

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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

VOL. XXXV. NO. 1431.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1896.

[PRICE 3d.]

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UNITED GRAND LODGE AND THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND.

It is much to be regretted that any opposition should have been raised to the very reasonable motion which the Pro Grand Master submitted for the acceptance of Grand Lodge at its Special Communication on the 29th ult. The gracefulness of the act proposed to be done by such a resolution is considerably lessened when an inappreciable minority—which in this particular instance must have realised from the very outset that its opinions would not prevail—insists upon pressing to the ordeal of a division a counter-resolution, which, as far as we are able to judge of its tendency, could have no other effect than that of hampering the Grand Master in the course he proposes to adopt. The great desideratum in New Zealand Freemasonry is the restoration of harmony among the several sections into which the Craft in that Colony is divided. The purpose of the resolution which the Earl of LATHOM brought forward is to restore that harmony in a manner “consistent with the honour” of United Grand Lodge “and with just consideration for those lodges which may desire to retain their connection with the Grand Lodge of England.” The circumstances as set forth in the Grand Master’s message fully justified such a resolution. We were told in the first place that his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. had received and considered “the application for recognition by the Grand Lodge of England of the new body called the Grand Lodge of New Zealand as an independent sovereign Masonic Authority”; and in the second place that he (the M.W.G.M.) had “informed himself of the general state of Masonic feeling in the Colony.” He therefore expressed it as his opinion that with a view to restoring harmony among the different sections of the Craft, and putting an end to all sources of difference, “the time had now arrived when recognition may be accorded.” Under these circumstances, and being fully persuaded of the justice of his opinion, his Royal Highness requested that the sense of Grand Lodge might be taken on the resolution, which was moved on his behalf by the Pro Grand Master, and would enable him to take those steps which in his judgment were necessary for the recognition of the new body, but only in such a manner—and it is important to bear in mind that these limitations to the powers asked for were fixed by his Royal Highness himself—as he may “consider consistent” with the honour of this Grand Lodge and with just consideration “for such lodges as may desire to remain under the Grand Lodge of England.” The case stands out clearly enough. “The new

body called the Grand Lodge of New Zealand” has applied for recognition to the Grand Lodge of England, and the Grand Master of the latter, “having informed himself of the general state of Masonic feeling in the Colony”—not, be it remarked, the feeling of this or that particular section of Masonry, but of all the various sections into which it is parcelled out—is of opinion that recognition may be now accorded without loss of honour to our Grand Lodge and with a due regard for the interests of any of our lodges which may desire to remain under its banner. We fail to see what more than this in the way of limitation any reasonable brother can desire. It is no more, but, at the same time, no less, than has been done in previous cases, nor, as far as our knowledge goes, has our Grand Lodge ever had cause to regret that it has sooner or later accorded recognition to the different Grand Lodges, which, during the last 40 years, have been established in different Colonies of the United Kingdom, in precisely the same manner and with precisely the same reservations, as it is now proposed to adopt in the case of New Zealand. On the contrary, both in New South Wales, where the late Earl of CARNARVON found Freemasonry in the condition of a house divided against itself, and in Victoria, where a somewhat similar state of things existed, the moment it was suggested that a union of the various Constitutions working in those Colonies should be effected, and a local Grand Lodge established and recognised by us as sovereign and independent, that very moment all sense of discord among the several Masonic bodies disappeared, as it were, by magic, and who will say that Freemasonry in these two great Australasian Colonies is not now all the stronger and more prosperous for the change? In New Zealand, when the movement for establishing a local Grand Lodge was started, the circumstances were less favourable. There were not three or four, as in the other Australasian Colonies, which are now independent of the Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom, but as many as nine District or Provincial Grand Lodges presiding over the different lodges scattered throughout the Colony. The difficulty—as we well remember pointing out would be the case at the time when the question was mooted of reconciling all these different local interests—proved for a time insurmountable, and the Earl of ONSLOW—than whom no member of Grand Lodge is better advised as to the nature and extent of those difficulties—found himself under the necessity of declining to be any party to a scheme which only found favour among a comparatively small proportion of the lodges then working in the Colony. But “*tempora mutantur nos et mutamur in illis*.” The 32 lodges that then seceded have swelled by subsequent secessions, &c., to upwards of 100, while on the other hand, there has been an almost corresponding diminution in the number of those remaining in obedience to their parent Grand Lodges. The warrants of the seceding lodges, which were improperly taken possession of by them, have been restored to their rightful custodians, whilst as to the feeling which exists among the English Masons who desire still to remain under their mother Grand Lodge, we had evidence of this in the speeches of Bros. DARGAVILLE and GREENWOOD, who expressed their earnest wish that recognition should be accorded to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand on the ground that it was the one thing needed in order to restore peace and harmony to the distracted Masons in that Colony. It is satisfactory to know that Grand Lodge was equal to the occasion, and, thrusting aside almost contemptuously the petty objections that were raised in the debate to the course proposed

to be adopted, accepted the resolution of the Pro Grand Master "almost unanimously." But it would have been more graceful and more in keeping with the honour of the oldest Grand Lodge in Christendom if our reporter had been able to omit from his record of the manner in which "the original motion was put and carried," what, in this instance, we venture to call that wretched little qualificative—"almost."

ARTICLE 219, BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

There is very little doubt that Article 219 of the Book of Constitutions has much to answer for in ruffling the tempers both of Grand Lodge authorities and the critics. In itself it is innocent of all harm, a perfect marvel in the way of downright simplicity of meaning and intent. It does not say one thing and mean another. If all the great masters of the English language that ever wrote a complete sentence grammatically had met together in solemn conclave for the purpose of framing this Article, they could not have constructed one that would more clearly define the consequences that would follow to a lodge in the event of a majority of its members retiring from it, no matter what the cause of their retirement or the purpose they might have in view in effecting it. The Article lays it down thus: "Should the majority of any lodge determine to retire from it, the power of assembling remains with the rest of the members, but should the number of members remaining at any time be less than three the warrant becomes extinct." Now the meaning of this is clear beyond all question. A lodge may consist of 50, 150, or 500 members, and if 48, 148, or 498 of them determine upon retiring from it, then the minority of *two* has no power of assembling and the warrant becomes extinct. But if only 47, 147, or 497 determine upon retiring, then the minority of *three* is lawfully entitled to assemble under the warrant and exercise all the rights and privileges of a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. This is not the first time we have taken upon ourselves to point out that this Article 219 speaks with no uncertain voice. It defines, absolutely without any qualification, the consequences that are to follow to a lodge when the majority of its members determine upon retiring from it. It is useless for any one to contend, as, we believe, the Grand Registrar did, when the question of establishing a local Grand Lodge in New Zealand was first mooted, that the framers of this Article—of whom, doubtless, he was one—never intended, or even contemplated, that the Article should bear this construction. No one knows better than he, who has attained such eminence in his profession, that a law must be interpreted to mean what it says. If what it says is in accord with the meaning and intent of those who framed it, well and good; but if, unfortunately, as in this and other cases that might be quoted, the law says one thing, while it was intended to mean another, those who administer the law have no alternative but to decide in accordance with its clearly-defined prescriptions rather than with what one or more of those who are responsible for framing it may tell us it was intended to prescribe. This is not one of those laws which, from the careless manner in which the words, clauses, and sentences composing it have been put together, are capable of being interpreted in two or more different ways. If the plain honest English words, grammatically constructed into the sentence which constitutes this Article 219, have any meaning at all, they mean that, in the event of the majority, whether overwhelming or slight, retiring from any Lodge, the minority, provided only it consists of, at least, three members, retains the power of assembling under the warrant, and it is only in those cases in which either all the members determine on retiring, or less than three remain, that the warrant of the lodge becomes extinct.

It is well-nigh inevitable that a law thus absolutely drawn, should be productive of more or less serious hardship to members of lodges as well as prove the innocent cause of great disquietude of mind, among Grand Lodge authorities and critics, nor is the hardship by any means confined to one side. In the case of the lodge we have already imagined, consisting of 50, 150, or 500 members, it is manifestly a very great hardship to the 47, 147, or 497 who determine upon retiring, with the idea, as in the case of this New Zealand question, of becoming a

constituent part of the local Grand Lodge about to be formed, that they should be deprived of their status as an organised lodge, because the remaining three members decline to join them in their decision and insist upon retaining the warrant, and with it the power of assembling as the lodge and exercising their rights and privileges as such. But let us assume that this same lodge is differently divided on the question of joining the proposed local Grand Lodge, or remaining under the banner of the parent Grand Lodge, and that instead of 47, 147, or 497 members being in favour of secession, and three against it, there should be found, 26, 76, or 251 for retiring, and 24, 74, or 249 for remaining. In this case we think it will be generally allowed that it is hard on the members of a minority which is so nearly equal in point of number to the majority that they should be deprived of their organisation as a lodge. We realise that the cases we have imagined are extreme cases, and that when the members of a lodge are not unanimous in favour of one course or the other, they would be differently divided in opinion, being neither, as a rule, so nearly equally divided as in the one case, nor exhibiting such an overwhelming preponderance in favour of secession, as in the other case. We, therefore, submit, with all deference to Grand Lodge, that a clause should be added to Article 219, by which the hardships, which undoubtedly exist at present, though they cannot be wholly removed, shall be reduced to the lowest possible minimum. Let the law, as it stands, be held or declared to apply equally to all those cases in which a majority of the members of a lodge determine on retiring, either because they are desirous of ceasing to be subscribing members, or because they wish to join other lodges, or help in forming new lodges, *within* the fold of our Grand Lodge. Let the new clause provide that in any British colony or possession where there exist lodges that have been warranted by the Grand Lodge of England, and in which the question of forming a local Grand Lodge is raised *bonâ fide*, the question of joining the new body, or remaining in obedience to the mother Grand Lodge, shall be decided by such a majority of the whole body of subscribing members in good standing as will make it clear towards which of the alternative courses the general feeling of the members inclines. This majority may be fixed at two-thirds, three-fourths, four-fifths, or any other proportion that may be preferred, but, whatever the proportion that may ultimately be decided upon, let it be a majority of the whole body of subscribing members, not of those who happen to be present at the formal or informal meeting at which the resolution is considered and decided. If some such course as this be adopted, the interpretation of Article 219 will, in future, present few, if any, difficulties. And, what is more to our purpose, while, as now, the rights of minorities will be safeguarded, the rights of a clearly-defined preponderant majority of members will be respected. We do not sympathise with a bare majority of 26 in a lodge of 50 members which would deprive the remaining 24 members of their rights and privileges; but still less do we concern ourselves much about the fate that befalls a minority of three, who insist on their rights to the detriment of their 47 fellow members.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

On Wednesday evening the Quarterly Convocation of the Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-st. Comp. W. Wither Bramston Beach, M.P., Grand J., Grand Superintendent Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, presided as G.Z.; Comp. Sir Terence O'Brien, K.C.M.G., as G.H.; Comp. Thomas Fenn, Past President of the Committee of General Purposes, as G.J.; and there were present—

Comps. Edward Letchworth, G.S.E.; Sir George D. Harris, President of the Committee of General Purposes; Robert Grey, Past President of the Committee of General Purposes; R. Horton Smith, D.G. Reg.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, P.G.S.; W. Smithett, 1st A.G.S.; E. D. Anderton, G.S.B.; H. Maudesley, P.G.S.B.; R. Plumbe, 1st G. Std. Br.; E. St. Clair, 4th G. Std. Br.; Lennox Browne, P.G. Std. Br.; F. Richardson, G.D.C.; W. A. Scurrah, A.G.D.C.; T. Minstrell, P.A.G.D.C.; Clement Godson, P.G.S.B.; Peter de Lande Long, P.G.P.S.; Gordon Miller, P.A.G.S.; James Edmeston, P.G. Std. Br.; Bruce M. Seton, P.G.P.S.; A. Lucking, P.A.G.D.C.; A. Spencer, P.G.S.B.; Henry Garrod, P.A.G.D.C.; William Lake, A.G.S.E.; Charles D. Hill Drury, P.G.S.B.; William Vincent, P.A.G.D.C.; S. V. Abraham, P.A.G.D.C.; George Read, P.A.G.D.C.; and many others.

The minutes of the previous Quarterly Convocation were read and confirmed.

On the recommendation of the Committee of General Purposes the petition

From Comps. Alfred Wooton, as Z.; Frederick Stanley, as H.; W. H. Mareoolya, as J.; and 14 others for a chapter to be attached to the Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate, to be called the Alfred Wooton Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Temple, Margate, in the County of Kent, was granted, as were memorials, for permission to remove the following chapters: The St. George's Chapter, No. 140, from the Ship Hotel, Greenwich, to the Green Man Hotel, Blackheath Hill; and the De Moulham Chapter, No. 1146, from the Mowlem Institute, Swanage, to the Town Hall, Wareham.

The Committee reported that at a meeting held on the 28th May, the following resolution was passed: "That the Committee of General Purposes desire to express to Comp. Robert Grey their extreme regret that he had requested the Most Excellent First Grand Principal not to re-appoint him to the office of President for the ensuing year, and they beg unanimously to tender to him their most hearty and sincere thanks for the very courteous and dignified manner in which he had presided over them for the lengthy period of 10 years, and the Committee further desire to assure Comp. Grey that, in his retirement from the position of President, he carries with him their highest esteem and most sincere friendship. The Committee unanimously expressed the desire that the above resolution be engrossed and illuminated on vellum, and that a jewel be presented to Comp. Robert Grey, and it was left in the hands of the Grand Scribe E."

Comp. Sir GEORGE D. HARRIS, President of the Committee, in moving the adoption of the report, referred to the unanimous expression of regret there was on the part of the Committee at the retirement of Comp. Robert Grey, who for 10 years had filled the position with ability and courtesy and with credit to himself and advantage to the Institution. Comp. Grey had also been connected with a large Charitable Institution not immediately connected with Freemasonry—the Foundling Hospital—and had thus conclusively proved that the Craft was not the selfish Institution some would have them believe, but that it rather stimulated its members to other great work. (Cheers.)

The report having been adopted,

The M.E. GRAND Z. said the pleasing duty then devolved upon him of presenting to Comp. Grey a jewel suitably engraved, which he hoped he would preserve as a memorial of the kindly feelings entertained towards him by everyone with whom he had come in contact. He hoped also that it would stimulate others. (Cheers.) He heartily concurred with all that had been said with regard to Comp. Grey, and regarded it as a very great pleasure to be the medium for presenting the jewel to him.

Comp. GREY, replying, said it was gratifying to remember that during the time he had been President of the Committee he had never had a single word of difference with the members, but all had worked with that harmony and fraternal spirit which characterised Freemasonry. It was most gratifying to find that Grand Chapter had recognised his services by presenting him with a testimonial, which he should ever value. (Cheers.)

Comp. HENRY GARROD then moved: "That in the opinion of this Supreme Grand Chapter it is desirable that the practice of excluding from the opening of Royal Arch Chapters companions other than installed principals be discontinued," and urged that there was no rule or regulation in Royal Arch Masonry in favour of the practice—and it was only a practice—of excluding companions, and that the alteration would tend to make Royal Arch Masonry more popular.

Comp. CUMBERLAND seconded the motion, which was strongly opposed by Comp. FENN, who remarked that so far from it being only a practice, it had been a part of the ceremony of Royal Arch Masonry for more than 100 years. He warned Grand Chapter not to tamper with their beautiful ceremonies.

Comp. DRURY also opposed the motion, which was negatived.

On the motion of Comp. Sir GEORGE D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. TOBIAS, 100 guineas were voted in aid of the special effort now being made on behalf of Guy's Hospital.

Comp. Sir GEORGE D. HARRIS moved that the following addition should be made to Rule 35 of Royal Arch Regulations: "A District Grand Superintendent if of a Prince of the Blood Royal, may appoint a Pro District Superintendent possessed of the same qualifications to rank immediately before the District Grand H., and who shall be regularly installed, and shall be entitled when in office to all the privileges of a Grand Superintendent, and on retirement, to the rank of Past District Grand Superintendent." He explained that the new regulation was to enable his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, who was Grand Superintendent of Bombay, to appoint a deputy during his absence.

Comp. RICHARDSON seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem con*. Grand Chapter was then closed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DEVONSHIRE.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge is to assemble at Exeter on Wednesday, the 12th instant, and will be of a special character. The Committee of Petitions is convened at the Masonic Hall, Gandy-street, Plymouth, at noon, the new building being both commodious and centrally situated. The Provincial Grand Lodge will meet in the Victoria Hall at two o'clock, when the Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of the lodges in Devon are requested to attend, as also the Present and Past Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. The banquet is to be served at the Royal Public Rooms at 4.30.

Although not so stated on the official summons, it is understood that the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, P.D.G.M. of England, and Prov. G.M. of Cornwall, will preside at the first part of the meeting, and will install Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., as Prov. Grand Master of Devon, in succession to Bro. Viscount Ebrington, who has resigned after having served in that honourable office since the year 1879. His lordship's predecessor was the revered Rev. John Huyshe, M.A., whose costly and handsome chain of office (presented to him by the province in 1866), will be used in the investment of the new Prov. G. Master, the decoration having been presented to the Prov. Grand Lodge by the reverend brother in 1879. Sir Stafford Northcote will be the fifth Prov. Grand Master of Devon since the year 1775. There are now 52 active lodges in the

province, with over 800 Past Masters and 3500 members, the Prov. Grand Lodge being in a high state of efficiency, with valuable charitable funds, which are managed by honorary and most devoted officers, to the great advantage of the Fraternity.

There is no lack of business to be transacted, and the officers for 1896-7 will be appointed and invested by the new Prov. Grand Master, whose appointment by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is most popular throughout the country.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORFOLK.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Thursday, the 23rd ult., at the Masonic Club, St. Giles', Norwich, under the presidency of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Hamon Le Strange, in the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Suffield, whose duties as Lord-in-Waiting to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales detained him in London. Bro. Sir F. G. M. Boileau, Bart., P.M., P.P.S.G.W., acted as Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. BARWELL presented the report of the Charities Committee, which showed that the Norfolk candidate had been elected 10th on a list of 28 with 2821 votes. On the 20th of May the sum of £40 had been secured from the Board of Benevolence for the purpose of apprenticing the son of a deceased brother, and on June 17th a grant of £50 was allowed for the widow of a late member. Both cases were represented by Bro. Captain Mills. It was mentioned as a cause for gratification that the newly-appointed head mistress of the Girls' School was the daughter of a late highly-respected Norfolk Mason.

The D.P.G.M. then invested the following as officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. Robert Fenner, I.P.M. 102, W.M. 2602	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Sir Kenneth Kemp, Bart., I.P.M. 52	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. George Sharley, I.P.M. 1808 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. Forbes Phillips, Chap. 100	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. F. Stratford, P.P.J.G.D., P.M. 807	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" C. J. Campling, P.P.G. Org., I.P.M. 1520	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" G. W. G. Barnard, P.M. 943 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" E. E. Loynes, I.P.M. 2237	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. B. Coleby, I.P.M. 93	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" H. P. Crowe, I.P.M. 943	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Charles Payne, I.P.M. 1193	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" F. E. Smith, I.P.M. 1114	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. P. Smart, I.P.M. 85	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" James Tench, I.P.M. 213	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Sellex, I.P.M. 807	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" E. A. Bracey, 943	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" William Oliver, 943	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" J. C. Howard, P.M. 996	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. A. Smith, I.P.M. 1741	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" C. E. Todd, 807	...	
" Percy Sadd, 943	...	
" W. Bayfield, 996	...	
" J. Bayliss, 1114	...	
" G. Hare, 1193	...	
" E. Holmes, 1500	...	
" E. Hollidge (re-appointed)	...	

The following brethren were elected to form the Board of General Purposes—From the Norwich lodges: Bros. Charles Rackham Gilman, P.M. 52, P.P.G.W.; John Brooks Bridgman, P.M. 93, 943 P.P.G. Reg.; and Thomas Joseph Mackley, P.M. 1520, P.P.A.G.D.C. From the other lodges in the province: Bros. Richard Martin, P.M. 100, 313, P.P.G. Reg.; George Smith Woodwork, P.M. 107, P.P.G.W.; and Harry James Sparks, P.M. 996, P.P.G.W., P.P.D.G.M. Bengal. Bros. A. N. Mann, P.M. 1500, and G. A. Fuller, P.M. 943, were appointed Auditors for the ensuing year.

Some of the Yarmouth brethren gave a cordial invitation to the Prov. Grand Lodge to visit their town for the next year's meeting.

Before Prov. Grand Lodge was closed, the rank of Past P.S.G.W. was specially bestowed upon Bros. J. B. Bridgeman, P.M. 93 P.P.G. Reg., and Charles Ives, P.M. 107, P.P.A.G.D.C.

At four o'clock the brethren attended service in the Cathedral. The prayers were intoned by the Rev. Precentor Thomas and Canon Robinson, and the first and second lessons were read respectively by Bros. the Rev. Forbes Phillips, vicar of Gorleston, and the Rev. George Sharley. The Canticles were sung to a very effective setting by Bro. H. J. Brookes, and the anthem was "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom," by Professor E. Prout.

Taking for his text the words, "Honour all men; love the Brotherhood; fear God; honour the King," Bro. the Rev. G. SHARLEY preached a very appropriate sermon, and, at its conclusion and during the singing of a hymn, a collection was made in aid of the Cathedral Reparation Fund.

In the evening a banquet was held in the Masonic rooms, Bro. Hamon Le Strange presiding, and, under the direction of Bro. Brockbank, some very enjoyable music was provided by brethren from the Cathedral and others.

CONSECRATION OF THE MILITARY LODGE,

No. 2621.

A new, and what promises to be a most successful, lodge was consecrated at Freemasons' Hall, on Thursday, the 30th ult., under the style and title of the Military Lodge, No. 2621. There was a very full attendance of brethren on the auspicious occasion, and, it is needless to say, that the ceremony, which was performed by Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., G. Secretary, was most impressively carried out, among the brethren who assisted the Grand Secretary in his task being several who can boast of a large experience in the work.

The Consecrating Officer, accompanied by the Grand Officers, having

entered the lodge-room in procession, appointed the following as his officers: Bros. Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, Prov. Grand Master Guernsey and Alderney, S.W.; Col. L. G. Dundas, P.G.D., J.W.; the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G.C., Chaplain; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; and Col. Powell, P.P.G. Stwd., I.G.

The GRAND SECRETARY having addressed the brethren on the purpose for which they had met together, and the members of the new lodge having been arranged in order, the petition and warrant were read by the D. of C., and the members, in response to an enquiry from the Grand Secretary, having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, the CHAPLAIN delivered one of his brief, but telling, orations on the nature and principles of the Institution.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and when the lodge had been duly constituted, Bro. Capt. Hearn, P.M. of the South Staffordshire Regiment, was installed in the chair of K.S. by the Grand Secretary. The W.M. having been proclaimed and saluted, invested Bros. Capt. Franklyn, R.E., S.W., and Lieut. R. A. Marshal, P.M., 1st Surrey Rifles, J.W., and the rest of the officers having been appointed and invested, a Committee was appointed to frame by-laws and several propositions for initiation and joining were handed in. A vote of thanks to the Grand Secretary and the officers who had assisted him was passed by acclamation, and there being no other business, the lodge was closed and the brethren and their guests dined together at the adjoining tavern, under the presidency of the W.M. The musical arrangements, both in lodge and afterwards, were under the direction of Bro. F. Bevan, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Essex.

The following is a complete list of the founders of this promising lodge, and we congratulate them most warmly on the marked success of the inaugural meeting: Bros. Lieut. H. J. Adams, R. Berridge, P.M., P.G.D. Eng.; Major Bowles, M.P., Major Bridges, P.M., P.P.G.D. Somerset; Major Carrell, V.D., P.M., P.G. Swd. Br. Eng.; Quarter-Master-Sergt. Carter, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey; C. E. Malet de Cartaret, P.G. Swd. Br. Jersey; Surg.-Major Colgate, W.M. 916; Lieut. P. Collinson, Capt. Down, P.M.; Major Elin, P.M.; Major Easterbrook, V.D., P.M.; Capt. Fenner, P.M., P.D.G.O. Japan; Capt. Franklyn, P.G.S. Gibraltar; Capt. Gates, Lieut. Godfrey, P.G.S. Jersey; Capt. Hanson, Capt. Hearn, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br. Guernsey and Alderney; Major Helpman, Major Henry, W.M. 2094; Lieut.-Col. Kent, V.D., P.M.; Lieut. R. Lake, Lieut. C. Lovelake, H. Thompson-Lyon, Col. Sir Terence O'Brien, K.C.M.G., P.G.D. Eng.; J. Maitland, P.M., P. Deputy P.G.M. Ceylon (I.C.); Lieut. R. A. Marshall, P.M.; Capt. Marquis, Staff-Sergt. McKinney, Col. the Earl of Portarlington, W.M. 2205; T. Preston, Capt. Richmond Parry, Lieut. L. E. Richmond Parry, Major Clifford-Probyn, Master-Gunner M. Roddy, P.M.; Capt. Roberts, Lieut. Schreiner, Lieut. Stephens, the Rev. S. Stuart Stitt, M.A.; Major Stillwell, P.G.S. Eng., P.S.G.W. Sussex; Sergt.-Major Trydell, the Rev. W. Wakeford, M.A.; Capt. Woollett, P.M., P.G.S. Eng.; and the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., Prov. G. Chap. N. and E. Yorks.

PRESENTATION OF A NEW BANNER TO THE ROSE OF RABY LODGE, No. 1650.

On Tuesday evening, the 28th ult., the regular meeting of the Rose of Raby Lodge was the occasion for a visit of the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham, and a beautiful new banner, which had been most tastefully designed and worked by Mrs. Wm. Swales, of Darlington, was presented to the lodge by Bro. W. Swales, P.M., and unfurled by Bro. R. Hudson, the Prov. Grand Secretary of Durham.

The W.M., Bro. Jno. Ed. Backhouse, presided, and the other officers present were Bros. Thos. Imeson, S.W.; G. P. Andrews, J.W.; the Rev. J. H. Evans, M.A., P.M., Chap.; W. Swales, P.M., P.P.G.O., Treas.; John Robinson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; R. B. Franklin, S.D.; W. Chapman, J.D.; and J. Bailey, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C. The Prov. Grand Officers in attendance were Bros. R. Hudson, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.G.S.; C. H. Backhouse, P.P.J.G.W.; J. C. Moor, P.J.G.W.; R. S. Benson, P.G. Treas.; C. W. Anderson, P.S.G.D.; J. R. Thompson, P.G.D.C.; J. J. Wilkes, Mayor of Darlington, P.M.; W. C. Barron, P.P.G.S.B.; B. S. Beckwith, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Wm. Hodgson, P.J.G.D.; J. W. Wilkes, P.M. 1650; J. H. Leech, P.P.G. Stwd.; David Finlay, P.P.G.P.; M. Bradley, P.M.; Thomas Wood, P.M.; Thos. Coates, P.M. 1650; George W. Hudson, P.G.S. of Wks. N. and E. Yorks; C. J. Walton, W.M. 111; J. G. Hall, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Thompson, P.P.G. Treas.; W. E. Brown, I.P.M. 111; D. B. Todd, P.M. 1121; J. W. B. Heslop, J.W. 1230; Wm. Phillipson, Sec. 2497; J. Broughton, J.W. 111; A. Grundey, Sec. 111; J. E. Boynes, Org. 1650; and J. J. Johnson, Stwd. 1650.

After other business, the presentation of the new banner took place, the W.M. calling upon Bro. W. SWALES, P.M., who said it gave him very great pleasure to present the banner on behalf of his wife. It was nearly 20 years since the lodge was consecrated, and they had not had a banner, but his wife had been pleased to design and work that banner, which he then presented. (Applause.)

Bro. J. E. BACKHOUSE, W.M., said it gave him great pleasure, on behalf of the lodge, to receive the beautiful banner, which Bro. Swales had presented on behalf of his wife. It was a kind and noble present. He had again pleasure in accepting the banner, done in so kind-hearted a manner by Mrs. Swales. (Loud applause.) He moved that a vote of thanks be accorded to Mrs. Swales, which was seconded by Bro. J. J. WILKES, P.M., Mayor of Darlington, and carried with acclamation.

Bro. R. HUDSON, Prov. G. Sec., in proceeding to unfurl the banner, referred to the pleasure he had in being present at the consecration of the lodge, about 20 years ago, by the then P.G.M., Bro. John Fawcett, and when he was P.G.D. of C. The brethren had been good enough to ask him (Bro. Hudson) to unfurl the banner which Mrs. Swales had so beautifully designed and worked for that lodge, and, as P.G. Secretary and as a personal friend, he had great pleasure in complying with their request. He trusted the banner would be an emblem of peace and goodwill to the brethren for many years to come. (Loud applause.)

The W.M. read a kind letter from Bro. Lord Barnard, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., who was unable to be present, but congratulated the lodge on its progress as shown in the ceremony that evening. (Loud applause.)

The "Hearty good wishes" of the Provincial Grand Lodge and of the visitors from other lodges were expressed, and the lodge was afterwards closed.

The banner, which is of Masonic design, bears upon the upper portion "Rose of Raby Lodge, 1650;" upon the centrepiece is a front view of Raby Castle and the lake, painted by Mrs. Swales upon cream satin, with arms and square and compasses worked on the lower part. An ear of corn and sprig of acacia, beautifully designed, surrounding the centrepiece with appropriate adornment. Upon the obverse side is the name of the lodge and the number, and the entwined initials F.W.S. within the square and compasses.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. D. LANGTON, D.G.D.C.

On Wednesday, the 29th ult., at the Holborn Restaurant, a complimentary dinner was given to Bro. J. D. Langton by his Masonic friends on his being appointed Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies in Grand Lodge and to present him with the clothing of that office as well as that of Grand Standard Bearer in Supreme Grand Chapter, to which he had also been appointed.

The chair was taken by Bro. Alderman Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale, P.G. Treas., having the guest of the evening, Bro. J. D. Langton, on his right. There were present Bros. Edward Terry, H. M. Hobbs, G. F. Marshall, J. R. Cleave, Arthur Monckton, H. Percy Monckton, A. B. Friend, C. W. Mapleton, W. J. Ebbetts, George Godwin, and Gordon Smith.

Letters of regret were received from Bros. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, Stanley J. Attenborough, Fred. West, J. M. McLeod (Sec. R.M.I. for Boys), and many others.

The usual loyal toasts were proposed by the CHAIRMAN and duly honoured.

The toast of the evening, "The Health of Bro. J. D. Langton," was proposed in feeling terms by the CHAIRMAN, and at the conclusion of his speech he presented Bro. Langton with the full Masonic outfit of the two offices in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter respectively to which he had been appointed, and also a small album containing a list of the names of those who had subscribed, and giving a complete account of the presentation.

Bro. LANGTON responded with much heartiness, and alluded in a few graceful words to each one present and the circumstances which had brought them into relations of friendship.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed "The Health of Bros. H. M. Hobb and Gordon Smith," who had been respectively Chairman and Secretary of the Committee which had organised the presentation.

This was briefly responded to, Bro. GORDON SMITH concluding his remarks by proposing "The Health of the Chairman of the evening, Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale," and expressing the pleasure which all present felt that they had such a Chairman to carry out the finishing part of the work of presentation.

Bro. Sir JOSEPH DIMSDALE having returned very cordial thanks, the business of the evening was brought to a conclusion.

MASONIC SERMON IN OSWALDTWISTLE CHURCH.

A Masonic service was recently held in St. Paul's Church, Oswaldtwistle, in aid of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. There was a very full attendance of the officers and members of the Leopold Lodge, No. 1775, and of visiting brethren from the lodges in Accrington, Haslingden, Blackburn, Darwen, Newchurch, and other towns in the province, and a dispensation to wear Craft Masonic clothing having been granted by Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G. Master East Lancashire, the church was crowded. The service was well rendered, and the following sermon on the well-known text from 1st Peter c. 2 v. 17, "Honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the King," was preached by Bro. the Rev. W. G. PROCTOR, who said:

I conceive that I cannot better occupy the time I have at my disposal this afternoon, when we are met in God's house as members of an Order which holds a very important position, not only here in England, but in all parts of the civilised world, than by explaining to this congregation, so far as I have the ability and the power to do, the origin, the principles, and the objects of Freemasonry. It is an institution so ancient that it is impossible to trace its beginning with perfect accuracy. Some great authorities say that it is coeval with the world's history, others date it from the time of Methuselah, others to the days of Noah, and others claim the great pyramid as the first Masonic temple, when the secrets of our divine Order were first revealed. However this may be—and there are good grounds for this, for the usages and customs amongst Masons have ever corresponded with those of the ancient Egyptians—there can be no doubt whatever that Masonry goes back to the time before the building of Solomon's Temple at Jerusalem, when the number and the variety of the workmen employed rendered it useful to adopt some means by which they could be classified and recognised, and also recognise each other, and it is an undoubted fact, to which I am able to bear my personal witness, that the signs, symbols, and trade marks which I have myself seen in the foundation-stones of the ancient walls of Jerusalem are identical with those we now recognise and employ, though we have turned them to another account. Thus, to go no further back, Masonry has a history of 3000 years. I now come to speak of its principles. They are essentially religious—if they were not I should not be standing in this place this afternoon. No institution outside the Church of Christ can claim a more solid foundation than that on which Freemasonry rests, viz., the practice of every moral and social virtue. Every character, figure, and emblem employed has a moral significance, and is intended to inculcate the practice of virtue in all its genuine professors. It has been called the religion of daily life and of common sense, and cannot be better described than in words with which we allegorise and illustrate by symbols. Its first imperative condition of membership is the acknowledgment of the Great Architect of the Universe, the one living and true God, the creator of all things, visible and invisible, "in whom we live and move and have our being." No man can be admitted into our Order without making a solemn declaration of these fundamental articles of our faith, viz., the being of God, the immortality of the soul, a future state of rewards and

punishments according to the deeds done in the body. We recognise the Great Architect of the Universe in all our words and works. We are constantly reminded that "Wherever we are, and whatever we do, He is always with us, and His all-seeing eye ever beholds us." At every meeting of the lodge prayer is offered to Him and His blessing is invoked. This is our first great principle, and if anyone after being admitted to our Society on such a solemn declaration should at any time repudiate the faith and become an Atheist, the duty of the brethren is clear. As a natural consequence of our faith in the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, Freemasonry sets before its members the Volume of the Sacred Law, and charges them to consider it as the unerring standard of truth and justice, and urges them to regulate their actions by the Divine precepts it contains—since therein they are taught the important duties they owe to God, their neighbour, and to themselves—no God by never mentioning His name but with that awe and reverence which are due from the creature to his Creator, by imploring his aid in all their lawful undertakings, and by looking up to Him in every time of need for comfort and support; to their neighbour by acting with him on the square, and by practising that golden rule—"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye also unto them." Deriving its inspiration from Holy Writ, Masonry includes the practice of every domestic as well as public virtue. Masons are individually exhorted to "let prudence direct them, temperance chasten them, fortitude support them, and justice guide them." Another great principle insisted upon by Masons, and the natural result of what I have just been saying respecting our belief in the Bible as the Word of God, is the duty of obedience to the powers that be. "Honour all men, love the brotherhood, fear God, honour the King," may be taken as the summing up of a Mason's profession. They "honour and obey" the Queen and all that are put in authority under her. They are enjoined never to countenance or support, much less propose, any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society. They are ready to defend their sovereign and their country "from sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion." They are bound in one holy bond of brotherhood to maintain and support those institutions of our land which have made England so great, so glorious, and so free, and it is a speaking testimony to the loyalty of our Order that kings and princes have been from time immemorial promoters of the art, and "have not thought it derogatory to their high dignity to exchange the sceptre for the trowel," and happy are we in having as our Grand Master one so worthy of all honour and respect as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Again, Masonry is the greatest charitable institution in the world, and when I speak of Charity I do not mean almsgiving alone. It is not a benefit society. No man joins, or ought to join, in order to benefit himself—but others. It abhors selfishness in all its forms, and we declare that a wish to render ourselves more serviceable to our fellow-creatures is the sole motive by which we are influenced in seeking to be admitted to the Order. A Mason's Charity should know no bounds, save that of prudence. Such in belief is Freemasonry in its principles. It insists on a belief in the Great Architect of the Universe as an essential condition of membership—it recognises God in all its proceedings, it accepts the Volume of the Sacred Law as its rule of life. By the doctrine contained in that Book of Books we are taught to believe in the wise dispensations of Divine Providence, which belief confirms our trust, strengthens our hope, and enlarges our Charity, for Charity is the greatest of all virtues, indeed, it comprehends the whole, for when faith is lost in sight, and hope is realised to the full, still Charity has a work to do—a work which will never end, but only be fuller and brighter and more perfect, for it will live on and on to the countless ages of eternity in the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for evermore. But now comes the question: How are these grand principles, this pure morality, these noble sentiments, this exalted piety, being carried into practice? I have said that Masonry is a religious Institution, hence our presence here in God's House to-day. I have told you its basis is the teaching of the Bible, where we read—"Pure religion and undefiled is this: To visit the fatherless and widows, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." This holy, this practical definition of religion is exemplified by Masons in their practice. That Masons do "visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction" is no idle boast. As a body they exemplify their profession by their practice. I am unable to give you even an approximate estimate of the amount of money raised by Masons alone for Charitable purposes, but one institution, and it is only one of many, the Royal Benevolent Fund, dispensed £16,140 last year in grants to aged Freemasons, their widows and orphans. In the Girls' and Boys' Schools 540 children are boarded, fed, clothed, and educated at a cost of over £12,000 a year. Coming to our own Institution in East Lancashire, it contributes nearly £800 a year to the same laudable objects. From these instances may be formed some idea of the extent of good which is done—and done unostentatiously—by Masons to their fellows in need through the thousands of lodges established in the world, and each lodge is a dispenser of Charity. I must now, my brothers, bring the matter more closely home, and give my remarks a more personal application. I earnestly appeal to you, my brethren of the Craft, to see to it that you ever bear in mind your solemn obligations to maintain in your own person, by your character, life, and conduct, those Masonic virtues you have promised to observe. It has been truly said of the Christian religion that its worst enemies are those of its own household. It is the un-Christian lives of professing Christians which causes men to scoff at Christianity, and I believe the same is true of Masonry. One chief reason why our Order has been disparaged—and it has—and why it has been looked upon with suspicion—and it has—is because the uninitiated can only judge of its character by what they see in the character and conduct of those who belong to it. And can you blame them? Every Mason has the honour and credit of the Craft in his keeping. When one member suffers, then all the members suffer with him. Let us then note well the obligations under which we live. Let us ask ourselves: What am I doing, how am I living with reference to my profession as a God-fearing man? Am I fulfilling in my Degree the high and holy purposes I have promised to fulfil? If our principles are right (and they undoubtedly are), seeing they are founded on the rock of eternal truth, then consistency, to say the least, demands from us that we make the practice of ourselves square with our profession. Then, but not till then, shall we stand before our fellows true men, upright and honourable in our intercourse with mankind. Religion never was intended to make our pleasures less, but the contrary. The practice of true Godliness does not turn people into stone, freeze up every smile and check every innocent amusement. It is not religion, but the want of it, that cause people to be gloomy and miserable. The preacher dwelt at length upon this point, and concluded by strongly urging his hearers to live consistent Christian lives.

During the collection Bro. Benjamin Bury rendered in a skilful manner the beautiful sacred solo—"With overflowing heart we meditate on Thy goodness," and after the Benediction, the National Anthem was sung, concluding the service.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING at Dunmow took place on Monday, when three married couples offered themselves for the flitch of bacon which is presented to a man and woman who are able to prove to the satisfaction of a jury of maidens and bachelors that there has never been an approach to a quarrel between them during the term of their married life. On this occasion there were three sets of competitors, viz.: Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bliss, of Bli-s Court, Oxford; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, of Kennington-road; and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rorke, of Anwell, Herts; and the evidence being satisfactory in each case, a flitch of bacon was presented to each couple, who were chaired and taken to a stage in a field, where they took the customary oaths.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

We have been requested by the Secretary of the Institution to publish the following, which has been extracted from the minutes of the Court in question, and forwarded by him to the Secretaries of all the Provincial Grand Lodges:

At a Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers held at the Freemasons' Hall, W.C., on Friday, 10th July, 1896. The V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., Patron and Trustee, in the chair. Read letter (attached) from the Prov. Grand Secretary of the Province of North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, with copy of resolution passed by that Provincial Charities Association, objecting to the sale of the Institution and the purchase of a new site.

Reported that the letter had already been submitted to the Board of Management, who had ordered it to be placed before this Quarterly Court.

Moved by Bro. Glass, Vice-President, seconded by Bro. W. Russell (Province of Kent), and carried unanimously—

"That this Court having heard the letter read, takes no action thereon."

The Secretary placed before the Court a circular dated "Hull, June, 1896" (copy attached), which, he was informed, had been issued by the Prov. Grand Secretary of the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire to each Prov. Grand Lodge, and that he had received the copy only after application to Bro. Peck on the 29th June.

On receiving the circular he had at once communicated with Bro. Peck and asked him for the authority for the statement made, viz.:

"The Board of Management having decided to build a new School and sell the present Institution for what it will fetch."

Up to the present moment he had received no reply from Bro. Peck.

Bro. J. S. Cumberland desired to repudiate an allegation which had reached him that he was a party to the issue of the circular. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he had no knowledge of the circular until after it had been issued, and that for his own part he was quite satisfied with the decision of the last Quarterly Court.

After some discussion it was unanimously resolved:

"That the Secretary be instructed to state that some of the statements named in the Yorkshire Circular are not accurate in fact and that this Court is satisfied to draw the attention of the province to the announcements already made by the Board of Management that it will shortly issue to the Subscribers a statement of the reasons for the proposed removal of the School from its present position as sanctioned by the last Quarterly Court."

(Signed) J. M. McLEOD, Secretary.

Knights Templar.

The De Tabley Preceptory.

The regular meeting of this preceptory took place on Thursday, the 16th ult., at the Town Hall, Altrincham, Sir Knight the Rev. C. Chetwynde-Atkinson, M.A., Prov. High Prelate, E.P., presided. There was a good attendance of sir knights and visitors and the principal business of the evening was the regulating of by-laws, &c. The following were present—Sir Knights J. M. Sinclair, Treas.; Stanley Derbyshire, Reg.; J. Davenport, 1st Std. Br.; E. G. Parker, P.E.C.; and John Cliffe, C. of L. Visitors: Sir Knights E. Pike, P.E., P.P.G. Reg.; F. W. Lean, P.G.V.C.; G. S. Smith, P.G.S.B.; and others.

St. Joseph Preceptory, No. 9.

On Friday, the 24th ult., the regular encampment was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester, when Sir Knight John Hardwicke Marsh, E.P., presided, supported by his officers. The muster roll was called and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Comp. Joseph Jackson was installed by the E.P., assisted by Sir Knight F. W. Lean. Present—Sir Knights E. Pike, P.E.C., G. Reg.; F. W. Lean, P.E.P., P.G.V.C.; G. S. Smith, G.S.B.; J. T. Richardson, P.E.C., G.W. of R.; J. W. Arnott, S.M.; Sergeant Searle, C. of L.; J. H. Bennett, 1st Herald; and Chas. Swinn, 2nd Herald. Visitors: Sir Knights J. M. Sinclair, John Cliffe, and Stanley Derbyshire.

Obituary.

BRO. SAMUEL SWIFT, No. 1675.

The great respect cherished for the memory of Bro. Samuel Swift, who died at his residence in Windsor-street, Liverpool, the 17th ult., in the 48th year of his age, was shown on Monday, the 20th ult., by the very large attendance at the interment of his remains at St. Mary's Cemetery, Walton-road. Deceased had been identified with the shipping trade of the port for about 30 years, and was for many years a prominent and enthusiastic member of the Craft. The principal mourners were Mr. Thomas Swift (brother), Messrs. J. Cuff, H. Chaffer, and R. Williams (brother-in-law), Messrs. T. and A. Harrison and J. Hughes (of the firm of Messrs. James Hall and Son), Messrs. J. Fare, J. Garniss, J. Johnson, and the Rev. J. W. Baker, curate of St. Clement's Church, of which deceased was a member. He also held the position of J.D. in the Antient Briton Lodge, No. 1675, and the representatives from the lodge present were Bros. W. Cottrell, W.M.; T. J. Smith, S.W.; R. Lloyd, I.P.M.; R. M'Gee, P.M.; J. Raymond, Sec.; T. Hunt, I.G.; J. Lunt and J. Brown, Stwds.; J. C. Higgins, H. Collen, F. J. Broom, W. Parry, R. Gornall, F. Gillett, J. H. Peake, P.M.; W. J. Bakewell, C. R. Fitton, T. Trevitt, S. W. Murphey, W. Rowney, H. Croaisdall, W. Gornall, H. Collins, E. Francis, F. Jones, J. Bingham, G. Creighton, J. Smith, W. R. Harvey, T. Roberts, R. Slater, and F. Jones. The general body of Masonic mourners also included Bros. P. Armstrong, P.S.G.D.; G. A. Harradon, P.P.G. Treas.; W. B. Sweetman, P.P.J.G.D.; S. L. Fraser, P.G.S.; J. R. Bottomley, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Cotter, P.P.G.S.B.; C. A. Trevitt, P.M. 2316; W. Rawsthorne, P.M. 1182; R. Tuncliffe, I.P.M. 1182; D. Lowthian, W.M. 1182; T. B. Trevitt, 1356; J. Casev, P.M. 1325; C. Swift, 1086; J. Molloy, 249; J. Bingham, 673; Captain T. Grey, 220; F. Beedle, 673; J. B. Jeffrey, 823; G. Barnes, 667; H. Williams, P.M. 2463; W. Lodge, 1547; J. Wheeler, T. Kneen, G. Davies, W.M., T. H. Porter, S.W., J. C. Lowe, J.W., D. M'Farlane, P.M., T. Williams, Sec., and T. Stevens, all of 1356; T. Fargher, P.M. 2012; J. Grace, S.D. 1182; R. Wright, 1182; J. Rawsthorne, 1325; M. Nixon, 249; and T. R. Ainsworth, 1182. There were also at the funeral Messrs. A. M. Ronald, A. N. Mallalieu, T. Quinlan, J. H. Thompson, and J. L. Parry. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. J. W. Baker. Wreaths were sent from the members of the Antient Briton Lodge, the firm of Messrs. J. Hall and Son, Bro. G. A. Harradon, Mr. R. Slater, Mrs. Eaton and family, Messrs. R. and E. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. W. Skinner, and others.

BRO. R. E. FAIRCLOUGH.

We regret to announce the death of Bro. R. E. Fairclough, which occurred on Sunday, the 2nd inst., at his residence at Upper Clapton. Bro. Fairclough was initiated in the Clapton Lodge, No. 1365, and quite recently vacated the chair after a very successful year of office; he was exalted to Royal Arch Masonry in the Islington Chapter, No. 1471. The Duke of Connaught Lodge of Instruction by his death has lost the services of an able Preceptor.

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



SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The regular Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand J., and Grand Superintendent Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, as Grand Z., and as will be seen from the report we publish elsewhere, the motions of which notice had been given by Comp. Sir G. D. Harris, President Committee of General Purposes, as to the grant of 100 guineas to Guy's Hospital and the appointment of a Pro G. Superintendent of a District by a Prince of the Blood Royal, who is Grand Superintendent, were agreed to unanimously. We notice also with extreme pleasure that the proposal of the Committee of General Purposes as to presenting an address and appropriate jewel to Comp. Robert Grey on his retirement from the office of President of the said Committee after 10 years' service was adopted with acclamation, and that Comp. Beach at once presented the jewel with a few well-chosen remarks and congratulations to Comp. Grey.

As regards Comp. H. Garrod's motion for the discontinuance of the practice by which companions who are not installed Principals are excluded from the opening of Chapters, it was defeated by a majority of some 70 to 10 or a dozen, at all events by a majority so overwhelming that neither the Acting Grand Z. nor any other companion deemed it worth while to press for a count. We trust that so emphatic a protest against any attempt to tamper with usages which have been in force for many, many years, will have the desired effect of preventing similar notices of motion being given in future. As far as we are able to judge, the main reason advanced for the change is that a brief interval of about four or five minutes before the admission of the general body of companions may be dispensed with. But this is an interval, not a hardship, and does not call for the intervention of Grand Chapter.

* * *

There are doubtless many of our readers who will recollect that at the Quarterly Convocation on 4th February, 1880, a similar motion by Comp. Smallpeice, P.Z. No. 21, was considered, and defeated by 27 to 15 votes. On that, as on this, occasion, Comp. Beach occupied the chair of Grand First Principal Z., and then, as on Wednesday, the opposition was led by Comp. Thomas Fenn, who made an eloquent and impassioned speech against the proposed tampering with the ritual. Then, too, as at this meeting, Comp. Garrod was prominent among the supporters of the proposal. However, though a majority of 27 to 15 may not have appeared worthy of consideration, we may reasonably hope that such a majority as demolished the motion on Wednesday will have the desired effect of preventing similar motions for the future.

* * *

We understand that a petition will shortly be submitted to his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master for a warrant of constitution for a new lodge, to be known as the Guardian Lodge, the membership of which will be restricted to Guardians of the City of London Union.

* * *

We publish elsewhere copy of a communication which the Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys has caused to be forwarded to the Grand Secretaries of our Provincial Grand Lodges concerning the circular addressed by the Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire to the other Provinces. The communication, which is neither more than less than an extract from the minutes of the Quarterly Court held on the 10th July, must be allowed to speak for itself.

* * *

In his letter on the subject of Miss Davis and her pension, which will be found in our correspondence columns, Bro. Shoebridge, P.M. 448, Halifax, considers that his former letter, on which we based our recent article, "has struck home." We do not object to his steadfastly holding by the opinions he has conscientiously arrived at on any subject; indeed, we admire him all the more for writing so courageously on what cannot well be otherwise in this particular case than the unpopular side of the question. All we are desirous of doing now is to point out that no one ever dreamt of describing it as "a misappropriation of moneys subscribed for the purpose of Charity" when the late Bro. Francis Crew was awarded a pension on resigning the Secretaryship of the Girls' School; when similar awards were made to the late Bro. A. K. Thiselton on resigning the Secretaryship of the Boys' School and the late Bro. Farnfield when he retired from that of the Benevolent Institution, or to Bro. Muggeridge—who is still alive—on vacating the office of Collector to the Girls' School.

* * *

We learn from the report of the proceedings of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria at its Quarterly Communication on the 15th June, that the question whether the said Grand Lodge has or has not the right to issue warrants for the constitution of lodges in Western Australia was seriously considered. The discussion arose in respect of a paragraph in the report of the Board of General Purposes, which set forth that in reply to an application for a warrant to open a new lodge at Perth, the answer given was to the effect "That this Grand Lodge has no jurisdiction." Exception was taken to this statement, and ultimately an amendment "That this Grand Lodge had no desire to undertake jurisdiction in that Colony," was adopted. We shall doubtless have occasion to refer to this matter in some future article.

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.

UNITED GRAND LODGE AND THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Kindly permit me to make two or three remarks on the important subject discussed at the Special Grand Lodge summoned last month by the M.W. Grand Master, as apparently the exigencies of reporting cut me off with three lines in my first brief speech and no line in the second! I venture to think that the publication of the views even of the humblest members of Grand Lodge on this difficult question in your valuable journal is highly desirable, especially when so comparatively few Masons were present on the occasion I allude to.

Moreover, we had, as you know, several animated debates of late on a cognate subject, and we are likely to have applications for autonomy from other Colonies in the near future. The more, therefore, we disentangle any knotty points connected with this subject, the more likely are we to avoid undue heat in our discussions, while the more calm and dignified will be the decisions of Grand Lodge.

Let me say in the first place that though I deprecate any "blind" voting, I think we may respectfully take it for granted that our M.W. Grand Master would not deliberately invite Grand Lodge to pass such a resolution, as he did in this case, without *having duly and gravely considered it*, having availed himself of the wisest counsel, and having secured the clearest evidence of its expediency.

Again, it may be that the lodges or districts of a Colony have not *unanimously* desired an independent Grand Lodge, but that a decided majority have done so—ought we in such a case to refuse autonomy? Or to dub one set of lodges "loyal" and the other set (by implication) disloyal? Ought we thus to introduce an unhappy cleavage and division instead of doing all in our power to promote that "love and harmony which should ever distinguish Freemasonry?" Ought we not rather to indulge a reasonable hope that the very constitution of an independent Grand Lodge would tend to draw the lodges together in fraternal union?

If 50 years have given me any insight into the nature of our Craft, I have no hesitation in asserting that neither title nor locality can ever divide true Masons bound together not only by the universal tie of our world-wide Brotherhood, but by the Imperial bond which links the mother to her children, and England to her sons. We do not, as was said, "lose" those sons, though they become ranged under a Colonial banner, and hold a warrant under another name. They know the rock from whence they are hewn, and when they come from Canada, or New South Wales, or New Zealand, they are as heartily welcomed (if not more so) as if they were English Masons all their lives.

We all appreciate the grace with which Bro. Baskett withdrew his amendment; but I was sorry, for more than one reason, that Bro. Eve persisted in his, and mainly on the following account. The amendment was an arbitrary interpretation of one of the laws of the Book of Constitutions, which had already given rise to several very animated discussions, and it was now proposed in a very thin Grand Lodge which Bro. Eve had remarked a short time before was most unsuited for the consideration of any important and contentious question. In fact, it was an attempt (if even not so meant) to over-ride, by a side wind, a division already come to with regard to the law in question. How much more straight and constitutional to give due notice of motion for the repeal or alteration of this law, and that, of course, at a Quarterly Communication, when Grand Lodge would be in full session.

Bro. Eve, as an eminent lawyer and a distinguished Mason, ought surely to have known that such a mode of carrying his old contention into effect, and of seeking to supersede the M.W. Grand Master's most sufficient and safe-guarded proposition, was not only questionable in taste, but unconstitutional in fact.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

R. J. SIMPSON.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read with much interest your report of the special Grand Lodge on the New Zealand question, and from speeches made by Bros. Baskett and Eve it would seem that the law of our Grand Lodge presents a most grotesque anomaly. If I read aright, the law is thus—The Colony of, say *Utopia*, has 50 English lodges working within its boundaries, controlled by a District Grand Lodge, *forty-seven* of these lodges decide *unanimously* that they wish to form an independent Grand Lodge; the remaining *three* lodges have respectively 100, 80, and 50 members, and there are in favour of the new Grand Lodge 97, 77, and 47 of their total membership, whilst *three* cantankerous members of each decline to leave the Grand Lodge of England, so that out of *50 lodges* with a membership of about *two thousand* Masons, there are only *nine* Masons dissentient. These *nine*, however, can retain their *three warrants* and open their lodges (and, if they help each other as visitors, can make Masons) and retain their *District Grand Lodge* in spite of a *majority of one thousand nine hundred and ninety-one* against them! Surely if such a farcical absurdity occurs in our Book of Constitutions, for the sake of our reputation for *sanity*, to say nothing of *common sense*, it should be speedily expunged. I am not referring in any way to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, but simply stating an ideal case, based on the apparent contention of Bros. Baskett and Eve. I think the law of warrant-holding by a minority wants considerable revision, unless, as I hope, I am entirely mistaken in the report of the meeting.—Fraternally yours,

COMMON SENSE.

THE NEW ZEALAND DISCUSSION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your report on this question the Grand Registrar is made to say—"In the case of the Australian lodges, there was one new Grand Lodge in *Victoria*." The latter word, I would point out, is incorrect; Bro. Philbrick said "*Australia*." Hence my remark to the contrary.—Fraternally yours,

W. F. LAMONBY.

August 1st.

MISS DAVIS'S PENSION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have to thank you for inserting my letter in your last issue. I have read your leader commenting upon it. As you say, you have not been very complimentary in your remarks, but I like it none the worse for that; it only

shows that my letter has struck home when such a reply has to be given to it I am a good fighter myself, and can give and take hard knocks with the same good feeling. You have the same right to your own opinions as I have to mine, and I suppose are acting up to them. I thank you for your flattering reference to my *plausible* and *ingenious* way of piecing my statements together, and should have been still better pleased if I could have converted you to my own way of thinking. If my letter has the effect (for which it was written) of drawing the attention of those Subscribers who are somewhat careless in looking after these things, then my letter will have served its purpose. I feel quite certain of this, that if the "General Court of Governors" will take the trouble of sending to every Subscriber a form to fill up with "Yes" or "No" on this question of pensions, *granted from the funds of the Charity*, the great majority of Subscribers will condemn it. I think it is worth a trial to ascertain the feelings of the Subscribers on this point once and for all. If it can be proved that a majority are against this pension scheme, then I say that your remarks about its being sheer nonsense will be a reflection on the common sense of the Subscribers, which, no doubt, will be resented accordingly. As to the clap-trap part of the business, I leave your readers to form their own opinions about that, and have no fear as to what the result will be. There is only one thing I have to find fault with in your remarks, that is you accuse me of placing the circumstances before your readers in a false light. This I most emphatically deny. I have simply stated facts and left your readers to draw their own conclusions from them. My authority on the question of the £360 per annum has been obtained from Bro. Hedges's office, and is therefore good enough.

In my letter I said not one word against Miss Davis, as to her attainments, or the good work she has done for the School. I will grant you that she is all you say, and still maintain that she has no right to be pensioned out of the funds of the Charity. That is my whole and sole objection. If Miss Davis or any other of the staff deserve pensioning, do it by all means, but out of a fund collected for that purpose.

To defray it out of funds collected for purely Charitable purposes is a distinct and deliberate diversion of the money from the purpose for which it was given, and is a misappropriation of the Charity funds.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally and faithfully,

W. D. SHOEBRIDGE.

Halifax, July 29th.

P.S.—I may add that I have received letters in commendation of my action in this matter, and have their heartiest support and good wishes.

THE LONGEST REIGN IN ENGLISH HISTORY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

May I suggest in your columns that we, as Freemasons, should commemorate the unique reign of our beloved Queen, and ask our M.W.G.M. to preside at a meeting at Albert Hall, or in some other commodious place, for the purpose of expressing our loyalty and affection to our Most Gracious Sovereign, who has been spared to rule this great empire so peaceably and advantageously for so many years?—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. TOLLWORTHY, I.P.M. 1769.

54, Old Broad-street, E.C.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1083]

A CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE.

The late Sir Henry Burford-Hancock (District Grand Master of Gibraltar) sent me a copy of a certificate of an ancestor of his, issued by the St. Nicholas Lodge, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Our lamented brother of the "Quatuor Coronati" (No. 2076) belonged to a thorough Masonic family; as he told me his "great grandfather, grandfather, and his two brothers, father and his three brothers, were Masons," also his son is a Mason, and Lady Burford-Hancock's "grandfather, father, and four brothers were Masons." This is a record rather difficult to beat. Sir Henry Burford-Hancock was an enthusiastic Mason, and, on my discovering the original warrant of the "Inhabitants Lodge," No. 153, Gibraltar (which had long been missing), he had it handsomely framed and presented to the lodge, on behalf of my old friend Major F. G. Irwin (also deceased, and who was a member of No. 2076), who had given it to me in ignorance of its real character, having purchased it some years ago with other "Masonic odds." The parchment certificate is preserved in a case, and measures 15 inches by 10. The lodge was chartered 29th November, 1766, as No. 378, and when No. 261 joined the present "Newcastle-upon-Tyne" Lodge, No. 24, in the year 1814. It is printed "in old English character," having emblems artistically arranged at the head, the seal being fastened at the S.W. corner, so as to leave it free, the ribbon to which it is attached is light blue, and the name of the brother is written behind the seal. The design is described to me as "a globe on a pavement, between two pillars, surmounted by radiated eye, moon, and seven stars, compasses and square, name of lodge outside." I have sent the copy—as herewith transcribed—to Bro. Schnitger, for the library in the Central Masonic Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, as I was much pleased to see the valuable collection of Masonic curios, MSS., books, and medals that is there preserved so carefully by the honorary Librarian.

W. J. HUGHAN.

[COPY]

"Lumen ingens oriente lucet
ubi pax et silentium regnant."

From Saint Nicholas Lodge, Newcastle upon Tyne, holden of the Grand Lodge of England.

The Right Worshipful Masters, Wardens and Brethren of all regular Lodges, of the ancient and honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, where these Presents may come, Greeting.

Beloved Brethren!

These are to Certify that the Bearer hereof, our Worthy Brother Samuel Hancock, being well recommended was upon the *twenty-seventh* day of September one thousand eight hundred and two, made an entered apprentice of this Lodge:—passed fellow Craft and raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason. His zeal for the Royal Craft has induced us to recommend him, to the true and faithful wheresoever dispersed, and we have caused our said Brother to sign his name on the margin of this certificate, that the same may be demanded of him, as a proof of it hath not fallen into improper hands—

Given under our hands, and seal of our Lodge, this *Twenty Ninth* day of September, A.L. 5806, A.D. 1802.

Wm. ROTHERHAM, M.
JOHN CHALONER, S.W.
JAMES ARCHBOLD, J.W.

CHARLES RICHARDSON, Secy.

[The date "A.L. 5800" is given in my copy, but I think it should be 5806, the 6 possibly not being legible. The A.L. should have been 4000 additional to the A.D., according to the usage of the Grand Lodge of England.—W. J. H.]

Craft Masonry.

United Military Lodge, No. 1536.

The last annual Masonic festival in the Woolwich and Plumstead districts, at least for the current 12 months, was celebrated on Tuesday, the 28th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, when the above lodge met to install its W.M. elect into the chair thereof and to celebrate its 21st birthday.

The lodge was opened by Bro. G. W. Ingle, W.M., and the minutes having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. Thos. Brooks, 465, Bellary, Madras (retired sergeant R.A.), and proved unanimous in his favour. Bro. Richard Fowler, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefits of installation, the impressive ceremony being finely worked by Bro. Ingle. The newly installed W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. W. Ingle, I.P.M.; F. Peck, S.W.; A. Hill, J.W.; the Rev. H. H. Walker, M.A., Chap.; J. W. Gee, Treas.; E. W. Sinnett, P.M., Sec.; A. Simmonds, S.D.; J. R. Fairbairn, J.D.; S. G. Meredith, I.G.; A. J. Swanson, D.C.; F. Hull, W.M. 2399, and A. B. Arthur, A.D.C.; W. Redman, Org.; and Lieut. H. Chase, R. G. Spence, and J. Howe, Stwds. Bro. Ingle was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services as Installing Officer that day, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge. He was also presented with a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, for both of which he returned thanks. Bro. Capt. G. Spinks, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., was re-elected to serve on the Provincial Charity Committee, and then the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served in the upper hall of the building by Bro. Williams, of the Cambridge Hotel, Woolwich, and among the other brethren present were Bros. G. Kennedy, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Moulds, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; A. Penfold, P.M. (hon.), P.M. 913, P.P.S.G.D.; C. Jolly, P.M. (hon.), P.M. and Sec. 1472, W.M. 2184; C. Warren, J. Grieve, F. Sharp, J. Clarke, G. Draper, W. Waller, J. Stapley, S. Hackworthy, J. Marston, R. Adams, W. Perry, G. Davis, W. E. Warren, A. Andrews, J. Wickens, R. Williams, D. Hickey, and T. Brooks. Among the visitors were Bros. A. W. Russell, W.M., A. McQueen, S.W., James Lee, W. James, J. H. Ireland, T. Smith, and T. Chambers, all of 13; G. H. Porter, W.M., H. Pamment, S.W., A. J. Walker, and A. Goodman, all of 700; D. K. Somers, W.M., C. J. Clapham, P.M., and A. Hiscock, all of 913; T. Reeve, W.M., W. Turvey, S.W., James Palmer, J.W., and E. C. Stretton, all of 1472; W. Shackleton, W.M., and Major A. H. Murdock, R.A., J.W., both of 1789; H. Crowdy, S.W., F. H. Widgery, J.W., and W. G. Down, all of 2399; J. Parsons, W.M. 2041; W. Laurance, P.M. 1089; and T. Taylor, 2399.

The usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts having been duly honoured, that of "Earl Amherst, P.G.M.," was drunk enthusiastically, as it deserves to be, especially in the Province of Kent.

In proposing the toast of "Bro. Eastes, D.P.G.M., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. said they were fortunate in having with them a goodly array of P.P.G. Officers, but in their esteemed Bro. Spinks they had one who had just received at the hands of Earl Amherst the highest, or nearly the highest, honour he had to bestow. Bro. Spinks had that year received the collar of a Past G. Warden. His lordship had also conferred the collar of P.G.S.B. upon Bro. Sale-Edwards, who he was sorry was not present. They had also present Bro. Penfold, a Past Grand Deacon, and Bros. Kennedy and Moulds, Past Grand Sword Bearers, so that the United Military Lodge had their share of the purple, at any rate.

Bro. Spinks, in response, said he was sure their Prov. Grand Master held that lodge in the highest esteem, because since the consecration of it—some 21 years ago—they had had a continual shower of honours poured upon its Masters and Past Masters. He enumerated them—their first Master, Bro. Pownall, was P.G. Supt. of Works; Bro. Captain Weston was a P.G.S.B., and had since received the collar of P.S.G.D. Bro. Shaw was a P.G. Std. Br.; Bros. Kennedy, Moulds, and Gooding had received collars, and now himself and Bro. Edwards had been invested. He then read Earl Amherst's letter offering him (Bro. Spinks) the collar of a P.P.J.G.W., which certainly was most complimentary, and, in continuation, said, whether he deserved it or not, it was not for him to say, but he could say that he was proud of it. It was now 21 years ago since the lodge was consecrated. He was one of its founders, and he felt that his lordship, in presenting him the collar, meant it as an honour to the lodge, and, in conclusion, he thanked them for their hearty recognition of the toast.

The I.P.M. then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and said that, from what he knew of Bro. Fowler, he entertained no doubt that he would well and worthily fill the office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren.

Bro. Fowler, in response, said they could not expect to hear a long speech from him, for that he was no speaker they all knew. He thanked the I.P.M. for his kind remarks, and the brethren for their hearty reception of his name. Their having elected him to the chair did not lessen their responsibility, for, though he was determined to do his duty in the office they had placed him in, yet he should look to them for their earnest support, and to be backed up in his endeavours for the progress of the lodge by every Past Master, officer, and brother belonging to it. If they would endeavour, without soliciting, to find good and worthy candidates, he would do the work. In a lodge like theirs the brethren were initiated, passed, and raised, and then most likely had to go on service to all parts, and there they found or made new Masonic homes by joining old or founding new lodges. They were, in fact, "Masonic pioneers" wherever the flag floated over her Majesty's dominions. A few years ago their lodge ranked third or fourth in the province, and if they would rally round him he trusted that at the end of his year of office they would be able to say that, if they had not quite regained that proud position, they would be passing onward to the goal of their ambition, at any rate, and the lodge be stronger than it was at present.

Bro. Ingle, in responding to the toast of "The Installing Officer," said it had given him a great amount of satisfaction to have had to install their W.M. As he was installed by his predecessor, he determined to install his successor, and if he had given them satisfaction that was all he required.

Bros. Russell, Porter, Sumner, Reeves, Parsons, and Murdock responded for "The Visitors."

Bro. Murdock, in the course of a most interesting speech, gave a brief history of the Prov. Grand Masters of Kent, of the Hon. R. B. Walsingham, Captain Charles Frederick, and Captain G. Smith, once of the Royal Academy at Woolwich; and averred that the Amherst family had done more for the Province of Kent than any in the province. He spoke of the military bearing of the brethren of the lodge, either in their perambulations as candidates or Deacons; it was stamped with the dress and precision of parade—a trait he had seen in none of the other provincial lodges he had visited, and he had visited a goodly number of them—and even in his own lodge—the Ubique—they not only imitated that bearing, but had a lodge of instruction founded on the one attached to the United Military Lodge.

Bro. Spinks, in responding for "The Past Masters of, and belonging to, the Lodge," referred with pride to his being a Past Master of the lodge for nearly 19 years, and also as being one of its founders. There were not many of the founders left, only five or six. Bro. Sharpe was, with the exception of himself, the only one present at that moment. Most of the rest had gone, he trusted, to the Grand Lodge above. As an old Mason of some 35 years' standing, he was proud of the lodge and of being a Past Master of it.

Bro. Penfold expressed his regret at being unable to be present at the ceremony of installation, of which he had heard the highest encomiums. His time had been occupied, first at the London County Council and then at the Local Board of their town, so that it was impossible for him to be present. He came more especially to drink success to the lodge on its 21st anniversary, or birthday. At the time of its consecration, which he remembered well, he himself was at the height of his Masonic glory, being at that time W.M. of their neighbouring lodge, the Pattison. At that time the first Master of the United Military Lodge, Bro. Pownall, consulted him as to whether the lodge should do its work and then disperse, or whether they should, after labour, enjoy themselves at the Social Board for an hour or so. He (Bro. Penfold) strongly advised Bro. Pownall to have the social gathering, for he felt that it engendered a spirit of fraternity and good fellowship amongst the brethren that might never occur if they dispersed directly the work was done. He was glad to say the W.M. took his advice, and the result was that at that day they were a strong, united, and prosperous lodge, because, as had been said that night, they went away and strengthened old lodges and made new ones. He urged a strong support of the W.M. by the officers and members. He congratulated Bro. Spinks upon the honour Earl Amherst had so conspicuously conferred upon him and the lodge upon attaining, proud and prominent, its 21st natal day. Bro. Penfold was loudly cheered on resuming his seat.

Bros. Mould and Sinnett also responded.

"The Freemason and Local Press" received a flattering reception, and was coupled with the name of Bro. Jolly, who suitably responded.

"The Officers" and Tyler's toasts concluded the labours and pleasures of the evening, which were materially added to—the pleasures, not the labour—by some fine singing and playing, the Misses Eleanor Hope and Annie Cheal, and Bros. E. Walton and J. Ireland, and Mr. W. Hengler being the singers; Bro. E. C. Stratton playing the violin splendidly, and Bro. Parsons, jun., the euphonium, the latter's rendering of "Alice where art Thou," was a superb effort, for although the young lady mentioned was absent, Parsons was there.

Dee Lodge, No. 1576.

The members of this lodge assembled at Parkgate, which is situated on the river Dee, about midway between Birkenhead and Chester, on Wednesday, the 22nd ult., in the College School, for the purpose of assisting at the annual installation ceremony. The W.M. elect, Bro. F. V. Fearn, was installed in his high office by Bro. J. Mayers, W.M. The following officers were then appointed and invested: Bros. J. Mayers, I.P.M.; R. C. Davies, S.W.; C. Cordery, J.W.; W. Jones, P.M., Treas.; J. Clarke, P.M., Sec.; G. P. Poole, S.D.; W. Taylor, J.D.; Captain Shaw, P.M., D.C.; J. W. Evans, P.M., Org.; S. Lee, I.G.; T. Davenport, C. H. Davies, T. F. Ball, and W. H. Williams, Stewards; and J. Croft, Hon. Tyler.

Among the many visitors were Bro. R. Newhouse, G.S.B., P.G. Sec., and many other Prov. Grand Officers.

A banquet was laid at the Union Hotel, after which a capital musical programme was gone through.

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.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.

This chapter held their regular meeting at the lodge room, Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, on the 29th ult. There was a fairly good attendance of companions, including Comps. C. M. Forbes, M.E.Z.; G. Kirby, P.Z.; G. Balford, P.Z.; M. Rooke, P.Z.; G. Purnell, S.E.; A. Proctor, F. W. Loughton, M. Bryson, J. S. Shannon, J. Biscoomb, F. W. Cull, Major Barstow, G. H. Osborne, W. Draper, Hall, Rayner, Dr. Foster, P.Z.; and others.

In the absence of the S.N., Comp. Proctor acted for him, Comp. Loughton for the P.S., and Comp. Kirby for the H. Comp. H. L. Swift was first installed into the Third Principal's chair by Comp. J. Todd, P.Z., Treas., after which the minutes of the last chapter were read and confirmed. There were two candidates for exaltation, both of which were successful, and Bro. W. Blakey, being in attendance, was duly exalted to the Supreme Degree by the M.E.Z. Comp. Todd gave the mystical lecture. The ceremony was well performed throughout, the companions being pleased with the work of the M.E.Z., the Treasurer, the acting H., and P.S. Letters of apology for absence were read from Comps. Rev. C. E. L. Wright, H.; Dr. Gramshaw, P.S.; and Stimpson.

The companions subsequently dined together, when a very harmonious evening was spent.

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.]

Cecil Chapter, No. 449.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 23rd ult., at the Sun Hotel, Hitchin, when there were present Comps. J. H. Gilbertson, M.E.Z.; W. Weiss, H.; W. Van Praagh, J.; James Shilcock, P.Z. 403, P.P.G.S.N., Treas.; John Read, P.Z., P.G. Org., S.E.; R. Shillito, P.Z., Prov. G.J., as S.N.; J. R. Gamble, P.S.; W. O. Vizard, 1st A.S.; C. A. Short, Janitor; F. H. Weiss, I.P.Z.; C. B. Cooper, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; James Terry, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and F. E. Brookes. Visitors: Comps. E. C. Cocks, P.Z. 403, P.P.G.J., and D'Arcy Power, H. 259.

The chapter having been opened, and the minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Comp. J. T. F. Matthews, 749, as a joining member, which proved in his favour. A ballot was also taken for Bro. Hepey, 66, as a candidate for exaltation, which proving in his favour, Bro. Hepey was regularly exalted to the Degree of a R.A. Mason. This being the annual period of installation of Principals, Comp. J. H. Gilbertson installed Comp. W. Weiss as M.E.Z.; Comp. W. Weiss installed Comp. W. Van Praagh as H.; and Comp. W. Van Praagh installed Comp. J. R. Gamble as J. The M.E.Z. invested Comps. James Shilcock, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., as Treas.; John Read, P.Z., P.G. Org., as S.E.; W. O. Vizard, P.S.; T. E. Brookes, 1st A.S.; J. T. F. Matthews, 2nd A.S.; F. D. Hepey, Stwd.; and C. A. Short, Janitor. Comp. Rev. H. F. Oliver, S.N. elect, being unavoidably absent, the ceremony of his investment was postponed. A handsome P.Z.'s jewel was presented to Comp. J. H. Gilbertson, I.P.Z., in appreciation of his valuable services to the chapter during his past year of office, and which Comp. Gilbertson acknowledged in suitable terms. Letters of regret for inability to attend were received from Comps. Major G. Lake, Prov. G.H.; F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Treas.; and C. Bullock, Prov. G.S.E.

The sum of 10 guineas was voted by the chapter, to be placed on the list of Comp. W. Weiss, M.E.Z., for the ensuing Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Bro. Baron, 2086, was announced as a candidate for exaltation, and nothing further offering, the chapter was closed.

The M.E.Z. subsequently presided at the banquet, after which the customary toasts were given, and a successful meeting was brought to a pleasant conclusion.

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.]

ABOUT 100 MEMBERS of the House of Commons visited Portsmouth, by invitation from the Lords of the Admiralty, on Tuesday, and, having gone over the first-class cruiser Powerful and the battleship Cæsar, went on board the tug Dromedary, and inspected the Fleet, boarding the flagship Majestic, and going over the splendid vessel. They then returned to the railway jetty, and having refreshed themselves with tea, were conveyed back by train to Westminster in time to discuss the Navy Estimates. Among those included in the party were Bros. Admiral Field, E. Boulnois, W. Ellison Macartney, J. W. Maclure, Sir E. Hill, the Hon. H. Massey-Mainwaring, Sir E. Gourley, Bhowaggee, A. H. Smith-Barry, and Macdonald.

Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Bart., M.P. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach returned to town on Monday from their visit to Bro. the Earl and Countess of Onslow at Claydon Park.

MESSRS. HARBO AND SAMUELSON arrived at Scilly on board the 18-foot rowing boat Fox on Saturday last, after a 55 days' passage from New York. They were in excellent health, but somewhat exhausted, having rowed the whole distance.

OF THE cricket matches which were concluded on Saturday last, that between Surrey and Yorkshire terminated in a victory for the former in one innings with 61 runs to spare, while those between Notts and Hants and Warwickshire and Sussex were drawn.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of York, Princess Victoria of Wales, and Prince Nicholas of Greece, dined with the Queen on Sunday, it being the birthday of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sparta (Crown Prince of Greece).

THE SHRIEVALT.—Bro. Alderman Frank Green, we are gratified to be able to state, has—repeating the announcement he made some time ago—definitely signified his intention to offer himself to the livery on Midsummer Day in next year for the position of one of the Sheriffs for 1897-8.

THE QUEEN DROVE FROM Osborne to East Cowes on Tuesday evening, and having embarked on board the Royal Yacht Alberta, proceeded to inspect the fleet anchored off Spithead. The yacht steamed between the lines, and Her Majesty was received with a Royal salute, the yards being manned and the ships dressed.

THE QUEEN held a Council at Osborne on Saturday last, when there were present Bro. the Duke of Devonshire (Lord President of the Council), Viscount Cross (Lord Privy Seal), and Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Arthur Hill (Comptroller of the Household). The Duke of Devonshire subsequently had an audience of her Majesty.

BRO. A. AKERS-DOUGLAS, H.M.'s First Commissioner of Works, has forwarded the customary warrants to Bro. Lord Mayor Sir W. Wilkin for four fat bucks, to each of the Sheriffs of London for three, and to the Recorder, Chamberlain, Town Clerk, Common Serjeant, and Remembrancer for one each. Similar warrants are issued at Christmas for the same number of fat does.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY COMPANY, ever solicitous to satisfy the wants of the travelling public, have decided to further extend the issue of week-end tickets at a cheap rate. Commencing on August 14th, the Midland Company will issue return tickets between certain stations on their railway and numerous seaside and inland pleasure resorts distant 30 miles and upwards, at about a Single Ordinary Fare for the Double Journey. These tickets will be available by any ordinary train on the outward journey on Friday or Saturday, and on the return journey on the following Sunday (where the train service permits), Monday, or Tuesday.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT and their children and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein were present at the Army Athletic Sports, which commenced at Aldershot on the 31st ultimo and were brought to a close on Saturday last. Very many of the events were keenly contested, among them being flat races, hurdles, high and long jumps, bicycle races, lemon cutting, tent pegging, &c. The meeting throughout was a great success, the weather being fine and the attendance of spectators very large. The prizes were afterwards distributed by the Duchess of Connaught.

EXTENSION OF ISSUE OF WEEK-END TICKETS.—The arrangement which has been in force for the issue of cheap week-end tickets from certain Great Northern stations to seaside and inland health resorts, for some years past, is to be very largely extended. Commencing on August 14th, these tickets, which are available by ordinary train, will be issued on each Friday or Saturday to return on the following Sunday (if train service admits), Monday, or Tuesday from all the principal towns on the Great Northern Railway to the chief health resorts on and in connection with that Company's system. Further particulars can be obtained of Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross.

THE UNIVERSALITY of Masonry is well illustrated by a touching incident, which occurred on the high seas, on the steamer Lucania, on a recent trip to New York. Bro. James Albin Roberts, an English passenger and a member of Sherborne Lodge, No. 702, of Stroud, England, died suddenly at sea, and his remains were about to be committed to the deep waters when a brother Mason stepped forward and asked the captain for permission to examine some effects of the dead man. This was readily granted, and among these effects were found a Masonic apron and other evidence that the deceased belonged to the Brotherhood. The body was claimed by Bro. Charles W. Collier, of Putnam Lodge, of New York City, who, with Bro. William Wilson, of Winfield, York; Bro. William Field, of Liverpool; and other brethren on board, had the remains embalmed and brought to this city, and from here shipped them back to his native land in care of his lodge, Sherborne, No. 702, at Stroud, England, where the body was received and interred with Masonic honours. The lodge at its meeting passed the following resolutions: "That Sherborne Lodge desires to express its most grateful and sincere acknowledgment of the very kind feeling which prompted the action of Bro. Charles W. Collier, of Putnam Lodge, New York City, United States; of Bro. William Wilson, Bro. William Field, of Liverpool, and other unknown brethren on board the steamship Lucania, upon the sudden death of our lamented and esteemed Bro. James Albin Roberts, an action alike honourable to themselves and to the whole body of the Craft, and to record its appreciation of the proof of the reality of the Brotherhood of Masonry."—*Philadelphia Press*.

ASBESTOS BEDDING AND CORDAGE.

Visitors to the Life Saving Exhibition, at Central Hall, Holborn, could not fail to pause in their peregrinations to observe the interesting exhibits of the Cape Asbestos Company, Limited (Stand No. 1), who are the manufacturers of every description of Asbestos goods in blue Cape or White Canadian Asbestos, Asbestos cloths, yarns, mill-boards, &c., having their head office, at 8, Minories, London, E.C., with bedding factory at 3, Carlisle Avenue, E.C.; mines at Griqualand West, Cape Colony, and spinning and weaving factory at Turin, Italy. The application of Asbestos to bedding has been pronounced a complete success. Insect life cannot exist in the material, and it is absolutely rot-proof and unburnable, so that in case of fire it is obviously safer to sleep in a room where the beds are of Asbestos than of other material, the combustion of which would soon fill the room with suffocating smoke. While possessing such unique qualities an Asbestos bed is just as soft and comfortable to sleep upon as any other, and the judgment of those who have tried them is that they sleep better and awake with a sensation of freshness not so sensibly felt after sleeping upon ordinary bedding. The same material is also made into ropes and cordage of all descriptions, the tensile strength being about two-thirds that of hemp and half that of best manilla. Thus the Asbestos cordage is strong enough for all ordinary strains. But where the superiority of Blue Asbestos over all organic fibres that can be used for rope making asserts itself is that it is imperishable and absolutely rot-proof; it can be used in contact with acids and chemicals and remain quite unaffected. Ants or other insects that play havoc with all organic substances in India and other hot climates will not touch a Blue Asbestos rope. Lastly it is unburnable and will withstand for an indefinite time a degree of heat that would instantly destroy an ordinary rope. At the Exhibition the Asbestos rope shown suspended through a gas flame with 2 cwt. attached to it did not break at all, although for many hours each day the flame of a gas burner enveloped it at the same spot. There can be no doubt that goods possessing such unique qualities will meet with a large measure of public appreciation.

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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 Masonic 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.]

BRO. SIR M. WHITE RIDLEY, Bart., M.P. (Home Secretary), and the Hon. Lady Ridley have taken Cassiobury Park, Watford, for a long term of years and will very shortly go into residence there.

IT IS ESTIMATED that the tidal wave, five miles in width, which inundated the coast of Hai-chau, in the north-east part of the province of Kiangsu, on the 26th ult., has caused the loss of some 4000 lives, to say nothing of the cattle that perished and the damage done to the rice fields.

AT THE CONCLUSION of their encampment at Pirbright for musketry practise, the Royal Horse Guards returned to London on Wednesday, and took up their quarters at Knightsbridge Barracks. On the same day the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards moved from the Tower to Wellington Barracks.

SIR FRANK LASCELLES, the British Ambassador to Germany, with Lady and Miss Lascelles, and Mr. Gerald Lascelles, returned to Berlin on Monday, and proceeded for the rest of the summer to Potsdam, where his Excellency has taken over the house formerly occupied by Sir E. Baldwin Malet, and Lady Emyrtrude Malet.

BRO. ALDERMAN SIR JOSEPH SAVORY, Bart., M.P., as the *locum tenens* of Bro. Lord Mayor Sir W. Wilkin, and Lady Savory entertained about 400 lady and gentlemen members of the third International Congress on Dermatology, now assembled in London, at a pleasant gathering at the Mansion House on Wednesday, when music formed the chief feature of the proceedings.

THE 9TH (QUEEN'S OWN) LANCERS have received instructions from the War Office to prepare for immediate embarkation for South Africa. The regiment, which is quartered at Aldershot, is 620 strong and in a high state of efficiency, but deficient in horses. As soon as orders were received the preparations commenced, and it is expected that the regiment will be able to leave on the 25th instant. There are also rumours that the Royal Scots Fusiliers, who are under orders to embark for India in September, will have their destination changed for South Africa.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT at the marriage of Mr. George Kemp, M.P. of Beechwood, Rochdale, with Lady Beatrice Egerton, third daughter of the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, either in St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, where it was solemnised, or at the reception at Bridgewater House, St. James's, which followed, were the Earl and Countess of Desart, the Earl and Countess of Strafford, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Onslow, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Milton, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Folkestone, Lord and Lady Calthorpe, and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. Mr. and Lady Beatrice Kemp subsequently left for Burwood House, Cobham, to spend the honeymoon.

AT DEVONSHIRE HOUSE, on Tuesday afternoon, a meeting was held by permission of Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, who presided, when a handsome testimonial, consisting of an illuminated address, an album containing the names of the subscribers, a silver bowl, and a cheque for 1500 guineas, was presented to Mr. John Boraston for his valuable services to the political party of which his Grace is the leader. Among those present, in addition to the Duke, were Bro. the Duke of Bedford, Viscount de Vesci, and Bros. Viscount Milton, M.P., Sir J. B. Simeon, Bart., M.P., and Sir Thos. Lea, Bart., M.P.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne arrived at Crewe Hall on Tuesday evening on a visit to the Earl of Crewe, while the Prince and Princess Christian left Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Park, for Kissingen, where they are expected to remain till October. The Duchess of York, accompanied by her mother, the Princess Mary Adelaide Duchess of Teck, have also left London for St. Moritz Bad, Switzerland, the Hon. Eva Dugdale and the Hon. A. N. Hood being in attendance on their Royal Highnesses. The Crown Princess Archduchess Stephanie of Austria arrived in London on Tuesday, and took up her quarters at the Hotel Albemarle.

ON MONDAY the Queen received a contingent, about 500 strong, of the Church Lads' Brigade, which was founded in 1891, and now numbers some 25,000 members. Lieut.-Col. Green, V.D., of the 2nd London Rifles, and the lads went through a few of the simpler movements very creditably. The Queen was very pleased with the appearance of the lads, and when the inspection was concluded they were marched into a field adjoining the grounds of Osborne House and there regaled with cake, tea, &c., which had already been set out on tables ready for their consumption. The Duke of Connaught is President of the Brigade.

THOUSANDS ON THOUSANDS of people took advantage of the fine weather on Bank Holiday to enjoy themselves thoroughly. All the parks were thronged with people, while the Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Madame Tussaud's, the Crystal Palace, the India and Ceylon Exhibition at Earl's Court, and Olympia each had its usual measure of support from the pleasure seeking folk. As for the railway companies, it was as much as they could do to meet the requirements of the huge crowds of excursionists bent on spending the day at the favourite resorts on the sea coast and in the home counties, which are within easy reach of London. As for numbers, there were upwards of 47,000 to the Crystal Palace, about 11,000 to the different sections of the South Kensington Museum, and nearly 22,000 at the Zoo.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In order to furnish an opportunity for the popular study of the abundant resources of the Empire, as illustrated in the Galleries of the Imperial Institute, the Directors of the British Workman's and General Assurance Company, Limited, are issuing several hundreds of invitations to a half-holiday at the Imperial Institute, on Saturday, the 15th inst., the last day of the season of 1896. The guests are a selection from the most important industrial establishments in the Metropolis; at the expense of the Company a luncheon will be provided for them, and they will be admitted free of charge to all the galleries of the Institute, to the several exhibitions, and to the gardens, which will be brilliantly illuminated at night. A few tickets are reserved, which will be issued on application at the Company's Offices, 2, West-street, Finsbury.

LI HUNG CHANG, the Chinese Ambassador, presented his credentials to the Queen at Osborne House on Wednesday, his Excellency being formally introduced to her Majesty by the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., Prime Minister, and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The Ambassador and his suite left their residence in Carlton House Terrace in Royal carriages for Victoria Station, whence they travelled by special train to Portsmouth. There he embarked for Cowes on the Royal yacht Alberta, and on reaching Osborne House the ceremony of introduction was gone through, among those present being T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of York, the Duke and Duchess of Sparta, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir Fleetwood Edwards, Sir Arthur Bigge, Bro. Col. the Hon. W. Byng, Major Legge, Bro. Lord Edward Pelham Clinton, and the ladies of the Household. When the reception was over, his Excellency returned to Trinity Pier, and, again embarking on the Alberta, was conveyed to the Royal yacht Osborne, where he was entertained at tea by the Prince and Princess of Wales. He then returned to the Alberta, on board of which he was given the opportunity of inspecting the Fleet off Spithead, being received with the customary salute. He then returned to Portsmouth and thence to the Royal Pier Hotel at Southsea. On Thursday his Excellency visited the Dockyard and was taken over some of the battleships. Her Majesty has conferred on the Ambassador the Hon. Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

AT THE MEETING of the Committee for the raising of a memorial to the late Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, P.G. Treasurer, held on Wednesday afternoon in the saloon of Covent Garden Theatre, and, in the absence of Earl de Grey, presided over by Bro. Alderman Frank Green, free, but no means unkindly, criticism was bestowed upon the Executive Committee—that of the amount raised to per cent. should be applied towards the erection of a suitable personal memorial, and that the remaining nine-tenths should be divided equally between the Royal Society of Musicians and the Actors' Benevolent Fund, by whom the money would in some way be associated with the name of Sir Augustus. One section of those present, with Mr. Cecil Raleigh at their head, contended that a statue should be erected in some public place, and that the surplus funds, if any, should go to the charities, a course which was stated by Mr. Rendle, Sir Augustus's brother-in-law, to have the approval of Lady Harris. Another section deprecated the spending of any large sum on what one gentleman described as cemetery marble and theatrical statuary, believing that the best memorial to a man who was so generous and large hearted would be to aid the musical and theatrical charities in which he took so much interest. A decision was finally adopted that subscribers be asked to notify whether they desired their contributions to be devoted to a benevolent object or to a statue, the money subscribed to be applied to the particular object so notified. This practically means the carrying out of the double scheme, and the Chairman, in view of the large sum required, made a special appeal to all promoting the memorial to be zealous in their work.

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, August 15, 1896.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10.**CRAFT LODGE.**

1789, Ubiqum, Criterion.

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, Ridder's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
St. Michael's, Norland Arms, Addison-rd. North, Uxbridge-rd., 8.
Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 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, AUGUST 11.

(No Meetings.)

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 Edgecombe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road, Peckham, at 8.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
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, AUGUST 12.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.

CRAFT LODGES.

1260, John Hervey, Freemasons' Hall.
2581, Empress, Earl's Court.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13.

(No Meetings.)

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14.

(No Meetings.)

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.


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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15.

(No Meetings.)

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

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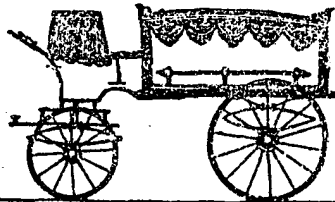
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