

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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APPROACHING ELECTIONS OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual general meeting of the Donors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Friday, the 15th May. The chair will be taken precisely at 12 noon, and as soon as the ordinary business has been disposed of, a poll will be opened for the Election of 19 candidates on the Male Fund and 14 on the Widows' Fund, the three deferred annuities being included in each case. As usual, the lists of candidates are formidable in respect of numbers, and we regret to say there are several of the Old Folks who have been before the electors for six, seven, or eight years, while in a few instances the number of ballots they have stood is 10, 11, 12, and even 13. How the latter have contrived to exist for so long, considering the abject state of poverty to which they have been reduced, is a marvel, but their names are brought forward year after year, and, as far as we are in a position to judge, with diminishing rather than increasing prospects of success. We are not alone in expressing a wish that some at least of these poor people should be preferred to other and more recent applicants.

For the

MALE FUND

there are, as we have said, 19 vacancies to be competed for, namely, 16 immediate and three deferred, the number of candidates being 60, of whom 34 remain from last year and 26 have been approved and had their names placed on the list during the last 12 months. London is responsible for 20 of these and the Provinces for the remaining 40, the London brethren being as follows: No. 8, who has standing to his credit 1533 votes from four previous elections; Nos. 9 and 10, who commenced their candidature in 1893, the former having 2045 votes to be recorded in his behalf and the latter 2405 votes; Nos. 12, 14, and 16, who will make their third attempt at the approaching election, No. 12 bringing forward 3181 votes, No. 14 2666 votes, and No. 16 only 168, which, together with the 40 further votes he is now entitled to, will give him a modest start of 208 votes. Nos. 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, and 30 were candidates for the first time last year, the first two named having already in hand 678 and 688 votes respectively, while No. 26 brings forward 3146, and receives 20 further votes. No. 27 will start with 597 votes, and No. 28 with 1041, which, all but 20, are derived from the last election, No. 30 having to his credit 1469 votes. The remaining eight are candidates for the first time, and rank on the list as Nos. 35, 40, 41, 47, 51, 54, 55, and 56. Of the 40 Provincial candidates, as many as seven hail from the Province of Devonshire, No. 3, who has been before the electors since 1885 inclusive, having

252 votes in hand; No. 4, who was 70 years of age when he made his first appearance in 1889, and has 139 votes to the good; and No. 5, who started a year later, and has 13 votes to help him on the way. No. 17 has made two previous attempts, but without result, while Nos. 24 and 25, who made their *début* in 1895, have 17 votes and 21 votes respectively in hand, the remaining candidate at No. 38 being an applicant for the first time. Kent furnishes five candidates, of whom Nos. 21 and 23 figured in the list in 1895, when they obtained support to the extent of 417 in the former case, and 185 in the latter, while Nos. 39, 44, and 52 are new cases. Cheshire is responsible for four candidates, of whom No. 18 has five votes in hand, and the others, standing at Nos. 37, 46, and 60 respectively, are new cases. Suffolk also furnishes four applicants, No. 22 bringing forward 22 votes from last year's election, and being entitled to 20 in addition, and No. 31, who scored 1890 votes in 1895, and will have 20 more recorded in his behalf, while No. 34 polled 38 votes last year; No. 45 being an applicant for the first time. There are five Provinces which contribute two candidates each, the two hailing from Cornwall being No. 7, who has polled 110 votes at six previous attempts, and a first applicant at No. 59; the two from Cumberland and Westmoreland being No. 13, who starts with nine votes from the 1894 and 1895 elections, and a first case at No. 48; and the two from Sussex, namely, No. 15, who has 176 votes to his credit from two previous ballots, and No. 33, who polled seven votes last year. East Lancashire is responsible for two new candidates at Nos. 49 and 57 respectively, and West Lancashire for Nos. 29 and 58, who are both voteless, though the former was a candidate last year. The remaining 10 are furnished by as many Provinces, one from each Province, namely, No. 1 from North and East Yorkshire, who enters upon his 14th ballot with 699 votes; No. 2 from Northumberland, who has accumulated 360 votes from 12 previous elections; No. 6, Lincolnshire, who brings forward 505 votes from the last five elections; No. 11, Nottinghamshire, who during the last three years has amassed 36 votes; No. 32 from the Province of Guernsey and Alderney, who polled 1163 votes in May, 1895; and No. 36 from Dorsetshire, No. 42 from Hertfordshire, No. 43 from Shropshire, No. 50 from Cambridgeshire, and No. 53 from Warwickshire, who will be candidates for the first time at this election. Of the whole 60 candidates there are only three who were subscribing members for less than 10 years, and these are permanently incapacitated from earning a livelihood, while more than two-thirds of them were subscribing Masons for 20 years and upwards, not a few among them having been such for over 30, and one from upwards of 40 years. As for the circumstances which have brought them to this pass, let it suffice if we say, firstly, that they are such as fully entitle them in every instance to the benefits of the Institution, or their petitions would not have been entertained; and, secondly, that in very many instances they are of the most painful character, showing, as they do, that only here and there is a brother in possession of any means at all, while in some few instances they are dependent on their children or other near relatives for the everyday necessities of life.

For the election to the

WIDOWS' FUND,

the number of candidates is 53, and the number of vacancies 14, namely, 11 immediate, and three deferred. In this case, there are several of the widows who have been on the list for seven years and upwards, two of them having made their first appearance as far back as 1884, three in 1886, and two in 1887.

London is responsible for 11 out of the total number, and the Provinces for the remaining 42. Of the former there are only two that bring forward any votes, No. 12 having 286 in hand from the last six elections, and No. 20, 906 from those of 1894 and 1895. The other nine figure on the list as Nos. 30, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 45, and 53 respectively, and are all *débutantes*. Of the Provinces, Devonshire, as for the Male Fund, is responsible for quite a number of cases, the widows, whose claims are derived from its lodges, being eight in number, namely, Nos. 3 and 5, who commenced their career as candidates in 1886, and bring forward 243 and 259 votes respectively; No. 7, who made her first application in 1887, and has 209 votes in hand; No. 9, who has obtained 49 votes as the result of seven previous ballots; and No. 13, who has 345 votes, derived from six attempts. No. 16, who started as a candidate in 1893, has the fairly good total of 1301 votes to start with; while No. 25 brings forward 124 votes, and No. 52 is a new case. The following five derive their claims from Warwickshire, that is to say, No. 23, who polled 337 votes in 1894 and 1895; Nos. 28 and 29, who were candidates last year, and obtained, the former 1891 votes, and the latter 1 vote; and Nos. 32 and 44, who are applicants for the first time. Kent sends up three candidates, and East Lancashire an equal number, the Kentish trio being No. 11, 39, and 40, the first having in hand 170 from seven previous ballots, and the other two being new cases; while the East Lancashire three are No. 2, with 285 votes to her credit from 12 ballots, and Nos. 17 and 18, the former of whom brings forward 1435 and the latter 30 votes from the elections of 1893, 1894, and 1895. Six Provinces return two candidates each, Cumberland and Westmorland sending up No. 1, who has 146 votes from 12 previous ballots, and No. 14, who polled 11 votes at the last four elections; Bristol, No. 8, who has a score of 17 towards her ninth application, and No. 48, a first applicant; and Staffordshire, Nos. 10 and 22, the former of whom has stood seven ballots, and brings forward 82, and the latter two ballots, and has 33 votes to the good. Sussex is responsible for No. 27, who polled 12 votes last year, and No. 50, a new case; West Yorkshire for two new candidates, at Nos. 31 and 47 respectively; and Cheshire for those who rank as Nos. 43 and 49. Eleven Provinces furnish the remaining 11 candidates, namely: Durham, No. 4, who begins her 11th ballot with a credit of 47 votes, and Cornwall, who will make her 10th application with such slight advantage as is to be derived from 106 votes. A widow, hailing from Lincolnshire, at No. 15, has 35 votes to the good from three elections, and No. 19, from Berkshire, 26 votes from the same number. South Wales (Western Division) and West Lancashire send Nos. 21 and 24 respectively, the former with a credit of 192 votes, and the latter with one of 11 votes. The North Wales widow at No. 26 was a candidate last year, but obtained no support, and the following are new cases: No. 34, from Monmouthshire; No. 41, from Oxfordshire; No. 46, from Essex; and No. 51, from Northumberland. Several of the candidates are widows of deceased annuitants, while the circumstances in which all are placed are most deplorable.

THE PUNJAB MASONIC INSTITUTION.

The greatest credit is due to our Punjab brethren for the generous manner in which they support their Masonic Institution. This local Charity was established in 1871 by brethren working under the English Constitution, "for the purpose of relieving, maintaining, educating, and generally providing in a suitable manner for the children of deceased Freemasons who have been left in destitute or poor circumstances, and of Freemasons who are themselves in indigent circumstances, or of doing any one or more of these things." In order to carry out this purpose effectually and permanently, "funds have been, and will continue to be, collected, and so far as they are not required to meet the immediate and current demands upon the resources of the Institution, invested in such a manner as to form an Endowment Fund, the income from which will secure the continuance of the operations of the Association under all circumstances." The Rules and Regulations from which we have made these quotations accept as a general principle "that the orphan children of Freemasons" have a prior claim upon the Institution, but

when all such claims have been provided for, it is within the power of the Institution to render such assistance "towards the maintenance and education of children who are not orphans" as may be necessary, "having regard to the means of parents and relatives." As to the manner in which it carries out these purposes, "the Institution," as we are further told, "undertakes to provide a sound and plain education to each child, such as will fit such child to earn an honest living by the practice of some profession, trade, or calling," while, as regards those who are entirely dependent upon the Charity, they "will be boarded, fed, and clothed in a manner suitable to the condition of the sons and daughters of persons having very moderate means at their disposal." Such, in outline, is the purpose for which this Punjab Masonic Institution has been established, and such the manner in which it is provided that its purpose shall be carried into effect, and the reports of the Board or Committee of administration or management which have been issued annually show satisfactorily that during the 25 years of its existence the Institution has been well supported, and has done its work successfully. But never has it been more generously supported or more ably administered than during the year 1895, as the Trustees tell us in their ample Report, which was submitted and approved at the annual general meeting held at Freemasons' Hall, Lahore, on the 11th March last. From this we learn that the total income for the past year from all sources was 15,747 rupees, which is the highest total ever attained, except in 1894; the subscriptions and donations which constituted the bulk of this income amounting to 12,203 rupees, or more than in any previous year, except 1892 and 1894. The expenditure, exclusive of investments, was 11,570 rupees, or 312 rupees in excess of any previous year. The balance remaining in hand at the close of the account was 177 rupees, and this sum will be invested during the present year. As regards the work done, we learn that exclusive of the children, to whom temporary relief, amounting together to 1632 rupees, was given, there were 37 wards on the regular establishment. This number, however, was reduced by removals under the age limit and withdrawals to 30 at the end of the year, and having estimated the sum available for expenditure—after allowing 500 rupees for contingent and miscellaneous charges—at 11,771 rupees, the Trustees consider that this sum will suffice for the provision of 39 wards at 300 rupees per ward, and they recommend, therefore, that nine vacancies should be declared. Thus the Institution's sphere of usefulness is being enlarged, and as it can boast of having in its possession an invested capital amounting to 96,000, there is every reason to anticipate that the Institution will be maintained at its present high state of efficiency. It is hardly necessary to add that the Punjab Masonic Institution, like all other Institutions of its kind, has our best wishes for its continued success.

ARS QUATUOR CORONATORUM.*

The Transactions which are included in the first part of Volume IX. for the current year are those of the meetings in January and March respectively, among them being two papers of exceptional interest and importance, the earlier of which has been compiled by Bro. Dr. CHETWODE CRAWLEY and was read at the January lodge. It treats of "The Old Lodge at Bandon," and is a further instalment of his "Notes on Irish Freemasonry." The other, by Bro. J. CONDER, jun., was read at the March lodge and contains a brief recital derived from that brother's "History of the Holy Craft and Fellowship of Masons," of sundry facts connected with the said Company, which "form links in the chain of evidence required to bind the nineteenth century Mason with his predecessor of the Middle Ages."

The basis of Bro. Dr. CRAWLEY'S paper is "A sketch of the history of the Old Lodge at Bandon, Co., Cork, embodied in the *History of Bandon*, by Bro. GEORGE BENNETT, Barrister-at-Law," to which his attention was called by Bro. Dr. LEWIS, of Lodge No. 25 (I.C.) Though this sketch was published as

* *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*. Being the Transactions of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, London. Edited by G. W. Speth, P.M., Sec. Volume IX. Margate: Printed at "Keble's Gazette" Office, 1895.

recently as 1869, we are told that it has already become very scarce and we think Bro. CRAWLEY has done right in reproducing it without alteration, his own remarks, which are freely interspersed throughout the record, being included in brackets or appended as footnotes. The account is all the more valuable from the fact of its being the only guide that exists to the past history of the lodge, Bro. BENNETT having gone to reside in the United States shortly after his volume was published, while the old Minute Books from which he had extracted his notes were "never returned to the custody of the lodge." The facts recorded are but few in number and concern chiefly the first meeting of the lodge on the 12th June, 1738, the celebration of the lodge centenary on the 29th May, 1838, and one or two other events which would seem to have been prominent enough to attract Bro. BENNETT's attention. There are also the names of those who at different periods in the lodge's career were enrolled among its members. There will likewise be found evidence that other than the Craft Degrees were worked by the lodge, this part of the paper being illustrated by four certificates—Craft, Royal Arch, Templar, and Priesthood—which Bro. THORP discovered in his collection of old certificates and forwarded to Bro. SPETH for the purpose, these certificates, however, proving, on examination, to have been issued by another lodge established in Bandon, but which has been extinct since 1835.

The purpose of Bro. CONDER's paper we have already described, the portion of it on which we naturally lay the greatest stress being that in which he shows that a lodge of speculative Masons existed within the company during the 17th century, the list of such, compiled by Bro. W. H. RYLANDS and furnished by him to Bro. CONDER, containing the names of 32 such brethren between 1620 and 1682. This paper was followed by a long discussion, and remarks were read which had been forwarded by Bros. LANE, HUGHAN, and others, the general tenour of such remarks being exceedingly and deservedly complimentary to Bro. CONDER, nor do we think that Bro. RYLANDS is very far out when he affirms that "the discovery made by Bro. CONDER when preparing his history of the Masons' Company of London that in the early part of the seventeenth century there existed in London a Lodge of Speculative Masons associated with that Company is, in my opinion, one of the most valuable additions to our history that has been made for many years."

In addition to these two Papers, there are the usual Notes, Reviews of current Masonic Literature, Obituary, Chronicle, &c., and there is also the full audited Statement of the Lodge Account for last year, from which a very fair idea may be formed of the extensive scale on which the operations of this great literary lodge are carried out.

The portraits are those of Bro. the Rev. C. J. BALL, I.P.M., as Frontispiece, and of Bro. WILLIAM MILLER, "Forty-seven years a Prisoner for nothing," of whose unhappy career Bro. SPETH furnishes a brief account, and Bro. BRIDGE FRODSHAM, with particulars furnished by Bro. T. B. WHYTEHEAD.

CONSECRATION OF THE MARK LODGE OF ELLAND, No. 493, AT ELLAND, YORKSHIRE.

Tuesday, the 14th inst., was a great day in Masonic circles in the old little manufacturing town of Elland. We have chronicled the formation of new lodges and new chapters in West Yorkshire; this time the departure is in the Mark Degree. Under the supervision and guidance of Bro. Charles Letch Mason, who has ruled over the province for upwards of 12 years, consistent and steady progress has characterised the Mark Degree, and it must have been very gratifying to him, as well as to its admirers, to see the interest which the consecration of the new lodge excited. There is an active and flourishing Craft lodge in Elland which bears the honoured name of "Savile." Space forbids us going into the history of this old and renowned West Yorkshire family—interesting though we are sure it would prove—let it suffice to say that the promoters of the new lodge went even further back than the days of the Saviles, and chose a name which is associated with the first three Edwards. Of the Elands we will add nothing to the very interesting account given in his address by Bro. Mason, but merely in passing, let us say that to keep alive the names, the deeds and the history of good and worthy bygone Englishmen, by means of lodge nomenclature, seems to us to be a practice highly to be commended.

Bro. Charles Letch Mason, as Prov. G.M., was supported by the following Provincial Officers and brethren:

Bros. John Barker, P.G.I. of W., Dep. Prov. G.M.; Geo. H. Parke, G. Stwd., Chairman of the Mark Charity Committee, and Prov. J.G.W. designate; Rev. Wm. Wilkinson, P.P.G. Chap.; W. E. Smithies, P.P.G.W.; J. W. Monckman,

P.G.S., P.P.G.W.; H. S. Holdsworth, P.G. Std. Br., P.P.G.W.; W. F. Wilkinson, P.P.G.W.; J. H. Gration, P.P.G.W.; Thos. Norfolk, Prov. S.G.O.; E. Billington, P.P.G.O.; G. H. Radcliffe, P.P.G.O.; Richd. Hodgson, P.P.G.O., Vice-Chairman of Charity Committee; J. F. Green, P.P.G.O.; Chas. Middleton, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Langbridge, P.P.G.R.; Joseph Matthewman, W.M. 110, Prov. G. Sec.; W. J. Morris, P.G.D.; Thos. Uttley, P.G.D.; Thos. Robertshaw, P.P.G.D. of C.; Herbert King, P.P.G.D. of C., acting S.B.; Alfd. Leach, P.G.D. of C.; John Brook, P.P.G. Org.; Geo. Carbert, P.P.G. Org.; T. E. Greenhough, P.G.I.G.; Jas. H. Newton, P.G. Tyler; Hy. Beaumont, P.M.; J. T. Last, W.M. Old York (T.I.); H. A. Brook, W.M. 53; W. H. Kingswell, W.M. elect 110; W. Ash, 110; T. G. Howell, W.M. 137, and S.W. designate of the new lodge; John Reed, W.M. 393; Chas. A. Paillips, W.M. 457, with brethren from 10 out of 12 lodges on the roll.

The founders of the Lodge of Eland, No. 493, are Bros. W. E. Smithies, Geo. H. Parke, T. G. Howell, Arthur Rowe, John Brook, Alfred Maude, J. F. Milner, H. Beaumont, R. E. Heaton, and A. E. Mitchell.

These brethren having been ranged in order, were addressed by the Prov. G.M., after which the Prov. G. Secretary read the petition and warrant.

When the brethren had signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the acting Prov. G. Chap., Bro. Rev. Wm. WILKINSON, delivered the following oration:

Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master and Brethren,—This is a great day in the Masonic history of your ancient town. The G.O.O.T.U. has put it into your hearts to desire the establishment of a Mark lodge in your midst, and the proceedings of this day will gratify that laudable Masonic ambition. All the proper preliminary steps have been taken, and to-day the R.W.P.G.M. attends here to consecrate the Eland Lodge. You will allow me to address to you a few observations suggested by the occasion. First of all, let me remind you, brethren, that a successful lodge means work for somebody. It is easy to start an organisation, but to sustain and develop it is not so easy. From experience gained within and without our Order, I have learnt that it is possible for impetuous and enthusiastic men to work much mischief by beginning to build without counting the cost. In moments of excitement and exultation, movements are initiated and societies inaugurated which never attain to any position of usefulness or eminence. "Give a thing a good start and it will work itself" is a lying maxim. Societies do not work successfully without the patient, persistent, and self-denying labours of their adherents. Many an institution, established with great *clat*, has dropped and dwindled merely because those responsible for its inception have not realised their personal obligation to work for its development. When you find a successful lodge you always find at least one brother in it who loves Masonry, and is prepared to make some sacrifice of time and comfort to promote its objects. A lodge in which every brother leaves the work to be done by somebody else can never prosper. It may linger and languish for a time before extinction overtakes it, but its influence will never be great for good. The dry bones of organisation may survive, but the spirit of Masonry is absent. Such a lodge having "a name to be alive is dead." But we are persuaded better things of you, brethren. You will, we trust, love your lodge and labour for its welfare. Never be satisfied until you have brought it to a high state of efficiency, and then be very jealous lest the reputation so nobly won should be lost or damaged. If Mark Masonry teaches any one lesson more forcibly than another, surely it is this—that honest work is never thrown away. It may be obscure work, humble work, so-called unimportant work, but, if well done, it cannot fail of its reward. Nothing is unimportant. Perfection in every part is our ideal of Masonic workmanship. The lessons of the stone which the builders rejected ought not to be forgotten. Its day of honour and acceptance came, and when it came the Craftsman had his reward. This lodge is to be established, not only for you, but your children and your children's children. You are their stewards, the stewards of posterity. The right-minded steward has no higher ambition than that when his lord cometh he may be found faithful. Let us to-day imbibe afresh this spirit of thoroughness and loyalty. We are making an auspicious beginning. May the spirit of true Masonic brotherhood ever flourish here! May your lodge now to be founded flourish abundantly—not only numerically, but in the highest and best sense of the word. May it stimulate amongst you the growth of Charity and of every other virtue! May you learn here the higher and broader views of life! May your ideals be elevated, and your devotion to all that is pure and noble be continually increased.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and was carried through with the greatest reverence and the strictest attention to detail. Great credit is due to Bro. J. W. Monckman, acting D.C., for this result, and the effect was increased by the beautiful singing of the musical portion, under the excellent management of Bro. Brook. The whole rendering of this solemn function left nothing to be desired, and was the theme of universal admiration. After the patriarchal benediction,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER gave the following brief address:

Brethren,—Allow me before we pass on to the installation of the Worshipful Master to offer my congratulations to the brethren of Elland on the consecration of a Mark lodge in their midst, viz., the thirteenth in the province, and the fifth I have had the pleasure of consecrating during the time I have held the office of Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire. During this period we have seen a steady progress in Mark Masonry which has been most encouraging. Our progress has not been rapid, yet I think I can, with all sincerity, say it has been sure. In visiting the various lodges of the province, we find they have become more efficient, the working has improved, and the interest has been greater. Still there is room for more improvement in all these respects, and I feel that as we advance the spirit of emulation will be greater, and we shall find that each lodge will endeavour to occupy the highest place for regularity and efficiency. And now let me say a few words about the lodge whose advent we are welcoming to-day. The Craft lodge of this place—Savile Lodge—commemorates the name of a family which has been associated with it for upwards of 500 years; a family which has been honourably connected with the history of this country in the battlefield and the senate. The founders of this new Mark lodge, wishing also to keep alive the old associations, fixed upon the name Eland, because the Elands were lords of the manor of Elland in the distant past, even before the Saviles. In the troublous and lawless times in which they lived, when "might was right," and every man who had the power did what was good in his own eyes, events occurred which it is difficult for us to pronounce upon. We have not all the facts before us, and the information available is so scanty, and its authenticity so doubtful, that it would be both rash and unjust to pronounce judgment. Which party was in the wrong in the case of the Elands and their enemies I don't pretend to say, but, so far as can be gleaned, the particulars are as follows: Sir John Eland, of Eland Hall, appears to have been lord of the manor of Elland, and sheriff and representative of the king during the early portion of the 14th century. What the cause of the quarrel was does not seem clear; but, as an act of justice or of vengeance, there seems no doubt that he put to a violent death the heads and representatives of the families of Beaumont of Crosland, Quarumby of Quarumby, and Lockwood of Lockwood. Authentic details are wanting, but, according to the history as recorded by the bards of the period, summary revenge was so completely inflicted, that the males of the Eland family of three generations were entirely cut off. Some years after the execution of Beaumont, Quarumby, and Lockwood—when, in fact, the sons in each case had become well-grown youths—a conspiracy to avenge the deaths of their fathers was formed, and they, with a band of

followers, secretly marched from Brereton Hall, in Lancashire, where they had fled for refuge, and returned to the neighbourhood of Eland. Here in ambush in Cromblebottom Wood they lay in wait for Sir John. He, as they were informed, would hold his Sheriff's Court on a certain day at the Brig-house, after which he would return to Eland Hall. Everything fell out as they expected, and when Sir John Eland reached the wood they burst forth from their ambush, and, notwithstanding a stout resistance, succeeded in slaying the knight. They then fled to Fourness Fells, a wild and desolate region lying in the extreme North-west of Yorkshire and bordering on Westmoreland, where, not content with the death of their great enemy, they formed their plans to extirpate the male race of Eland entirely. Sir John, the dead knight, was succeeded by his son, also called John. He was married and had two children, John and Isabel. Rumours of the purpose of his father's murderers by some means reached his ears, and knowing the deadly animosity of his foes, he took precaution when he went abroad to wear armour beneath his outer garments. On a certain Palm Sunday, with his wife and son, he left the Hall, as his custom was, to attend the morning service in Eland Church. The river was low, and the nearest way lay over the dam stones by the mill. To this mill on the previous night the conspirators had come, and, after binding the miller and his wife, were here in concealment as the knight was passing by. Seeing him approach, Adam Beaumont rushed forth, and with a long bow—a fatal weapon in the hands of Englishmen in those days—took aim at Sir John. The arrow struck him on the chest, but, protected by his hidden coat of mail, it did him no injury, but harmlessly glanced off. Lockwood, however, stepped forth, and was more successful, for his shaft pierced the head of the knight, who fell dead from his horse. The son, too, was wounded, and when carried by the servants to Eland Hall, there shortly died. This, in brief, is the story of the Eland tragedy. Isabel, the heiress in the direct line, in 1350 married Sir John Savile, of Tankersley, and in that family the estates of the Elands still remain. Here we have a remarkable instance of the vicissitudes of families. Eland, too, was then a market town, perhaps greater in importance than its now much more populous neighbour—Halifax. To come back for a moment to the Lodge—I think we have every prospect of success, all seems bright and most encouraging, if we may judge by the vigour and enthusiasm shown in the Craft lodge from which the new Mark lodge will draw its recruits. Brethren of the Eland Lodge, you have made a good start, don't be in a hurry to get numbers, exercise the greatest care and discrimination in admitting new members, ever keep steadily before your eyes those words used by the Marquess of Ripon the last time he was in Grand Lodge as the M.W. Grand Master of the Craft—"Remember, brethren, the strength of our Order lies not in the number of our lodges, or in the increasing roll of our members, but in the fraternal spirit by which the members are animated, and which lives and breathes in our lodges." Keep that before you, then your lodge will flourish and bring forth the fruit of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

After the address, which was listened to with the greatest interest and attention, Bro. John Barker, in his usual excellent and impressive style installed Bro. W. E. Smithies, P.M. 137, P.P.G.W., into the chair of Adoniram. The accession of Bro. Smithies, as first W.M. of the new lodge, was clearly very popular, for the brethren greeted him most heartily.

Bro. Smithies invested his officers as follows: Bros. Geo. H. Parke, P.M., G. Stwd., I.P.M.; T. G. Howell, W.M. 137, S.W.; Arthur Rowe, J.W.; John Brook, P.P.G. Org., M.O.; Alfred Maude, S.O.; J. F. Milner, J.O.; George Hoyle, Chap.; H. Beaumont, Treas.; J. Naylor, Sec.; R. E. Heaton, S.D.; A. E. Mitchell, J.D.; B. Naylor, D.C.; S. A. Radcliffe, Org.; and J. Rhodes, I.G.

The W.M. having been elected to serve as representative on the West Yorkshire Mark Charity Committee, and several propositions of new members having been made, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, Elland, where a very excellent dinner awaited them. Bro. Smithies presided, being supported by the Prov. Grand Master, the Deputy, and the other Provincial Officers.

After "The Queen" and "The M.W.G.M." had been proposed from the chair and heartily drunk,

The toast of "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge," was entrusted to Bro. T. G. HOWELL, W.M. 137, S.W. and founder. He said: Worshipful Master, R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Officers, and Brethren,—I feel proud that the privilege of proposing this important toast has been conferred upon me. The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, our M.W. Pro Grand Master; the Right Hon. the Viscount Dungarvan, our R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the Officers of the Grand Lodge of England deserve all the recognition and consideration which we can give them. We, of the Lodge of Eland, No. 493, ought to be especially grateful to Grand Lodge for the courteous manner in which they received our petition, and the exceedingly prompt and ready way in which they acceded to its prayer. The Lodge of Eland, brethren, will not be backward in acknowledging its obligations, and will, I am sure, drink this toast with the enthusiasm which it truly merits. It must be most gratifying to our Pro Grand Master, Lord Euston, to see that Mark Masonry is making steady and consistent progress in West Yorkshire. Our presence here to-day is proof of it, and it must be our duty, as responsible brethren of this young lodge, to show to our M.W. Grand Master and to our Pro Grand Master that the confidence they have shown in us by the granting of the warrant is not misplaced, and that we mean conscientiously and faithfully to carry out the true principles of Mark Masonry under the authority which has been so graciously accorded to us. West Yorkshire has not been without recognition by our M.W. Grand Master. One of ourselves, a founder of the lodge, at the present moment fills the honourable position of Grand Steward of England—an office which we will vainly hope, brethren, will prove a stepping stone to higher and more distinguished honour. Bro. Parke is an enthusiastic Mark Mason, and by his energy, his ability, and his liberality has done much to strengthen our Order and to advance its progress during the time he has been resident amongst us. Coming as he does from a neighbouring province—a province in which that distinguished Mason, the Earl of Lathom, appointed him Grand Warden—it is, I think, only right that we should specially refer to him on this occasion, particularly as he is an active officer of the Grand Lodge of England. Of Past Grand Officers we have a goodly number. There is, first of all, our excellent Deputy, Bro. John Barker, who has worthily filled the high position of Grand Inspector of Works. I say worthily filled without fear of contradiction, for you can all bear evidence that whatever Bro. Barker undertakes to do he does worthily and well. Then there are Bros. H. S. Holdsworth and Fredk. Cleaves, both of whom have served the office of Grand and Standard Bearer, and, lastly, we have, amongst others, Bro. J. W. Monckman, a Past Grand Steward, who, as an old and well-tried Mark Mason, has come here to-day to give us the benefit of his extensive knowledge and valuable experience. To him, as to the others, our thanks are most certainly due. In your name and my own, I venture to tender those thanks, and I call upon you to rise and drink health and happiness to our M.W. Pro Grand Master, Lord Euston, our R.W. Deputy Grand Master,

and the rest of the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past. With your permission, W.M., I shall couple this toast with the names of Bros. G. H. Parke, H. S. Holdsworth, and J. W. Monckman.

Bro. G. H. PARKE, in response, said he regretted very much that the Pro Grand Master, Lord Euston, could not have been present in order to have witnessed the very excellent start which the new lodge had made, but that he (Bro. Parke) would, during the coming week, have an opportunity of seeing Lord Euston, and he would not fail to communicate to him the good news of Mark progress in West Yorkshire. In the Pro Grand Master and in the Deputy, Lord Dungarvan, they had excellent officers, brethren who were willing to render any service which might be required of them, and they deserved all the honour which the brethren could give them. On behalf of the Grand Officers, of whom he was proud to be one, he tendered his grateful thanks.

Bros. HOLDSWORTH and MONCKMAN also replied.

Bro. Dr. HOYLE, who was called upon to propose "The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge, Present and Past," said that as a very young Mark Mason, he felt great diffidence when that toast was entrusted to him, and though he certainly was honoured to possess the privilege, he was disposed to admire the boldness of the selection, but to doubt its wisdom. After the very eloquent oration of Bro. Howell, he feared his efforts would appear feeble, yet he would venture upon a few remarks. Though he had not known Bro. Mason very intimately in Mark Masonry, he was yet thoroughly acquainted with him in other Degrees, in each of which he was certainly an ornament. He well remembered a visit Bro. Mason paid some little time ago to the Craft lodge in the town of Elland, and he ventured to say that the impression which he then made was one which would fade only with the lives of those who heard him. As to Mark Masonry, Bro. Mason was the life and soul of it in that province, and the beautiful manner in which he had gone through the ceremony of consecration that day, would only intensify the admiration which they had previously felt for him. In Bro. John Barker, their very popular Deputy, they had an earnest, careful, and thorough worker. No matter what the Degree, if Bro. Barker undertook it, they might be sure it would be well done. The brethren of the Lodge of Elland would ever have reason to remember him for his services as Installing Master that day, and to him, as well as to the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, their thanks were due. He hoped the brethren would show their appreciation by their enthusiasm.

This they undoubtedly did, and in the absence of Bro. Mason, who had been obliged to leave when Bro. Barker rose to reply, both he and the Prov. Grand Officers received quite an ovation.

Bro. BARKER regretted the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, who, he was sure, would more adequately have expressed the feelings of the Provincial Grand Officers in reply to Bro. Dr. Hoyle's kind words. As to himself, he was highly gratified to see so much earnestness in the Elland brethren, and so much enthusiasm on the part of the province. Representatives of 10 out of the 12 lodges on their roll had come to give a good set off to the infant lodge. He trusted that the baby born that day might go on and prosper. It had, he knew, a good backbone, and he did not doubt that it would thrive and be a credit to its parents. He was sure the Provincial Officers were equally gratified with himself, and in their name and his own he thanked them.

Bro. BARKER next proposed "The Health of the First Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Eland, Bro. W. E. Smithies." (This was received with tumultuous applause, Bro. Barker being for some time unable to proceed.) He declared that no worthier or more suitable brother could have been found to fill the important position in which Bro. Smithies had that day been placed. He had been successful in Craft Masonry, as well as in that of the Mark, but he (Bro. Barker) thought that day saw the very crown and keystone of his Masonic efforts. Under the guiding care and fostering influence of Bro. Smithies, a prosperous career for the lodge was certain. Their new W.M. was a hard and enthusiastic worker, and he had enlisted under his banner a body of able and efficient assistants. He would propose in a bumper "Health to Bro. Smithies, and Success to the Lodge of Eland."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, whose reception was most enthusiastic, said: Bro. Barker and brethren,—I scarcely know how to find words to express my appreciation of the very handsome terms in which the Worshipful Deputy has proposed this toast. I fear I don't deserve all the good things he has said of me. It has for some time been my ambition to establish a Mark lodge at Elland, and it has only been through the fear that it might be to the prejudice of Truth Lodge that we did not take steps some two or three years ago. I for one, however, do not intend to desert my mother Lodge of Truth, and I trust that the other founders of our new lodge will follow my example. Brethren, Masonry in all its degrees I am much attached to. I have taken many important steps and attained honours as high as I can reasonably expect. I think the Mark Degree is especially beautiful, and I hope, with the assistance of my officers, to make the working of the ritual the delight of those who take part in it and the admiration of those who witness it. You have, I am proud to say, unanimously elected me to this important position, and it shall be my especial object to show that your confidence has not been misplaced. If effort, care, and attention can command success, this lodge will unquestionably prosper, as I shall spare no pains, but shall do all that in me lies to make the Lodge of Eland the pride of its own members and the envy of those outside. For your most thorough and hearty reception I thank you.

"The Health of the Visitors" was ably proposed by Bro. G. H. PARKE, which Bros. J. T. LAST, Old York; H. A. BROOK, 139; W. S. MILLIGAN, FARNLEY, J. H. DYSON, 137, and others acknowledged.

The toast of "The Mark Benevolent Fund" next followed, and the cause of this excellent and economically-managed Charity was ably advocated by Bro. ALFRED MAUDE, who impressed upon the brethren the duty of strongly supporting the Chairmanship of their Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Charles Letch Mason, on the 8th July next.

Bro. G. H. PARKE, Chairman of the Charity Committee, acknowledged the able terms in which Bro. Maude had expressed himself, and intimated that, although as the printed list showed they had so far done fairly well, yet there was still much to accomplish, and he hoped that they would strain every nerve to bring about a result which should be gratifying to their Provincial Grand Master and worthy of the province over which he so splendidly presided.

The other toasts were "The Officers of the Lodge of Eland" and the Tyler's toast.

We must not omit to mention that Bro. Brook had secured excellent musical talent, and that songs and duets were given by Bros. Buckland and Rickard of a very high class. Bros. H. A. Brooke and W. S. Milligan also contributed largely to the enjoyment of the brethren by their readiness to oblige—in fact, the singing of the four brethren named formed an artistic treat, rare even in West Yorkshire, and did not fail to receive from the delighted audience the highest possible compliments. From first to last the arrangements were excellent, and show that only by carefully-thought-out schemes can functions of this kind be brought to a successful issue. The Lodge of Eland, No. 493, has made a good start, and we wish it all prosperity.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

The above Provincial Grand Chapter held its annual convocation at the Southport Town Hall, on Saturday afternoon, the 11th inst., Comp. the Earl of Lathom, Grand Superintendent, presiding, supported by Comps. Rev. T. Barton Spencer, J. D. Murray, W. R. Wylie, and others. There were over 100 companions present from Liverpool, Preston, Lancaster, Warrington, and other places, and only three chapters in the province were unrepresented.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer, Comp. H. NALL, P.Z. 1387, presented a statement of accounts, showing a substantial balance in hand.

The accounts were adopted, and the Grand Superintendent nominated the following Provincial Grand Officers, and invested such as were present:

Comp. Lord Skelmersdale ...	Prov. G.H.
" W. H. Arnott, 148 ...	Prov. G.J.
" William Goodacre ...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Rev. J. S. Gardner, 613 ...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Charles Watson, 613 ...	Prov. G. Treas.
" George Oakey, 113 ...	Prov. G. Reg.
" C. E. Hindley, 1345 and 148 ...	Prov. D.G. Reg.
" Edward Sherwell, 682 ...	Prov. G. Soj.
" Thomas Vernon, 92 ...	Prov. A.G. Soj.
" John Armstrong, 148 and 1350 ...	Prov. 2nd A.G. Soj.
" Charles Harding, 1356 ...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Max. H. Boyd, 1040 ...	Prov. D.G.S.B.
" Gabrielson ...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Reger White, 241 ...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. B. Sweetman, 673 ...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" Willan ...	
" Thomas Mason, 249 ...	Prov. G. Org.
" H. Whitaker ...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" G. J. Orritt, 580 ...	Prov. G. Janitor.
" W. H. Ball ...	

A vote of 25 guineas to the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution was agreed to, and Provincial Grand Chapter was closed.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

Bro. the Hon. Sir H. T. Prinsep, District Grand Master, presided at the Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, which was held at Freemasons' Hall, Bentinck-street, Calcutta, on the 27th December last, among those present to support him being—

Bros. P. C. Dutt, Deputy Dist. G.M., W. H. Fitze, P.G.D. England, and W. E. Mactavish, Past Dep. D.G. Masters; F. N. Wright, as D.S.G.W.; J. C. Kiernander, Dist. J.G.W.; Martin Wells, President District Board of General Purposes; H. M. Rustomjee, Dist. G. Sec.; E. A. Newton, as Dist. S.G.D.; W. Franks, Dist. J.G.D.; W. B. Chambers, as Dist. G.D.C.; J. C. Banerjee, as Dist. G. Std. Br.; W. H. Cole, Dist. G. Org.; M. M. Massom, Dist. A.G. Purst.; many Past District Grand Officers, the Grand Stewards, the representatives of several lodges, and a number of visitors, including Bros. Brig.-Gen. A. G. Yeatman-Biggs, C.B., Past Dep. Dist. G.M. Punjab, and Past Prov. G. Warden Hants and Isle of Wight, and Major F. A. Bowles, R.A., Past Dep. D.G.M. Punjab, and Past Prov. G. Warden Surrey.

District Grand Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous District Grand Lodge, as well as those of a special meeting at Meerut, on the 7th November, having been taken as read and confirmed, the District Grand Master addressed the brethren, expressing satisfaction at the success of the special meeting at Meerut, and trusting that he should be able to hold another similar meeting at some other up-country station. He also mentioned sundry irregularities which had been brought to his attention, noting particularly that of electing joining members by show of hands instead of by the ballot. He congratulated District Grand Lodge on the state of its funds, and reported that the negotiations for the purchase of the premises in which they held their meetings had proved unsuccessful, the owners, who reside in England, declining to accept the terms offered on the ground that, at the existing rate of exchange, the income they would receive would not be a sufficient return for the money. He stated, however, that he had caused the negotiations to be re-opened with a view to ascertaining the amount in sterling which would be accepted. He also drew attention to a circular he had directed the District Grand Secretary to issue to the Masters and Past Masters of the lodges in the District, enclosing a copy of a circular from the Grand Secretary, of the 7th December, 1839, in which it was laid down that during the ceremony of the Third Degree, or indeed at any time the lodge was open, "the Master's Light was never to be extinguished," nor "was it by any means to be shaded or obscured, and that no lantern or other device was to be permitted as a substitute."

The Report of the District Board of General Purposes, in which it was recommended that a sum of 1500 rupees be paid over to the Masonic Hall Building Fund, was presented and adopted, and a resolution embodying the recommendation was passed unanimously; and so, too, was the Report of the Committee of the Bengal Masonic Fund of Benevolence, in which it

was recommended that a sum of 1000 rupees be paid as a donation to the Bengal Masonic Association, a similar resolution in this case also being passed *nem. con.*

Bro. Frederick St. Aubyn King, who was, unfortunately, prevented from being in attendance, having been unanimously re-elected District Grand Treasurer, the District Grand Master appointed the following brethren as his District Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely:

Bro. Brig.-Gen. A. G. Yeatman Biggs, C.B. ...	Dep. Dist. G.M.
" John Richard Maples ...	Dist. S.G.W.
" Alex. Macaulay Markham, C.S. ...	Dist. J.G.W.
" Rev. Leonard Klugh ...	Dist. G. Chap.
" Fred. St. Aubyn King (elected) ...	Dist. G. Treas.
" Brig.-Gen. Horace Moule Evans, C.B. ...	Dist. G. Reg.
" Thomas B. G. Overend ...	Pres. Dist. B.G. of P.
" H. M. Rustomjee ...	Dist. G. Sec.
" Herbert White ...	Dist. S.G.Ds.
" Richard Townshend Green, C.S. ...	
" Capt. Alfred E. Mansfield ...	Dist. J.G.Ds.
" Capt. Kendal P. Apthorp ...	
" Capt. William Speak ...	Dist. G.S. of Wks.
" Samuel Crawshaw ...	Dist. G.D. of C.
" Christopher Charters ...	Dep. Dist. G.D. of C.
" C. M. Rustomjee ...	Dist. A.G.D. of C.
" D. McNabb Urquhart ...	
" Sam. Bailey Wells ...	Dist. G.S.B.
" Lieut. F. L. V. Jenkins ...	
" Henry Thos. Trimby ...	Dist. G. Std. Brs.
" George W. Disney ...	
" M. H. Cole ...	Dist. G. Org.
" Charles Ford Holbrook ...	Dist. A.G. Sec.
" Thos. Charles King ...	Dist. G. Purst.
" P. Chuck ...	Dist. A.G. Purst.
" J. S. Booth ...	Dist. G. Stewards.
" R. Walker Hutchison ...	
" Frederick Kapp ...	
" B. R. Mookerjee ...	
" Edmund Hardie Ellis ...	Dist. G. Tyler.
" P. C. Ghose ...	
" N. M. Chatterjee ...	

The DIST. G. SECRETARY having announced the names of the brethren who composed the District Board of General Purposes for the ensuing year, and having read letters of apology for non-attendance from District Grand Officers, Present and Past, and the representatives of lodges, the usual collection was made in behalf of the Bengal Masonic Fund of Benevolence, and District Grand Lodge closed with the customary formalities.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM H. BARROW, MUS. DOC., P.M. 523.

At the meeting of the Union Lodge of Instruction, held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on the 10th instant, which was very largely attended, the opportunity was taken, it being the meeting place for most of the brethren of the province, and by permission of the Preceptor, to present Bro. William H. Barrow, Mus. Doc., P.M. 523, Prov. S.G.D., &c., with the robes of a Doctor in Music, as a mark of esteem and an expression of thanks for much fraternal kindness in adding to the pleasure of the brethren.

The presentation was made by the D.P.G.M., Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, who, in a felicitous speech, eulogised the long and varied services rendered to the brethren of the province, and of the town lodges particularly, especially in connection with his art. Bro. Partridge congratulated Bro. Dr. Barrow on the eminence he had attained as a musician, and expressed hearty wishes for his continued health and prosperity.

Bro. Dr. BARROW acknowledged the gift in a few heartfelt words, and expressed the hope that he long might be able to give pleasure to the brethren, the doing of which was as much a pleasure to himself as to them.

Subsequently a large number of brethren partook of supper together, and afterwards a further token of regard was presented to Bro. Dr. Barrow by Bro. H. Goodacre Marriott, W.M. 2028, and D.C. of the lodge of instruction, on behalf of the subscribers.

Bro. MARRIOTT proposed "The Health of Bro. Dr. Barrow," and then proceeded to offer for Bro. Barrow's acceptance a gold jewel of his rank as Grand Organist of the Mark Grand Lodge of England and the Colonies, &c. Bro. Marriott alluded to the great pleasure with which the brethren responded to the invitation to join in subscribing to the testimonial, and of their hearty good wishes for Bro. Dr. Barrow's health and prosperity.

The toast was received with musical honours. Bro. Dr. BARROW, who was much moved, as this second presentation was a complete surprise to him, said words failed him to express how much he valued their expressions of fraternal goodwill, and trusted he long might be spared to wear the jewel, and to give his services to the cause of Masonry.

An enjoyable evening was spent, and much harmony contributed by many brethren.

Cryptic Masonry.

Constantine Council, No. 2.

The installation meeting of this council was held on Wednesday, the 1st inst., at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, when there were present Comps. Robt. Voisey, P.T.I.M.; James Hill, P.T.I.M.; W. Vincent, P.T.I.M., Recorder; Dr. J. R. Green, T.I.M. elect; W. Briant, T.I.M. 3; Brake, Goodchild, Mulvaney, and other. The T.I.M., Comp. Dr. J. R. Green was installed by Comp. W. Vincent in an impressive manner. The officers were invested and the ceremony of the Cryptic rite was performed by the T.I.M., assisted by the officers and P.T.I.M. Masters. The candidates, one of whom was the brother to the Maharajah of Baroda, were deeply impressed with the beautiful ceremony.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that Bro. the Duke of Fife has consented to lay the foundation-stone of the new Town Hall and Municipal Buildings about to be erected in Ham-smith. The ceremony is fixed for the 7th May, and a meeting of the inhabitants, which was very numerous attended, was held on Tuesday, the 21st inst., for the purpose of concerting measures in order to give his Grace a hearty welcome.

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WILL TAKE PLACE

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R.W. Prov. Grand Master of Lincolnshire,

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

United Grand Lodge will hold its Grand Festival on Wednesday next, the 29th inst., and as it will be the 21st anniversary of the installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master, the occasion will be a more than usually memorable one. It is, indeed, very generally understood that his Royal Highness has decided upon signalling the day by conferring Past Grand rank upon a number of distinguished members of our lodges. However, it is not our intention to anticipate the announcements which will be made in Grand Lodge on Wednesday next. Rumours occasionally have an awkward knack of turning out to be unfounded—one has already done so which was published some time ago in the *Daily Telegraph*. The wisest course, which we purpose adopting, is to prophesy what will happen a few days hence, when we shall know what has happened.

But if we are slow to gratify the very natural curiosity of our readers as to who will be the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, or have Past Grand Rank conferred upon them, we trust we shall be found to have made amends for our present reticence by publishing in our Special Double Number of the 2nd prox. full particulars of the services rendered by those brethren whom his Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., has determined to honour with the purple of Grand Lodge. We also intend furnishing particulars of the progress which English Freemasonry has made during the 21 years of his Grand Mastership, so that the Craft generally may

learn through the medium of our columns how deeply indebted it is to his Royal Highness for the care, ability, and judgment he has exhibited in the administration of its affairs.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire was held at Doncaster on Wednesday. There was a larger attendance of brethren than at ordinary annual meetings, as it was known that the retirement of Bro. Henry Smith from the post of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, which was only announced at the autumn Provincial Grand Lodge as being an event that would happen in the near future, would become *au fait accompli*, and that the very able and experienced Mason whom the Provincial Grand Master had selected to fill the vacant office—Bro. John Cooper Malcolm, of Leeds—would be obligated and installed as Bro. Smith's successor. We congratulate Bro. Malcolm upon his appointment, and trust he may have health and strength to discharge the duties now and henceforth devolving upon him with a success as conspicuous as that which was displayed by his respected predecessor.

Having welcomed the coming, we cannot do otherwise than speed the parting Deputy. Not that it is necessary we should speak at any length of the many important services, which, during the whole of his long and ever active career, Bro. Henry Smith has rendered to Freemasonry, both generally and Provincially. Those services need not to be proclaimed, as it were, by sound of trumpet. They are known everywhere, known almost as well at the head-quarters of Freemasonry in London and in the Provinces as they are throughout the length and breadth of West Yorkshire; and being thus known, they speak for themselves. But just at this moment, when the sense of regret which naturally accompanies the closing of a long and active official career is keenest, we may perhaps be permitted to assure Bro. Smith that the respect he carries with him into his retirement is at least commensurate with the services he has rendered. At the same time, we most sincerely hope that he may be spared for many, many years to enjoy that respect which he has so justly earned.

Our attention has been called to the case of "Robert Rothwell Kershaw," described as of no occupation, who on Saturday last was charged before Mr. Rose, at the West London Police Court, with begging. The evidence of Police Constable 319X, having been given, and the prisoner's explanation having been duly considered, the Magistrate discharged him with a caution. We have every reason to believe, from trustworthy information which has reached us, that this is the very fellow against whom we cautioned our readers in one of our "Notes" on the 21st March as having been "twice sentenced by London Magistrates to hard labour as a rogue and a vagabond," and as being engaged at that date "in calling at the private houses of brethren soliciting alms." The man, Kershaw, told Mr. Rose he was a Freemason and also that he had been educated at Trinity College, Dublin. He was also stated to be "sixty-one" years of age. The person referred to in our "Note" was "an elderly man" and sent in a card to those he called upon with the initials "B.A., T.C.D." appended to his name. Doubtless, if Mr. Rose had had these circumstances brought to his notice, he would have dealt with the case in a somewhat different fashion.

While it is gratifying to learn that very substantial progress has been made during the last three weeks in strengthening the Board of Stewards for the approaching Festival, which will be held on Wednesday, the 13th May, under the presidency of the Earl of Yarborough, Provincial Grand Master of Lincolnshire, we regret to find that several important and influential Provinces are either wholly unrepresented or represented only by two or three brethren. We are not surprised that Provinces should be absentees or indifferently represented, such as Cheshire, which did so well for the Boys' School in July last year; Middlesex, which so greatly distinguished itself in support of its Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, at the Benevolent Festival in February last; or Derbyshire, which is very properly husbanding its resources in order to promote the success of the Boys' School Festival in June, when his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, its Provincial Grand Master, will occupy the chair. But there are other Provinces which, it appears to us, might exert themselves to a greater extent than they do, and we trust that before the eventful day approaches, some of their brethren will tender their services as Stewards. The Board at present numbers about 330.

Reviews.

"MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT. For the year ending 31st March, 1897."—This large and comprehensive directory has been ably edited by Bros. Edgar Goble, Provincial Grand Secretary, and G. F. Lancaster, Provincial Assistant Grand Secretary, the labour being considerable, as full particulars are afforded of the 48 lodges (with 3614 members), 24 Royal Arch chapters (with 859 companions), 14 Mark lodges (with 344 members), and the other Masonic bodies. Under each lodge, chapter, &c., are given the number of meetings held, initiates accepted, joining members elected, and total number of members to 31st December, 1895, as well as the Secretary's address. Complete rolls of all the Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers of the Craft, Royal Arch and Mark are also appended, reports of the finances, list of extinct lodges, and a mass else of interesting and most useful information, which should be highly appreciated and valued by the members of the province. The editors deserve the warm thanks of the members of the several lodges, &c., in the province for their laborious services on their behalf, for this 13th appearance of the Masonic Calendar for Hants and Isle of Wight is certainly the best of the series, and simply invaluable to the province.

"MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HERTFORDSHIRE, 1896."—This ever-increasing annual is now a bulky little book, extending as it does to some 130 pages, and is ably edited, as usual, by the indefatigable Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. Charles Bullock, by authority of the Prov. Grand Lodge. When so much is compressed into this most compact Calendar, it sounds unfair and thoughtless to suggest that more might well be given, but the additions only concern an increase of figures, where there is plenty of room, viz., the total membership of the 22 lodges, at page 40, the seven chapters, at page 69, and the five Mark lodges, at page 76. These, by addition, are found to be 825, 131, and 76 respectively. The totals of the votes for the Charities might also be given at page 123. The Editor has no cause to keep back the information, for it is one of which any province might be proud. The "Noteworthy Events in Hertfordshire Freemasonry," of eight pages, and covering the period from 1739 to 1895, is a really good idea, and those who desire more information cannot do better (cannot do so well else, in fact) than procure copies of Bro. Abbott's exhaustive "History of Freemasonry in Hertfordshire," which is duly advertised, as it should be, inside the cover. The province is to be congratulated on having such a complete, useful, and trustworthy Calendar.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1082]

"Manning's Masonic Register of F. and A. M. for the State of Pennsylvania for 1896." This pocket edition, though extending to nearly 350 pages, is a most able compilation, and is printed and published by the "Masonic Publishing Company," 237, Deck-street, Philadelphia, at a mere trifle. The *Keystone* Masonic paper, so well known and liked in this country, is also published by the same enterprising company. The Editor gives under each of the lodges numbered 2 to 611 (and all the chapters, Mark lodges, councils, commanderies, and other Masonic bodies, &c.), full particulars as to the officers, Past Masters, and Trustees, with places and times of meeting, &c. These items of information are ably condensed and well arranged, any portion of the whole 344 pages being easily found, and a copious index is also furnished, so that it is a never-failing and most handy guide for the members of this prosperous Grand Lodge. The "Masonic Temple" is the only illustration in the Register. This is the handsomest, largest, and most costly building devoted to the exclusive use of the Masonic Fraternity in the whole world, and moreover has a library of books relating to the Craft, of which any Grand Lodge may be proud, especially as it is so much used, and so much appreciated. A table is printed of the Past Grand Masters from 1730-1 to 1895, a long range, and certainly a most suggestive list. The title of *Prov. Grand Master* is used for some of the earlier worthies, so it would be better to have described the roll as Past Prov. Grand Masters and Grand Masters. I value this annual gift from the publishers, and find it most useful for reference.

W. J. H.

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PRESENTATIONS TO COMP. C. H. STONE, P.Z. 1275, M.E.Z. 1901, S.E. AND MRS. C. H. STONE.

A most important epoch in the history of this successful and well-known chapter of instruction was celebrated on Friday, the 17th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, under the able presidency of Comp. Thos. Grummant, P.Z. and S.E. 1275, the esteemed Preceptor, supported by Comps. R. J. Voisey, P.Z., S.E. 1329; J. Loader, M.E.Z. 1622; Samuel J. Derham, J. 1622; Wm. Cowley, P.Z.; North, P.Z.; Benedetti, P.Z.; Telling, H. 2182; Cure'on, M.E.Z. 2182; Lewis, Dawson, Cass, Cope, P.Z.; G. R. Langley, P.Z.; West, P.Z.; Speller, P.Z.; Hardwick, Hayward, Barr, Dr. Makeham, M.E.Z.; Milligan, P.Z. (I.C.); J. Ellinger, Meierhoff, P.Z. 1275; Bro. C. W. Stone, and Comp. C. H. Stone, P.Z. 1275, S.E.

An excellent supper had been arranged and ably supplied by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress, in her usual excellent style and to which the companions did justice.

On the removal of the cloth the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts were given and received.

Comp. T. GRUMMANT next proposed the toast of "The Pro G.Z., G.H., G.J., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," bearing testimony to the excellent work carried on by all those worthy companions, and remarked the disappointment of the inability of Comp. Wm. M. Stiles, G. Treas., to attend, although he was a member of the chapter of instruction and gave his hearty co-operation in the object of the present meeting.

Comp. W. COWLEY, P.Z. 1275, next presented the toast of "The Principals," claiming himself to be the oldest Past Principal present of the mother chapter, and had known their President longer than any companion present. They had worked side by side both in lodge and chapter for many years, and it gave him the greatest possible pleasure in presenting the toast. Comp. T. Grummant had done, and was rendering, most excellent service to Royal Arch Masonry, being the worthy Preceptor of one of the best chapters of instruction in London. Every companion highly appreciated his kind and genial manner of imparting instruction, and knew the high estimation he was held in in South London. He would ask the companions to drink most heartily to his good health, long life, and happiness, which was done in humpers.

The PRESIDENT, in reply, was deeply grateful for the kind and complimentary terms advanced by Comp. Wm. Cowley, the oldest P.P. of the Star Chapter, who

had been associated with the chapter of instruction from its inception, being one of the founders. To prove the advance of the splendid ritual effected in that chapter of instruction, the companions had only to call their minds back a few years and think of the working then and witness it now. There was indeed a contrast, and many officers were able to rehearse their respective duties now, when some years ago it was relegated to a very few. During the eight years of the existence of that chapter of instruction he was proud to say there had not been a blank convocation. He had been honoured indeed at the unanimous desire of the companions to become Preceptor, although he felt every disappointment in the presence of their esteemed Comp. R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas., and others. However, holding such a position, his heartiest attractions were towards the splendid Royal Arch ritual, and as long as he was connected with the Star Chapter of Instruction, whether as Preceptor or lay companion, he should do his very utmost to promote success.

The toast of "Continued Success of the Star Chapter of Instruction" was next proposed, the PRESIDENT remarking the good and thorough work which had been carried out in the same. Comp. Stone, S.E., would, during the evening, give a few statistics, but there was no companion present who took a deeper interest in, and endeavoured to promote its welfare more than Comp. Voisey, P.Z., the worthy Treasurer with whose name he (the President) would couple the toast.

Comp. R. J. VOISEY, Treas., said he wished some more worthy companion had to reply to so important a toast. If he had been the Preceptor he could have dilated upon the excellent work done, and advancement made, or the Scribe E., who was most energetic and faithful to his duties, and could tell of all the circumstances connected with the chapter of instruction, but only being the Treasurer, and not able to attend so regularly as those two other regular officers, on account of ill-health, he was afraid he could not do ample justice to the toast. However, this he would say, he was delighted to be present at such a happy gathering, and the unanimity existing, and the extreme pleasure all felt in rewarding merit. He would conclude by saying that the chapter had prospered so well in the past, so it was the earnest wish of all connected with it, that it would continue in its prosperous work in the future.

The PRESIDENT next proposed the toast of "Comp. C. H. Stone, S.E.," stating that since the formation of the chapter of instruction, eight years ago, there could not have been a more indefatigable worker and regular attendant to duties than Comp. Stone. The large roll of members and the flourishing condition of the chapter were mainly due to his untiring energy and courtesy. He had sacrificed many other meetings and domestic comforts, so that he should be present to discharge his duties, and in order to recognise that faithfulness and mark their appreciation for sacrifices made, the companions had subscribed, and in their name he would present him with that watch, and to his dear wife (who had been denied his company on many occasions through his attention to duty), a beautiful marble timepiece, surmounted by a bronze figure, two side ornaments, a cupola, and marble columns surrounding two Indian bronze figures, and he assured Comp. Stone that it was indeed one of the proudest moments in his life, for they had worked many years together harmoniously, and to think that he should have the honour of presenting these testimonials to reward him for his indefatigable exertions in promoting the best interests of the chapter. It was indeed a great pleasure to him, and he trusted that the G.I.A. would long spare him and his dear wife for many, many years to enjoy each other's society, and that they might look upon those dials and think of the times he had bestowed for the good of others, and that he might continue in the same excellent work for long to come was the earnest wish of all present. Comp. Grummant also handed the list of all the companions who subscribed to the testimonials.

In responding, Comp. STONE, S.E., who had quite an ovation, said he certainly was quite overcome with the remarks that had fallen from the lips of the President, and the splendid testimony of all present to himself and his dear wife. He stated that the spontaneous manner of the worthy companions in carrying out the whole of the proceedings greatly enhanced the pleasure of receiving such a splendid testimonial. If a W.M. had during his year of office performed his duties faithfully he almost, by right, expected the honour of being presented with a jewel, or a P.Z. upon the same grounds, but a S.E. of a chapter of instruction, who was annually elected to that office, when he was the recipient of such a testimony what must his feelings be? At that moment his feelings were almost indescribable, and especially when his dear wife had been so handsomely rewarded for his sake. Certainly she had indeed been kind to him, and was one of the best in the world to often spare him, but she knew his temperament and, he might almost say, his persistency in attending to his duties, whether in lodges of instruction, chapters of instruction, or in Committee meetings in advancing the cause of the widows and fatherless children, and he trusted after that and the extreme and, he might almost say, undeserved kindness shown to him, he hoped to continue with more vigour and assiduity in every good work. He should like to make a few observations with respect to the progress of the chapter. There was then on the roll 211 members, the chapter had held 37 convocations during the year, 16 new members admitted, and the average for the year 14 members, which fact alone proved the excellent services rendered to the companions under so able and esteemed a Preceptor. But the most important part in the S.E.'s estimation was the beneficence of the companions inasmuch as from the chapter of instruction funds had been paid the sum of 20 guineas to the Masonic Institutions, and five guineas to the fund in memory of the late Bro. Francis, of which their esteemed Comp. G. R. Langley was Secretary, and through whose indefatigable exertions a large sum of money was raised to redeem the mortgage upon the house for the widow. That was the crowning feature, and a chapter which worked upon such lines could not but be a success. He trusted for many years he should be spared to render to the chapter all that was due from him with doubled energy if possible. He could not close his remarks without paying a tribute to Comp. R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas., and congratulate him upon his improved health, thereby enabling his attendance that night. On behalf of his wife and himself he tendered his heartfelt thanks.

The toast of "The Visitors" received at the hands of the President a most cordial greeting, who said there were present Comps. Godfrey, Dr. Makeham, and Hayward, and Bros. Tredray and C. W. Stone, "a worthy son of a worthy sire."

Comp. GODFREY, M.E.Z. 182, who acknowledged the privilege of responding, said he wished it had been in more able hands. It was his first visit at the kind invitation of Comp. Derham, and he was delighted to join in such a meeting and witness the splendid presentation to the S.E. He remarked upon the kindly feeling and unanimity which prevailed, thereby proving the value and benefits of Freemasonry, that of knitting all together in one indissoluble bond of friendship. He hoped it would be the last time he attended as a visitor, and should at the earliest available time enrol himself as a member.

Comps. DR. MAKEHAM, M.E.Z. 1275, and HAYWARD and Bros. TREDRAY and C. W. STONE also very ably replied, the latter in a neat speech specially thanking the companions on behalf of his mother for their handsome testimonial and such kind allusions.

Comp. T. GRUMMANT next proposed the toast of "Comp. John Loader, M.E.Z. 1622," who had acted as Secretary to the Testimonial Committee. He had worked most assiduously and heartily, and had spent much time, which had ended in such a splendid result, and for which the President and Committee most cordially thanked him. The companions present wished him a most successful year in the Rose Chapter.

In reply, Comp. J. LOADER thanked the companions for their kind expressions towards him. He was only too pleased to act as Secretary to the Committee to

provide a testimonial to one who so richly deserved it, and he was proud to see that it had proved a grand success. The S.E. had been described as indefatigable and irrepresible, and he was confident the duties of S.E. would be carried out in the same indomitable spirit as hitherto.

Some excellent harmony was rendered by Comps. Telling, Plant, Barr, Stone, and Derham (flautist), and Bros. Tredray and C. W. Stone. Mr. Tredray and Comp. Harper were the able accompanists.

The inscription on the watch, a gold English lever, was—"Presented to Comp. Charles Hy. Stone, P.Z., by the members of the Star Chapter of Instruction, 1275, as a token of their appreciation as Scribe E., April 17th, 1896."

The inscription on the timepiece was—"Presented to Mrs. Stone by the members of the Star Chapter of Instruction, 1275, of Royal Arch Freemasons, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by her husband, Excellent Companion C. H. Stone, P.Z., as Scribe E., April 17th, 1896."

THE GRAND LODGE OF TASMANIA.

We mentioned in our "Notes" recently that our brethren in Tasmania had sustained a grave loss by the death of their M.W.G.M., Bro. Dr. E. O. Giblin, who succumbed to a sunstroke he received at the ranges of the Tasmanian Rifle Association on the 27th December, and was buried with military and Masonic honours on Sunday, the 29th of the same month. Indeed, the death of their chief ruler was esteemed to be of such great consequence that a Special Communication was called for the 20th January in order to determine what, if any, steps should be taken to fill the office of Grand Master for the remainder of the year. It was, however, decided at the Special Meeting in question that, as the government of Grand Lodge was legally vested in the Pro Grand Master, no such action was necessary, or, indeed, under the Book of Constitutions, possible. Accordingly, the Annual Communication was held at the Masonic Hall, Hobart, on Thursday, the 30th January, under the presidency of Bro. C. E. Davies, M.W. Pro Grand Master, there being present Bros. F. H. Wise and Leo Susman, Past Dep. G. Masters; M. E. Robinson, Past Deputy Dist. G.M. (Scotland); W. Horne, as S.G.W.; John Clark, as J.G.W.; the Rev. C. H. Talbot, G. Chap.; J. G. Davies, P.S.G.W., G. Treasurer; E. H. Butler, G. Reg.; Edwin J. Rogers, Pres. Board Gen. Purps.; H. L. D'Emden, Vice-Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; John Hamilton, G. Sec.; Joseph Bidecove, S.G.D.; James Brickhill, Dep. G. Sec., as J.G.D.; F. J. Jacobs, G.D.C.; J. W. Gould, as G. Org.; J. W. Israel, G. Purst.; A. C. Hirst, G. Tyler; W. T. Bates, as G. Trumpeter; and the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of several lodges.

Grand Lodge having been opened, and the minutes of the previous Communication on the 25th July, 1895, and of the Special Communication on the 20th January having been read and confirmed, the roll of lodges was called.

The PRESIDENT of the Board of Gen. Purps. read the report, in the concluding paragraph of which sympathetic reference was made to the death of their respected Grand Master, Bro. E. O. Giblin, M.D.

The report was adopted, as likewise were those of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Inspectors of Lodges, the latter being ordered to be published in the Proceedings of Grand Lodge.

Bro. C. E. Davies, Pro Grand Master, who had been nominated for the office of M.W.G. Master, was unanimously elected and installed by Bro. P. Barrett, M.W. Past Pro Grand Master, and, having been saluted with the customary honours, announced that he had appointed Bro. J. H. Room as M.W. Pro G.M., and Bro. J. G. Davies as R.W. Dep. G.M., the latter of whom was therefore, obligated, installed, and saluted.

The following were appointed and, in the case of those present, invested as Grand Officers for the ensuing year, namely:

Bro. John Clark ...	...	S.G. Warden.
" W. R. Lisbey ...	...	J.G. Warden.
" Rev. H. H. Anderson ...	...	} G. Chaplains.
" Rev. G. F. M. Fielding...	...	
" H. L. D'Emden ...	...	G. Treasurer.
" E. H. Butler ...	...	G. Registrar.
" Edwin J. Rogers ...	...	Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.
" F. J. Jacobs...	...	} G. Inspc. of Lodges.
" G. P. Milsom ...	...
" J. Bidecove ...	...	} S.G.Ds.
" Dr. Frank Cole ...	...
" W. C. Grubb ...	...	} J.G.Ds.
" Charles Adams ...	...
" J. W. Israel ...	...	} G.S. of Ws.
" H. Berresford ...	...
" W. O. Wise ...	...	} G.D. of Cs.
" B. Thomas ...	...
" R. Coldstream ...	...	} G.S.Bs.
" C. K. Ellis ...	...
" A. R. Crowhurst ...	...	} G. Orgs.
" A. H. E. Bowden ...	...
" T. R. Marsden ...	...	G. Purst.
" Dr. F. C. Allport ...	...	} G. Stwds.
" J. Harrison...	...	
" A. H. Johnston ...	...	} G. Trumpeter.
" H. A. E. Westbrook ...	...
" A. C. Hirst ...	...	G. Tyler.

The members of the Board of General Purposes and the Auditors having been elected, Bro. Sir W. J. CLARKE, Bart., M.W.G.M. of Victoria, delivered a brief, but interesting address, after which Bro. C. E. DAVIES, M.W.G.M., delivered a grand panegyric of their departed Bro. E. O. Giblin, M.D., M.W.G.M., in the course of which he described the Masonic career of their distinguished brother, and expressed the deep sorrow which all must feel at his unexpected death.

Grand Lodge was afterwards closed.

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY have made a grant of £105 towards the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, Bagshot.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. Robert Grey, President of the Board, in the chair. Bro. D. D. Mercer, S.V.P., and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, J.V.P., occupied the Vice-Presidents' chair. Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, A.G. Sec.; W. Dodd, and W. H. Lee represented the Grand Secretary's department. There were also present, among others, Bros. Henry Garrod, George Graveley, C. J. R. Tijou, J. W. Burgess, Walter Martin, C. Jolly, Charles Dairy, William Vincent, C. E. Keyser, Percy W. Husk, George Everett, R. Watts, H. Massey, James Bunker, J. H. Matthews, C. H. Webb, S. Vallentine, and John Newton. The Board was well attended, notwithstanding the busy season of the year.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the March meeting to the extent of £490. There were 42 cases on the new list, coming from the London district, the Argentine Republic, Calcutta, Portsea, Salford, Bermuda, Hayle, Hertford, Plumstead, Aberavon, Batley, Weston-super-Mare, North Woolwich, Colchester, Chislehurst, Beckenham, Sunderland, Egitpoorah, Dover, South Norwood, Topsham, Brecon, and Liverpool. Although the number of petitions was so large, there were only three which were deferred, in the course of a four hours' sitting, until next meeting for further information, and not a single petition was dismissed. The whole of the grants, or recommendations, were very liberal, and a total of £960 was awarded. There was one recommendation to Grand Lodge for the widow of a late brother of £75, and two recommendations of £50 each. The Grand Master was advised to sanction four grants of £40 each, seven of £30 each, and one sum of £25. Fifteen petitions met with a response of £20 each, and seven of £10 each, while two other petitioners got respectively £15 and £5.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE GRAND MASTER'S MARK LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

The 12th annual festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Master Masons was held on Wednesday evening at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., when a very large number of Mark brethren assembled to witness the working of the Degree prior to banqueting together. Besides the brethren who took part in the working of the ceremony of advancement there were present Bros. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M.; Gordon Miller, P.G. Treas.; Ramsay, P.G.D.; Sir Simeon H. L. Stuart, W.M. 476; Powell, Bevan, Dr. Cooper, W. M. Stiles, P.G.S.B.; Henri Bucé, P.M. 459; E. St. Clair, P.M. 459; his Highness Sampatrao Guikwardi, James Speller, W. Price, and Major Elwes.

The disposal of the brethren who performed the work of the lodge was as follows: Bros. W. Vincent, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., W.M.; J. Reynolds Green, P.M., P.G. Stwd., S.W.; C. J. Knightley, P.M., G.S.B., J.W.; J. S. Tamburini, P.M., G. Stwd., M.O.; H. Sadler, W.M. 176, S.O.; G. J. Thomas, P.M., P.P.G.O. Middx., J.O.; Rev. V. P. Wyatt, P.M., Prov. G. Chap. Northants, Hunts, and Beds, Chap.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., Treas.; E. M. Money, P.M., P.G. Stwd., Reg. of Marks; John Smith, W.M. 406, G. Stwd., Sec.; G. E. Smith, J.O. 476, S.D.; Percy Clifford Probyn, 476, J.D., H. T. Lyon, P.M., D.C.; H. R. Rose, P.G. Org.; W. Briggs, I.G. 112, I.G.; and E. J. Mills, P.M., P.A.G.I.G., Grand Tyler, Tyler.

The ceremony was the Degree of advancement, and Bro. W. S. Penley ("Charley's Aunt") was the candidate. All the work was beautifully performed, and at the conclusion of the ceremony Bro. JOHN SMITH, Secretary, delivered the Lecture of the Degree.

At the closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to banquet, at which they were presided over by Bro. the Earl of Euston, in place of Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., P.G.W., Dep. Prov. G.M. Middlesex, who has been obliged to go abroad for the benefit of his health. The banquet was admirably selected and splendidly served, and it met with general approval. When it had been disposed of, the customary toasts were briefly given, it being announced at the beginning that they were all to be short.

After Bro. MATIER had proposed "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Euston,"

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON replied, and, in the course of his remarks, said that the brethren had always received him cordially, especially during the last six years while he had been either Deputy or Pro Grand Master. After he had served his time it might be that somebody else would reign in his stead. If that should be the case, and he (the Earl of Euston) should become one of the Past Grand Masters, he hoped he would not be less a worker among the Mark brethren than he had been. While he had been connected with the Degree he had done his very best for it. At first he took no part in the organisation of any Degree beyond his own province. There was one thing he would say, that he thanked the whole of the brethren most heartily for the great kindness they had shown him, and for the support they had given him, and he thought that when they looked at the hall in which they met that night, and looked back to 1837, when they met at Red Lion-square, they would say that the Mark Degree had prospered immensely. In conclusion, he assured the brethren that so far as in his power lay, if he could do any good for the Mark Degree he would do it, and whatever part of England he might be in, if they would only let him know they wanted him he would come.

Bro. SIR SIMEON STUART proposed "The Deputy Grand Master, Viscount Dunga rvan, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and called upon Bro. Gordon Miller to respond. He thought it must be to every brother a great satisfaction to see so many present that evening. To the Grand Officers it was an immense gratification to witness such a large number of brethren following the example of the Pro Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Master, that was saying something very important.

Bro. GORDON MILLER, P.G. Treas., acknowledging the toast, said it was a special privilege to have been able to hear the ceremonies performed so perfectly. The style was perfectly free from that stiffness which sometimes characterised the working of Masonic ceremonies. The work that evening had been extremely entertaining, and he was much impressed with the candidate. The candidate was the principal character in a play which was "still running." He was glad to be able to think that Mark Masonry was running, not walking, and he hoped it would

continue running for many years to come. Ceremonies such as had taken place that night were the keystone not only of Mark Masonry, but of all Masonry. The able performances of the evening showed the vitality it possessed, and that for many years to come Mark Masonry would increase, the number of its members would increase, and the prestige of the Order would increase. The Grand Officers of the Degree felt a keen interest in its welfare.

Bro. WILLIAM VINCENT, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., proposed "The Health of the Visitors." In the lodge that evening the brethren saw a large number of strange faces, and he regretted it should be so, as he would very much rather have felt that they were all the faces of members of the lodge. In the future, perhaps, they would be. Many of the visitors had come from long distances—from different parts of London, and different parts of England. Several came from the Province of Kent, from the Amherst Lodge at Hythe. One of these—Bro. Hire—he should call upon to respond. With respect to what had been said about the working of the ceremonies, he wished to say he was very much pleased with his officers. If others had similar views, then, he thought, the managing brethren of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction would be very pleased.

Bro. HIRE, in reply, said, in the words of King James of Scotland, "When foemen bade me, I ne'er delayed to draw my blade." He returned hearty thanks for the visitors. It was a very great privilege indeed to be present. He was one of the oldest Mark Masons in the Province of Kent, having been advanced in 1855, when the present Earl Amherst was Grand Master. He hoped to be able to carry away with him what he had heard in the lodge and to teach it to his brethren in the province.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON proposed "Success to the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction," coupling with it the name of Bro. John Smith, the Secretary, who so ably gave the lecture. He felt great pleasure in seeing the work of the evening so ably done in the lodge; it was done with perfect smoothness and no hitch; everybody knew each small particle of work and all the minutiae. All those things contributed to make success. Although Bro. Vincent said he was very well satisfied with the way the work was done, not taking any credit to himself, he thought the greatest credit was due to everyone who worked that evening, so absolutely perfect was it in its carrying out. He could only congratulate the brethren of the lodge of instruction on its foundation 12 years ago, and he hoped most sincerely the lodge would go on and prosper. He would tell the brethren what he had on his mind. Next year the Grand Council of the 33° and the Grand Council, 31°, from Scotland and Ireland would meet in London, and he proposed that that lodge should give them one evening of the Mark Degree, and show them what Mark working was in England. He thought they could show them what they had never seen before.

Bro. JOHN SMITH, Secretary, acknowledging the toast and the compliments of the Pro Grand Master, said he should have preferred that the response had been entrusted to Bro. Vincent, the Preceptor of the lodge. But all the members of the lodge were anxious to do everything they possibly could for this Degree, and to impart instruction to any one who would signify his wishes whether to learn the advancement or the installation. They always laid themselves open to do the very best they could. He was pleased to say the lodge had a fairly good average attendance during the 12 weeks they met each year. He had been curious enough that evening to go through the list for the last four years, which it might interest the brethren to hear. In 1892-93 the attendances were 234 and the new joining members 25; in 1893-94 the attendances were 301, and the joining members 30; in 1894-5 the attendances were 256—a slight falling off—and the new joining members 15; in 1895-96, which they closed that night, a total number of 308 attendances, and 35 joining members. He thought that was a very satisfactory year altogether. If those brethren who attended the lodge of instruction and obtained instruction there would take into consideration that there were other brethren coming forward and requiring instruction, and would impart it to such brethren the lodge would have a larger attendance on the books. It was rather a sore point with the Preceptor that when brethren had attended and got all they could they did not come again. If they would the attendance would be larger. On the whole, however, he thought that for 12 meetings to have 308 attendances and 35 joining members must be very satisfactory. The great desire of all the officers of that lodge of instruction wished to see it increase.

Major H. H. ELWES afterwards spoke approvingly of the work he had seen, and went into detail in describing the minute parts of the ceremony which had most struck him.

The Tyler's toast was given by Bro. E. J. MILLS, and after drinking it the brethren soon separated.

SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED RITE.

The fifth Annual Conference of the Supreme Council of the 33° of England and Wales, &c., and of Scotland, and of Ireland, was held in Dublin on the 15th instant. The Supreme Council of England was represented by M. Ill. Bro. Captain Phillips, Lieutenant Grand Commander; V. Ill. Bros. Frank Richardson, J. H. Matthews, the Earl of Euston, Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook, and the Grand Secretary General; the Supreme Council of Scotland by V. Ill. Bros. Lord Saltoun, the Marquess of Breadalbane, and L. Mackersy. Of the Supreme Council of Ireland there were present V. Ill. Bros. W. Shekleton, Q.C., Lieutenant Grand Commander; Theophilus E. St. George, Anderson Cooper, Col. W. B. Forde, and Sir Philip Smyly.

The chair was taken by V. Ill. Bro. W. SHERLETON, who, after a few words of welcome to the delegates from England, opened the meeting.

Various subjects of interest to the Order were discussed, and in all cases joint action was unanimously agreed.

The Supreme Council for Ireland afterwards entertained the delegates from England and Scotland at a banquet at the Masonic Hall.

On Thursday, the 16th inst., the working of the 18° (called in Ireland Prince Masons' Degree) was witnessed, and the delegates were afterwards entertained by the Grand Chapter of Prince Masons of Ireland at a banquet, at which upwards of a hundred brethren were present.

The value of these conferences between the three Supreme Councils of the United Kingdom can hardly be over-estimated. Not only as ensuring unity of action in dealing with foreign councils, but also by cementing and strengthening among the brethren of the three kingdoms that fraternal bond of union, which is the primary object of all Freemasons. The delegates received from their Irish brethren a truly cordial and fraternal reception, and were entertained with true Irish hospitality. It is to be hoped that as many of the members of the Irish Supreme Council as can possibly get away will be present at the next conference, which is to be held in London during the second week in April, 1897.

Craft Masonry.

Eastbourne Lodge, No. 484.

The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Queen's Hotel, Eastbourne, when Bro. Jos. Farncombe, Prov. Grand Treas., was installed as W.M. in succession to the late Bro. Alderman Morrison. The ceremony was performed by the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Rev. E. R. Currie (Dean of Battle.) The following is a list of the officers for 1896-7: Bros. F. J. Cox, P.M., A.D.C., I.P.M.; J. A. Skinner (Mayor of Eastbourne), S.W.; J. H. Wright, Prov. S.G.D., J.W.; F. B. Sutton, M.O.; Thos. MacQueen, S.O.; J. H. Ewart, Prov. G. Std., J.O.; Rev. W. Wakeford, Chap.; A. J. Howard, Treas.; J. C. Foran, Reg. of Marks; A. H. Thomas, Sec.; G. Fowler, S.D.; E. W. Stilwell, J.D.; Claude de M. Franklyn, D.C.; John Easter, Org.; H. J. Capon, I.G.; H. Colgate and F. Lawson Lewis, Stwds.; and E. Goldring, Tyler. Apologies for absence were received from Bros. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., Prov. S.G.W.; A. F. Lamette, Prov. J.G.W.; and others.

At the banquet subsequently held the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured. Mr. Steinle catered admirably. Glees and part songs were given during the evening by Messrs. J. T. Parsons, A. C. Dynham, J. Farncombe, jun., and C. Roper.

Montagu Lodge, No. 665.

The brethren of this lodge held their last regular meeting on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Lion Hotel, Lyme Regis, when Bro. S. S. Hasluck was re-elected W.M. for another year; Bro. J. Radford, Treasurer; and Bro. G. Legg, Tyler. Prior to this Bros. Charles Edward Smith, 2043, and the Rev. Charles Rowland, 357, were unanimously elected joining members. Then followed a very pleasing ceremony. The W.M., in the name of himself and brethren, presented Bro. W. H. Kerbey with a Treasurer's jewel and an illuminated address, in Masonic gilt frame. In making the presentation, the W.M. declared it the most pleasing duty he had had to perform since his connection with the Craft, viz., to pin a jewel to a worthy brother's breast, and to hand him that address, by way of showing, only in a small degree, how highly Bro. Kerbey's services of the past had been appreciated. A brief *resumé* of the recipient's work in the lodge was added, proving that a deal of personal inconvenience and self-sacrifice must have been made to attend lodge regularly (Bro. Kerbey having to come two miles by road in fair weather and in foul) to work a large number of ceremonies, to considerably improve the Charity status of the lodge, to add to its archives, to emulate the brethren, and to participate in refreshment after the labours of the evening had been ended. It was further hoped that the worthy brother would live long to enjoy the possession of the humble tokens that had been spontaneously provided. Bro. J. Radford supported the W.M. in his tribute of eulogy, and added that he had ever looked up to Bro. Kerbey as an ideal Mason, and one thoroughly worthy of the closest imitation by aspirants. To himself (Bro. Radford) he had been an excellent Preceptor, and to the lodge its guiding star and a sustaining power. The tokens were here handed to Bro. Kerbey amid rounds of applause. The jewel bore an inscription having reference to Bro. Kerbey's term of Treasurership, and the address was most artistically illuminated and mounted in a gold frame of Masonic design. Over the address proper, were the Montagu crest and coat of arms in heraldic columns. The text read as follows: "This address, together with the accompany Treasurer's jewel, is presented to our Worshipful Bro. William Holman Kerbey, P.M. 894, P.M. 665, P.P.S.G.D. Herford, P.P.G.S. of Wks. Dorset and Æsculapius 2410, by the brethren of the Montagu Lodge, 665, as a small recognition of sterling services for the good of Freemasonry in general and for the Charities in particular. After 12 years' indefatigable work in promoting the welfare of the Montagu Lodge, we, the undersigned, desire to tender you our heartiest good wishes and to beg your acceptance of these slight tokens of our sincerity towards you and of our high appreciation of your invaluable fraternal good fellowship, sound sense, and praiseworthy example, both as a friend and as a brother." In returning thanks, the recipient remarked. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh it hath been said, but it was not so with him that night, for the heart was full to overflowing but the mouth failed in expression. He thanked his kind friends and brothers most candidly, though in the depths of his inmost heart were feelings too sincere to be expressed in words. His ideal had been not to show forth brotherly love in word alone, but to promote the tenets of Masonry as inculcated by its founders, and he had found by a little careful guidance that the members of No. 665 had been highly capable of developing latent principles and using them to good account. He had regarded with pride and pleasure the good work done by his younger successors. May they and the Worshipful Master and all go on and prosper. "So mote it be."

The lodge was closed, and the brethren had a quiet supper together, Bro. Host Grove catering admirably.

Tilbury Lodge, No. 2006.

The first meeting of the season of the members of this flourishing lodge was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the Royal Hotel, Purfleet, Bro. Walker, the W.M., presiding. Amongst other business, Bro. Marman was raised to the Degree of a M.M., and two candidates were initiated. The work was performed in a most proficient manner by the W.M. Bro. F. Clark, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. A. J. Dudgeon, P.M., P.P.G.D., was re-elected Treasurer. The Secretary, Bro. Bruton, stated that it was the unvarying custom for that lodge to send up a Steward to represent the lodge at one of the Masonic Charities, and that year it was the Girls' turn. The W.M. elect volunteered to go up, and the lodge at once voted £10 10s. from its funds to head his list with, and which amount was very materially augmented later in the evening by the brethren.

The business being over, the brethren sat down to an excellent banquet, provided by mine host of the Royal, Bro. Wingrove, who also rendered good suit and service in the musical part, as did also Bros. Barry, Dance, Brickwell, and Ryon.

The usual loyal toasts were given, that of "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick," being most enthusiastically received.

The members returned to town by saloon carriages attached to the 10.5 train, and expressed the satisfaction they had in being present at such an enjoyable meeting.

This lodge seems to be going on in a very satisfactory manner. Its funds are all right and its working is also right, and it is made a rule that if a brother is appointed to an office he is not to accept it unless he agrees to make himself proficient in the duties, the aim of all the officers being to make the lodge stand in the front rank for working in the province. The installation meeting takes place at Purfleet on the 9th prox.

Galen Lodge, No. 2394.

A very successful installation meeting was held in connection with this lodge at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Monday, the 13th inst. There was a numerous attendance of brethren, the members present including Bros. W. J. Rogerson, P.P.G. Dir. of Cer. Notts, W.M.; J. W. Morrison, S.W., and W.M. elect; M. Carteighe, J.D.; J. Hodgkins, Immediate Past Master; J. S. Mackey, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G.S.B. Surrey, Sec.; P. C. Maitland, P.M., S.D.; F. Bascombe, J.D.; C. Butler, P.M., D.C.; J. W. H. Littleboy, W.M. 2317, I.G.; E. J. Eastes, Org.; H. A. Thomas, Steward; H. W. Roach, P.M.; and others. Visitors: Bros. T. Fenn, P.P.B.G.P.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; Dr. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.G.S.B.; H. Watts Pookes, P.P.G.S.B. Dorset; E. Wavell, I.P.M. 2012; A. H. Baldwin, P.M. 771; A. Reed, 2120; G. J. Woodbridge, 2317; J. Tomlinson, S.D. 2317; G. H. Sawyer, S.D. 1201; Treflyn David, 1029; J. Goddard, 1489; P. Shiell, W.M. 34; E. O. Howis, I.G. 2200; W. Hooker, P.M. 1678; J. M. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I.B.; R. C. Jones, P.M. 1573; P.P.J.G.W. South Wales; F. Collingwood, W.M. 1769; A. C. Doughty, S.W. 1287; J. W. Pearl, 813; G. Booker, 206; G. H. Fooks, 386; Capt. Graham Gordon, 2310; W. W. Lee, P.M. 1897; and others.

The formal opening of the lodge was followed by the confirmation of the minutes and the adoption of a satisfactory audit report. Bro. J. W. T. Morrison was presented as W.M. elect, and, having been installed into the chair by Bro. Rogerson, invested the following officers: Bros. M. Carteighe, S.W.; P. C. Maitland, P.M. 1538, J.W.; J. B. Mackey, P.M. 237, Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; F. Bascombe, S.D.; C. Butler, P.M., J.D.; J. W. H. Littleboy, W.M. 2317, D.C.; E. J. Eastes,

Org.: H. A. Thomas, I.G.; and T. H. W. Idris and A. W. Gerrard, P.M., Stwds. The W.M. presented the I.P.M. with a Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his services as Master during the past year, and Bro. W. J. Rogerson, I.P.M., appropriately acknowledged the gift.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet was held at Freemasons' Tavern, when the customary toasts were duly acknowledged.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the W.M. said they had a grand array present, including Bro. Fenn, whose name was known throughout the world; Bro. Gould, the Masonic historian; Bro. Lennox Browne, whom he (the W.M.) was pleased to greet as a P.D.G.D.C.; and Bro. Sudlow, the Preceptor of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

Bro. Thos. Fenn, P.P.G.P., said he was surprised to find no Grand Officers present of superior rank to himself, as there were so many Grand Treasurers about that he very seldom found himself called upon to reply, and he was consequently getting out of practice. Since he gave up his office he had not been as much among his brother Grand Officers as formerly, but, having been a Grand Officer since 1864, he had had great experience, and, judging from the past, he could judge of their present perfection. He was sure they did their work in a very satisfactory manner. Having taken part in the consecration of that lodge, it had given him great pleasure to find the anticipations then expressed had been fully realised, and that it had become a very prosperous and highly respected lodge.

Bro. Lennox Browne, P.D.G.D.C., said the Grand Officers generally considered that when one of their number, especially a senior, had spoken, they were thoroughly represented, and there was no Mason who would not be proud to be represented from the lips of Bro. Fenn. He, however, must obey the W.M., and presumed there was a little appropriateness that a disciple of Esculapius should be asked to address those of Galen. He was present at the consecration, and knew they were going to be a successful lodge, and he was delighted to see how excellently they did their work. He would recall how Masonry brought them together. There were many in that lodge whom he knew, and to whom he thankfully acknowledged his indebtedness for help in his professional office, either in alleviating pain, or restoring life. They had been given to understand that his Royal Highness, the M.W.G.M., would celebrate his 21st year of office by appointing additional Grand Officers, and in that lodge could be found more than one brother deserving of that honour, which they all acknowledged very gratefully.

Bro. W. G. Rogerson, I.P.M., P.P.G.D.C., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," said it had been his good fortune to install into the chair of that lodge a brother who was the first to fill the chair who was not a Past Master. Bro. Morrison was the original founder of the lodge, and was the first to propose that a lodge should be established in connection with pharmacy, and, therefore, he must be proud to take the chair. Their success proved the lodge was wanted, and from the manner in which Bro. Morrison had done his duties, they expected great things from him, and heartily wished him a very prosperous and happy year of office.

Bro. J. W. T. Morrison, W.M., returned thanks, and said he felt very nervous in occupying the position, being the first Master of the lodge who was not previously a P.M. Following brethren of such stamp was very difficult, but as long as he had health he would endeavour to do his duty. He would not detain them with his shortcomings but ask them to drink the health of "The Installing Master." Bro. Rogerson had ably performed the installation and he (the W.M.) had never before seen that ceremony and never wished to see a better one.

Bro. W. J. Rogerson, P.P.G.D.C., I.P.M., in reply, said it was only by chance he became the W.M. so soon, but the duties having fallen upon him he had done his best. It was 11 years since he filled the chair and did not expect to see such critics present as Bro. Fenn and others. If the W.M. or any other brother wished for any assistance he should be pleased to render it.

The Worshipful Master gave "The Masonic Charities," mentioning that the I.P.M. would represent the lodge at the next Festival of the Boys' School.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, acknowledged the toast, and said he believed the reports on the School must have been gratifying to those interested in the Institution, as showing the remarkable progress in the education and curriculum. The School had advanced by leaps and bounds, and recently a boy 16½ years of age passed the London University Matriculation Examination, and was only beaten by 20 others. With regard to the proceedings at the Quarterly General Court on the preceding Friday, he wished to explain that the great increase in the demands upon the Institution were shown by the fact that there were now 70 more boys on the books than 12 years previously; that out of 50 candidates at the last election only 28 could be elected, and that there was no room at Wood Green for any extension. The Board of Management wished to carry out, what was deliberately expressed by subscribers in 1892, that the School should be removed further into the country, so that the operations could be conducted with the idea of conserving what was good in the present, and that more boys could be trained, and the great advantages of such an Institution given to a much greater number than the present limited premises—never adapted for even the present number—could possibly accommodate.

Bros. Fooks, Hooker, and Wavell replied for "The Visitors," and Bros. Roach, P.M., and Lancaster, P.M., for "The Past Masters," after which "The Officers" was given.

Bro. Trefelyn David was assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Florence Venning, Miss R. Reste, and Bro. Graham Gordon. Bro. E. J. Eastes, Org., presided at the pianoforte.

Royal Arch.

Lorne Chapter, No. 1347.

The installation meeting of the above chapter was held on Saturday, the 23rd ult., at the Public Hall, Sutton, when Bros. E. J. Lowther and R. R. Banks were exalted to the Supreme Degree of Royal Arch Masonry, Comp. R. J. Ward, M.E.Z., performing the ceremony, assisted by Comps. Pools, Barry, the Rev. H. W. Turner, and others. Comp. William Pile, P.P.G.S.N. Surrey, was afterwards installed First Principal.

The brethren subsequently dined together in the small hall, when, in addition to the companions of the chapter, there were also present: Comps. the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, Grand Superintendent of the Province; E. Darling, P.G.S.E. Suffolk; J. O'Connell, P.P.G. Org.; Dr. Bosworth, F. Page, G. Perks, and others.

Comp. the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, in responding to the toast of his health, expressed the pleasure which it had given him to visit the Lorne Chapter, and highly complimented Comps. Ward, P.Z.; the Rev. H. W. Turner, P.S.; and the other officers of the chapter, remarking that he had never yet seen the ceremony performed in a more able and satisfactory manner.

Many of the companions of the chapter being members of the Orpheus Glee Club, the musical arrangements were most complete, and were carried out in a manner of which it would be impossible to speak too highly.

Horwich Chapter, No. 2324.

The installation convocation of this most promising chapter was held at the Bridge Hotel, Horwich, on the 24th ult., when Comp. Dr. George Henry Whitaker, M.E.Z., P.G. Org., was supported by Comps. Hawthorn R. Thornton, H.; W. M. Varley, J.; F. Morton Palmer, S.E.; John Rogers, P.Z. 581, S.N.; Richard Hampson, Treas.; James Coulthurst, P.Z. 128, P.S.; John Evans, 1st A.S.; W. W. Glover, 2nd A.S.; T. D. Binns; Robert Hilton, P.Z. 128, Janitor; J. E. Jackson, and John Farnworth. Visitors: Comps. Wm. Goodacre, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S.E.; J. Slyman, P. Prov. G.S.N.; T. W. Rice, M.E.Z. 314; and John Urnston.

The minutes of the regular convocation held in January were read and confirmed. The M.E.Z. then vacated the chair for Comp. Goodacre, who, in his customary effective manner, installed Comp. Hawthorn R. Thornton as M.E.Z. Comp. H. R. Thornton, M.E.Z., installed Comp. W. M. Varley into the chair of H.; Comp. Varley, H., then installed Comp. F. M. Palmer into the chair of J., after which Comp. Slyman delivered the addresses to the Principals, the officers, and the members of the chapter. The M.E.Z. then invested the officers, Comp. Slyman addressing them in a suitable manner. The following officers were appointed: Comps. J. Evans, S.E.; J. Coulthurst, P.Z., S.N.; R. Hampson, Treas.; R. Hilton, P.Z., P.S.; W. W. Glover, 1st A.S.; J. H. Hadfield, 2nd A.S.; J. Rogers, P.Z., D.C.; Dr. G. H. Whitaker, I.P.Z., Org.; P.G. Org.; J. D. Binns and J. Wood, Stwds.; and J. E. Jackson, Janitor. Apologies

for non-attendance were received from Comps. Peter Yates, P. Prov. A.G.D.C.; J. Heald, P.Z. 730; Geo. Tootell, P.Z. 730; J. W. Holland, Z. 730; J. Cunliffe, J. 730; John Wood, John Fletcher, and H. E. Mason.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, provided by Mr. and Mrs. Ashcroft, the proprietors of the Bridge Hotel.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the M.E.Z. gave the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts in most appropriate terms, which were loyally received.

The M.E.Z. then proposed the toast of "The Pro Grand Superintendent, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Comp. Dr. Whitaker, I.P.Z., next gave the toast of "The Health of the Three Principals in terms of high eulogium, remarking that they had filled the offices of H., J., and Scribe E. respectively in a most exemplary manner, and that both the M.E.Z. and H. had installed their successors in an admirable way, which prophesied great things for the coming year.

The toast was drunk most cordially.

In reply, the M.E.Z. most heartily thanked Comp. Dr. Whitaker for such kind and flattering remarks and also for the cordial greeting from the companions.

The M.E.Z., in giving "The I.P.Z.," referred to him in terms of endearment, and hoped that the jewel (which he requested Comp. Coulthurst, P.Z. 128, S.N., would affix to his breast, owing to the special interest he had taken with the rest of the companions) would be worn by him for many years to come to remind him of the many pleasant evenings he had spent in the chapter and lodge.

The I.P.Z., in reply, thanked the companions for that mark of their appreciation of his small services, and said he should ever remember the kind support he had received. He wished to inform them that the Grand Superintendent had for the second time appointed him to the office of Organist for the province, which was not only an honour to himself, but to the Horwich Chapter.

Mark Masonry.

Constantine Lodge, No. 145.

The installation meeting of the above lodge took place at Colchester on Thursday, the 9th inst., when Bro. R. Howard Ives, S.W., was installed as W.M. by Bro. J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.J.G.W., the ceremony being performed in a most able manner. At its close, the officers for the year were appointed and invested as follows: Bros. S. D. C. Ablitt, P.P.A.G.D.C., I.P.M.; J. H. Salter, Prov. G.D.C., S.W.; Sir William Neville Abdy, Bart., P.P.G. Stwd., J.W.; Claude E. Egerton-Green, M.O.; Richard Galpin, S.O.; J. W. Moss, J.O.; the Rev. E. H. Crate, P.M., P.G. Chap. Eng., P.P.G. Chap., Chap.; J. P. Lewin, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.G. Treas., Treas.; T. J. Ralling, P.M., P.G.D. Eng., P.P.G. Treas., P.P. G.O., Sec.; J. T. Bailey, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Reg.; A. S. B. Sparling, S.D.; G. A. Eustace, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; Turle Lee, Org.; John E. Cheese, I.G.; and Arthur Wright, Tyler.

Amongst the visitors present were Bros. Sir Francis Boileau, Bart., D.P.G.M.; the Rev. W. Cree; M. L. Sanders, P.M., Sec. 413; and W. H. Howard Flanders, W.M. 342.

Lodges of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. W. J. Greig, W.M.; J. Kinipple, S.W.; S. Spencer, J.W.; Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Thomas, P.M., Treas.; Meadows, Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; T. White, J.D.; J. Huckell, I.G.; Jas. Smith, P.M.; G. Pécé, E. Croft, Wise, Butcher, A. J. Rippin, R. Sarson, and J. G. Robeson.

The lodge being opened in due form, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. A. J. Rippin acting as candidate. The W.M. then opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Thomas answering the usual questions, was entrusted. The lodge then being opened in the Third Degree, Bro. Thomas was duly raised. Bro. Spencer being elected to occupy the chair next Wednesday, the lodge was closed.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 144.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 23rd inst., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, when there were present Bros. Weller, W.M.; Rayner, S.W.; Smith, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutfield, Sec.; Lightfoot, S.D.; Sellick, J.D.; Thompson, I.G.; Beauchamp, Thomas, Wall, Markland, and Austin.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Thomas being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Beauchamp, who had previously answered the usual questions and been entrusted, being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree. The 1st Section of the Third Lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Wall was elected a joining member of the lodge. Bro. Rayner was elected W.M. for the next meeting. After the third rising, the lodge was closed.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

A meeting was held on Saturday, the 11th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., Bro. Albert Lucking, P.M. 160, &c., P.G.P., G.D.C. for the Province of Essex (a post he has held for the past 20 years), worked the ceremonies of consecration and installation at the above lodge. Bro. Lucking was in good form, and discharged his arduous duties in a manner most creditable to himself and to the great satisfaction and enjoyment of the brethren present. Among those present were Bros. Spencer Guy, P.J.G.W. Essex; Tuck, P.P.G. Std. Br. Essex, and nearly 100 other brethren.

The musical portion of the programme was carried out in a very able and efficient manner by the Organist, Bro. Kelly, and the choir, under the direction of Bro. Pocklington, P.M. of the Mother Lodge. The usual votes of thanks to the Presiding Officer and the members of the choir, and others, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. C. Smith, W.M.; V. R. J. Longman, S.W.; C. W. Rayner, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; R. P. Upton, S.D.; J. E. Thomas, J.D.; A. L. Langton, I.G.; C. C. Renaud, A. F. Hardymont, E. J. Harrison, R. Eddie, C. Isler, A. Williams, H. F. Facks, G. Yexley, G. A. Hopkins, T. A. Spotswood, M. Hepner, C. I. Rayner, W. Rapley, G. T. Stock, D. B. Thomas, and Geo. Popham.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Renaud being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Rapley, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Renaud again being the candidate. Bros. G. T. Stock and D. B. Thomas were elected joining members of the lodge. Bro. Longman was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held on Tuesday, the 21st inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, there being present Bros. V. R. J. Longman, W.M.; C. W. Rayner, S.W.; R. P. Upton, P.M., J.W.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; J. E. Thomas, S.D.; C. C. Renaud, J.D.; A. L. Langton, I.G.; G. Gregory, P.M.; A. Oliver, P.M.; C. Smith, W. Rapley, G. Yexley, A. T. Hardymont, C. Isler, R. W. Nicole, T. A. Spotswood, G. T. Stock, G. A. Hopkins, H. F. Facks, W. A. Goring, and M. Hepner.

The lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Isler being the candidate. The ceremony of passing was then rehearsed, Bro. Hardymont being the candidate. Bro. Rayne was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, accompanied by her children, the Princess Alice and the young Duke, and attended by Bro. Sir Robert and Lady Collins, have returned from Cannes to Claremont House, Esher.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN VICTOR OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, who has been staying at Nice since his return from Ashantee, crossed the Channel on Saturday last, and joined his regiment, the King's Royal Rifles, at Dover.

THE DEPUTATION of officers of the 1st (King's) Dragoon Guards, which has been sent to salute the Emperor Francis Joseph on his appointment to the Honorary Colonelcy of the Regiment, arrived in Vienna on Sunday afternoon last.

THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH has accepted the presidency of the National Orthopaedic Hospital, and will take the chair at the festival dinner, which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole on Thursday, the 14th May.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE arrived at Dover from the Continent on Saturday last, and at once proceeded to London, where, as the House of Lords resumed its sittings on Tuesday, his Grace will remain for the present.

THERE WAS AN IMMENSE attendance of spectators in the grounds of the Crystal Palace on Saturday to witness the final contest between the Sheffield Wednesday and Wolverhampton Wanderers Clubs for the Association Cup. After a hard struggle the former proved successful by two goals to one.

BRO. R. HARGREAVES ROGERS, citizen, Spectacle-maker, and Liner, who was a candidate last year for the Shrievalty of London, and beaten on a heavy poll by only a small majority, has been nominated for the office this year, and will again offer himself as a candidate for the suffrages of his fellow citizens.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK has graciously consented to open the new ward for children at the Richmond Hospital, which is to be named the "Princess May" Ward, and to receive purses in its behalf containing five guineas and upwards. The ceremony is fixed for some day in the month of June.

THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN (Bro. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B.) has officially announced that Drawing Rooms will be held at Buckingham Palace on Thursday, the 7th May, and Monday, the 18th. Her Majesty will hold the former, but H.R.H. the Princess of Wales will hold the latter on her Majesty's behalf.

BRO. THOMAS CATLING, who had been ordered to take a trip to Gibraltar, for the benefit of his health, left Fenchurch-street for the purpose of complying with these instructions on Friday, the 17th instant. He was seen off by a number of personal friends, and we trust will return home greatly improved in consequence of his trip.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK laid the foundation-stone of the new church at Roehampton, and in honour of the occasion the village was tastefully decorated. A sum of £9000 has already been raised towards the expenses, and this will cover the cost of the body of the church, but a further sum of £2000 is required for the purposes of heating, lighting, and furnishing.

THE DOWAGER LADY ADDINGTON, widow of the late Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, first Baron Addington, and mother of the present Prov. Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, died on Saturday last, at Addington Manor, Bucks, at the age of 79 years. Her ladyship, who had been sinking gradually for some time before her death, was the eldest daughter of the eighth Lord Napier of Ettrick.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY has promised to attend the Burns Centenary Celebration at Dumfries on Tuesday, the 21st July, and Mr. A. J. Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury, has expressed the hope that his parliamentary engagements will enable him to be present. Deputations to do honour to the occasion are expected from the United States, the Colonies, and all parts of the United Kingdom.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION of work done by members, both male and female, of the Borough-road Polytechnic Institute, was held on Saturday last, and proved highly attractive, there being a large number of visitors, who inspected with great interest the work done by the members in printing, book-binding, engineering, plumbing, &c., while the exhibits in the female department were also worthy of commendation, some of the dressmaking being excellent.

THE 28TH ANNUAL MEETING and distribution of prizes of the London Society for Teaching the Blind was held in the hall of the institution, Swiss Cottage, on Saturday afternoon last, under the presidency of Bro. Sheriff Cooper, who announced that, in order to raise the funds necessary to the maintenance of the Charity, a festival dinner would be held on Monday, the 18th May, at which the Lord Chief Justice has kindly consented to preside.

BRO. LORD MAYOR, Sir Walter Wilkin presided at a special meeting which was held at the Mansion House, on Monday, in behalf of the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institute. Letters of regret at being unable to attend were read from the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, who sent £20; the Duke of York, who sent 10 guineas; the Marquis of Lorne, M.P.; Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P.; and Sir Donald Currie, who sent £100.

TUESDAY was the opening day of the Punchestown Races, which were attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Countess Cadogan, who arrived in excellent time, accompanied by the Lady Sophie Cadogan, the Hon. William Cadogan, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Warwick, the Earl of Enniskillen and Lady Kathleen Cole, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Portarlington, &c., and the members of his household and staff. In the evening his lordship left for London in order to be present at the Cabinet Council, which was held at the Foreign Office on Wednesday.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and her daughter, Princess Victoria, drove over to Cap Martin on Saturday last, and lunched with the Empress Eugénie. In the evening the Duke and Duchess de Mouchy, the Duke and Duchess de Rivoli, and Bro. Lord Glenesk had the honour of dining with her Majesty. On Sunday morning last the Empress Frederick of Germany, who had arrived the previous night at Villefranche on board her Majesty's despatch vessel *Surprise*, visited the Queen at Cimiez, and attended Divine service.

ON MONDAY, the 8th prox., Bro. Lord Mayor Sir Walter H. Wilkin will entertain H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York (Master), and the other Elder Brethren of the Trinity House at luncheon at the Mansion House, a distinguished company being invited to meet their Royal Highnesses. Before leaving, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who is Vice-Patron of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, will present an address and album to Mr. Henry C. Burdett in appreciation of the deep interest he has taken for a long time in the fund, but more especially in recognition of his great services last year, when by his exertions and influence, the sum of over £60,000 was raised for the fund.

ON SATURDAY afternoon last, in St. James's Hall, the Marquis of Lorne, M.P., presided at the 61st annual meeting of the Princess Louise Home and National Society for the Protection of Young Girls, there being present a large number of those interested in the success of the Charity, which is to a certain extent self-supporting, the amount realised by the sale of the work done by the inmates last year being £935. His lordship, however, made a strong appeal for the further support, which is needed. Some 1600 girls have passed through the Institution since it was established in 1835, the number at present maintained being 100. In the course of the proceedings, the prizes won by the children during the year were presented by Lady Lintorn Simmons.

THE ADJOURNED ELECTION COURT of the Tin Plate Workers' Company was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Wednesday, the 15th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. George Lambert, F.S.A., the Master, when Bro. ex-Sheriff George Hand, J.P., was elected Master for the ensuing year. The Wardens, Stewards, and members of the Court were also elected, as well as sundry freemen to the livery. Subsequently Bro. E. A. Ebbelwhite, F.S.A., was made the recipient of a very gratifying vote of thanks and a handsome honorarium, in recognition of his services in compiling a history of the Company, which we have been given to understand has been privately printed and issued by the Court. At the conclusion of the business, Bro. Col. Lambert entertained the members of the Court and a few private friends at dinner. It is understood that the installation banquet will be held at Ironmongers' Hall in the month of June, under Bro. George Hand as Master, and that on that occasion a special Past Master's jewel will be presented to Bro. Col. Lambert, in recognition of his valuable services to the Company during his three years of office as Master.

THE SPECIAL FUND raised during the centenary year of the London Missionary Society is slightly in excess of £100,000, the sum appealed for.

BRO. LORD RATHMORE has been specially invited, and has accepted the invitation to become a Bencher of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales have consented to open a bazaar in aid of the funds of the Hackney and East Middlesex Band of Hope Union, on Tuesday, 9th June.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has consented to open the new hall of residence for women students connected with the University College of Wales at Aberystwith on the occasion of the forthcoming Royal visit there.

IT HAS BEEN decided by the West Hartlepool Town Council to confer the freedom of the borough upon Bro. Viscount Wolsley on the occasion of his visit to Seaton Carew at Whitsuntide, for the purpose of reviewing the Tees and Tyne Volunteers.

THE COUNCIL of the Judges of the Supreme Court, which had been called by the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury) for Monday next, the 27th instant, has been postponed till Wednesday, the 29th, and it is expected that, as all the Judges will attend the meeting, the Law Courts will be closed on that day.

PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA, who arrived at Southampton on Sunday evening last, and has since been staying in London, visited their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House on Tuesday. Later in the day H.R.H. the Prince of Wales returned his Royal Highness's visit.

BRO. SIR HEDWORTH WILLIAMSON, Bart., Prov. Grand Master for the Province of Durham, has appointed Bro. J. R. Thompson, P.M. 1230, as Director of Ceremonies for the province in succession to the late Bro. Dunn. Bro. Thompson is son of Bro. I. Thompson, P.M. of the Barnard Lodge, and P.P.G. Treas.

WEDNESDAY NEXT will be "call night" of Easter Term at the four Inns of Court, when 51 law students will become Barristers-at-Law. Of these 23 are entered at the Inner Temple, 16 at the Middle Temple, nine at Lincoln's Inn, and three at Gray's Inn. The number for the corresponding period of last year was 46.

MESSRS. HENRY JOHNSON AND SONS, 39, Great Tower-street, express their willingness to receive and forward, free of expense, to Cairo any newspapers, illustrated periodicals, or magazines which may be addressed to them for the use of our troops on the Nile. Parcels should be addressed to the firm's express baggage department.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK arrived at Copenhagen by special train from Coburg shortly after eight o'clock on Thursday evening. Their Royal Highnesses were received at the station by the King and Queen, the Crown Prince and Princess, the other members of the Royal Danish family, and Baron de Reetz Thott, the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs.

THE ROYAL YACHT *Victoria and Albert*, Rear-Admiral Fullerton, is lying alongside the southern jetty of Portsmouth dockyard in readiness to leave on Wednesday next for Cherbourg. She will be accompanied by the Royal yacht *Osborne*, the *Irene* Trinity yacht, and a cruiser. Her Majesty will embark on Thursday evening, and the passage across the Channel will commence on the following morning.

THE 43RD ANNUAL MEETING of the Clock and Watchmakers' Asylum was held at the Horological Institute, Northampton-square, on Monday night, Mr. John Woodman presided. The report showed that the deficit of £134, reported at the last meeting, had been reduced to £50. All the officers were re-elected. It was mentioned that the average age of the 21 pensioners in the asylum at New Southgate was 73 years and three months.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by their daughters, the Princesses Victoria and Maud, and attended by Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, Gen. Sir Dighton Probyn, and Capt. Holford, arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham on Monday. In the evening, by the means of the electrophone, which has been installed in their residence, the Princess and her daughters were able to hear part of the opera at Drury Lane and selections from the performances at other theatres.

GENERAL BOOTH said at Bristol that, so far as he could gather from his recent tour, both the spiritual and social wings of the army were making progress all over the world. The social work, so far as London was concerned, was upon the largest scale ever attempted, and it had reached the gratifying position of being self-supporting. They found employment for 300 or 400 criminals, between 400 and 5000 men and women were sleeping in their shelters, and they fed nearly 30,000 hungry men and women every week.

AN EXHIBITION of bronzes and pictures is being held by James Shoolbred and Co., Tottenham Court-road, amongst the latter being included about 50 outdoor sketches by the late E. P. Everett Green. With few exceptions, the scenes are of well-known and historic spots in our own land. The sketches are offered at very small prices. With these sketches are shown a number of large water-colour drawings by E. G. West, including some very bold and effective views of coast scenery in Cornwall, in Scotland, and around the North Cape. Upon suitable pedestals are exhibited a number of original French bronzes, many of which have been shown in the Salon during the past few years. "Etoile du Matin" is a graceful figure by A. Gaudes; a *Subritte* of the time of Louis XV., by Houdebine; "Les Deux Amis," by J. W. E. Weynes; and "Feeding Birds," by J. Gauthier, being other good examples.

THE BRITISH HOSPITAL for Diseases of the Skin, which was established 32 years ago, and which has during that time relieved 123,000 patients afflicted with skin disease, is now being removed to more convenient premises at No. 29, Euston-road, King's Cross, N.W. A considerable sum has been expended in adapting the premises to the requirements of the hospital, and in providing it with the best and most recent sanitary improvements. The new out-patient department is already open, and within a week or two the hospital will be ready to receive in-patients. A limited number of paying in-patients will be received at a payment of 21s. per week. Only female in-patients are admitted. The hospital has also another out-patient branch in the South of London, at No. 5 Newington Butts, S.E.

EXHIBITION OF PICTURES.—An interesting collection of oil paintings and water-colours is being held by Messrs. Artemus Tooth and Co., of 21, Queen Victoria-street. Amongst the former are examples of the work of Kelly Halswelle, B. W. Leader, Sir John Millais, J. C. Hook, Henry Moore, and Peter Granam. The President of the Royal Academy is represented by his study of child life—"The Empty Nest." Amongst the water-colour works are two large and fine works by T. M. Richardson—"Monaco" and "The Pass of St. Bernard"—both very strong in drawing and colouring. Several landscapes by Birket Foster are shown, including drawings of Hastings, Marlow, and Maidenhead. A charming drawing by Edwin Ellis is "Springtime in Derbyshire." Other works of the older school are by David Cox, Copley Fielding, De Wint, E. Duncan, and John Varley. A fine example in water colour of F. S. Cooper, R.A., is also included in the collection.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—Various opinions are expressed of this institution, but, so far as British workmen are concerned, it is a fact that not one in a hundred of them has ever seen the structure at South Kensington, or made himself acquainted with its valuable contents; it is impossible, therefore, for this important class to form an independent opinion of its merits. When the summer season shall have been opened, and the musical and other attractions be in full force, it is proposed to arrange for a visit to the institute, and—after the visitors have studied the treasures of the galleries which illustrate the boundless wealth of our Colonial Empire—they will be entertained with an excellent dinner. We have no doubt that the hospitality of the authorities of the institute will be worthy of the occasion, and that a rare opportunity will be found of combining instruction in imperial matters with a pleasant recreation. Special arrangements will be made for the issue of tickets, and communications should be addressed to Mr. T. Lowther, 2, West-street, Finsbury Pavement, to whom is entirely due the initiation of the movement. We understand that a letter of invitation has been addressed to the London working men's clubs and other institutions. Mr. Lowther, as is well known, is in a large sense a British workman himself, and especially on account of his official relation with one of the leading industrial assurance companies in the country. Besides, for many years he has been a thoughtful press writer on fiscal and social economies, and has warm sympathies with the working classes.