

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

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THE APPROACHING FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Now that the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution—the first of the three great Festival gatherings of the year—has been held, the duty devolves upon us of calling the attention of our readers to the claims of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls upon their support. It has been known for a considerable time past that this Anniversary will take place on Wednesday, the 13th May, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of YARBOROUGH, who was inducted into office as Prov. G.M. of Lincolnshire in the course of last year, and who will thus signalise his appointment to that dignified position by acting as Chairman at the Festival of our senior Charity at the first available opportunity. This is very far from being the first occasion on which his lordship's family and the Girls' School have been thus closely associated. His grandfather, the second Earl, when Lord WORSLEY, M.P., being at the time S.G.W. of England, presided, in the unavoidable absence of the Duke of SUSSEX, M.W.G.M., at the Jubilee Festival of the Institution in 1838, when what at the time was regarded as the large sum of £1000 was raised. He presided for the second time the year following when Past S.G.W., and at three subsequent Festivals in 1850, 1851, and 1855—when Deputy G.M. We may reasonably assume, therefore, that his lordship takes an hereditary interest in the Masonic Charities, and that as his grandfather exerted himself so frequently, and considering the smallness of the School in his days, so successfully on its behalf, so his lordship will do the utmost he possibly can to promote the success of a Festival at which he has himself undertaken to preside as Chairman. That Lord YARBOROUGH will have no difficulty in furnishing other adequate reasons, for his interest in the School is beyond question. The Institution has grown apace since the year the Jubilee was celebrated. Then there were only 65 children on the establishment, now there are 269. Then the education was of the most elementary character; now it will compare favourably with the systems in force at our best middle-class Boarding Schools for Girls. Then the sum annually required for the School expenditure was on a very moderate scale, while now it amounts to fully £13,000, and though there has undoubtedly been a substantial increase in the permanent income during the past 58 years, the increase in the invested capital has by no means kept pace with the requirements of the Institution. Everything, indeed, is on a larger scale than when his lordship's grandfather presided at the Jubilee Festival. There are 200 more girls to clothe, maintain,

and educate; the system of education is more costly; there are larger premises to maintain and keep in thorough repair; and last, but most important of all, there is now an annual deficiency of £11,000 to make good, in order to keep the Institution at its present standard of efficiency. If these reasons are not sufficiently impressive, there is at least one more of a very important character which cannot be too strongly urged upon all English Freemasons, namely, that the sums annually raised for the Institution are turned to the best possible account. Not only are they the means of providing a home and a sound education for the daughters of deceased and indigent members of our Order, who would otherwise be without help in these respects; but at stated periods during each successive year there is invariably forthcoming evidence of the most conclusive character that the system of training generally, both mental and physical, moral and religious, is of the very highest order of excellence. The pupils from our Girls' School show this, as we have said yearly, by the facility with which all of those who are entered for our public examinations succeed, with here and there an exception, in satisfying the examiners, many of them going still further and having special distinctions in one or more subjects and honours in one or other of the classes awarded them. Thus, as our readers are aware, whatever amounts they contribute, they are certified beforehand that the money will be well, and usefully, and profitably expended.

We have said that the sum which has annually to be raised in order to keep the Institution on its present footing is £11,000, and the question arises—What prospect is there of this amount being obtained at the Festival in May? It is far too early to think of doing more than hazard the vaguest conjectures. Indeed, we have nothing to guide us in any attempt to form an opinion, while the unwisdom of taking up the rôle of prophet at any time, whether early or late, is proverbial. The success of the recent Benevolent Festival augurs well for the aggregate of the year's Returns generally, but it has before now happened that a big success at the anniversary of one of our three Masonic Charities has had a prejudicial effect on the Returns at those of the other two. The aggregate of the donations and subscriptions to all three may amount to as much as they amounted to last year, but it may happen that not all three will be sufficiently benefited. At the approaching Girls' School Festival there will be a distinguished Chairman, but his Province of Lincolnshire, however loyal it may be to him—and its loyalty admits of no doubt—and however desirous it may be to ensure the success of his *début* as a Festival Chairman, is far from being numerically strong, there being only 24 lodges on the roll of its Provincial Grand Lodge. It has done exceedingly well on several occasions during the past few years, and we have every confidence that it will put forth extraordinary exertions in support of its Prov. Grand Master. Still, the number of lodges is limited. Then the Board of Stewards, as at present constituted, is far from being as strong as we should like to see it; but now that one of the three competitors for the support of lodges, chapters, and brethren is out of the way for the present year, and while there still remain a full two months in which to strengthen the Board, there are grounds for hoping that as the day for the celebration of the Festival approaches, a Board sufficiently strong to obtain the required sum will be constituted. But in the interests of the Girls' School, we have to impress upon lodges and brethren the desirability of their coming forward at the earliest possible date, while there is still time for those who undertake the duties of Steward to canvass for subscriptions and donations with some prospect of success. We appeal to all who are not enrolled on the Board as yet or are not committed to the support of the sister School, to come forward as soon as possible and do all in their power to ensure the success of the Festival in May next. We can promise them that whatever moneys they may succeed in raising will be most thankfully received and properly applied.

FREEMASONRY IN BENGAL.

A Special Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal was held at Meerut on the 7th November last, and, in the course of the proceedings, the District Grand Master, Bro. Sir H. T. PRINSEP, delivered an interesting address, the leading points in which are well worth noting. Referring, in the first place, to the fact that in the earlier years of his District Grand Mastership the District Grand Lodge had met on sundry occasions at outlying stations, he explained that those meetings had been discontinued, because "they were not properly attended by those for whose convenience they were held." He remarked that it was unreasonable on the part of brethren at such stations to expect the Calcutta brethren to come frequently amongst them, when they concerned themselves so little about attending the meetings of District Grand Lodge at Calcutta. At the same time, he pointed out that the latter, being attended by more lodges, were a more complete representation of Freemasonry in the District, while, in all matters of importance, their interests were always well cared for. He further expressed his belief that the outlying lodges had no reason to complain on the ground that more of their members were not appointed to office in District Grand Lodge. Prior to his accession to office, there was, so far as he knew, only one instance in which District Grand office had been conferred on a member of a lodge outside Calcutta. He had, however, recognised the unfairness of this course, and had felt very great pleasure in appointing several of the more experienced and distinguished brethren of outlying lodges to office in District Grand Lodge, notwithstanding that, in consequence of the difficulties they had in attending District Grand Lodge in Calcutta, he had found it necessary to fill those offices temporarily. He also explained the difficulties he found in distributing the offices in District Grand Lodge so as to give general satisfaction, firstly because there were fewer offices to fill than there were brethren to fill them, and secondly because it often happened that good men who were in every way fitted for appointment to positions of superior rank had to content themselves with inferior offices, while, if he entertained the idea of promotion from the latter to the former, he was at once confronted with the difficulty that the already limited number of appointments it was in his power to make would be still further diminished. As regards the general condition, efficiency, and attention to their duties of the lodges under his charge, the District Grand Master found himself in a position to speak in terms which, on the whole, may be considered very favourable. Their numbers were practically the same as in the previous year, the work was generally well done, and only here and there were there any shortcomings which he deemed worthy of notice. As for the funds of Grand Lodge, the Fund of Benevolence, which was carefully administered by a sub-Committee, was in a position to meet all ordinary demands upon its resources. In respect of the Bengal Masonic Educational Association, it was at the present time bearing the cost of educating 42 children, and if it were in receipt of more subscriptions and donations, it would be more nearly in a position to take under its charge all who were applicants for its benefits. There can be no doubt, however, that it is well and economically conducted, its only working expenses being those of printing, advertisement, and postage, so that, as the District Grand Master pointed out, "nearly every rupee contributed towards this fund goes to its charitable object." With reference to the District Grand Lodge Fund, which had been formed out of the surplus balances of those funds which were not devoted to Charitable purposes, with a view to enabling them at some future time to purchase a suitable building for the meetings of the Dist. G. Lodge and our Calcutta lodges, there was at the time standing to its credit a sum of 47,116 rupees, which was nearly all invested. Objections had been raised to this Fund being devoted to its intended purpose by the outlying lodges, the members of which considered that a portion of it should go towards the purchase or support of their own Masonic Buildings. The District Grand Master, however, pointed out that the bulk of it was contributed by the Calcutta lodges, the subscriptions from outside lodges being on a very small scale. Moreover, it was the property of District Grand Lodge, and was intended to be devoted to the purchase of suitable premises for its use, while the Calcutta lodges would be no better off than they are—except in the matter of improved accommodation—and would continue to pay rent for the use of the new, as they do now for the use of the present premises. It was

his (the D. G. Master's) opinion that they should always be in a position to close with any suitable offer that might present itself, and for this reason: "If by any mishap, as, for instance, by change of ownership of the building which we have, as tenants, occupied for more than 50 years, we should receive notice to quit, Freemasonry in Calcutta would be placed in the greatest difficulty. We should have no place of meeting, which, in an overcrowded city like Calcutta, would cause very serious inconvenience, and act prejudicially to our Order." The District Grand Master concluded his address by congratulating those present on the excellent attendance, and offering to furnish any information on matters connected with the District which might be desired. And we, in our turn, congratulate the District Grand Master on the very satisfactory picture he was able to present of Freemasonry in the District of Bengal.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening in the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, London. The Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, presided, and was supported by Bros. the Earl of Mount Edgcombe, Deputy G.M.; W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and the Isle of Wight, as Past G.M.; Sir John B. Monckton, as S.G.V.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G.C., as J.G.W.; Thomas F. Halsey, Prov. G.M. for Herts; Lord Addington, the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, the Rev. C. J. Martyn, F. West, A. F. Godson, M.P., Baron de Ferrieres, E. M. Lott, Sir Albert W. Woods, Robert Grey, Thomas Fenn, T. T. Bucknill, Q.C., M.P., R. Loveland Loveland, E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; Hastings Miller, Lennox Browne, C. W. C. Hutton, J. S. Cumberland, R. Clay Sudlow, James Terry, Richard Eve, George Everett, S. Cochrane, F. Mead, Ralph Gooding, M.D., W. M. Stiles, G. Treas.; Henry Smith, D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; T. Lean Wilkinson, Admiral A. Hastings Markham, Dr. Balfour Cockburn, George Read, T. C. Walls, Sir J. C. Dimsdale, P.G. Treas.; James H. Matthews, H. J. P. Dumas, W. M. Bywater, and many other Grand Officers were present besides some 350 other brethren.

Grand Lodge having been opened in ample form, the minutes of the previous Quarterly Communication were read by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., when Bro. S. R. BASKETT desired to put a question to the Grand Registrar, whether it was correct that at the last meeting of Grand Lodge the brethren were told in a letter with reference to the opinion of the Board of General Purposes of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay that it seemed to the Board a matter of indifference whether the affairs of the lodges abroad were administered by the Colonial Board, the Board of General Purposes, or a Sub-Committee of the latter.

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, President of the Board of General Purposes, said he had had no notice of any question on this subject being brought forward. The letter referred to in which this was stated was in the Grand Secretary's office, but it was not in Grand Lodge at the present moment.

Bro. S. R. BASKETT said the letter had been put in. He would have given the President notice. A letter had been put in his hands since he came into Grand Lodge upon the matter, and he would ask permission of Grand Lodge to enquire of the President whether this was a resolution of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay. If it was not so, he thought, with all deference, that Grand Lodge was greatly misled on the last occasion in not having the whole motion put before them. He considered it was decidedly unjust that a certain number of the brethren, comprising such a body, should have no experience of working lodges in India or the Colonies, where the conditions and surrounding circumstances were so widely different from those at home.

Bro. THOMAS FENN, Past President of the Board of General Purposes, rose to order: It had been held over and over again in Grand Lodge, that no question could be put without notice. It was quite impossible that a question of this kind could be asked without notice.

Bro. BASKETT thought Grand Lodge had been misled on a matter of very great importance. He again put the question: Was this resolution the resolution of the Board?

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM said Bro. Thomas Fenn had risen to order, and had said it was always a rule in Grand Lodge that a question could not be put without notice.

Bro. S. R. BASKETT said he deferred to the Pro Grand Master's ruling. The minutes were then confirmed.

Bro. the Earl of LATHOM: Brethren,—A great sorrow has lately fallen upon our beloved Queen and her daughter, the Princess Beatrice, Princess Henry of Battenberg. It has been the invariable custom for Grand Lodge to show its loyalty and devotion to the Crown on every occasion affecting either the happiness or the sorrow of the Royal Family by passing a vote. It is my duty on this occasion to ask you to pass a vote of condolence to the Queen and the Princess Henry of Battenberg. Prince Henry of Battenberg, having a deep sense that he owed a debt to his adopted country, volunteered to serve with her Majesty's troops in the Ashantee Expedition. He was ready to brave the deadly peril—I call it a peril, for so truly it is—of that pestiferous country. He has died, and he has died really in the service of war as if he had fallen on the field of battle. The Queen has lost in him a companion who has been a comfort to her for the last 10 years, and she was justly fond and proud of him. Princess Beatrice has been left in her sad widowhood with her orphan children. Most sincerely our hearts must go out to them and sorrow with them in all that they have lost. It is on this account that I ask you to pass a vote of condolence to her Majesty the Queen and the Princess Henry of Battenberg, which I will now read to you:

That the Grand Lodge, with feelings of devoted loyalty, desires humbly and respectfully to offer to her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen this expression of deep and sincere sympathy on the great calamity that has befallen her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice (Princess Henry of Battenberg) on the lamentable death, while serving his adopted country in a foreign land, of his Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg, K.G., and this Grand Lodge earnestly prays

that the Great Architect of the Universe will, in His compassionate mercy, vouchsafe to her Majesty and to the widowed Princess strength to bear with calmness and fortitude the irreparable loss they have sustained.

Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGECUMBE: Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master in the Chair,—I ask to be allowed, on behalf of the Grand Lodge, to second this resolution, well knowing that it represents the feelings of every member of Grand Lodge, whether absent or present, and that the hearts of all the brethren went out to their Queen and to the widowed Princess, her beloved daughter, in the sad hour of their recent affliction, and that they share their grief for the loss of the gallant Prince who died for this country. I beg to second the resolution.

The motion was carried unanimously, after which the Earl of Lathom was compelled, by an official engagement, to leave, and his place was taken by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Bro. Beach acting as D.G.M., and Bro. T. F. Halsey as P.G.M.

Bro. S. B. BANCROFT, P.M. 181, in proposing for re-election as M.W. Grand Master his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, said: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master in the Chair,—Almost at the eleventh hour only did I know that the honour I recently enjoyed of nominating our august chief was to be followed by the pride I now have in proposing our illustrious and Most Worshipful Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, for re-election to that high place. Grand Lodge which, in its fraternity, gives me this privilege, would justly hold me presumptuous did I not allow these simple words to be my speech, for all here know well that the constant services so long rendered to Masonry by the Prince of Wales are so far beyond price, as the return we dutifully make to his Royal Highness is always priceless, our universal loyalty, esteem, and brotherly love. Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master in the Chair, I beg to conclude with the honour of submitting my proposal to Grand Lodge.

Bro. T. H. GARDINER, P.M. 1150, seconding the motion said: Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master in the chair, after the eloquent words we have heard from Bro. Bancroft but few words are necessary from me as seconder of his resolution to add lustre to our Most Worshipful Grand Master. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was elected Grand Master in the year 1875, he, therefore, has completed 21 years of service in that office. It is the hope, I am sure, of all brethren present this night and of all brethren beneath his sway, that his Royal Highness may year by year be re-elected to the great office he has so worthily filled and in which he has so happily governed us. In all that becomes the duty of a Mason his Royal Highness has ever been before us—in our Grand Lodge, in our Charities, and even in our private lodges. I, therefore, Deputy Grand Master in the chair, have the greatest pleasure in seconding the proposition of Bro. Bancroft. The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGECUMBE: I shall have much pleasure in communicating to his Royal Highness the result of the election. (Cheers.)

Bro. Sir ALBERT W. WOODS (Garter), G.D.C., then proclaimed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales duly elected Most Worshipful Grand Master of United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England, "whom may the Great Architect of the Universe long preserve."

Bro. Lieut.-Col. BINDLEY, D.P.G.M. Staffs., P.G.D. England, Grand Superintendent Staffs., next rose and said: It was his privilege to propose Bro. William Heap Bailey, Past Prov. Senior Grand Warden of Staffordshire, for election as Grand Treasurer, who was initiated in the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 353, Derbyshire, in 1873, and in 1874 joined the Abbey Lodge, No. 624, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire, of which he is still a member, and filled the chair in 1880. He was appointed Provincial Grand Registrar of Staffordshire in 1885, and Provincial Senior Grand Warden in 1894. He is also a founder and the present first Master of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2335, and a member of the Old Concord Lodge, No. 172, and the Anchor Lodge, No. 1704. He is a Vice-Patron of our three Charities, having served sixteen Stewardships, and is a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. He (Col. Bindley) believed it was unnecessary for him to go into Bro. Bailey's qualifications—(yes, yes)—then he apologised to the brethren for taking up so much of their time. All he could say was it was his privilege at the last Quarterly Communication to nominate Bro. Bailey, and it was now his pleasure to propose him for election as Grand Treasurer. So far as regarded Freemasonry, it would not be his pleasure or his wish to occupy the time of Grand Lodge with the recommendations of Bro. Bailey, and with these remarks he proposed Bro. Bailey's election.

Bro. W. A. SCURRAH, Vice-President Board of General Purposes, seconded the motion. Carried unanimously amidst general applause.

On the motion of Bro. ROBERT GREY, President, seconded by Bro. D. D. MERCER, S.V.P. Board of Benevolence, the report of the Board, which was read by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., for the last quarter, was adopted, and on the motion and seconding by the same two brethren, the recommendations of grants as published in our last were confirmed.

On the motion of Bro. RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President, seconded by Bro. WILLIAM ALFRED SCURRAH, Vice-President, the report of the Board of General Purposes, as published in the *Freemason* last week, was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes. It was then adopted.

Bro. W. F. LAMONBY, P.M. 962 and 1924, next rose to move—

That the Grand Lodge of England in Quarterly Communication assembled, hereby expresses its strong disapproval of the system of canvassing and touting carried on at the annual elections, and earnestly appeals to its members to discountenance and prevent the continuance of a practice which is contrary to the principles and tenets of English Freemasonry.

In laying the motion before Grand Lodge, he said: Right Worshipful Grand Master in the Chair,—In the first place, permit me to apologise for absence from Grand Lodge in December, when I had a notice of motion on the agenda dealing with this subject. The postponement, however, has been useful, as it has given me an opportunity of modifying my then views, thanks to the kindly counsel and advice of one or two eminent brethren. All the same, I should have preferred that some old and distinguished brother on the dais had seen his way to take up this very important question. Because I know there are many who sympathise and entirely agree with the opinion that the time has arrived when Grand Lodge should take some decided steps in the direction of securing the discountenance of the system—the pernicious system—of canvassing and touting for votes, which is carried on in the most open manner, year after year, with the slightest interference. That this is an extremely undesirable state of things, I am sure no one present will attempt to deny, much

less to defend, or even to palliate. In fact, to use the words of our leading Masonic journal—"The practice is now carried to such an extent as to be a public scandal, and the sooner steps are taken to put an end to it the better it will be for the interests of Freemasonry." Right Worshipful Sir, there are many brethren candidates for seats on our various Boards now and again, who conscientiously, and, as I think, rightly, object to canvassing for votes. These brethren are necessarily and unfairly at a disadvantage on the occasion of a contested election. As a matter of fact, they have arrayed against them machinery that in every way is worthy of the dubious and undignified methods of a parish vestry election. But, R.W. Grand Master in the chair, this is, after all, but a minor view of the question; on the other hand what we have primarily and seriously to consider is the preservation, pure and unsullied, of the fair name of English Freemasonry. And it is, therefore, with some confidence and in the profoundest sincerity that I appeal to Grand Lodge to affirm with no uncertain voice that the discreditable practice of canvassing and touting at our elections is not to be countenanced or tolerated, and that such practice must henceforth cease. I have now to move (Bro. Lamonby here read his motion as given above).

Bro. the Rev. ROBERT JAMES SIMPSON, P.G. Chap.: M.W.G.M. in the Chair,—I have been asked to second this motion, and I do so with pleasure, as well as with brevity, for the mover has given ample grounds for its adoption. I cannot but feel that Grand Lodge will be of opinion that a clear declaration of the principle this motion embodies will add to the dignity and importance of Freemasonry. It is obvious that it would be Utopian to lay down a hard and fast law to the effect that no brother should express an opinion on the desirability of a particular candidate for office, or a hope that his brother Mason should support such candidate; but there is a very wide difference, both in principle and practice, between this course and a regular plan involving elaborate touting and systematic canvass—and looking at this matter from a candidate's standpoint, I am bound to say I should take it as a far greater compliment to be elected, not by any organisation of my personal friends, but by the free will and unsolicited votes of my brethren. I fear the system of canvas and its often questionable accompaniments have brought some undeserved discredit upon the election to an office which was started some years ago and carried on my motion by a large majority of Grand Lodge. We voted that the Grand Treasurership should go for election each year instead of for life—"Be just and fear not" was our motto. It surely does not follow that such a reform was unjust or inexpedient because of some of the proceedings which took place subsequently at the election to that office. The abuse of a system is no argument against its use. For if so, even Freemasonry itself must cease and determine, owing to abuses that have crept in in foreign lands, the result, probably, of the undue pressure of a tyranny that seeks to control the consciences and trample upon the just freedom of mankind. I sincerely trust this motion may be carried by a unanimous vote of Grand Lodge, and that such a decided and wholesome declaration of Masonic public opinion will prevent a recurrence of proceedings which interfere with the due course of an honest election, and are inconsistent with the dignity of the candidates for office, as well as of the noble Order to which we belong.

Bro. LENNOX BROWNE, P.D.G.D.C., moved as an amendment to leave out the word "English," which Bro. Lamonby adopted.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND, P. Deputy G.S.B., objected. That Grand Lodge had nothing to do with Scotch, Irish, or foreign Masonry. It had only to consider English Masonry. He was quite in sympathy with Bro. Lamonby's proposal, because there was certainly too much touting going on from time to time, and the sooner it could be done away with the better. The moral suasion of a decision of Grand Lodge.

The motion, as amended, was put and lost by an overwhelming majority, and the original motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

Grand Lodge was then closed in due form.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following lists and additions to lists have been received since our report of last week.

Lodge.		LONDON.		
			£	s. d.
15	Bro. Geo. W. Todd, additional ...	(raising his list to £176 8s.)	...	1 8 0
19	„ J. H. Whadcoat, additional ...	(raising his list to £303 3s. 6d.)	...	3 3 6
1159	„ Henry O. Yeatman, additional ...	(raising his list to £57 15s.)	...	1 1 0
1602	„ Lieut. J. G. W. James, additional ...	(raising his list to £59 17s.)	...	8 8 0
1706	„ N. A. Kemp, additional ...	(raising his list to £38 4s. 6d.)	...	5 5 0
1707	„ Arthur Bull, additional ...	(raising his list to £27 3s.)	...	2 3 0
1964	„ W. Collis Clark, additional ...	(raising his list to £105.)	...	3 3 0
Chapter				
2021	Comp. Charles Kempton ...	(raising his list to £73 10s.)	...	10 10 0
Unattached				
	Bro. Thos. A. Bullock, new Steward	10 10 0
		PROVINCES.		
Lodge		MIDDLESEX.		
1415	Bro. Charles E. Cassall, additional ...	(raising his list to £46 13s.)	...	3 3 0
		OXFORDSHIRE.		
1898	Bro. Richard Ovey, additional ...	(raising his list to £22 9s. 6d.)	...	5 15 6
		SUSSEX.		
1465	Bro. C. T. Naylor, additional ...	(raising his list to £41 9s. 6d.)	...	1 1 0

We have also been requested to transfer Bro. John Smith, £10 10s., from London, Unattached, to BEDFORDSHIRE. A portion of Bro. Eversley's list for Lodge 10 should be allotted to the Province of Norfolk. This necessitates the transfer of those Provinces from the Absentees to the Represented Provinces, reducing the former to 15 and augmenting the latter to 31.

It should also be noted that the list of Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, as Steward, for No. 19, which was correctly referred to in the Analysis as amounting to £300—since increased, as above mentioned, to £303 3s. 6d.—was erroneously entered among the "Stewards' Lists" for £40.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, was held on the 3rd inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro Grand Master, presided. Bro. Viscount Dungenbury was present as Deputy Grand Master; the Earl of Portarlington, as S.G.W.; Alexander Woodiwiss, as J.G.W.; Earl of Onslow, Col. A. B. Cook, C. H. Driver, Dr. Balfour Cockburn, C. F. Matier, Sir Reginald Hanson, Richard Clowes, Admiral A. Hastings Markham, Baron de Ferrieres, Frank Richardson, R. Loveland Loveland, Major Clifford Probyn, Major C. W. Carrell, W. F. Smithson, Gordon Miller, Richard Eve, Frederick West, W. M. Stiles, Percy Wallis, G. Treas.; E. M. Money, Dr. Clement Gidson, Frederick Mead, Eugene Monteuiis, W. W. B. Beach, W. E. Chapman, W. Vincent, C. H. Driver, Thomas Fenn, and a large number of other brethren were present.

Since the Quarterly Communication of December 3rd, 1895, the Grand Hall of Grand Lodge has been beautifully decorated by Bro. Campbell Smith, under the direction of Bro. C. H. Driver, Grand Inspector of Works. The work has been executed in the Italian style, with a very delicate arrangement of colour, the whole effect being charming. The heraldic arms of Mark Masonry are placed at each end of the four sides of the oblong, and the Portal organ over the porch has been worked into the general scheme of colour. Two new pictures had been added, one of the late Bro. the Duke of Albany, P.G.M., and the other of Bro. W. W. B. Beach, P.G.M. The new appearance of the hall gave general satisfaction.

After the minutes of the former Quarterly Communication had been read and confirmed,

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON said that at the last meeting his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was nominated for the office of Most Worshipful Grand Master, and, as nobody else had been proposed, he need hardly say he was now elected to the office. The brethren thanked him for still honouring them by being their head, and for all the interest he took in Mark Masonry. It was the unanimous wish and desire of the whole of Grand Lodge that he should take that position. He would now put the motion—that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales be Most Worshipful Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The motion was carried, and

Bro. Dr. BALFOUR COCKBURN, G.D.C., proclaimed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M.M. of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown for the ensuing year.

The next business being the election of Grand Treasurer,

Bro. C. F. MATIER, G. Sec., informed the Pro Grand Master and Grand Lodge that he had received a letter from Bro. George Everett, stating that, in consequence of his illness and by the doctor's orders, with the consent of his nominator, he withdrew his candidature for the office of Grand Treasurer.

Bro. ALEX. S. BROWN proposed, and Bro. COLLINS seconded, Bro. Major Probyn.

Bro. H. J. LARDNER proposed, and Bro. NELSON PROWER seconded, Bro. Capt. T. C. Walls.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON announced that the poll was then open, and would remain open till a quarter past six o'clock, and that no further business would be taken in the meantime.

When the poll was closed at a quarter past six p.m., the Scrutineers, of whom Bro. William Vincent was Chairman, were obligated to make a true return, and they then retired, and the general business was proceeded with.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON said that before they proceeded with the business on the agenda paper he had a proposition to bring before Grand Lodge, which he was certain all the brethren would concur with him in supporting, and which consisted of a vote of condolence with her Majesty the Queen and H.R.H. Princess Beatrice on the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg. He thought all Mark Masons would feel that sympathy with those whom they honoured and respected in their trouble, and no words from him would be necessary to urge upon the brethren the adoption of that vote of condolence.

Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN, in seconding the motion, said they all hoped that their expressions of loyalty and sympathy would do something towards assuaging the grief occasioned by the calamity which had befallen her Majesty and her Royal Highness the Princess Beatrice.

The motion was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Bro. RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President of the General Board, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, G. Reg., the following report of the General Board was taken as read, received, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:

During the three months ending 31st December, 1895, there have been issued—Mark certificates, 307; total number registered, 34,985.

Warrants for new lodges, five, viz.:

- 489, United Service, London.
- 490, Murray, Wigan.
- 491, Fidelity, Coalville.
- 492, St. George, Larnaca, Cyprus.
- 493, Eland, Elland, West Yorks.

Royal Ark Mariner certificates, 83; total number registered, 4747.

Warrants for new Ark Mariner lodges, two, viz.:

- Joppa Lodge, to be attached to the Joppa Lodge, No. 11.
- Southport Lodge, to be attached to the Southport Lodge, No. 473.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, has been pleased to re-appoint for a further term of three years:

R.W. Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote, C.B., M.P., as Provincial Grand Master for Devon.

R.W. Bro. W. A. F. Powell, J.P., as Provincial Grand Master for Bristol.

R.W. Bro. the Hon. Judge Donald Grant MacLeod as District Grand Master for Burma.

The Board recommend that the Ramsay Lodge, No. 180, and the Joppa Lodge, No. 312, who have neglected to comply with the requirements of Art. 150, Book of Constitutions, and who have, in consequence thereof, been summoned to appear in Grand Lodge to show cause, and have not replied, should be erased.

The District Grand Secretary of Bengal having reported that Kirby Lodge, No. 285, Sarapur, has not met for several years, and is practically extinct, the Board recommend that the last known Master be summoned to attend Grand Lodge, to show cause why such lodge should not be erased.

The Chelmer Lodge, No. 342, having reported to the Board that Bro. W. F. Howard Flanders had been installed in the chair without a dispensation from the M.W. Grand Master, he not being a Master or Past Master of a Craft lodge (Art. 99), and having expressed their great regret for the irregularity, the Board ruled that the lodge be fined one guinea and be directed to apply at once for a dispensation, to be dated *nunc pro tunc*, and that at the next regular meeting of the lodge Bro. W. F. Howard Flanders be re-obligated in the presence of a Board of Installed Masters.

The Board earnestly desire to call the attention of all Installing Masters to the absolute necessity of ascertaining that the Master elect is duly qualified as an Installed Master of a Craft lodge, or failing the qualification, that a dispensation has been obtained.

Certain cases have been reported where candidates have not been presented with a copy of the Book of Constitutions on advancement, the Board desire again to call the attention of W. Masters to Article 141.

The Board have the pleasure to announce the completion of the decoration of the Great Hall, at a total cost of £350, the payment of which they beg to recommend to Grand Lodge.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that the 28th Annual Festival will be held on Wednesday, 8th of July. R.W. Bro. Charles Letch Mason, Prov. Grand Master for West Yorkshire, has most kindly consented to preside, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of ladies and brethren willing to act as Stewards.

The following case has been relieved:

Bro. E. J. S., Lodge No. 383, £5.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, Grand Secretary.

The recommendations in the report were then adopted, on the motion of Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON.

Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND next said that the Board had the pleasure to announce the completion of the decoration of the great hall at a total cost of £350, and they recommended to Grand Lodge that it be paid for by the General Board. That was the first time the alterations and embellishment of the hall had been seen at a Quarterly Communication, and he trusted they would meet with the general approval of the brethren.

Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, in seconding the motion that the General Board be authorised to pay the amount, said he thought that nobody present that evening could fail to appreciate the work which had been so excellently and tastefully carried out by the Grand Inspector of Works.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, before putting the motion, observed that he quite concurred with what had been said by the two brethren who had proposed and seconded that motion, and he thought all the brethren would agree with him that what had been done was a great improvement of the hall, and that they had now, as Mark Masons, one of the nicest halls in England to meet in. As the Degree, he was glad to say, all over England, and in all places under the English jurisdiction, was increasing and prospering in a way which everyone would be pleased and proud of, he hoped that Grand Lodge would not grudge the £350 which the decorations had cost. He then put the motion—"That the General Board be empowered to pay £350."

The motion was carried, and on the motion of Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, seconded by Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, the report of the General Board was adopted.

Bro. GORDON MILLER, P.M. Grand Master's Lodge, P.G.T., then rose and said that as representing the Grand Master's Lodge, he had been desired to state that that lodge had felt it a pleasing duty to commemorate the services rendered to Freemasonry by his Royal Highness the late Duke of Albany, P.G.M., who did the Grand Master's Lodge the honour to consecrate it, by having his portrait painted, and all the members of that lodge felt that no better place could be found for perpetuating his memory than by having the picture placed in the Great Hall of Mark Grand Lodge. He, therefore, on behalf of the Grand Master's Lodge of Mark Master Masons, begged the brethren to accept that portrait which they now saw on the wall. The brethren of the Grand Master's Lodge believed it to be a very good portrait of his Royal Highness, and those who were able to judge especially said that it was an excellent likeness. Therefore, he would say nothing further than ask Grand Lodge to do the Grand Master's Lodge the favour of accepting it. (Applause.)

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON said he thought Grand Lodge ought very decidedly to enter on its minutes a vote of thanks to the Grand Master's Lodge for the handsome present they had given of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Albany. He was personally very well acquainted with him, and he thought the likeness a good one. The late Duke of Albany was a great Mason, and it was a great loss to Masonry when he died. All the members of Grand Lodge would be very proud to have his portrait there, and he would move—"That a cordial vote of thanks be given to the Grand Master's Lodge for the very kind and handsome present they had given to Grand Lodge in this portrait of the late Duke of Albany."

Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN seconded the motion.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON added that the brethren had heard the generous way the Grand Master's Lodge had come forward and given the present, and Grand Lodge accepted the present in a most hearty way, and were very pleased to accept it.

The motion was carried.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G. Overseer, addressing the M.W. Pro Grand Master, said he was not aware until he came into Grand Lodge that afternoon that they had in the first panel to the right of the Grand Master the portrait of the M.W. Past Grand Master of the Order, Bro. Beach, M.P., but he was pleased to find it standing there. It had been the feeling of the brethren of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight that they should have some representation of the Grand Master of that province in Grand Lodge. The feeling as to what their Right Worshipful Brother, as Provincial Grand Master, was in Hampshire was too well known to require description. They had not merely the services of a grand Mason, but they had a Prov. Grand Master who, a quarter of a century since, had ruled over the Order of Mark Masonry, and they recognised in their Grand Master a true Mason of that day, a brother who was always ready to do them service—who was always

able to do them service in Grand Lodge or in other lodges in which he might be called upon to do so; and whether he were seated on the throne in Grand Lodge, or simply was a guest in an ordinary lodge, their Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master was ever ready to perform any duty he was asked. The brethren in Hampshire loved their Prov. Grand Master; they recognised in him a brother who could not be excelled—he might be equalled—but he could not be excelled in Masonry, and they felt that they were doing only what was right and proper when they gave a living representation of him to be placed in that Mark Grand Lodge. He was glad to find Bro. Beach's portrait was standing to the right of the chair, and that Bro. Beach himself was present. He was sure that the brethren of the Province of Hampshire, had they known that the portrait was there, would have assembled that night in large numbers in Grand Mark Lodge to support him (Bro. Richard Eve) in the duty which had fallen upon him to ask the M.W. Pro Grand Master and that Grand Mark Lodge to accept that portrait from the brethren of Hampshire, to be preserved in Grand Lodge. They would always have the kindest feeling of remembrance towards their Prov. Grand Master when they found in Grand Lodge his portrait; he would live in the memory of the brethren of Hampshire when he was gone; they had not lost him yet; they found in him a brother who they hoped would live for years to come to adorn the Order he had served so well. He would take too much of the brethren's time if he endeavoured to describe the work Bro. Beach had done to Mark Masonry in general. He was Grand Master of the Order 25 years ago; he was now Past G. Master, and he had been for years the beloved G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. They hoped he would live long to do even more in the future than he had in the past, although they knew not how that was to be accomplished. He asked Grand Lodge, with all sincerity and with the best wishes from the Province of Hampshire, to accept the portrait as one of the adornments of Grand Lodge, and they trusted it would be met with a kind reception at the hands of Grand Lodge, and be considered as a memorial of the services Bro. Beach had rendered in the past. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON said it was not often that an offer of that kind was made—two portraits being presented of two such Masons, of one who was, unfortunately, taken from them at the beginning of his life, and of one whom they were still proud to meet and see among them that day. He begged to move a most hearty and fraternal vote of thanks to the Province of Hampshire for the very handsome picture they had given Grand Lodge of their Provincial Grand Master, who was beloved by every Mason throughout England. It needed no words from him, particularly after what had been said by Bro. Eve, to go into details of what Past Grand Master Beach had done; it was so well known, and he was so well known, to all that they received the gift with the thanks of Grand Lodge. He would move that it be recorded on the minutes that a vote of thanks of Grand Lodge be presented to the brethren of the Province of Hampshire for their handsome present.

Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN seconded the motion, which was put and carried unanimously amidst applause.

The Scrutineers of the ballot were here re-admitted, when they handed to the Earl of Euston the result of the voting as follows:

Major Clifford Probyn	202
Capt. T. C. Walls	133

Majority for Major Probyn ... 69

Bro. Major PROBYN, returning thanks for his election, assured the brethren that he would endeavour to deserve the honour they had conferred upon him, and trusted that when he retired from the office, the post of Grand Treasurer would not have been sullied by his possession of it.

Bro. Captain WALLS also thanked the brethren who had supported him, many of whom had come long distances; some from Devon, some from Hampshire. At the same time, he desired to express his appreciation of the honourable conduct of the election by his old friend, Bro. Major Probyn.

Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

FESTIVAL OF THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was held on the 28th ult. at Freemasons' Hall, where nearly 400 brethren assembled to see the Second Lecture worked by Bros. R. L. S. Badham, 21; D. D. West, P.M. 108; A. M. Barnard, S.W. 1964; Charles Lewis, W.M. 1706, 2508; and S. G. Budd, W.M. 1818. Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br., who has been the Preceptor of the Lodge of Improvement since the retirement of Bro. Thos. Fenn, Past Prest. Board General Purps., two years ago, acted as W.M. Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.W., sat on his right, and Bro. F. T. Rushton, P.M. 8, P.G. Steward, acted as I.P.M. The Stewards of the Festival were—

Bros. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., G. Sec., Treas.; Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W.; F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; Thomas Fenn, Past Prest. B.G.P.; Robert Grey, Prest. Board of Ben.; Henry J. P. Dumas, P.G.D.; J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Jas. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C.; Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C.; Frederick Mead, P.G.S.B.; Chas. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G. Std. Br.; Alfred C. Spaul, P.G. Std. Br.; Walter Hopekirk, P.G. Purst.; Henry Sadler, G. Tyler; C. J. Andrews, 1625; Major R. L. S. Badham, 21; A. M. Barnard, S.W. 1964; J. A. Braik, S.W. 2310; A. Stewart Brown, F.R.C.S., P.P.G.W. Middx.; Thos. H. Browne, 2020; Sanderson G. Budd, W.M. 1818; Robert Davison, W.M. 2128; E. P. Debenham, P.P.G. Reg. Herts; J. W. Drysdale, I.P.M. 263; T. H. Edmands, P.M. Grand Stewards' Lodge; Morris Billie Evans, J.W. 8; W. P. Farmer, W.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.; G. W. Field, 3; J. V. Vesey Fitzgerald, 502; J. W. Freeman, P.M. 147; W. P. Fuller, W.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.; Jas. D. Graham, P.M. 1559; F. A. Hazzledine, P.M. 88, 2098; George Booth Heming, P.M., Sec. 256; A. C. A. Higerty, P.M. 1044, 1714, 2437, P.P.G.W. Beiks; Fredk. Keibell, 1662; W. G. Kentish, P.M. 1293, 1768, P.P.G.D. Middx.; George A. King, 463; J. Lancaster, P.M., Sec. 534; R. E. F. Lander, 2086; Charles Lewis, 1706, W.M. 2508; Herbert Linnell, J.W. 2043; William Lupton, 1768; C. W. Mapleton, 12; Chas. J. Marrian, Sec. 2483; T. W. Ockenden, P.M. 1512, 1656, 1768, P.P.G.D. Middx.; George Powell, P.M., Sec. 142; Henry

Pritchard, P.M., Sec. 263, P.M. 1415, P.P.G. Treas. Middx.; George Rankin, 1641; F. T. Rushton, P.M. 8, P.G. Stwd.; Joseph Russell, P.G. Stwd., Sec.; Dr. H. A. Sansom, 2083; George R. Scott, 889; the Rev. C. W. Servanté, 1768; Maurice Spiegel, P.M. 1931; Henry Times, I.P.M. 165; James Tollworthy, I.P.M. 1769; D. D. West, 108; and Henry S. Wellcome, P.M. 3, 2397.

Besides these there were also present Bros. Sir George D. Harris, W. H. Spaul, C. F. Hogard, J. E. Le Feuvre, G. E. Fairchild, Dr. Clement Godson, F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., T. L. Wilkinson, R. Clowes, C. E. Keyser, J. A. Farnfield, Dr. Ernest Pocock, Lieut.-Col. Bindley, and Harry Tipper.

Bro. E. Cutler, Q.C., P.G. Org., played a beautiful selection of music on the organ previous to the opening of the lodge.

Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, as W.M., put the questions, all of which were answered with a fluency and impressiveness which called forth hearty commendations.

Before the lodge was closed,

Bro. Lord SKELMERSDALE rose and proposed a vote of thanks to the working brethren for the instructive and most interesting lecture they had heard. Might he be allowed to congratulate the Emulation Lodge of Improvement on its working, and also the brethren who had conducted the lecture for the admirable work they had performed.

Bro. F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Reg., in seconding the motion, said the working had been to all a Masonic treat. The brethren had heard the lectures given in their fulness with accuracy and dignity worthy of the best days of Emulation, and that was saying that it set an example to the whole Craft. As Jerusalem above was said to be "the mother of us all," so the recounting of the history of the building of the Temple of Jerusalem, as they had heard it, showed that the traditions preserved in the Lodge of Emulation would typify and consolidate the whole of the great Masonic structure of British Masonry.

The motion having been carried unanimously,

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, who, on rising, was received with loud applause, said it was customary for the brother occupying the chair on these occasions, although not a working officer himself, to acknowledge that vote. He felt sure that the brethren who had worked the Second Lecture would appreciate very highly the compliment that had been passed on their efforts. He knew that every one of them had been anxious to keep up the prestige of that old lodge for good and correct working, and what had been said of them that night would be ample reward for any trouble they had taken prior to that evening in getting the lectures up. All present that evening who were not members of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement would, he felt sure, be very anxious indeed to join it. Half-a-crown subscription made a life member, who, any night he attended the working—every Friday in the year except July, August, and September—would have to pay a shilling, or if he paid five shillings down instead of half-a-crown, he would be called upon to pay sixpence only when he attended. The whole of the money received went to the Charities, except so much as was required for the expenses of the lodge. That, he felt, was another reason, if a further incentive was necessary, why the brethren would not fail to join the lodge.

The brethren then proceeded to Freemasons' Tavern to banquet, which was admirably supplied by Spiers and Pond, Limited.

Bro. Lord Skelmersdale presided, and, after the banquet was disposed of, the customary toasts were honoured.

Bro. Lord SKELMERSDALE, after proposing "The Queen and the Craft," proposed "The M.W.G.M." The Prince of Wales was a good Mason, and was devoted to everything which had to do with the interests of Freemasonry. His Royal Highness was not able to be present so much as he would wish at Masonic meetings, but he had been present lately at the consecration of two important lodges, and he (Lord Skelmersdale) had great hopes personally that he might be present at the consecration of another lodge, which, he ventured to hope, would not be an unimportant one in Freemasonry.

Bro. RUSHTON proposed "The Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said the cordiality with which the toast was invariably received must be most gratifying to the Grand Officers, and give them some intimation that their efforts in the cause of Freemasonry were not unappreciated by the Craft generally. The brethren of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement were fortunate in the circumstance that their annual gatherings had always been graced by the presence of many Grand Officers, many of whom were members of the lodge. But they were always pleased to have an opportunity of seeing them as it gave countenance to the working and to the exceptional occasions when the lodge showed to the Craft generally what could be done in the way of working the ritual. Although they had not for the working of that lodge the official seal of the Grand Lodge, yet they felt by the presence of the Grand Officers they had a certain standing, as it showed them that their efforts to preserve the purity of the ritual of Freemasonry were recognised by their presence. They had an illustrious body the subject of that toast, inasmuch as for years past on the Committee of that lodge there had always been a Grand Officer. The very fact that there was one this year would make the brethren drink the toast with all cordiality. None of them could forget the many years of service that Bro. Thomas Fenn gave to the lodge. He supposed that there were not any members of the lodge in the room who remembered the time before Bro. Thomas Fenn took an interest in the lodge. Besides Bro. Fenn, Bros. Sudlow and Letchworth, G. Sec., were on the Committee. With respect to Bro. Letchworth he would say that the great service he had rendered in his office of Grand Secretary since he had been appointed showed what an excellent choice the Grand Master made when he appointed him as successor to the worthy Bro. Snadwell Clerke.

Bro. PHILBRICK, Q.C., replied at the request of Bro. Thomas Fenn, whom he was sure the brethren would have much preferred to listen to as there was such a galaxy of Grand Officers connected with the toast. The father of the noble brother who now presided was revered by Masons; he occupied a position but one step below the Throne of Masonry in this country. The Grand Lodge of England was the Mother Grand Lodge of the world, and its ritual preserved and enshrined through the Lodge of Reconciliation, with the Lodge of Unions, under which the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was sanctioned, was undoubtedly—although it had been said Grand Lodge did not formally sanction any particular ritual—the ritual of the Craft which received the imprimatur of the authorities. It was, therefore, a sincere pleasure to the Grand Officers to see that lodge continuing the old traditions, handing down by the new graft into the old tree the right stock, producing, as they had seen the graft had done in the past, fruit that bore witness in the excellent working of that day. The tree, planted with many hopes and many fears, watered by the care of many worthy brethren, had grown bravely to height, and broadly to support its magnificent branches over the whole land, and to distribute the fruits of Freemasonry throughout the world in the most attractive form.

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., Treasurer of the lodge, proposed "The Chairman." Having the honour of filling the office of Treasurer of that lodge, the very agreeable duty devolved upon him to propose the toast. It was one which he was satisfied could not fail to receive at the hands of the brethren the most cordial and enthusiastic welcome. He asked them to drink the health of the distinguished brother who, with such graciousness and kindness, had presided over their festival that evening. They one and all welcomed Lord Skelmersdale, not only as the son of their much respected and beloved Pro Grand Master, but as one on whom H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master had conferred one of the highest honours it was in his power to bestow, one who, although he had but a few years joined the Order, had done everything in his power to promote and advance its

best interests. He could only say, on behalf of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, that they tendered Lord Skelmersdale their warmest and heartiest thanks for the honour he had done them in presiding over that festival.

Bro. Lord SKELMERSDALE, in responding, said he always took the advice of his father about Masonry, which the brethren would think was the right thing to do. When he had the great pleasure of receiving a letter from Bro. Letchworth asking him if he would consent to preside that evening he happened to be at his own home, and he took the letter to his father, who said to him, "Do so; it is one of the best institutions in Masonry." He could only thank the brethren, and tell them it had given him the very greatest pleasure to be present with the brethren. He would say nothing further as regarded himself, but would give the toast of "The Emulation Lodge of Improvement." Those who like himself were present in the lodge for the first time would all agree with him that the Emulation Lodge of Improvement set them a standard of working in Masonry which they ought all to try and follow. It might be—it was, he feared—that there were lodges, some of them old ones, some of them possibly a little careless, which did not follow the Emulation working. It was the desire of all present that the standard of the Emulation should be worked up to; that the lodges should attain to the same perfection was perhaps a little too much to hope; but that they should try to attain to that perfection was very much to be wished for. That lodge was of the greatest importance. It was established in 1823, after the great Union of all the lodges. It set itself to work to provide an unalterable standard of ritual. Those traditions, although now so long ago, it had always kept up, and, speaking for himself, he could only say how much he was impressed, interested, and delighted with the work of the evening.

Bro. R. CLAY SUDLOW, P.G. Std. Br., replied. He said: R.W. Brother Chairman and Brethren,—The honour of responding to this toast really belongs to our chief, Bro. Letchworth, but, with the courtesy which distinguishes him, he has waived his right in my favour as the oldest member of the Committee. It was Bro. Fenn's custom on these occasions to give from time to time some information as to the origin of this lodge and the reasons why we claim that its system of ritual is authoritative. This has not been done for some time, and in view of the fact that we are adding to the number of our members every week, it has been suggested to me that to-night I might well follow Bro. Fenn's example, and, indeed, very closely follow Bro. Fenn's words for the information of those who have joined our ranks during the last few years. You will remember that the union of the two Grand Lodges took place in 1813. At that time there was a very material difference in the method of working the ceremonies, and it was deemed advisable to endeavour to arrange a uniform system acceptable to both parties to the Union, which might be universally adopted. For this purpose a warrant was issued for the formation of a new lodge, to be called the Lodge of Reconciliation, and to consist of an equal number of Ancients and Moderns. The special duty to be carried out by this lodge was to frame a ritual based on the systems then in practice, to be submitted to the United Grand Lodge for its sanction and authorisation. In the year 1816 we find, according to the minutes of Grand Lodge of that year, that two special meetings were held under the presidency of the Duke of Sussex, at which meetings the ceremonies were rehearsed by members of the Lodge of Reconciliation. These ceremonies were, with a few alterations, sanctioned and ordered to be adopted. The system of ritual then sanctioned by the Grand Lodge has been taught in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, from its foundation in 1823 right down to the present day; in other words, there has been no variation for a period of over 70 years. The reason of this is not difficult of explanation. Every brother who has occupied the position of Preceptor in this lodge has, by many years of diligent study under the teaching of his predecessor, mastered this particular system, and has accepted it as a sacred trust to be preserved with the utmost integrity. It will interest you, I think, if I mention the names of these brethren. The first was the famous Bro. Peter Gilkes, who, by reason of his intimate knowledge of the authorised ritual, was elected the first Preceptor. At his death the position passed to his friend and pupil, Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who presided over the lodge for, I believe, over 30 years. He was succeeded by our Bro. Thomas Fenn, assisted by Bro. Murton and Bro. Richards, as members of the Committee. Bro. Fenn, as you know, retained his connection with this lodge until last year. I need hardly say how delighted not only the Committee are, but every one in this room to-night is to welcome among us Bro. Thomas Fenn again, from whom many of us here present have learned all we know of Masonry. Now, brethren, we come to the present Committee—Bro. Rushton, Bro. Kentish, and myself; we form, as it were, the fourth generation, and I need hardly say that we accept the trust reposed in us as a very sacred one, and we recognise to the full its unalterable character. When the time comes, brethren, for us to make way for others—and may I say just in this connection one word how much we miss the presence of one who filled the chair of Senior Warden at these festivals for many years?—I say, when the time comes for us to make way for others, we shall hand over our trust exactly as we received it. We are very much encouraged in our work by this splendid gathering and by the presence of so many Grand Officers. For the support thus accorded to us, and for the kindly manner in which this toast has been honoured, I, speaking on behalf of the Committee whom I have the honour to represent, beg most heartily to thank you.

At this point, Bro. Lord Skelmersdale had to leave to join the ball given by his regiment, at which Bro. Lord Wolsley was to be present. He again expressed the pleasure and gratification with which he had witnessed the working of the lodge.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. JOHN ALLEN BINDLEY, P.G.D., proposed "The Lodge of Unions, No. 256," a toast which, he said, was of immense importance to all lodges working under the charter of the Grand Lodge of England, as it sanctioned the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. The brethren had already heard the name of that good brother, Peter Gilkes, who had gone before; they had also heard of their Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson; and they had also heard of their beloved Bro. Thomas Fenn, and long might he live amongst them to help, if he might say, in Masonry; with all deference and no levity, might he live for ever among Masons. However, they had a certain time allotted to them, and when Bro. Fenn did go, it was to be hoped that his mantle would fall on some one who was no less than himself. The Lodge of Unions was the foundation of the present Emulation Lodge of Improvement. Perhaps he might be permitted to say he thought the Emulation had been the grand resuscitator of Masonry in England. The Lodge of Unions was simply the mother of the Lodge of Emulation, and he trusted that the Emulation, as it went on now always embodied that charming word "Conciliation." It did not enforce, but it led and conciliated, and that was the great strength of it, and he hoped it would last with it. He had been a Mason over a third of a century, and he had seen Masonry in many forms and ways, but he had never seen it worked as it had been that evening by Bro. Sudlow and his assistants: it was something not to be forgotten; it was a thing to take down to the provinces and to be glad to hear.

Bro. JOHN ALBERT FARNFIELD, P.A.G.D.C., in replying for the Lodge of Unions, said the great delight of the Lodge of Unions was to think that the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was its child and that it had prospered, and had spread Freemasonry over the four quarters of the globe. It was not that Freemasonry was only taught here, but brethren who learned it here emigrated to distant parts, and Freemasonry as taught in the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was taught wherever the English language was heard. That the lodge might go on and prosper was the great desire of the Lodge of Unions, under whose warrant it worked, and he hoped the child would never be ashamed of its mother.

Bro. J. E. LE FEUVRE, P.G.D., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said the brethren had all had the pleasure that evening of listening to the ritual of Freemasonry rendered in the most perfect manner, and Provincial brethren were glad to have the opportunity of carrying down into the provinces that ritual and setting it up as the standard and reproducing it as far as possible. Next to the perfect rendering of the ritual was the carrying out of Masonic principles inside and outside their lodges, and the cultivation of "that most excellent gift of Charity" which was so well recommended in the lodges generally. He had had placed in his hands the toast of "Our Masonic Institutions," and to ask the brethren to drink to "Our Great Institutions, the Girls, the Boys, and the Old People," and might the festivals of the Girls' and the Boys' in the coming months be as gloriously successful as was that of the Benevolent Institution on Wednesday, the 26th ult., when something just under £20,000 was raised. It would be £20,000 before long. Let them hope that in the coming months of May and June the festivals of the Girls' and the Boys' would make as much. Those two Institutions were admirably managed. The Committee of the Girls' School, consisting of members of the highest rank in Masonry had the confidence of the Craft of the whole of the United Kingdom. He heard that the result of the examinations which had just taken place had been very successful and no failures had been suffered by the Girls' Institution; all the girls sent up had passed, six had honours and 11 distinctions. With regard to the Boys' School the Craft might congratulate themselves on the success which had followed the management, for during the last few weeks one of the boys had passed in the first list of the Matriculation in London, an honour they prized very highly, and it must redound to a very great extent to the credit of the excellent Head Master, Bro. Hebb. They had also received that day the results of the Cambridge Senior and Junior Examinations which had been a source of great satisfaction to the Boys' School Board of Management. They sent one of the boys in the first and second forms. There were 76 sent up, and the success of those boys was somewhat remarkable. A large number of honours had been gained by them, and out of 76 boys only eight had been unsuccessful, in gaining a pass or getting honours. Those boys had not been picked boys from the school but the whole forms had been sent up, and the result before the Craft that day pointed out the standard of the ordinary system of education carried out by the Head Master and the Board of Management.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., replying, very much regretted that they had not with them the Secretaries of the Masonic Institutions to respond. The duty devolved upon him perhaps as being more intimately associated with all the three Institutions than most members of the Craft. Bro. Le Feuvre had pointed out that all the Institutions had the confidence of the whole Craft as regarded their management, and it was in a great measure due to that the Institutions year after year met with such a magnificent response to the call for aid. The demands on the Institutions were very large, and therefore it was necessary that a great effort should be made to provide the requisite funds. At least £19,000 a year was wanted for the Benevolent, but for the present year there was no anxiety on that account, as £19,511 was the result of the previous Wednesday's Festival. When they considered the bad times, and that without any special inducements as to votes and other advantages, such a sum could be accumulated by a body like Masons, it was clear that what was the essence of the institution of Masonry was followed up by the brethren, and that they endeavoured to do their duty to their great Charities. Although the sums were large, and this year had been more than was required for the Benevolent Institution, it must be remembered that as the membership of the Craft increased and the number of the lodges increased, so it was expected that the growth of the Institutions must be added to, and during the last few years all the Institutions had adopted this principle. To be enabled to continue to do so, extra efforts must be made and extra money provided. With regard to the Girls' School, its Festival would be in May; £13,000 a year was required to keep up the maintenance of the 269 girls educated there. That number, he hoped would be increased as means would allow, but he was sure the splendid Festival of last year would be not only maintained, but improved upon. With respect to the Boys' School, it required £13,000 or £14,000 a year to meet the demands made by the 278 boys it educated. Unfortunately, that Institution was very much cramped for room, and it would be almost impossible at Wood Green to provide additional space for more boys. Therefore, they hoped that the large sums would continue to be submitted to the School, in order that, if an opportunity should present itself at a future time—and perhaps at an early date—they might remove to a site where there would be more room and fresher air. They had assembled that night to take part in an interesting ceremony, and the elucidation of the best sentiments of the Craft was put before the brethren in the most perfect manner. Bro. Sudlow announced from the chair when he was asking for subscriptions from brethren wishing to join, that, with the exception of a small sum of money required for the expenses of the lodge, all the money received was spent in the cause of Masonic Charity, and that coming from the chair was a strong inducement for brethren to join. In echoing those sentiments, he could say it was the unanimous wish of the brethren to keep up the magnificent position the Masonic Charities held not only in the opinion of the Craft, but in the eyes of all those who took an interest in the Craft's proceedings.

Bro. GEORGE E. FAIRCHILD proposed "The Stewards." Before referring specially to the Stewards, he would express, on behalf of all the brethren, his admiration of the splendid way the working of the evening had been performed in the Temple. Looking around the Temple, he was pleased to see that everyone came early with one object—to witness the working; they did not come for the banquet; they came to get the advantage of training in the perfection of ritual, which was so splendidly taught by the worthy Preceptor and the Committee. He had been deeply gratified himself with the working, which every brother would allow was perfect. With regard to the management, it required much work, as he could testify through having taken part in the management of many festivals. The brethren should be deeply grateful to the Stewards who had taken such interest in all the details. Whatever Board of Stewards there might be, the bulk of the work fell on the Secretary and two or three others, and, on behalf of the brethren, he begged to thank those brethren most cordially and with deep gratitude for what they had done.

Bro. JOSEPH RUSSELL, P.G. Steward, Secretary, in responding, said it was impossible to pass over the high encomiums with respect to the arrangements of the evening. He could only say that Bro. Fairchild had somewhat misunderstood the nature of the toast, because he had assumed that the whole work of organisation of that successful meeting had fallen on Bro. Kentish and himself (Bro. Russell). He begged to inform him that two-thirds of the work had been done by Bro. Kentish and one-third by him. On his own behalf, therefore, he begged to return thanks for the toast.

Bro. W. G. KENTISH, who was loudly demanded, said he thought it would ill become him to take up such a position as Bro. Russell in the kindness of his heart threw upon him. He did not know that he had had two-thirds of the work or anything like it. He had been very happy to share with Bro. Russell in trying to make that festival equal to the past ones. It delighted him as a member of the Committee to do everything he possibly could to strengthen the hands of their chief, Bro. Sudlow. There was one thing about Bro. Sudlow; when they said in lodge "In gratitude to our Master we bend," they bent ostensibly to the Master in the chair; but personally he always felt that that applied to Bro. Sudlow, and as long as his (Bro. Kentish's) health was spared and he had the ability to do it, he hoped he should be always at the service of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, because he felt it a pride and honour to be one of the trustees of that

splendid ritual that had been left to the brethren and handed down to them for a period of 70 years. He was at one with Bro. Sudlow; they were all at one with him in that matter. He felt very great gratitude to all those brethren who had supported the Stewards. The Stewards had exerted themselves to make that festival what it had been. There had been certain disappointments in some quarters, but it only required some effort on the part of the brethren to fill that room on every occasion—the other room, he ought to say, because he did not care so much about the brethren coming to the banquet. What the Stewards aimed at was to get a grand gathering of the brethren from London and the Provinces to see what the ritual of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was. The kind words that had been used by various Grand Officers as regarded the work taught at the Emulation were a very great gratification and reward to the Stewards. Although he did not like to trespass upon the brethren with these remarks, he was very glad to have the opportunity of saying a few words.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS. SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

(Fourth List—To 31st January.)

Bro. Major Clifford Probyn (Vice-President of Institution) ...	£10	10	0
" Sir George D. Harris, P.G.D. (Vice-President of Institution) ...	5	5	0
" J. Fielder Haden, P.M. 766 (Vice-President of Institution) ...	5	5	0
" T. P. Baptie, D.L., J.P., P.M. and Treas. 2029 ...	2	2	0
" General Gadsden, P.G.S.B. ...	2	2	0
" Jas. Grose ...	2	2	0
" A. Savill Tomkins, J.G.D. (Vice-President of Institution) ...	2	2	0
" E. Blundell, 2502 ...	1	1	0
" W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B. (Vice-Patron of Institution) ...	1	1	0
" R. Joynes Emmerson, P.G. Std. Br. (Vice-President of Institution) ...	1	1	0
" Stephen Richardson (Vice-President of Institution) ...	1	1	0
The Rothesay Lodge, No. 1687 (per Bro. W. Adams) ...	21	0	0
The St. George's and Corner Stone Lodge, No. 5 (per Bro. J. Flower Jackson) ...	5	5	0
The Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19 (per Bro. W. M. Bywater) ...	5	5	0
The Welcome Lodge, No. 1673 (per Bro. J. D. Langton) ...	5	5	0
The Loyalty Lodge, No. 243 (per Bro. P. Le Page) ...	2	8	6
The St. Oswald Lodge, No. 850 (per Bro. W. H. Smedley) ...	2	2	0
The St. Oswald Lodge, No. 1124 (per Bro. W. H. Spaul) ...	2	2	0
The United Industrious Lodge, No. 31 (per Bro. H. H. Mount) ...	2	2	0
The Hammersmith Lodge, No. 2090 (per Bro. W. Hillier) ...	1	1	0
The Dobie Lodge, No. 889—annual for three years—(per Bro. Wm. Drewett) ...	1	1	0
The South Saxon Lodge, No. 311 (per Bro. Flint) ...	1	1	0
The Royal Lebanon Lodge, No. 493 (per Bro. A. V. Hatton) ...	1	1	0
The Wickham Lodge, No. 1924 (per Bro. W. H. Rowley) ...	1	1	0
The Coborn Lodge of Instruction, No. 1804 (per Bro. R. R. Green) ...	1	1	0

(Fifth List to 18th February.)

The Supreme Grand Chapter ...	50	0	0
The Supreme Grand Council, 33 rd ...	52	10	0
The Worshipful Company of Skinners ...	25	0	0
Bro. J. M. Kidd, P.M. 732, P.P.G.W. Sussex ...	5	5	0
The St. Hilda Lodge, No. 240 (per Bro. R. Hudson) ...	10	10	0
The Hedworth Lodge, No. 2418 (per Bro. R. Hudson) ...	7	7	0
The Marquis of Dalhousie Lodge, No. 1159 (per Bro. H. H. Room) ...	5	5	0
The Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488 (per Bro. W. Chapman) ...	5	5	0
The Hadrian Lodge, No. 1970 (per Bro. R. Hudson) ...	5	0	0
The Lodge of St. James, No. 765 (per Bro. Mitten) ...	2	2	0
The Priory Lodge, No. 1000 (per Bro. Floyd) ...	2	2	0
The Square and Compass Lodge, No. 1336 (per Bro. N. Fisk) ...	2	2	0
The St. Hubert Lodge, No. 1373 (per Bro. G. H. Barclay) ...	1	1	0
The Ferrum Lodge, No. 1848 (per Bro. W. H. Cowper) ...	2	2	0
The George Price Lodge, No. 2096 (per Bro. J. D. Langton) ...	2	2	0
The Harmony Lodge, No. 244 (per Bro. P. G. Hamilton) ...	2	2	0
The Harmony Chapter, No. 244 (per Bro. P. G. Hamilton) ...	1	1	0
The St. Osyth's Priory Lodge, No. 2063 (per Bro. Frayling) ...	2	2	0
The Bushey Hall Lodge, No. 2323 (per Bro. C. E. Keyser) ...	5	5	0
The Union Lodge, No. 414 ...	5	5	0
The Loyal Berkshire Lodge of Hope, No. 574 ...	5	5	0
The Old Masonians Association ...	19	15	0
Collected by Bro. H. Bowles (Old Masonian) on Stock Exchange ...	10	10	0

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE LODGE OF LOYALTY, No. 1607.

The ladies—as they share our sorrows, divide with us our troubles, and soothe our griefs—why should they be forgotten in our festivities? Such, at least, is the proposition which the brethren of the Lodge of Loyalty submit, and which they answered in a very real and hearty fashion when they invited their ladies to join them at their banquet table on Saturday, the 8th ult.

The business of the lodge having been duly disposed of, the fair visitors were received by the W.M., Bro. G. E. Wilkinson, and Mrs. Wilkinson, and were entertained at a *recherché* repast at the London Tavern, Fenchurch-street.

The scene was a dazzling one, the usual sombre dress-coats of the brethren being happily relieved by the more gorgeous costumes of the galaxy of beauty, which was so heartily welcomed upon the occasion.

Dinner over, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, the W.M. referring in well-chosen terms to the wave of sympathy which had rolled throughout the length and breadth of the land for the Gracious Sovereign and mother and for the Princess who had so suddenly been bereaved.

"The Health of the Grand Officers" was most heartily toasted, and in response, Bro. John Newton, G. Purs., said that he addressed himself to the toast of returning thanks in the presence of ladies had devolved upon him. The toast was one which certainly deserved the kind reception which it had received. The Grand Officers were a noble and splendid body of men, who did not flinch from the duties, arduous and responsible, which they had to face. They were the silent workers, ruling and guiding the various Committees which dealt with the multifarious routine duties appertaining to their noble Order. Bro. Newton was delighted that the ladies had deigned to grace the lodge with their charming presence, and he trusted that he might have the pleasure of seeing them upon many more occasions.

The duty of proposing the toast of the evening, "The Ladies," was entrusted to Bro. R. S. Cushing, P.M., who, in an amusing speech, cordially submitted it to the brethren. He had been puzzling his brains, he said, for reasons why he could have been selected for such an office. He had never before been called to such a duty, and he

could only suppose that patriarchal considerations had weighed with the Worshipful Master, who had thus placed him in happy contrast to the youngest member of the lodge, Bro. G. Avenell, who would champion the fair sex in response. He would, however, not flinch from the task, and would endeavour gallantly to discharge his duty, asking the ladies to pardon him if his words failed to convey the hearty greeting and welcome which, in the name of the Lodge of Loyalty, he tendered to them. He regretted that the outside world laboured under many mistaken notions concerning the Craft; he wanted at least to persuade the ladies present that it was the one regret of the Lodge of Loyalty that the formalities of Freemasonry did not allow them to invite the attendance of ladies more frequently. Speaking as a benedict, he sincerely trusted that Bro. Avenell, upon whom the agreeable duty of responding was imposed, might himself before long obtain the confidence, not merely of the ladies in general, but—dare he say it—of one in particular.

The toast was received with the greatest heartiness, and, in response, Bro. Avenell thanked the Worshipful Master and brethren for the cordial welcome to their hospitable board. As an inexperienced celibate, he feared his reply would be somewhat inadequate, but he was in no danger of being afterwards called to account for what he said there. The old fiction of the ladies' inability to reply for themselves would not obtain much longer. Experience, at other times and in other places, proved it to be a complete fiction, and those who, like himself, ventured on such vicarious duty, would be probably preserved in geological museums as specimens of fossil fads of other days. Goldsmith told them in the "Vicar of Wakefield" that the two sexes were furnished with different abilities for mutual inspection, but be that as it may, some points in connection with the great sex question remained obscure, though they were hopeful that the new photography, later on, would yield interesting presentations of the female mind. It behoved the brethren to leave nothing unperused, for they could never tell how soon they might require to profit from the trials of others in confronting delicate situations arising from causes easy to conjecture. Bro. Avenell then referred to a recent publication, "Dr. Johnson and the Fair Sex." He enforced the truth of the first part of the Doctor's dictum, that nature having given woman so much power, the law had given her very little. The new Laureate told them that although men claimed to improve nature, women stepped in and improved men, or made them improve themselves in order to obtain the ladies' approbation. The law, scurvy enough once, was more generous now, and a recent Act having restored the ladies to a position of greater freedom and less responsibility, they were then in many cases the predominant partners of the union. In conclusion, Bro. Avenell bore tribute to the sweetness and sympathy of ladies in times of illness—how they inspired hope and brought comfort to the distressed, while in the wake of the battle and in the thick of the epidemic they were ever seen upon their missions of mercy.

In proposing "The Health of the W.M.," Bro. W. B. Vaile, I.P.M., said the toast was one which was invariably accorded high honour in all Masonic circles. The Worshipful Master of a lodge of Freemasons must, as every brother was aware, have attained his high position only by diligent and earnest work. He must have served a long and arduous apprenticeship before he could hope to fulfil satisfactorily the important office to which he had been called. Recounting the many high qualities which were essential for the faithful discharge of the office Bro. Vaile assured the ladies and brethren that Bro. Wilkinson, their W.M., possessed these in a marked degree. In an earnest speech Bro. Vaile commended the toast, which was most heartily received.

Bro. G. E. Wilkinson, W.M., responding, said that he heartily thanked the assembly for the honour which they had accorded to him in so cordially receiving his name. He was conscious of the high responsibilities of his office and it was his earnest endeavour to maintain and uphold the high traditions of which he was the custodian. He desired most heartily to thank the ladies for their presence. He accorded them the heartiest welcome. His acknowledgments were also due to the Past Masters and the officers of the lodge for all the assistance which he had received from them.

An excellent musical programme was provided, under the direction of Bro. Fred. W. Stephens.

The Tyler's toast concluded a most pleasant and agreeable evening.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

ENTERTAINMENT AT BLACKHEATH.

A grand entertainment and concert of unusual interest was given on behalf of the above Institution, at the Rink Hall, Blackheath, the production of the programme being due to the untiring and ingenious energies of Mrs. Knighton Arnold. The entertainment consisted of a series of living pictures, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, and preceded by an amusing comedietta, in one act, entitled, "Who's to Win Him?" the characters being most creditably sustained by Miss Clara Robinson, Mrs. Knighton Arnold, Miss Ethel Robinson, Miss Florence Ogilvy, Miss D. Hole, and Messrs. E. F. Moody, C. H. Jackson, and G. E. Slater (the latter gentleman by special permission of Mr. Basil Dawson). A gavotte danced by juveniles, fancifully dressed as Dresden figures, was most creditably performed and much appreciated, the figures being represented by the Misses Cook, Pell, Lang, and Kennedy, and Masters Lang, Whall, White, Morton Earle, and Arnold.

The living pictures, which certainly reflect immense credit upon the artistic qualities of Mrs. Arnold, comprised "The Doctor," "When the Heart is Young," "The Angel of Night," "The Artist's Model," "Two Strings to her Bow," "A Friend in Need," "None of your Blarney," "Called to the Front," "The Old, Old Story," "Sally in our Alley," "The Lost Chord," "The Cushion Dance," and a grand finale "God Save the Queen." The beauty of the pictures was greatly enhanced by the excellent and splendidly-manipulated lime-light effect by Mr. Lacey.

Bro. E. Hall, Sec. 2579, was loudly applauded for his exquisite rendering of "Old and Young Marie," while the flute solos of Bro. Spencer West claimed the expressions of approval they so richly merited. Roars of laughter greeted the humorous interlude of Mr. G. E. Slater, and an encore was demanded and granted. One of the principal features of the evening was a selection—"The Hoch Habsburey March"—by Mr. Walter Waghorn's Mandoline Band (Mr. Jas. Campion, leader), the execution being all that could be desired, and eliciting the warmest applause from an appreciative audience.

In the course of events, a number of portraits were thrown upon the screen, the appearance of that of Bro. Christopher Sims, W.M. 2579, &c., being the signal for a prolonged and vociferous outburst of cheering, for it should be here mentioned that it was under the auspices of this (the Lewisham) lodge that the entertainment was produced.

By dispensation from Grand Lodge, the following brethren, who acted as Stewards, wore their Craft clothing and jewels: Bros. Christopher Sims, P.M. 861, 1208, W.M. 2579, &c.; Charles Lamb, P.M. 1997, S.W. 2579; L. A. Richardson, W.M. 157, 2579; W. G. Kentish, P.M., P.Z., P.P.G.D. Middx., &c.; W. E. Dilley, P.M. 147; E. Van Putten, P.M. 1601; John Coote, 1259, J.W. 2579; Edward Hall, Sec. 2579, &c.; W. C. Tyler, S.D. 862, 1567, I.G. 2579; Henry Cole, D.C. 749, Stwd. 2579; W. T. Price-Taylor, Stwd. 2579, &c.; C. W. Wilkes, Org. 2579, &c.; W. J. Taylor, 1312, 2579; David Bartlett, 813; and Lieut.-Col. Knighton Arnold, 2579, &c.

Bro. Tyler has been appointed to represent the Lewisham Lodge as Steward for the Boys' Institution.

Mr. H. R. A. Robinson, A.R.A.M., presided at the piano with his usual characteristic ability, and, owing to the generous kindness of Messrs. Laing and Sons, of Forest Hill, the stage and surroundings were profusely decorated with a wealth of exotic and other plants.

At the conclusion of the performance, Mrs. Arnold was called before the curtain, and received an ovation, which she so well deserved, for her persistent and unflagging energies, which secured the success of the entertainment.

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Summary of the Report presented at the FORTY-
SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING, held on
5th March, 1896.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies
issued during the year was 61,450, assuring
the sum of £6,285,260, and producing a New
Annual Premium Income of £342,478.

The Premiums received during the year were
£2,304,013, being an increase of £226,057 over
the year 1894.

The Claims of the year amounted to £572,289.
The number of Deaths was 4,479, and 218 Endow-
ment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the
year was 414,137.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums
received during the year were £4,352,625, being
an increase of £108,401.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,797,688.
The number of Deaths was 196,507, and 1418
Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the
year to those Policyholders of five years standing,
who desired to discontinue their payments, was
59,352, the number in force being 448,816. The
number of Free Policies which became Claims during
the year was 8,956.

The total number of Policies in force at the end
of the year was £11,682,748: their average duration
is nearly seven and three-quarter years.

The Directors have made more than one attempt to
deal with the difficult question of old age pensions for
the Industrial classes, and they are happy to inform
the Shareholders that the special tables combining
assurance with a provision for old age, which they
issued in September last, have met with considerable
success. At the end of the year the number of Policies
in force under these tables as the result of three
months working was 169,791, producing an Annual
Premium Income of £62,974.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as
shown in the Balance Sheet, are £23,915,890,
being an increase of £2,702,085 over those of 1894.

Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co. have
examined the Securities and their certificate is
appended to the Balance Sheets.

THOS. C. DEWEY, } Managers.
WILLIAM HUGHES, }

W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

The full Report and Balance Sheet can be obtained
upon application to the Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The Votes and Interest of the Patrons, Governors, and
Subscribers of the above Institution are respectfully solicited
in favour of

ARNOLD BEVERLY MINERS,

Eldest son of the late Bro. Harold Beverly Miners, who
died suddenly from the effects of bursting a blood vessel on
the brain, leaving a Widow and Four Children totally
unprovided for.

Bro. Miners was at the time of his death the Senior
Warden of the St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, in which
he was initiated in 1890.

The case is strongly recommended by—

Bro. George Taylor, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., Prov. G. Secretary
Worcestershire.

* „ John Petch, P.M. 1471, 2278, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts.,
Gresham-street.

* „ John A. Gantley, P.M. 205, P.Z. 205, 112, 5, Sackville-
street, Piccadilly.

* „ J. S. Powell, 1287, Newgate-street.

* „ Richard Kelly, 907, 51, Holborn Viaduct.

* „ Sam Barfoot, 2018, 2519, Cleveland House, Wanstead.

* „ W. H. Smith, Kilderminster.

* „ E. L. P. Valeriani, P.M. and Sec. 1637, 24, Cranbourne-
street, W.C.

* „ J. B. Green, W.M. 180, 22, Bartlett's-bldgs., Holborn, W.C.

* „ J. G. Taylor, P.P.M. 180, 14, Mostyn Road, Brixton.

* „ W. C. Parsons, P.M., Sec. 180, P.M. and P. Sec. 1087,
P.Z. 180 and 735, 4, Mount-street, W.

* „ T. J. Dibley, P.M., Treasurer 180, 38, Holborn Viaduct.

* „ G. A. B. Fletcher, P.M. 180, 134, New Bond-street.

* „ W. Brownson, P.M. 180, 10, Bush-lane, E.C.

* „ P. J. Street, P.M. 180, 19, Lorraine-place, Holloway.

* „ G. J. Wade, P.M. 180, 8 and 9, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

* „ L. Herl, P.M. 180, 23, Crutchedfriars, E.C.

* „ Lt.-Col. W. H. Baker, P.M. 180, 7, Bank-street, Regent-st.

And all the P.M.s., Wardens, and Brethren of the
St. James's Union Lodge.

Promises of support and proxies will be thankfully
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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 1887.

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.

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INCOME AND FUNDS (1894).

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



SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The proceedings at the Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge, in accordance with the general expectation, passed off most satisfactorily. The vote of condolence with her Majesty the Queen on the lamented death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, was proposed and seconded by the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master respectively, in brief but sympathetic speeches, and accepted by Grand Lodge in the same spirit in which it was offered. As for the election of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year the proposal on behalf of Bro. W. H. Bailey was, as our report tells us, "carried unanimously amidst general applause," the brethren, no doubt, realising that it was an intense relief that they should have been spared the excitement and turmoil which have attended the contest for this office at the elections of the past two years.

As for Bro. W. F. Lamonby's motion discountenancing the objectionable practice, which has been in vogue for some time past, of touting for support, it is gratifying to find that Grand Lodge accepted it unhesitatingly. We do not imagine that a mere abstract resolution will greatly influence the class of brethren

against whom it is directed; but we both hope and believe that it will have a beneficial effect by preventing those with whom the fair fame of Freemasonry is something more than unintelligible entity from giving their support who canvass for it irregularly and without the slightest scruple.

The regular Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge was held at Mark Masons' Hall on Tuesday, when there was a large attendance of brethren. The proceedings are fully reported in another column and therefore it will suffice if we mention here that the contest for the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing 12 months resulted in the return of Bro. Major Clifford Probyn by a substantial majority over Bro. Capt. T. C. Walls. The report of the General Board was accepted and ordered to be entered on the minutes, and there was also brought forward a resolution of sympathy with the Queen on the great calamity which has befallen her youngest daughter the Princess Beatrice, by the death on service in a foreign land of her husband, the Prince Henry of Battenberg, K.G. This resolution was proposed by the Pro G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Euston, and seconded by the Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, and, it is needless to say, was carried *nem. con.*

It is again our pleasing duty to congratulate the authorities and educational staff of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls on the successes achieved by the pupils of the School at the Cambridge Local Examination in December last. The whole of the 30 girls who were entered for this examination, namely, 11 for the Preliminary and 19 for the Junior, satisfied the Examiners, while six were placed in the Honour Classes, as many as 11 distinctions in one or other of the prescribed subjects being also awarded. If we take into account that 77 passed out of the 78 girls entered for examination by the College of Preceptors, and that the nine who presented themselves for examination by the Associated Board of the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music were similarly successful, it will be seen that the congratulations we so cordially tender to those responsible for the conduct of the School are amply justified.

The number of girls in the establishment is 269, of whom 43 have been admitted during the year, while seven are retained for further educational purposes. It follows, therefore, that more than one-half of the children have been entered for one or other of the examinations we have mentioned, the actual number being 117, and in respect of these 117 girls, the unpleasant word "failure" has to be recorded in only one solitary instance. But these successes, brilliant as they are, do not stand alone. This is the fourth year in succession in which all who have entered for the Cambridge Locals have passed, while during the last seven years of 143 candidates who have entered, there have been only three failures.

We must not forget to mention that the Diploma of an Associate of the London College of Music has been awarded to Miss Louise Pincombe, one of the teachers and an ex-pupil, who received all her musical training at the Institution, and obtained the highest possible number of marks. Last, but not least, that at the recent annual test in Swimming, three silver medals and 28 certificates were awarded to the School for proficiency in the art.

A meeting of the Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, this (Friday) evening, at 7 p.m. The business will include the consideration of the Treasurer's statement of account for 1895 and the election of a number of children on one or other of the Funds of the Institution.

Whether the Progressive lion will ever lie down with the Moderate lamb is a point we shall not concern ourselves to determine. If, however, there is any likelihood that the lodge we understand it is in contemplation to seek a warrant for in connection with the London County Council may be instrumental in introducing a kindlier and more harmonious feeling than now exists between the rival parties in our London municipal Parliament, it may reckon upon receiving our heartiest good wishes and warmest support. If only those who may constitute the proposed lodge, be they Progressives or Moderates, will take care to leave their municipal politics outside the door of the lodge, they will very soon learn to respect each other, and it will not be very long before they carry that mutual respect into their business proceedings.

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.

ELECTION OF GRAND TREASURER (MARK).

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you allow me, through the medium of your columns, to thank the 133 brethren who kindly attended Grand Mark Lodge on the 3rd inst. to record their votes in my favour. There were many who came a considerable distance from London to support my candidature, and to them particularly I cannot too highly express my gratitude. I wish, also, to be allowed to record my appreciation of the courteous and truly fraternal way in which the contest was carried out by the successful candidate, Bro. Major C. Probyn. As foreshadowed in your "Masonic Notes" of the 29th ult., the election "passed off in orderly fashion."—Yours fraternally,

London, March 4th.

T. C. WALLS.

PRINCE FREDERICK LODGE, No. 307.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

My attention has been directed to your "Notes" in the issue of the *Freemason*, of the 15th ult., respecting the Centenary Celebration of the above-named lodge, and also to a letter from Bro. John Lane, in your last issue, upon the same subject, both of which I have read with considerable interest, as affecting this lodge, of which, this year, I have the honour to be S.W. I have, never, however, had the pleasure of reading Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records," but I am satisfied that the conclusions at which he (I believe, alone) has, both there and in his letter to you, arrived, have been drawn without a full and complete knowledge of the whole of the facts, and I am content to think that, after the Grand Lodge Authorities had been furnished with a careful statement of the necessary particulars of the lodge's origin and proof of its uninterrupted existence for 100 years, as required by the Book of Constitutions, together with a perusal of the particular minute book relating to the period referred to by Bro. Lane, the M.W.G.M. rightly exercised his prerogative in granting the Centenary Warrant to the lodge.

I have not, now, unfortunately, the time to at once make such a complete inspection of those portions of our minute books as would give Bro. Lane further light upon these matters, but, as I hope, during the course of the year, to revise the "Brief Epitome of the Lodge History" which I read on the occasion of the Centenary Celebration with the view to its publication, I will then endeavour to conclusively show the continuity of the lodge, with, I trust, the result of satisfying Bro. Lane himself, that he has been, as you, Bro. Editor, say, "too exacting as to what constitutes a lapse of the warrant in the case of this particular lodge."—Yours fraternally.

W. SHAW, S.W. 307.

Glen Royd, Hebden Bridge,
27th February.

FESTIVAL OF THE R.M.B.I.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I shall feel obliged if you will announce in your next issue the fact that Bro. C. L. Nelson, who was returned in last Saturday's *Freemason* as representing Lodge No. 781, and who took up a very large sum of money, the largest, in fact, I believe, ever taken up to a Masonic Festival by any individual brother, is the Junior Warden of the Sub-Urban Lodge, No. 1702, which meets at Great Stanmore, and was, therefore, a representative of the Province of Middlesex, as well as of the Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781.

Bro. Nelson was disappointed that this fact was not announced at the Festival when the list of Stewards was read by the Secretary.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. TICKLE,

March 4th.

P.M. and Treasurer 1702, P.P.G.R. Middx.

Reviews.

"THE FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FOR THE YEAR 1896."—The editor, or rather the "compiler" (as Bro. Arthur Stubbs styles himself), has done his work most thoroughly, the compact little volume being complete as to all details, excellently arranged, and neatly printed. Bro. Stubbs, as Provincial Grand Secretary and Scribe E., is the right brother in the right place as editor, because of his intimate acquaintance with all that interests and concerns the welfare of the province, and to himself, as well as to all the *Master Masons* in the county, whose names were duly returned as members to June 30th, 1895, this annual must be a boon and indispensable pocket companion. In addition to the usual features of the directory as ordinarily published, *all the names of the members of the lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies* are duly inserted, so that the wonder is so much has been compressed in some 150 pages, considering that there are now 18 lodges returning 790 members, eight Royal Arch chapters with 225 companions, besides the Mark lodges, &c., &c. The full list of votes in the Masonic Charities is also carefully arranged, exhibiting a considerable increase on last year's total, viz., 1304, as compared with 1216, but there is still room for increase in this department. Is the date, October, 1891, correct for the warrant of No. 2412, Sutton-in-Ashfield? Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records, 1717-1894," has 25th July, and October as the month of consecration.

"THE FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF SHROPSHIRE FOR 1896."—This rather small province, consisting of only 12 lodges and 354 members, has one of the best Masonic Calendars published in England, the editor being the esteemed D. Prov. G.M., Bro. Rowland G. Venables. This issue begins a new volume, and, what is more, begins well, with full particulars of all the lodges, chapters, &c., at work in the province. The "Masonic Notes," on the duties of Secretaries of lodges, by Bro. A. S. Townsend, P. Prov. G. Reg., are very good and most useful, the reference, in each case, to the "Book of Constitutions," supplying the law which enforces the particular instruction. The roll of extinct lodges that was in the previous edition, compiled by the historian of the province (Bro. Alexander Graham), is not inserted; but as there is a very full and interesting article on "Freemasonry in 1895," by Bro. H. R. Giles, P.P. G. Reg., there is no lack of compensation for its absence. This is a most commendable feature of the handy and ably-arranged annual, and doubtless will prove of considerable utility, its compilation being in the hands of a competent brother, who has satisfactorily condensed an immense amount of most instructive information. There is also an account of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, and the roll of membership under the several lodges, chapters, &c., is complete to date, as well as a statistical table on the "position of lodges," 1889-1895. The list of votes for the Central Masonic Charities exhibits a total of 2072, which is a very large number for the size of the province. Copies may be had from the editor (Oakhurst, Oswestry), for one shilling each. It is satisfactory to find that the 1895 was subscribed for, and a good balance in favour of the Fund left when all expenses were paid.

CONSECRATION OF THE HUMPHREY CHETHAM ROSE CROIX CHAPTER.

This important function was performed on Monday, the 24th ult., with the greatest pomp and dignity at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. Ill. Bro. Arthur Jefferis has been the principal instigator. Feeling quite sure there was a wide field in this province for the careful extension of this delightful Degree, the very commencement of Monday's proceedings was sufficient to show his ideas had been quite correct.

The following also concurred with him and became founders: E. and P. Bros. J. H. Sillitoe, 18°; J. E. Lees, 18°; A. Middleton, 18°, P.M.W.S.; W. B. Akerman, 18°; Thomas Plumpton, 18°; and J. M. Sinclair, 18°, P.M.W.S. Unfortunately the latter-named was not present.

Preparations of an elaborate description were made, and it was decided to purchase the whole of the furniture to make it complete, which had been thoroughly carried out.

The following distinguished notables were met at the station by Ill. Bros. Jefferis and J. H. Sillitoe, viz.: Ill. Bros. Frank Richardson, S.C.; Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, M.W.S.; J. H. Matthews, H. Prelate; A. B. Cook, 1st Gen.; C. R. H. Beswicke-Royds, 33°, 1st Lt. of G.; Gen. J. C. Hay, 33°, 2nd Lt. of G.; and Sir G. D. Harris, 1st Herald; who, after a very brief rest, proceeded to the Hall to make all arrangements.

This done and the council formed, the following brethren were perfected: Bros. William Brookes, Evan Williams, Fletcher Armstrong, Geo. Samuel Smith, Buckley Carr, Isidore Ernest Augustus Götz, William Alderley Boyer, William Charlton, Arthur Clowes Knight Smith, and John Stanley Derbyshire.

Subsequently the consecration ceremony was performed under grand auspices, and Ill. Bro. A. H. Jefferis was duly installed, and at once, after appointing his officers, thanked the members of the Grand Council for their presence there that day and performing their work so admirably, and wished the whole of them to become hon. members of the chapter.

This was acknowledged and accepted.

In addition to those already mentioned, the following were present as visitors: Bros. J. H. Calvert, 7; Jas. Newton, late St. Peter's; W. Cockcroft, 124; Thos. Forrester, 114; G. A. Myers, 114; A. Clegg, 7; T. R. Wilkinson, 114; R. Newhouse, R.M.S. Cheshire; Thos. Wilde Rice, 114; A. B. Wamm, 114; and E. G. Harwood, P.M.W.S. 31.

Subsequently a banquet was held in the large dining hall, all present speaking in the highest terms possible of the excellence of the admirable manner it had been prepared by the Masonic Hall Company.

The usual toasts were given and responded to, and the pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by a capital programme of music.

MASONIC BENEVOLENCE IN WEST LANCASHIRE.

Under the presidency of Bro. Philip Armstrong, P.M. 724, one of the Life Governors of the West Lancashire Hamer Benevolent Institution, founded for the help of aged and distressed Freemasons, a meeting of the General Committee of the Charity was held on the 21st ult., at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, and Liverpool, there were also present Bros. W. Goodacre, P.G. Sec.; J. H. Tyson, P.M. 241; J. T. Callow, P.P.G. Treas.; R. W. Gow, P.M. 823; J. C. Robinson, P.M. 1070, P.P.G.D.C.; R. Tunnicliffe, P.M. 1182; R. M'Gee, P.M. 1675; C. Johnson, P.M. 1756; W. Bowdley, P.M. 1814; T. J. Jarman, P.P. D.G.D.C., Hon. Treas.; J. R. Bottomley, P.P.A.G.D.C., Hon. Sec.; R. H. Leake, P.M. 1547, Hon. Solicitor; J. Pittaway, P.D.G.S.B., and W. Hawkings, P.M. 1675, Hon. Auditors. The cases of five applicants for the benefits of the fund were considered, and it was unanimously resolved to recommend them for election at the next Court of Governors, the extra yearly expenditure amounting to about £110.

The 22nd annual report of the Charity, which has just been issued, states that the Committee, on looking through the list of subscribers to the excellent Institution, regretted to find that there were still more than one-third of the lodges of the province which had made no return. Want of knowledge of the local Charities might be the cause of this in some instances, as during the past year they were surprised to receive a letter from a P.M. seeking for information respecting them, and informing them that all their efforts were devoted to the Cosmopolitan Institutions in London. To the utmost of their power the Committee had endeavoured to bring the claims of the Institution before every lodge in the province, and, after devoting so much time and thought, it was very disappointing to find their efforts of so little avail. They must again call attention to the large amount remitted by the Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works, Bro. John Milne, Charity Representative of the Kirkdale Lodge, No. 1756, whose noble efforts, crowned with such success, were well worthy of emulation. Their thanks were also due to all the other Charity Representatives and individual brethren who had so generously supported the funds during the past year; and to those lodges which had not contributed, they could only draw their attention to the fact that if every lodge and individual had followed their example, no fund would have been in existence from which aid could be received for either their own or other applicants. They were pleased to be able to state that notwithstanding the fact that so many had failed to contribute, they had had a very successful year; their income from lodges, chapters, and individuals being greater than in any previous year, viz., £496 4s. 5d. During the past year the Committee had paid over £330 to 21 brethren, as against £32 15s. 6d. paid to three brethren in 1885.

The Honorary Treasurer's statement showed that the balance at the close of last year was £1169; the donations and subscriptions received during 1895, £496; £330 was paid to annuitants; investment, £600; cash in bank at the close of the year, £1012; and the total capital account was £5214 12s. 7d.

FIRST LADIES' NIGHT OF THE CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1897.

The members of this flourishing lodge commemorated the second year of its existence by entertaining their lady friends at a supper in the "Caledonian" Saloon at the Holborn Restaurant, on Friday evening, 21st ult., when 80 ladies and brethren were present. Bro. Fred Dunstan, P.M. 1326, P.A.G.D.C. Middx., Preceptor, presided, supported by Bros. T. I. Bird, P.M. 1567, 1897, P.Z., P.P. G.S.B. Middx., Treas.; and Geo. Clark, P.M., Sec. 1679, Vice-President of the Masonic Charities Association, in the vice-chairs.

A few loyal and Masonic toasts were given, that of the "Citadel Lodge of Instruction" being proposed by the CHAIRMAN and responded to by Bro. T. I. Bird, who, in the course of his remarks, commented upon the success that had attended the efforts of the members since its formation, and the rehearsal of the consecration and installation ceremonies by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., in November, 1894, more especially as regards the Masonic Charities

Association which only starting on September 27th, 1895, now numbered 93 members, and had up to the end of January contributed no less than 70 guineas to the respective Benevolent Institutions.

Bro. Terry had promised to be present but was unavoidably prevented by the claims on his time in connection with the annual festival of the R.M.B.I.

The toast of "The Ladies" was in the hands of Bro. A. RUSBY, and ably responded to by Bro. W. S. CLARK, both of whom referred to the gratification of the members at having such a splendid gathering of the fair sex present, and Bro. Clark hoped, on behalf of the ladies, that the efforts of the promoters would next year and in future years result in similar gatherings.

Then followed the toast of "Our Visitors," proposed by Bro. W. E. JEANES, and replied to by Bro. SULLY.

The other toasts were "The Chairman," "The Vice-Chairman," and "The Stewards and Hon. Secretary," to all of which suitable replies were given.

The cover to the printed menu and toast list was a reproduction of a pen and ink drawing by Bro. Harry Willsmer, the design being of a Masonic character, in which the portraits of Bros. Dunstan, Bird, and Willsmer were introduced, being respectively the Preceptor, Treasurer, and Secretary of the lodge of instruction.

Before the party separated the ladies were presented with fancy boxes, of various designs, of choice confectionary, as a memento of their visit.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Thomas Feistel and Miss Gertrude Feistel, who ably presided at the piano.

Amongst those who assisted were the Misses Marie V. Rodriguez (Certified and Silver Medallist), Carmen V. Rodriguez (Certified and Mitchell Scholar), with violin and pianoforte solos; Gertrude Dunstan, Mrs. Richmond, and Miss Gertrude Feistel, Bros. W. E. Jeanes, F. Dunstan, Geo. Clark, and Thomas Feistel in his well known and much appreciated recitations, "Bardell v. Pickwick" in wig and gown, and Mr. "Jay" by Jerome. Especial praise is due to the first mentioned highly talented ladies for their admirable contributions.

The general arrangements were under the supervision of Bros. A. Wyatt and Harry Willsmer, Hon. Sec.

The result has been such a signal success that it is the intention of the members to make this an annual event.

Amongst those who were present were Bro. Dunstan and party; Bro. W. S. Clark and party; Bro. Capt. A. Schlosshauer and party; O. J. Von Holtorp and party; S. Crane and party; Mrs. and Bro. Geo. Clark; Mrs. and Bro. Campbell; Mrs. and Bro. Calley; Mrs. and Bro. T. V. Fenn; Mrs. and Bro. W. R. Hazell; Mrs. and Bro. W. Whiteside; Mrs. and Bro. S. J. Millin; Mrs. and Bro. Sully; Mrs. and Bro. Harry Willsmer; Mrs. and Bro. Taylor; Mrs. and Bro. Jeanes; Mrs. and Bro. Collett; Mrs. and Bro. Davis; Miss R. Bird, Mr. and Mrs. S. Pardoe, jun.; Mr. F. Willsmer and Miss A. Pink; Bro. C. H. Ditchman and Miss Wayland; Mrs. and Bro. W. H. Tilley; Bros. Bishop, J. Cole, Rusby, F. Kebbell, M. Friedlander, Alf. Wyatt, Witte, Platt, and others.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. GEORGE EVERETT, PAST G. TREASURER.

The brethren of the Kennington Lodge, No. 1381, mustered in strong force in the large hall at the Bridge House Hotel, on Tuesday, the 3rd instant, the occasion being the presentation of a testimonial to Bro. Geo. Everett, P.M. and father of the lodge, on his retiring from the office of Treasurer—a post he had held for many years to the benefit of the lodge, and the great satisfaction of its members.

The presentation took the form of a massive silver salver, beautifully embossed, and a magnificent album, splendidly illuminated, containing the following address:

"Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

"Presented to the Very Worshipful Bro. George Everett, P.M., Past Grand Treasurer of England, on his retirement from the office of Treasurer of the above lodge.

"We, the brethren of the Kennington Lodge, feel that we cannot allow the occasion of your retirement from the important office of Treasurer to pass without expressing our affection and regard for you, and our appreciation of the splendid services you have rendered to the lodge. As a founder, and now its oldest Past Master, you may well be proud of the distinguished position the lodge has attained and the flourishing condition of its finances. The success that has attended the lodge during the many years you have been Treasurer, we all must admit, has been largely due to your distinguished position in Freemasonry, your untiring energy, and your genial influence. Many members of the lodge have experienced acts of kindness at your hands, and all have been so impressed by your upright and cheerful nature, that, when you expressed a desire to be released from the onerous duties of your office, the lodge felt it could not part with you. It was only when we fully realised the indifferent health you have had for some time past that we could be induced to refrain from pressing you to retain your position as Treasurer. We are much concerned about your health and hope that, should the Most High see fit, you may be permitted to remain an active member amongst us for many years to come.

"March 3rd, 1896."

The following were the Committee:

Bros. G. Belton Millson, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Bucks; C. Colwell, W.M.; H. Higgins, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.P.G.W. Middx., P.G. Std. Br. England; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; W. W. Westley, P.M.; Alfred Lundie, P.M.; and J. N. Hearn, P.M. and Secretary.

Then follows a list of the officers and members, the whole of whom were subscribers to the testimonial.

The function was a grand success, and it being the recipient's birthday, it is needless to say he was overwhelmed with hearty congratulations and good wishes for many happy returns of the day.

MASONIC AND MILITARY ORDERS OF KNIGHTS OF ROME, AND OF THE RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE, K.H.S., AND ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

The annual meeting of the Grand Imperial Conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 2nd inst. The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, M. Ill. G. Sov., presided, and there was a large attendance of members, including Sir Knights Viscount Dungarvan, G.V.; C. E. Keyser, G.S.G.; Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.G.; C. F. Matier, G. Recorder; F. Richardson, F. Graham Robinson, J. J. Pakes, C. H. Driver, G. Bateman, W. D. Grant, J. Purrott, H. J. Lardner, Rev. C. E. Wright, Capt. E. M. Money, J. Barker, T. Paget, F. A. Jewson, G. Graveley, Gordon

Miller, J. D. Burnie, Capt. T. C. Walls, A. Woodiwiss, G. J. Dunkley, W. C. Taylor, H. T. Lyons, H. J. Mason, C. S. Browne, A. H. Baird, R. Voisey, W. Briant, A. Stewart Browne, F. W. Williams, Major C. W. Carroll, and Major Clifford Probyn.

Conclave was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed.

The annual report of the Executive Committee was read and showed a considerable increase in the Order during the past year, with a good balance of cash in hand. The report was unanimously adopted, including a hearty vote of thanks to the M. Ill. G. Sovereign for his valuable assistance and support.

The M. Ill. G. SOVEREIGN thanked the sir knights, and expressed his satisfaction that the Order had increased during the past year.

Sir Knight BALFOUR COCKBURN nominated Sir Knight the Earl of Euston as Grand Sovereign for the ensuing year, a position which he had filled so well.

The nomination was accepted with acclamation, and the GRAND HERALD proclaimed Sir Knight the Earl of Euston as M. Ill. G. Sovereign.

Sir Knight the Earl of EUSTON returned thanks and said that so long as he continued to hold office he would continue, to the best of his skill and ability, to administer the affairs of the Order in a manner satisfactory to them. When he could no longer do so they must find some other brother to fill his place.

Sir Knight BRITAIN proposed the re-election of Sir Knight Viscount Dungarvan as Grand Viceroy, which was seconded by Sir Knight W. BRIANT, and unanimously agreed to.

On the proposition of Sir Knight T. C. WALLS, Sir Knight Colonel A. B. Cook was unanimously elected as Grand Treasurer, *vice* Sir Knight Hogard.

The Most Ill. Grand Sovereign appointed the following Grand Officers:

Sir Knight R. Berridge	...	G. Sen. Gen.
" A. H. Bateman	...	G. Jun. Gen.
" Rev. A. W. Oxford	...	} G. High Prelates.
" C. E. Wright	...	
" J. D. Murray	...	G. High Chan.
" Col. A. B. Cook	...	G. Treasurer.
" C. F. Matier	...	G. Recorder.
" J. H. Thompson	...	G. High Almoner.
" Gordon Miller	...	G. Chamberlain.
" H. Roberts	...	G. Architect.
" F. F. Schnitger	...	G. Marshal.
" H. W. Stickland	...	G. Orator.
" T. Graham Robinson	...	G. Historiographer.

The following appointments were made to Grand Senate:

Sir Knight Peter Bois	...	G. Preceptor.
" S. T. Brice	...	G. Examiner.
" H. H. Andrew	...	G. Prefect.
" Rev. H. J. Mason	...	G. Sub-Prelate.
" J. Purrott	...	G. Vice-Chan.
" J. J. Pakes	...	G. Asst. Recorder.
" F. A. Jewson	...	G. Organist.

The following sir knights were elected to Grand Senate, and were appointed to office:

Sir Knights C. Dalrymple	...	G. Sub-Almoner.
" J. Barker	...	G. Ins. of Regalia.
" H. S. Hay	...	} G. Std. Brs.
" J. Kenyon	...	
" T. J. Armstrong	...	G.S.B.
" E. M. Money	...	G. Preceptor.
" W. D. Grant	...	G. Vice-Cham.
" J. W. Nash	...	G. Asst. Marshal.
" W. F. Carmon	...	} G. Heralds.
" T. M. Bichard	...	
" T. Paget	...	G.D. of C.

The M. Ill. G. Sovereign appointed the Baron de Ferrieres as President, and Sir Knight F. Richardson as a member of the Executive Committee, and Sir Knights Driver, Walls, Lemon, Powell, and Gordon Miller were elected members of the Committee.

A vote of thanks was accorded Sir Knight Gilbert on his relinquishing the duties of G. Sentinel, and Sir Knight E. J. Mills was elected to the office.

The G. SOVEREIGN proposed that a sum of five guineas should be voted to the Hogard Testimonial Fund as a slight recognition from Grand Council of the long and faithful services rendered by Sir Knight Hogard as Grand Recorder and Grand Treasurer of the Order for many years.

The proposition was seconded by the GRAND TREASURER, and carried unanimously.

The GRAND RECORDER announced that after Grand Conclave was closed, the Orders of K.H.S. and St. John would be conferred upon eligible candidates by Sir Knights Walls, Lardner, Bateman, and Balfour Cockburn.

Grand Imperial Conclave was closed, and the banquet was subsequently held under the presidency of the Earl of Euston, Most Ill. G. Sov., which was well attended.

Craft Masonry.

Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4.

This time-immemorial lodge held its installation meeting on Monday, the 24th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Amongst the members present were Bros. O. T. Hodges, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; F. M. Hartung, G. Stwd., J.W.; R. Gresley Hall, P.G. Stwd., Treas.; F. West, Dep. Prov. G.M. Surrey, Sec.; A. W. Stewart Brown, P.P.G.W., S.D.; E. R. Tew, I.G.; H. Mickintosh, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; J. A. Hughes, P.M.; W. Stevenson, Hoyte, P.G. Org.; Rev. A. W. Offord, P.G.S., P.M.; J. A. Joseph, P.M.; C. Ellis, R. Stanhope Scott, H. C. Thompson, A. Godwin, and others. Visitors: Bros. C. R. Foster, 1466; A. B. Raymond Barker, P.G.D.; E. Jackson Barron, P.G.D.; Peregrine Purvis, 91; R. Lane, jun., 1506; J. S. Peirce, P.G.D.; E. A. de Paiva, 176; E. D. Lister, G.S.; T. G. Nicholson, 91; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Lang Day, 1328; F. V. Cotterell, P.P.G.D. Kent; E. Swanborough, P.M. 1319; C. F. Matier, P.G.S.B.; P. C. Shaw, 106; H. Weber, P.M. 91; Clement Godson, P.G.D.; F. Bevan, Prov. G. Org.; E. Dalzell, P.P.G. Org.; A. Brown, R. Hilton, W. W. Lee, P.M. 1897, and others.

After the opening of the lodge, and the transaction of formal business, Bro. F. M. Hartung, G. Steward, was duly installed into the chair as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The officers were appointed and invested as follows, viz.: Bros. O. T. Hodges, P.G.S., I.P.M.; A. S. Brown, F.R.C.S., S.W.; W. G. Fenn, P.M., J.W.; Rev. A. W. Oxford, Chap.; R. G. Hall, P.G.S., Treas.; F. West, P.G.D., Sec.; R. Tew, S.D.; N. S. Stott, P.M., J.D.; R. L. Devonshire, I.G.; Dr. H. Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; W. Ganz, P.G.O., Org.; Chatham Ellis, P.M., Stwd.; and J. W. Freeman, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Hodges, P.G.S., I.P.M., in recognition of his services as W.M. The Secretary having communicated to the lodge the lamented death of Bro. A. Adams, P.M., S.W., a resolution was unanimously passed expressing sympathy and condolence with his relatives. Bro. Dr. Stewart Brown, P.P.G.W., S.W., was unanimously elected to represent the lodge on the Board of Grand Stewards, and returned suitable thanks for the honour. A sum of five guineas was voted to each of the three Masonic Institutions, and the S.W. and J.W. undertook to represent the lodge at the Festivals of the Girls' and Boys' Schools respectively.

Lodge was then closed, and a banquet was held at Freemasons' Tavern.

Bro. E. J. Barron, P.G.D., replying to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said the W.M. had been good enough to refer to the lodge with which he was connected and of which he was Secretary, No. 2, and that lodge. The brethren were at all times pleased to attend as visitors at these installation meetings, for they were always received with a kindly welcome. He trusted the interchange of hospitality between these old lodges would continue for many years.

Bro. J. S. Peirce, P.G.D., endorsed the sentiments and thanks expressed by Bro. Barron.

Bro. O. Hodges, P.G.S., I.P.M., submitted "The Health of the W.M.," and said he did not know of a greater honour, whether in Masonry or out, than that of being elected and installed W.M. of such a lodge as No. 4. There was no doubt Bro. Hartung considered that one of the happiest and proudest periods in his existence, and the brethren would drink to his health most heartily in bumpers.

Bro. F. M. Hartung, G. Stwd., W.M., thanked the I.P.M. and brethren, and said he knew that to a certain extent he had a great responsibility before him in going through the chair of No. 4. During the last two or three years they had not had any actual working, as far as working was concerned, but he hoped that during the coming year some candidates would be brought forward. He had done the ceremonies before, and although his memory was a short one, he would discharge his duties to the best of his ability, and try to uphold the dignity of No. 4. They were a united brotherhood, and there were many brethren who would always come forward to assist if necessary. He appreciated the honour of being elected W.M. of that old lodge, and he trusted that during his year of office it would lose none of its lustre.

Bro. F. V. Cotterell, P.P.G.D. Kent, acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors," and said they had enjoyed witnessing the ceremony of installation.

Bro. E. A. de Paiva, 176, also replied, and said he had frequently had the pleasure of being a guest at that lodge before, but on that occasion he felt rather more than the customary pleasure, because his friend, the W.M., occupied the chair. It would be going back rather too far in years to attempt to reckon up how long their acquaintance had lasted, which began early in the '60's. During all the time he had known the W.M. it had been under auspices most favourable, his business being strictly honourable and reliable, and in private life he possessed all the domestic virtues, full of genial kindness, charity, and fellowship.

The W.M. then proposed "The Past Masters," and

Bro. O. Hodges, P.G.S., I.P.M., in response, said that in the future he hoped to be of some little use to the lodge, and thanked the brethren for the kind wishes extended to him during his term of office.

Bro. Dr. H. Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C., said it was the object of all the Past Masters to do their best and assist in the happiness and prosperity of No. 4.

Bro. Stewart Brown, S.W., replying for "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers," thanked the brethren for electing him to represent that old lodge on the Board of Grand Stewards. When he was initiated, some 16 years ago, he little thought that at any time he should ever attain such a position as being a Grand Officer even for the period of a year.

Bros. F. West, P.G.D., Sec., and Grcsley Hall, Treas., also briefly replied, after which the proceedings closed.

Bro. F. Bevan, P.P.G. Org. Essex, conducted the musical arrangements, and was assisted by Bros. Brown, Dalzell, R. Hilton, and Fred Russell.

Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185.

The 109th installation meeting of this ancient and influential lodge was held on Monday, the 17th ult., at Frascati's, Oxford-street. This was the first regular meeting of the lodge at that restaurant, the brethren having recently resolved unanimously to remove the *locale* of the lodge to that place, and received the formal assent of Grand Lodge for that purpose. There was a very large attendance of brethren and visitors. Among those present were: Bros. Lazarus, W.M.; David Hills, S.W.; W. Hinds, J.W.; Harry Tipper, Treas.; J. Ornslein, Sec.; J. Witthaus, S.D.; W. Bloomfield, J.D.; J. Gerson, D.C.; H. Braham, Steward; J. Eisenmann, P.M.; L. L. Bloomfield, P.M.; S. Barnett, P.M.; A. Levy, P.M.; Lewis Levy, P.M.; Asher J. Myers, P.M.; G. D. Barnett, P.M.; A. Staley, P.M.; W. Bayley, P.M.; and L. M. Myers, P.M. Visitors: Bros. Howard Room, G. Std. Br.; Thornton, S.D. 2266; F. Page, 771, P.P.G.P. Berks; E. Harfeld, P.M. late 185; C. Robinson, I.G. 1541; C. Blanchard, P.M. 1275; W. C. Gillies, P.M. 1910; W. Blankley, P.M. 1298; T. Newman, 1471; W. D. Hayward, S.W. 2096; J. Leach Barrett, W.M. 2369; Rowbotham, 755; G. Rivers, 459; Fenton, 357; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. Boys; E. Bury, 1471; Rothschild, W.M. 1017; Roco, W.M. 188; G. Davis, P.M. 167; C. Vassidge, W.M. 2265; Reid, J.D. 1275; Rees, 1733; Levy, 1017; Biddam, P.P.G.S.B. Bengal; Kraser, S.D. 1540; Cohen, S.W. 715; Marians, P.M. 1017; Turnbull, 749; Fitch, 2509; Grunbaum, P.M. 1017; Winter; Hunt, 2264; Hall Roberts, 993; J. Genese, 1540; Telling, P.M. 2182; Ellis Hart, P.M. 1469; Charles Seryon, 1820; Morris, 205; Samson, 205; Urmston, P.M. 1725; Hoar, J.D. 1725; Valentine, P.M. 1017; and Ruylus, 2033; and about 40 members of the lodge.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bro. Alfred Rosenfeld was passed to the Second Degree. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. L. L. Bloomfield, P.M., who was a personal friend of the candidates, and Messrs. Marcus and Benjamin Fisher were duly initiated. Bro. David Hills, having been presented, was then installed, before a Board of 25 Installed Masters, by Bro. J. Eisenmann, P.M., the Senior Warden's chair being occupied by Bro. Howard Room, Grand Std. Br., and the Junior Warden's by Bro. J. M. McLeod. The new W.M. then invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. Hinds, S.W.; J. A. Witthaus, J.W.; H. Tipper, P.M.; A. G. Purst, P.P.G. Reg. Herts, P.M. 2054, 2090, P.Z. 141, Treas.; P. Ornslein, Sec.; N. Bloomfield, S.D.; J. Gerson, J.D.; H. Braham, I.G.; J. Eisenmann, P.M., D.C.; F. Westcott and Mortimer, Stwds.; and J. Rawles, Tyler. The presentation of a Past Master's jewel was then made to Bro. Isaac Lazarus, I.P.M., by the W.M.

The business of the lodge having terminated with some formal proceedings, the brethren adjourned to a *recherché* banquet.

At the conclusion of the same, and after the recital of the Masonic grace by the W.M., the usual loyal toasts were observed with enthusiasm.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and "The M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Lathom; the R.W. Dep. G.M., the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Howard Room, G. Std. Br., in responding to the toast of the Grand Officers, referred in eloquent terms to the old and happy association he had had with the Worshipful Master at the Great City Lodge of Instruction, and congratulated the lodge on the excellent working of the ceremonies that evening. He expressed his pleasure at finding, after an interval of some years since his last visit, that the old traditions of the Lodge of Tranquillity, for efficiency and unanimity, were so well maintained.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. Isaac Lazarus, I.P.M., with very warm expressions of regard and esteem, referring particularly to the Tranquillity Lodge of Instruction, which the W.M. had been instrumental in founding, and in which he took such deep interest.

Bro. David Hills, in replying, particularly thanked the I.P.M. for his kind and far too flattering expressions. He hoped the brethren would believe that he recognised in the fullest manner the honour they had done him in electing him to the chair of the very ancient Lodge of Tranquillity. Personally he had the greatest regard and affection

for the lodge. He had read somewhere that there were only two pleasures in life, looking forward, and looking backward; 13 years had elapsed since his initiation, and he had that night reached what he supposed was the ambition of every Mason, the chair of K.S., and he looked back on those 13 years as the happiest of his life, and was now looking forward to a very happy year of office as W.M. The pleasure which he had in arriving at that honourable position was to a great extent decreased, however, by the knowledge of the great responsibilities which the office involved, and a nervous feeling that he might possibly not be able to discharge the duties in a manner fully worthy of the lodge. During the past few years the lodge had been favoured with Masters whose knowledge of Freemasonry was most accurate and extensive, and who, furthermore, possessed the gift of eloquence, and these two qualities combined made it the more difficult for him to follow them with credit to the lodge and satisfaction to the brethren. He could not help feeling that the high example which they had set was one which he and others would have the greatest difficulty in attaining, but he could promise the brethren that he would spare no effort to make himself capable of carrying out the duties, and in return he did most earnestly ask them to extend to him in the fullest manner their kind sympathy and forbearance.

The next toast the Worshipful Master referred to as the toast of the evening, it being that of "The Initiates." He said we welcome to our fraternal gathering this evening, for the first time, two brethren, who, from the care and attention they have paid to the ceremony, will, I trust and believe, fully maintain the principles of Freemasonry and shed lustre on this their lodge. I congratulate them on being admitted members of our ancient and honourable institution, founded as it is on the practice of every moral and social virtue. I would remind them that, as Masons, we are expected so to act towards each other, that honour and integrity may become synonymous terms for Freemasonry, that the race for wealth may not destroy in us that purity and uprightness of life and conduct which we are taught is necessary to qualify us for the Grand Lodge above. Our Masonic brotherhood should be not merely an idle boast or empty name, but, through storm and sunshine, weal and woe, through good report and evil report, let the conduct of our lives be based upon the firm rock of friendship, upon perfect trust, perfect faith, and unsullied honour, so that the world may be the better for our having lived in it, and when to us shall come the Grand Master's summons to gather up our working tools, may we, "when departing, leave footprints on the sands of time," footprints that, perchance, another sailing over life's solemn main, a forlorn and shipwrecked brother seeing, shall take heart again.

Bros. Marcus and Benjamin Fisher thanked the brethren very cordially for drinking their health that evening, and for having received them as members of their lodge, and hoped to fulfil the hopes and wishes of the W.M.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the Worshipful Master said that he supposed it was natural for every M.M., on his installation, to wish to be surrounded by the old and trusty friends he had been so fortunate as to secure in the "dear dead days beyond recall." He expressed his personal gratitude to the visitors for honouring them with their presence that evening, those feelings of gratitude however, being mingled with regret at the absence, through death, of some of the dearest friends it was ever man's good fortune to make during his progress in the Craft. The Lodge of Tranquillity was always particularly glad to see visitors; it cheered their hearts and helped them in their work; to one and all that night he extended a hearty welcome; they had done what they could to make the visitors feel they were amongst brothers that evening, and to give them an enjoyable and happy time.

In submitting the toast of "The Immediate Past Master," the Worshipful Master stated that Bro. Lazarus had, during his year of office, had to steer the good ship Tranquillity through rocky shoals and stormy waters, and he had succeeded, to the admiration of all of them, in bringing that good ship safe and sound to the haven of Frascati. The thanks of the brethren were due to him for the uniformly kind, just, and courteous manner with which he had carried out the duties of W.M. It had been the W.M.'s pleasure and privilege to work side by side with their I.P.M. for many years in that lodge, and at lodges of instruction, and he could vouch for the fact that a more earnest, anxious, and painstaking brother, and one having the interest of his lodge more at heart they could not find.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. Lewis Levy, P.M., and responded to by Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., who in the course of his remarks made a forcible appeal on behalf of the Masonic Institution for Boys, for which the W.M. had announced his intention of serving as a Steward.

The toast of "The Installing Master and Past Masters of the Lodge" was next given by the W.M. He observed that Bro. T. M. Eisenmann, the Installing Master, was so well known to all of them that it would be as the gilding of gold for him to attempt to enumerate his many good qualities. His personal thanks were due to the Installing Master for the many acts of kindness he had shown him during his connection with the lodge, culminating that day in the marked honour he had done him in installing him as W.M. How ably Bro. Eisenmann had performed that ceremony he would not dilate upon. He was sure the brethren were both pleased with and proud of him, and he trusted the World's Great Architect would spare him for many years to give the lodge the benefit of the genial, generous, and hearty support he had so freely given it in the past. With regard to the pillars of the lodge, the Past Masters, it was fortunate for the lodge that it still retained the services and assistance of so many of them. It referred particularly to Bro. Alexander Levy, P.M., who occupied the chair 45 years ago, having joined the lodge in 1849. He was one of the founders of their Benevolent Fund, of which they were now so justly proud, and which had that year reached the sum of nearly £1000, notwithstanding that many hundreds of pounds had been paid out from it in the relief of distressed brethren. To Bro. Ellis Harford, P.M., he also wished to tender his sincere thanks for coming there that evening to honour him with his presence, after having been absent for so many years. It was 30 years since he had preceded him as W.M. of the lodge.

After referring to several other Past Masters, the toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and responded to by Bros. Eisenmann, P.M., and A. Levy, P.M., with great warmth and eloquence.

The toast of "The Tranquillity Lodge of Instruction" was proposed by the W.M. in a few well-chosen words. He made note of the fact that that was the third instruction lodge founded in connection with Tranquillity Lodge during its 110 years of existence. The first was in 1803, the second in 1855, and that, the third, in 1895. As there was, they said, luck in odd numbers, he hoped that had come to stay, to live with and as long as the mother lodge. So far it had been very successful. Bro. James Terry, Past G.S.B., had set it going by rehearsing the consecration ceremony, and it had since been carefully nursed by their skillful Preceptor, Bro. Davis, P.M., of the Duke of Cornwall Lodge, with whose name he coupled the toast.

Bro. W. Hinds, S.W., at the request of the W.M., gave the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," and paid a tribute of respect to these officers for the services rendered by them to the lodge.

Bro. P. Ornslein, Sec., in responding, thanked the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had drunk his health. He appreciated the honour of being again elected as Secretary to so old and important a lodge as that of Tranquillity Lodge, and cheerfully placed his services at their disposal. He reminded the brethren of the steps which had been taken to remove the lodge, and which certainly entailed a large amount of labour. When the question was first mooted, some brethren were rather reluctant at the idea of change, but after friendly intercourse and friendly negotiation, these brethren recognised the necessity for removal, with the result that the question was carried unanimously. It was not to be expected that, although they were Masons, they should regard all questions from the same point of view. But he maintained that, when differences of opinion in lodge matters did arise, the way to adjust those differences was by friendly negotiation. It was in that spirit he had endeavoured, and he hoped successfully, to conduct the business of the lodge. The brethren were now comfortably housed, but he ventured to remind them that sitken draperies and elegant appointments did not in themselves constitute a happy and contented home. What was required was a union of hearts and a solidity of purpose, and if the future could be judged from the past, there was every reason to hope that in their new home Tranquillity would flourish and prosper, and continue to take high rank among Anglo-Masonic lodges.

The Tyler's toast terminated the proceedings.

Between the toasts an excellent selection of music was performed by The Pierrots.

The proceedings throughout were eminently successful, a by no means unimportant feature being the spontaneous offer of several brethren to place their names on the W.M.'s list of contributors for the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' Institution.

A word of praise must be given to the *menu*, which was most unique and chaste in style, the front bearing a reduced platinotype reproduction of the engraving made by Bartolozzi in 1786 for the frontispiece of the Book of Constitutions, representing the interior of Grand Lodge with allegorical figures and Masonic implements.

St. Peter's Lodge, No. 442.

At the regular meeting of this lodge, held on Thursday, the 13th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Peterborough, Bro. J. Whitted, W.M., on behalf of the brethren of the lodge and those of the Fitzwilliam Lodge, No. 2533, the Fitzwilliam Mark Lodge, No. 477, and the Principals and companions of St. Peter's Chapter, No. 442, presented Bro. Hy. Plowman with a jewel and suit of Provincial Grand Lodge clothing, as a mark of respect and in recognition of his services as Tyler and Janitor respectively, on resigning those offices. Bro. Plowman, finding his duties as sexton of the Cathedral, required more of his time, felt compelled, though very reluctantly, to give up his Masonic engagements, which for eight years he had carried out with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren.

The jewel embraced the Degrees which Bro. Plowman had served as Outer Guard—Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark. The clothing—formerly belonging to Bro. J. T. Smith, P.M. 442, who initiated Bro. Plowman into Masonry—had been made equal to new.

The presentation was suitably acknowledged by Bro. Plowman, who stated that he had held the offices of Prov. G. Tyler and Prov. G. Janitor, and that the eight years he had spent in Masonry he should look back upon as some of the happiest of his life, and expressed his delight with the jewel and clothing, which he should always highly prize.

Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320.

A regular meeting of this flourishing lodge was held on Thursday, the 20th ultimo, at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge. Present: Bros. A. Le Cren, W.M.; G. Pike, S.W.; W. R. King, J.W.; H. A. Stent, P.M., Sec.; Hy. Cornford, S.D.; T. Hobley, J.D.; T. R. Cass, I.P.M.; John Hooper, P.M., D.C.; G. W. Niblett, acting I.G.; A. Smith, Steward; J. Whiteman, Tyler; A. Hesketh, T. Tucker, C. P. Hodgson, E. Hesse, E. Salter, and W. T. Tenpest. The visitors were: Bros. C. L. Plant, W.M. 101; W. Niblett, 1622; C. J. Simpson, 1564; F. E. Choveaux, Org. 1622; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, S.D. 1641.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. A. Hesketh was raised, and Bro. Elias Hesse passed in an exemplary manner by the W.M. The by-laws, as amended, were duly passed, one very important point being a percentage of subscription to swell the Benevolent Fund of the lodge, which was dwelt upon most effectively by Bro. T. R. Cass, I.P.M. It was resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Bro. E. A. Rice, S.W., in his illness, with the earnest desire that he may speedily be restored to health. Apologies were read from the Treasurer for inability to attend through illness.

The business ended, the brethren adjourned to an excellent supper.

The loyal and Masonic toasts were given most sympathetically by the W.M., that of "The M.W. Pro G. Master, the Earl of Lathom; the R.W. Dep. G.M., the Earl of Mount Edgcombe; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," likewise received its well-merited remarks.

Bro. T. R. Cass, I.P.M., after very kindly alluding to the severe loss in the Royal family, stated he rose with extreme pleasure to give the toast of "The W.M." All knew his manifold virtues, that it was further unnecessary to extol them. The W.M. was one of the best that the lodge had had, and although a most busy man, yet he was able to attend to his Masonic duties and conduct the affairs of the lodge in a manner which redounded greatly to his credit. The solemnity with which the ceremonies were worked had made a great impression upon the candidates. He (Bro. Cass) would not refrain from regretting the absence of Bro. Rice, S.W., through illness, who would have so greatly assisted the W.M. in the ceremonies, he likewise being such an able worker.

The toast was drunk most cordially.

Bro. Le Cren, W.M., most heartily thanked the brethren for such a greeting, and repeated that he had been extremely busy, but withal it was the W.M.'s duty to the lodge that the various ceremonies should be carried out in such a manner as to gain appreciation, and he was glad that had been achieved.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Visitors," according to all a most hearty welcome.

In reply, Bro. C. Plant, W.M. 101, said he was proud to have visited the lodge and to see such excellent working; in fact, without fear of contradiction, he would repeat he had never witnessed better. He ascribed that fact to the regular attendance of the W.M. at the Blackheath Lodge of Instruction.

Bros. Rimbault, Niblett, Simpson, Choveaux, and Stone also responded.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," to which was added "The Past Masters."

Bros. Stunt, Sec., Hooper, and Cass most ably replied.

The toast of "The Officers" was presented by the W.M. in happy and becoming terms.

Bros. Pike, acting S.W., and King, acting J.W., responded, and pledged themselves to do their utmost for the welfare of the lodge.

The Tyler's toast closed a very happy meeting.

Some capital songs were rendered by Bros. Hobley, King, Stunt, Hesse, Salter, Tempest (reciter), and Stone. Bro. Choveaux ably presided at the piano.

Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385.

The regular meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Friday, the 23rd ult., when there were present Bros. W. Anneveld, W.M.; F. Mason, S.W.; Rainsford, J.W.; W. F. G. Ball, I.P.M.; R. Fisher Young, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Charles Gay, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; John Brittain, P.M., P.P.G.W.; W. H. Baxter, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; J. E. Cussans, P.M., P.P.G.W.; G. Blizard Abbott, P.M.; F. C. Collingwood, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.; Cranston, S.D.; Ellis, J.D.; W. Lewis, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; Goddard, Tyler; King, Dade, Woodgate, and Grimwade. Bro. Bateman, 100, was a visitor.

Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for a Life Governorship to one of the Masonic Charities, Bro. Inglis, I.G., being the successful competitor. The questions of considering the number of meetings that should be held in the future, and also what subscription should be paid by brethren whose avocations took them abroad for a considerable time, but who did not desire to sever their connection with the lodge, were referred to a Committee consisting of the W.M., Wardens, and Past Masters. General regret was also expressed at the announcement that Bro. Dr. Haskins, Org., had met with an accident, and was prevented from attending.

Lodge having been closed, the brethren dined together, and spent a pleasant evening.

Islington Lodge, No. 1471.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Cock Hotel, Highbury, on the 13th ult., when there was a good attendance. The members present included Bros. A. Cox, W.M.; D. C. Ritchie, W.M. elect; S. Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Harrison, S.D.; C. Isler, J.D.; C. M. Coxon, P.P.G.D., D.C.; H. S. Trego, Org.; C. Horst, I.G.; H. Cox, P.M.; W. R. Harding, P.M.; R. Looman, P.M.; and others. Visitors: Bros. N. Delfries, I.P.M. 188; C. H. Bestow, S.W. 2374; W. R. King, W.M. 1671; T. C. Anderson, I.P.M. 1613; J. T. Jones, P.M. 1440; Dalling, 640; W. Boret, P.M. 1446; R. Eddie, 742; F. Cakebread, 1678; R. W. Nicole, W.M. 2278; S. J. Grover, P.M. 1613; A. Cook, P.M. 1366; F. Thorpe, 1986; C. T. Smith, 1224; F. Goodchild, 1743; W. Hancock, P.M. 2191; C. W. Mayo, W.M. 1686; J. Parker, J.D. 1686; A. E. Clayton, 1686; F. Allen, S.W. 1686; W. J. Mason, P.P.G.D. Surrey; J. R. Longman, J.W. 1328; J. R. Parker, 1538; J. Westrop, 1613; J. Trickett, 2374; F. Haag, 2374; F. Pipe; R. Gregory, J.D. 2168; P. Cooper, 1694; R. P. Upton, I.P.M. 1328; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

After the opening of the lodge and transaction of formal business, Bro. D. C. Ritchie was presented as W.M. elect, and was impressively installed by Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M. The following officers were then invested: Bros. A. Cox, I.P.M.; John A. Blount, S.W.; E. J. Harrison, J.W.; Sidney Napper, P.M., Treas.; E. Blinkhorn, P.M., Sec.; C. Isler, S.D.; C. Horst, J.D.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, D.C.; W. Taylor, I.G.; F. White and G. Walker, Stewards; and Couchman, Tyler. A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M., in recognition of his efficient services as W.M. during the past year.

Other business was transacted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were afterwards duly honoured.

Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M., briefly proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he was certain it was a great pleasure to Bro. Ritchie to occupy that important position. The W.M. and he had been associated for many years—long before Bro. Ritchie came into the lodge—and he (the I.P.M.) was proud indeed to be in a position to ask the brethren to drink to his good health.

Bro. D. C. Ritchie, W.M., said he rose with great diffidence to respond to that toast, and thank them for the more than kind way in which it had been received. It had been his ambition to aspire to the chair of K.S., and, having achieved that ambition, he was more than pleased. The I.P.M. had spoken very kindly of him, and he was certain that what Bro. Cox said he felt. He was delighted to see so many present, whether it was out of respect for himself or by accident, he could not say; but he was pleased and delighted. He might tell them it was his intention to go up as Steward for the Boys' School. He was desirous of having a good list, and they all knew what that meant, and he would, therefore, throw himself upon their generosity. He would simply thank them for the hearty and cordial way in which the toast had been received.

In giving "The Installing Master," the W.M. said that all those present had seen the I.P.M. perform his duties in a highly satisfactory manner. It was a great pleasure for a W.M. to have such an experienced Installing Master. The members had seen Bro. Cox perform his duties during his term of office, and, both as I.P.M. and Installing Master, the brethren present would drink his health in a bumper.

Bro. A. Cox, I.P.M., thanked the W.M. for the flattering terms in which he had spoken of his work. He had tried to do his best during his year, but what he wanted to do most of all was the installation ceremony, and if he had done that to the satisfaction of the members he was satisfied. He thanked the brethren for their hearty reception, and trusted to live for many years to be with them as a Past Master.

Bro. T. C. Anderson, I.P.M. 1613, replied for "The Visitors," and said it was now many years since he promised his good friend, the W.M., to attend his installation. He was, therefore, pleased to attend, and thanked them for the welcome he had received.

Bro. W. Hancock, P.M. 2191, returned thanks for the kindly reception he had always met with during the last 10 years, during which he had been connected with the Islington Lodge of Instruction. It was a great pleasure to him to occupy that post, and it was exceedingly satisfying to know his services were accorded the grateful and kindly consideration of the many distinguished Past Masters and splendid workers who had occupied the chair of the lodge. It was gratifying to see those who distinguished themselves in the lodge of instruction come forward in the mother lodge, and he hoped to see many more brethren installed in the future.

Bro. W. J. Mason, P.P.G.D. Surrey, said he was always pleased to visit that lodge, more particularly as he had many personal friends in it. He was present through the kindness of his esteemed friend Bro. Coxon, P.M., and he was speaking the sentiments of all the visitors when he said they had spent a pleasant and instructive evening. He was present a year ago to see the I.P.M. installed by his father, and the installation on the present occasion was well up to the mark. He trusted the lodge would continue to prosper, and that the W.M. would have a pleasant and prosperous year of office.

"The Past Masters" was next given, and suitably responded to by Bro. Loomes, P.M.

"The Treasurer and Secretary" and "The Officers" were then given, after which the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Bro. H. Stafford Trego, Mus. Pac., Org., presided over the musical arrangements, and was assisted by Madame Isabel Ritchie (daughter of the W.M.), who was heartily encored, and Bros. Sam Wright, D. C. Atwater, A. Henning, and F. L. Thorpe. Bro. Percy Cooper gave a clever sleight of hand performance.

Isle of Axholme Lodge, No. 1482.

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Hall, Crowle, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., when there were present Bros. C. Fox, acting W.M.; W. Pickering, S.W.; W. S. S. Scholey, J.W.; R. Wood, Sec.; J. Franks, S.D.; G. S. Tyack, J.D.; J. Lee, Org.; W. Chamberlain, D.C.; T. T. Oates, I.G.; W. Sundall, as I.G.; J. Turner, Stwd.; G. Naylor, Tyler; R. N. Brunyee, P.M.; J. Constable, P.M.; J. Hemmingson, P.M.; W. Burtonshaw, P.M.; J. G. Barratt, W. E. Cranidge, W. A. Wressell, and F. H. Waite. Visitors: Bros. B. Maskill, Treas. 2250, and W. G. Mends, 1730.

Bro. F. H. Waite was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., the work being performed by Bros. Fox, Constable, and Pickering. A vote of condolence was passed to Bro. Petch on the death of his wife. Bro. Constable invited as many brethren as possible to become Stewards in support of the Prov. G.M., Lord Yarborough, at the forthcoming Festival for Girls.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to Bro. Cranidge's Hotel, where light refreshment was partaken of, and toast and song enlivened the closing hour.

Humber Installed Masters Lodge, No. 2494.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull, on the 7th ult. Present: Bros. W. Tesseymann, P.P.G.S. of W., W.M.; M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. England, P.G. Sec., I.P.M.; G. L. Shackles, P.P.G.D., S.W.; John Bilson, J.W.; H. Woodhouse, L.L.D., P.P.G. Reg., Chap.; E. Corris, P.P.G. Reg., Treas.; T. B. Redfearn, P.A.G. Sec., Sec.; Col. H. F. Pudsey, S.D.; A. King, J.D.; R. R. Hawley, P.P.G. Reg., as D. of C.; J. R. Stringer, P.P.G.O., as Org.; R. Beevers, P.P.G.S. of W., Steward; G. Leigh, P.P.G. Std. Br., I.G.; H. Preston, P.P.G.D., Tyler; D. Swallow, Asst. Tyler; J. Todd, G. Std. Br. England, P.G. Treas.; Dr. W. H. Sissons, P.A.G.D.C. England, D.P.G.M. Lincolnshire; M. Scott, P.P.G.W.; W. A. Hutchence, P.P.G.D.; M. Haberland, P.P.G.D.; W. C. Whiteside, P.P.G.D.; T. T. Davis, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Mackail, P.P.G.S.B.; S. Rutter, P.P.G.D.; J. Bordas, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Lowther Carrick, W.M. 543; M. J. Martensen, I.P.M. 57; T. H. Haier, P.M. 2134; J. T. Belt, P.M. 2134; J. T. Fowler, P.M. 250; A. Spring, W.M. 2134; J. Y. Torr, P.M. 250; and J. Wildbore, P.M. 57. Visitors: Bros. T. Morrill, W.M. 57; J. E. Walker, W.M. 250; G. M. Dumbleby, W.M. 1511; Oldroyd, S.W. 57; Hart, Biggins, Collinson, Thornton, and E. Kenningham, 57.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then moved—"That a Committee be formed for the purpose of submitting a design, and ascertaining the cost, of a medal or jewel for the lodge," which was seconded by the S.W., and carried. It was also resolved that the Committee should consist of the W.M., I.P.M., and Wardens, with power to add to their number. The Treasurer's annual balance-sheet was then adopted. It showed a highly satisfactory balance as the result of the two years' working of the lodge. The W.M. elect, Bro. G. L. Shackles, P.P.G.D., was then regularly installed by the W.M., assisted by the P.G. Treasurer, I.P.M., Treasurer, and J.W., Bro. Hawley ably assisting as D. of C. In delivering the warrant and roll of members to the W.M., the I.P.M. also presented a copy of the printed transactions of the lodge, which form an interesting record of Masonic work. The following officers were then invested: Bros. J. Bilson, S.W.; Col. H. F. Pudsey, P.P.G.D., J.W.; J. Henderson, P.P.G.W., Chap.; E. Corris, P.P.G. Reg., Treas.; T. B. Redfearn, P.A.G. Sec., Sec.; Dr. H. Woodhouse, P.P.G. Reg., S.D.; W. A. Hutchence, P.P.G.D., J.D.; A. King, P.P.G.D., D.C.; W. Brook, Org.; R. Beevers, P.P.G.S. of W., Steward; Mark Scott, P.P.G.W., I.G.; and H. Preston, P.P.G.D., Tyler. A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Installing Officers, and acknowledged by the I.P.M. Letters of apology for absence were received from Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, P.G.W. England, D.P.G.M.; W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D. England; R. F. Gould, P.G.D. England; G. W. Speth, Sec. 2076; F. J. W. Crowe, P.P.G.O.; J. Lane, P.A.G.D.C. England; John Clark, P.P.G.D.; T. Foley, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. W. Lindell, P.G.D.; R. Pape, W.M. 294; G. Wilson, P.P.G.D.; D. J. O'Donoghue, P.P.G.W.; G. Petch, P.M. 1605; and H. Wilson, P.M. 1447. Two brethren were proposed as joining members. Bro. Dr. Sissons presented a copy of the "History of Freemasonry in Lincolnshire," which was gratefully accepted for the lodge. He also exhibited a curious silver trowel, being one of a set formerly worn in the old St. Matthew's Lodge at Barton-on-Humber. Bro. Sissons was of opinion that the jewel was of French introduction, as a number of prisoners of war were interned at Barton during the wars of Napoleon. Bro. Lowther Carrick also exhibited a fine large earthenware jug, printed with Masonic designs, and a set of silver jewels, both belonging to St. Michael's Lodge, No. 683, Bampton. This lodge was erased in 1838, when these curious relics passed into the hands of Bro. Carrick's grandfather, then a member.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren were entertained at dinner by the Worshipful Master.

During the evening excellent speeches were given, and a capital musical programme was enjoyed.

Queen Victoria Lodge, No. 2584.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at their rooms adjoining the Conservative Club, Cheetham, on Tuesday, the 18th ult., among the brethren present were Bros. S. J. Mills, P.M., W.M.; C. W. Godley, P.M. 1077; W. B. Midgley, P.M., S.W. 1534; T. Nesbitt, J.W. 1055; T. Syms, Sec. 1088; W. Richardson, S.D. 1077; J. Foulkes, J.D. 1077; A. T. McGregor, P.M. 654. P.P.J.G.D. Derbyshire; R. H. Williams, I.G. 1077; J. King, Stwd. 1077; J. Parkinson, Stwd. 1134; J. H. Gee, Stwd. 163; J. Pollitt, P.M. 1055; H. Whitcome, 1077; and J. Newell. Visitors: Bros. J. Haworth, P.M. 1077; J. W. Millward, P.M. 992, P.G.S. of W.; and A. H. Duffin, P.M. 1134, P.P.G.D.C.

The lodge was opened by Bro. Mills, W.M., and the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Mr. Harry Simon Hiles, and having proved favourable, he was initiated into Freemasonry in a very praiseworthy manner by Bro. J. Pollitt, P.M. Bro. C.W. Godley, P.M., addressing the candidate at the north-east corner and also gave the charge very impressively, while the working tools were presented by Bro. T. Nesbitt, J.W. The W.M. then took the chair, and Bro. J. Newell was passed to the Second Degree, the working tools being presented by Bro. W. B. Midgley, P.M., S.W.

The ordinary business of the evening being over, "Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the visiting brethren and the lodge was closed, after which the brethren adjourned to the social board and a very enjoyable evening was spent, Bro. G. Mild presiding at the piano.

The usual loyal toasts having been given.

The W.M. proposed "The Health of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," coupling with the toast the names of Bros. A. H. Duffin, P.M., P.G.D.C., and J. W. Millward, P.M., P.G.S. of W. He said that was their second meeting since the lodge was consecrated, and they were pleased to have the Provincial Grand Officers with them, as their presence in a lodge always stimulated the officers and encouraged them in their work. As for Bro. Duffin, they all knew the deep interest he took in Freemasonry, and that evening he had a very pleasing duty to perform—that was, on behalf of the founders of the lodge, to present Bro. Duffin with that jewel, as a token of their esteem and admiration of his work as Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. They were grateful for the great interest Bro. Duffin took in the consecration of that lodge, and the installation ceremony, and the assistance which he gave to all of them. They knew how well everything was done on that occasion, calling forth the praise of everyone present. He then said: Bro. Duffin, I have much pleasure in presenting you with this jewel, and assure you that it carries with it the good wishes of every member of this lodge, and I hope that you may live long to wear it.

Bro. Duffin, in responding, said: Worshipful Master, Wardens, and brethren of the Queen Victoria Lodge,—I thank you sincerely for the very kind manner in which the health of the Prov. Grand Officers has been proposed, and for the very hearty reception it has met with. You have done me a very great honour to-night by coupling my name with the toast and presenting to me this very handsome jewel. I don't know, brethren, what I have done to deserve all this gratitude. In your goodness of heart, you have said many kind words about me, and have crowned them with this splendid token of your affection. I can assure you that it will be prized by me so long as I shall live, and when I look upon that jewel it will always remind me of the founders of this lodge, and the truly Masonic spirit of which they are possessed. If at any time I can be of use in advancing the interests of the Queen Victoria Lodge, you may rely upon my services being readily and cheerfully given. I am pleased to see the class of members which you are receiving into your lodge, and am sure it is the desire of every one of you to promote the best interests of Masonry, and to conduct the business of this lodge in such a way as to be worthy of the name of that most illustrious lady after whom it has been called, so that in days to come its traditions might be handed down unimpaired to posterity. Brethren, for your kindness towards me at all times and for the beautiful token which you have presented to me this evening I tender to you my most sincere thanks.

The beautiful jewel that was presented bore the following inscription: "Presented to W. Bro. A. H. Duffin, P.M., P.G.D. of C., on Feby. 13, 1896, on behalf of the founders as a memento of the consecration Dec. 12, 1895."

Bros. Millward and Nield also responded for "The Visitors."

Sackville Lodge, No. 1619.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Crown Hotel, East Grinstead, on Tuesday last. There was a good attendance of members and a visitor from South Africa—Bro. the Rev. R. B. Matson. The W.M., Bro. Charles Morton Wilson, presided. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, and letters and communications read, Bro. the Rev. Warrington Stock, late Chap. 1186, was balloted for as a joining member, and unanimously elected. Two brethren having been passed to the Degree of F.C., Mr. John Edmund Roden was balloted for as a candidate for initiation, and, the ballot being clear, he was initiated by the W.M. On the motion of Bro. Canon W. H. Cooper, P.M., Chap., a Committee of Bros. E. Head, P.M., Treas.; A. M. Betchley, Sec.; and Mitchell, P.M., was appointed to report as to the best means of permanently relieving an aged brother of the lodge. Bro. Canon Cooper moved, and Bro. Wood, I.P.M., seconded—"That a Committee be appointed, consisting of the W.M. and the Past Masters of the lodge, to revise and improve the by-laws, especially with a view to suggest a by-law to deal with members who were in arrear with their dues." The motion was unanimously adopted, after which a candidate was proposed for initiation.

The lodge was then closed, after three-and-a-half hours' unremitting labour.

This lodge, under the able Mastership of Bro. Wilson, is doing thoroughly good Masonic work, and its working is all that could be desired.

Royal Arch.

Royal Alfred Chapter, No. 777.

The regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Angel Hotel, Guildford, on Wednesday evening, the 19th ult. Present: Comps. C. Cheel, M.E.Z.; E. H. Gale Crowdy, H.; M. W. Dodge, J.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.Z., Scribe E.; R. Dowse, S.W.; and the Rev. J. A. Arnan Tait, who, in the course of the evening was invested as Asst. Soj. Comp. R. F. Gould, P.Z. 92, P.A.G.S., was a visitor.

All business being concluded, the companions dined together.

The usual toasts followed, and after a most enjoyable meeting, the companions separated at an early hour.

Cladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385.

The annual meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnet, on Friday, the 21st ult., when there were present Comps. E. Apelt, M.E.Z.; J. G. Cobb, H.; Woodrow, as J.; James Terry, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br., P. Prov. G.I.; J. Brittain, P.Z., P. Prov. A.G. Soj.; Scribe E.; W. J. Crutch, P.Z., P. Prov. G.S.N.; W. Lewis, P.Z., P. Prov. A.G. Soj.; S. M. Banker, P.Z., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Anneveld, Prin. Soj.; W. Baddeley, 1st Asst. Soj.; F. E. Witthaus, 2nd Asst. Soj.; Boyce, R. Cranston, and R. W. Goddard, Janitor. Visitors: Comps. Dr. Haskins, Ekin, and others.

Chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed, and the report of the Audit Committee received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. A ballot was taken for Bros. G. Blizard Abbott, P.M. 1385; J. E. Overed, P.M. 1718; W. J. Janes, P.M. 1718; and A. S. Graddage, W.M. 1718; and proving favourable in each case, these brethren were exalted, the ceremony being performed in the case of Bros. Abbott and Graddage by Comp. Terry, P.Z., and in that of Bros. Overed and Jones by the M.E.Z. The resignation of Comp. Tibbatts both as H. elect and member having been received, Comp. Crutch, P.Z., was elected to the chair of Second Principal in his stead. The ceremony of installing the Principals for the ensuing year was then performed. Comp. J. G. Cobb being installed as M.E.Z.; Comp. Crutch, P.Z., as H.; and Comp. Woodrow as J. The following were invested as officers, namely: Comps. W. Lewis, P.Z., as Scribe E.; W. Anneveld, Scribe N.; J. Brittain, P.Z., Treasurer; W. Baddeley, Prin. Soj.; F. E. Witthaus, 1st Asst. Soj.; R. Cranston, 2nd Asst. Soj.; Graval and Boyce, Stwds.; and R. W. Goddard, Janitor. On

the motion of Comp. Apelt, I.P.Z., a jewel was voted to Comp. Brittain in recognition of his services for several years as Scribe E., and a sum of £5 5s. was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Comp. Baddeley, as Steward for that Charity. The resignations of Comps. W. K. Hopkins, P.Z., and W. F. Ball, P.Z., were accepted with regret, and the former was unanimously elected an honorary member.

Chapter was then closed, and the companions dined together, and spent a very pleasant evening, the speeches, which were short, being interspersed with songs by Comps. Lewis, Janes, and others.

Hiram Chapter, No. 2416.

The installation meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, on the 12th ultimo. The chapter was opened by the Principals—Comps. Henry Lovegrove, P.Z. 721, 1574; E. Lewcock, P.Z.; and F. A. Powell, P.Z. The only business before the meeting was the installation of the Principals elect—Comps. E. Lewcock, as M.E.Z.; F. A. Powell, as H.; and G. Elkington, as J. Comp. H. J. Adams, P.D.G.D. of C., was invested as Treasurer, and Comp. Thos. Pulman as S.E.; while the other offices were filled by Comps. Cox, as S.N.; J. H. Richardson, P.S.; W. F. Wrightson, 1st A.S.; W. West, 2nd A.S.; and others. The lecture of the first chair was given in a most able manner by the newly-installed M.E.Z.

Comp. Gilbert, P.Z., was a visitor.

Mark Masonry.

Bon Accord (T.I.).

A meeting of this lodge was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Thursday, the 28th ult., under the presidency of Bro. F. B. Page, W.M. Bros. Magnus Ohren, Treas.; J. M. Bastone, I.P.M.; H. Carmon, S.W.; J. Fickle, M.O.; J. Kay, J.O.; and several other brethren were present. Bro. Cpt. F. Loder was elected a joining member. The proceedings were saddened by the necessity of passing a vote of sympathy and condolence with Bro. Japheth Tickle and family, who have recently lost their son, aged 22, by typhoid fever at St. Petersburg. This is the second bereavement of the like kind the family has sustained within 15 months. Bro. Fickle acknowledged the sympathetic vote, and especially the kind words of Bro. J. M. Bastone, who spoke the more feelingly in that this lodge—on the occasion of its meeting in December last—had passed a similar vote of condolence with his own family, then stricken with like bereavement.

Knights Templar.

Restormel Preceptory, No. 90.

The annual meeting of this preceptory was held in the Masonic Hall, Liskeard, Cornwall, on the 25th ult., when Sir Knight R. A. Courtney was duly installed as E.P. for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being ably and impressively performed by Sir Knight Major Shanks, P.E.P. The E.P. then appointed and invested the officers as follows: Sir Knights Dr. Nettle, I.P.E.P.; Dr. Kerswill, Constable; Major Shanks, Marshal; Dr. Hammond, Registrar; T. White, Sub-Marshal; S. Hare, Captain of Guards; and Fauli, Herald. A priory of the Order of Malta was subsequently opened, and the Degree of Knight of Malta conferred on three candidates.

St. Cuthbert's Preceptory, No. 139.

The meeting of this preceptory was held at Darlington on Tuesday, the 18th ult. In the absence of the E.P., Sir Knight the Rev. R. Coulton, the chair was occupied by the Prov. Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Dr. Hill Drury. The formal business being transacted, Sir Knight John Robinson, E.P. elect, was presented for installation, and was duly installed by Sir Knight Dr. Hill Drury. The E.P. then appointed his officers as follows: Sir Knights Rev. C. Jackson, B.A., Prelate; W. C. Barron, Constable; W. N. Cochrane, Marshal; J. J. Wilkes, Treas.; R. Luck, Reg.; F. Tovey, Sub-Marshal; and T. M. Barron, C. of G.

At the close of the meeting the sir knights dined in the refectory, under the presidency and by the invitation of the newly-installed Preceptor.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Shadwell Clerke Chapter, No. 107.

A meeting was held at 33, Golden-square, W., on the 19th ult. In the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the M.W.S., Ill. Bro. R. C. Leversedge, 30°, the chair was taken by Ill. Bro. W. A. Scurrah, 30°, and in the absence, through serious illness, of the Recorder, Ill. Bro. John Read, 30°, his duties were performed by Ill. Bro. Henry Lovegrove, 31°. Votes of sympathy with the sick brethren were passed.

Besides the two acting officers mentioned, there were present: Bros. W. M. Stiles, 18°; A. H. Scurrah, 18°; C. H. Fry, 18°; G. W. Capel, 30°; J. W. Stevens, 18°; Thos. Parker, 18°; H. R. Graham, M.P., 18°; Edwin Storr, 18°; W. Metcalfe, 18°; L. M. Boden, 18°; J. G. Marsh, 18°; and Geo. Austin, Outer Guard.

The brethren afterwards dined at the Criterion, under the genial presidency of Bro. Edwin Storr, I.P.M.W.S.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., on Wednesday, the 26th ult. Present: Bros. Thomas, W.M.; Greig, S.W.; Emden, J.W.; Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Meadows, Sec.; Spencer, S.D.; Wise, J.D.; A. J. Rippin, I.G.; Roberts, P.M.; Harris, P.M.; Saunton, P.M.; Fisher, P.M.; J. Smith, P.M.; Douglas Smith, P.M.; Sarson, Holmes, Drake, Strong, and Chubb.

The lodge having been opened, the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Greig acting as W.M. elect. Bro. Thomas gave the addresses in a masterly manner, and Bro. Greig rehearsed the investiture of officers. The lodge was then closed.

A goodly number of members of 192 mustered at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, on Wednesday evening, the 4th instant, on the occasion of the Lion and Lamb officers' night, viz.: Bros. T. W. Fisher, W.M.; J. Smith, I.P.M.; R. Sarson, (W.M. elect 192), S.W.; Holmes, J.W.; Charles Garton, S.D.; William Baker, J.D.; J. G. Robeson, I.G.; and A. J. Rippin. There were also present: Bros. D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Saunton, P.M.; Thomas, P.M.; Mansfield, Chubb, Pêpe, Spencer, Greig, Drake, Maurice, Langford, Knight, and Meadows, Sec.

The lodge being opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Rippin being the candidate. The W.M. then vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Sarson, who rehearsed the investiture of officers, after which Bro. Fisher worked the ceremony of initiation, Bros. A. J. Rippin and Meadows being the candidates. Next Wednesday week, the 18th inst., the 15 Sections will be worked by Bro. Falbot, P.M., assisted by Bro. Milbourn and others, and all brethren (members or otherwise) wishing to have an instructive and enjoyable evening are cordially invited to attend.

CAMDEN LODGE, No. 704.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 21st ult., at the Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross, when there were present Bros. Adamson, W.M.; Smith, S.W.; Hume, J.W.; James Thom, P.M.; Preceptor; Swift, Asst. Sec.; Burningham, S.D.; Johnson, J.D.; Makin, I.G.; Geo. Griffiths, P.M.; Baker, W.M. 2331; Hurst, Meurice, Webb, George Parish, C. P. Coles, Wm. Adcock, and Edgar Wallis.

The lodge having been opened, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Griffiths, P.M., assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. Bro. Geo. Smith, assisted by the brethren, worked the 2nd Section of the Lecture. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Meurice acting as candidate. The W.M. rose for the first time, and the dues were collected. It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously, that Bros. E. Wallis, 180, and W. Adcock, S.W. 2202, be elected joining members. The W.M. rose for the second time, and Bro. George Smith, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The W.M. rose for the third time. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the W.M. for the very excellent manner in which he had carried out the duties for the first time in this lodge of instruction, and the same to be recorded on the minutes. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

A meeting was held on the 28th ultimo at the Earl Russell, Pancras-road, N.W., when there were present: Bros. William Baker, W.M.; Hume, S.W.; Burningham, J.W.; Thom, P.M.; Preceptor; G. Smith, Treas.; Styles, P.M., Sec.; Johnson, S.D.; Gammon, J.D.; Makein, I.G.; Griffiths, P.M.; Meurice, Smith, Fleming, Hicks, Webb, Adamson, Dean, Swift, and Revett. Bro. Newman was a visitor.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. Johnson, assisted by the brethren, worked the 1st Section of the Lecture. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Meurice acting as candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Gammon, who rehearsed the ceremony of investiture. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th ult., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. F. A. Zeppenfeld, W.M.; J. Leather, S.W.; Weston, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; W. E. Willby, Sec.; J. Mason, S.D.; S. C. Cross, J.D.; B. Dukes, I.G.; W. Proctor, P.M.; Tyler; R. Stebbings, and G. A. Sturgess.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read. The lodge was opened in the First and Second Degrees, and Bro. Sturgess was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Sturgess being the candidate. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and the W.M. rose for the first and second times. Bro. Leather was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. After the third rising, the lodge was closed.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present: Bros. W. Merrett, W.M.; F. Jackson, P.M., S.W.; J. Mason, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, Asst. Preceptor; Geo. Hill, P.M., Treas.; W. E. Willby, P.M., Sec.; E. Kraus, P.M., I.G.; W. Proctor, P.M.; Tyler; G. A. Sturgess, F. A. Zeppenfeld, L. S. Genese, and F. G. Evans.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The 1st Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Mason. Bro. Sturgess having been entrusted, and the lodge resumed, the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Sturgess being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to First Degree, and the dues were collected. Bro. F. Jackson was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation, and he was also invited to work the ceremony of installation on the second Wednesday in March. Bros. Sturgess and Zeppenfeld were appointed Auditors, and all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 25th ultimo, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. R. P. Upton, W.M.; C. Smith, S.W.; E. P. Woodman, J.W.; W. Hancock and J. W. Clarke, P.M., Preceptors; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. Isler, S.D.; J. E. Thomas, J.D.; R. Eddie, I.G.; G. T. Peall, P.M.; E. J. Harrison, V. R. J. Longman, C. T. Rayner, W. Rapley, A. F. Hardyment, G. J. Hanson, C. C. Renaud, R. E. Dingle, M. Tuck, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Essex; A. W. Fenner, P.M.; G. Yexley, G. A. Hopkins, J. Lefevre, A. Oliver, P.M.; H. F. Facks, and E. T. Mantle.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. It was then opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Longman being the candidate. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Tuck, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Renaud being the candidate. The ceremony of investment of officers was then rehearsed. Bros. Dingle, Lefevre, and Mantle were elected members of the lodge. Bro. Smith was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The thanks of the lodge were unanimously accorded to Bro. Tuck for his services in the chair for the first time. The sad news of the death of Bro. G. T. Chretien, P.M. 1328 and M.E.Z. 1328, was communicated to the lodge, and created feelings of the deepest sympathy and regret. Bro. Chretien was an old member, and had formerly been a most regular attendant at the meetings. No brother was more highly and widely respected, and his decease will be regretted by a large circle of Masonic friends. The lodge was then closed.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE, No. 1743.

A meeting of the above lodge was held at Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., on the 2nd inst. This lodge of instruction having recently taken up its abode at this ancient hostelry, it was decided by the members that an attractive programme should be formulated by way of a house-warming. After discussing the subject, it was decided that Bro. G. S. Dauntion, Sec., should approach Bro. Jas. Terry, P.M. 228, 1278, 1306, and 2255, P.G.S.B., P.P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts, Sec. R.M.B.I., and ask him if he would accept the position of P.O. at a rehearsal of the consecration and installation ceremonies. The result of the interview was that Bro. Terry, with his usual urbanity of manner, readily gave his consent, and fixed the date as above.

The meeting was attended by 80 brethren, representing many lodges. Bro. Terry was assisted by Bros. R. Poore, P.M. 1049, M.E.Z. 1423, D.C.; W. Boyce, P.M. 30, S.W.; and A. J. Hunt, P.M. 134, J.W. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes put for confirmation. The consecration ceremony was then proceeded with to a most appreciative assembly. In the installation portion of the programme, the Master of the mother lodge, Bro. J. Wall, acted as W.M. designate. The Installing Master, Bro. Terry, carried out this ceremony with the same impressive solemnity as he did the former. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers in a manner which did credit to him. The W.M. rose for the first time to enquire, &c.; 32 brethren were enrolled as members, a large proportion of whom were proposed and seconded by Bros. F. W. Robinson, P.M., and S. Holt. Dues were collected—£2 3s. 3d. The W.M. rose for the second time. Bro. R. Poore proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Bro. Terry for his kindness, and for the great service he had rendered, not only to this lodge, but to the Craft generally that evening, and that the vote of thanks be recorded on the minutes, also that Bro. Terry be elected an honorary member. This dual resolution was seconded by Bro. Dauntion, and carried with acclamation. Bro. Terry expressed his thanks to the brethren for the close attention they had given him during the evening, and wished the lodge of instruction a useful and long career. Bro. F. Foulger was elected W.M. for the next meeting. The Audit Committee were elected, Bros. J. W. Stevens, J. Bell, and A. Cove being selected. Votes of thanks to Bro. A. Wells, I.P.M. 2255, for the loan of the consecrating vessels, to the Committee who arranged the programme, and also to Bro. H. Hurscroft, who so ably presided over the musical embellishments. The W.M. rose for the last time. Nothing further offering, this long-to-be-remembered meeting was closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 28th ult., at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell. Present: Comps. J. Block, M.E.Z.; Cureton, H.; Derham, J.; T. Grumant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, S.E.; C. H. Phillips, S.N.; C. Plant, P.S.; Eedle, Edwards, Eidmans, Morgan, Reed, Dawson, Loader, Hardman, Cass, Meierhoff, and Telling.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Comp. Cureton, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. Comps. J. S. Eidmans and Wm. Edwards, both of Faith Chapter, No. 141, were elected joining members. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Block for so ably rehearsing the ceremony for the first time. The chapter was then closed.

The annual supper will take place at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on April 17th, at 7 p.m., chair to be taken by Comp. Thos. Grumant, P.Z., S.E. 1275, Preceptor.

Obituary.

BRO. DAVID WEDDERSPOON,

P.M. Alfred Lodge, No. 306, Leeds.

It is with profound regret that we announce the death, at the early age of 44, of Bro. David Wedderspoon, P.M. 306, of Abbey View, Horsforth, Leeds. Some weeks ago Bro. Wedderspoon had a sharp attack of rheumatic fever, which reduced him to a prostrate condition, from which he, unfortunately, was unable to rally. He died on Thursday, the 20th ult. Bro. Wedderspoon's career as a Mason has been a brief but eventful one. Initiated in the Alfred Lodge, No. 306, in 1888, he at once began to manifest an interest in its affairs. Essentially a business man, he turned his attention to the finances, and, by the help of some of the Past Masters and with the support of the members, rescued the lodge from what seemed to be a hopelessly impecunious condition. In 1890 he was made Junior Warden, and in December, 1891, was installed Worshipful Master. This rapid advancement was due in a great degree to the then unfortunate condition of the lodge. It is needless to go into particulars, beyond saying that, ordinary methods failing, drastic measures were taken, which were certainly justified by the results. After leaving the chair, Bro. Wedderspoon did not cease to take the liveliest interest in the affairs of the Alfred Lodge, and during its centenary year, which was so splendidly celebrated under the Mastership of Bro. William Blackburn, he acted as Secretary. This was in 1895, and Lodge 306, during that eventful period established a record, both for hospitality and Charity, which it would be difficult indeed to beat. Chiefly to the watchful care, the attention to detail, and the thorough business capacity of Bro. Wedderspoon may the unprecedented success of this festive year be attributed, and at its close, in December, 1895, a handsome presentation was made to him by the W.M., in recognition of his unwearied efforts. Bro. Wedderspoon was a Life Governor of all three Institutions, having served as a Steward twice in the interest of the Boys; and once each in the case of the others. He was also a member of the Royal Arch chapter attached to his lodge. Bro. Wedderspoon, who was a native of Stirling, went to Leeds in 1872 as a clerk in the firm of Henry Cowbrough and Company, wine and spirit merchants. His industry, strict integrity, and perseverance soon gained him the confidence of his employers, and at the time of his death he was an active partner in this very flourishing business. He was a quiet, unassuming man, genial and pleasant, but with an energy and a strength of character which carried him through all obstacles. He was widely known and universally respected, and his disappearance from Masonic circles in Leeds will be strongly felt and regretted. His funeral, which took place at Horsforth Cemetery on Monday, the 24th ult., was largely attended by brethren and friends. Amongst these we may name Bros. Henry Smith, Dep. Prov. G.M.; C. Letch Mason, Prov. S.G.W.; and Joseph Matthewman, Prov. Asst. G. Sec., who represented the province; Bro. W. C. Lupton, Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee; the Worshipful Masters and numerous brethren of all the Leeds lodges, and especially Bro. W. Blackburn, W.M., and a large contingent from the Alfred, Bro. Wedderspoon's mother lodge. Bros. H. Cowbrough and H. T. Cowbrough, P.M., as well as a large number of the employes, represented the firm. The non-Masonic friends were also numerous and influential. To mourn his untimely loss, Bro. Wedderspoon leaves a wife and four young children. Thus cut off in the very prime of life, we can only add our tribute of sympathy to those who are thus bereaved, and express the hope that the all-healing hand of time may soothe the sorrow and assuage the affliction of the widow and the fatherless.

BRO. G. T. CHRETIEN, P.M.

We regret to record the death of Bro. George Thomas Chretien, P.M. of the Granite Lodge, No. 1328, and M.E.Z. of the Granite Chapter, which took place on the 25th ult. He was initiated in the Granite Lodge in January, 1881, and after passing through all the offices of the lodge, became W.M. in 1893. He was exalted in the Granite Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in April, 1883, and after filling the office of Treasurer for many years in an admirable manner, he was installed as M.E.Z. in October last. He was also a member of the Kingswood Lodge, No. 2278, Herts. He was greatly respected in the City of London and was probably the last of the old type of Citizens who resided in the City in the house in which he was born and where his forefathers lived during their day and generation. He was one of the oldest parishioners of St. Lawrence, Jewry, and his death leaves a void in the parish which will not be easily filled, as in conjunction with his sister and niece, who resided with him in the interesting old house in Russia Court, he dispensed hospitality in a genial manner, and in his capacity as churchwarden was truly considered as the rector's right hand. He was a P.M. of the Carpenters' Company, and was known to a large circle of friends, especially in the musical world, as the Superintendent of the staff of Honorary Stewards of the Royal Albert Hall, in which capacity he was most efficient, and by his courteous bearing contributed not a little to the comfort and pleasure of the large audiences which attend the musical entertainments at the Great Hall of Kensington. His mortal remains were laid to rest at Bexley Heath Cemetery on the 28th ult. amid every token of respect and esteem. The first part of the Funeral Service was held at the Church of St. Lawrence, Jewry, in the morning, and was attended by a large number of the deceased's former friends, including the whole staff of the Hon. Stewards of the Royal Albert Hall, headed by their present chief, Bro. Fredk. West, P.G.D., and Treasurer of the Granite Lodge, also the St. Lawrence Social and Parochial Club, and a large number of the Past Masters and members of the Granite Lodge, together with many distinguished members of the Corporation, so that the church had every available seat filled. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. E. J. Bevan (Gresham Lecturer of Divinity and Vicar of Holy Trinity, Sloane-street), a personal friend. He was assisted by the Vicar of St. Lawrence, Jewry, the Rev. M. S. A. Walrond, who officiated afterwards at the graveside, the Rev. C. Sidley and the Rev. J. Stephen Barrass, Rector of St. Michael, Bassishaw. The choral service and the hymn "Thy will be done" was beautifully rendered by the choir, and as the coffin, covered with votive wreaths and crosses, was being borne out of the church the Organist played the Dead March in "Saul."

Masonic and General Tidings.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.—A *resumé* of the whole results of the public examinations of last December shows the gratifying fact that out of the 108 competitors, the astonishing number of 107 passed safely through the various ordeals. Thus: 78 went in for the several grades of the College of Preceptor's Examinations, and only one failed. For the Cambridge Local (preliminary), 11 entered, and all passed; and for the Cambridge Local (Junior) Examination, 19 entered, and all passed, six with Honours, and 11 Distinctions. This in a school of 262 girls, many mere little ones, is an admirable story for Miss Davis and her staff to tell and for the Governors to hear.

THE QUEEN has been graciously pleased to appoint His Excellency Nubar Pasha, G.C.M.G., to be an Honorary Knight Grand Commander of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK has graciously promised to distribute the Faithful Service Prizes at the 52nd anniversary of the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society, which will be held at the Queen's Hall on Monday, the 11th May.

ACCORDING to advices from Massowah, the Italian troops under General Baratieri have sustained a very serious defeat from the Abyssinians, the general in command being severely wounded and several subordinate generals killed or wounded.

THE MIDDLE TEMPLE is arranging to give a concert in their hall on Wednesday, the 11th instant, at which the Bar Musical Society will give selections. Dr. Hopkins and the choir of Temple Church will take part in the concert, and the proceedings will terminate with a supper.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by the new Turkish Ambassador, Costaki Anthopoulos Pasha, and the new Paraguayan Minister, visited Windsor Castle on Monday, when his lordship introduced the latter to an audience of Her Majesty.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF GREECE unveiled, at Athens, on Monday, a fine marble statue of the poet Byron, which had been presented to the Greek nation by the late M. Skylitsis. The ceremony was performed in the presence of the leading members of the Royal Family, the Ministers, the diplomatic body, and a vast concourse of people.

THE WELSH NATIONAL FESTIVAL was held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Saturday last, the eve of St. David's Day, when upwards of 10,000 people were present. The service was conducted in Welsh. Bro. Sir John Puleston read the first lesson, but the rest was conducted by Welsh clergymen, and the sermon was preached by the Bishop of Swansea.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES presided at a meeting of the Council of the Duchy of Cornwall, which was held at the offices, Buckingham Gate, on Tuesday. In the afternoon of the same day the Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Princesses Victoria and Maud and Prince Charles of Denmark, visited the Exhibition of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours, Princes Hall, Piccadilly.

LIEUT.-COLONEL GRIERSON, who has succeeded Colonel Swanie as Military Attaché to the British Embassy in Berlin, was received in audience by the German Emperor on Tuesday. The lecture which Col. Grierson was to have delivered at the Royal United Service Institution on Wednesday, has been postponed in consequence of his having to take up his appointment in the German Capital at once.

THE LORD MAYOR, Bro. Alderman Sir Walter Wilkin, presided at the Festival dinner, which took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday evening, in aid of the Morley House Seaside Convalescent Hospital for Working Men, Dover. Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Pound and Bro. Sheriff Cooper were among the guests, and in the course of the proceedings subscriptions to the amount of £820 were announced.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT in the Peers' Gallery in the House of Commons on Monday to hear the speech of the First Lord of the Admiralty when introducing the naval programme for the year 1896-7 were the Duke of York, Bros. the Earl of Hopetoun and Earl of Arran, Earls Dudley and Grey, the Bishop of Winchester, Bros. Lord Kinnaird and Lord Kensington, and Lords Rothschild, Rowton, Wimborne, and Colville of Culross.

THE TWELFTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Hackney Horse Society was opened at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday. The entries, 442 in number, exceed that of any previous year, while the sum distributed in prizes among the 24 classes is beyond that of previous amounts. Among those present at the opening were Bros. the Earl of Lonsborough, Sir Gilbert Greenall, and W. Burdett-Coutts, Sir Dighton Probyn, Sir Walter Gilbey, and Sir Henry Ewart.

THE SCHEME for establishing a lifeboat for the Isle of Wight, as a memorial of the late Prince Henry of Battenberg, has been abandoned, and it is now proposed to erect another Cottage Home in connection with the Royal National Hospital for Consumption at Ventnor, of which the Earl of Rosebery is Chairman, and Sir Richard Webster, M.P., Vice-Chairman, while the late Prince had promised to preside at its anniversary dinner. The proposal was brought forward at a meeting presided over by Bro. Lord Glenesk.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Newspaper Press Fund was held at the offices in Garrick-street, Covent Garden, on Saturday last, under the presidency of Bro. Lord Glenesk. It was announced that there were 941 members on the books, and that upwards of £1700 had been given away in grants during the past year. It was also announced that a "Borthwick Pension" of £50 had been founded in recognition of the prolonged services of the Chairman and his elevation to the Peerage. The election of Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild as Hon. Treasurer, and of Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood, Q.C., and Mr. Walter Wood as Vice-Presidents was confirmed.

THE 26TH ANNUAL GRAND BALL in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel on Friday, the 24th prox., under the patronage of Bro. the Lord Mayor, and the Sheriffs and Under-Sheriffs of the City of London. There are 260 children accommodated in the Orphanage, while there are 860 other children to whom, as no room can be made for them in the building, a compassionate allowance of 2s. 6d. per week is made. Superintendent Oscar Mackenzie is the Hon. Sec., from whom, at the offices, 26, Old Jewry, E.C., all necessary information can be obtained.

BRO. SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY, Bart., M.P., the Home Secretary, and the Hon. Lady Ridley entertained at their residence in Carlton House-terrace, on Saturday evening last, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, Earl and Countess Stanhope, Lord and Lady Harris, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote, Bro. Sir W. Walrond, M.P., Sir E. Bradford, and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Stanley. At Lady Ridley's reception which followed, there were present, among others, the Danish Minister and Madame de Bille, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Dunmore, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Wharcliffe, the Earl of Morley, Bro. Lord Justice Lopez, Bro. Lord Glenesk, Lady Hothfield, Bro. Sir William and Lady Marriott, and Bro. Sir Frank and Lady Lockwood.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Major-General Stanley Clarke, visited Brighton on Saturday last for the purpose of laying the first stone of the new buildings about to be erected in connection with the Sussex County Hospital. H.R.H. the Prince was received on his arrival by the Mayor in his official robes, and Mr. Blake, the Town Clerk, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Fife, General Sir William Butler (in command of the South Eastern District), Mr. Reuben Sassoon, and many others, and a procession consisting of half-a-dozen carriages—the last of which was occupied by H.R.H. the Prince, the Duke and Duchess of Fife, and Major-Gen. Clarke—having been formed, the cortege, under escort of the Middlesex Yeomanry, moved through the crowded streets to the site of the building amid the enthusiastic cheers of the Brightonians. The ceremony having been performed, the procession was re-formed and moved to the Royal Pavilion, where lunch was served. The Mayor occupied the chair, and among those present, in addition to his Royal Highness and the Duke and Duchess of Fife, were the Duke of Norfolk, the Marquis of Abergavenny, Mr. Reuben Sassoon, Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., the Bishop of Chichester, &c., &c. H.R.H. the Prince remained as the guest of Mr. Reuben Sassoon until Monday. The subscriptions to the Improvements Fund for the Hospital amounted well on towards £10,000, of which about £1500 was received in purses from ladies by H.R.H. the Duchess of Fife, over £1400 raised by the Mayor, and £3500 by the Hospital Committee.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 12th inst., at 4 p.m.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, as Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

THE ANNUAL smoking concert and prize distribution of the *Morning Post* Swimming and Cricket Clubs took place at the Haunch of Vension, Bell Yard, on Saturday evening last under the presidency of Mr. W. A. Locker.

A MARRIAGE has been arranged between Mr. James Stewart Forbes, of the 9th Lancers, and Lady Angela St. Clair-Erskine, youngest daughter of Blanche, Countess of Rosslyn and the late Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne have gone on a visit to Nice, where the Princess Henry of Battenberg is staying. The Empress Eugénie breakfasted with her Royal Highness, and afterwards returned to Cap Martin.

BRO. SIR CHARLES DALRYMPLE has again been chosen chairman of the Committee to watch all public petitions that are submitted after presentation to the House of Commons. Bro. Sir C. Dalrymple has held the position ever since the death of Sir Charles Forster.

BRO. LORD MAYOR, Sir Walter Watkin, opened the new Free Library which has recently been erected in Holborn by the Parish of St. Giles's. His lordship was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress, Alderman and Sheriff Pound and Miss Pound, and Bro. Sheriff Cooper and Mrs. Cooper, and others.

THE ANNIVERSARY DINNER of the Battle of El Teb was held at Limmer's Hotel on Saturday evening last under the presidency of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., among the officers present being Bro. General Sir Redvers Buller, V.C., Lieut.-General Sir H. B. Tuson, and Major-Generals Clery, E. A. Wood, and F. T. Lloyd.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Most Honourable and Loyal Society of Ancient Britons was held in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant on Monday evening, under the presidency of Lord Mostyn, among the guests present being the Hon. George Kenyon, Sir John Williams, Bro. Sir John Puleston, Bro. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Bro. Lewis Thomas, and Bro. W. Abraham, M.P.

WE UNDERSTAND that the installation of Bro. Major-General Sir George B. Wolesey, K.C.B., Commanding the Lahore District, as District Grand Master of the Punjab, will take place at Freemasons' Hall, Lahore, on Wednesday next, the 11th instant, in succession to Bro. Lieut.-Col. C. F. Massy, Indian Staff Corps, who has resigned that office after having held it for three years.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Major-General Clarke, returned to Marlborough House from Brighton on Monday, and in the afternoon was joined by H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and Prince Charles of Denmark, from Sandringham. In the course of the day Prince Christian Victor visited H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on his return from Ashantee.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK, who was afterwards joined by the Duchess of York and the Duke of Teck, visited St. Martin's Town Hall on Monday for the purpose of opening a bazaar in aid of the Theatrical Mission and Institute, the headquarters of which are at Macready House, Covent Garden. After the opening a concert was given in aid of the same object. On Tuesday the Countess of Warwick opened the bazaar and concert.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., and Lady G. Hamilton, Bro. Lord and Lady Arthur Hill, and the Moderate members of the London School Board were entertained at dinner by the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, at Londonderry House, on Wednesday evening. The Marchioness held a reception afterwards, which was numerously attended. The Progressive members of the Board will be similarly entertained on Wednesday, the 11th inst.

THE QUEEN presented the Silver Challenge Trophy annually awarded to the best shooting team in the British Army on Wednesday. A deputation from the Royal Munster Fusiliers, the successful regiment of the year, consisting of Colonel D. G. Johnston, the Adjutant, and others, travelled from Dublin to Windsor Castle on the day in question, and having been conveyed from the Station to the Castle in carriages, received the trophy from her Majesty's hands.

THE FESTIVAL DINNER on behalf of the Victoria Hospital for Children was held at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on Saturday evening last under the presidency of the Duke of York, among the principal guests being the Earl of Albemarle, Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn, Bro. Sir F. Abel, the Hon. Conrad Dillon, Bro. Sir F. Milner, Bart., M.P., and others. In the course of the evening subscriptions were announced amounting to £2750, including £50 from the Queen, 25 guineas from the Duke of York, and 25 guineas from the Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne.

THE FREEHOLD and part leasehold of the Royal Music Hall, Holborn, with good will and possession, together with the adjoining tavern, the Royal, was disposed of by public auction in consequence of dissolution of partnership, on Monday, the auctioneer being Bro. Tabernacle. The bidding commenced at £35,000, and the property was ultimately knocked down to Mr. Brill, one of the vendors, at £40,500. The purchaser will take over a contract for a building lease of No. 243, High Holborn, for a term of 71 years from last Michaelmas Day, at a ground rent of £150, and under this lease the present building must be pulled down and re-built, at a cost of £1500.

A SALE OF WORK, in behalf of the Irish Industries Association and the cottage industries associated with it, will be held, by the kind permission of the Marchioness of Londonderry, at Londonderry House, on the 17th and 18th instant, under the patronage of her Majesty the Queen. Among those in charge of stalls will be the Duchess of Devonshire, the Marchioness of Londonderry, the Marchioness of Downshire, the Marchioness of Salisbury, Countess Cadogan, the Countess of Kilmorey, Lady Arthur Hill, Lady O'Neill, and Miss Balfour, while among those who will take charge of stalls allotted to special industry will be the Duchess of Abercorn, the Countess of Arran, Viscountess Castlerosse, Viscountess Duncannon, and the Countess of Bective.

HARROD'S STORES, LIMITED.—The employees of this well-known establishment held their annual smoking concert, on Thursday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Bro. Alderman Newton, J.P., D.L. (Chairman of Harrod's Stores, Limited), supported by Mr. R. Woodman Burbidge and Bro. A. J. Naughton, Bro. J. Bailey being unavoidably detained by business in the house. An excellent programme, vocal and instrumental, had been provided, and was thoroughly appreciated by a large attendance. The artistes were Messrs. Sinclair Mantell, R. Fennings, Alexander Edwards, Herbert Emlyn, Kelson Trueman, Thomas Crook, James Clancy, "Dutch Daly," Bob Rae, Wallis Arthur, Ambrose Thorne, Will Edwards, Frederic Russell, W. Sergeant Lee, and the Venetian Part Singers, who all acquitted themselves so well, that to particularise any one would be unfair.

A VERY URGENT and, we may add, very just and necessary appeal is being made to the public on behalf of Guy's Hospital. The annual expenditure, with 100 beds closed, is set down as £43,000, but the net income from the estates belonging to the Hospital, which in 1880 amounted to £40,000, is now reduced to £20,000. The total number of beds for in-patients is 621, and the number of such accommodated during 1895 was 6411. The out-patients attended to during the same period were 151,664, there being in addition 3363 maternity cases which were attended outside the Hospital. Here, then, are facts which fully justify the present appeal, to say nothing of the still more important fact that Guy's, with St. Thomas's Hospital, ministers to the wants of a part of the London population numbering fully two millions. We are glad to hear that a Festival Dinner will be held in the month of May, at which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has consented to preside, in furtherance of the project for raising a capital sum of £500,000 to make good the loss of income sustained through the depreciation in the value of land and other unpreventable causes. The project has our heartiest sympathy. Further particulars to be had on application to Mr. E. H. Lushington, Treasurer's House, Guy's Hospital, S.E., by whom contributions will be gratefully received.

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