of the world and its ways, or a too ready acquiescence in the suggestions of artful "advisers" and their baneful influences, many of the beneficiaries find themselves the possessors of wealth, discreetly provided for them by their forbears, for but a short period indeed, and are soon left in poignant remorse through an ill-conceived or ill-advised investment. To obviate calamity in the investment of money realised, the Society inaugurated a highly laudable scheme, in "The Free Tontine Instalment Policy," which may be so drawn as to become an absolute safeguard against the miscarriage of the intention of the assured. Under this scheme the sum assured, instead of being payable in one sum, may be payable in 10, 15, 20, 25, or 30 equal annual payments (as may be chosen at the time the assurance is effected), thereby enabling the assured to leave his family a fixed annual income, and protecting them against loss by speculation, or shrinkage from injudicious use of the funds, and from the loss which so often results from depreciation in the value of such investments as are frequently made by executors, guardians, or beneficiaries. We cannot do better than advise interested individuals to become possessed of the literature of the Society, at 81, Cheapside, where the general manager, Messrs. Munkittrick and W. Triggs, are invariably accessible to attend to enquirers; and experience goes that these gentlemen will carry out the reputation the Society has earned for the courtesy of its officials at all seasons. Since the issue of the report and "Satisfied"—which we have read with much relish, there must be energies at work which will very soon present to the world other returns showing remarkable progression during 1895, for there are unmistakeable signs of great business in insurance during the past year, which we shall soon be called upon to review when the new reports come to hand, and we very naturally expect to find that the "Equitable Life of the United States" has far outstripped any progress made during one year in its history, a consummation which will not be begrudged to the Society by any individual. It is already known that the results of policies maturing in 1896 are equal to those of 1895—a most satisfactory fact. It is deserving of notice that the smartness of the executive in the matter of the prompt settlement of claims is a characteristic that has earned for the office a world-wide reputation, such a thing as a tortuous suspense in superfluous details being unknown in the working apparatus of the Society, and every diligence is used with a view to finality in this, the most essential consideration in all that appertains to life assurance.

A GREAT BLESSING to HUMANITY is without doubt a medicine composed of ingredients that, whilst it eradicates the germs of disease, strengthens the system. Holloway's Pills act in this manner, and in general debility, mental depression, and nervous irritability there is no remedy which operates so beneficially. They purify the blood, give tone to the stomach, and thoroughly regenerate the system. They are mild in operation, although most powerful in removing disease. Delicate females and young children can take them with safety and benefit. It would be difficult to enumerate all the advantages to be derived by taking these wonderful pills. No household should be without them, for there is no complaint which they cannot cure or relieve.