

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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PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

In an article on this subject which appeared in these columns a fortnight since, after pointing out that the plea of ignorance as to what had been done by the Board of Management under the authority of the General Court of Governors and Subscribers could not be sustained, we mentioned that there were sundry other matters on which our correspondents had laid no small stress that might reasonably claim our attention. Thus, as regards the clayey character of the site on which the School stands, "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," though we allow that he does not attach any special importance to the argument, reminds us that the soil was the same when the buildings were erected as it is now. The inference which we are apparently invited to draw from this reminder is that if a clayey soil was held to be good enough some 40 years ago, when the nucleus of the present Estate was purchased, it ought to be good enough at the present time. It seems, however, to be very generally allowed that a clayey site is very far from being as conducive to health as that on which a great public school is erected ought to be. The argument is decidedly a weak one, namely, that because a mistake was made by those charged with the purchase of Lordship House and the 10 acres of ground which surrounded it, therefore that mistake should be perpetuated. Let it be shown that a change from an unhealthy soil to a healthy soil would be detrimental to the monetary interests of the Institution, and there is an end of the matter; the School must remain where it is. This point, indeed, was not lost sight of by Lord LATHOM when he mooted the question of a removal. "Of course," said his lordship, "it was a financial question, and required very great care and thought." If length of time may be taken as an evidence of the care and thought bestowed upon a question, there can, or ought to be, no grumbling in this particular case. Lord LATHOM'S speech was delivered at the Festival held at Brighton on the 24th June, 1891. At the Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers in April, 1892, authority was given to the Board of Management "to entertain negotiations for the realisation of the Estate of the Institution to the best advantage." Four years elapsed, and then, at the Quarterly Court in April last, the Board of Management were authorised to entertain negotiations for the purchase of a new site. The matter, therefore, has thus far been considered with the utmost deliberation, and we have the further assurance of the Chairman of the Board of Management that nothing will be finally arranged until it has received the sanction of the supreme governing body of the Institution, that is to say, of the General Court. To judge from the tenour of our correspondents' letters, it might be imagined that the

question of removing the Boys' School to a healthier and more commodious site had been sprung upon the Governors and Subscribers for the first time in April last.

Again, while "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," appears to argue that the error originally made in purchasing Lordship House and grounds should be perpetuated, he does not hesitate to concede that the surroundings of the School are not such as they should be. "Doubtless," writes he, "the surroundings of the Institution at Wood Green are not as pleasant nor yet as healthy as they were at the time the Schools were built." This admission appears to us to settle the question as to the desirability of removing the Institution to another and better site. If we concede this, then, though the site were the best in other respects that could be found in England, the removal of the School would become, not simply desirable, but a necessity. What kind of a conscience do we imagine the Boys' School authorities must have, when we find them appealing to the Craft generally for funds in aid of a School, the surroundings of which are notoriously unpleasant and unhealthy, without at least propounding a scheme for the removal—if financially possible—to a healthier and more pleasant site?

It may be as "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," suggests—at all events, for the sake of argument, we will allow—that "the views expressed in the northern Provinces are not in harmony with the resolutions of the Board of Management." It may also be, as in the opinion both of "Ex-Secretary, P.M.," and "Life Governor," that, in the event of the scheme for a removal of the Boys' School to another and healthier locality being persisted in, the northern Provinces, if not the Provinces generally, will withhold their support from the Institution. This is tantamount to saying that the northern Provinces—or the Provinces generally—are prepared to support a School, the site and surroundings of which are admittedly unsuitable; but that they will not support it if it is removed to a healthy site, where its surroundings will be entirely unobjectionable. We cannot say that we share in this uncomplimentary opinion respecting the Provinces which our correspondents appear to ascribe to them. Firstly, if the Institution is worth supporting for its own sake, when it is situated in a locality which is allowed to be undesirable, it will be still better worth supporting on the same grounds if it is removed to another locality which is desirable. Secondly, if the northern or any other Provinces find it to their interest to avail themselves of the benefits conferred by the Institution under existing circumstances, *à fortiori* will they exhibit a disposition to avail themselves of those benefits, and even to a greater extent than they do now, when the School is removed to a better and healthier site. The seven Provinces contained within the six northern counties of England, that is to say, Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and Westmorland, the two Yorkshires, and the two Lancashires have—or at the time the last Subscribers' list was issued, had—51 boys in the Institution; and as London, at the same time, had 84 out of a total of 278, these seven Provinces have availed themselves of the benefits of the Institution to an extent which is represented—as regards those elected from the whole 46 Provinces—by the ratio of 51 to 194. Or, to put the case still more strikingly, while the seven northern Provinces have 51 boys in the School, the remaining 39 Provinces have only 143. Are the northern Provinces prepared to carry their objections to the proposed removal of the School from an unhealthy to a healthy site so far as to sacrifice altogether the benefits they severally derive from the Institution?

As regards the question whether it would not be better to educate the children at schools in the neighbourhood of their own homes, as is done by sundry of the Provinces, we are aware there are two rival policies, of which one adopts this view, while the other is in favour of educating them in one central Institution as now established. We realise that there is much to be said in behalf of both policies, but with all respect for our correspondents who seem to favour the local school plan, we prefer that which was contemplated from the very foundation of the Boys' Institution in 1798, but which, for lack of the necessary ways and means, was not carried out till 1857, firstly because the buildings are already there to be occupied; and secondly, because boys, as a rule, are better trained, and learn more at a big public school than at small day schools in the neighbourhood of their own homes. They are better trained, being under one roof, and subject to one uniform system of discipline, while at home they are just as likely to be petted and pampered as they are to be held in a state of firm discipline; and they learn more, both because a public Institution can afford to have a superior staff of masters to those at small local schools, and likewise because they mix continually with other boys of their own age, standing, and capacity, and by so doing they gradually acquire those habits of self-control, and self-respect, and that kindly consideration for others which, as they advance in years, enable them to become good and brave young men, ready to battle their way through life, as they have previously done in the cricket field or the gymnasium. The spirit of healthy emulation is rife among them; they strive to win their way to the front; and what they have done at School, they are prepared to do or attempt over again when they are men. There is a deeper meaning than some people are apt to discover in the old saying that "Waterloo was won in the playing fields at Eton." As for the suggestion that "a new and greatly enlarged Boys' School is, in the light of 'free education,' the many varied means of educational advancement so liberally provided by the County Council and other public bodies, neither urgent nor even necessary," we suppose this is equivalent to a suggestion that the children of our deceased and indigent brother Masons should be sent to Board and other elementary schools of the lower order, where they will have the children of labouring folk for their associates, and where, if they acquire anything at all in the way of knowledge, it will, in addition to a little reading, writing, spelling, and simple arithmetic, be a superior knowledge of bad manners and an inexhaustible store of impudence. But this is entirely opposed to the generous policy which the Governors and Subscribers of our scholastic Institutions have hitherto pursued—at least, during the last 30 or 40 years—of bestowing upon the children entrusted to their charge an education and training somewhat superior to what they would probably have received had their fathers lived or not fallen into necessitous circumstances. This it is, and the success which has attended this policy, which so fully justifies the pride that all English Masons take in these Institutions.

As for the proposal to remove the School to a healthier and, at the same time, more commodious site, we do not understand by this that the Board of Management have it in contemplation to erect new buildings which will accommodate a largely-augmented establishment. If they are wise, they will allow for such an increase in numbers as is possible and probable during the next quarter or half a century. What we imagine they contemplate is that the building shall be large enough to accommodate all who are expected to reside on the premises, and that the grounds in which those premises are situated shall be extensive enough to allow of large playgrounds and playing fields. We do not see any immediate demand for an increase in the number of children. However, there is no need to pursue the subject further, at least for the present, as the Board of Management intend laying their reasons for the proposed removal of the School before the Governors and Subscribers at an early date, and when they have done this, we shall all be in a better position to judge of their plans.

THE QUEEN has exhibited her interest in the Arts and Industries Exhibition, recently opened by Lord Rothschild at Wolverton, by sending various exhibits, among them being King William III.'s favourite clock, a suit of Eastern armour, a seven-barrelled gun, the whole of the barrels being fired by a single pull of the trigger, a brace of pistols, and a suit of chain armour.

AMERICAN FREEMASONRY.

We regret that in a recent article or Notes, we should in any way have disturbed the equanimity of the *Masonic Home Journal*. Our contemporary, however, appears to have somewhat misunderstood the purport of our remarks. Thus, we did not lament the fact "that there are some fifty Grand Lodges in America." It does not cause us any pain that the Craft in the United States deems it desirable that every State or Territory shall have its own Grand Lodge to preside over it. We are aware of no particular reason why this should not be the arrangement if those most interested deem it to be the most beneficial. But our American brethren must not be surprised if occasionally we take exception to some of the "rather absurd propositions of Masonic law" to which some of their more recently established Grand Lodges "have given their adhesion." We do not doubt that these are "generally of comparatively rare application," but as our esteemed contemporary admits that there are such "absurd propositions," we are only doing our duty in taking exception to them, and for this reason, that these "rather absurd propositions" may hereafter be taken as precedents in determining important points of "Masonic law." If ever there is to be anything in the nature of an Inter-Jurisdictional Masonic law, it is before all things desirable that we should do our utmost to prevent "absurd propositions" from being incorporated in that code. There are many things in Masonry that are favoured by the younger G. Lodges in the United States to which the senior G. Lodges are directly opposed as we are. We need not mention more than the solitary case of "public installations," which are favoured in some jurisdictions and forbidden in others. These we look upon as "an absurd proposition of Masonic law," because there is nothing in Masonry to justify them. As for what our contemporary affirms in respect of the essentials of Masonry, we have no doubt that "the conceptions" of their older Masonic jurisdictions "are very correct, and, what is more, they carry them out in practice." We have a strong and intense feeling of admiration for American Freemasonry, but this does not prevent us—nor, indeed, ought it to be allowed to prevent us—from objecting to these "rather absurd propositions of Masonic law" which are occasionally laid down by some of its junior Grand Lodges. After all, the United States derive their Masonry from the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, and it is as much to our interest as it is to that of our American brethren that the ancient landmarks, the established usages and customs of the Order, should be respected.

"LIBER ORDINIS TEMPLI."

The Calendar of the "Great Priory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and St. John of Jerusalem, &c., in England and Wales and the Dependencies thereof" for A.D. 1896, is a most useful, instructive, and original compilation of considerable value, and is a real boon for the fratres, who, it is hoped, will warmly appreciate the labours of their esteemed Vice-Chancellor, Bro. C. F. Matier, K.C.T.

This most welcome annual for 1896 is even more welcome than usual, because it contains a full report of the important meeting of the Great Priory on the 8th of May last, when the new statutes were agreed to, and also a *complete roll of all the members* arranged under their several preceptories, with the years of their admission and other particulars. There is also the regular list of the preceptories, with their numbers, places of meeting, dates of warrants, &c., as well as the "preceptories removed from the roll" since the year 1875, with the "cause of removal."

These registers are of great interest to students, and so curious and helpful are some of them, that I am emboldened to ask for still more, so as to make them complete from 1791. If Bro. Matier would kindly let us have a list of all the warrants erased since the year when the famous Bro. Thomas Dunckerley was Grand Master (and similar particulars as to such), it would be of great utility, though I know it would mean no little labour and care to produce, *but it would be worth it*. This list, however, from 1875, is valuable, as it contains one of the old "Time

m memorial" chapters, called the "Observance of Seven Degrees," London, which was at the head of the roll in 1810, but when the latest numeration was arranged it was given the letter E.

The other "chapters" without numbers in 1810 were the "Redemption," *York*, and the "Baldwin," *Bristol*, termed "Time Immemorial." Now there are five preceptories, lettered A to F, excluding E (as noted), being held respectively at (A) Nottingham, (B) Hull, (C) Bristol, (D) London, and (F) Exeter. I wonder if any of these possess older documents in proof of early working than (C) Bristol, No. 2, Portsmouth, and No. 5, Manchester, have, prior to the formation of the Grand Conclave in 1791.

Knight Templary was active, though not regularly formed as a Grand Body in *London* for all England, long before the year 1791—when Bro. Thomas Dunckerley became the Grand Master, and the Regulations were agreed to, on which all subsequent Laws have been more or less based. We know that Dunckerley granted authority—exactly how we cannot tell—to the Royal Arch Companions at Portsmouth to make Knights Templars, so early as 1778, as Bro. Alex. Howell has stated in his massive History of the "Phoenix" Lodge, &c., No. 257. Bro. John Yarker, in "Transactions of the Prov. G. Conclave of Lanc." for 1869, has ably proved that the "Jerusalem Encampment" was active from 1786 under the "G.L. of all England, held at York," and from 1795 under the London organisation. The Bristol Knights also still preserve their "Charter of Compact" of 20th Dec., 1780, which recites the formation of the "Supreme Grand and Royal Encampment" for England, which then claimed supremacy. The latter document will be found in my "Origin of the English Rite" of 1884.

In 1810, No. 1 was held at Bideford, and bore date April 10, 1790, but when erased I cannot tell. No. 2, then, as now, is at Portsmouth; No 3 figures at Redruth, of Aug. 16th, 1791 (subsequently removed to Falmouth, and finally erased); No. 4, now No. 3, is at Keighley, and still bears its ancient title; and the Hope, now No. 4, Huddersfield, was then No. 6, at Halifax; Nos. 7 and 8 appear to have succumbed, (viz., at Hollywood and Carlisle); and No. 9, Jerusalem, now No. 5, continues at Manchester. The present St. George's, No. 6, was then No. 10, and called the "Cross of Christ; and the last of the 18th century "Chapters" was No. 11, Ashton-under-Lyne, of Aug. 12th, 1796, since No. 7, with an extended title.

There are others on the Register now that were not on the Roll in 1810, though working long before then, as already noted, about which authoritative information would be of much value, and all the more so, because the histories of these ancient Knight Templar organisations of late have been almost overlooked and virtually neglected, save in a few honourable instances.

Now that the "Convent General" has been set aside and ended, the Great Priory of England and Wales will have a good opportunity to revive the Order in this country, and it is to be hoped that the new Regulations will be given fair time to come into operation and be thoroughly known before any more changes are suggested.

For reasons which need not be gone into, Knight Templary has not been so popular in Great Britain and Ireland as it used to be; but with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as the Sovereign of the United Orders, and a most active and enthusiastic Grand Master, a number of zealous Provincial Priors, with much-respected Great officers like the Chancellor, Registrar, and the Vice-Chancellor (on whom the guidance of the Society will mainly fall), we may reasonably anticipate a period of great prosperity and a revived interest in this Order, which has such an amazing hold on our brethren in America.

I hope to offer a few words about the new Statutes, when the Volume is issued, and so, meanwhile, do not refer at length to the Report of the Great Priory on this subject.

W. J. HUGHAN.

**CONSECRATION OF THE HEADINGLEY LODGE,
No. 2608, LEEDS.**

On Friday, the 10th instant, a new lodge was consecrated in Leeds, making the ninth in that city and the 78th on the roll of West Yorkshire. It is now some 12 years since such an event occurred in this populous centre, the last instance being the Prudence, No. 2069, in 1884. This was in the final year of the reign of Sir Henry Edwards as Prov. Grand Master for West Yorkshire, and the ceremony was carried out by Bro. T. W. Tew, his Deputy and immediate successor. From that date to the present time West Yorkshire has increased its numbers by 10 lodges only, of which four have arisen in Sheffield. The growth and spread of Freemasonry, judged by the test of the number of lodges, cannot therefore be said to have been abnormally rapid in West Yorkshire, and Masonic statistics on this point are rather curious. Take the county of Lancaster. This, for Masonic

purposes, is divided into Lancashire East and Lancashire West. Each of these divisions contains over a hundred lodges, the actual number being at the end of 1895, East Lancashire, 111 lodges; West Lancashire, 112. During the 12 years alluded to, the two Lancashires have added 42 lodges to their roll, whilst the whole of Yorkshire, including the North and East Province, has not increased by more than 14 or 15 in the same period. Again, Liverpool has some 37 lodges, Manchester 34, Birmingham 16, and Nottingham 10, whilst Leeds, until the 10th inst., stood at eight only; and, finally, whilst in some towns in the province there are lodges in the proportion of one to every 10,000 or less of the population, in Leeds it was about one lodge to every 50,000 of its actual inhabitants.

Taking these facts into consideration, it is not surprising that it should have occurred to some of the Leeds brethren that an increase in the number of its lodges might be desirable. Headingley, from which the new lodge takes its name, whilst within the Parliamentary and Municipal borough, is yet a popular residential suburb of the city. All Masonic lodges have hitherto met in Leeds itself, and to form a home and abiding place in the outskirts is a new departure. Justification for this procedure is sought in the fact that many residents, once they have returned from business, have much disinclination to again go back into the town, and would prefer to have their lodges within easier distance. Add to this, there are some Masons in the neighbourhood who are compelled, through business or professional connections, to live outside the provinces in which they were made, and who have not attached themselves to any Leeds lodge. These, it was estimated, would join a new lodge, if invited, and so the project gradually worked itself out.

Of the 17 founders, one—the W.M., Bro. Alf. Cooke—though a member of a Leeds lodge, is more intimately connected with the Columbia Lodge, No. 2397, London, in which he passed the chair; three others—Bros. W. F. Tomlinson, 304; Alfred Scarth, 289; and W. H. Bradford, 1211—are well-known Leeds Masons, Past Masters of their lodges, and P.P. Grand Officers; of the rest, some are joining members of Leeds lodges, others members of other West Yorkshire lodges, and the remainder, some six or eight in number, are from London, Kent, North Wales, Durham, North and East Yorkshire, and Sydney (New South Wales). In a limited sense, therefore, the character of the lodge may be described as cosmopolitan, which, however advantageous in other respects, will, when the form of ritual is considered, doubtless present difficulties.

After some delay, a suitable meeting place was discovered and secured in the Parochial Institute, Bennet-road, Headingley, and on Friday, the 10th instant, a large gathering of brethren assembled to witness the consecration and constitution of the lodge. This was done by the P.G. Master, Bro. the Right Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., in a most solemn and impressive manner. He was assisted during the ceremony by Bro. the Rev. L. S. Calvert, M.A., his Prov. G. Chap.; Bro. J. W. Monckman, P.M. 1018, who acted as Director of Ceremonies; Bro. H. S. Child, Prov. G. Reg.; Bro. H. G. E. Green, Prov. G. Sec.; and by four Worshipful Masters of Leeds lodges, viz., Bros. J. P. Mann, 289; R. J. Smith, 1042; R. Tasker, 1211; and J. W. Wood, 1221. In addition, were assembled many Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past, and a numerous company, comprising, amongst others, Bros. J. C. Malcolm, G.D. England, D.P.G.M.; Harry Allen, 1779, P.S.G.W.; J. A. Godwin, J.P., 1311, P.J.G.W.; A. Robertshaw, 448, T. H. Tanner, 337, W. R. Hinings, 600, and H. S. Wood, 439, Prov. G. Deacons; T. R. Vaux, 208, P.G.S. of W.; D. White, 149, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Shaw, 1514, P.G.S.B.; F. Broadhead, 2608, P.G. Std. Br.; T. W. Handforth, 2491, P.G. Org.; J. Matthewman, 1019, P.A.G. Sec.; J. H. Pawson, 242, as P.G. Purst.; and Dr. J. Mossop, 974, Joseph B. St, 302, and Henry Telford, 387, P.G. Stwds.; also A. Milner, 1283, as P.G. Stwd., all acting Prov. Grand Officers.

Of the P.P.G. Officers there were Bros. Henry Smith, P.D.P.G.M., P.G.D.; C. Letch Mason, 304, P.P.G.W.; W. F. Smithson, P.P.G.W., P.G.D.; J. Dyson, 306, P.P.G.D.; T. Wynne, 1211, P.P.G.S. of W.; and others.

The gathering of brethren below the purple was great, and amongst others, not previously mentioned, were Bros. W. Cockerlyne, W.M. 304; F. G. Dimery, W.M. 2069 P.P.G.P. Somerset; A. Redmayne, 304; D. McIver, 304; W. Warren, 1211; H. T. Cockerlyne, 304; James Millington, 1221; D. G. Kershaw, J. H. Nettleship, 1311; J. E. Cawthorn, J. R. Barton, R. Waide, T. H. Hardcastle, J. H. Gath, W. Wright, C. Sciven, W. T. Carter, A. Barrett, E. W. Smith, W. McQual, H. Child, J. Potts, A. Haigh, A. Dougill, H. Cowbrough, R. Crossland, R. Boston, A. W. Chapman, J. T. Last, and others.

The furniture of the lodge is of fumed oak, the pedestals having moulded friezes, supported by fluted columns, with Corinthian capitals. The jewels are solid silver, and the working tools, gavels, &c., of exquisite workmanship. For the first time the very handsome silver-gilt consecration vessels presented to the province by Bro. Henry Smith on his retirement from the office of Deputy were used. The musical arrangements had not been overlooked, and the anthems, chiefly taken from the "Liber Musicus" of Dr. Spark, were beautifully sung by Bros. Blagboro, T. Child, W. O. Tooke, J. J. Binns, and Wood Higgins, to the able accompaniment of Bro. H. T. Cockerlyne.

Previous to the consecration, and almost immediately after the Prov. Grand Master, his Deputy, and officers had entered and been saluted, Bro. W. L. Jackson gave the following address:

Brethren,—We are met here this afternoon to consecrate a new lodge; we have a long programme, and I will, therefore, not detain you more than a few minutes. An occasion of thus assembling together is not frequent amongst us, but is very interesting, for rightly and properly carried out, and with good reason, the consecration of a new lodge indicates growth and development of our Order. Though it is desirable to make due provision for increase in membership, yet the formation of a new lodge should not be lightly undertaken. Some think our object should be not to dissipate energy, but to concentrate it, but in a large and populous town like Leeds, I can conceive that it may be a convenience to increase the number of our lodges in order to enable us to meet more frequently. Let us not, however, lose sight of the fact that to divide is often to weaken. Some attach importance to the idea of having a central meeting place only, but I must frankly say that when I considered all the circumstances, I thought it my duty, and I, therefore, did not hesitate to recommend the prayer of the petition for this Headingley Lodge, whilst, at the same time, keeping in view my purpose to countenance nothing, and to encourage nothing which would tend to make the Order less strong. Those who take upon themselves to form a new lodge assume very great responsibility, because, it, upon their representation a warrant is granted, and yet not good but evil results follow, the responsibility rests upon the promoters. But I know the brethren who are sponsors for this lodge are prepared to fulfil their duty, to see that nothing which the dignity and importance of Freemasonry may demand shall be wanting, and to justify our sanction by making the

lodge a credit to the province. The merit of our Order does not lie in numbers, and, therefore, I must remind you that it is your bounden duty to exercise the greatest possible care in the selection of those who aspire to join our ranks through your portals. Your purpose must be to preserve the Order intact, to maintain its traditions, for, remember, it is not a club, it is not a charitable institution, it is something much higher, much nobler than these, and it needs our supremest efforts to maintain that high standard of purity and morality which it never ceases to hold up before us. I venture to hope, nay, I feel confident, that the views which I have expressed will find an echo in all your hearts, and that you will do your utmost to carry out the principles upon which our Order is founded.

The ceremony of consecration then followed, everything being carried out with precision and due attention to detail.

The Prov. G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. L. S. CALVERT, M.A., Head Master of Batley Grammar School, on being called upon, gave an oration. He said :

This is a memorable day; we are doing a work which will remain for good or evil when our part in it is past and forgotten—placing another link in the chain which binds together the universal Brotherhood. The master builders, from well nigh pre-historic times, have laid the foundations of the Masonic temples, which will last till time shall be no more, and we are adding yet one more stage to the work. As we look at the list of officers to be invested we cannot doubt that, so far as human intention is concerned, this lodge will be conducted with the dignity and decorum enjoined by our Order, but the knowledge that *humanum est errare* leads us to go to the celestial source of light for guidance in all our doings. Light we are taught to wish for at our initiation; light, the emblem of purity, which can neither be added to nor adulterated; light, which has ever been regarded as the visible presence of the Most High. He has placed it, as part of Himself, in man, made in His image and glory, to direct him in all his ways. The light which we call conscience is rightly placed in the foreground as the chief principle of our institution, because, unless warped, from its guidance, brotherly love, relief and truth follow as naturally as water runs down hill. And so in the charges in our Constitutions, a Mason is taught that he is never to act against the dictates of his conscience. It is a high standard, so easy to set up, so hard to carry out, because it runs counter to self-interest. And yet it is this very lofty ideal which lifts our Brotherhood above the scope of ordinary benefit societies. For who of us would tolerate the charge that he became a Mason for personal gain, present or prospective? I have sometimes thought that our province has shown greater insight into the intentions of our Order, in that it has no Benevolent Fund, but has given a free hand to our Charity Committee. It is well known that that confidence has never been misplaced, nor that any real case of distress has failed to receive the benefit of our liberality. For more than 30 years has it stood the test of criticism, and the munificence of West Yorkshire is proverbial in the Masonic world. Brethren,—it is not for me to judge of the motives which have pressed such millions into our ranks, but we shall not, I think, be wrong in assigning as the power which keeps them there this lofty ideal, this sense of unity in aim, of duty to God and man, which draws together as by an invisible golden cord the peasant and the king. We cannot hope to reach this standard of perfection in its highest degree, but we can with earnestness of purpose make for it. As we climb some lofty peak, the air gets purer, the view more extended, and the works of the Great Architect in all their grandeur stand out clear, till at last on the summit we stand beneath the canopy of heaven, and all that was obscure lies clear below. So as we advance in Masonry, things mystic in our novitiate are seen to converge to one focus the Great Illuminant, in whose celestial dwelling we may hope to know, even as we are known. May the guiding light be with you, brethren of 2608, filling you with tenderness to your brothers, so that when called from labour to refreshment with the sense of men who have done not alone their hard duty, "but as they would be done to," you may, amidst the freedom of brotherly love, lay down for a time most of the burdens of life and even find some support or solace in its sorrows.

On the completion of the consecration, Bro. J. Cooper Malcolm, D.P. G.M., at the request of the Prov. G.M., undertook the ceremony of installation.

The first W.M. of the Headingley Lodge was presented by Bro. W. L. Jackson, and duly obligated and invested by Bro. Malcolm, who afterwards explained the working tools and delivered the usual addresses. Bro. Alf. Cooke, P.M. 2397, having been placed in the chair of K.S., at once appointed as his I.P.M., Bro. A. Scarth, P.M. 289, P.P.G.D.

The officers were next invested as follows: Bro. W. F. Tomlinson, P.M. 304, P.P.G.D.C., S.W.; T. A. Withey, 289, P.P.D.G.R. West Lancs., J.W.; W. H. Bradford, P.M. 1211, P.P.G.D., Chap.; W. Lancett, 1056 (elected), Treas.; W. S. Barker, 304, Sec.; F. Broadhead, 1311, S.D.; A. Mills, 1231, J.D.; Pryce Lewis, P.M. 1674, P.P.G.P. North Wales, D.C.; E. Simpson, 2259, I.G.; W. Humphreys, 1611, E. Bacon, 20, J. R. Renwick, 1389, A. Crossland, 2230, and H. Lewis, 1302, Stwds.; and W. Marshall, Tyler.

This done, on the motion of Bro. W. F. TOMLINSON, Bro. Pryce Lewis was elected Prov. Charity Steward, and three members were chosen to represent the new lodge on the Leeds Committee, which has been formed to consider the Masonic Charities, and especially the great question of the proposed removal of the Boys' School.

Notice was given of propositions for three joining members and five candidates for initiation, after which and the usual questions, the W.M. closed the lodge.

Brethren to the number of upwards of 80, all guests of Bro. A. Cooke, the W.M., then assembled in the dining-room, where a banquet, provided by Bro. Powolny, was served.

The toasts which followed were rather numerous.

After that of "The Queen" had been drunk, that of "The M.W.G.M., the M.W. Pro G.M., the Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," followed.

Bro. H. Tooke sang "God bless the Prince of Wales," and Bro. H. SMITH, P.G.D., responded.

Third on the list, also proposed from the chair, was that of "The Prov. G.M., Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P.; the Deputy P.G.M., Bro. J. C. Malcolm; and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past."

In proposing this toast, Bro. A. COOKE was brief but very pertinent. He asked the brethren to receive the toast in the enthusiastic manner it merited, declared that Bro. W. L. Jackson was not only the man of the hour, but also the man of the day, and was, he believed, at that moment the most popular man in West Yorkshire. Bro. Malcolm's good qualities they all, as citizens of Leeds, well knew, and, as to the rest of the officers, he was of opinion that they deserved all the good things which he could say of them.

Yarwood's exquisite part song was here interposed—"Gently sighs the evening breeze." This was given most beautifully by the musicians previously named, and met with complete appreciation.

Bro. W. L. JACKSON, whose rising was greeted with great applause, after expressing his thanks for the kind terms in which the toast was

proposed and the enthusiastic way in which it had been received, declared it to be a great gratification to him when, by enthusiasm such as had been shown that night, he was reminded of the popularity of the officers of Prov. Grand Lodge. Whilst they shared with him the very serious responsibilities of the position, it was to him and to them the greatest comfort to know that the spirit of loyalty to their officers, and devotion to the Craft, which they had so long manifested, still retained its hold throughout the length and breadth of that great province. On that occasion the feeling he had was somewhat akin to that of a father who, with a quiver full already, had had an addition to his family. Would the child whose birth they had celebrated that day grow up into manhood maintaining the traditions and fulfilling the hopes of those around him? Bro. Jackson then went into his connection with the district from which the lodge had taken its name, and gave some amusing particulars of local interest. He concluded by saying that as that new lodge had sprung up amid, and taken its name from those surroundings so intimately associated with his earlier public career, so it would be the greatest grief of his life if that child—that new lodge—did not grow up a stalwart order-loving son, or if it failed to maintain those high and honoured traditions of which they might justly boast. Before sitting down, he asked the brethren to take from him with even greater enthusiasm the next toast, which was—"The Health of Bro. Alderman Alf. Cooke, W.M. of the Headingley Lodge, No. 2608." Their affection for their W.M. was deep and strong he did not doubt, and it was right it should be so, for Bro. Alf. Cooke was a man not with one, but with many qualities: he held a unique position, had wonderful organising capacity, great energy and decision, with a large power for business. In addition to this, he possessed what he might, perhaps, call the somewhat dangerous quality of lavish hospitality, but he (Bro. Jackson) was convinced that Bro. Alf. Cooke would recognise fully his responsibility as their first W.M., that he would see that the infant born that day should have a good bringing up, and would do everything possible to promote the wellbeing of the new lodge. Bro. Jackson then went into particulars illustrating Bro. Cooke's pluck, energy, and recuperative ability after the destruction of his immense business premises by fire, and pointed out that a man so gifted, a brother so endowed would not lightly assume the government of the lodge—that he would in Masonic, as in outside matters, see that everything was well done, give everyone his just due, exact from none, but expect honest fulfilment of duty all round, and that as in a business position he had made his name known, he might say throughout the world, so in his Masonic status he would bring his energies to bear, and would not forget that to him was entrusted the early teaching of the infant lodge, and that its destinies would largely depend upon the generous impulses and the elevating influences which it was in his power to inspire.

The song, "Worthy Mason" was then sung with the chorus, "Then hail to thee, our brother," in which all rose and joined in true Yorkshire fashion.

In reply, Bro. ALF. COOKE said that he felt especially gratified that day, inasmuch as the lodge, which had done him the honour of selecting him as the first W.M., had been consecrated by their popular Prov. Grand Master and townsman, Bro. Jackson, and that he had received the benefit of installation at the hands of their excellent Deputy Provincial Grand Master and equally worthy citizen, Bro. Malcolm. After referring to incidents in bygone days and eulogising the character and conduct of Bro. Jackson, the W.M. declared in Masonic matters he had many things for which he would wish to atone; that he would help forward the true spirit of Masonry in Leeds; that any institution whose foundation was Holy Writ deserved not recognition only, but support, and that it should be his aim, by means of the help of his co-founders, the countenance of the province, and the sympathy of the brethren generally, to make the Headingley Lodge not unworthy of recognition amongst those with whom it had that day become associated.

Bro. ALF. COOKE then proposed in flattering terms "The Health of the Installing Master, Bro. J. C. Malcolm, D.P.G.M."

This was very heartily received, and

Bro. MALCOLM, after thanking the brethren, expressed his satisfaction that he had been allowed to take part in that afternoon's proceedings, declaring that on all occasions his services were cordially at the disposal of his brethren. He had known Bro. Cooke throughout his entire life, and had known his father before him. He estimated to the full his good qualities, and had always considered it a misfortune that Bro. Cooke had not become W.M. of a West Yorkshire Lodge. He had served in that capacity in a London lodge, he might almost call it a foreign lodge, though its home was in London, but now they had got him at last in his right place—W.M. of one of their Leeds lodges.

After Bro. T. Child had sung "The Holy City,"

Bro. W. F. TOMLINSON, P.M. 304, P.P.G.D.C., and first S.W. of the new lodge, proposed "The Worshipful Masters of the Leeds Lodges." He said he was much gratified that the toast had been entrusted to him, and he would bespeak their attention for a few moments. He believed that the Worshipful Masters of Leeds possessed all the qualities which their position as rulers of the Craft demanded; talents which enabled them wisely to control their lodges and conduct them to successful achievement. He thanked them for coming up in such numbers to grace the ceremony that evening. In the formation of the new lodge they entertained no opposition to, or even competition with, present lodges; they were actuated by a truly fraternal feeling towards all, and sought not only to provide for those who, by their qualifications, were suitable as initiates to enter their lodge, but also to open their doors to unattached brethren, whose duties and occupations had called them away from their original Masonic homes. They of the Headingley Lodge wished to cultivate the kindest and most brotherly relations with the other Leeds lodges, and they intended to give them cordial and loyal support. Without historic disabilities, free from grudges and jealousies, they were going to try to make Freemasonry a great and successful bond amongst them; they were going to prove, if possible, the truth of Charles McKay's lines—

If thou art a Mason
In deed and thought;
Loving thy neighbour
As Craftsmen ought;
Sharing thy wealth
With the suffering poor;
Helping all sorrow
That hope can cure.

All God's angels will say "Well done!"
Whenever thy mortal race is run.

The toast was suitably acknowledged by B'o. J. P. MANN, W.M. 289. To the toast of "The Visitors," most ably and cordially proposed by Bro. T. A. WITHEY, P.M. 1290, P.P.D.G.R. West Lincs, and J.W. of the lodge, and replies were given by Bros. J.S. PETCH, P.M. 1611; H. CHILD, P.M. 1221; and STEDDING, P.M. 481.

The other toasts were "The Musical Brethren," proposed by the W.M., "The Officers of the Lodge," and "The Masonic Charities."

"The Poor and Distressed," &c., ended the toast list, and closed the proceedings, which had been characterised by efficiency, decorum, and true Masonic feeling in the lodge, and by hospitality, courtesy, and kindness at refreshment.

Though not enamoured with its name, we yet think that the Headingley Lodge, commenced under auspices so favourable, composed of elements of business, strength, and capacity, guided by experience, and launched with universal good feeling, will not fail to justify its position and add lustre to the Masonic roll of West Yorkshire.

CONSECRATION OF THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD LODGE, No. 2611.

A new lodge, called the London School Board Lodge, promoted in connection with the School Board for London, was consecrated on Monday, the 13th inst., at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square. The founders of the lodge were Bros. Lord George Francis Hamilton, M.P., Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, P.G.W.; Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., P.G.W.; Harry Seymour Foster, M.P., P.M. 101; Major Clifford Probyn, P.M. 18 and 2021; the Rev. Arnold Whitaker Oxford, P.M. 4; Henry Lynn, P.M. 217; W. H. Kidson, 2395; Benson Clough, 217; W. Roston Bourke, 749; and W. H. Key, 901.

The brethren present on the occasion of the consecration and at the subsequent banquet were—

Bros. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; Thomas Fenn, P.G.D.; Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., P.G.D.; Archdeacon Stevens, G. Chap.; J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C.; Major C. W. Carrell, P.G.S.B.; the Earl of Euston, P.G.M. Norths and Hunts; W. H. Kidson, 2395; Edmund Barnes, P.M. 1351; R. B. Kidson, 1830; Walter H. Key, I.G. 901; Turle Lee, 2264; Henry Yates, S.W. 2395; J. G. Albert, P.M. 227; A. Pain Walkden, P.M. 1366; A. L. Savory, S.W. 1731; George May, 2000; Robert Grice, 1399; Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler; Dr. Clement Godson, P.G.D.; G. Benson Clough, 217; Arthur Dutton, P.M. 34; the Rev. A. W. Oxford, P.M. 4, P.G.S.; Edward White, 2603; Charles Jerome, 2603; Major Clifford Probyn; H. S. Foster, M.P.; Henry Lovegrove, G.S.B.; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; W. Roston Bourke; Henry Lynn, P.M. 217; Walter M. Wilkinson, P.P.G. Reg. Surrey; C. F. Matier, P.G.S.B.; Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G.M. Guernsey and Alderney; W. Basson, 650; and G. Austin.

The lodge was to have been consecrated by Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, but that brother having had the commands of her Majesty to be present at the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, his place was taken by Bro. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C. Bro. Thos. Fenn, P.P.B.G.P., acted as S.W.; Bro. Alfred Cooper, P.G.D., as J.W.; Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, G.C., as Chaplain; Bro. J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C., as D.C.; and Bro. Major C. W. Carrell, P.G.S.B., as I.G.

The musical arrangements were under Bro. J. Turle Lee, who was assisted by Bros. Henry Yates, Robert Grice, and George May.

Bro. Archdeacon STEVENS, G.C., delivered the oration, after which the lodge was formally consecrated, constituted, and dedicated, and Bro. Arnold Whitaker Oxford was installed as Master of the lodge by Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg. Bro. Major Clifford Probyn, P.M., was appointed to act as I.P.M. for the first year, and Bro. Henry Lynn was invested as S.W., and Bro. W. H. Kidson as J.W. Bro. H. S. Foster, M.P., was elected and invested as Treasurer; Bros. Edmund Barnes, Sec.; G. Benson Clough, S.D.; W. Roston Bourke, J.D.; W. H. Key, I.G.; and Geo. Austin, Tyler.

The names of a large number of candidates for initiation and joining were given in; votes of thanks were accorded to the consecrating brethren, who were also elected honorary members of the lodge. The Committee to frame the by-laws was appointed, and, nothing further offering for the good of Freemasonry and the lodge, the brethren closed down and adjourned to the Café Royal to banquet, where they concluded the pleasures of a most agreeable day.

The usual toasts followed the banquet, and some capital vocal music was performed by Bros. Turle Lee, Hy. Yates, Robert Grice, and George May.

The Earl of EUSTON, in responding to the toast of "The Grand Officers," whom the W.M. described as all good and true men, but none more good and true than those who honoured the lodge with their presence that evening, said he did not think he should be doing wrong in copying the example of the W.M. in making a short speech. He hoped the lodge would be prosperous and long be an honour to the Craft. He was certain it would be. It was a great thing that members of large governing bodies should be brought together in other gatherings than where they met for business purposes. As the London County Council, the Army and Navy, and other class lodges had been started, he hoped that more of that description would be established, and that the whole of them might prosper and adorn the Craft.

Bro. Rev. A. W. OXFORD, W.M., next gave the toast of "The Consecrating and Installing Brethren," and said they had been unfortunate in not having Bro. Letchworth with them. Yet he thought they might congratulate themselves on seeing the Grand Officers so well represented. They were all pleased to see Bro. Brownrigg, with whom on every point he had disagreed for the last 13 years—(laughter)—Bro. Fenn—one of the prominent members of Freemasonry; Bro. Alfred Cooper (his own next door neighbour for 16 years), Bro. Major Carrell, and his old friend the Grand Chaplain, with whose oration they must all have been delighted.

Bro. the Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G.C., in replying, said that the W.M. had said with great truth that on every point for the last 13 years they had disagreed. When Bro. Oxford was a candidate for his (Bro. Brownrigg's) division of the School Board, he was able to say to Bro. Oxford with perfect truth that they could stand drinks to each other without fear of infringing the Corrupt Practices Act. There was an advantage in disagreeing therefore. It was rather curious that the Grand Secretary should have asked him to consecrate the School Board Lodge who was secretary of the National Society and editor of the *School Board Guardian*. Perhaps the Grand Secretary at first sight did not know what he was doing, but he thought Bro. Letchworth did know. A man of such universal benevolence could not have failed to know the good work done by the National Society; such a substantial ratepayer could not fail to know the good work done by the School Board; and he might have been of opinion that it would broaden some views and contract others if he selected him to act for him. All the Consecrating Officers thanked the brethren for that toast. For himself, he was ashamed of performing the ceremony before Bro. Thomas Fenn, who was of European reputation, and Bro. Archdeacon Stevens, who was his (Bro. Brownrigg's) superior. He proposed Bro. Stevens as a Mason, but he was pleased to say that on that foundation Bro. Stevens had raised a superstructure perfect in its parts and most honourable to the builder. (Laughter.) He would now propose a toast—"Success to the London School Board Lodge." There was every prospect of success before the brethren. The W.M. had asked him, in his capacity of an honorary member, to come and help at the next meeting in the working, as the J.D. was likely to be away. He was pleased to think that he would have to say what could not be contradicted—that Mr. Diggle, a great friend of his, and Canon Ingram were two poor candidates in a state of darkness. That pleasure would be greatly enhanced if he could say the same of Mr. Lyulph Stanley and Mr. Macnamara. (Laughter.) But then it would be a proud privilege for the W.M. on the following lodge meeting to retort on him by telling the candidates that Masonry was a "progressive" service, so that if he (Bro. Brownrigg) scored the first night, the W.M. would score the second. (Laughter.) But putting joking aside, he would call on Major Clifford Probyn, who was a strong progressive—a progressive in the true sense of the word—to return thanks for the toast—"Success to the London School Board Lodge."

Bro. Maj. CLIFFORD PROBYN, I.P.M., responding, said he felt in a somewhat awkward position, the toast being one of great importance, not only to the Masonic world, but to London. Why? Because he believed the introduction of Masonry into the School Board of London would rub down those knobs and excrescences which so ruined the work of that illustrious body, the School Board. Bro. Brownrigg had used with respect to him the word "progressive." It was perfectly true that he felt in a sense progressive, and progressive in the particular sense that he had indicated, that there should be brotherly love and harmony included in the School Board Lodge for London, to bring about a better result for the children of London and the people of London. It was very kind of Bro. Brownrigg to use such delightful expressions, and to allude to conditions which existed between himself and the archdeacon; but, of course, as representing 5,000,000 of people, it would be a very astonishing fact, indeed, if they concurred in every direction; some were for one object, some for another; but whatever their political tendencies, he believed as in the old days when he was a member of the Board, there was the same object, the advancement and welfare of the people. They grumbled at the very big charges, but he held it was a laudable object so long as things were done in the best way. If people were dissatisfied, let them do something in a different direction, and then, indeed, they would be progressive. He was glad to hear that Mr. Diggle was coming in. If they could get Mr. Lyulph Stanley they should never despair with those bright ornaments to adorn the Order; of bringing together those opposed in educational ideas. He ventured to think that those brethren who then surrounded the table, would help to make the London School Board Lodge one of the greatest successes London had ever known.

The Earl of EUSTON, in proposing "The W.M.," said he had known Bro. Oxford many years in Freemasonry, and a more sincere and hearty brother he had never met. The brethren had made no mistake in selecting him for their first W.M. He hoped he would be able to carry that out, and he believed he would be able to carry out all he had undertaken, and give the lodge a start in his year of office which would not be equalled.

Bro. Rev. A. W. OXFORD, W.M., in acknowledging the kind way in which the toast, so feelingly proposed by Lord Euston, had been received by the brethren, assured them that whatever he could do to make the lodge a success he should do. The honour of being the first Master of the lodge came upon him as a surprise; he never expected when it was thought of being founded that he was to be the Master. But as he was Master, during the time he held that position he would try to make the lodge successful. He was sure it would be, and that the proceedings of the School Board would be equally successful if at the School Board the members followed his example of making the speeches short. If the same thing was done in the House of Commons it would be much happier for the country. He would now propose the toast of "The Visitors," and he asked the brethren to drink their health most heartily.

Bro. EDWARD WHITE, P.M. 177, Secretary of the London County Council Lodge, in reply, spoke favourably of such bodies as the School Board and the County Council having Masonic lodges, as Masonry produced a better feeling among the members, which he believed would be for the advantage of London generally. The asperities which cropped up from time to time on Boards would be softened and minimised by meeting round the social table. He would content himself by wishing every prosperity to the School Board Lodge, and he hoped London would benefit by the good feeling engendered among members of the Boards by Freemasonry.

Bro. WILKINSON also replied. He had been a Mason more than 40 years, and yet that was only the second consecration he had seen, and it was a curious fact that the person who performed the ceremony was the son of the Provincial Grand Master of Surrey, for whom all Masons had the greatest affection and respect. It had been a great gratification to him to find that happy tradition carried on from generation to generation. He desired to wish a lodge started under such happy circumstances every success.

Bro. ALBERT, W.M. 2395—the recommending lodge—also responded, and said they recommended the petition for several reasons—first, because Bro. Kidson was an ardent Mason; secondly, because they thought brotherly love would be promoted in the School Board, which it was not at present; next, because the ratepayers wanted relief; and, further, that they wanted truth. (Laughter.)

The Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

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ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS.

In compliance with a requisition received in accordance with rule 8, a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held at FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C., on TUESDAY, the 28th JULY, 1896, at 12 o'clock noon, to consider the advisability of rescinding law 18, and substituting the following in lieu thereof:—

"In consideration of the grants from Grand Lodge, the M.W.G.M. or his Nominee and every Provincial G.M. or his Nominee shall, at every election for Male annuitants, be entitled to two votes, and at every election for Female annuitants, to one vote for every lodge in London or Province; and in consideration of the grants from the Supreme Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. or his Nominee and every Superintendent or his Nominee shall, at every election for Male annuitants, be entitled to two votes, and at every election for Female annuitants, to one vote for every chapter in London or Province; the number of lodges and chapters for which they claim votes shall be determined by the number of lodges and chapters recorded in the Freemason's Calendar and Pocket Book for the current year."

Also to insert the following words to Clause No. 1 of the Widows' qualifications:—

After the word "lodge" in third line—"Unless in the case of her last husband's petition having been accepted by the Committee, and he had died before his election in such case her application will be considered eligible;" and to pass such resolutions in respect thereof as may be deemed expedient, subject to the approval of Grand Lodge as provided by the laws of the Institution.

By order.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C., 17th July, 1896.

JAMES TERRY,
Secretary.

The next ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on the 24th FEBRUARY, 1897, under the most distinguished presidency of H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND STRATHMORE, K.G., M.W.P.G.M., R.W. Prov. G.M. for Sussex. The services of brethren and of ladies to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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Increased facilities for Tourists to travel by Alternative Routes.

Passengers taking Tourist Tickets from Stations on the Midland Railway to GLASGOW, via North British or Glasgow and South Western Railways may now travel at option on the return journey either by the North British Waverley Route via Edinburgh or from Glasgow (St. Enoch) by the Glasgow and South Western Route via Dumfries and Annan.

WESTERN HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS.

A THROUGH EXPRESS is run from London (St. Pancras) to GREENOCK at 10 p.m., conveying Tourists from London and all parts of the Midland Railway System for the Firth of Clyde and the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

DAYLIGHT SERVICE TO ROTHESAY.—Via Greenock (Princes Pier).

A Daylight Service throughout to the Highlands and Watering Places on the Firth of Clyde will be given during July and August, leaving London (St. Pancras) at 10.30 a.m., arriving at Greenock at 8.15 p.m., in time to join the G. and S.W. Railway Co.'s Steamer, reaching R.thesay at 9.30 p.m.

NEW WEST HIGHLAND RAILWAY.

The 9.15 p.m. Express from London (St. Pancras) is in direct connection at Edinburgh with train to Fort William and other stations on the new West Highland Railway. THROUGH CARRIAGE St. Pancras to Fort William at 9.15 p.m., and Fort William to St. Pancras at 3.25 p.m.

ISLE OF MAN.—(Via Barrow).

Short Sea and Picturesque Route.

Until September 30th, a First Class Paddle Steamer will sail daily (Sundays excepted) from Barrow to Douglas at 2 p.m., and from Douglas to Barrow until October 1st, at 9 a.m., in direct connection with trains from and to London (St. Pancras), and all parts of the Midland Railway System.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—(Via Tottenham and Forest Gate Railway).

THROUGH FAST TRAINS now run on week-days and Sundays between London (St. Pancras) and Southend-on-Sea, calling at several intermediate stations.

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NEW WEEKLY SUMMER EXCURSIONS.

EVERY SATURDAY until further notice, to MATLOCK, BUNTON, LIVERPOOL, SOUTHPORT, BLACKPOOL, ISLE OF MAN, MORECAMBE, LANCASTER, and ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. (See Midland bills).

WHERE TO GO AND STAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

"List of Furnished Lodgings in Farmhouses, Country Districts, &c.;" "The Peak of Derbyshire;" and other books may be had free on application to the Midland Company. The following new books are also now ready:

Pocket Guide to the Midland Railway (Price 61.); Holiday Tours in the British Isles (Price 31.); Pocket Diary and Guide to the Isle of Man and English Lake District (Price 23.)

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

Derby, July, 1896.

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During JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, SPECIAL FAST EXCURSIONS will leave PADDINGTON STATION as under:

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EVERY SATURDAY, 8.50 a.m. (SPECIAL DAYLIGHT SERVICE EXPRESS), 9.45 p.m. (NIGHT BOAT EXPRESS) for GUERNSEY and JERSEY for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. RETURN FARE, THIRD CLASS and AFTER CABIN, 24s. 6d.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT, 10.10 p.m.—For EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, Bodmin, Wadebridge, NEWQUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, Scilly Islands, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

12.25 midnight—For Chepstow, Newport, CARDIFF, SWANSEA, Llanelli, CARMARTHEN, Pembroke Dock, Tenby, Cardigan, New and Old Milford, &c., for 7 or 14 days.

EVERY SATURDAY, 7.55 a.m.—For MINEHEAD, LYNTON, LYNMOUTH, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, PLYMOUTH, Tavistock, Launceston, Devonport, NEWQUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

8.5 a.m.—For Wellington, SHREWSBURY, Church Stretton, Leominster, HEREFORD, Oswestry, Welshpool, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, BALA, Blaenau Ffestiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Harlech, Criccieth, CHESIER, Birkenhead, LIVERPOOL, Rhyll, LLANUDNO, BETTWS-Y-COED, Bangor, CARNARVON, Llanberis (for Snowdon), &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

8.40 a.m.—For WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Kingswear, DARTMOUTH, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

9.30 a.m.—For DOUGLAS (Isle of Man), for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

11.15 a.m.—For FROME, Shepton Mallett, Wells, YEOVIL, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH (for the CHANNEL ISLANDS), Portland, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

12.5 noon—For Newbury, Savernake, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Warminster, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

12.40 p.m.—For CLEVEDON, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, MINEHEAD (for LYNTON and LYNMOUTH), Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, Wellington (Som.), TIVERTON, &c., for 3, 10, or 17 days.

6.15 p.m.—For Chippenham, BATH and BRISTOL, for 3, 10, or 17 days.

10.10 p.m.—For SWINDON, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Kingswear, PLYMOUTH, Truro, FALMOUTH, PENZANCE, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.

THURSDAYS, JULY 30, AUGUST 13, 27, SEPTEMBER 10, and 24, 3.35 p.m., for CORK.

FRIDAYS, JULY 17, 31, AUGUST 14, 28, SEPTEMBER 11 and 25, 6.10 p.m. to WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Clonmel, Tipperary, Kilkenny, &c.

FRIDAYS, JULY 24, AUGUST 7, 21, SEPTEMBER 4 and 18, 4.45 p.m.—To BELFAST, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, &c.

THURSDAYS, JULY 23, AUGUST 20, and SEPTEMBER 24, 6.10 p.m.—To KILLARNEY.

CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS are issued DAILY by certain trains to WINDSOR, 2s. 6d.; BURNHAM BECHES, 3s.; Maidenhead, 3s.; HENLEY, 3s. 6d.; Goring, 6s.; &c.

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To ST. ALBAN'S, WHEATHAMPSTEAD, and HARPENDEN, each Saturday afternoon, from Moorgate, 1.56 p.m., Aldersgate, 1.58, Farringdon, 2.0, King's Cross (G.N.), 2.30, Finsbury Park, 2.35.

To SKEGNESS, Monday, July 20, for one day, and Saturday, July 25, for 1, 3, or 4 days, from Moorgate, at 6.51 a.m., Aldersgate, 6.53, Farringdon, 6.55, King's Cross (G.N.), 7.15, Holloway, 7.5, Finsbury Park, 7.20.

To SHERINGHAM, CROMER, and YARMOUTH, July 27, for one day, from King's Cross (G.N.) at 6.15 a.m., Finsbury Park, 6.20. Third class return fare, 5s.

To LUTON (Bedfordshire Agricultural Society's Show), July 23, for one day from Moorgate at 9.6 a.m., Aldersgate, 9.8, Farringdon, 9.10, King's Cross (G.N.), 9.25, Holloway, 9.22, Finsbury Park, 9.30, returning at 6.30 p.m.

To Burton, Derby, Leicester, Southport, Burslem, Melton Mowbray, Stoke, Tutbury, Nottingham, Huddersfield, Manchester, Liverpool, Warrington, Huntingdon, Stamford, &c., &c., Saturday, July 25, for 3 or 6 days from Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Victoria (L.C. & D), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., returning as per bills.

THE "DIRECT" ROUTE TO EAST COAST WATERING PLACES. ACCELERATED TRAIN SERVICE, JULY, 1896. From LONDON (KING'S CROSS).

Table with columns for Weekdays, a.m., p.m., and destinations: London (King's Cross), Sheringham, Cromer (Beach), Skegness, Hilly, Harrogate, Scarborough, Whitby, Filey, Bridlington, Saltburn.

† Through carriages to Sheringham and Cromer by these trains.

- A Will run from July 11th to September 26th. B Not to Filey and Bridlington on Saturday nights. C Arrives Saltburn 8.6 a.m. Sundays.

CHEAP WEEKLY EXCURSIONS

To B. idlington, Filey, Whitby, Scarborough, Robin Hood's Bay, Redcar, Seaton Carew, Saltburn, Tynemouth, Whitley, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southport, and Douglas (Isle of Man), each Saturday, from King's Cross (G.N.), for 3, 8, 10, 15, and 17 days.

Illustrated Tourist Guides and Farmhouse and Country Lodging Lists can be had on application at Great Northern Stations and Receiving Offices, or to the Superintendent of the Line, King's Cross Station.

Tickets, bills, &c., at stations and town offices. HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager. July, 1896.

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INCOME AND FUNDS (1894).

Table with columns: Fire Premiums, Life Premiums, Interest, Accumulated Funds. Values: £701,000, 232,000, 171,000, £4,444,000.



SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The following appointments have been sanctioned by His Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, namely: that of Bro. Lewis Moore, Dep. Dist. G. Master of Northern China, to be Dist. G. Master in succession to the late Bro. John Irwin Miller; of Bro. Charles Trevor Mold, Dep. Dist. G. Master for the Argentine Republic, to be Dist. G. Master, vice Bro. George John Ryan, M.D.; and of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Philip Leighton Macgregor, R.A., as Dist. G. Master for Gibraltar. His Royal Highness, as M.E. Grand Z. of Supreme G. Chapter, has also appointed Comp. his Honour Judge Masterman, to be G. Superintendent for Nottinghamshire.

Our readers will rejoice to learn that the proposal to establish "some worthy and suitable memorial" to the late Bro. Sir Augustus Harris in recognition of the valuable services he rendered to the Drama and Opera is being steadily pushed forward. A meeting of the preliminary Committee was held at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Friday, the 10th instant, when it was decided to form a large and influential Committee of the friends of our deceased brother to consider and ultimately decide the form which such memorial shall assume. The first meeting of the larger Committee will be held at the Royal

Opera House, as aforesaid, on Tuesday next, the 21st instant, at 4 p.m., when an Executive Committee will be formed with a view to giving effect to the wishes of the General Committee.

Among the members of the Preliminary Committee on which has thus far devolved the duty of taking such steps as appear to have been deemed necessary, are Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough, Earl de Grey, Bros. Sir Edward Lawson and Sir H. Irving, H. Beerbohm Tree, Charles Wyndham, Bro. Henry Neville, Bro. Alderman Frank Green (Treasurer); Bro. Sir Edward Lee, Bros. J. C. Parkinson, and W. H. Bailey, Clement Scott, Bro. J. H. Matthews, and Hermann Klein and Sidney R. J. Smith, joint Hon. Secretaries, from the latter of whom full particulars may be obtained by letter, addressed to him at his offices, 14, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.

Owing to a clerical error, Bro. W. H. Williams, though he was correctly entered in the Stewards' Lists as having represented the Province of South Wales at the recent Mark Benevolent Festival, was mentioned in the Analysis of the Returns as Steward for North Wales. As only a few lines previously, Bro. Major G. Gordon Warren had been referred to in connection with North Wales, our readers cannot fail to have noticed the mistake.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Missouri has recently celebrated its jubilee, and by way of commemorating the auspicious event has ordered that half-tone portraits and biographical sketches of all the Past G.H. Priests shall be published with the proceedings. Comp. Isaac M. Abraham is the present G.H.P. and Comp. W. H. Mayo the Grand Secretary. We also note that Comp. Emanuel F. Hartzell is Grand Master of the Royal and Select Masters, Comp. Mayo being the Grand Recorder, while Sir Knight Ira V. McMillan is Grand Commander of Knights Templar in the State and Sir Knight Mayo Grand Recorder. In North Carolina Comp. Walter S. Liddell is G.H. Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Sir Knight William A. Withers, Grand Commander of Knights Templar, Comp. Horace H. Munson being Grand Secretary of the former body and Grand Recorder of the latter.

The Voice of Masonry for June contains a long article, or it may be part of an address, delivered by Bro. Thomas B. Long, of Indiana, in which that brother contends that physical perfection, so far as it is "necessary to enable the candidate to comply literally with all the requirements of the ritual," is a prerequisite condition for the admission of candidates into Freemasonry. Bro. Long quotes the Ancient Charge; in which it is laid down that a candidate must be "a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body that may render him capable of learning the art, of serving his Master's Lord," &c., &c., in support of his contention.

Correspondence.

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

INITIATES AND THE BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Having seen no remarks in your columns with reference to the following important recommendation, at the last Quarterly Communication, from the Board of General Purposes:

"The attention of the Board has been directed to what is understood to be a not uncommon custom for Masters of lodges to omit to hand over to initiates copies of the Book of Constitutions; an omission which is frequently pleaded as excuse for the total disregard of some of the most important and essential rules and regulations governing the Craft.

"The Board cannot too strongly insist on the duty of every Master of a lodge to satisfy himself that all initiates are put in possession of copies of the Book of Constitutions, by the rules of which every member of the Craft is bound."

I should be much obliged if you would tell me plainly which of the under-mentioned should supply (that is, pay for) the copy of the Book of Constitutions of which the candidate is to be "put in possession":

The Grand Lodge; the lodge initiating; the W.M. of the lodge initiating; or the candidate?

As they are the Constitutions of Grand Lodge, it seems as if they should be provided by Grand Lodge and covered by the fee paid by the lodge to Grand Lodge for each initiate, in the same way as the by-laws of the lodge are presented free to each candidate. I have been a Freemason 23 years, and have in no instance seen a copy of the Book of Constitutions given to an initiate, but only presented "in form" in the same way that the warrant of the lodge is presented to the W.M.—I remain yours fraternally,

P.P.G.S.W., P.G.S.

Nottingham, July 14th

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MONMOUTHSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Thursday, the 9th instant, under the banner of the Isca Lodge, No. 683, at the Masonic Hall, Newport. Bro. Col. Charles Lyne, P.G.M., presided. There was a large attendance of members from the various lodges throughout the province, and Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, D.P.G.M. of the Eastern Division of South Wales, also honoured the Prov. Grand Lodge with his presence.

The general business of the Prov. Grand Lodge was taken, and the reports of the Prov. Grand Lodge Committee and the Charity Committee were approved.

The Prov. G.M. then appointed the following as his officers for the ensuing year :

Bro. Lieut.-Col. C. R. Lyne...	...	...	Dep. P.G.M.
" Hartley Feather, 1258 ...	...	...	P.P.S.G.W.
" Joseph Jones, 471 ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" D. F. Pritchard, 2226 ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Dr. Wilks, 683 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Watkin Davies, 2186 ...	...	...
" Charles Cullum, 1429 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" L. J. Phillips, 683 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. C. Brook, 1429 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" William North, 1098 ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" E. James Price, 818 ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Thomas Acland, 1562 ...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" N. S. Wilputte, 2556 ...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" T. A. Grove, 1429 ...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. Ernest Jones, 471 ...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" H. C. Groves, 457 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Sidney J. Jones, 2186 ...	...	...
" A. Willoughby Thomas, 683 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" M. J. S. Lyons, 2556 ...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" J. C. Fothergill, 683 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" S. Cutforth, 457 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards.
" Henry W. Jones, 471 ...	...	...
" W. H. Le Grand Chambers, 683 ...	...	...
" Walter E. Harrison, 818 ...	...	...
" C. H. Gillard, 1429 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Tyler.
" John Randall, 2221 ...	...	...
" E. W. Evans, 683 ...	...	...

The banquet was held at the Westgate Hotel.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire was held at the Great House, Cheshunt, at the invitation of the James Terry Lodge, No. 2372, on Tuesday, the 14th instant. Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G. Master, presided, and prominent among the brethren present were Bros. G. E. Lake, J.G.D., Dep. Prov. G. Master; Thomas Fenn, Past Pres. of the Board of General Purposes; C. E. Keyser, J.P., P.G.D., P.P.G.W.; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.D., Prov. G. Treas.; G. Mickley, B.A., M.B., P.A.G.D.C., P.P.G.W.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., P.P.G.W., Prov. G.D.C., Sec. R.M.B.I.; Charles Bullock, Prov. G. Sec.; T. S. Carter, P.P.G.W.; and others, the total number being considerably in excess of 100.

Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened and the minutes of the annual meeting held at St. Albans on the 13th November, 1895, read and confirmed, the roll of Prov. Grand Officers and lodges was called. Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett was unanimously re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer.

The following brethren were appointed and invested as Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, namely :

Bro. F. R. Webster, P.M. 1479 ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. P. Warren, W.M. 2372 ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Herbert Hughes, Chap. 2054 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" E. T. Clark, Chap. 1757 ...	...	...
" F. Sumner Knyvett, P.M. 404 ...	...	...	Prov. Treas.
" J. D. S. Sim, P.M. 404 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Chas. Bullock, P.M. 504 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" R. E. F. Lander, I.P.M. 2086 ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" C. N. Cornish, P.M. 2323 ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" H. Trask, P.M. 2372 ...	...	...	Prov. G.S. Wks.
" Jas. Terry, P.M. 2372, Sec. R.M.B.I.	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. Tydeman, P.M. 1327 ...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" J. F. Bell, P.M. 2278 ...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" A. J. Williamson, I.P.M. 2218 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" E. J. Gittins, P.M. 2323 ...	...	...
" J. F. Haskins, Org. 1385 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Alfred Prudames, P.M. 504 ...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" S. Goodchild, P.M. 1984 ...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" G. B. Wood, I.P.M. 1580 ...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Jas. Farley, S.W. 403 ...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" G. A. Sims, S.W. 504 ...	...	...
" C. E. Everett, I.P.M. 809 ...	...	...
" A. Spicer, W.M. 2281 ...	...	...
" J. H. Gurn, P.M. 2331 ...	...	...
" H. E. Cole, S.W. 2372 ...	...	...

A Prov. G. Tyler and Asst. Prov. G. Tyler having been appointed and invested, the P.G.M. was pleased to confer past rank on the following brethren, namely: Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.D., Past President of the Board of General Purposes, who was made Past Prov. Grand Warden, and Bro. G. Blizard Abbott, P.M. 1385, who was made Past Prov. Grand Deacon.

The report of the Board of Finance, showing a balance in the hands of Prov. Grand Treasurer amounting to £83 4s. 8d. and £343 10s. 1d. invested in Consols, having been submitted and adopted, the following grants were made from the funds of Prov. Grand Lodge: £21 to the Royal

Masonic Institution for Boys, to be included in the lists of Bros. F. O. Lane, P.M., Steward for the Berkhamstead Lodge, No. 504. and A. J. Williams, I.P.M. Charles Edward Keyser Lodge, No. 2518, in equal parts; £10 to the James Terry Lodge, No. 2372, towards the expenses of entertaining Prov. Grand Lodge; £10 10s. to the Cheshunt Cottage Hospital; and £10 10s. to the Scholarship Fund of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

On the motion of the PROV. G. TREASURER, it was agreed to invest £30 in Consols, in addition to the existing fund of Prov. Grand Lodge; and on that of the PROV. G. SECRETARY to continue the publication of the Prov. Calendar; and Bro. KEYSER having read a very interesting report of the proceedings of the Hertfordshire Masonic Charity Association during the past year, Prov. G. Lodge was closed and the brethren, to the number of about 60, dined together under the genial presidency of their chief.

The arrangements of the James Terry Lodge gave the utmost satisfaction.

THE LOSS OF THE DRUMMOND CASTLE.

We have been requested to publish the following particulars concerning an informal meeting of Freemasons on board the Tantallon Castle in relation to the sad loss of the Drummond Castle off Ushant :

" Minutes of an informal meeting of Freemasons held on board R.M.S.S. Tantallon Castle, at 8 p.m., on Wednesday, June 24th. Bro. Wartski, P.M., was voted to the chair, and Bro. Poynton, appointed Secretary.

" Bro. WARTSKI, P.M., having stated the reason for calling the meeting, viz., the sad loss of life in the recent wreck of the Drummond Castle, and the sending of letters of condolence to the relatives of the deceased passengers and crews as from the Freemasons on board the s.s. Tantallon Castle,

" Bro. BENNETT proposed, and Bro. MURGATROYD seconded—' That Bros. Wartski, P.M., Aitken, Wallenstein, Poynton, and the mover be elected as a Committee to draft a letter of condolence to the relatives of the deceased passengers and crew of the Drummond Castle, and a separate letter to the wife of the late commander, Bro. Pearce.'

" Carried by silent vote.
" A vote of thanks was passed to Captain Duncan for kindly placing the use of his cabin at the disposal of this meeting.
" The meeting then closed."

The following is a copy of the letter of condolence:

" Tantallon Castle,
" 25th June, 1896.

" Edward Letchworth, Esq.,
" Grand Secretary,
" Freemasons' Hall,
" London,

" Dear Sir and Brother,
" At an informal meeting of Freemasons held on board the 'Tantallon Castle,' on the 24th instant, it was unanimously resolved 'That the sympathy of the Craft be conveyed through your honourable lodge to the relatives of those who lost their lives through the dire disaster which has befallen the 'Drummond Castle,' and especially do we urge this request in the case of those who have suffered bereavement in the irreparable loss of members belonging to our Ancient and Honourable Order.—We are, dear Sir and G.W. Brother, yours fraternally,

" Bros. P. Wartski, P.M.; James Barclay, P.M. 2299 (E.C.); W. F. Wallenstein, P.J.W.; J. H. Aitken, M.M.; Thos. T. Poynton, M.M.; J. H. Hirshler, M.M.; Thos. Screech, 18°; Thos. Murgatroyd, M.M.; R. Perring, M.M.; J. Tippett, M.M.; G. C. Tyack, M.M.; A. B. Knowles, M.M.; Joseph Buchner, M.M.; L. E. Hank, M.M.; W. O. Lean, S.W.; F. J. Weatherhead, M.M.; Chas. W. Clucas, M.M.; M. Bennett, M.M.; James Payne, M.M.; J. Jenkinson, F. Taillaide, Chas. R. Witherell, M.M.; Gerald Barclay, M.M. No. 97 (S.C.); J. G. Davies, M.M. 1946; A. Lohsé, M.M.; and F. Whitehead, M.M."

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Mark Lodge was held on the 7th instant at the Central Masonic Hall, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle. The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., presided, and was supported by—

Bros. R. B. Reed, Dep. Prov. G.M.; J. Straker Wilson, Dr. C. D. Hill Drury, Richard Luck, T. M. Barron, C. B. Ford, W. F. Carmon, G. W. Bain, Prov. G. Treas.; Capt. J. A. Forbes, R.N.; T. J. Armstrong, P.G. Sec.; H. S. Bird, P.G. Reg.; W. E. Moffett, J. C. Moor, J. D. Todd, W. M. Lyon, Jas. Sedcole, C. F. Sutcliffe, John Heppell, W. Weston, E. Dunford, the Rev. R. M. Ilderton, W. Barlow, P.G.D.C.; R. Ferry; F. L. Dodds, P.G.O.; Geo. Harland, W. Brown, J. K. Wilkes, G. E. Macarthy, T. E. Biddlecombe, Robt. Whitfield, T. R. Short, Hy. Palmer, John Robinson, James Shaw, the Rev. J. H. Heywood, W. Swales, the Rev. R. A. Waters, E. Shewbrook, John Deans, John Holt, and John Abbey.

The report of the Committee of General Purposes was satisfactory, and was adopted on the motion of Bro. R. B. REED, D.P.G.M., and seconded by Bro. H. S. BIRD, P.G.R.M.

The roll of lodges was called, when the several Worshipful Masters gave reports, which showed an increase in members generally.

The Prov. G.M., Bro. the Rev. Canon TRISTRAM, D.D., briefly addressed Prov. Grand Lodge. He congratulated the brethren upon the steady and quiet growth of their numbers. The whole of their lodges showed an increase of members, and there was a total increase of 45 members. He was also pleased that they were to again give 30 guineas among the three Masonic Charities, the Mark Benevolent Fund, the Mark Educational Fund, and the Durham Masonic Educational Fund. (Applause).

The following Prov. Grand Officers were duly invested for the year :

Bro. R. B. Reed (re-appointed) ...	...	...	D. Prov. G.M.
" T. M. Barron ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" E. Shewbrooks ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. A. Waters ...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" G. W. Bain (re-elected) ...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. J. Armstrong ...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Geo. Harland ...	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" Jas. Shaw ...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.

Bro. Hy. Brown ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" J. Abbey ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" F. L. Dodds ...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" W. C. Caverhill ...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" John Deans ...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" John Holt ...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" George Blair ...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" John Mark ...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" T. E. Biddlecomb ...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" F. F. Schnitger ...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" J. Appleyard ...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The Prov. GRAND MASTER announced that the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge would next year be held at Gateshead, under the banner of the Industry Lodge.

In the evening, the annual festival was held at the Central Masonic Hall, when Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, D.D., P.G.M., presided, and there was a large attendance.

Craft Masonry.

Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.

The installation meeting of the above grand old lodge, the mother of many lodges, in fact, of all those in the Woolwich and Plumstead districts and several out of the district, took place at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, on Wednesday, the 5th instant, and was attended by some 137 of the brethren and visiting brethren. The wonderful progress of the lodge during the last 10 or 12 years is shown by the fact that at the present moment it has over 200 members on its books. Its charity is unstinted. During the past year it has contributed to the Masonic and other Charities out of its funds as follows: Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, £42 os. od.; Masonic Boys' School, £10 10s. od.; distressed brethren, £3 4s. 6d.; Guy's Hospital Remembrance Fund, £10 10s. od.; Woolwich and Plumstead Cottage Hospital, £2 2s. od.; Plumstead Relief Society, 21s.; and Woolwich Soup Society, 21s.; making a grand total of £71 8s. od., a sum no lodge need be ashamed of giving in the cause of Charity.

The lodge was opened by Bro. W. A. Anson, W.M., who passed Bros. Buckland, Jones, and Bean, and raised Bros. Clothier, Taylor, James, and Butler. Bro. A. H. Russell, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. as a candidate for the chair, and was duly installed, the work being admirably done by the Installing Officer. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Wm. A. Anson, I.P.M.; Alexander McQueen, S.W.; Wm. H. Turton, J.W.; Henry S. Syer, P.M., Treas.; Thomas Hutton, P.M., Sec.; George B. Davies, P.M., D.C.; Henry Jacobs, S.D.; James Quick, J.D.; John Horne, I.G.; B. J. Hancock, Org.; James W. Bailey, Asst. Org.; George Dennison, A.D.C.; and A. Cleall, P.M., William J. Crowdy, T. J. Wren, and James W. Hodge, Stewards. Bro. Anson was heartily thanked for his able performance of the duties of Installing Officer, and it was unanimously resolved—"That a copy of the same should be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge." He was also presented with a valuable Past Master's jewel, for which he thanked the brethren.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren proceeded to London by special train, and banqueted at the Holborn Restaurant.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. W. J. Barnes, P.M., E. Mills, P.M., T. Hastings, P.M., P.M. and Treas. 829, P.P.G.P. Kent, L. Chasteaneuf, P.M., J. G. Millbourne, P.M., J. Bell, P.M., D. Deans, P.M., G. W. Reed, P.M., D. Farr, W. Foss, W. Lester, A. Stamford, W. Dobbins, A. Blundell, W. Abbey, F. G. Dickson, R. Grice, G. Gable, T. Griffiths, J. Smith, E. Jones, C. Crouch, J. Bodge, A. Bary, R. Tucker, H. Cornish, J. Taylor, J. Jones, C. Pocknall, W. Brown, J. Heard, A. Butters, J. Templeman, C. Bunn, H. Staples, C. Robinson, J. Hand, F. Dally, J. Berry, B. Hudson, S. Spurling, J. Welch, F. Harris, E. Jager, F. Bussey, S. Butler, E. Oats, J. Woodley, W. Lush, H. Hill, W. Trance, C. Pilcher, W. Shairp, E. E. Chasleomcuf, J. Bacon, H. Watts, H. Woodcock, H. Carrington, W. Thomas, F. Moore, F. Thomas, W. Sandford, T. Chambers, C. Bates, J. Littlewood, B. Durant, J. Ireland, J. Harper, F. Bell, H. Grump, A. Ragable, W. Kanner, A. Wright, J. Hodder, W. Lynch, G. Bishop, J. Thorp, C. Blight, F. Budd, W. Joffs, A. Saunders, J. Brown, H. Weather, T. Cheshire, J. Dunn, F. Fergusson, A. Vincent, A. Teaker, D. Jucke, L. Hancock, C. Hosgood, W. Jones, J. Dixon, G. Roberts, and T. Hackney, all of the lodge. Among the visitors were Bros. Col. M. Richardson, P.M. 1331, and PP. S.G.D., G. R. Nicholls, W.M., G. H. Porter, S.W. and W.M. elect, H. Pamant, J.W., J. H. Roberts, P.M. and Treas., S. E. Southgate, P.M., A. Abbey, and A. Goodman, of 700; Col. W. G. Graham, P.M., D. K. Somers, W.M., and J. O. Cook, S.W., of 913; F. Hully, W.M., H. Croudy, S.W., and G. Diger, J.W. of 2399; G. Ingle, W.M., R. Fowler, S.W., and W. Down, of 1536; J. Palmer, J.W., and A. Wren, of 1472; P. Rogers, P.M. 1524; D. Belinfanter, P.M. 435; G. Harris, (America); G. Davis, P.M. 1977; E. Carter, 858; G. White, 2332; F. Watts, 160; T. Green, 1076; T. Sweeting, 1259; A. Wordsworth, 1558; G. Flack, 594; and J. Cox, 1326.

The usual loyal, Grand Lodge, and personal toasts were duly honoured, and a choice selection of ballads, duets, trios, and quartettes were admirably rendered by Miss McCanniss, Madame Logan, and Messrs. Schneider, Musgrove, and Marriott, Bro. Hancock accompanying on the piano.

Sun, Square, and Compasses Lodge, No. 119.

The installation meeting of the above lodge, which may be justly deemed the mother lodge of the province, was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at the Freemasons' Hall, College-street, Whitehaven, when Bro. Isaac Maxwell, S.W., W.M. elect, was placed in the chair and saluted. The lodge was opened by the acting W.M., Bro. J. Barr, when Bro. Telfer was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The W.M., Bro. Chapman, P.G. Reg., presented Bro. Maxwell, S.W., W.M. elect, to the Installing Master, Bro. J. Barr, P.P.S.G.W., to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, which ceremony was very impressively rendered, being assisted by Bro. W. C. Johns, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; T. Allinson, P.M., P.P.G. Purst; and G. Starkey, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. Bro. Maxwell having been duly installed, proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. Chapman, P.G. Reg., I.P.M.; J. Walker, S.W.; S. Woodley, J.W.; W. C. Johns, P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; Rev. J. Anderson, P.P.S.G.W., Chap.; G. Starkey, P.P.J.G.D., Sec.; Wm. Lumley, S.D.; S. L. B. Lindow, J.D.; J. W. Taylor, D. of C.; W. Hastwell, I.G.; W. H. Kelly, Almoner; W. Gaffney, Org.; G. Schweitzer and E. Telfer, Stewards; and R. L. Nutsford, Tyler.

"Hearty good wishes" having been given for the newly-installed W.M.'s success by the visiting brethren present, the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to the Grand Hotel, where an excellent banquet was prepared by Bro. Schweitzer.

After dinner the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were proposed by the W.M. and duly honoured.

The toast of the evening—"The Health of the Newly-installed W.M., Bro. I. Maxwell"—was proposed by the I.P.M., Bro. Chapman, and received a hearty reception.

The toast of "The Installing Master," coupled with the name of Bro. Barr, was most enthusiastically honoured.

"The Masonic Charities" was responded to by Bros. G. Dalrymple, P.G. Sec., and T. Atkinson, P.P.G.D.C.

After "The Newly-invested Officers" had been toasted, and that of "The Visiting Brethren and the W.M. of 872," the Tyler's toast concluded the evening.

Numerous letters of apology were received, including one from Bro. Col. Sewell, D.P.G.M.

The following brethren were present: Bros. John Barr, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Rev. James Anderson, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; Thomas Allinson, P.M., P.P.G.P.; George Starkey, P.P.J.G.D.; I. Maxwell, S.W., W.M. elect; Joseph Walker, J.W.; J. F. Stout, J. T. Robinson, Rev. Joshua Tyson, P.M., Chap. 1532, P.P.G.C.; George Schweitzer, Henry Burns, Robert Miller, W. Redshaw, J. F. Muir, P.M. 872, P.P.J.G.D.; R. D. Metcalf, George Dalrymple, P.M., P.G. Sec.; Wilson Hastwell, Sydney Woodley, S.D.; Edmund Jackson, W.M. 1660; Wm. Hannah, J.D., J.W. 1660;

James McLaughlin, J.W. 1267; T. B. Roxby, S.W. 1400; James Jones, W.M. 962; Thomas Rickerby, Steward 1400; J. M. Clark, W.M. 872; J. W. Carmichael, W.M. 972; Thomas Atkinson, P.M. 872, P.P.G.D.C.; W. H. Atkinson, P.M., P.P. G. Reg.; W. P. D. Field, P.M. 872, P.P.G.D.C.; Thomas Mitchell, P.M. 2285; F. Farquharson, 862; T. Robinson, W.M. 1267; J. T. Brown, 962; W. C. Johns, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Stout, P.M. 1267; S. L. Burns-Lindow, Edward Telfer, Wm. Gaffney, Charles Gowan, P.M. 1009, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Joseph Crow, Henry Hartley, P.M. 1660, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Watson, P.M. 1247, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Dixon, S.W. 872; Richard L. Nutsford, P.G.I.G., Tyler; William Lumley, J.D.; T. Brakenridge, 872, P.P.G.S.B.; Joseph Matthews, P.M. 872; and others.

Rural Philanthropic Lodge, No. 291.

At the annual meeting of the above lodge, recently held at the Railway Hotel, Highbridge, Bro. C. S. Leech was installed W.M. for the ensuing year as successor to Bro. Dr. Sharpe. The installation ceremony was performed by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Else, P.G.D. Eng., and the following brethren were appointed and invested as officers: Bros. J. H. Sharpe, I.P.M.; E. A. Sandford, S.W.; J. Wall, J.W.; J. Burnett, P.M., Treas.; T. Floyd Norris, P.M., Sec.; H. Cox, S.D.; H. J. K. Thompson, J.D.; A. E. Burnett, D.C.; J. Wood, Org.; F. W. Hardwick, I.G.; B. Kent-Biddlecombe, Steward; and J. Ashwell, Tyler. The following Prov. Grand Officers supported the D.P.G.M.: Bros. J. Burnett, P.P.S.G.W.; E. F. Wade, P.P.J.G.W.; S. Sellick, P.G. Reg.; T. F. Norris, P.P.S.G.W.; A. E. Burnett, P.G.D.C.; T. H. Raiton, P.P.G.D.C.; B. C. Board, P.P.G.S.B.; and F. Blackmore, P.P.G.S.B.; also the W.M. and several brethren of Lodge No. 1222, Past Masters from Lodge No. 772, and a large number of other visitors.

The brethren afterwards dined together at the Railway Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M.

Toxteth Lodge, No. 1356.

Established a quarter of a century ago, this lodge (originally consecrated under the title of the De Grey and Ripon), has enjoyed an amount of success which has been largely secured by the earnestness of its members and the thoroughly charitable work it has been the means of carrying out. The annual installation meeting, which took place on the 8th inst., at headquarters in North Hill-street, Liverpool, was very largely attended, the retiring W.M., Bro. John Lloyd, being supported by a full complement of Past Masters and officers, the former including Bros. J. Bell, T. Nickson, J. W. Williams, C. Arden, J. Keet, E. George, B. Holgate, H. H. Hughes, D. McFarlane, R. W. Chatham, Philip Lloyd, and H. Bridger. Amongst the visitors were Bros. P. Armstrong, P.S.G.D.; J. Macnab, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Pittaway, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Tarbuck, P.P.G. Std. Br.; T. H. W. Walker, P.P.G. Treas.; T. Lofthouse, W.M. 220; J. Bellingham, P.M. 594; T. Guile, P.M. and Treas. 1325; G. Johnston, I.P.M. 1182; E. R. Latham, P.M. 594; R. Tunnicliffe, P.M. 1182; J. H. Peake, P.M. 1675; T. Finch, I.P.M. 220; T. C. Faragher, P.M. 2042; T. P. Hodgson, P.M. 724; W. H. Veevers, P.M. 594; and W. Peters, P.M. 1035.

The ceremony of installing Bro. Gabriel Davies as W.M. was performed by Bro. Councillor C. Arden, P.P.G.S.B., assisted by Bro. E. George, P.P.G.D.C., the retiring Master also taking a part in the function. The following officers were subsequently invested: Bros. John Lloyd, I.P.M.; Thomas H. Porter, S.W.; John C. Lowe, J.W.; C. Arden, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Theo. Williams, Sec.; I. D. Thompson, S.D.; Thomas Storey, J.D.; Henry Bridger, P.M., D.C.; William Hudson, Org.; John Jones, I.G.; William Quirk, Robert Atkinson, Daniel Large, and R. L. Martindale, Stwds.; H. Du Chemin, Tyler; and Edward George, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Charity Representative. In the course of the proceedings Bro. John Lloyd, I.P.M., was presented with a Past Master's jewel and a handsome clock, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held by the brethren.

The banquet was served by Bro. J. Casey, and a musical programme was provided by Bros. Vernon, Russell, Sheil, Blake, Hudson, Smith, Batty, Griffiths, and Porter.

Doric Lodge, No. 2359.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 11th instant, at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy. Bro. John Walker, W.M., occupied the chair, supported by his officers. A notice of motion was given to grant 10 guineas to the R.M.I. for Boys.

The following brethren were present: Bros. John Walker, W.M.; J. M. Veal, I.P.M.; Fred. Thomas, S.W.; Jos. Ward, J.W.; A. K. Boothroyd, P.M., Treas.; Fred. Morgan, Sec.; J. Laurisch, S.D.; J. Lawrenson, J.D.; J. L. R. Sayers, I.G.; J. Brundrett, Org.; Geo. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org.; G. Alfred Meyers, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Charity Representative; J. J. Booth, Jepson, Green, W. Barker, F. B. Ratchford, A. L. Boothroyd, Wardle, and G. Metcalfe. Bro. R. Lunt was a visitor.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Frascati, Oxford-street, on Monday, the 6th inst., under the presidency of Bro. J. R. Roberts, W.M., when there was a good attendance. The W.M. was supported by Bros. E. Valeriani, P.M., S.W.; W. Thomas, P.M., J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; J. Stephens, Prov. G.W. Bucks, Sec.; E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., S.D.; E. J. Reed, J.D.; H. Carter, I.G.; W. H. Making and J. H. Haylor, D.C.s.; M. S. Rubenstein, Org.; W. H. G. Rudderford, Stwd.; and others. Visitors: Bros. S. P. Fisher, Treas. 217; F. W. Upton, S.W.; C. Bonham, W.M. 1305; N. J. Turner, W.M. elect 1767; H. Campbell, W.M. 742; A. Ritchie, J.W. 173; A. Williams, P.M. 1767; S. Wingrove, 901; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and Bro. A. Lohnstein, H. W. Douglas, and W. Christie were passed to the Second Degree. The following candidates having been successful at the ballot were initiated: Messrs. J. F. Ayton, R. Price, W. G. Wigglesworth, F. C. Potts, and H. J. Higgins. The ancient charge was also delivered by the W.M. Bro. J. Alexander and C. Deakin were unanimously elected joining members. On the proposition of Bro. J. Stephens, Sec., a cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Bro. Eustace Mawe for his gift to the lodge of a silver snuff-box. Apologies for non-attendance were announced, and the lodge was closed.

After a well-served banquet, the customary toasts were given, the W.M. setting an example of commendable brevity.

Bro. J. Stephens, Prov. G.W. Bucks, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that Bro. Roberts, their esteemed W.M., had a very difficult task in following one so eminent and capable as their I.P.M.—Bro. Bailey, Grand Treasurer—but whatever their W.M. took in hand he always endeavoured to the best of his ability to discharge the duties associated with the position. Sometimes their W.M. had to travel a long way to discharge his duties in their lodge, and that had been the case that day.

Bro. J. R. Roberts, W.M., thanked the Secretary and the brethren for their kindness. He was very proud of the high position he had the honour to hold, but did not feel himself worthy of being the second W.M. of the Fellowship Lodge. Three weeks ago he met with a serious accident, but he felt it his imperative duty to endeavour to be present on that occasion, and he had done his duty to the best of his ability, although in a very imperfect manner. So long as he was their W.M. they could rely upon him doing his best to make the lodge a success, and he sincerely trusted that when he left the chair he should have the good feeling of every member. He hoped to have plenty of work at the next meeting, and also to be in better health and give them greater satisfaction.

"The Initiates" was next given, and Bro. H. J. Higgins replied in an admirable speech, and expressed his admiration at the impressive ceremony. He thought that any man who acted up to the dictates of manhood should be a Mason. He felt deeply indebted to the members one and all, and hoped he might always extend the hand of fellowship to any Mason, and he trusted in return to find it extended to him. He again thanked them, and was specially indebted to the W.M. and his proposer and seconder.

The W.M. next gave "The Visitors" a cordial welcome, and, in reply, Bros. Campbell, Williams, and Turner returned thanks.

Bro. A. Ritchie, J.W. 173, also responded, and said he was indebted to his old friend, Bro. Welford, P.M., Treas., for the invitation. Bro. Welford was so well known for his geniality that it would ill become him to do more than thank him. His pleasure had been enhanced by the fact that he had known the W.M. for many years. To know Bro. Roberts was to love and respect him, as they all did, and they were sure that he would add lustre to that lodge as his predecessor had done. He (Bro. Ritchie) was also pleased to meet Bro. James Stephens, who had won golden opinions throughout the

country. They were all proud of the new honour achieved by Bro. Stephens, who had been appointed Prov. G. Warden of Bucks, and if his Royal Highness did not give him one of the foremost honours next year, one and all would see that they placed him in the highest position which they as Craftsmen could confer.

"The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers" was the last toast given by the W.M., to which Bro. J. Welford, P.M., Treas., first replied.

Bro. J. Stephens, P.M., Sec., in response, said that, as the original founder of the lodge, he would do everything he could to enhance its prosperity.

Bros. Valeriani, P.M., S.W., and W. Thomas, P.M., J.W., also replied, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

A choice programme of music was provided by Bros. J. Dicks, A. Wilson, and J. and C. Orner, and Miss Greta Williams. The numerous items afforded unbounded enjoyment to all present, and left nothing to be desired.

A GRAND MASONIC TEMPLE is being arranged for at the new Trocadero Restaurant which Messrs. J. Lyons & Co. are now completing at Piccadilly Circus. Special and complete accommodation will be provided for large and small lodges, and the tariff will be strictly in accord with the moderation which has hitherto characterised J. Lyons and Co.'s charges. The cuisine will fully sustain the high reputation this company have already earned, and the decorations and comforts of the whole place will mark a new era in the record of Masonic gatherings. Inquiries as to particulars, should be addressed to the proprietors, J. Lyons & Co., Limited, Cadby Hall, Kensington.—[ADVT.]

Royal Arch.

Lion and Lamb Chapter, No. 192.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street. Present: Comps. John Taylor, P.Z., M.E.Z.; S. M. Banker, I.P.Z.; W. Haynes Dunn, J.; George Kenning, P.Z., Treas.; F. D. R. Copestick, P.Z., S.E.; G. Couchman, Janitor; Thos. Cohu, P.Z.; Dr. Dingle, P.Z.; John Kent, Wm. Baker, G. Robeson, J. Todd, T. Chatterton, Walter Fisher, David Ringrose, and Geo. K. Durrant.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. Bros. Walter Fisher, 2411; David Ringrose, 1076; and George K. Durrant, 2291, were exalted to the Degree of Royal Arch Masonry by Comp. F. D. R. Copestick in his usual masterly manner. A telegram was sent to Comp. Henry Muggerridge congratulating him on the attainment of his 85th birthday.

The companions dined together under the gavel of Comp. John Taylor, M.E.Z.

Southwark Chapter, No. 879.

The installation meeting of this highly successful and popular South London chapter was held at the Bridge House Hotel, on Tuesday, the 7th inst. Present: Comps. G. E. Blanchard, M.E.Z.; E. C. Talbot, H., M.E.Z. elect; J. H. Frye, J.; Thos. Bugler, S.E.; F. W. Nightingale, S.N.; Walter Sykes, 1st A.S.; A. E. Kipps, Org.; E. Mallett, P.Z., Janitor; Walter Martin, P.Z.; J. G. Millbourn, P.Z.; L. J. Whalley, C. Butcher, J. Ellinger, G. Bugler, J. Howell, R. Turner, E. Dean, W. J. Hubbard, W. J. Taylor, H. J. Harper, A. J. Tate, F. H. Harris, E. S. Walford, O. Grosse, W. Wells, and W. Fielder. Visitors: Comps. G. Brown, P.Z. 169; J. Almond, H., M.E.Z. elect 1839; C. W. Pridmore, P.Z. 619; J. Newton, P.Z. 174, P.A.G.D.C.; A. Barrett, J. elect 201; J. J. Smith, P.S. 7; F. W. Stephens, 101; D. Hills, J. elect 185; A. G. Telling, 879; and C. H. Stone, M.E.Z. 1901, P.Z. 1275.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of induction next took place, Comp. G. E. Blanchard, M.E.Z., inducting Comp. E. C. Talbot into the chair of M.E.Z. Comp. E. C. Talbot inducted Comp. J. H. Frye into the chair of H., and Comp. J. H. Frye inducted Comp. E. W. Nightingale into the chair of J. The M.E.Z. next invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. W. Topp, P.Z., Treas.; Walter Martin, P.Z., acting S.E.; T. Bugler, S.E.; A. Purkiss, S.N.; G. Purkiss, P.S.; W. Sykes, 1st A.S.; C. Butcher, 2nd A.S.; H. J. Harper, D.C.; A. J. T. Tate, Steward; A. E. Kipps, Org.; and E. Mallett, P.Z., Janitor. The balance-sheet, as audited, was presented and adopted, which showed the chapter to be in a most flourishing condition.

The business of the convocation ended, the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was most ably presided over by the M.E.Z., who, on the removal of the cloth, gave the usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts in most becoming terms.

The toast of "The Pro G.Z., G.H., and G.J.," received at the hands of Comp. E. C. Talbot, M.E.Z., that well-merited praise it deserved, who remarked that the chapter most heartily welcomed Comp. J. Newton, P.Z., a P.G. Officer.

In reply, Comp. J. Newton stated the pleasure it gave him to be present and witness such excellent working, and, on behalf of the Grand Officers, most cordially thanked the companions for the honour done them. The Grand Officers always did their work heartily and thoroughly, and he advised the companions who were eligible to attend Grand Chapter to do so as often as possible and witness for themselves. He trusted that the same hearty and cordial feeling would continue to be extended towards the Grand Officers as upon the present occasion.

Comp. G. E. Blanchard, I.P.Z., rose and presented what he considered the toast of the evening, that of "Comp. E. C. Talbot, the highly-esteemed M.E.Z." All present knew what an excellent Mason he was, and whose working was second to none. He had identified himself with their Benevolent Charitable Institutions nobly, was Past Master of Lodge Prosperity, No. 65, and also of the Harrow Lodge, No. 1310, and whose services in the latter lodge had been so deservedly recognised by Bro. Lord George Hamilton, Prov. G.M. Middx., in appointing him Prov. A.G.D.C. Those facts showed their M.E.Z. was one of the right calibre, and he (Comp. Blanchard) trusted that he would follow in the footsteps of the Past Principals of the Southwark Chapter, and that the companions, in introducing good men and true, would enable the M.E.Z. to show his excellent ability. All wished him a happy and successful year of office.

In reply, Comp. E. C. Talbot, M.E.Z., most heartily thanked Comp. Blanchard, I.P.Z., for such kind expressions and also for the hearty reception given him. He echoed every sentiment expressed by the proposer as regarded the prosperity of the chapter, and he hoped plenty of work would be brought him in order to carry out the great things which had been said of him. The companions would at all times find him most ready and willing to perform his duties and maintain the prestige of the Southwark Chapter.

The M.E.Z. next presented the toast of "The I.P.Z., Comp. Blanchard," who had performed his duties during the past year in a most exemplary manner. The companions had unanimously voted the handsome jewel, and, in presenting it on behalf of the chapter, they all wished he might wear it for many years, and adorn the chapter with his presence, and the M.E.Z. hoped in the wearing of the jewel it would remind him of the esteem he was held in, and also to the honour and credit of himself in discharging his duties in so admirable a manner.

Comp. Blanchard, in reply, thanked the M.E.Z. for such flattering remarks and for such a reception at the hands of the companions. It was indeed a very proud position to be a Past Principal of such a chapter. In fact, he had much to thank the chapter and the Star Lodge of Instruction for, which had enabled him, through the great kindness and courtesy of Comp. Walter Martin, P.Z., the worthy Preceptor, to take the handsome sum of 250 guineas to the Boys' Festival, thus becoming the premier Steward. It was, indeed, the proudest moment in his life upon hearing the announcement. He had endeavoured to maintain the prestige of the chapter, and nothing should be wanting on his part still to do his utmost and support the M.E.Z. He thanked the companions for such a handsome jewel, and his earnest desire was long to wear it, and he hoped the day was very far distant that he should not be standing before them as P.Z. of so great a chapter.

The M.E.Z., in presenting the toast of "The H. and J.," remarked of the former—Comp. Frye—of his capabilities, which had been recognised only last week in his being made a Prov. Grand Officer of Buckinghamshire; also of Comp. Nightingale, J., all knew him so well, that it was unnecessary to eulogise his able working.

Comp. Frye, H., replied in happy terms for the honour done him. It was an exalted position indeed, and if further he gained their approval he should always carry out the duties which devolved upon him to his best ability. He was a founder of the chapter, and took a very deep interest in the same, and it always gave him the greatest pleasure to be among them.

Comp. Nightingale, J., in his reply, thanked Comp. Bugler for allowing him to succeed to the position of J., and also the companions for such a cordial reception of the toast. He, too, was a founder, and also took a very lively interest in the chapter.

In presenting the toast of "The Past Principals," the M.E.Z. eulogised the splendid services rendered by them to the chapter, which had been the means of its rising to so a high position. To Comp. Walter Martin, the first M.E.Z., the best thanks of all present were due for the very great care and support he always gave to the chapter. Also of Comps. Millbourn, Bevis, and Wilkinson (who was unavoidably absent through illness, and with whom all expressed their sympathy), and lastly, the I.P.Z., Comp. Blanchard, all most worthy and distinguished brethren.

Comp. Walter Martin most cordially thanked the companions for such a warm greeting, and expressed regret at the absence of Comps. Bevis and Wilkinson, some of his best friends. He would write a letter to Comp. Wilkinson expressing their sympathy. The Past Principals certainly had done their best for the chapter, and they were delighted with the result. He was delighted to see Comp. Newton present, one who always took such a deep interest in the Benevolent Institution. Certainly he was proud of Precepting such a lodge of instruction as the Star, which had enabled Comp. Blanchard, two years ago, of taking up to the Girls' Institution a handsome sum, and this year to the Boys' 250 guineas, and had, during its existence, sent up to the Charities no less than £5000, and so long as brethren and companions carried out such excellent precepts, they need not fear of prospering. His services were most gladly rendered to the chapter.

Comp. Millbourn also most ably responded, and pledged himself to continue his support to maintain the high reputation attained, so excellently begun by Comp. Walter Martin.

Comp. Blanchard again thanked the companions for the very great kindness shown him, and stated he trusted that the same good feeling which existed then and as he was reminded by his jewel, Quintus being the inscription, that that fellowship would become more and more centered for many periods of five years. The chapter was second to none, and as a Past Principal he was very proud indeed.

The toast of "The Visitors" received at the hands of the M.E.Z. many kind expressions and a cordial welcome to the chapter.

Comps. J. Newton, Brown, Pridmore, Harman, Hill, Barrett, Smith, F. Stephens, and C. H. Stone cordially replied.

The M.E.Z. next proposed "The Officers" in terms of praise, congratulating himself and the chapter upon such an excellent array. One and all were most capable, from Comp. Walter Martin, acting S.E., whose services were most valuable, to Comp. Kipps, the esteemed Organist.

Comps. T. Bugler, George Bugler, C. Butcher, and Harper most gratefully responded.

The Janitor's toast closed a most eventful evening.

An excellent programme of music was arranged under the conductorship of Comp. Arthur E. Kipps, the Organist, most ably assisted by Miss Marie Hollinshead, Miss Annie Wilson, Comps. Fred. Stephens and E. T. Walford, Bro. Wingrove Ives, and Mr. H. Marriott. Comp. A. E. Kipps presided at the piano.

THE GLORIES of the old Trocadero in its best days are to be more than revived, as Messrs. J. Lyons & Co. have erected upon its site at Piccadilly Circus one of the grandest restaurants to be found in Europe. For elegance and convenience of construction, splendour of decoration, and the comfort and completeness of the general appointments it would be difficult to find its peer. The cuisine of J. Lyons & Co., Ltd., has earned for this Company the title of The Only Perfect Caterers, and the Trocadero Restaurant will be a distinct acquisition to Masonic lodges. Applications respecting bookings should be made to the proprietors, J. Lyons & Co., Ltd., Cadby Hall, Kensington, W.—[ADVT.]

Lodge of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. A. J. Rippin, W.M.; Drake, S.W.; White, J.W.; Jas. Smith, Asst. Sec.; Butcher, S.D.; Emden, J.D.; Fishleigh, I.G.; Harlow, P.M.; Thomas, P.M.; Greig, Asst. Preceptor; Collins, Farr, Cranston, Saunton, Callingham, C. Ratt, and Shipman.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Collins being the candidate. The lodge was then called off and on. Bro. Callingham was elected a joining member, and the lodge was closed.

THE OLD TROCADERO went the way of all things but in its stead there has been raised a Trocadero which bids fair to altogether eclipse the memories of the old favourite place of amusement. A magnificent restaurant has been raised upon its site, and Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Limited, have succeeded beyond their anticipations in making this the most attractive and comfortable resort of the kind in Europe. A Masonic Temple is included in its many attractions and exceptionally good arrangements are being made for the convenience of lodges. Application for particulars should be made to the proprietors, J. Lyons and Co. Limited, Cadby Hall, Kensington.—[ADVT.]

RECENT BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The following additions to lists have been received since our report of last week, viz.:

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s	d.
15 Bro. G. F. Smith ...	...	1	1	0
	(raising his list to £52 10s.)			
18 " E. T. Wilks ...	...	1	1	0
	(raising his list to £44 12s. 6d.)			
1716 " C. R. Allin ...	...	1	0	0
	(raising his list to £101 10s.)			
PROVINCES.				
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.				
2492 Bro. T. W. Allsop ...	...	5	5	0
	(raising his list to £84 10s. 6d.)			
DERBYSHIRE.				
2373 Bro. A. W. Byron ...	...	3	3	0
	(raising his list to £34 13s.)			
HANTS AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT.)				
Grant from the Funds of Prov. G. Lodge to be divided } among four of the Stewards ... }		26	5	0
KENT.				
1314 Bro. G. D. Webb... ..	...	2	2	0
	(raising his list to £122 17s.)			
LANCASHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION).				
2229 Bro. G. A. Harradon, further addition ...	...	1	1	0
	(raising his list to £30 9s.)			
MIDDLESEX.				
352 Bro. A. Foyer ... ..	...	2	2	0
	(raising his list to £32 18s.)			
WEST YORKSHIRE (ADDITIONAL),				
£60 10s., making the total from the province £760 10s.				

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)
For the week ending Saturday, July 25, 1896.

MONDAY, JULY 20.

CRAFT LODGES.
720, Panmure, Balham Hotel.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.
1657, Aldersgate, Albion Tavern.
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.
Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Marquess of Ripon, Mildmay Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8
Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30.
Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
Walthamstow, The Chequers, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
Woodrow, Star and Garter Hotel, Pall Mall, W., at 3.
Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8.

TUESDAY, JULY 21.

Board of General Purposes, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.
CRAFT LODGES.
73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel.
857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1825, Bromley St. Leonard, Vestry Hall, Bow-road, Bromley.
2191, Anglo-American, Criterion.
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION
Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Duke of Cornwall, Queen's Arms, Queen-street, Cheapside, at 7.
Egyptian, Salutation, Newgate-street, at 7.
Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tavern, Plough-road, Rotherhithe, Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and 4th Tues., at 7.30.
Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
Mount Edgumbe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road, Peckham, at 8.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Prince Frederick William, Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida Vale, W., at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Waltham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22.

Board of Benevolence, at 5 precisely.
CRAFT LODGES.
753, Prince Frederick William, Frascati Restaurant.
754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Hotel.
1017, Montefiore, Cafe Royal.
1300, Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel, Wimbledon.

THURSDAY, JULY 23.

House Committee Girls' School, at 4.30.
CRAFT LODGES.
1421, Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford.
2319, Scots, Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court.

FRIDAY, JULY 24.

SATURDAY, JULY 25.

CRAFT LODGES.
1297, West Kent, Crystal Palace.

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PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF SURREY.

THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, G.C.M.G.,
R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER.

July, 1896.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand Lodge will be held at THE ALBANY HALL, FIFE ROAD, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd day of JULY, 1896, at FOUR o'clock in the afternoon precisely.
By command.

CHARLES T. TYLER, P.M.,

Prov. Grand Secretary.

N.B.—Morning Dress.

2, Bank Buildings,
Woking.

BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.

To read the Minutes of the last P.G. Lodge.
To call over Roll of Lodges in the Province.
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.
To receive the Report of the Charity Committee.
To elect a Provincial Grand Treasurer.
The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.
General Business.

Banquet at Six o'clock punctually at the ST. JAMES' HALL, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have taken tickets, for which application must be made to the Asst. P.G. Sec., Bro. W. A. LATHAM, at Albert Institute Chambers, Charles-street, Blackfriars-road, S.E.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SURREY.

THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF ONSLOW, G.C.M.G.,
M.E. GRAND SUPERINTENDENT.

July, 1896.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Provincial Grand Chapter will be held at THE ALBANY HALL, FIFE ROAD, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, in the County of SURREY, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd day of JULY, 1896, at THREE o'clock in the afternoon precisely.
By command.

CHARLES T. TYLER, P.P.G.J.,

Prov. Grand Scribe E.

Morning Dress.

2, Bank Buildings,
Woking.

BUSINESS BEFORE PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER.

To read the Minutes of the last P.G. Chapter.
To call over the Chapters in the Province.
To receive the Report of the Audit Committee.
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The appointment of Provincial Grand Officers.
General Business.

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N.B.—Banquet will be provided for those only who have taken tickets. The Companions will banquet with the Provincial Grand Lodge.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE CHORAL FESTIVAL of the Tonic-Sol-Fa Association was held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday last, the number of certificated singers who took part in the performances being about 5000. A splendid programme had been arranged, and everything passed off successfully.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES and the Princesses Victoria and Maud, the Duke and Duchess of York, Princes Christian and Charles of Denmark, honoured the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, with their presence on Saturday evening last, and witnessed a performance of "Romeo and Juliette."

IT HAS NOW been definitely arranged that the Princess Maud of Wales and Prince Charles of Denmark, after their marriage on the 22nd inst., shall proceed to Sandringham from St. Pancras, and will not go through the City. An intimation to this effect has been forwarded to Bro. Lord Mayor Sir W. Wilkin.

THE DIRECTORS of Harrod's Stores, Limited, have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary shares in respect of the half-year ending 30th June, last, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. Dividend warrants will be posted on the 25th of July to all shareholders whose names are on the company's register on the 11th inst.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT at the second garden party given by the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Benson at Lambeth Palace, on Saturday last, were the United States Ambassador, the Duke of Hamilton, the Earl and Countess of Carysfort, Bro. Earl and Countess Amherst, the Countess of Kintore, and Viscountess Wolsley.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN and Prince Charles of Denmark, attended by Lieutenant Lwald, arrived at Marlborough House on Saturday morning last on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses were received at Victoria by the Hon. H. Storer, Groom-in-Waiting to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who will be attached to their Royal Highnesses during their visit to England.

THE MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY held a Council of the Irish Industries' Association at Londonderry House on Saturday afternoon last, among those present being the Marchioness of Dufferin, Countess Cadogan, the Countess of Mayo, the Countess of Bective, Bro. Lord and Lady Arthur Hill, Lady Betty Balfour, Lady Cremorne, the Hon. Lady Ridley, Lady Crawley, and many others. The report was rather more satisfactory than usual.

BY HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND, a number of the Burmese workmen and workwomen from the Crystal Palace visited Windsor Castle on Saturday last accompanied by Mr. Henry Gillman and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fowler. The Queen, when inspecting them, made many kindly inquiries respecting them, to which Mr. Fowler replied. The Brahmins, the Buddhist Nun, and a little girl were introduced to her Majesty and the Duke and Duchess of York.

THE DUKE OF YORK, who is Honorary Colonel of the regiment, inspected the 3rd Middlesex Artillery at the Wellington Barracks on Saturday afternoon last. His Royal Highness, who wore the uniform of the 3rd Middlesex, was accompanied by Bro. Lord Methuen, commanding the Home District, and when the inspection was over, expressed his satisfaction with the regiment, and the manner in which they had gone through the various movements. The Duchess of York and Prince Christian of Denmark were present in an open carriage, and witnessed the proceedings.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, Grand Prior of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, accompanied by the Duke of York, Sub-Prior, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, conferred at Marlborough House on Tuesday afternoon, several medals and certificates of honour, which had been awarded by the Chapter for acts of gallantry in saving life on land at imminent personal risk. Among those present were Bro. Lord Lech, Sir Hubert Parrott (Secretary), Bro. Sir Albert Woods, Viscount Knutsford, Bro. General Sir George Willis, Bro. Sir Thomas Sutherland, and the Earl of Ranfenley.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, who was accompanied by the Princess and their daughter, the Princess Victoria of Wales, visited Limpsfield on Saturday last, for the purpose of opening the Convalescent Home in connection with Charing Cross Hospital, which has been erected at the cost of Bro. J. Passmore Edwards. There was a large gathering of spectators, who gave the Royal party an enthusiastic welcome, while among the notabilities present at the function were Bro. Lord and Lady Wantage, Lord and Lady de Lisle, the Bishop of Southwark, Bro. and Mrs. Passmore Edwards, Bros. J. B. Martin, M.P., Sir Henry Irving, and E. Terry, and Mr. G. J. Drummond, who contributed £1000 towards the purchase of the site. An address was read by Bro. Martin, and acknowledged by his Royal Highness, who afterwards inspected the building. The home will accommodate 20 men, 20 women, and 10 children, and is splendidly situated on high ground.

CARE OF OUR AGED SEAMEN.—Admiral Sir F. Leopold McClintock, K.C.B., F.R.S., was again unanimously elected Chairman, and Capt. David Mainland, F.R.G.S., was elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution on the 8th instant, at 55, Fenchurch-street, E.C. General satisfaction was expressed at the progress the institution was making, the receipts each month showing an appreciable increase on the corresponding month of last year. This institution, established in 1867 to "give a home or a pension to the merchant seamen when old, destitute, and helpless," has admitted to its home, situated on a beautiful Kentish hill, at Belvedere, 407 inmates, and has given a pension of £12 a year to 786 others at their own homes throughout the United Kingdom; these benefits are enjoyed, on an average, seven years, and so eagerly are they sought after, that there are now 260 approved applicants on the books, men who are between 65 and 85 years of age, and who have weathered the storms and dangers of the sea for periods of from 21 to 64 years. It is sad to contemplate that, unless these aged and distressed public servants are successful in obtaining the benefits of this Charity, there is no other similar door open to them. They deserve well of their countrymen, and should not be allowed to end their days in biting poverty and actual want. Mr. J. Bailey Walker, the Secretary, will gladly give further information.

THE QUEEN'S Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on Monday was a great function. Between 3000 and 4000 guests were invited, and the gardens, which cover some 40 acres, showed a marvellous wealth of colour, but of a subdued character. Among those present were their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, who graciously received her Majesty's guests, the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and their daughters, the Princesses Margaret and Patricia, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and the Princess Victoria, Prince Christian Video and Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, and Duke Ernest Gunther of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duchess of Albany and Princess Elizabeth of Waldeck-Pyrmont, attended by Bro. Sir Robert and Lady Collins; the Duke and Duchess of York; Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife, and Bro. the Duke of Fife; the Princess Frederica of Harover, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the Princes Christian and Charles of Denmark, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, any many others. Bros. Lord A. Hill and the Earl of Lathom, the Earl of Pembroke, and other officers of the State and Household were in attendance on the Prince and Princess of Wales, and among the general and diplomatic circles were nearly all the Foreign Ministers, Bros. Lord Halsbury and Herschell, Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the Marquis of Salisbury. The bands of the Grenadier Guards and the Royal Horse Guards and the string band of the Royal Artillery were stationed at different points in the garden and played choice selections of music, while refreshments were served in large marquees, which had been erected for the purpose. The whole scene was of the most charming character imaginable.

V. BENOIST, 36, Piccadilly, W.—Barquets, Dinners, Suppers, and Receptions served in the most unique style. Menus and estimates on application. Also French Comestibles of every description. Sole Caterer to the celebrated Grafton Galleries. The best locale in the West End for holding Private Parties, Balls, &c. Telephone, No. 3,919. Telegrams, Goumet, London.—[ADVT.]

THE TROCADERO RESTAURANT will shortly be opened by Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Limited, after a lengthened period of preparation. Every effort is being made to make this the handsomest and most perfectly-equipped dining palace in Europe, and the arrangements for Masquerade meetings will be made a special feature. Applications respecting bookings should be made as early as possible to the proprietors, J. Lyons and Co., Limited, Cadby Hall, Kensington, where all inquiries should be addressed.—[ADVT.]

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ANCASTER entertained a party at dinner, on Thursday evening, at their residence in Belgrave-square. Lady Ancaster held a reception later.

BRO. BARON DE BUSH, on the nomination of Bro. Past Master Fuller, seconded by Bro. Matthew R. Webb, has been unanimously elected on the Court of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company.

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF JERSEY welcomed at Osterley Park, on Thursday, about 600 boys and girls of the National Refuge for Homeless and Destitute Children, of which his lordship has been president since the death of the "Good" Lord Shaftesbury.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, Prince Charles of Denmark and Prince Christian of Denmark, and suite witnessed the performance of "Manon" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Thursday evening.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE was present at the annual inspection on Saturday last of the Feltham Industrial School, which is under the control of the London County Council, and distributed the prizes. His Royal Highness complimented the boys on the excellence of their drill, and afterwards gave them some excellent advice as to the manner in which they should conduct themselves in order to win the regard of their superiors.

WE ARE INFORMED that a site, valued at 4500 taels, has recently been acquired at Shanghai for the erection of the Missions to Seamen Church, Institute, and agent's residence, at a further cost of 10,000 taels. We further learn that two-thirds of the site has been given to the British Chaplain, the Rev. H. C. Hodges, by Bro. Cornelius Thorne, P. Dist. G.M. North China, the father of the Moira Lodge, No. 93, and 1000 taels towards the remaining portion by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.

A CABIN CANDLESTICK, weighing only four ounces, and said to have belonged to Oliver Cromwell, and used by Lord Nelson for sealing dispatches, was knocked down at Christie's for £76; an old earthenware jug, the one in which the great admiral was served with grog each night by his steward, fetched £85; a small plain cream jug, the roughly mended foot of which was broken off by Lord Nelson stepping on the jug, and was soldered on by his armourer, £18; and an octagonal-shaped basket, 1693, £60 18s.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY were inspected at their headquarters in Finsbury, on Saturday last, by Bro. Major-General Lord Methuen, there being present a large assemblage of spectators, among whom were Colonel Walker and the officers and members of the Massachusetts Honourable Artillery Company. The Earl of Denbigh was in command, and there was on the ground the horse and field batteries, as well as the infantry, to the number of about 300, the inspection being confined to the latter.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK honoured the Earl and Countess of Powis by their company at dinner at their house in Berkeley-square on Thursday. Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Bro. the Earl and Countess Cadogan, Bro. the Earl and Countess Carrington, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Yarborough, the Earl of Ilchester, Lady Mary Lygon and the Hon. Derek Keppel (in waiting), the Hon. Mrs. G. N. Curzon, Sir Edgar and Lady Helen Vincent, and Sir Charles Hall were among the guests invited to meet their Royal Highnesses. The Countess of Powis afterwards had an evening party.

OF THE CRICKET MATCHES that were brought to a conclusion on Saturday last, were the Eton and Harrow, which terminated in a draw in favour of the former, Eton having made 386 runs in her one innings, and Harrow 218 and 255 with two wickets still to fall. For Eton, H. C. Pilkington and B. J. T. Bosanquet scored 101 and 120 respectively, and R. Lubbock 56; while for Harrow, R. F. Vibart made 42 and 35, E. B. T. Studd 5 and 50, W. F. A. Rattigan 19 and 72, and H. J. Wyld 80 and 0. The Australians beat the Players on the Essex County Ground at Leyton, in an innings and 137 runs, the scores being Australians 454, Players 107 and 120. Sussex beat Surrey by 43 runs after a hard fight, while Notts defeated Yorkshire by four wickets.

A COLLECTION OF DRAWINGS by old masters, belonging to the late Lord Leighton and of engravings after his own works, was put up to auction, and some remarkable prices were realised. The principal items submitted at Christie's were: Study of Boyish Figures in various attitudes, in red chalk, by Andrea del Sarto, £450; sketches of Figures and Ornaments, in ink and chalk, by Leonardo da Vinci, £220; studies of two Male Figures, in red chalk, £98; "A Lady in a Mantilla," by A. Watteau, £100 16s.; four sketches for Figures in the Last Judgment, by Michael Angelo Buonarroti, £60; study of a Child in his Cradle, in black chalk, by Rembrandt, £43; "Landscape, with Village Surrounded by Trees," by Rembrandt, £42; "The Music Party," by Guilio Campagnola, £41. The total realised £1631.

THE HANS CRESCENT HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED, will be before the public in the course of a few days, and this is another instance of a big business coming into the hands of those who are fortunate enough to secure allotments. The Hans Place Hotel, which adopts under the company's control the new and more appropriate title of "The Hans Crescent Hotel," seeing that it is situated in Hans-crescent, and in the very centre as it were of fashionable London, was only opened some two months ago, and has scarcely had a suite of rooms unoccupied since. The particular feature of this hotel, which evidently commends it to the traveller, as well as the temporary resident, in the Metropolis of the world, is that it is a family hotel, inasmuch as one may live there in a flat just as though the apartments were in any of the Belgravian mansions. Everything is contained in the one suite of rooms. A minute from one's drawing-room will lead to the conservatories and winter garden, the smoking-room, billiard-room, and so forth, so that the club man and family man can be equally happy. There will undoubtedly be a strong demand for the shares of the Hans Crescent Hotel Company.

THE BRITISH HOMES INVESTMENT CORPORATION, LIMITED.

The directors of this Corporation have succeeded in establishing an institution which in future history must play a conspicuous part in the improvement of the fortunes of the community at large, and its marvellous progress made in so comparatively brief a period conclusively proves that the concern is constituted on a highly acceptable basis, for already its membership has extended to every town and village in the United Kingdom. *British Homes*, the official publication of the Corporation—a bright, chatty, and well-edited magazine—teems with reports of meetings held here, there, and everywhere, and the proceedings are characterised by deep fervour and enthusiasm, and there is a ring of harmony and sincerity in the tone assumed by the speakers, most of whom display much intelligence and declamatory power. The fête of the outside staff recently held at the Crystal Palace, forming a grand muster of representatives, shareholders, certificate holders, and friends of the Corporation was an event which will not be early forgotten, where some 200 ladies and gentlemen joined in the festivities. The remarks of the various speakers at that brilliant function carried conviction, and many were impressed by them and felt more than ever the excellent future prospects in store for them by their allegiance to this young but vigorous institution. And who can fail to be buoyant and happy under such circumstances, when within a brief period—only five years—the tenant becomes, so to speak, his own landlord, and is removed far and away from the thrall of a shelter under another man's roof. There is a great deal of noise about landlordism and independence, but alas for the improvidence rampant everywhere, there is comparatively little effort made to secure emancipation from this state of existence, and the crowds of misguided folks continue to indulge their profitless indulgences and ignore the chances of a suitable provision for the autumn of their lives, electing to continue gratifying their tastes and passions in the present, and courting misery and want at the time when the cunning of the hand is lost and the faculties are on the wane. It is to be hoped that the facilities offered to such people by the British Homes Investment Corporation may largely arrest this sorry state of things, and, judging by the enthusiasm and vivacity which appear to characterise the words and acts of the officials, it may reasonably be assumed that a deep missionary element prevails, and that this institution may safely be esteemed philanthropic, as well as promoting beneficial thrift and economy, amongst those whom they would seek to win. Mr. M. Gregory, the founder of the scheme, appears to have been exceedingly happy in his conception, for it has not only won round him an enormous army of appreciative adherents and a popular control, but on all sides the critics have been unprecedentedly mild; in short, they have set their imprimatur to a widely-disseminated verdict of approval. The constitution of the establishment is based on sound materials, the trustees for certificate-holders being Mr. Alderman N. W. Hubbard, L.C.C., and Mr. Charles Comins, C.A., and the directory, of whom Mr. T. Neville Stack, F.S.S., is Chairman, include well-known names of gentlemen long identified with social improvement and public work. The head office is at 100, London Wall and 3, Circus-place, E.C., where all particulars will be readily furnished to applicants.