

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.

VOL. XXXV. NO. 1406.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1896.

[PRICE 3D.]

CONTENTS.	PAGE.
LEADERS—	
The Approaching Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution ...	83
The Masonic Home of Pennsylvania ...	84
The Schaw Statutes of 1598-9 ...	84
Another Masonic MS. ...	85
Provincial Grand Lodge of Stirlingshire ...	85
Provincial Grand Lodge of Banffshire ...	86
Provincial Grand Chapter of Aberdeenshire ...	86
Ladies' Banquet, Concert, and Ball of the Scots' Lodge, No. 2319 ...	86
Craft Masonry ...	87
Masonic Notes ...	89
Correspondence ...	90
Reviews ...	90
Royal Arch ...	93
Lodges of Instruction ...	93
Obituary ...	93
Masonic and General Tidings ...	94

THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

There is just about time remaining for us to take a last look round and form, as far as possible, some idea of the prospects that await us on Wednesday, the 26th instant, when the first of the great Anniversary Festivals of the year—that of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—will take place under the auspices of Bro. the Right Hon. Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., Secretary of State for India, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex. We cannot say there is much that is new to be added to what we have already written on the subject, but that little is, at all events, of an assuring character, and unless the omens prove false altogether, there are fair grounds for hoping that the gathering on the day in question will prove a success. It is very necessary that this should be the case. The demands upon the resources of the Institution are greater than at any previous period in its existence. Last year the number of annuitants on the Male Fund at £40 per annum was augmented from 195 to 200, and there are 240 on the Widows' Fund in receipt of £32 per annum each, the sum annually distributed amongst these 440 old people and the 30 widows who receive each one-half of her late husband's annuity being £16,280. To this must be added the salaries of the executive officers and other expenses of management and for the maintenance of the Asylum at Croydon, so that the total outlay cannot be set down at less than £19,000 per annum, and to meet this are the grants by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter and the interest on invested capital amounting in round figures to some £5,000. There is, therefore, an annual deficiency to be made good of about £14,000, and it is from the Anniversary Festival that we look to obtain this sum. We are aware that all this has been said times out of number, and will be repeated annually so long as there is a Benevolent Institution to claim our support. But none the less is it our duty to keep on pegging away and stating and restating the facts again and again, so that the Institution may not lose even the smallest fraction of a contribution for want of these periodical reminders. Our readers, when they find these particulars are being described at such frequent intervals in our columns, must bear in mind that there are three large Masonic Institutions to be provided for. These three Institutions disburse amongst them in the course of each succeeding year a sum amounting in the aggregate to £45,000, and we shall be overstating the case if we set down the income—including the several grants by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter—at £10,000. Thus the amount which it devolves upon the authorities of the three Charities to raise by voluntary subscriptions is £35,000, and it is needless to say that so enormous an amount takes a good deal of raising. The Secretaries who are chiefly concerned

in enlisting the services of Stewards, and the Stewards whose duty it is to canvass for subscriptions and donations have an uphill task to fulfil in order to obtain what is required. But, taking one year with another, they are generally successful, and they are so, because they and we and all who are anxious to maintain our Institutions in the highest possible state of efficiency never dream of relaxing, even for a single year, their efforts to raise the sinews of Charity.

We have said that the deficiency to be made good in the case of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution is, in round figures, about £14,000, or, perhaps, as it is desirable we should allow a small margin for any unforeseen expenditure that may arise, we shall do well to state the sum as £14,500. Are the prospects of obtaining this amount encouraging? We think so. Since we last wrote a substantial addition has been made to the Board of Stewards, which now numbers, all told, about 350 ladies and brethren. This is somewhat in excess of the Board which so successfully supported Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN as Chairman at last year's Festival, so that, as far as numbers go, the case is hopeful. Again, we have noticed in the numerous reports of lodge meetings which we have published during the last few weeks many instances in which lodges who are sending Stewards have shown themselves jubilant over the prospect of obtaining big lists, and, though these instances are only few in number, still, as a straw suffices to show the direction of the wind, so these few cases may be looked upon as indicating the possibility of a satisfactory result. But, again we say, such a result is greatly needed. The total of the Returns received at the three Festivals which have been held since the Jubilee was celebrated is only £36,633, or, an average per year of £12,211, and in this is included a sum of £1260 paid for a Perpetual Presentation to the Male Fund; but the total of the four years preceding the Jubilee was £58,525, giving an average per year of £14,631. It will be seen, therefore, that there is plenty of ground to be made good if the average for the four years since 1892 is to be brought to a level with that of the four years which preceded it.

Nor in our review of the circumstances connected with the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution must we altogether lose sight of two other important facts. Though, in consequence of the magnificent success of the Jubilee Festival, the Committee of Management found themselves in a position to fund £50,000, and, by so doing, materially augmented the permanent income—that permanent income still stands at little more than one-fourth of the permanent expenditure. Hence, when more is raised at any given Festival than is absolutely required for the service of the year, the Committee are enabled to invest the surplus, and thereby still further augment the capital of the Institution. It is the necessity for raising so large a sum annually that causes so serious a pressure on the general body of the Craft to maintain our Institutions in a state of efficiency, and whatever lightens that pressure must be a decided boon to the Craft. We must also bear in mind that, notwithstanding the great increase which has been made of late years in the number of annuitants on the two Funds, and the greater stringency of the regulations as to the qualifications of candidates, there is still at each succeeding election a marked disproportion between the number of vacancies to be filled and that of the candidates who have been found eligible to fill them. The lists of candidates for the election in May next were approved at the meeting of the Committee of Management on Wednesday and they contain no less than 113 aged people—60 men and 53 widows—all in a state

of more or less abject poverty, while the vacancies that were declared, including the three on each Fund to deferred annuities, were only 33, namely, on the Male Fund, 19—16 immediate and 3 deferred; and on the Widows' Fund, 14, that is to say, 11 immediate and 3 deferred. And though in accordance with our experience of past years, it is tolerably certain that these figures will be slightly increased between now and the third week in May, there will still remain from 70 to 80 old brethren and widows for whom no election is possible and who must continue to endure their poverty, with such patience and philosophy as they may be able to command, for at least another 12 months. However, we have now described the position of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in all its most important features, and it only remains for us to express the hope that a fortnight hence we may be able to record that what is at present only the promise of a successful Festival on the 26th instant has been fully realised. A very large sum, as usual, is needed for the requirements of the present year, and we sincerely hope that under the auspices of Bro. Lord GEORGE HAMILTON it will be forthcoming.

THE MASONIC HOME OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In the *Freemason* of the 9th February, 1895, we furnished many interesting particulars concerning the establishment and progress of the Masonic Home in Philadelphia, an Institution which may be said to resemble in some respects that branch of our Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which is known as the Asylum, at Croydon. We mentioned, among other things, that this Home was opened on the 1st January, 1884, with *one* inmate, and at the close of the year 1894 it provided accommodation for 37. In this period of 11 years the number of aged brethren who had been nominated for admission was 97, of whom 67 had been admitted, 20 had declined, three had been withdrawn, five had died, and two remained on the list. Of those admitted, 29 had died, and one had been "honourably discharged," the remaining 37 constituting the inmates at the date of the report on which our article was founded. We further mentioned that the 36 Masonic Bodies and eight individuals on the roll as supporters of the Home in 1884, had become 10 years later, 136 Masonic Bodies and 358 individuals; that the total amount received in behalf of the Institution from the outset was 129,000 dollars (£25,800), and the total amount expended, 98,500 dollars (£19,700), the balance of over 30,000 dollars, representing the sum invested and the cash in hand for current outlay. We also stated that a Mrs. QUEEN had made to the Home as a memorial to her late brother, Dr. DICKEY, the very handsome donation of 12,000 dollars (£2,400), towards the erection of additional premises, to be known as the "DICKEY Wing," and that generally the Home was in a flourishing condition, and was very generously supported by our Pennsylvanian brethren. The report of the Managing Committee for the year 1895, which was submitted and approved at a meeting of the Corporation held in the Masonic Hall, Philadelphia, on the 10th ult., is published in the *Keystone* of the 18th of the same month, and from this we learn that the Institution has been similarly prosperous during the period to which the said report relates. The 136 Masonic Bodies and the 358 individuals on the roll of supporters have now increased to 142 and 409 respectively, while the contributions from the Grand Bodies of Pennsylvania, which in 1894 consisted of 500 dollars from Grand Lodge, 300 dollars each from Grand Chapter and Grand Commandery, and 100 dollars from the A. and A.S. Rite, or in all, 1200 dollars, are now returned, as comprising 500 dollars each from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, 300 dollars from Grand Commandery, and 250 dollars from the A. and A.S. Rite, or altogether, 1550 dollars. We are likewise told that the "DICKEY Wing," or to give it the full title set forth in the report, the "SAMUEL J. DICKEY Extension," has been completed and legally conveyed to the Board of Managers; and is occupied, the first-floor as a chapel, the second and third-floors as dormitories, and the basement by the steam-heating plant for the whole Institution. Moreover, the alteration and enlargement of the old dining-room has, we are told, "greatly increased our facilities for a larger family, and we are prepared to admit all deserving applicants provided our finances will increase as the number admitted grows

larger." It seems also that the estimate of the sub-Committee—"that we have room for double the number of brethren now under our care"—is looked upon as a moderate one. But the most satisfactory statement of all is that, owing to Mrs. QUEEN'S generous gift and the liberal support of the brethren, the Committee are now in possession of a "new building of large capacity," and have been enabled, "without encroaching upon our invested funds, to put in general good condition all of our property," and that "for several years there will be need only of enlarging and building up our investments and our permanent income." The new building contains 22 sleeping apartments, each of which is intended to accommodate two brethren, and to furnish and fit these would, of course, entail a considerable outlay even at the moderate cost of 200 dollars per room. However, sundry brethren and Masonic bodies have undertaken to furnish 10 of the number, and doubtless others will be found ready and willing to follow this example. Add to this that the reports of the various sub-Committees are described as being satisfactory, and that the contributions made to the Home on Donation Day amounted to upwards of 6000 dollars, and it will be seen that the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, though it has only been in existence for the brief period of 12 years, is already well furnished with the means of support, and is, indeed, like our own Institutions, a recognised part of Pennsylvanian Masonry. We heartily wish this new and already prosperous Masonic Charity a long continuance of the good fortune it has heretofore received, and that it may at all times find itself in a position to provide for the needs of all "deserving applicants."

THE SCHAW STATUTES OF 1598-9.

The two CODES of 1598-9 are signed by *William Schaw*, who became "Maister of Wark" from 1584 (in succession to Sir Robert Drummond) "to the King's Majesty" (James VI. of Scotland), and was also "*Prencipall Warden and Chieff Maister of Maissones*," as recorded in a minute of the ancient Lodge of Edinburgh of 8th June, 1600. The senior document was reproduced in the Book of Constitutions Grand Lodge of Scotland, 1848, &c., but better still in Bro. D. Murray Lyons' invaluable "History of the Lodge of Edinburgh, No. 1" (1873), the latter having the first and concluding portions in facsimile.

The second Code had long been lost sight of, but was discovered in the charter chest at Eglinton Castle, and in 1861 the late Earl of Eglinton, through the lamented M.W. Bro. John Whyte-Melville, then D.G.M., presented to the Grand Lodge of Scotland a copy of "Memorials of the Montgomeries, Earls of Eglinton." As Bro. Lyon states, it is "to his lordship's munificent encouragement of archæological research that the present generation of Freemasons owe their acquaintance" with this important MS. and work.

The Statutes, dated 28th December, 1598, were "to be obseruit be all the Maister Maissouins within this realme, Sett down be Williame Schaw, Maister of Wark to his Majestic and generall Wardane of the said Craft, with the consent of the Maisteris efter specifeit," whilst those of date 28th December, 1599, are mainly addressed to the "ludge of Kilwynning," though in part of a general character, and based upon the senior Code. It would appear as if a question had arisen as to precedence, and that this deliverance of Schaw was authoritatively to settle the matter. The Master Mason of King James seems to go out of his way to insist on the recognition of the exact status of this lodge, as in the first clause it is termed—

"The heid and secund ludge of Scotland,"

and in the next clause the term employed is the "ludge of Kilwynning *secund* ludge of Scotland." The "Warden of Kilwynning" is described "as *secund* in Scotland" in the 6th clause, and so are the "Warden and deakon" in the following regulation. The 9th provides that "na prentis nor craftis man be admittit nor enterit bot onlie within the Kirk of Kilwynning, as his parochie and *secund* ludge;" the 12th empowers "the warden and deaconis of the second ludge of Scotland present of Kilwynning" to take the oath "of all maisteris and fallowis of craft within the hail boundis commit to thair charge," who were not to "accumpanie with cowanis," and the 13th again describes the lodge as the *secund* in Scotland.

The third "item" is most emphatic as to seniority or pre-

cedence, and concerns not only *Kilwinning* and *Edinburgh*, but also *Stirling*, being likewise retrospective as well as prospective.

"Item, it is thought needfull & expedient be my lord warden generall, that *Edinburgh* salbe in all tyme cuming, as of befoir, ye *first* and principall ludge in Scotland; and yt *Kilwynning* be ye *secund* ludge, as of befoir is notourlie manifest in or auld antient wirttis; & yt *Stirling* salbe the *third* ludge, conforme to ye auld privileges thairof."

It should be noted that the question of precedence or priority on the roll may have been entertained, considered, and decided on long prior to these Statutes of 1599; the decision not necessarily involving any settlement as to relative antiquity, but only *seniority*, so to speak, on the roll. In England, Nos. 2 and 4 are very much older than Nos. 1 and 3, though the latter two are the senior to the other two respectively. Possibly, the decision was due to the metropolitan position of the Lodge of *Edinburgh* rather than its greater antiquity, but as to that, it is impossible now to determine; but precedence was accorded to the Lodge of *Edinburgh*, then *Kilwinning* was to follow, and *Stirling* was third in order of seniority.

The superiority of the Lodge of *Edinburgh*, as respects the oldest Masonic minutes known, is beyond question, its volume of Records, which begins in July, 1599, being by far the most ancient document of the kind in the world. By the Statutes of the same year, it continued to be the senior of lodges in Scotland, as it long has been of all lodges everywhere, but for the sake of peace and harmony, the Grand Lodge agreed early this century to place "*Mother Kilwinning*" above it, as No. 0, as the senior on the Roll—their relative antiquity being undecided—and from that year (1807) the arrangement has continued, notwithstanding the vigorous protests of No. 1, against taking a junior position on the Register. A few years later a similar decision was arrived at in England, when the "*Lodge of Antiquity*" No. 1, the "*Somerset House and Inverness*," No. 2, and other old lodges accepted the second, fourth, and other junior positions respectively, to enable the "*Grand Master's Lodge*" and others dating *after* 1750 to assume the numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, &c., on the Roll.

It sounds strangely to refer to *three head lodges*, but this apparent ambiguity is explained by the addition of "*principall ludge*" to *Edinburgh*, "*secund*" to *Kilwinning*, the *third* to *Stirling*, each, as Bro. D. Murray Lyon has pointed out, being "*head Lodges over their respective bounds and independent of each other*" (p. 243, *History of No. 1*.) A similar usage is met with in relation to the German *Steinmetzen*—familiar to students of Bro. Gould's colossal *History*—*Strassburg*, *Cologne*, and *Vienna*, being the three great Masonic centres, but the first-mentioned was to be the perpetual Head.

The Statutes are too long to be produced in full, but they can be consulted by turning to Bro. Murray Lyon's great work. I am glad to state that a second edition is in progress, and will, doubtless, be most eagerly welcomed by reading Freemasons who appreciate the veteran author's pioneer labours in the past. Bro. Dr. George Dickson (the esteemed R.W.M. of No. 1), has had both the Codes most beautifully photographed by his son for reproduction in the new volume, and has kindly presented me with copies, which have been utilised for the present paper. Through the kind services of Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., Grand Master of Scotland, (on the application of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary), the Earl of Eglinton lent volume one of the Charters in his Lordship's muniment room for reproduction in facsimile; Dr. Dickson being only too glad to avail himself of such a special opportunity.

This volume is most ornately bound, labelled "*Eglinton Charters: Vol. 1*," and measures full 21 in. by 15 in., and nearly 2 in. thick. The Code of 1598 is in two sheets, over 11 in., by close on 8 in. The later one of 1599, consists of a sheet and a half of slightly larger size, written in two different hands, the first and last portions being identical in style with that of the Scribe (Archibald Gibson), who wrote the copy in the Records of No. 1, *Edinburgh*. Unfortunately, the third item of this Code has suffered by "wear and tear," and is now protected by a thin slip of paper being placed over a part of it, so that the photo taken by Dr. Dickson's son only exhibits a portion of this important Statute.

As a member of "*Mother Kilwinning*," and honorary member of No. One, I am exceedingly interested in these old Regulations, and proud to be so intimately connected with these two ancient lodges.

W. J. HUGHAN.

AMONG THE GUESTS present at the full-dress Parliamentary banquet given by the Prime Minister, at his residence in Arlington-street, on Monday, were Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor); the Dukes of Atholl, Portland, and Abercorn, the Marquis of Zetland, the Earl of Lathom (Lord Chamberlain); the Earls of Derby, Crawford, Kintore, Dartmouth, Warwick, Mount Edgcumbe, Egmont, Rosslyn, Onslow, Limerick, Dunraven, Wharfedale, and Londesborough, Earl Amherst, and Lords Balfour of Burleigh, Egeiton of Tatton, Ashbourne, and Rathmore, and the Hon. S. M. Donnell.

ANOTHER MASONIC MS.

It affords me great pleasure to announce that another copy of the "*Old Charges*;" has been traced, and that the text is of a special character. It belonged to the late Bro. Younghusband, who presented it to Bro. Captain J. Macnab, R.N.R. (P. Prov. G.W. West Lincs.), in whose possession it has been until last month, when it changed hands, and is to be placed in the library of West Yorkshire, much to the delight of the zealous Librarian, my esteemed friend, Bro. William Watson, thus making the *eighth* in that famous collection. Only one other Institution has so many, and that is the British Museum.

Captain Macnab kindly allowed me to be the purchaser, but expressed the wish that the document should be placed in some permanent collection, hence my choice of *West Yorkshire* in the adjoining county. I need not state that Bro. Watson was only too pleased to secure it on the same terms. The late owner has decided to devote the proceeds to Masonic Charities, and I have parted with the scroll on the condition that it be always called

"*The Macnab MS.*"

Originally it was a roll, but was (most unfortunately) cut into strips later on, and carefully mounted. Doubtless the document will be reproduced, ere long, by Bro. Watson, and, possibly, I shall write an Introduction, so it is only needful now for me to state that it is written on paper, and has the name "*Geo. Webstr., 1722*," &c., at the end, the period of its transcription being 1720 *circa*.

It belongs to the "*Roberts' Family*," having the "*Apprentice Charge*" and the "*New Articles*" complete, but lacks a small portion of the first part.

There are only two other MSS. that have the "*New Articles*," and there are but five now of the Family, one being without these clauses, and the other is a reproduction in type ("*Roberts*"). I am indebted to Bro. T. A. Withey, of Leeds, for the introduction to Captain Macnab.

Since the publication of my "*Old Charges of British Freemasons*" (*London*, Bro. George Kenning), two MSS. have been announced. The first is the "*Langdale MS.*," to be numbered D 40, of the latter part of the last century, reproduced in the "*Christmas Freemason*," December 7th, 1895, by Bro. Schnitger and myself, and the second is this—"The *Macnab MS.*"—F 5, of early 18th century. Both are (or were) Paper Rolls.

I shall be glad to correspond with brethren who know of other copies of the "*Old Charges*," as there are still several missing, and we want to trace and collate them all.

W. J. HUGHAN

(Torquay).

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF STIRLINGSHIRE.

The Quarterly Communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, *Stirling*, on Tuesday, the 4th instant. Bro. ex-Provost Christie, Prov. Grand Master, presided, and he was supported by Bros. W. Black, Depute Prov. Grand Master, and Sir J. R. Gibson Mailand, Bart., Substitute Prov. Grand Master. The principal business was the nomination of elective office-bearers for the ensuing year, and the following is the list:

Bro. William Stephen	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" James Ferguson	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Dr. Dyer	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Fred. Johnston	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" M. O. Thomson	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" William Drummond	...	...	...	Prov. G. Architect.
" Lambert Hoping	...	...	...	Prov. G. Jeweller.
" George Maltman	...	...	...	Prov. G. Bible Bearer
" Robert Hetherington	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Robert Taylor	...	...	...	Prov. G. Bard.
" James Scott	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. L. Graham	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of Music.
" J. A. Wilmott	...	...	...	Prov. P.G. Stewards.
" Sergeant Baldwin	...	...	...	Prov. G. Marshal.
" Peter Wright	...	...	...	Prov. G. I.G.
" William Watson	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The installation and annual dinner will take place on Tuesday, the 23rd instant, in the Royal Hotel, *Stirling*.

The Quarterly Communications for the ensuing year were arranged to take place as follows: April and July, in *Falkirk*; October, in *Alloa*; and January, in *Stirling*.

Other formal business having been transacted, the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF BANFFSHIRE.

The first Quarterly Communication of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Banffshire took place on Wednesday in the St. John's Lodge Rooms, Banff. There was a good turn out of brethren.

The following were appointed office-bearers for the year :

Bro. Captain W. T. Reid of Ardmeallie	...	Prov. G.M.
" W. F. D. Steuart, of Archlunkart	...	Depute P.G.M.
" Captain W. Arnold, R.A.	...	Substitute P.G.M.
" Rev. W. R. Pirie	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. A. Boyd	...	
" J. Young	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" G. G. Simpson	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" A. L. Gillan	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Macdonald	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" A. Pennie	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" W. Simpson	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" James Nicholson	...	Prov. G. Stwd.
" A. Wilson	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Swingler	...	Prov. G. Architect.
" W. J. Marsden	...	Prov. G. Jeweller.
" J. Smith	...	Prov. G. Bible B.
" J. Simpson	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" A. Dick	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" D. Scott Robertson	...	Prov. G.D. of M.
" W. Davidson	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. Young	...	} Prov. G. Auditors.
" Clark	...	
" W. Paul	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The April meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge will be held in Cullen, the July meeting in Dufftown, and the October meeting in Keith.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF ABERDEENSHIRE.

The Quarterly Communication of the above Prov. Grand Chapter was held in the Masonic Hall on the evening of the 24th ultimo, under the presidency of Comp. Sir Allan Mackenzie, Bart., of Glenmuick, Grand Superintendent. The chapter afterwards vested St. George's Chapter, No. 21, and the Royal Arch Degree was conferred upon two candidates. It was agreed that the chapter should visit Peterhead and Aboyne at an early date.

LADIES' BANQUET, CONCERT, AND BALL OF THE SCOTS LODGE, No. 2319.

ST. VALENTINE'S NIGHT.

The annual ladies' night given by the Scots Lodge, No. 2319, was appointed this year to be given on the 7th inst., and on Friday evening last, a company of some 234 ladies and brethren, together with gentlemen who were not Masons, assembled at the Holborn Restaurant to do honour to the occasion. The Worshipful Master of the year is Bro. James Joseph Whitehead, a son of Bro. John Whitehead, of Aberdeen, the second Master of the lodge. The gathering was one of which any Worshipful Master might be proud, more particularly a Worshipful Master so young in years of life as Bro. Whitehead. With the experience of a ladies' night last year, perhaps the brethren who organised the entertainment might not have had the same trouble in bringing it to a highly successful issue as if they had been exercising a "prentice hand" on it, but the result showed that they were accomplished Master Masons in the execution of their work. There was not a single hitch or flaw in the whole of the proceedings, and any future committees to which may be entrusted the task of arranging for further similar entertainments will have a very severe one, not only to produce anything superior to it, but also anything to equal it.

A reception took place at half-past six in the evening in the ante-room of the King's Hall, when Bro. Joseph J. Whitehead, W.M., who was accompanied by Mrs. Whitehead, had presented to him the company of the evening. This included the following members of the lodge: Bros. John Whitehead, P.M.; John Page, P.M.; Thomas Grant, I.P.M.; D. F. Gellion, P.M.; Alex Ritchie, J.P., C.C. Treas.; D. A. Ross, Sec.; James Thomson, S.W.; Dr. D. M. Forbes, J.W.; D. R. Duncan, S.D.; E. J. Gordon, J.D.; David Charteris, A. MacGregor, J. Nicol, T. Sandilands, Wm. Laurie, J. Plenderleith, T. D. M. Burnside, A. D. Arnott, A. J. Macmaster, A. Whitehead, J. M. Barclay, J. Macgregor, Bailey Smith, W. Craig, J. Bennett, W. S. Beaton, and J. Anderson. There were also presented: Mr. and Mrs. Brutton; Mr. and Mrs. Mullins; Miss Nellie Whitehead; Mr. Joseph Whitehead, sen.; Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. T. Grant, Miss Grant, Mr. Seton, Mrs., Miss, and Miss E. Brown; Mr. and Mrs. Bond; Mr. and Mrs. Crick; Mrs. and Miss Trinder; Mr. T. Powley; Mr. Bullock; Bro., Mrs., and Miss F. Klenck; Mr. Cooper, Miss W. Porter, Mr. Pankhurst, Miss Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Jenrick; Mr. W. Bull, Mr. W. Reid, Mr. R. S. Darling, Dr. Brenner, Mr. W. Blair, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson; Miss Sturgeon, Mr. Mac Carthy, Miss Harrison, Mr. Scott, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Wade, Mr. Loughborough, Mrs. Charteris, Mr. Whittington, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wade; Mr. J. L. Wade, Mr. T. Charteris, Mr. R. E. Taylor, Mr. J. B. Charteris, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Field; Mrs. D. A. Ross, Mr. Andrews, Mr. S. Wood, Mr. D. Charteris, jun., Mr. Davis, Miss Gilby, Mr. Snewin, Miss Keevil, Mr. Avery, Miss Davies, Mr. Keevil, Miss Avery, Mr. Wade, Mrs. Loughborough, Miss Bond, Mrs. Gellion, Mr. and Mrs. Hayes, Miss Black, Miss L. Johnstone, Miss E. Black, Mr. T. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. McKean; Mr. Boothby, Mr. R. H. Thompson, Mr. W. Grocott, Mr. W. Hay, Mrs. Burnside, Miss Watt, Mr. Robert Watt, Miss Hay and Miss. M. Hay; Mr. and Miss Graham; Bro. and Miss Ellen Massey; Mr. Baxter, Mr. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Macintosh; Mrs. Laurie, Mrs. Nicol, Miss Hale, Mr. T. Macklin, Miss and Miss E. Plenderleith; Mr. H. Walls, Mr. and Miss Sandilands; Mr. and Mrs. Higgs; Mr. J. P. and Mrs. Balfour; Mrs. D. R. Duncan; Mr. and Mrs. Bowie; Mrs. Macmaster, Mr. J. W. W. Morrison, Miss Hankin, Mr. A. McNeish, Capt. D. M.

Smith, Mr. W. Hay, Mr. B. Grant and Mrs. Grant; Mrs. James Thomson, Miss Barclay, Mr. J. A. Lambie, Miss Stanbury, Mr. F. Whitehead, Mr. T. Harbey, Miss Roeppa, Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Phillips; Miss M. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Brutton; Mr. B. R. and Mrs. and Miss Chessum; Mr. H. R. and Mrs. Hart; Mr. W. H. and Mrs. Meyrick; Mrs. Macgregor, Mr. R. C. Stamp, Mrs. Alex. Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. Smith; Mr. Wankley, Mr. Cockrell, Miss Stella Keevil, Mr. J. Lymington, Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane; Mr. H. H. and Mrs. Owen; Mrs. Stamp, Mr. A. and Mrs. Grant; Mr. and Mrs. Goodacre; Mr. Sidney Smith, Miss Smith, Mr. Alex. Smith, Mr. and Miss Cruickshanks; Mr. Aubert, Miss Harris, and Mr. and Mrs. Buxton. The Piper, Bro. Peter Maclean, and the Tyler, Bro. W. Robertson, were in attendance.

At seven o'clock, after the reception the company proceeded to the Venetian Chamber, where a magnificent banquet was provided, the Worshipful Master presiding, with his wife on his immediate right, and Mrs. Thomas Grant on his immediate left. The introduction of the Haggis was a grand affair, for not only was it preceded by the Piper, Bro. Maclean, but by a band of pipers, including several boys from the Royal Caledonian Asylum, all playing on the glorious pipes.

The banquet was succeeded by the proposal of three toasts only, "The Queen and the Royal Family," "The Ladies," and "The Worshipful Master."

Bro. JOSEPH JAMES WHITEHEAD, W.M., in proposing the first of these toasts, said he was sure that not only the Masons who were present, but the company, one and all felt with the Royal Family in their late deep affliction. At the same time he and all present wished that this great British Empire might long be ruled in the same wise and acceptable way as had been the case during the present reign.

Bro. RITCHIE, Treasurer, proposed "The Ladies," which was practically the toast of the evening. The ladies present would at once admit from what they had seen that the W.M. ruled over the Scots Lodge of London wisely and well, and that he and his colleagues had done well in making the evening a prosperous one. They could boast that they had the presence of the President of the Caledonian Society, who would respond to that toast in the presence of, they would forgive him for saying, so many young, beautiful, and eligible ladies. He himself was a Past President of the Caledonian Society, and had passed through his silver wedding, and he felt it a very great honour to have been asked to propose that toast. They were not to give him any credit for that grand gathering; the great success of it had been effected by others, and he asked the W.M. to accept from him a souvenir of that event in the shape of a photograph of a picture of the Mother Lodge of Scotland. He happened to be in Scotland and saw the original picture, and it was photographed and given to him, when he was told he could not do better than receive it. He thought, therefore, that the best thing he could do was to present it on the ladies' night. He therefore asked the W.M. to accept it.

The photograph was then presented.

Bro. Dr. D. M. FORBES, J.W., in replying to the toast, said he considered it a high honour to be asked to return thanks for the ladies. Would they please, for a time, consider him the ladies' representative in possession of the charms of grace, beauty, and sylph-like form of lovely woman, of whom Schiller had written "To her it is given to garden earth with roses of heaven." But there were other ideas of woman, and it had also been written of them—

"Oh, woman, in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
When pain and anguish wring the brow,
A ministering angel thou."

But there was something else written of women by a Freemason—and an eminent Freemason—which he thought best of all. When speaking of nature in the creation of the world, he said:

"Her 'prentice hand she tried on man,
And then she made the lasses, oh."

In their name, therefore, he begged to thank Bro. Ritchie for the flattering sentiments he expressed in proposing the toast, and the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they received it. The ladies desired him to say that they would continue to be the true and steadfast friends of the brethren, and follow their example in comforting the sorrowing and bringing peace and consolation to the afflicted. The ladies thanked the members of the Scots Lodge for inviting them that St. Valentine's festival of 1896, which was a proof that they loved the lasses. The ladies reciprocated the feeling, and would be pleased to receive a similar invitation next year. In the words of a song which was on the programme, they said that the brethren had only to "whistle, and they will come to ye, my lads." The ladies could not understand why the brethren did not receive them as members. He had asked for them the reason why, and he was told by an old Freemason that it was prohibited by the orders of King Solomon, who insisted that the Temple at Jerusalem should be built noiselessly and silently, and that male labour alone should be employed in erecting the sacred edifice, and would not even allow his wife, King Pharaoh's daughter, to go near it until it was completed. What his reason for it was he (Bro. Forbes) could not tell. He always had thought King Solomon was a wise man, but he had also thought that, when the lasses were concerned, he was a great fool. King Solomon was too much married. The ladies now thanked the brethren, and reciprocated the sentiments of the members of the Scots Lodge.

"As cats like kitchen,
And dogs like bree,
The lasses like the lads,
And the auld wives tac."

Bro. THOMAS GRANT, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." The W.M. was beloved by the members of the Scots Lodge; he was well known for his skill in working the ritual and for his interest in the cause of Freemasonry and its charitable institutions. Masonry and civilisation went hand in hand, and, looking around him that night, he felt sure that the combination was likely to continue to the end of the world. The ladies and brethren did not know with what care and ability the W.M., and the Secretary, and Committee had worked to make that meeting successful. When they retired from that room they would go to the King's Hall, there where would be dancing, and when they left that spacious building they would only hope to come again next year. In drinking the W.M.'s health, he would wish him a happy and prosperous year of office.

Bro. J. J. WHITEHEAD, W.M., in reply, said what he had done had been a labour of love, especially when he was so willingly assisted by the P.Ms., officers, and brethren. He could assure the company that he and the other members of the lodge were amply repaid by the success of the gathering for any trouble they had been put to. For the unexpected token he had received that night from Bro. Ritchie and the ladies he begged to express his sincere thanks. Before sitting down, he wished to express his sincere acknowledgments to all the brethren who had assisted him in getting up that festival, not forgetting his dear brother Secretary, Bro. Ross, who was really more entitled to their thanks than he (Bro. Whitehead). When toasting him they were toasting all the others engaged with him in that work.

Bro. JOHN WHITEHEAD, before the proceedings at the banquet table ended, said he had received a telegram from Bro. David Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, congratulating the Scots Lodge on the gathering. The brethren would remember the hearty reception given by the Scots Lodge to the Grand Lodge of Scotland when members of it were in London. He had also

received a similar telegram from the Saltoun Lodge, in Aberdeen, which was meeting that night, and of which the W.M. was his son, and brother of the W.M. of the Scots Lodge. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Aberdeen also congratulated the Scots Lodge.

In the intervals between these speeches, Miss Marian Richards, Miss Lucie Johnstone, and Bros. Edgar Barnes and Tom Powley entertained the company by singing several Scotch songs.

The brethren and visitors afterwards proceeded to the King's Hall, where dancing commenced at half-past 10, and was kept up with unflagging energy till nearly five o'clock the following morning. The boys from the Royal Caledonian Asylum opened the ball with a Scotch reel. The gathering throughout was a great success, and the proceedings reflected the greatest credit on all concerned in the arrangements. The M.Cs. were Bros. Thomas Grant, I.P.M.; James Thomson, S.W.; and E. J. Gordon, J.D. The Stewards were Bros. John Whitehead, P.M.; John Page, P.M.; D. F. Gellion, P.M.; D. M. Forbes, J.W.; Alex. Ritchie, J.P., C.C.; D. A. Ross, Sec.; D. R. Duncan, S.D.; W. Craig, I.G.; James Anderson, J. Plenderleith, D. Charteris, W. Lawrie, and J. Sandilands. The band of H.M. Scots Guards, under the leadership of Bro. Dunkerton, was the band which played selections during the dinner, and the dance music later on.

Craft Masonry.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

A meeting of this old lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 24th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. Dr. W. H. Kempster, jun., P.G.S., W.M.; H. J. Lardner, G.S., S.W.; Cotton, J.W.; Hy. Young, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.S., Sec.; Debenham, P.P.G.O., S.D.; O. Polenz, J.D.; Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S.; H. Slade, P.M., P.G.S.; Josling, P.M., P.G.S.; and Evenden, P.M., Tyler. Bros. H. Higgins, P.M. 1381, and J. Kift were visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Cotton, J.W., was unanimously nominated for recommendation to the M.W.G.M. as Grand Steward for 1896-7. He having been elected to serve the R.M.I. for Boys as Steward at the next Festival, the sum of five guineas was voted towards his list. Bro. Lunnis was unanimously elected as a joining member. Communications for non-attendance having been received and read, the lodge was duly closed.

A banquet followed, and upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts were duly proposed and honoured.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. particularly mentioned the name of Bro. Henry Higgins, the respected father of one of the initiates of the Peace and Harmony Lodge, namely, Bro. Geo. Higgins, at present in Italy.

Bro. Higgins, P.M., duly acknowledged the compliment in a neat speech, in which he stated how pleased his son was with the lodge, and regretted the cause that prevented his attendance for the present at their pleasant meetings.

During the evening Bro. Kift ably presided at the piano, and gave some excellent songs. Bros. H. Young, P.M., and Jacques also entertained the brethren. The proceedings throughout were most agreeable and happy.

Temple Lodge, No. 101.

The installation meeting of this highly popular and flourishing lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., on Tuesday, the 4th instant. Present: Bros. Frank Wint, W.M.; C. L. Plant, S.W., W.M. elect; Wm. Briant, J.W.; Hy. Wood, I.P.M.; Frank Williams, P.M., Treas.; E. S. Lardner, P.G.S., Sec.; B. Dowsett, S.D.; Hy. Eyre, J.D.; J. H. Chapman, acting I.G.; Sidney Hill, Org.; H. Squires, Stwd.; R. Potter, P.M., Tyler; J. H. Wynne, P.M.; H. Brandon White, P.M.; W. George, P.M.; J. Minter Flegg, P.M.; W. J. Beard, P.M.; Alf. Paine, J. G. Paine, A. N. Garton, W. A. Williams, S. G. Abraham, Hy. Gunton, Jas. Saunders, A. Hall, E. Hall, A. G. Gunton, Wm. Moore, G. Harrison, W. A. Perry, A. Weston, E. A. Garton, B. Covill, James Budd, and W. C. Toms. The visitors were: Bros. S. J. Woodard, P.M. 936, P.P.G. Std. Br. Suffolk; W. A. Hine, J.W. 933; J. Hill, J.W. 1441; R. Weller, P.M. 1967; J. Gluckstein, J.W. 141; G. Howitz, 185; H. Cornford, S.D. 1922; T. R. Cass, I.P.M. 1320; E. Pool, 145; F. W. Sanders, 30; J. Longhurst, I.P.M. 227; H. Salmon, I.G. 141; J. H. Holdsworth, 7 (Bendigo, Victoria); W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572; J. W. Blott, P.M. 712; F. Dunn, P.M. 72; Thomas Mills, 134; Alf. Streeter, S.W. 2157; M. Syer, I.G. 1658; F. T. Garton, 850; R. S. Cartwright, 834; W. T. Warner, P.M. 1297; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, S.D. 1641.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting and emergency meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Plant, S.W., was presented by Bro. Walter George, P.M., to Bro. S. Lardner, P.M., to receive the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in an exemplary manner. The W.M., Bro. Plant, invested his officers as follows: Bros. F. Wint, I.P.M.; Wm. Briant, S.W.; B. Dowsett, J.W.; F. W. Williams, P.M., Treas.; E. S. Lardner, P.M., Sec.; Harry Eyre, S.D.; W. A. Perry, J.D.; J. E. Paine, I.G.; W. George, P.M., D.C.; H. P. Squire, P.M., and W. A. Williams, Stewards; Sidney Hill, Org.; and R. Potter, P.M., Tyler. The addresses were ably rendered by the Installing Master. A sum of five guineas was voted to a distressed brother. The ceremony of initiation was unavoidably held over till the next meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Stewards for so ably fulfilling their duty at the ladies' banquet.

The business of the lodge ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet personally superintended in his genial style by Bro. Ashby, manager.

The cloth removed, the W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in very sympathetic terms, which were received in the same kindly spirit.

The toast of "The Pro G.M., Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. remarked, was one worthy of the esteem of all the brethren for their guidance and counsel which they were ever ready to give.

Bro. Frank Wint, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said it was an honour and gave him much pleasure in doing so, for the new W.M. was his oldest friend, and had been associated with him ever since he came to Camberwell. All knew what an excellent worker he was, and his (Bro. Wint's) only hope was all the succeeding Worshipful Masters would emulate him. The toast was long life, health, and happiness to the W.M.

Bro. C. Plant, W.M., who received quite an ovation, in reply, said it was recorded "out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh," but he was obliged to take exception to that, for the fulness of his heart prevented him from replying as he should, to give justice for the magnificent reception. He felt, indeed, very proud of the exalted position in which he had been elected through their extremely kind suffrages. It was seven years since his initiation, and six since first receiving the junior officer's collar. Since then he had filled every position in the lodge until now its W.M. He had been deeply impressed with the installation, and hoped to emulate the Installing Master, Bro. E. Lardner. He strongly urged on the younger brethren the importance of attending lodges of instruction, so as to enable them to fill any position that they might be called upon to discharge. He trusted the lodge would never regret placing him there and for the trust reposed in him, while, on his part, he promised to discharge his duties faithfully, zealously, and impartially. He should ask the kind assistance of the I.P.M. and the rest of the Past Masters, and trusted to gain the affection of the brethren of that ancient Temple Lodge, and that his year of office would be successful, profitable, and instructive.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Initiate" in welcome terms, to which he very suitably replied.

Bro. C. Plant, W.M., in very complimentary terms, gave the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Frank Wint," remarking that they had witnessed a most successful past year, and the influx of five worthy brethren as initiates and one joining member. The I.P.M. had certainly done his work to his utmost, and he (the W.M.) hoped the same mantle might fall upon him to enable him to discharge the duties to the entire satisfaction of all. To mark the appreciation of the brethren, he would present the splendid jewel so unanimously voted him, and asked the I.P.M. to receive it not for its intrinsic value, but as a

token of the love and esteem he was held in by the brethren, and it was the earnest desire of all that he would live many years to adorn the Temple Lodge with the jewel decorating his breast.

Bro. F. Wint, in reply, tendered his most sincere thanks for such a splendid jewel. His work had not been such perfection as he could have desired, but his love for the Temple Lodge had been strong, and would continue to flow for its future welfare, and he hoped it would go on and prosper.

The toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. E. Lardner," was next presented by the W.M., who remarked with what pride and pleasure it gave him in placing the same before the brethren. Bro. Lardner had acted as sponsor to the W.M., had rehearsed all the ceremonies from his initiation, and now he had received at his hands the benefit of installation, for which he heartily thanked him. He had also exalted him in the Temple Chapter, and trusted he should be honoured by being installed in the various chairs when the occasion arose. He asked the brethren to drink to the toast, as it deserved, most enthusiastically.

In reply, Bro. Lardner most cordially thanked the W.M. for such flattering remarks. All the brethren knew him so well, and his earnest desire to do all he could for the welfare of the lodge. In installing their W.M. he was indeed proud, specially as he was so worthy a follower of K.S.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Visitors," who said there were many worthy and distinguished brethren present, and the Temple Lodge gave them a most hearty greeting. He hoped they had thoroughly enjoyed the work witnessed, and the hospitality extended them by the brethren of the lodge, and so well carried out by Bro. Ashby, the indefatigable manager.

This was ably responded to by Bros. Whitaker, P.M.; Cass, P.M.; and F. Dunn, P.M., who all eulogised the W.M. upon his ability, and on the unostentatious manner in which he carried out the various duties that devolved upon him. One and all spoke of the solid work Bro. Plant had done and continued to do, and his readiness at all times to assist any brother he came in contact with. On behalf of the visitors they tendered their heartfelt thanks for such an enjoyable evening.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Past Masters," coupling with it the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary."

This toast was worthily presented and received, and ably responded to by Bro. W. G. Beard, P.M., who was accorded a most hearty cheer. He said his absence from the lodge had been enforced through professional duties, but when he saw the announcement of the meeting on the summons and the brother to be installed he made an effort to be present. The name of Bro. Beard was well known in the Temple Lodge, at one time father and two sons being P.Ms. Although it was 14 years since he left the chair of W.M., he would confess his interest for the Temple Lodge was still glowing, and he hoped well for its success.

Bro. Frank Williams, P.M., Treas., thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks, and pledged himself that so long as the brethren of the Temple Lodge reposed their trust in him he would do his duty to the utmost. He then stated how delighted the brethren were to welcome their esteemed Bro. W. G. Beard, P.M., among them again.

The toast of "The Officers" received at the hands of the W.M. and brethren its just meed of praise, and was most ably responded to by the J.W. and S.D., each pledging himself to do his utmost for the lodge and would most willingly give his assistance to the W.M. for a most successful year.

The Tyler's toast closed a most happy evening.

An excellent programme of music, under the able direction of Bro. Sidney Hill, Org. 101, assisted by Mr. Arthur Grover, Bros. Arthur Weston, Jas. Budd, Walter A. Williams, Albert Toms, Frank Swinford, George Harrison, and Fred. W. Stephens. Bro. Sidney Hill presided at the pianoforte.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., at the Cannon-street Hotel, when there were present Bros. T. W. Fisher, W.M.; R. Sarson, S.W.; A. J. Holmes, J.W.; T. Selby Henrey, Chap.; Thomas Cohu, Treas.; Hy. Legge, Sec.; C. Garton, S.D.; William Baker, J.D.; F. Hughes, D.C.; C. Couchman, Tyler; Marsh, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; Abbott, P.M.; Smith, I.P.M.; Stokes, A. J. Rippin, Robeson, Peach, Doody, S. Rippin, Scott, Martyn, Bevan, Dart, Welch, Roche, Simmonds, Collins, Fishleigh, Lockett, Farr, and Lloyd. Visitors: Bros. Joy, 1420; Lyon, 2563; and Soye, 2266.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. Doody was raised. A ballot was taken, and proving unanimous, Messrs. Lockett, Fishleigh, Collins, Farr, and Lloyd were initiated. Unanimous ballots were also taken in favour of Messrs. Pitt and Pryor for initiation at next meeting, and Bro. Robert Sarson, S.W., was unanimously elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, as was also Bro. Thos. Cohu re-elected Treasurer and Bro. Couchman re-elected as Tyler. Bros. Roche, Robeson, and Welch were elected members of the Audit Committee. Notices of motion by Bro. Legge, P.M., that the usual Past Master's jewel be presented to the retiring W.M. Bro. Fisher, also that 10 guineas be voted from the lodge funds to be placed on the list of Bro. Fisher at the forthcoming festival on behalf of the Benevolent Institution were carried.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment. At the dinner, in addition to the usual toasts, the Worshipful Master proposed, as a special toast, "The Health of the Chaplain," in recognition of Bro. Henrey having just been appointed vicar of Old Brentford.

In an eloquent reply, Bro. Henrey expressed his appreciation of the compliment paid him in proposing the toast, and for the manifestations of kindness and good feeling that he had received from the members of the lodge.

St. George's Lodge, No. 242.

This lodge was held at the St. George's Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 7th inst., when there were present Bros. J. Henry Pawson, W.M.; C. H. Woodhouse, I.P.M.; F. H. Buckland, J.W.; P. Jenner, Chap.; F. Rand, Treas.; H. C. White, Sec.; G. Smith, S.D.; W. W. Peacock, J.D.; F. Webb, D.C.; J. F. Hanson, I.G.; F. Duff, Org.; H. Foster and S. B. Castle, Stwds.; J. Mason, Tyler; C. Richardson, Asst. Tyler; C. Goldthorpe, P.M., Charity Stwd.; A. W. Fretwell, P.M., Almoner; W. S. Wright, P.M.; S. W. Taylor, P.M.; T. Bletcher, P.M.; W. Goodair, P.M.; E. E. Shires, P.M.; S. Smith, P.M.; and C. Reasbeck, P.M. Visitors: Bros. T. F. Oates, 304; J. Grime, 163; J. G. Grime, 163; J. W. Hansworth, 1648; J. Constable, 2259; J. Walkington, 1271; and W. Cockerlyne, 304.

Mr. J. W. Chapman was duly initiated, and Bro. E. E. Shires was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M.

The brethren afterwards partook of light supper in the ante-room.

Unanimity Lodge, 287.

The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, the 5th instant, at the White Lion Hotel, Stockport. There was a very good gathering of brethren on this occasion. We suppose the interest taken was it being the second meeting since the installation, and there being a large amount of work to be done. We observed on the summons four candidates for initiation, which proved in each case, when the ballot was taken, favourable; also there was a passing and raising. Bro. G. A. Cookson, W.M., proved himself quite equal to the occasion.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The W.M. initiated and passed two brethren, and the other ceremonies were performed by Bros. John Leigh, P.P.G.P., D.C., and Wm. Lancaster, P.M., and altogether it was a most enjoyable and instructive meeting. During the meeting a notice of motion was on the summons in the name of Bro. James Cookson, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., Sec.—"That the sum of one guinea be contributed to the Memorial Fund to perpetuate the memory of our beloved brother, the late James Salmon, of Chester." This, of course, was at once unanimously passed.

The following brethren were present: Bros. J. A. Cookson, W.M.; J. T. Hudson, P.M., P.P.G.S., S.W.; Joshua Preston, J.W.; A. Symonds, P.P.G.C., Chap.; G. Dawson, Treas.; James Cookson, P.M., P.P.G.T., Sec.; D. Walmsley, S.D.; C. McClelland, P.P.G.O., Org.; C. Champion and G. A. Eyre, Stewards; John Clarke, Tyler; Joseph Lee, R. Blakehurst, John Leigh, P.P.G.P., D.C.; T. T. Lee, F. E. Rigb, P.M.; Wm. Lancaster, P.M.; J. F. Clayton, W. C. Broadhurst, Edwin Longton, J. T. Barnett, T. Thornley, P.M., P.G.S.; C. D. Cheetham, P.M., P.P.G. D.C.; Alfred Taylor, P.M.; G. Roberts, P.M., P.P.G.S.; and Charles Bullock. Visitors: Bros. Wm. Skilling, F. Reston Lees, Henry Newton, P.M.; J. Bell, P.M., P.P.G.D.; G. S. Smith, P.M., P.P.G.O. E. and W. Lancs.; James Jackson, Wm. Bard-ley, E. Edmondson, and R. Fidler, P.P.G. S.W.; and others.

THE SHIP AND TURTLE.

Proprietor, Bro. C. J. PAINTER.

Best and oldest house in London for recherche Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.
ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR COMPANIES, &c.

OUR TURTLE "THE ELIXIR OF LIFE,"
Vide faculty.

Purveyors to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, H.I.M. Emperor of Russia, Dukes of Saxe Gotha, Connaught, Cambridge, and most of Crowned Heads of Europe.
Manager, Bro. E. ASHBY.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN
FLEET STREET, LONDON.

F. H. CLEWOW, Proprietor.

In connection with the Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel, Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of Anderton's is unequalled for Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations, &c.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Breakfasts, Luncheons, Teas, and Dinners.

The 25. Hot Luncheon, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Coffee Room, unequalled.

Registered Address for Telegrams:—
CLEWOW, LONDON.

FOR ECONOMICAL AND RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charges.

To cover all expenses, exclusive of cemetery fees.

BRO. C. G. HATT,
UNDERTAKER,

82, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, W

CREMATION AND EMBALMING.

Distance no object.

Orders by post or telegrams promptly attended to.
Price Lists free on application.

BREES' ROYAL HOTEL, JERSEY

Healthiest situation in St. Helier.
20 degrees cooler than the sea front.

BED AND BREAKFAST 5/6 AND 6/-.
FULL BOARD, ROOMS & SERVICE, 8/6 & 9/- per day.

Telegraphic Address—"BREES, JERSEY."

Telephone No. 2879.

Established 1808.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & CO.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
STATIONERS, PRINTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS,
ACCOUNT BOOK MAKERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED.

"THE PROFESSIONAL NOTE,"

A High-class Vellum Paper, with Rough or Satin Surface.
SAMPLES ON APPLICATION.

Send for Illustrated Price List Free.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & COMPANY,
37 & 38, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite Chancery Lane).

Writing Department—10, GRAY'S INN PLACE, W.C.

HEPBURN AND COCKS,

49A, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS,
LONDON, W.C.

Workshops—59, WYCH STREET.

DEED AND CASH BOX MAKERS.

Offices and Strong Rooms fitted with Wrought Iron
Hinges and Boxes to Open in Front.

SPECIAL BOXES MADE ON THE SHORTEST
NOTICE.

Established 1790.

Estimates Given.

FISH, POULTRY, GAME, OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW, LIMITED

86, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

(late 17, New Broad Street, E.C.),

12, HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.,

93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C.,

AND

86, HIGH STREET, PECKHAM, S.E.

JOHN GOW, Limited, always have on sale the Largest
Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices.

HIGH-CLASS PROVISION STORES (NOW OPENED),

50, 51, and 52, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

Price 7s. 6d.

A HANDY BOOK to the Study of
the ENGRAVED, PRINTED, and MANUSCRIPT
LISTS OF LODGES of Ancient Free and Accepted
Masons of England ("Moderns" and "Ancients") from
1723 to 1814, with an Appendix and Valuable Statistical
Tables. By Bro. JOHN LANE, F.C.A., P.M. 1402, Past
Senior Grand Warden of Iowa, Past Prov. Grand Registrar
of Devonshire, &c., &c., &c., Author of "Masonic Records,
1717-1886," "Masters' Lodges," &c., &c., and dedicated
to Bro. WILLIAM JAMES HUGHAN, P.S.G.D. England.

London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16a, Gt. Queen-st., W.C.

Illustrated Tariff Post Free.

FUNERALS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

LONDON NECROPOLIS Co.,
188, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD,
2, LANCASTER PLACE, STRAND.

CANNON STREET HOTEL,
CANNON STREET, E.C.

RITTER & PUZEY, PROPRIETORS.

SPACIOUS AND COMMODIOUS ROOMS

FOR LARGE OR SMALL

MASONIC LODGES,

AND

BANQUETS,

MEETINGS, AUCTIONS, BALLS, CONCERTS, ARBITRA-
TIONS, CINDERELLAS, ETC.

J. APTOMMAS, MANAGER.

THOMAS MORING,

Established 1791.

SEAL ENGRAVER, HERALDIC PAINTER, &c.

52, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

ILLUMINATED ADDRESSES IN THE BEST STYLE.

MASONIC AND HERALDIC BANNERS.

Send for Specimens of High Class Stationery, Visiting
Cards, and Dies gratis.

Also gratis on application:—Book of Examples of Monu-
mental Brasses, and Specimen Book of Brass Door Plates.

Catalogue of Seal Engraving, etc. (illustrated), 13 stamps

STAGE LADIES & GENTLEMEN

desirous of entering the Theatrical Profession in
Drama, Comedy, Comic Opera, or Music Hall, apply for
terms to

MR. CARLTON ST. AUBYN,

Late Manager Olympic Theatre, Royal Aquarium Theatre,
Theatre Royal, Scarborough, &c. (Letter for interview).

MR. CARLTON ST. AUBYN,

School of Dramatic Art, 87, New Oxford-street.

FRANK HASWELL

(ESTABLISHED 1847),

SIGN AND GLASS WRITER TO THE TRADE.
4, SOHO STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

ARTISTIC WRITER TO THE
FINE ARTS.

MAYO'S CASTLE HOTEL,

EAST MOLESEY, HAMPTON COURT STATION
(Adjoining the RAILWAY, and facing the RIVER and
PALACE).

BRO. JOHN MAYO

has ample accommodation in the new wing of this old-
established and noted Riverside Hotel for Banquets for any
number up to 100. Every convenience for Ladies' Gather-
ings. Spacious landing to river, whence Steam Launches
can start. Specimens of Menus, with prices, sent on
application. Five Lodges meet at the Castle Hotel, and
reference may be made to the respective Masters as to the
catering, &c.

MONTAGUE MANSION

(Opposite the British Museum Entrance),

GREAT RUSSELL STREET, W.C.

Most conveniently situated for Business or Pleasure. Cab
Fare from "Montague Mansion" is One Shilling to nearly
all Railways, Theatres, and the Royal Courts of Justice.

Omnibuses to all parts for a few pence.

Bedroom, Bath, Breakfast, and Attendance, 5s. and 5s. 6d.

Night Porter. Telephone 2906. Terms Moderate.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,

K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

TREASURER:

JOHN A. FARNFIELD, Esq.

BANKERS:

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK (Bloomsbury Branch), 214, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Upwards of 1507 Annuitants have received the benefits
of the Institution since its foundation in 1842 and 1849, 200
men and 242 widows are Annuitants at the present time.
30 widows, in addition, are receiving half their late
husband's annuity.

Amount paid Annually in Annuities £16,264
Nearly 110 Candidates for next Election.

THE ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

Will be held at the

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, LONDON, W.C.,

On WEDNESDAY, 26th FEBRUARY, 1896,

Under the distinguished Presidency of

THE RIGHT HON.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P.,

R.W. Prov. G.M. for Middlesex.

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship
upon this most important occasion, and to kindly forward
their names as soon as possible, with full particulars, to
JAMES TERRY (V.-Pat., P.G. Swd. Br.),
Secretary.

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

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

APRIL ELECTION, 1896.

The VOTES and INTEREST of the Patrons, Vice-Patrons,
Vice-Presidents, Governors, and Subscribers, are respect-
fully solicited in favour of

CONSTANCE LOUISE V. COOPER,

Elder daughter of the late Bro. WILLIAM COOPER, who
lost his life on the 29th of September, 1893, in his 33rd year,
leaving a Widow and Three young Children.

Bro. COOPER (who was shot during the Argentine Revo-
lution of 1893, whilst in charge of a pilot engine to a special
train on the Central Argentine Railway carrying Govern-
ment troops to quell the insurrection) was, to the time of
his death, a member of the Southern Cross Lodge, No.
1740 (Cordova), in which he had been initiated in 1837.

The case is strongly recommended by—

*Bro. R. S. Cushing, Life Governor, 85, Darent Road,
Stamford Hill, N.; Bro. H. W. Hunt, Life Governor, The
Elms, Allyn Road, West Dulwich, S.E.; Bro. Frederick
Neild, Steward 1896, 27, Tavistock Square, W.C.; *Bro.
H. T. Thompson, Life Governor, 85, Palmerston Buildings,
E.C.; Bro. Frederick Wright, 85, Stamford Hill, N.

Promises of support and proxies will be thankfully
received by those marked thus *, or by the Widow,

Mrs. COOPER, 98, Purves Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.

ESTABLISHED 1865.

BLADON AND HUMPHREYS,

MANUFACTURING

MASONIC JEWELLERS:

APRONS, COLLARS, FURNITURE, AND
REGALIA.

7, GREAT QUEEN STREET, W.C.,

AND

16, CLERKENWELL ROAD, E.C.,
LONDON.

COALS. COALS. COALS.

COCKERELL'S (LIMITED),

13, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.

For Prices, see Daily Papers,

Trucks direct from the Colliery to every Railway Station.

MONEY PROMPTLY ADVANCED

ON BILLS OF SALE,

And other Securities, at moderate interest, repayable by
instalments or otherwise.

Office Established 1856.

G. J. SHIPWAY,

3, TAVISTOCK STREET, STRAND.

JOHN NOBBS AND SONS,
TAILORS,
154 and 155, UPPER STREET, ISLINGTON, N.,
AND
77, FINSBURY PAVEMENT, E.C.

SPECIALITY TROUSERS from 15s. net cash.

EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.
(Held under the sanction of The Lodge of Unions, No. 256)

COMMITTEE:

V.W. Bro. EDWARD LETCHWORTH, F.S.A., Grand Sec.,
Treasurer.
W. Bro. ROBT. CLAY SUDLOW, P.G. Std. Br., &c.
W. Bro. F. T. RUSHION, P.G. Steward.
W. Bro. W. G. KENTISH, P. Prov. G.D. (Middlesex).
W. Bro. JOSEPH RUSSELL, P.G. Stwd., Secretary.
Secretary's Address—27 & 28, MILK STREET, E.C.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL

has been appointed to take place
On FRIDAY, 28th FEBRUARY, 1896,
at which

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRO. THE RIGHT HON.
LORD SKELMERSDALE, P.G.W.,
has kindly consented to preside.

Lodge will be opened at 6 o'clock p.m., in the Grand
Lodge Room, the use of which has been kindly granted
for the occasion.

The Second Lecture will be worked.

After the Lodge is closed, the Brethren adjourn to the
Banqueting Chamber, where Supper is served.

None under the Degree of Master Mason are eligible
to attend.

Tickets for the Supper, including admission to the Lodge,
but not including Wine, 5s. each, may be obtained of the
Secretary or of any Member of the Board of Stewards.

WANTED VOLUMES Nos.
3, 4, 5, 6, and 13, bound or unbound, of the
Freemason. Address—16 and 16A, Great Queen-st., W.C.

WANTED—VOL. II. of GOULD'S
HISTORY, in Morocco. Apply Office of the
Freemason.

TO ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS,
AND OTHERS.—BROTHER MASON (Plumber)
requires work in Hotel, Club, or on Estate; would take
piece or day-work from Builder. No objection to going
abroad; excellent Testimonials from first-class London
firms. Age 33.—PLUMBER R.P.C., 43, Dartmoor-street,
Kensington.

ONLY THREE COPIES LEFT.

4to. 440 pages. Cloth. Gilt Lettered.

HISTORY OF THE LODGE OF
EDINBURGH

(MARY'S CHAPEL, No. 1),

Embracing an account of the rise and progress of
Freemasonry in Scotland,

By DAVID MURRAY LYON,
Grand Secretary.

PRICE 63s.

THE
ÆOLIAN VOCAL QUARTETTE.

Miss MAUDE BALLARD, Soprano.

Miss LILLIAN CLOSE, Contralto.

Mr. HERBERT STOCKWELL, Tenor.

Bro. CARL BRANDT, Bass.

May be engaged for Concerts, At Homes, Installation
Banquets, &c., &c. Complete Programmes provided.

Accompanist included in party.

For terms, please address:

Bro. CARL ERANDT, 12, St. Mark's Villas, Dalston, N.E.

MONEY!

ADVANCES MADE UPON
PERSONAL SECURITY,
BILLS OF SALE, OR OTHERWISE,
A moderate interest, without delay.
NO FEES FOR INQUIRY.

Ena-fide Applicants only invited.

H. HART, 14, GLASSHOUSE STREET,
PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.

FRANCO-GERMAN WAR. Swords
used by the French. Splendid condition. Supply
strictly limited. 3s. pair; 15s. dozen.—A. HANSON, 20,
Henry-street, Liverpool.

PIANOFORTE TUNER (M.M.)
requires SITUATION. Good experience and good
references (Collard and Collard). Fair knowledge of
repairs, &c. Apply, A. B. W., *Freemason*.

GAIETY RESTAURANT,
STRAND.

LUNCHEONS (HOT AND COLD)

At Popular Prices, in BUFFET and RESTAURANT
(on First Floor),
also

Chops, Steaks, Joints, Entrées, &c., in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTERNOON TEA,

Consisting of Tea or Coffee, Cut Bread and Butter, Jam,
Cake, Pastry, *ad lib.*, at 1s. per head,
served from 4 till 6 in RESTAURANT (First Floor).

DINNERS IN RESTAURANT,

From 5.30 till 9, at fixed prices (3s. 6d. and 5s.) and
à la Carte.

In this Room the VIENNESE BAND performs from 6 till 8.

Smoking after 7.45.

AMERICAN BAR.

THE GRILL ROOM

is open till 12.30.

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS for large and
small Parties.

SPIERS & POND, Ltd., PROPRIETORS.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE
COMPANY.

Established 1836.

LONDON: 1, MOORGATE STREET, E.C.
ABERDEEN: 1, UNION TERRACE.

INCOME AND FUNDS (1894).

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



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The annual meeting of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127, like that of the Savage Club Lodge which precedes it by a week, is invariably a great attraction, and still more invariably a conspicuous success. It is an attraction, because the members comprising it are well known for the care and ability with which they perform their duties; it is a success because the Hon. Secretary and those charged with the preparation of the arrangements leave no stone unturned in order to ensure that everything shall pass off satisfactorily and in perfect order. The meeting on Tuesday, which we report elsewhere, proved no exception to the rule, and Bro. Henry Neville had the pleasure of being installed as W.M. of this well-known lodge in succession to Bro. Oscar Barrett in the presence of a numerous gathering of members, Grand Officers, and other brethren of distinction, and in a manner which, on the score of elocutionary ability, could not be too highly extolled.

When we expressed our opinion of the exceeding merits of Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records" (second edition), we did not bind ourselves to an acceptance of all his *dicta* concerning individual lodges. On the contrary, we expressly stated that we differed from him in more than one instance as to the conclusions at which, after due consideration, he had felt himself bound to arrive. We published last week a full report

of the celebration by the Prince Frederick Lodge, No. 307, of the Centenary of its Constitution. From the brief sketch by Bro. J. W. Shaw, S.W., of the career of this lodge, which formed so important a part of that report, it appears that the lodge was constituted on the 28th January, 1796, as the "Loyal Halifax" Lodge, and met at the "Ring of Bells, an inn at that time of considerable importance in Halifax," from that date until April, 1804, when it removed to the Rose and Crown in the same town. In 1808 it fell into straitened circumstances, and several brethren residing at Heptonstall who were desirous of forming a lodge of their own, succeeded, "after a few little difficulties had been settled," in having the warrant transferred to them, and the lodge removed its quarters from the Rose and Crown, Halifax, to the Stag's Head, Heptonstall, in 1809, and was rechristened the "Prince Frederick." Here it remained till 1822, when it removed to Hebden Bridge.

All this is clear enough, and, as his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to grant a centenary warrant to the lodge, it is evident that the Grand Lodge authorities must have satisfied themselves that the lodge which now ranks as No. 307 had worked continuously under the warrant of January, 1796, for the full term of one hundred years.

But a reference to Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records," page 233, shows that in the estimation of that brother, present Lodge No. 307 dates no further back than 17th July, 1809, the "Loyal Halifax," which was warranted on 28th January, 1796, as No. 549, and met at the Ring of Bells, Halifax, aforesaid, having "lapsed about 1806." Bro. Lane's version is that the "Loyal Halifax" met at the Ring of Bells till 1798, when it removed to the "Sun, Woolshops," in Halifax. In 1803 it again removed to the "Rose and Crown," and as we have before said "lapsed about 1806." The "Prince Frederick" working under the same warrant and retaining its place on the roll as "No. 549," met at the Stag's Head, Heptonstall, the date of the authority for its meeting here being the "17th July, 1809."

Here, then, we have a very decided difference of opinion between Grand Lodge and Bro. Lane. The former holds that the warrant granted to the Loyal Halifax Lodge, No. 549, in January, 1796, never lapsed at all, but was regularly transferred under proper authority from Halifax to Heptonstall in 1809; while Bro. Lane is of opinion that the "Loyal Halifax" died, after a precarious existence, "about 1806," and that the warrant was renewed to the brethren at Heptonstall after an interval of about three years, during which the original warrant was void and of none effect.

But who shall decide, when doctors disagree? We have not the *data* at our disposal for determining which of these opinions is correct, but doubtless Bro. Shaw who compiled the very interesting account of the Prince Frederick Lodge, which was read at the recent centenary celebration of its constitution, will be in a position to furnish those particulars which, in the opinion of Grand Lodge, justified the grant of the centenary warrant. Either Bro. Lane has been too exacting as to what constitutes a lapse of the warrant in the case of this particular lodge, or Grand Lodge too lax in its determination of what constitutes continuity of working.

Though the Grand Lodge of California dates only from the year 1849, the proceedings at its 46th Annual Communication, in San Francisco, on October, 1895, as reviewed in the columns of the *Voice of Masonry*, make it very clear that her present position is most prosperous. The number of lodges on the roll is 246, while the number of subscribing members is 17,431, and what, doubtless, will delight sundry of our American officials, the present age of non-affiliates who have rejoined Masonry stands as high as 88. The increase for the previous year, including a balance brought forward, amounted to 24,183 dollars, and the expenditure to 21,697 dollars. The sum of 7290 dollars was appropriated to Masonic Relief during the year, while the value of the Masonic Homeland is set down at 33,800 dollars. A circumstance of a peculiarly gratifying nature is recorded by the Grand Secretary in his report, namely, that 391 bound volumes had been added to the library during the year. This shows that our Californian brethren take an interest in Masonic literature. The new Grand Master is Bro. E. Myers Preston, and Bro. George Johnson remains at his post of Grand Secretary.

Correspondence.

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

OUR BROTHER'S BED.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you confer the great favour on me of mentioning in a paragraph the omission from the printed list of contributors to "Our Brother's Bed," which I much regret.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, very fraternally yours,

W. PORTLOCK-DADSON, P.M., Hon. Sec.

February 12th.

[The list of contributors to this bed in the Free Home for the Dying has been posted to all who gave in 1895, but, by some inadvertence, the following donations were omitted:

Charles Daniel	...	...	£0	5	0
Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65	...	...	1	0	0
Lodge of Perseverance, No. 1743	...	...	0	5	0

The next list will be published in our number of the 29th inst.]

Reviews.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF IDAHO, at its 28th Annual Communication in Boise City, 10th September, 1895, Boise, Idaho. The Evening Mail Print, 1895.—This volume contains the full official record of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Idaho at its 28th Annual Communication held in the City of Boise on the 10th September, 1895, together with a mass of statistics, rolls of Grand Lodge and private lodge officers and members, and the Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence as edited by Bro. Charles C. Stevenson, who now holds the office of Grand Secretary. The Proceedings themselves include the usual address by the Grand Master, Bro. Adelbert B. Clark, whose portrait serves as the frontispiece to the Volume; the various reports of the executive officers; and an oration by Bro. Charles C. Stevenson—at the time Grand Orator—which we have deemed worthy of comment in a leading article. The Treasurer's Report shows that the Grand Lodge is in a flourishing condition as regards its finances, while the Returns from the lodges disclose a total membership for the 26—out of 27—lodges in active work of 1057 subscribing brethren. The principal Grand Officers for the present year are Bros. Isidore S. Warter, M.W.G.M.; George M. Waterhouse, Deputy G.M.; Albert W. Talkington, S.G.W.; Sars P. Anderson, J.G.W.; Charles Himrod (re-elected) G. Treas.; and Charles C. Stevenson, G. Sec. The Report on Foreign Correspondence, which bears every evidence of having been most carefully and ably edited by Bro. Stevenson, deals with the Proceedings of 51 Grand Lodges, of which 37 relate to the year 1894 and the remaining 14 to 1895.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF MARYLAND. The 98th Annual Convocation at the Masonic Hall, Baltimore, on the 12th November, 1895. Charles H. Curley, Printer, Baltimore, Mass.—In this volume will be found the official record of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter at its 98th Annual Convocation in Baltimore on the 12th November, 1895, under the presidency of M.E. Comp. Edward R. Trippe, G.H.P., who was supported by Comp. W. H. Shryock, Deputy G.H.P., many Grand Officers, Past and Present, and the representatives of private chapters. The G.H. Priest noted in his address the principal events of the past year, and the part which he himself had taken in visiting the chapters under his charge and in fulfilment of the various duties pertaining to his office. The audited statement of accounts as presented by the Grand Treasurer showed a handsome balance to the good, while the returns as to the private chapters—the number of which, including one under dispensation, is 18—make up an aggregate of 1662 subscribing companions, being an increase of 80 on the previous year. The newly-installed principal officers are Comp. General Shryock, M.E.G.H.P.; Comp. George Cook, Deputy G.H.P.; Comp. William H. Martin, G. King; Comp. William T. Price, G. Scribe; Comp. David C. Avory, G. Treas.; and Comp. Geo. L. McCahan, G. Sec. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is edited and presented by Comp. Edward T. Schultz, Past Deputy G.H.P., and contains reviews, concisely and clearly written, of the proceedings of 49 Grand Royal Arch Chapters, of which 20 apply to the year 1894 and 29 to the year 1895. There is also copy of the Table compiled by Comp. J. H. Drummond, of Maine, showing the statistics of Royal Arch Masonry for the whole of North America.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF DURHAM, 1896."—This ably-edited annual has been published commendably early, and is as useful and welcome as ever. The arrangement of its varied contents cannot be improved upon, and include particulars of all the Masonic bodies at work in this well-regulated province. There are 36 lodges in Durham, having 2749 subscribing brethren, according to the excellent report of the Prov. Grand Lodge issued by the indefatigable Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Robert Hudson. This gives an average of fully 76 to each lodge, which proves how large the membership is generally, and, though not equal to that of Northumberland, which for 26 lodges has 2112, being an average of over 80 per lodge, the proportion is much more than in most provinces, and almost double that of some. In other words, if 40 members represent a good working number for average lodges, either Durham or Northumberland could support nearly double the number of lodges that they have on their registers. The information respecting each of the lodges, chapters, &c., is most abundant. The oldest is No. 48, Gateshead, for which the date of warrant (June 24th, 1735), charter of confirmation (October 1st, 1771), date of centenary warrant (August 30th, 1867), the place, day, and time of meetings, and that for installation, number of subscribing members (90), list of officers, name and address of Secretary, roll of Past Masters, years of office, Prov. Grand Lodge office, &c., are all duly noted, and so for all the others as needed. The full roll of Prov. Grand Lodge Officers, as far as possible, from 1735 is a most useful and valuable compilation, and, in fact, this Calendar and Directory is throughout a great credit to the Prov. Grand Secretary and his Assistant, Bro. J. W. Joel. The voting strength of the province is stated to be 3280 for the Central Masonic Charities, a list of Stewards being printed from 1879 to 1895.

"FREEMASONS' DIRECTORY, PROVINCE OF DUMFRIESSHIRE."—This wee manual is edited by Bro. James Smith, P.M. G3, the esteemed Historian and Grand Treasurer of the province, and is in its third year. Its usefulness and handiness are apparent, and cannot fail to be much appreciated by the members of this most compact province. The list of "Dormant Lodges" is interesting, and a similar one of Royal Arch chapters would be acceptable. The titles of some of the Provincial Grand Officers sound strange to English ears, e.g., Prov. Grand Architect, Bible Bearer, Director of Music (additional to Organist), Bard, President and Vice-President of Stewards (the latter being the odd number of 13), and Marshal, as well as a Director of Ceremonies.

"HULL MASONIC CALENDAR, 1896."—This is in double-card form, and is brimful of information as to all the lodges, chapters, &c., that assemble in this centre of Masonic activity. It is so useful for the pocket and reference, that we wonder other towns do not follow the example thus set by the respected Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. M. C. Peck, who is the respected editor and publisher.

Craft Masonry.

Temperance in the East Lodge, No. 898.

The annual opening meeting of this important lodge took place on Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Assembly Rooms, Newby-place, Poplar, Bro. T. S. Craze being in the chair, in which he was loyally supported by a large body of Past Masters, viz.: Bros. J. Gordon, P.M.; J. Armstrong, P.M.; G. Shearman, P.M.; W. Bigg, P.M.; G. Graveley, P.M.; S. J. Carter, P.M.; Geo. Sidders, P.M.; E. F. Williams, I.P.M.; J. Williams, P.M.; Pulsford, P.M.; Butcher, P.M.; and others. The officers comprised Bros. T. Ringrose, P.M., &c., S.W.; W. T. Legg, J.W.; J. Byford, jun., P.M., Treas.; A. G. Duck, P.M., Sec.; F. J. Burdett, S.D.; J. J. Olley, J.D.; P. P. Shapland, I.G.; G. Mason, T. Byford, and S. H. Baker, Stwds.; W. G. Puttick, Org.; and H. Baker, Tyler.

Lodge being duly opened, Messrs. F. C. Byford, J. W. Bruce, W. Noakes, and F. D. Harding were initiated, and Bros. R. Greaves and Chambers passed. A resolution condoling with the widow of the late Bro. H. Rogers, P.M., P.Z., Sec. 1816, and D.C. 898, was unanimously accepted.

After voting several amounts to distressed brethren, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the City of London Tavern.

After the banquet and the loyal toasts were duly honoured, Bro. Pulsford proposed "The W.M.," who responded with laconic brevity, expressing his desire to do his best.

For "The Past Masters" Bro. Graveley replied, referring to the absence of one old Past Master they had just lost, Bro. H. Rogers, who had been a loyal Mason, and had worked among them almost to the day of his death. When made a Mason, Bro. Rogers was his Deacon, and he in turn exalted Bro. Rogers in the Royal Arch. He could not sufficiently extol his worth and kindness. He hoped the brethren would do all they could for his widow, as Bro. Rogers, with small means and a large heart for Charity, had not been able to provide much for the future.

Bro. Pulsford said he could only re-echo all that was said by Bro. Graveley, and inadequately express his grief at their loss.

Bros. Butcher, Gordon, Armstrong, Carter, Bigg, and others responded in the same spirit.

The toasts of "The Initiates," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were all tersely proposed, adequately honoured, and appropriately responded to.

During the intervals a capital programme of vocal music was contributed to by the following, viz.: Bros. W. Townshend, A. H. Warren, and Geo. Sidders, while a still more pleasing addition was made by Miss Carrie Olley, who sang not only "Once," but "Vainka's song." Bro. Tom Burgess shone in the comic line, and more especially in "Schneider how you vas."

The Tyler's toast came only too soon.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1503.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 23rd ult., and among those present were Bros. E. H. Trotter, W.M.; W. Hopkins, S.W.; G. S. Tagg, J.W., W.M. elect; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Captain T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; P. Cronin, S.D.; C. Wheatley, J.D.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.G.S.B., D.C.; C. F. Davis, A.D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., H. Webster, and W. Hill, Stewards; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. F. Scholding, P.M.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G.T.; and J. W. Clarke, P.M. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. Cheese, W.M. 145; J. Flexman, W.M. 1743; F. Harper, W.M. 2521; J. H. Woods, P.M. 145; R. H. Williams, P.M. 865; H. H. Leigh, P.M. 1673; S. Fisk, P.M. 1733; and A. Rowlandson, P.M. 1926.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Edwards was raised to the Degree of M.M. by Bro. Clarke, I.P.M., in a most impressive manner. The latter also installed Bro. G. J. Tagg as W.M., the rendering of the ceremony leaving but little to be desired. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. W. Hopkins, S.W.; P. Cronin, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., Treas.; Capt. Walls, P.M., Sec.; C. Wheatley, S.D.; H. Gale, J.D.; C. F. Davis, I.G.; C. C. Brooke, Org.; G. Ransford, P.M., D.C.; H. Webster, A.D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., W. Hué, C. Boyce, A. Macchi, and H. Bright, Stewards; and J. Gilbert, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The Secretary reported that the Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys had accepted the son of the late Bro. R. Eales, P.M. 1512, as a candidate. A resolution having been passed as to several brethren in arrear, a vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. H. H. Room, G.S.B., P.G. Sec., &c.; H. Gale, G. C. Brooke, and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was admirably served under the personal superintendence of Bro. R. Pratti.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts received full justice. The W.M. presided most ably.

In proposing "The Health of the Past Masters," the W.M. paid a very high compliment to them all; he particularly mentioned the names of Bros. E. H. Trotter, J. W. Clarke, and J. C. Jessett. At the conclusion of his speech, he presented the first-named with a Past Master's jewel and collar.

During the proceedings an excellent programme of music was furnished.

The W.M. is to be congratulated on the great success that attended the proceedings from first to last. He is well known to both residents at, and visitors to, those pleasant riverside resorts of Molesey and Hampton as a most genial and courteous man and brother.

Duke of Connaught Lodge, No. 1524.

A large number of brethren attended the installation meeting, held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Thursday, the 30th ult., when the lodge celebrated the attainment of its majority. Started in 1875 in the neighbourhood of Dalston, under the Mastership of Bro. W. H. Lee, the Duke of Connaught Lodge has prospered exceedingly, and the success has culminated in the termination of what may be regarded as the most successful year of its existence. During the tenure of office of Bro. E. T. Turnbull, who has just vacated the chair, there has been an influx of good candidates, and the ceremonies have all been rendered by him with an impressiveness and elocutionary ability it would be difficult to excel. Bro. Turnbull concluded his labours by installing Bro. W. T. Oakley into the chair as his successor.

The members present included Bros. E. T. Turnbull, W.M.; W. T. Oakley, S.W., W.M. elect; W. H. Brand, P.M., Treas.; C. Lorkin, P.M., Sec.; H. Pearce, J.W.; A. M. Archer, S.D.; E. Frisby, J.D.; H. B. Burgess, I.G.; P. Felsenthal, Org.; W. H. Lee, P.M., P.P.G.D. Middx.; A. Dignam, P.M.; J. L. Payne, P.M.; A. Ferrer, P.M.; R. Polak, P.M.; A. R. Olley, P.M.; W. Beasley, P.M.; J. H. Rich, P.M.; W. Simpson, P.M.; P. W. Rogers, P.M.; W. Wright, E. Varney, and many others. Visitors: Bros. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; E. Allison, 2492; F. Kebell, 1662; W. C. Elsdon, 25; J. H. Sansom, W.M. 1364; H. Willsmer, Sec. 1507; G. F. Weigé, P.M. 860; A. Bartrop, 354; H. Harden, D.C. 1745; L. Lewis, P.M. 1598; S. Goodall, 754; W. W. McLean, P.M. 212; J. Franklin, 2255; T. Berg, 1613; R. S. Gillespie, 1635; J. A. Apelt, 433; W. H. Foye, P.M. 1273; T. H. Turner, 1287; D. E. Shingles, W.M. 79; F. Partington, P.M. 1283; W. W. Lee, Prov. G. Stwd. Middx.; and others.

After the formal opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes, the principal business of the evening was proceeded with, and Bro. W. T. Oakley having been duly installed as W.M., invested the following officers: Bros. E. T. Turnbull, I.P.M.; H. Pearce, S.W.; A. M. Archer, J.W.; W. H. Brand, P.M., Treas.; C. Lorkin, P.M., Sec.; E. Frisby, S.D.; H. B. Burgess, J.D.; R. Baker, I.G.; J. Bedford, D.C.; G. Buzzard and P. Felsenthal (Org.), Stewards; and J. Ives, P.M., Tyler. Five candidates were then initiated by the newly-installed W.M., who thoroughly justified his constant attendance at the lodge of instruction. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Turnbull, I.P.M., for his invaluable services rendered during the past year, and the lodge was closed.

A choice banquet was served under the supervision of Bro. Evans, and Bro. Wagstaff also attended to the comfort of the brethren.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were subsequently given.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, G. Treas., responding for "The Grand Officers," said the

quotation on the programme was "all worthy men," and he could testify that that was a fact. They should never lose the opportunity of saying how much they appreciated the fact that the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master were at the head of the Craft, and discharged their duties so well. He (Bro. Stiles) was elected by the Craft, thanks to many friends who assisted him in that lodge. As the W.M. had said, he had been a Preceptor of a lodge of instruction for 20 years, and was glad to find one of his pupils (Bro. Oakley) filling the chair, for he was a thorough worker, could ably discharge his duties, and was the right man in the right place. He was glad to find the lodge had completed 21 years' existence, and that the 22nd W.M. had been installed. He congratulated the lodge on having prospered so well, and was glad to find Bro. Lee, P.M.—the first W.M.—in much better health, and they one and all hoped he would be spared for many years.

Bro. E. T. Turnbull, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he was sure the toast would meet with an enthusiastic reception. It was a very happy attribute of Freemasonry that the members of a lodge welcomed their incoming and send their outgoing Master, and that was true in all its aspects in their lodge. Their W.M. had filled various offices in the lodge with a great deal of credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren, and they looked forward to a happy and prosperous year of office.

Bro. W. T. Oakley, W.M., thanked them sincerely and heartily for the manner in which the toast had been received. He was to a certain extent in an unfortunate position, but, although he was in "a tight corner," he could not, like the character in "Our Boys," "go out and have a smoke." He was, however, pleased to be in the chair, and thanked them for his unanimous election. He first took office in 1890, and had now arrived at the proud position of the chair. It would be his aim to maintain the traditions of the lodge, and he again thanked them for drinking his health.

"The Initiates" was next given and duly responded to. The W.M. then gave "The I.P.M.," and referred to the impressive manner in which the installation ceremony had been performed. The manner in which Bro. Turnbull had conducted the affairs of the lodge for the past year had earned the gratitude of all the members. They had never had a Master who had occupied the chair and presided over them in a more efficient style. He would simply conclude with one quotation, "the force of his own merit makes his way."

Bro. E. T. Turnbull, I.P.M., in reply, said: I have to thank you for the cordial and enthusiastic manner in which you have received the toast of my health, and especially the W.M. for the flattering comments he has been pleased to make with respect to my poor abilities. It is with extreme self-satisfaction that I have, for the first time in my life, to reply to the toast of the I.P.M. and Installing Master. I thought a year ago, when I was installed as W.M., that I had reached the summit of my ambition and had climbed to the top of the Masonic ladder. I find from experience that there is a lot more to do, but you may rest assured I shall have a good try to do it. There are two ways of getting off the top of a ladder—the old-fashioned method of falling off, which I do not recommend, and the more or less graceful way of stepping off. I have now reached the ranks of the Past Masters, upon whose merits I have often expatiated, and I have often referred to them as the embodiment of those three Masonic ornaments—wisdom, strength, and beauty. Now that I have joined their ranks, I have not quite made up my mind under which head to class myself. I shall endeavour to wear my halo of glory with becoming dignity. During my year I have initiated no less than 15 candidates, and have carried out the necessary passings and raisings, and I am thankful to the Great Architect that I have been blessed with health and strength to carry out the work. I must not fail to express my sincere gratitude to you for having unanimously voted and presented me with this beautiful jewel, which I can assure you I shall look upon with veneration and respect. I hope that the peace and concord which have been so characteristic during 1895 may continue for many happy years, and that we may meet together on these occasions united and happy.

Bros. Sansom, W.M. 1364; Rumbold, 1623; and Toye, P.M. 1278, replied for "The Visitors."

Other toasts were heartily honoured before the pleasant proceedings terminated. Bros. G. Buzzard and P. Henderson conducted the musical arrangements, in which the following assisted: Mrs. Harner, Madame Franklin, Miss Theresa Kellway, Mr. Percy White, Bro. W. Harmer, and others.

St. Cecilia Lodge, No. 1636.

At the annual meeting of the above lodge, held on Tuesday, the 4th instant, at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, Bro. Col. H. Tester, V.D., was installed as W.M. by his predecessor, Bro. E. Mitchell, who was assisted by Bros. E. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., and J. Wood, P.M., Prov. G.D.; and W. Balchin, P.M., P.P.G.D. of C., administered the charges, the ceremony altogether being very impressive. Bro. Colonel Tester appointed his officers as follows: Bros. E. Mitchell, I.P.M.; A. Upton, S.W.; F. Guy, J.W.; W. Balchin, jun., P.M., Treas.; T. Garrett, Sec.; J. R. Gwatkin, S.D.; A. Neal, J.D.; A. J. Crouch, D. of C.; E. P. Day, I.G.; George Cole, P.M., Org.; J. H. Thomson and W. J. Towner, Stewards; and A. Coe, Tyler. Bro. E. Broadbridge, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., was elected to represent the lodge on the Masonic Rooms Committee; Bro. J. Eberall, P.M., P.P.G.P., as Charities' Steward; and Bros. Stafford, Lloyd, and Bartlett to serve on the General Purposes Committee. Bro. Mitchell was presented by the W.M., on behalf of the members, with a Past Master's gold jewel, and the lodge was then closed.

The usual dinner was served in the Banqueting Room. The newly-installed W.M. presided over a company of about 150, amongst whom were Bros. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., S.G.D., Dep. Prov. G.M.; E. Mitchell, I.P.M.; Col. Boxall, Dr. Strong, Dr. Lewis, Bostell, Broadbridge, Burfield, R. Clowes, Cole, Eberall, Freeman, Hudson, Hawkes, Isworth, Kuhe, King, Langton, Long, Sayers, J. Terry, A. Upton, S.W.; J. Wood, P.M.; T. Garrett, Sec.; W. Balchin, Treas.; and T. Guy, J.W. Among the general company were Bros. Alderman Sir Joseph Ewart, Alderman Bottling (the ex-Mayor), Ancombe, Berry, Braid, Bred, Beaty, Beale, Bennett, Bryden, Bartlett, Billing, Bullcock, Bradford, Brooks, Beattie, Burden, Beves, Baldwin, P. Clowes, Carpenter, Clarke, Cockburn, H. Crouch, Challis, Capon, Clark, Campbell, Collins, Chapman, Chaplin, Cully, Drury, Davey, Day, Daniel, Dollman, Denman, Edwards, Friend, Gibson, Gill, Goode, Garrett, Godfree, Gasson, Gwatkin, Hughes, Hamlin, Hook, Harker, Heckford, Hart, Huckell, Harris, Hardwick, Kent, Kidd, Knight, Lelew, Latter, Lyne, Lodder, Latham, Landried, Lewis, Lloyd, Leverett, Lee, Moore, Miles, Mugliston, Mitchell, Nye, Norris, Newbury, Neall, Ormsby, Peters, Potter, Penfold, Poole, Pope, Palmer, Poppy, Payne, Pierpoint, Pullman, Plumbridge, Ryder, Reed, Richards, Richardson, Roe, Styer, Sutton, Spratt, Stephens, Scott, Sadler, Stafford, Smith, Shrivell, Symmons, Towner, A. H. Tester, H. S. Tester, Turton, Thornton, Thomson, Underwood, Wiltshire, Wilson, Welling, West, Wills, Warwick, Whatford, Wishart, and Ward.

The loyal and customary Masonic toasts having been honoured. The Worshipful Master proposed "The M.W. Prov. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, the R.W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., S.G.D., and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past." Bro. Sir W. T. Marriott, in response, referred to the universal popularity of the Duke of Connaught, and said he gave all the time he could to Freemasonry in Sussex. He (Sir William) congratulated Bro. Col. Tester on his appointment as W.M. and remarked that he always enjoyed his visits as a guest to the St. Cecilia Lodge, and hoped that he would be able to repeat them on many occasions.

Bros. B. Burfield, Prov. J.G.W., and Turlon also acknowledged the toast. Bro. Mitchell, I.P.M., gracefully proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master." The admirable way in which he had discharged the duties of S.W. during the past year foretold a successful year of office for Bro. Tester, to whom he assured his own hearty support.

The Worshipful Master, who was loudly cheered on rising to respond, said he was first initiated into Freemasonry in 1853, but did not take an active part in its work until 1886, when he had command of the Sussex Brigade of Volunteers forming the guard of honour on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to instal H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as Prov. Grand Master of Sussex. He then joined the St. Cecilia Lodge but had no thought of taking office until, at the instance of Bro. J. Sayers, W.M., and by the courtesy of several of the officers eligible for promotion, he in 1894 accepted the post of J.W., and served last year as S.W. The lodge had been pleased to confer its highest honour upon him in appointing him W.M., and he was pleased to accept that office because of the high value he placed upon the principles of the Craft. He commended the lodge for the good fellowship of its members and its reputation for music. It was very creditable that they should have a service in use which had been composed by Bro. Broadbridge, one of their Past Masters. Bro. Col. Tester also spoke

eulogistically of Bro. Kuhe, who as the first W.M. had laid the foundation-stone of a pillar of good fellowship, which each successor in the office had helped to build up. He was grateful to the members for having elected him in the series and would do his utmost to maintain the position and dignity of the lodge.

Bro. Clowes submitted "The I.P.M. and P.Ms. of the Lodge," Bros. Mitchell and Kuhe responding.

"The Visitors" was given by the W.M. and acknowledged by Bro. Col. Boxall, P.G.S., and Bro. Dr. A. H. Tester.

Bro. W. Balchin, jun., gave, and Bro. Terry responded to, the sentiment of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution."

"The Officers of the Lodge" was given by the W.M. and acknowledged by Bro. A. Upton, S.W., and Bro. F. Guy, J.W.

Bro. W. J. Towner, Stwd., submitted the Tyler's toast, which brought the proceedings to a close.

The musical programme was arranged by Bro. G. Coles, P.M., P.P.G.O., and was sustained by Miss Maud Bond, Miss Alice Holman, Mrs. E. H. Payne, Bros. W. Kuhe, E. Broadbridge, E. H. Payne, F. Ward, A. Neale, and W. Norman Roe.

Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 28th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. T. Peat, P.P.G.O., W.M.; Rice, S.W.; Simpson, J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; Gentle, S.D.; W. Flack, J.D.; Ross, D.C. H. Sapsworth, P.M., P.G.S.B., and Gaunt, Stwds.; T. Grant, P.M.; H. J. Bond, P.M.; J. Spooner, I.P.M.; and others.

The W.M., previous to the business of the evening, stated the ground that led to his calling an emergency meeting. Bro. Thompson was raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. H. T. L. Hartnell and J. Pain passed to the Second Degree, and Messrs. A. H. Brewer, E. Fox, and W. Emson duly initiated. The W.M. performed the three arduous ceremonies most ably. It was resolved that the Permanent Committee of the lodge be requested to revise the by-laws and bring up their report at the next regular meeting. A reprint being necessary.

The lodge was then closed. Refreshment followed labour. Upon the removal of the cloth a few toasts were given and responded to.

The Worshipful Master gave "The Masonic Charities," and called the attention of the brethren to the fact that Bro. Bond, P.M., was a Steward for the forthcoming Festival of the Benevolent Institution. In response to his appeal a number of the brethren subscribed handsomely to Bro. Bond's list.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to vocal and instrumental harmony.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

A meeting of this prosperous lodge, and which was numerously attended, was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. Chas. Bachoffner, W.M.; J. D. Webb, as S.W.; Murphy, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., G.S., Treas.; W. Witt, S.D.; H. Evans, J.D.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G. Org. Eng., Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B.; J. Strugnell, P.M.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; N. Prower, M.A., P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; H. Herbert, I.P.M.; and W. Ramsey, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Messrs. W. T. Collyer, J. W. Fuller, and O. Spelling, and it being unanimous, they were duly initiated. The ballot was also taken on behalf of Bro. C. Pullen, 1514, as a joining member. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. W. Gaze, C.C.; and others.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual toasts followed.

Bro. H. J. Lardner, G. Stwd., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bros. H. Herbert and T. Simpson for "The Past Masters."

During the proceedings Bros. Dr. Lott, Dr. Hinton, J. Young, E. Schultz, G. Herbert, and others, instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren. The whole proceedings were most enjoyable.

Sir Charles Bright Lodge, No. 1793.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Clarence Hotel, Teddington, on the 29th ultimo, when there were present, among others, Bros. F. L. Chandler, P.M. 1656, P.P.G.P., W.M.; J. E. Ruffell, S.W.; W. R. Plaford, P.M. 1608, J.W.; R. W. Forge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; E. W. Warner, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; W. Smith, S.D.; T. Middleweek, I.G.; E. Packinton, Org.; Capt. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., E. Hall, and R. Goff, Stwds.; B. Muller, I.P.M.; J. Finch, P.M., P.P.G.S. of Wks.; W. J. Porter, P.M.; and W. Middleweek, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the by-laws of the lodge were read. Bros. Ruffell, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; R. W. Forge, P.M., Treas.; and J. Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. The sum of five guineas was voted to Bro. F. L. Chandler, W.M., as Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, as well as a Past Master's jewel. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. J. R. Barnes, P.M.; A. J. R. Simmonds, P.M.; W. H. Windeatt, P.M.; and others. The lodge was then closed.

A dinner followed. The W.M. was brief and genial in his utterances, but to the point.

A most pleasant evening was spent, thanks to the musical exertions of Bros. Packinton, J. E. Ruffell, E. Hall, H. J. Thompson, and W. Middleweek.

Empire Lodge, No. 2108.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, on the 28th ult., Bro. Hermann Klein, W.M., presiding. The other brethren who attended were Bros. G. Warden Dennis, I.P.M.; A. Davidson Kemp, S.W.; F. G. Mellows, J.W.; Lennox Browne, P.M., Treas.; Edward E. Harding, P.M., Sec.; Lionel Cooke, S.D.; Herbert Bunning, J.D.; Tufton Mayors, I.G.; Wm. J. Key, Stwd.; Walter H. Hastings, E. A. Barnett, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Horace Field, F. Deutsch, A. Bassett Hopkins, Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; and N. E. Yorke Davies. Visitors: Bros. C. Hammerton, P.G.S.B.; Daniel Mayers, S.D. 59; W. W. Read, 2502; Kelson Trueman, 1670; St. George Reid, P.M. 1174; H. Klein, 258; W. Gibson Bott, P.M. 1839; P. Wells, P.S.G.W. South Australia; Frank Barnes, 453; George J. Wicks, S.W. 2545; J. E. Cockett, P.M. 1364 and 1672, M.E.Z. 176; Bernard Hamilton, 859 and 1774; F. H. Cheesewright, P.M. 907; Chas. E. Cassal, 1974, Prov. J.G.W. Middx.; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619, 1928; Arthur Vosselli, 10; and Hy. Evenden, P.M., Tyler.

Three gentlemen were initiated, viz., Mr. Horace Field, Mr. A. Bisset Hopkins, and Mr. Franz Deutsch, and Bro. Benno Schomberger, 1635, was elected a joining member. The Treasurer of the lodge, Bro. Lennox Browne, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., afterwards, at the request of the W.M., installed Bro. E. Algernon Barnett, P.M., as Master of the lodge for the ensuing 12 months, and Bro. Barnett invested Bro. Hermann Klein with the collar and jewel of I.P.M. The other brethren invested as officers were Bros. A. Davidson Kemp, S.W.; Frederick G. Mellows, P.M., J.W.; Lennox Browne, P.M., P.D.G.D.C., Treas.; Edward E. Harding, P.M., Sec.; Lionel Cooke, S.D.; Herbert Bunning, J.D.; E. Warden Dennis, P.M., D.C.; J. Sefton Mayors, I.G.; Ben Davies, Org.; William T. Keys, Stwd.; and H. Evenden, P.M., Tyler. The Grand Secretary delivered the addresses to the Wardens and brethren. A vote of thanks was passed unanimously to Bros. Lennox Browne and E. Letchworth for performing the ceremony, and a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Hermann Klein, who thanked the brethren heartily for that recognition of his services.

The brethren then partook of a choice banquet, and honoured the usual toasts, the speeches in proposing which were interspersed by some splendid singing by the Misses de Solba, Mrs. de Solba accompanying on the piano, and Bros. Kelson Trueman and F. H. Cheesewright.

Bros. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg and E. Letchworth responded to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.M., said the I.P.M., with truly fraternal feeling, had permitted him, as Installing Master, to propose the toast of "The W.M." Bro. Barnett

was a founder of the Empire Lodge, as the brethren would see by the banner. Some of the brethren whose names were there inscribed had gone, but that splendid fellow and Mason—Dr. Jameson—had not gone. The W.M., Bro. Barnett, had served on the Gold Coast, and he (Bro. Lennox Browne) had not mentioned it before Bro. Barnett was elected, but it was the fact that Bro. Barnett was responsible for the recent campaign at Ashanti, seeing that he crowned King Premph. Bro. Barnett had since served in Borneo, and was the first Master of the most Eastern lodge in the Eastern Archipelago. Therefore, he was a typical Master of the Empire Lodge, which had as its aim, although perhaps it had not fulfilled all that the founders wished; but still it had done something to further cement the bonds between the Colonial brethren. He had a warm regard for Bro. Barnett, because he was one of the founders of that lodge, and he felt very grateful to the members of the lodge, from the S.W. downwards, for having stood aside for a whole year, in order that Bro. Barnett should be Master that year of the lodge in which he took great interest, and particularly as it had had a fair share of home members. Having a Colonial brother now in the chair, brought more vividly before them the connection which the Empire Lodge had with the Colonies.

Bro. E. Algernon Barnett, W.M., in acknowledging the warm and hearty way in which the toast had been received, said that, being somewhat of a nervous temperament, he felt it was very difficult to respond. With reference to putting him in as Master of that lodge, it was with diffidence he accepted the position, but it was an honour which, he presumed, would be offered only once, and he thought he had better take it when offered. It redounded very much to the credit of all the officers of the lodge that they gave way. He was a founder of the lodge, but not to get in Master at all. In answering to that toast, he must say one of the brethren—Bro. Lonsdale—was one of his friends, died in harness after a political mission to Ashanti; a better fellow never stepped; he was not only a good missionary, he was a good man all round. They had no telegraph then out there—if they had had things might have gone differently—but there was no telegraph when they crowned Premph. They could send telegrams there now, but it was worse than Madagascar. Every one must feel deep sympathy with our Royal Family at the present time; but Prince Henry of Battenburg died in a good cause and doing his duty to England. It was not only Masons, but everyone the world through—not only the English world—who admired a man who died doing his duty. He had gone through the Colonies a good deal; he had been in lodges at the Cape, and also in the District Grand Lodge of Singapore. Masonry bound men together, not only in one way; it bound them in friendship, and in everything else. Being a Mason, he spoke feelingly; Masonry was one of the things that bound the Colonies together, and it would lead to it sooner or later. He only hoped he would be as good a Master as his predecessor, and he would do his best so to become. He afterwards gave "The Health of the Past Masters," of whom they had a brilliant row; they were all good, and he did not know which to select. The I.P.M. had done his work well; he had brought a certain amount of life into the lodge; they had seen new faces; they had three initiates that night. He had been back from the Colonies six months only, and he hoped to see those initiates take their Second and Third Degrees. It was owing to the lodge having a good Master that it got initiates, and it obtained good initiates, and that was the sort of blood they wanted in the lodge, as they said in racing stables, and he hoped they would go on getting as good yearlings as they had that night.

Bro. Hermann Klein, I.P.M., responding, said he felt old age creeping on him; he had been W.M.; he was then I.P.M., and he was rather relieved of a sense of being on active duty. He wished there were more of the Past Masters present in the brilliant row to which the W.M. had alluded. The duties of the year were ended for him, and he was grateful for the testimonial they had presented to him. His regret in leaving the chair was accompanied also by regret that they had not more initiates or joining members present. Through illness and business they were deprived of some distinguished musical brethren. He had been saddened that day by hearing of the death of his old friend, Sir Joseph Barnby, a member of the Guildhall School of Music Lodge. He (Bro. Klein) was proud of his Guildhall School of Music Lodge. He was very sorry, as he had before said, that more Past Masters of the lodge were not present, but he could assure the W.M. that all of them were most ardent in their desire to do the best they could for the lodge.

Bros. Horace Field and Frantz Deutsch having responded briefly to the toast of "The Initiates,"

Bro. A. Bassett Hopkins said he could hardly repress the temptation to add a word or two on such an auspicious occasion, and he was the more tempted by the confident language employed by the I.P.M. in proposing the toast. That was an occasion that a man went through only once in his lifetime, and in that respect, perhaps, it was unique—certainly there were very few occasions which would bear comparison with it. There was only one he could think of like it, and that was a man's first birthday, and that being so, perhaps the brethren would follow him in. Possibly it might not be altogether without some interest to those brethren who had belonged to the Brotherhood for so many years that perhaps by that time they had forgotten the feelings with which in the dim past they occupied so humble a position as the initiates had that night, and it might be not altogether uninteresting if he told them what his feelings were. After his experience of that day, he would say frankly that the uppermost feeling that he entertained was that of regret for not having sought admission to the Brotherhood long ago. He felt that many previous years of his life had been passed without a participation in a fraternity in which even with his small experience of that day he had already had a very high appreciation. Then, again, he felt a genuine pride for the very same reason. He had not lived so many years without some little observation and without having read something on the subject of Masonry, and he was aware that in times past existed much detraction and even much persecution of the brethren and the Craft. One could not help feeling that that had already disappeared from this country, certainly the persecutions, and one was tempted to add the slander or detraction which unquestionably existed, and for all that, one did find there was a good deal of criticism, and he had not been able to escape observing it. With all respect for those critics, he expressed his unqualified dissent; even in his almost complete ignorance of the Craft he felt that the operations of Brotherhood were, and necessarily must be for good. No proof of that was wanted beyond what an ordinarily careful outside observer might regard as sufficient. The very fact that this great Brotherhood was presided over by the Fleur-de-lis to the Crown, that it numbered amongst its members the most illustrious of the land, whether for culture or for wealth, for genius, or for talent, was surely sufficient evidence that it could not be an evil Institution, and, furthermore, an outsider could see that this was to an almost inconceivable degree extended in recent years. He would complete his confession by telling the brethren that he saw a treatise which was published about the year 1875, wherein it was confidently predicted that the Order was on its last legs. He believed he was right in saying that the Craft of Masonry within the past 20 years, at least in this country, had increased to an almost inconceivable extent, while the learned treatise had never reached to the dignity of a second edition. It was said that while giving full credit to Masonry for its benevolent objects, they did not require the mystery and secrecy with which it is guarded. He, as an humble apprentice, said that he entirely dissented from that view. If they would permit him, he would say in all humility, and he hoped the brethren would pardon him, he regarded the secrecy, the mutual confidence, the self-reliance which were essential to Masonry as the one master key to its progress, and its consolidation and its permanence. He felt there was another canon of Masonry, that it would not propagate, that it had no propaganda, and that he regarded as a part of its strength. It is we, said Bro. Hopkins, who ask you to receive us, and not you who go out seeking recruits.

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.M., in proposing "The Visitors," said that the Empire Lodge had begged the Grand Secretary to let them know when any Colonial Masons came to England. There was in the Empire Lodge a home for Colonial Masons, which never existed before the lodge was established. They were sorry that more of those brethren were not then present, but they had among them Bro. Wells, Past Grand Warden of South Australia.

Bro. Wells, P.G.W. South Australia, in reply, said he supposed he was singled out to respond by the mere accident of his representing a Grand Lodge at the Antipodes, and he knew he must do so with somewhat deep regret in the presence of the Grand Secretary (Bro. Letchworth: "No, no"), because not so many years ago the brethren in the Colony separated from the Grand Lodge of England, but to show their respect for the mother Grand Lodge, as they called it, they adopted her Constitution line for line. It was a very large tract of country, and brethren in England who had not visited the Colony had no idea of its extent. It could place the whole of Great Britain in comparatively the small Colony of South Australia, and then it would be almost lost. Where the English Grand Lodge had the advantage was in population, and as far as money in the Bank of England was concerned he admitted the mother Grand Lodge had the advantage. He thought the Bank of England would in course of time be out of place. He spoke with some little bunkum, because he had spent a large part of his time in that

delightful climate. He missed its sun, its fruits, and its early associations, and he believed he never met with an Australian Colonist who did not speak well of England. He could only wish that every English Mason would visit Australia, for he would come back delighted with all he (Bro. Wells) had told them, and still more delighted that Masonry was Masonry in Australia.

Bros. Hamilton and Bott also replied, and Bro. Harding, P.M., Sec., and the S.W. responded to the toast of "The Officers," and the Tyler's toast (was duly honoured before the brethren separated.

Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127.

The installation meeting of this dramatic and musical lodge was held on Tuesday last, at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. Oscar Barrett, W.M. About 230 brethren attended, among them being Bros. Viscount Dungarvan, Lord Skelmersdale, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, Sir W. T. Marriott, O.C., Sir Terence O'Brien, Lennox Browne, James Lewis Thomas, Col. Ritchie, James Henry Matthews, Sir H. A. Isaacs, James Fernandez, Harry Nicholls, Thomas Catling, J. C. Parkinson, Edward Terry, T. Fenn, Sir J. B. Monckton, Robert Grey, Rudolph G. Glover, C. Martin, Frederick Mead, R. Clowes, R. G. Venables, Col. Ward, Gen. Hale Wortham, Walter Lestocq, T. H. Bolton, G. Farquhar, John Northcott, Harry Lloyd, Meyer Lutz, C. L. Carson, W.M. 2190; G. Cruikshanks, W.M. 1319; E. Rosenthal, P.M. 2190; John Lobb, Charles Coote, R. St. A. Roumieu, Wilhelm Ganz, Col. H. W. Hummell, Carl T. Fleck, and Surgeon-Captain Bateman.

The lodge was opened at three o'clock in the afternoon, and, after the preliminary business had been disposed of, Bro. Oscar Barrett installed Bro. Henry Neville, S.W., as Master of the lodge, performing the ceremony admirably. Bro. Barrett was invested as I.P.M., and later in the afternoon was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel. The other officers were Bros. Will E. Chapman, S.W.; G. M. Maxwell, J.W.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., Chap.; J. S. Fleming, Treas.; J. H. Matthews, P.D. G.D.C., Sec.; Guy Repton, S.D.; Lionel Rignold, J.D.; Col. A. B. Bennett, I.G.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O., Org.; and Goddard, Tyler. Bro. James Fernandez delivered the address to the W.M.; Bro. Harry Nicholls the address to the Wardens; and Bro. Oscar Barrett the address to the brethren generally.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet in the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern, and afterwards honoured the usual toasts.

The W.M., having given "The Queen and the Craft," which was most heartily received, proposed "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and said his Royal Highness he need say nothing about, because wherever the Prince of Wales's name was mentioned there was sure to be enthusiasm. That he was a patron of the Drama gave him an additional claim on the Drury Lane Lodge.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said that the time of the W.M. was short, and he could not remain with the brethren much longer. The brethren would regret that as much as he (Bro. Barrett); he regretted it, perhaps, a little more than the other brethren, because he would have to perform Bro. Neville's important duties. He had the Worshipful Master's permission to deviate from the usual course under the circumstances, and propose that toast earlier than was customary. The Drury Lane Lodge would have great reason to be proud of its present W.M.; they knew him to be an estimable man, an excellent actor, and having the gift of oratory (which naturally came to a gifted actor), the working of the lodge during his year of office would be kept up to the standard of Drury Lane Lodge working.

Bro. Henry Neville, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said he could assure the brethren that the honour and pleasure of being the W.M. of the Drury Lane Lodge, and of having his name enrolled for ever and ever on the lodge banner were honours sufficient enough. Considering the many delightful expressions of Bro. Oscar Barrett, he was really overwhelmed. He had no doubt the brethren would believe him when he told them he had not the slightest wish to repudiate anything that Bro. Oscar Barrett had said, and he hoped this time next year Bro. Barrett would be able to say the same things—and, perhaps, more. He had been told, or read somewhere, that there were but two great pleasures in life—looking forward, and looking backward. No doubt many of the brethren had found a great deal of the pleasure he had spoke about which Freemasonry supplied, viz., that it gave the pleasure of looking forward to the chair as he did, and of looking back as Bro. Barrett did upon the past. He remembered the time when he became a Mason—many more years than he cared to think of—when Freemasonry was little more than a Masonic free-and-easy. It was better now than when his grandmother said the only good it did was covered by a little apron. The brethren had listened to a ceremony that day performed by Bro. Oscar Barrett, assisted by Bros. James Fernandez and Harry Nicholls, than whom no better Masons existed, and no better men, a ceremony which was beautifully performed, and when they looked back upon the great work of their noble Grand Masters they knew there was something more than the mere gratification of their gastronomical propensities in Freemasonry; they knew there was a religion in it; there was a Masonic religion by deeds which made them higher and higher the more they practised it. Still, as far as the banquets were concerned he thought it was a very, very great comfort to know that if the world should come suddenly to an end a few good Masons would go into a corner and talk the matter over at a little dinner. As actors, he might say before going away, which he was sorry he was obliged to do, the brethren of the Drury Lane Lodge were much obliged to the Grand Officers for their presence, but as his place would be taken by the immediate Past Master that brother would do honour to them when he came to propose their health. He had nothing more left now to do than to say "Good night."

Bro. H. Neville then left, and his chair was taken by Bro. Oscar Barrett.

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.W., responded to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." It was a great pleasure to the Grand Officers to be present at the gathering of the Drury Lane Lodge. They knew how well Masonry had improved throughout England and they appreciated the way in which it was carried out in the theatrical body. As his father's name had been mentioned he might say that Lord Lathom took the greatest interest and care in everything connected with the Craft to which he was particularly devoted. The other Grand Officers desired to emulate him in that respect. The Grand Officers congratulated Bro. Barrett on his excellent performance of the ceremony of installation, and also Bro. Neville on his becoming Master of the Drury Lane Lodge.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, I.P.M., next said he regretted that he could make a very poor deputy for the W.M. He was deputising in a dramatic sense, not in a musical sense. In the theatrical world the deputy was called the understudy, but in the musical world a deputy was called a deputy. Well, he could not understudy their W.M. He must go on in his own way, and his shortcomings the brethren must forgive. But he was pleased to deputise on that occasion, because it gave him an opportunity of personally saying how much he was impressed in his early Masonic career by the performance by one of the Past Masters in his mother lodge of the ceremony of initiation. That brother (Bro. J. C. Parkinson) was present. He should never forget that performance, which took place in the Drury Lane Lodge. Perhaps he was not singular in that. A man who entered Masonry with an earnest desire and feeling, if the ceremony was well performed, must feel impressed. On that occasion he could safely say a profound impression was made on him, and he said, "Well, if I can go on in Masonry—and I will go on—I am sure that I shall be earnest." What Drury Lane Lodge was now was due to the fact of its Past Masters' excellent work, and he could only hope that in the future the lodge might have other worthy and true brethren who would do the work as conscientiously as those Past Masters had done in the past.

Bro. Sir Henry Isaacs, P.M., P.G.W., responded. He had the greatest possible pleasure in endorsing what the W.M. had said in respect to Bro. Parkinson, who, by the way, was not a P.M. of the lodge, but had to do the work of the first W.M., when he (Bro. Sir H. Isaacs) was installed as W.M. of the lodge he was installed by Bro. Parkinson, and if any brother who witnessed the ceremony had a spark of sentiment, of sympathy, or of true Masonic feeling in him he must have been impressed by Bro. Parkinson's delivery. The indebtedness of Drury Lane Lodge to Bro. Parkinson was immense. Yet a lodge was what its Past Masters made it, and if the brethren accepted that proposition, and reflected on the character of Drury Lane Lodge (of course excluding him), he could not but feel grateful to, and admire, the Past Masters. He regretted the absence of Lord Lonsborough, Sir John Gorst, Sir Augustus Harris, and the death of Sir E. Inglefield; but Bro. Fernandez was present and so was Bro. Harry Nicholls. When he thought of all those brethren and the brother who introduced that toast, whose name was now enrolled upon the list of Past Masters of the Drury Lane Lodge, he must say that they were indeed a distinguished body. He had great respect for Masonry, and he agreed with what the W.M. had said, that there was a religion in Freemasonry. Freemasonry was a religion distinguished from all other religions, inasmuch as it recognised every true and good Mason, let his mode of religious

thinking be what it might. That was a religion which must commend itself to all of them. He had had some peculiar experiences of it; he had the privilege of installing his brother as his successor in another lodge, and also the peculiar privilege of initiating his father, and had the gratification of putting to him a question which he felt he would answer perfectly to his satisfaction—he was bound to ask him if he was of mature age. He hoped if there were Masons whose fathers were not Masons, they would teach their fathers the right way. The fathers would follow the lead of their sons, and if some would bring them to the Drury Lane Lodge, so much the better for the lodge.

Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., responded to the toast of "The Visitors," and then, by request, proposed "The I.P.M., Bro. Oscar Barrett." He was very sorry that he was not present when Bro. Barrett installed his successor, but if he might judge from the manner in which he had discharged his duties as W.M. during the year, he was sure that his performance of the installation ceremony must have been a Masonic treat. He had heard Bro. Barrett initiate, pass, and raise candidates, and had listened to him with great pleasure. Bro. Barrett had been actuated by one sole desire, which was to perform the duties of his office, and to ensure the brethren's approbation, as he had ensured it. A kinder-hearted man never existed; he was kindly personified, and, as a Mason, would reflect credit on the Drury Lane Lodge. The brethren were very pleased indeed to see him in the position of W.M. in the chair that night, although they regretted the absence of his successor, and he asked the brethren to drink his health and long life and happiness to him.

Bro. Oscar Barrett, I.P.M., in acknowledging the compliment, said he had been conscientious in his work. As the W.M. had said, there was pleasure in looking forward and pleasure in looking back. He assured the brethren that he had a great deal of pleasure in looking forward to his year of office. He had enjoyed it thoroughly, and should have also a great deal of pleasure in looking back to it. Anticipation, it was said, was better than realisation. It was not so with the work of the Drury Lane Lodge. During his year of office the realisation of that pleasure was far greater than the anticipation. He thanked all the brethren sincerely, and as the duty devolved upon him, as he was one of the officers of the lodge, he would merge from his thanks into proposing the next toast, "The Officers of the Lodge." These brethren would during their year be earnest and zealous in their work. He regretted that during his year certain circumstances over which the brethren had no control prevented some of them attending so regularly as they would desire, but he thought that this year they would have a more general attendance, and he was sure they would work zealously to keep up the standard of good working of the Drury Lane Lodge.

Bro. Will E. Chapman, S.W., responded, and said the officers would work hard to make the Master's year successful.

The J.W. also responded, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, Thorne, on Wednesday evening, the 5th instant. Present: Bros. J. Constable, acting W.M.; S. H. C. Ashlin, acting I.P.M.; P. Barber, S.W.; H. A. Fenton, J.W.; B. Maskill, Treas.; W. P. Robotham, acting Sec.; G. Elan, S.D.; E. Hirst, J.D.; J. H. Bletcher, Almoner; F. T. Turner, D.C.; T. J. Smith and W. T. Chambers, Stewards; F. Pine, Tyler; A. L. Peace, P.M.; R. Brew, T. R. R. Marsdin, E. Shillito, W. Hallgarth, J. Dugdale, T. Tomlinson, and W. Pickering. Visitors: Bros. F. Rand, P.P.G.D., J. F. Hanson, and J. F. Turner, of 242; and W. Chamberlain, P.M., and W. E. Cranidge, of 1482.

Bro. J. Dugdale was duly raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the work being performed by Bro. Constable, assisted by Bros. Ashlin and Barber. A vote of £5 was granted to the "Henry Smith" Testimonial Fund. A gentleman having been proposed for initiation, the lodge was closed.

Bisley Lodge, No. 2317.

A meeting of this highly successful lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Woking, on Thursday, the 6th inst. The W.M., Bro. J. W. H. Littleboy, who presided, was assisted and supported by Bros. J. Webb, I.P.M.; Captain J. Hoey, P.M., S.W.; A. G. J. Jackson, J.W.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; J. Tomlinson, S.D.; R. Clamp, J.D.; J. H. Askham, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., I.G.; C. F. Passmore, P.M.; W. A. Shaw, P.M.; G. J. Woolridge, A. J. Gunning, W. H. Gloster, and J. Wenham. Among the visitors present were Bros. R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; E. Head, 1681; F. Waters, 2101; T. D. x, I.P.M. 2521; C. A. Brown, Sec. 2521; and J. Hewitt, 1661.

Ballots were taken for Mr. Benjamin Nelson Dudge and Bro. Arthur Althorp, 2120, as candidates for initiation and joining respectively, both of which proving favourable, the former was then initiated in a very masterly manner by the W.M., who subsequently delivered the charge appertaining to the Degree.

After the usual "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren sat down to a dinner provided for them by Bro. G. J. Mason, of Chertsey, which gave every satisfaction.

On the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts were given, and met with loyal and fervent response, while in the intervals between the speeches there was some excellent singing, in which several of the visitors present took part.

Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., in replying for "The Officers of Grand Lodge," said that the Masonic ceremonies were very beautiful, and it was at all times a pleasure to see them performed, provided only that they were well done. On that evening the skill and address of the W.M. left absolutely nothing to be desired, and he had been supported most admirably by the Wardens and other officers of the lodge.

Bro. J. H. Askham responded for "The Prov. Grand Officers." "The W.M.'s Health," which was received with much enthusiasm, was acknowledged in very feeling terms by Bro. Littleboy.

Other toasts followed, and the brethren separated after spending a most enjoyable evening in Masonic fellowship.

Royal Arch.

Union Waterloo Chapter, No. 13.

The installation of Principals of this old chapter (the premier chapter of this district) took place at the Masonic Hall, Plumstead, on Wednesday, the 29th ult., before an influential gathering of companions, including Comps. Capt. Geo. Spinks, P.Z.; Abel Penfold, P.Z.; H. Syer, P.Z.; Wm. Tailby, P.Z.; C. H. Canning, P.Z.; R. J. Warren, P.Z.; G. H. King, P.Z.; Geo. Kennedy, P.Z.; T. Hastings, P.Z.; Matvey, Keeble, Wm. J. Crowdy, H. Crowdy, J. T. Taylor, A. McQueen, G. H. Gable, and G. Stewart.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Comps. the Right Hon. Lord Pinbright, Capt. Deeves, Capt. A. E. Willmott, L. Comerford, and Chas. Jolly.

The chapter having been opened, and the routine business disposed of, Comp. A. Penfold, P.Z., the Installing Officer, assumed the chair, and installed Comps. G. Kennedy, P.Z., as M.E.Z.; John Matvey, as H.; and W. H. Keeble, as J. The interesting ceremony was throughout delivered in a most impressive manner, and at its close a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Installing Officer, the same to be entered on the minutes. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. G. W. King by the M.E.Z. for valuable services rendered to the chapter during his year of office. The M.E.Z. invested his officers as follows: Comps. R. J. Warren, P.Z., S.E.; W. J. Crowdy, S.N.; Capt. G. Spinks, P.Z., Treas.; Hy. Crowdy, P.S.; J. F. Taylor, 1st A.S.; A. McQueen, 2nd A.S.; G. H. Porter, Stwd.; and John Lackland, Janitor.

All business having been disposed of, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned for the banquet.

Moira Chapter, No. 92

The regular meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday evening, the 4th instant, at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, when there were present Comps. Wickham Noakes, P.Z., as M.E.Z.; Col. Sir N. Pringle, Bart., H.; G. Griener, J.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.Z., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.Z.; and E. D. Oppert, P.S. Comp. W. Poole, M.E.Z. 800, was a visitor: A ballot was taken for Bro. J. M. Mitchell, I.P.M. 92, which, proving favourable, he was exalted into the mysteries and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. An agreeable feature of the proceedings of the evening was the presentation of six candlesticks, for use in the chapter, by Comp. Sir N. Pringle, Bart., H., and the welcome gift was very eloquently acknowledged by the M.E.Z. in the chair. The companions afterwards dined together.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.

A regular meeting of this chapter—which is attached to the York Lodge, No. 236—was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, on the 29th ult., when there was a numerous gathering of companions. The chair was occupied by Comp. T. G. Hodgson, M.E.Z., who was assisted in opening the chapter by Comps. C. M. Forbes, H., and Rev. C. E. L. Wright, J. There were also present: Comps. Ald. S. Border, P.Z.; T. B. Whythead, P.Z.; M. Roke, P.Z.; A. J. Sykes Rymer, P.Z.; G. J. Rolinson, P.Z.; A. Bucklev, B.A., P.Z.; G. Balford, P.Z.; Jos. Todd, P.Z., Treas.; A. S. West, P.Z.; E. W. Purnell, P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; and others.

The minutes of the last chapter having been read by the S.E., a successful ballot was taken for Bros. A. G. Raynor and G. H. Osborn, when the first-named, along with Bro. T. A. Collier, was exalted to the Supreme Degree of R.A., the ceremony being conducted by the M.E.Z. in an impressive manner. The mystical lecture was admirably delivered by Comp. J. Todd, P.Z., Treas., P.G. Treas., A.G.D.C. Eng. The election of Principals and officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: Comps. C. M. Forbes, M.E.Z.; C. E. L. Wright, H.; H. L. Swift, J.; J. Todd, Treas.; E. W. Purnell, S.E.; A. Jones, S.N.; Dr. F. Sydney Gramshaw, P.S.; C. Tweedy, 1st A.S.; Dr. M. Bryson, 2nd A.S.; J. Biscoombe, D. of C.; W. Hepper, Org.; J. B. Sampson, Stwd.; and J. Hall, Janitor.

Some other routine business having been transacted, the chapter was closed, and in accordance with usual custom, the companions dined together, and vocal and instrumental music contributed to an instructive and pleasant evening.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

A meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 31st ult., when there were present Comps. F. Webb, M.E.Z.; J. Constable, H.; C. Goldthorpe, J.; C. H. Woodhouse, S.E.; S. Pegler, acting S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; T. Fretwell, 1st A.S.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; and others. Comp. P. Jenner, 1241, was a visitor.

The chapter was opened, and Bro. R. Brew, 2259, was exalted, Comp. Pegler taking the M.E.Z.'s chair. Bro. A. L. Peace, 2259, received a unanimous ballot as a joining companion. Ballots were then taken for the Principals, &c., and resulted as follows: Comps. J. Constable, M.E.Z.; C. Goldthorpe, H.; T. Fretwell, J.; J. H. Pawson, S.E.; S. Lester, S.N.; and H. A. Fenton, P.S.; the remaining offices to stand over.

The companions afterwards partook of light repast in the ante-room.

Lodges of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, when there were present Bros. D. Harlow, P.M. 65, Preceptor; Kinnip, W.M.; Spencer, S.W.; William Baker, J.W.; Meadows, Sec.; J. G. Robeson, S.D.; A. J. Rippin, J.D.; Greig, I.G.; James Smith, P.M. 192; J. G. Milbourn, P.M. 13; Thomas, W.M. 65; Fisher, W.M. 192; Saunton, P.M. 1433; Pepp, Shedlock, Knight, Galey, and Drake.

The lodge being opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Thomas being the candidate, after which the W.M. proceeded to pass Bro. Shedlock to the Degree of F.C. The lodge was then closed in due form, Bro. Spencer being unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 11th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. J. E. Thomas, W.M.; W. Rapley, S.W.; R. P. Upton, P.M., J.W.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; J. Birks, S.D.; A. F. Hardymont, J.D.; E. P. Woodman, I.G.; J. Amand, A. L. Langton, G. A. Hopkins, R. Eddie, C. Nicole, W. Hancock, P.M.; A. Wolter, P.M.; G. F. Peall, P.M.; A. Oliver, P.M.; G. J. Hanson, J. H. Thurman, J. R. White, C. Isher, A. Henning, G. Yexley, and J. Cox.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Peall being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Cox, when a portion of the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Hopkins being the candidate, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Thomas as W.M. elect. The addresses having been given, Bro. A. Henning was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Rapley was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Thomas for his services in the chair for the first time. The lodge was then closed.

Obituary.

BRO. WILLIAM YEO, P.M., P.P.A.G. Sec. DEVON.

Very sincere regret was felt by the inhabitants of Okehampton at the sudden death of Bro. William Yeo, Town Clerk, P.M. Lodge of Obedience, No. 1753, and P.P.A.G. Sec. Devonshire. The deceased was in the very prime of life, and was very generally esteemed and respected by his fellow townsmen. Indeed, on Monday, the 27th ult., when the funeral took place Okehampton was in mourning. The shops were all closed and the blinds drawn in private houses, while the sympathy with the bereaved family was universal. The funeral was one of the most numerous attended that had ever been known in the district, among those who followed to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased being the Mayor, wearing his robes and chain of office, several Aldermen and Town Councillors, very many of the principal residents in Okehampton and the neighbourhood, and the following officers and members of Lodge Obedience, No. 1753, of which Bro. Yeo was a founder, P.M., and Treasurer, viz.: Bros. W. P. Moon, W.M.; Chas. Piper, I.P.M.; W. H. Rowe, P.M.; S. Sloman, P.M.; J. C. Pierce, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Wonnacott, P.M.; Jos. J. Newcombe, P.M.; C. J. Fletcher, P.M.; F. Edwards, J.W.; Rev. G. Reed Lucas, Reg.; J. Verdi S.D.; Rev. T. Ward Brown, J.D.; A. R. Bray, D.C.; W. Palmer, I.G.; Hy. Rowe, Stwd.; W. Pollard, A.D.C.; Rev. J. Wilberforce Saulez, Geo. Routley, Geo. Choat, John Pyke, H. Hellings, T. K. Bickell, J. Durant, W. Partridge, Geo. Glanfield, and J. Coombe, Tyler; also the following visitors: Bros. H. Skinner, W.M. 282; James Wellington, S.W. 1332; J. Banks, J.W. 1332; M. Hicks, Org. 782; and A. L. Newcombe, 303. At the close of the service at the graveside, Bro. the Rev. George Reed Lucas delivered a brief but eloquent address, while the brethren dropped sprigs of acacia upon the coffin after it had been lowered. Among the numerous wreaths was one from the lodge bearing the following inscription: "From the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, Officers, and Brethren of Lodge 'Obedience,' in loving memory of Worshipful Bro. Wm. Yeo, P.M., Treas. 1753, P.P.A.G.S., A.S., removed from this Lodge to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's great Architect lives and reigns for ever. W. P. Moon, W.M., G. J. Gibson, Sec." By a singular coincidence the funeral was held on the day appointed for the regular meeting of Lodge Obedience, but though the lodge met the business was adjourned, and the brethren passed in silence a resolution recording the loss they had sustained by Bro. Yeo's death, and expressing their sympathy with his bereaved widow and family.

BRO. J. W. BELSHAM, W.M.

It is with deep regret we hear that Bro. J. W. Belsham, W.M. of the Covent Garden Lodge, died on the 6th inst. He had been ill for some time, and a great sufferer. His family has our deepest sympathy, and the members of both the Westbourne and the Covent Garden Lodges have lost a most kind-hearted and genial brother. He was a great supporter of the Masonic Charities.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THURSDAY, the 27th instant, is the date fixed for the production of "The Romance of the Shopwalker" at the Vaudeville Theatre.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., Secretary of State for India, has appointed Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., to be his private Secretary for Parliamentary purposes.

BY THE WILL of Lady Gregory (Mrs. Stirling), wife of Bro. Sir C. Hatton Gregory, £500 has been bequeathed to the Sisters of Nazareth Home, Hammersmith, in order to endow a bed in perpetuity for some poor person.

BRO. CECIL RHODES, lately Prime Minister of Cape Colony, left London on his return to South Africa early on Monday morning, and will travel overland to Naples, so as to catch the East Coast mail, which leaves Suez on the 20th inst.

AT THE SUGGESTION of the Provost of Eton, it has been decided to place a brass tablet in Eton Chapel in memory of the late Bro. Sir Joseph Barnby, who held the office of Preceptor for 17 years. The cost will be borne by the Masters of the College.

MESSRS. SYMONDS AND THIELE, of Chancery-lane, have recently produced a "flash-light" photograph of the directors and members of the Press who attended the opening ceremony of the National Skating Palace. For so large a group the portrait is singularly distinct.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion has been postponed to the 17th prox. in consequence of the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the alteration in the arrangements of the Duke of York, who has kindly consented to preside.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF DERBY are residing at Derby House, St. James's-square, and Bro. the Right Hon. W. H. and Lady Doreen Long are at 50, Pont-street. Bro. the Marquis of Zetland arrived in London from Aske Hall, near Richmond, Yorkshire, on Monday.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to appoint Bro. Colonel Lord Edward Pelham-Clinton, Master of her Majesty's Household, to be a Knight Commander (Civil Division) of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. His lordship is a son of the Bro. the late Duke of Newcastle, and uncle of the present Duke.

A FIRE, which was fortunately discovered in time, broke out in the Greenwich Theatre, about 9 a.m., on Monday. It was, however, soon got under, and only some match boarding, about 20 feet by 10 feet, was destroyed, while the ceiling under the gallery was damaged by water and the auditorium generally by smoke.

THE HOSPITAL SHIP *Coromandel*, with the sick of the Ashantee expeditionary force, sailed from Cape Coast Castle on Saturday afternoon last, and may be expected to reach the Albert Docks about the 25th inst. Sir Francis Scott and his Staff, including Prince Christian Victor, were also on board, and were reported in good health.

IT IS PROPOSED to give a Club Dinner at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, on Tuesday evening, the 18th inst., to Bro. Wm. Jaffrey, P.M., P.P.G.D., who has for 13 years been the Chairman of the Club, and who now retires. We have no doubt that a very large number of brethren will assemble to do honour to one who is so beloved as Bro. Jaffrey.

A BRITISH COMMISSION has been formed under the auspices of the Duke of Teck, Bro. Lord Mayor Sir Walter Wilkin, and the Hungarian Association of London, in order to further the interests of the Hungarian Millennium Exhibition, which will be opened by the Emperor Francis Joseph in Buda-Pesth in May next, in the presence of all the members of the Hapsburg dynasty.

THE CHRISTENING of the infant son of the Duke and Duchess of York will take place at Sandringham Church on Monday next, the 17th instant, in the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Empress Frederick of Germany, and a representative of the Queen, who will act as Sponsors.

BROS. SIR M. HICKS-BEACH, Bart., M.P., Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Sir J. Stirling Maxwell, M.P., A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., W. Ellison Macartney, M.P., W. Hayes Fisher, M.P., Lord Stanley, M.P., W. Hume Long, M.P., and Sir W. Walrand were among those who dined with the First Lord of the Treasury at his official residence in Downing-street on Monday evening.

THE SPOT-BARRED MATCH, 24,000 up, between Roberts and Peall, which had been in progress at the Egyptian Hall for a fortnight, and in which Roberts gave his opponent a start of 9000, terminated on Saturday night last in a victory for the champion by 124 points, the scores at the close being Roberts 24,000; Peall 23,876. This is the second of these big matches in which, under similar conditions, Roberts has come off victoriously, but only after a close and exciting finish.

AMONG THE NEW PEERS who have taken their seats in the House of Lords are Lord James of Hereford, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Viscount Peel, the late Speaker, Bro. Lord Pirbright (Baron Henry de Worms), Bro. Lord Rathmore (the Right Hon. David Plunket), Bro. Lord Glenesk (Sir Algernon Borthwick), and Lord Aldenham (Mr. H. Hicks-Gibbs). Bro. the Duke of Leeds will also subscribe the roll as the successor to his father, the late Duke.

THE EARL OF CADOGAN, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, left London immediately after the Cabinet Council on Monday, for Dublin, for the season, which was postponed in consequence of Prince Henry's death, but which will extend over the remainder of the present month. Yesterday the first Levee was held at the Castle, and to-day (Friday) will take place the first Drawing Room. To-morrow (Saturday) and on the 27th inst. there will be dinners in St. Patrick's Hall, and a concert on the 17th inst.

ORDERS HAVE BEEN received from the Admiralty for the new torpedo-boat destroyer, *Sunfish*, to be commissioned at Sheerness for service in the Channel Squadron in place of the *Havock*, which has had to put into Portsmouth for repairs. She will be attached to the battleship *Royal Sovereign*. The torpedo-boat destroyer, *Decoy*, will also be commissioned to take the place of the *Surly*, which has been disabled through defects in one of her cylinders, and will be attached to the battleship *Magnificent*.

BRO. HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, who succeeds the late Judge Hooper took his seat at the Bridport Court for the first time on Wednesday, the 5th inst., when Mr. F. W. Gundry tendered to him a warm welcome on behalf of the solicitors practising at the Court. His Honour, in graceful language, acknowledged the compliment, and did not forget to pay a tribute to the memory of the late Judge Hooper. His Honour has already made himself popular at the Courts where he has presided, and his courteous bearing, warmth of heart, and sympathetic feeling quickly created a most favourable impression, while his fairness and strict impartiality in dealing with the cases brought before him, together with his deep knowledge of the law, are guarantees that disputants who bring their differences before him will have justice done to them.

BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE gave a full-dress Parliamentary dinner at Devonshire House, Piccadilly, on Monday evening, at which there were present, among others, Bros. the Dukes of Bedford and Fife, Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, Bros. the Earls of Cowper and Durham, and Bros. Lords Burton and Amptill. The Duchess of Devonshire's reception followed, and was attended by many members of the Diplomatic Corps, and in addition to many already mentioned, by Bro. the Earl of Cork, Bro. the Earl of Carrington, Bro. Lord Glenesk, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Bro. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P.; Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, Bro. Lord Roberts, V.C.; Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P.; Bro. Lord A. Hill, M.P.; Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., and Lady Louise Loder; Bro. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, Bro. A. Staveley Hill, M.P.; Bro. Sir M. Hicks-Beach and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach, Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P.; Bro. Sir Dixon-Hartland, M.P.; Bro. Sir M. Stewart, M.P.; Bro. the Hon. T. Cochrane, M.P., and others.

WONDERS WILL NEVER CEASE we are told; but it cannot be denied that Holloway's Pills are the greatest wonder of modern times. They correct bile, prevent flatulency, cleanse the liver, and purify the system, strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite, invigorate the nerves, promote health, and reinstate the weak to an ardour of feeling never before experienced. The sale of these Pills throughout the globe astonishes everybody, convincing the most sceptical that there is no medicine equal to Holloway's Pills for removing the complaints incidental to the human race. They are indeed a blessing to the afflicted, and a boon to those who suffer from disorders, internal or external. Thousands of persons have testified that by their use alone they have been restored to health, after other remedies had proved unsuccessful.

TO-NIGHT (FRIDAY) a light comedy will be produced for the first time in London at Terry's Theatre entitled "Jedbury, jun.," by Madeline Lucette Ryley.

BRO. ARTHUR B. HUDSON, F.S.I., C.C., has been unanimously elected Chairman of the Streets Committee of the Commissioners of Sewers for the current year.

WE ARE GLAD TO HEAR that the improvement in the condition of Bro. Sir John Pender, M.P., which has now extended over several days, has been maintained.

BY THE QUEEN'S COMMAND, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will hold a Levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of her Majesty, on Thursday, the 5th March.

HER MAJESTY'S first-class cruiser *Blenheim*, which was recently dispatched to Madeira to bring over the body of the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, has resumed her place in the Channel Fleet, off Portland.

THE ANNIVERSARY festival in aid of the London Society for Teaching the Blind will be held on the 18th May, when the Lord Chief Justice of England, Lord Russell of Killowen, has promised to preside as Chairman.

THE NEW OPERA by Mr. Gilbert and Bro. Sir Arthur Sullivan, which it had been almost decided to bring out at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday, the 22nd inst., will now, it is thought, be performed for the first time on the 29th inst.

BRO. J. L. TOOLE and his company, which have been on tour in the provinces for the last five months, and have everywhere met with a most enthusiastic reception, commenced a week's engagement at the Kilburn Theatre on Monday.

VISCOUNT CURZON, M.P., has been appointed Treasurer of her Majesty's Household, *vice* Bro. the Duke of Leeds, who has resigned the post on his succession to the Dukedom, and the appointment has met with her Majesty's approval.

A PUBLIC MEETING was held at Ramsgate on Tuesday evening, when it was decided to make the necessary arrangements for having a Yacht Race week during the month of July. It is believed the proposal will have the cordial support of the principal yacht clubs.

ARRANGEMENTS are being made for the City of London Artillery Volunteers to be quartered in the forts at Sheerness during Easter, and for the 2nd Middlesex Artillery to occupy Grain Fort, while the 3rd Middlesex Artillery will be quartered at Chatham for work on the Lines.

THE RIGHT HON. THE SPEAKER of the House of Commons will give his full-dress Parliamentary dinners to members of the Government on Wednesday, the 26th instant, and to members of the Opposition on the 4th prox. He will hold full-dress levees on the 11th and 25th prox.

THE PARTICULAR SERVICE SQUADRON, under the direction of Rear-Admiral Alfred T. Dale, consisting of the *Revenge* (flagship), the *Royal Oak*, *Gibraltar*, *Charlydis*, *Hermione*, and *Theseus*, with the six torpedo boat destroyers, sailed from Spithead for Berehaven on Monday.

BROS. THE DUKE OF FIFE and the Earl of Durham, Lord Tweedmouth, Lord Hillingden, Lord Aldenham, and others have signified their intention of acting as Stewards in support of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at the banquet in May next, at which his Royal Highness will preside on behalf of the funds of Guy's Hospital.

A PUBLIC LIBRARY and reading-room, erected by the Tottenham District Council at a cost of between £5000 and £6000, were opened by Bro. J. Passmore Edwards in the presence of a large company of spectators on Wednesday afternoon. At present the library contains some 4800 books, of which 1000 are the gift of Bro. Edwards.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK have accepted the invitation of the Mayor and Corporation of Lancaster to visit that town towards the end of next month, and open the infirmary which has been built by public subscription. Their Royal Highnesses, during their visit, will be the guests of Bro. the Earl and Countess of Derby, at Knowsley.

THE GUESTS at the dinner party given by Bro. Lord Pirbright at his residence in Grosvenor-place on Tuesday evening included Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), the Duke of Abercorn, the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Lathom, the Earl of Kintore, the Earl of Kilmorey, the Earl of Feversham, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Rathmore, and Lord Glenesk.

THE 46TH ANNUAL DINNER of the Metropolitan Foreman Tailors' Mutual Benefit Society was held at the St. James's Hall, on Monday last, under the presidency of Mr. H. W. Hill, the special object being to aid the benevolent fund, out of which annuities are paid to deserving tailors who have fallen upon evil times, or are too old to work. The invested funds of the society now amount to £5700.

BRO. LORD MAYOR Sir Walter Wilkin and the Lady Mayoress entertained the Masters of the City Companies at dinner at the Mansion House on Wednesday. Among the guests present on the occasion were Bro. Viscount Wolsley and Viscount Walsley, Viscount Peel and the Hon. Miss Peel, Bros. Lord Norton and Justice Gainsford Bruce, Bro. Sir F. Abel, and Bros. John Aird, M.P., and Alderman Treloar.

MISS MAY DUVAL-WORRELL, eldest daughter of the late Madame Worrell, A.R.A.M., announces that she gives lessons on the violin, pianoforte, and mandoline. For terms—which are reduced in the case of two or more members of a family taking lessons together, and are the subject of special arrangement in the case of children—address to Miss M. Duval-Worrell, 102, Amesbury Avenue, Leigham Court, Streatham Hill, S.W.

PRIOR TO THE opening of Parliament on Tuesday, Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, who was accompanied by the Duchess, unveiled, as Chairman of the Bright Memorial Fund, the statue of the late John Bright, which stands in the Central Hall of the Palace at Westminster. Bros. Lord Burton, Sir C. Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., Sir Mark Stewart, M.P., J. B. Martin, M.P., and many other Members of Parliament and friends and admirers of the deceased statesman witnessed the brief but interesting ceremony.

THE SECOND SESSION of the present Parliament was opened by Royal Commission on Tuesday. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury), Viscount Cross, and Bros. the Earl of Lathom, the Earl of Kintore, and Lord Ashbourne, who occupied seats on a bench in front of the throne, and the Commons having been summoned by Black Rod, the Lord Chancellor read the Queen's Speech. Among the peers present at the evening sitting during the debate on the Address were H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, and the Duke of Connaught, who occupied their usual seats on the cross benches.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK opened the Great Hall of the Church House, Westminster, on Tuesday, their Royal Highnesses being received by a guard of honour of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers, and within the entrance hall by the official representatives of the church. Among those present were the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, a formidable array of bishops and clergy, the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury), Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, the Attorney-General, Sir Arthur Bloomfield, A.R.A. (the architect); the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, Lady Halsbury, Lady Ashcombe, and others.

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER, officers, and founders of the Holmes Lodge, No. 2571, recently presented a founder's jewel and illuminated address to Bro. R. H. Holmes, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Northumberland. The presentation was made by Bro. T. S. Hudson, P.P.G.D., W.M., in open lodge, in the presence of a numerous gathering of members and visitors, and was most cordially acknowledged by Bro. Holmes. The address was as follows: "To Worshipful Brother Ald. Richard Henry Holmes, J.P., P.M., P.Z., P.G.D. England, W.D.P.G.M.—We, the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, officers, and brethren of the above lodge, desire to confer upon you the honorary membership of this lodge, together with a founder's jewel, in recognition of your valuable services to Masonry in general, and this province in particular. We also desire to place on record our high appreciation of the zeal you have displayed in furthering the interests of the Masonic and local Charities, by which such magnificent results have been achieved, namely, your taking as Steward to the Masonic School for Girls the largest amount ever presented to any of the Masonic Institutions, and the celebration this year of the 25th anniversary of the Sunday Hospital Fund, with which you are so intimately associated. We esteem it as a great honour to have our lodge named after you, and consider it a happy augury for its ultimate success. We sincerely pray that the Great Architect of the Universe will long spare you, and give you health and strength to enable you to continue to promulgate the genuine tenets and principles of Masonry, and to take an active interest in the working of this province." The following are the signatures of the founders, 30 in all.