

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. 1435.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1896.

[PRICE 3d.]

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PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

In the course of next week the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will receive, with their voting papers for the October Election, a pamphlet containing the reasons which have actuated the Board of Management in their determination to remove the School to a healthier and more commodious site than that which it presently occupies at Wood Green. In the meantime, however, we are enabled, through the courtesy of Bro. MCLEOD, the Secretary of the Institution, to lay these reasons before our readers, who, when they have carefully perused them, will, we think, arrive at the conclusion (1) that the removal of the Institution, if not an absolute necessity, is in every respect most desirable; and (2) that the Board has not exhibited any undue haste in determining upon this step. The PHILBRICK Committee of Investigation, which was appointed in 1888 to inquire thoroughly into the system upon which the School was then being conducted, reported to the Quarterly General Court, held on the 26th April, 1889, that as "the main building was designed to accommodate 100 boys, and the necessary staff of masters and attendants," and as at the time of their report "about 200 boys" were being "housed, fed, and instructed therein," "in certain respects the accommodation is deficient and unsatisfactory." "Most of the class-rooms in use," it proceeded to point out, were "dark and cheerless in daytime," and "only adapted for one-half to two-thirds of the numbers taught in them." Half the bath-room originally provided had, in the course of the "alterations made since first constructed," been "removed, and no substitute provided," and, as a result, the bathing accommodation then remaining was "four times too small according to the original design." Then "the building used as an infirmary does not permit of effectual isolation in infectious or contagious cases, nor if an outbreak of illness occurred, are its capabilities adequate." Again the playground for the main School "was pronounced to be too small" for "the present number of pupils, unless they have daily access to a more extensive recreation ground," while the field which was made to serve this purpose was declared to be "totally unfit, owing to its being situated on a slope." But, worst of all, though the prejudicial consequences to the health and well-being of the boys thus arising were forcibly pointed out 16 years ago by Dr. BARRY, and though the opportunity of rectifying the evil has been open to the authorities since the requisition of Kent House in 1877, no

step appears to have been taken in the matter." The Junior School was declared to be in a still worse plight, having only an asphalted playground inadequate in size" and so "enclosed and shut in with fences" that "free access of light and air" was hindered during the greater part of the year. Such are the main "structural" and other defects to which the Board of Management refer in the third paragraph of their present statement, and though much has been done to make them good under the present régime, it has been done only by the adoption of temporary expedients, such as "the conversion of the large assembly hall into a schoolroom," the renting of a house in the neighbourhood as a sanatorium, "involving considerable expense," the hiring of a field of 12 acres for football practice "but its distance from the School is a serious drawback, nor can it be obtained for cricket." In 1890 the Quarterly Court sanctioned an expenditure of £6500 with a view to remedying the defects spoken of by the Committee of Management and to provide a swimming bath, but the Board of Management realised that whatever was done in the way of an extension of the building, had of necessity the effect of curtailing the playground space, and so the Board was content to adopt the temporary expedients referred to. In 1891, the question of removing the School to another locality was mentioned by the Pro Grand Master in his principal speech as Chairman at the Festival at Brighton in that year, and in the April following the delivery of that speech the Quarterly Court was authorised to entertain negotiations for the sale of the Wood Green property with a view to the removal of the School." Since then the Board has given the subject all the attention it was in its power to give, but it was felt that further steps were necessary, and accordingly at the Quarterly Court in April last the Board was given full powers "to sell the present site, buy a new one, and erect a School thereon," but, as the Chairman of the Board—Bro. RICHARD EVE—was careful to point out at the time, no final step would be taken without bringing it to the notice of the Quarterly Court and obtaining from that body its full consent and approval. Thus, then, stands the case as put forward by the Board of Management. The present site has not only been declared to be unhealthy and undesirable from its being surrounded by small tenements, but insufficient to allow of the necessary extension of the present buildings and the possession of the necessary playgrounds. The Board has been enabled to tide over its many difficulties by the adoption of a number of makeshifts, but even with the aid of these, it is unable to find accommodation within the premises for the 273 boys on the establishment, and there are 19 receiving grants in aid instead of the full benefits to which they are entitled, while it has only been possible to provide for illness by renting a sanatorium, and for outdoor recreation, by hiring a field at a distance from the School, which cannot be used in the summer, or, at all events for cricket, which is the principal summer game. The more commodious premises, the swimming bath, the sanatorium, the playing fields, all these can be obtained, not only for the School at its present strength, but for a larger number of boys, should an extension of the School become necessary, by removing it to another locality. We are told that by adopting this course, there will be "a saving in the cost per head and an extension of the Educational curriculum." If the School remains where it is, there will be no saving, no extension of the curriculum, but only the conversion of temporary into permanent expedients, with all the atten-

dant difficulties and annoyances, and the certainty that the neighbourhood will become less and less desirable every year. No doubt the removal will involve the loss of a certain amount of capital. About £100,000 has been expended at Wood Green, including the sum paid for Lordship House and grounds, but our readers will doubtless bear in mind that the Institution has had the use of the land for 40, and of the main portion of the present building for rather more than 30, years, while if only the £30,000, which is set down as the estimated present value of the premises, is obtained by the sale of them, that sum will go a very long way towards the purchase of 50 or 60 acres of ground in a healthy locality and the erection of the necessary buildings, while the reduced annual outlay in rates, water, rental of sanatorium and playing-field, &c., will very soon make good such loss as may be incurred in the first instance. The question, therefore, to be decided is whether the Boys' School shall be retained on its present unhealthy site and with its admitted insufficiency of accommodation even for the number of boys at present on the establishment, or whether the present property shall be disposed of to the best advantage, and a new School erected on a healthier and more commodious site. To this we add the further question—Will London and the Provinces which have so generously supported this Institution in its present undesirable locality, discontinue that support if it is removed to one that is desirable as regards both its healthiness and surroundings? Our firm belief is that they will decline to stultify themselves by the adoption of such a course.

IN THE MASTER'S ABSENCE.

At the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria, which was held at the Masonic Hall, Melbourne, on the 15th ult., an important discussion arose over one of the paragraphs of the Board of General Purposes, which is of more than local interest. According to the paragraph in question, the "Senior Warden of a country lodge wrote stating that his W.M. being absent, he assumed that he was the principal officer to rule the lodge until the next installation; to this the Past Masters of the lodge demurred, relying on Rule 123 of the Book of Constitutions, which they considered supported the claim of the I.P.M. to officiate and work the lodge. The Board approved the action of the Past Masters." When the paragraph came on for consideration, a long discussion, as we have said, ensued, and in its progress the President of the Board affirmed that the S.W. concerned claimed in the letter he addressed to them "that he had power himself to transact the whole business of the lodge, thus actually flouting the Past Masters." This, however, was emphatically denied by Bro. MCCONNELL, who proclaimed himself the S.W. who had written the letter, and declared that in it he "set forth most emphatically that the S.W. could not confer Degrees, but was there in command in the Master's absence." He added that "if the G. Secretary had the letter with him he should like it read," but if not, "he would bow to the ruling of the brethren, and take his censure accordingly." Thereupon R.W. Bro. SCOTT moved as an amendment that the paragraph be referred to the Board for further consideration." A Bro. VAHLAND to a certain extent confirmed the statement of the S.W., Bro. MCCONNELL. He said "The Board believed that the S.W. in his letter claimed not only the right to summon, but also the right to rule the lodge in the Master's absence. He did not claim to confer Degrees, but he undoubtedly, as far as he recollected—and it was scarcely possible that he (the speaker) and the whole Board could be mistaken in the interpretation of a simple English letter—did contend for the right of the S.W. not only to summon but to take the chair below the dais and rule the lodge in every way, excepting in the conferring of Degrees." R.W. Bro. BLASHKI, in seconding Bro. SCOTT'S amendment—to refer the matter back to the Board—expressed it as his opinion "that the S.W. did rule." The President of the Board—V.W. Bro. MATTHEWS—contended "that the S.W.'s duty ceased when he had summoned the lodge." Rule 123 was subsequently read, firstly by a Bro. MCLEOD and afterwards by V.W. Bro. MEADOWCROFT, G. Secretary for Foreign Correspondence—whose remarks are not clear owing to the evident omission of a word or words in the earlier part of the speech, though in the

concluding sentence he is reported—in the *Australasian Key-stone*—to have maintained that "it was distinctly stated that the S.W. should rule the lodge." In the end Bro. SCOTT'S amendment was lost and the paragraph approved by Grand Lodge.

Our own Law—Article 141, Book of Constitutions—seems tolerably clear on the point. Therein it is laid down that "if the Master shall die, be removed, or be rendered incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Senior Warden, and in the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, and in the absence of both Wardens, the Immediate Past Master, or in his absence, the senior Past Master, shall act as Master in summoning the lodge, until the next installation of Master. In the Master's absence, the Immediate Past Master, or, if he be absent, the senior Past Master of the lodge present, or if no Past Master of the lodge be present, then the senior Past Master who is a subscribing member of the lodge shall take the chair. And if no Past Master who is a member of the lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence the Junior Warden, shall rule the lodge. When a Warden rules the lodge, he shall not occupy the Master's chair, nor can initiations take place or degrees be conferred unless the chair be occupied by a brother who is a Master or Past Master in the Craft."

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and the Isle of Wight, presided. Bro. Thomas Fenn, Past President of the Board of General Purposes, acted as Past Grand Master; Bro. Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G.M. for Guernsey and Alderney, as Deputy Grand Master; Bro. Rev. W. K. Riland Bedford, P.G.C., as S.G.W.; Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., as J.G.W.; Bro. Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C., as G.C.; and among other Present and Past Grand Officers who attended were—

Bros. W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., G.D.; Robt. Grey, President Board of Benevolence; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Samuel Cochrane, P.G.T.; Bailey, G. Treas.; Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; Kupferschmidt, Asst. G. Sec. for German Correspondence; R. Clay Sudlow, Dr. Clement Godson, George Read, James Lewis Thomas, Henry Lovegrove, G.S.B.; A. C. Spaul, George Lambert, James Terry, Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; P. de L. Long, Frank Richardson, W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br.; Dr. Geo. Mickle, E. St. Clair, C. A. Cottebrune, J. J. Thomas, H. Garrod, S. V. Abraham, Walter Hopekirk, and John Newton.

After Grand Lodge had been opened, the minutes of the meeting of June 2nd and of the special meeting of July 29th were read and confirmed.

Bro. BEACH then said: I have to read a letter from Marlborough House—"Sir Francis Knollys is desired by his Royal Highness the Grand Master to thank Grand Lodge for their address of congratulation, and for the expression of their good wishes on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of his installation as Grand Master of Freemasons of England. Dated 27th July, 1896." (Applause.)

The following recommendations of the Board of Benevolence were confirmed, on the motion of Bro. ROBERT GREY, President, seconded by Bro. C. A. COTTEBRUNE, Junior Vice-President:

A brother of the Lodge of Philanthropy, No. 910, Stockton-on-Tees	£50 0 0
A brother of the St. Ambrose Lodge, No. 1891, London	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Social Lodge, No. 93, Norwich	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Prosperity Lodge, No. 65, London	75 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, Gravesend	50 0 0
A brother of the Trinity Lodge, No. 254, Coventry	50 0 0

After the report of the Board of General Purposes—as published in the *Freemason* last week—had been taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, Bro. THOMAS WEBB WHITMARSH, P.G.P., moved, and Bro. CHARLES ALEXANDER COTTEBRUNE, P.G.P., seconded, the approval by Grand Lodge of the following alterations in the laws of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, agreed to at a special meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of that Institution on July 28th, 1896:

That Clause 18 be expunged, and the following substituted in lieu thereof:

In consideration of the grants from Grand Lodge, the Master of every lodge in the London District shall at every election for Male Annuitants be entitled to two votes, and at every election for Female Annuitants to one vote. Every Provincial Grand Master, or his Nominee, shall at every election for Male Annuitants be entitled to two votes, and at every election for Female Annuitants to one vote for every lodge in his province. And in consideration of the grants from Supreme Grand Chapter, the First Principal of every London Royal Arch Chapter shall at every election for Male Annuitants be entitled to two votes, and at every election for Female Annuitants to one vote. Every Superintendent of a province, or his Nominee, shall at every election for Male Annuitants be entitled to two votes, and every election of Female Annuitants to one vote for every chapter in his province. In the case of a province where there is no Superintendent, the votes shall be sent to the First Principal of the respective chapters. The number of lodges and chapters claiming in the provinces to be determined by the number of lodges recorded in the "Freemasons' Calendar and Pocket Book" for the current year.

That in Clause No. 1 of the Widows' qualifications, after the word "Lodge" in the third line, the following words be inserted:

Unless in the case of her last husband's petition having been accepted by the Committee, and he had died before his election, in such case her application will be considered eligible.

The motion was agreed to without any remark being made, and Grand Lodge was closed in form.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown was held on Tuesday evening at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. The Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro Grand Master, presided. Bros. Col. A. B. Cook acted as Deputy Grand Master; Thos. Fenn, as S.G.W.; Robert Berridge, as J.G.W.; Dr. Balfour Cockburn, G.M.O.; Chas. Belton, as S.G.O.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., J.G.O.; Major Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; Frank Richardson, G. Reg.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; Baron Le Ferrieres, the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, G. Lawrence, Dr. Clement Godsen, Richard Eve, Major C. W. Carrell, G.D.C.; James Boulton, H. J. Lardner, Henry Sadler, the Very Rev. Dean Currie, E. St. Clair, and other brethren being also present.

After Grand Lodge had been opened in ample form, Bro. C. F. MATIER said that at the last meeting of Grand Lodge, Bro. Bignold, who had been appointed one of the Grand Standard Bearers, was unable to be present to be invested, but he was then in attendance and ready to be invested.

The Earl of Euston then invested Bro. C. A. B. Bignold as Grand Standard Bearer.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON then said: Brethren, before proceeding with the business of the Grand Lodge, I have to announce that a brother who did a great deal for Mark Masonry has since our last meeting passed away to that destination to which we must all go—I mean our Most Worshipful Brother and Past Grand Mark Master, Lord Limerick. Lord Limerick served in this Degree in the year 1870, when he was made a Grand Senior Warden. He was Deputy Grand Master in 1872, and Grand Master from 1875 to 1878; and I think that you will all agree with me when I say this—that this Grand Lodge most deeply regrets the loss of one who served the Order so well, and also that we should not be doing the right or proper thing as Masons if we did not sorrow and condole with those whom he has left behind. I shall, therefore, move—"That this Grand Lodge do record on their minutes their deep sense of the loss the Mark Degree has sustained by the death of the Most Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Limerick, K.P., who had filled the office of Grand Master from 1875 to 1878, and who had by his great zeal materially promoted the best interests of Grand Lodge."

I shall also move that they desire to record their sincere sympathy and condolence with the Dowager Lady Limerick and the family of the brother who has passed away from this mortal sphere. First, I would move that we record our regret on our minutes, and, secondly, that a letter be written to the Dowager Lady Limerick and family, expressing our sincere sympathy and condolence with them in their bereavement.

Bro. Col. A. B. COOK: Brethren,—the proposition you have heard from the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master I am sure will meet with your warmest sympathy. All of us appreciated the late Earl of Limerick as a good Mason. You all know, as I do, who had a knowledge of his work many years ago, how well and faithfully he served the Order, and knowing his work so well, I feel it a great honour to second the motion made by our Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of 2nd June, 1896, were then read and confirmed.

The report of the General Board was taken and read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, and on the motion of Bro. FRANK RICHARDSON, seconded by Bro. Major CLIFFORD PROBYN, Bro. Edwin Bush, P.M. 143, was confirmed in the rank and privileges of Past Master.

Bro. W. E. M. TOMLINSON, M.P., G.J.O., as a Member of Lodge 143, expressed the appreciation of the lodge of the consideration with which the matter had been dealt with by the General Board.

The report of the General Board was then adopted.

Bro. the Very Rev. EDWARD REID CURRIE, D.D., Dean of Battle, Deputy Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, then said: Most Worshipful Grand Master in the chair, on behalf of the Province of Sussex I ask Grand Lodge to accept the portrait which now hangs on the walls of Grand Lodge, of our Right Worshipful Prov. Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, K.G., Past Grand Master, which we now present as a testimony of our great respect and esteem towards his Royal Highness in honouring us by becoming our Grand Master in the Mark Degree and also our Provincial Grand Master in the Craft.

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON: Brethren, you have heard the kind offer of the brethren of Sussex who have presented the beautiful portrait which is now hanging up here. I think the least that we can do as members of Grand Mark Lodge is to thank the Province of Sussex most heartily for their kindness in presenting the portrait to us and to congratulate the brethren of Sussex on having such a Prov. Grand Master to rule over them. Their presenting the portrait is a proof that they honour him and respect him. I think it ought to be entered on the minutes that we thank the Province of Sussex and do most heartily accept the present. Long may the Duke of Connaught live to rule over the Province of Sussex.

The motion accepting the present and thanking the Province of Sussex for it was carried unanimously.

Bro. MATIER announced that the jewels and bars of the Stewards for the last Festival of the Benevolent Fund could be had at the Grand Secretary's office, and Grand Lodge was closed.

SHANKLIN PIER CARNIVAL.

Shanklin Pier Carnival and Naval Battle took place on Monday last. The weather was perfect, and the sea as calm as a mill-pond. The pier was brilliantly illuminated with an immense number of lanterns and fairy lamps, and every kind of amusement was provided for the visitors, who thronged it in thousands.

It was a gorgeous spectacular display, and never was such a scene witnessed in Shanklin as the naval battle; about 60 vessels all illuminated, took part in it and the procession. They cannonaded the war ships anchored in line off the pier with bombs, burning hundreds of Roman candles and hand lights of every hue and colour, the engagement lasting nearly an hour.

The closing scene was the firing of an old battle-ship, which blazed away with fine effect. Altogether it was a grand success, and our readers will be pleased to learn that it was organised and carried out by a committee of only three—all Past Masters of Chine Lodge, No. 1884—Bros. Bailey, Greenham, and Marsh.

THE FAMILY OF GRAND LODGES.

By BRO. R. F. GOULD.

(Continued from page 460).

By way of preliminary, however, I shall first of all adduce the remaining evidence that can be cited, with the most convenience, under the year 1895.

Replying to the strictures of Dr. Robbins, Bro. John D. Vincil, G. Sec., and Reporter on Correspondence Grand Lodge of Missouri, says: "If it be true that the 'elements' out of which the Gran Dieta was formed were 'hopelessly clandestine,' how on earth can legitimate Masonry ever be established in Mexico? Certainly not by the creation and maintenance of the Symbolic system, when the existing system—'hopelessly clandestine'—utterly refuses to allow Symbolic Lodges to remain there as independent bodies. If the present 'aggregation' of Masonic bodies working under the authority of the Gran Dieta should so conform to the recognised standards of Symbolic Grand Lodges in this country as to be regarded as legitimate, would it not be better to have that kind of Masonry there than such as has heretofore prevailed in the Republic?" (*Proceedings Grand Lodge of Missouri*, October 15th, 1895).

It will scarcely surprise us, that Past Grand Master M. M. Miller, of Kansas, who will shortly appear as a prominent actor in the drama I am unfolding, should observe of the foregoing—"Is this the most explicit pronouncement that Missouri can make on the Gran Dieta conundrum?"

The same critic then proceeds to inquire—and the question he formulates should be carefully recollected when we come to the Resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Kansas on February 20th, 1896—"As we understand the Missouri record on this question, Grand Secretary Vincil, 'in compliance with the expression of the Grand Lodge concerning this Lodge (Toltec, No. 520), wrote to Worshipful Bro. Chism advising him of the action taken, and advised said Lodge to accept a charter from the Gran Dieta of Mexico,' etc.

"Toltec Lodge accepted the advice, and this child of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, lawfully born and lawfully adopted by, and with the consent of, its genuine mother, is now a member of a new Masonic family. Are we to understand that Missouri advised a child born to it lawfully to ally itself to an 'aggregation' which the parent did not or does not consider legitimate? We have naturally expected that Missouri would speak on this question. Her personal connection with Mexican Masonry is of later date than that of either Louisiana or New York, and her interest in the subject ought necessarily to be greater. How is it, Bro. V., did you not consider the Gran Dieta a legitimate body when you advised Toltec to accept a charter from it?" (*Proceedings Grand Lodge of Kansas*, 1896).

The addendum of eight-and-half pages forms an interesting feature of the Report on Correspondence presented to the Grand Lodge of Texas by Bro. T. M. Matthews last December. It informs us that the writer having interviewed Dr. P. Ornelas at San Antonio, received from the latter certain answers in writing, dated December 6th, 1895. These deny in the most positive terms "that there is a single article in the Constitutions of the Gran Dieta which can be construed as allowing, approving, confirming, or authorising the establishment of lodges for women." That there is an Adoptive Lodge composed of women is, however, admitted (but the deponent states): "It is a fact that the Adoptive Lodge happens to be invited to the banquets and feasts of the regular lodges, but only to such as have in no way the secret character of the Institution." (The italics are those of Bro. Matthews.)

The reporter (Bro. Matthews) then extracts from a letter written to him by Bro. Ermilio G. Canton, dated July 3rd, 1894: "We beg to state that there exist [*sic*] a woman lodge, established some years ago. It is now under auspices and protection of our Gran Dieta, but by no means under jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge, El Valle de Mexico, No. 1. This lodge has no siege (evidently meaning seat or representation) in our Grand Lodge. On festival occasions this lodge has been invited, but members of our Grand Lodge and dependent lodges are not allowed to visit this woman lodge. It is a separate organisation, which is governed by itself and controlled by our Gran Dieta. No article of our Constitution provides its legal existence."

Lastly, Bro. Matthews introduces the testimony of Bro. S. R. Hamilton, a high official of the Grand Lodge of Texas, who says: "While in Mexico I made the acquaintance of several reliable parties with whom I have corresponded since my return. Through said correspondence [*the italics are again those of Bro. Matthews*], which I consider eminently trustworthy, I have been informed that the Gran Dieta has revoked all charters for women's lodges, and forbidden the presence of women in any lodge working under its jurisdiction."

Bro. Matthews then asks: "Is this enough? Let those who are unbiased and without prejudice answer. We are told in Holy Writ—'But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established?' This, as we think, we have done." (*Proc. G.L. Texas*, Dec. 1895).

Surely, however, the testimony of Bros. Ermilio G. Canton and P. Ornelas on the one side, and that of Bro. S. R. Hamilton on the other, are irreconcilable? Moreover, I altogether fail to see what object has been attained by printing at this late stage, the above statement of the Mexican G. Sec. General, unless, indeed, it be the further proof it affords us of the atmosphere of duplicity which encircles all the official spokesmen who testify to the actual procedure under the Gran Dieta Simbolica.

At the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, held on the 20th of February, 1896, a very lengthy report was submitted by the Committee on Correspondence, to whom had been referred the question of the recognition of the Gran Dieta.

The chairman, Past Grand Master Miller, travels over the old familiar ground; the decision of the G.L. of Missouri, in 1893, to "cut off" Toltec Lodge, No. 520, is set out fully, and the Report continues: "Another fair inference from the Missouri report and the address of Grand Master Kene (1894), where he reports advising Toltec Lodge to accept a charter from the Gran Dieta, which action was approved by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, is that such action goes far beyond a quasi recognition. It is beyond dispute or question a certificate from a mother to a daughter of the high standing, unquestioned regularity and legitimacy of the ancestor, as well as the unimpeachable character of the one to whom her own legitimate offspring is to be allied for all time to come." (Italics mine).

The reasoning, especially if we refer to the remarks of the same writer (already cited) which appear in the same volume of Proceedings is a little

inconclusive. But to pass on—the *misstatement* of the Committee on Jurisprudence, G.L. of New York, that the charges made by Bro. R. E. Chism had been fully met by the Gran Dieta is duly recited, and then we reach the penultimate act of one of the most remarkable *extravaganzas* that has ever been exhibited on any Masonic stage.

The drafter of the Kansas report—Bro. Miller—next prints a long correspondence, the parties to which were Bro. T. S. Parvin and himself. Both are Sovereign Grand Inspectors-General 33°, under the Supreme Council at Washington (from which the Gran Dieta derives whatever it may be deemed to possess of Masonic legitimacy), and Bro. Miller wrote to Bro. Parvin December 30th, 1895, saying that he had "listened with intense interest to his exposition of Mexican Masonry" at the October session of the above Supreme Council, and asks "whether the changed conditions (as the result of the official action of the Gran Dieta on August 24th last) in reference to the 'Bible on the Altars,' and 'Female Masonry,' are such that you [*i.e.* Bro. Parvin] would now advise the recognition of the Gran Dieta."

Bro. Parvin in reply, January, 11th, 1896, wrote: "Very soon after I returned from Mexico I received assurances that the Gran Dieta had repealed the law authorising the making of women Masons, and since the session of the Supreme Council I have received further assurances from there that they have not only gone thus far, but they have forbidden the making of women Masons in their lodges. They have also recalled all the charters granted to women lodges, and still further, have forbidden the lodges to admit either to membership, or visitation, women upon whom they had previously conferred the degrees in accordance with their laws. The women there, as they would likely here, kicked against this, but to no purpose; they are now out in the cold."

I am further assured that while the Gran Dieta does not require that the lodges shall place the Bible upon the altar, it neither forbids it nor interposes any objection to their doing so, it only requires that they use the Book of Constitutions." The letter concludes by recommending this recognition of the Gran Dieta.

In the result, the Kansas Committee reported (*inter alia*): "The charges made against the Gran Dieta as a sovereign Grand Lodge are shown never to have been true as to its Constitution and by-laws, and it has by solemn enactment decreed that the Holy Bible, square and compass should be used on all Masonic altars in the Symbolic lodges of the Republic of Mexico, and that all charters held by so-called women lodges be at once withdrawn, and no recognition of women as Masons ever be made. [*If there is any better authority for this statement than the circular of Anahuac Lodge, No. 141; the persuasion of Bro. S. R. Hamilton; or the 'assurance' conveyed to Bro. Parvin by the Supreme Council of Mexico, it should have been cited.*] We also find that practical recognition has been given to the Gran Dieta by American Masons residing or sojourning in Mexico, and that American visitors to Mexican lodges find the work to be practically the same as that of the lodges of the United States; that the recognition of the Gran Dieta by the Grand Lodge of Texas has been productive of a better feeling of amity between the two jurisdictions; that recognition has also been formally made of the Gran Dieta by the Grand Lodges of New York and North Dakota, and that the Grand Lodge of Missouri, by advising its subordinate, Toltec Lodge, No. 520, to accept a charter from the Gran Dieta has, in the most impressive manner, certified to its legitimacy and regularity, and borne testimony to the fact that it regarded and considered the Gran Dieta a body of character and stability [the words '*hopelessly clandestine*' of Grand Secretary Vincil, notwithstanding], and entitled to the allegiance of all the Symbolic lodges within its jurisdiction." The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Grand Symbolic Diet of Mexico should be duly recognised by the Grand Lodge of Kansas—which recommendation was adopted. (*Proceedings Grand Lodge Kansas, 1896*)

The first remark to be made on this extraordinary performance, is the utter absence of anything in the nature of satisfactory evidence to warrant the conclusions that were formulated by the Committee and adopted by the Grand Lodge.

Of the gross "irregularity" of the Gran Dieta, there is abundant testimony; but of its subsequent "regularity," if, indeed, a sudden *volte-face* can at once wipe out the consequences of its previous misdeeds, there is none whatever, that is, at first hand; for neither the manifesto of Anahuac Lodge, No. 141, nor the letters of Bros. Hamilton and Parvin amount to more than strongly-worded expressions of confidence that an entirely new departure has been struck out by the Gran Dieta. If we can suppose, for example, that the Grand Orient of France was desirous of giving tangible proof that it had abjured the fatal error which led to its exclusion from the Family of Grand Lodges—a mere announcement of the circumstance in a letter from one of its daughter lodges, and from the mouths of two Grand Officers of other jurisdictions, would certainly not be deemed sufficient—at least in Europe—to ensure its re-admission within the circle of Masonic powers.

Most people, too, would like to know what has become of Bro. Ermilio G. Canton, and whether, if his alleged "suspension" actually took place, he has been reinstated in the position of "acting Grand Master"? Or, if not, by what other Mexican dignitary he has been succeeded?

The testimony, or fractional testimony, of Bro. Agramonte, as Past Master of Anahuac Lodge, No. 141, also invites observation, as unless he was better informed with respect to "women Masons" in 1895, than when he previously denied their existence, except as members of the Eastern Star, in 1893—his deposition, or part statement, can serve no other purpose than to mislead.

My fast dwindling space forbids more than a passing notice of the article on "Mexican Masonry" by Bro. Parvin, to which I alluded at the outset of these remarks. "The making of women Masons," he reminds us, "is by no means a new thing in Masonry. It has only been more recent, and upon a larger scale, and brought nearer home. Every well-read Mason knows full well that in the last century a lodge in Ireland, No. 44, at Doneraile, initiated a woman, Miss Elizabeth St. Leger, daughter of the Right Honourable St. Leger, Viscount Doneraile, whose son and successor was Master of the lodge at the time. She afterwards married Honourable Richard Aldworth, of the County of Cork, and has left a most honourable record as a woman and a woman Mason. Moreover, the Masonic student may learn that during the reign of Napoleon, the First Emperor, a woman was made a Mason, he being Grand Master at the time. She was a colonel and a very brave and distinguished officer in his army; served with distinction for many years, and her sex was not discovered until she was severely wounded, when, upon her recovery, the Masons, prompted by a spirit of gallantry, conferred upon her the three Symbolic Degrees. Within

the past decade the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Hungary, a Symbolic Grand Lodge, which takes a prominent part the present year with the officials and people of Hungary in the celebration of their Millenium Festival, a thousand years of honourable history, conferred, himself the Degrees of Masonry upon his own wife. While the Masonic press commented upon this last case, as Masonic historians have upon the former, I have yet to learn that any Masonic Grand Body ever withdrew, or even withheld their recognition from the Grand Lodges of Ireland, France, and Hungary" (*Proceedings Grand Lodge of Iowa, 1896*).

Napoleon was not a Grand Master, nor from his conversations with O'Meara at St. Helena, is it possible to believe that he was a Freemason at all. The other portions of Bro. Parvin's remarks on "Women Masons" I must pass over very briefly, and shall observe in the first instance, that no European Grand Lodge has yet gone so far as to pass a resolution authorising the initiation of women, and the establishment of female lodges.

The nearest approach to anything of the kind occurred in France, according to an obituary notice, headed "Maria Deraismes, by Emily Crawford," which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* of February 10th, 1894. Mdle. Maria Deraismes, a leader in the cause of women's rights in France, was born in 1825, and died February 6th, 1894, at her residence in Paris. "The Masonic body took her up and admitted her to the First Degree of Freemasonry. Her initiation took place at 'Le Grand Orient,' and a medal was struck by order of that body to commemorate the event."

I now turn to the Correspondence Report of one of the ablest and most respected of the Masonic dignitaries in the U.S.A. Under "Pennsylvania," and criticising the observations of the late Bro. Richard Vaux, Past Grand Master, Josiah H. Drummond writes: "He discusses the decision of Grand Master Pettus, of Alabama, that a one-armed man may be elected and installed Master of a lodge. He dissents, declaring that if a one-armed man is made a Mason his making is absolutely void and he is not a Mason, and, of course, cannot be Master of a Lodge. We are aware that this is the doctrine in Pennsylvania; we regret that Bro. Vaux did not give the reason; we have been trying for years to get some Pennsylvanian brother to discuss the question from his standpoint; because we know that it has been held in England, in noted cases, that when a candidate has been initiated in a regular Lodge, he is a Mason, and all inquiry into his eligibility is for ever foreclosed; this doctrine was so firmly established, that Lady Aldworth was, everywhere in that jurisdiction, recognised as a regular Mason." (*Proc. G.L. Maine, 1895*).

If for England we read Ireland, the conclusion on which Bro. Drummond relies is, to some extent at least, supported by tradition, but whether it will be recognised as a valid precedent by the Grand Lodges of Texas, New York, Kansas, and North Dakota, which having recognised the Gran Dieta, must, in the ordinary course, be supposed not to cavil at the "regularity" of any persons who are armed with its certificates—is a matter upon which speculation would be premature.

Bro. Parvin also states in the Special Article on Mexican Masonry, to which I have been referring:—"It was an ancient Greek who banished from his door on an inclement morning the weary traveller who blew upon his cold hands to warm them and upon his hot broth to cool it, saying he would not shelter one who 'blew hot and cold with the same breath.' Not unlike, methinks, those who want Brother Canton punished because he is the author of both the making of the women Masons and then taking the charter he had granted them from them. This is a question for moral philosophers and Masonic jurists, and not the Grand Lodge, to consider and determine." (*Proc. G.L. Iowa, 1896*).

"We may infer from the above, that there is much yet to be revealed with regard to the actual history of the Gran Dieta during the past year—and notably as to there having been any break of continuity in the virtual dictatorship of the Gr. Sec. General.

But greatly and deservedly as Bro. Parvin is respected in Iowa, Dr. Cox, the Reporter on Correspondence for the Grand Lodge of that State, writes:—"Highly as we revere our honoured Grand Secretary, for our own part we are not yet prepared to recommend the recognition of the Gran Dieta. The facts concerning authorized irregularities and infringement of fundamental landmarks were for a long time kept in reserve, or were denied; the integrity of those who made such charges was challenged; when the admission of the facts became inevitable, justification was attempted and excuses were glibly and *in extenso* forthcoming; and finally, by an exercise of authority as arbitrary as was the original wrong-doing, attempt is made to secure favour by a revocation of the charters of women's Lodges and the prohibition of rights before freely and unreservedly bestowed. No offence is alleged against those thus made scape-goats; no charges are preferred, no citation issued, no defence heard, no trial held; not even a decent regard to the rude forms of Judge Lynch was observed, but a summary order for execution was issued, and the executioners, pointing to decapitated Lodges and disfranchised Masons, pose as saints, and ask admission to the company of the faithful without even a profession of penitence or a prayer for pardon. To us this whole procedure is alike undignified and unmasonic; we are not ready to give to it even *quasi* endorsement. As to the other matter of contention—the presence or absence of the Great Light; upon this there is a similar disingenuousness. It is averred that the Bible is not excluded from Lodges, but that, on the contrary, it is permitted; although the uniform testimony is that the Book of Constitutions is invariably found upon the altar, with rarely a Bible in sight anywhere in the Lodge. The presence of the Great Light does not make men religious, nor does it indicate that they are religious; but its absence from our altars would be a tacit declaration of Atheism which would belie all Masonic teaching and tradition." (*Ibid*).

In some future articles I shall have more to say on the discrepant customs which are to be met with among the Family of Grand Lodges. But I shall end the present one as I began it, with an allusion to the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. In that country there are, or were, one Provincial and seven District Grand Lodges; and in the place of eight *Viceroys*, it is only natural that a majority of the Brethren should prefer to have a single king. But the mischief is, that the absolute certainty by any Colonial Grand Lodge—however organised or conducted—of being rapturously welcomed within the circle of governing Masonic bodies, by one or more of the American Grand Lodges, nearly always results in a Declaration of Independence, a little before the time is actually ripe for it. This course seems to have been adopted in New Zealand, but that the period has at length arrived, when the New Grand Lodge may be admitted with propriety into the fellowship of her European Sisters, there cannot be a doubt, nor can we praise too highly the excellent judgment displayed by our own M.W.G.M. in convening a Special Grand Lodge for the consideration of the "New Zealand Question" on the 29th July.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSET.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Grammar School, Wimborne, on Thursday, the 27th ult., the use of the building having been kindly granted by Bro. E. Fynes-Clinton. There was a large attendance of brethren, but the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Montague Guest, who had an engagement at Torquay, was unavoidably absent, and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Colonel Brymer, M.P., presided. Among the distinguished visitors present were Bros. Judge F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg., and J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.

The usual business of the province having been transacted, the Prov. G. Officers were invested as follows:

Bro. L. W. Pike, P.M.	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. W. Stickland	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. G. P. Balleine	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" R. D. Thornton, P.M. (re-elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" C. H. Curtis, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" R. Case, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" T. H. Ensor, P.M.	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" A. Rayner, P.M.	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" E. W. Baker	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" R. G. Cave, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. Knight, P.M.	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" F. Burt, P.M.	...	...	Prov. J.S.B.
" J. McNichol, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Hair, P.M.	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" A. C. Chapin	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" T. H. Harris	...	...
" O. G. Barrow	...	...
" A. Budden...	...	...
" R. H. Groves	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" A. C. Kemble	...	...
" S. C. Vye (re-appointed)	...	...

In conformance with the desire expressed by the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, in commemoration of the 21st anniversary of his installation as Grand Master, that Past Prov. and District Grand rank should be conferred on a limited number of brethren in the various provinces, Bro. R. Case, who has held Provincial Grand office for 21 years, and during the greater part of that time as Provincial Grand Secretary, was appointed P.P.S.G.W.

The annual banquet took place at the Masonic Hall, and was largely attended.

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

The following is the circular which has been addressed to the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys by the Board of Management in reference to the removal of the School, and will be issued next week with the voting papers for the October election:

"The Board of Management desires to place before the Subscribers a statement of the reasons which have prompted it to advise the Quarterly Court to remove the Institution from Wood Green into the country.

"The Report of the Committee of Investigation of 1888-9, presided over by the V.W. Bro. his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Registrar, served as a text-book for the enlargement and re-organisation of Institution, and the Provisional Management Committee of 1888-91, and subsequently the existing Board of Management, have endeavoured to carry out the recommendations therein made.

"In that Report several structural defects in the School-buildings were pointed out as calculated to hinder the work, notably an insufficiency of class room, bathing and lavatory and infirmary accommodation, and the absence of proper playing and recreation grounds.

"As a striking comparison with the state of affairs existing in 1888, referred to in the Report, attention is drawn to the report of the Medical Officer to the Board of Management on June 26th, 1896.

"In 1890 the Quarterly Court granted authority for an expenditure of £6500 to carry out a part of these necessary works, with the addition thereto of a swimming bath.

"The matter was constantly before the Committee of Management, but it was felt that it would be unwise to add to the existing buildings on the present site or to construct a swimming bath, as it would still further curtail the playground accommodation, which was in their opinion totally insufficient.

"By a readjustment of the Preparatory School buildings and the conversion of the large assembly hall into a school-room, the pressing difficulties as to classroom accommodation were removed at a small cost, but it is obvious that such temporary expedients could not be of the satisfactory nature required for the increased number of boys.

"It will be remembered that at the Anniversary Festival in 1891 the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Pro Grand Master, who presided, drew particular attention to the undesirable site on which the School was placed. His remarks, as reported in the *Freemason*, are attached hereto.

"This opinion of so eminent a representative of the Craft could not be ignored, and confirming as it did the views taken by the various Management Committees from 1888 onwards, the Board of Management brought the matter before the Quarterly Court in April, 1892, and that Court authorised the Board to entertain negotiations for the sale of the Wood Green property with a view to the removal of the School.

"Since 1892 the matter has received the constant attention of the Board, and in April last, finding no progress could be made without larger powers being granted, the Board asked the Subscribers assembled in Quarterly Court for power to sell the present site, buy a new one, and erect a School thereon, and this was thereupon agreed to.

"The Board desires to place before the Subscribers the reasons which have actuated it in pressing this matter to a definite issue, and the foregoing *resumé* of the history of the case will, it is hoped, convince the Craft that the Board has not proceeded in the matter with undue haste or without due consideration, but that, on the contrary, the question has been a constant source of discussion and anxiety since 1888, and has been laid before the Craft on several occasions.

"It is contended by some that the extension of the work of the Institution

should be to provide grants in aid of education and clothing *outside* of the Institution, and not to increase the numbers maintained in the School. The Board can only answer this contention by pointing out that this question was settled as far back as 1851, when the first school-house was arranged for, the subscribers of that day condemning the system practised before that time which some would now desire to revert to.

"The Board has already an experience on the matter, for by reason of there being accommodation in the School at the present time only for 259 boys, whilst 278 have been elected to its benefits, 19 boys are necessarily educated out of the Institution.

"The Board is of opinion that to increase the number of these 'out-educated' boys is a waste of energy and of money, and that the mere 'grant in aid' system is not the highest form of the work of an Institution such as this.

"There can be but slight supervision over such boys, or over the 'grant in aid,' and that great blessing which the school life tends to bring to the orphan—the management standing in the position of the lost parent or parents, and endeavouring throughout his career to train him for a position in after life which they do their best to secure for him on leaving the School—is altogether missing in such cases.

"The excellent dietary given and the medical care exercised over the boys in the Institution builds up their bodies, and in this way prepares them best for their work in after life.

"Again, the demand upon the Institution is for boys to be educated, clothed, and *maintained* in the Institution. After election each parent or guardian has the option given him or her for the boy to be educated in or out of the Institution.

"In no case has it been known that preference has been expressed for out education, a convincing proof that they fully appreciate the advantages of the public school life given therein.

"The course of modern education has greatly altered during the present generation, and particularly in the last decade.

"To adapt the existing buildings to the requirements of the present day would necessitate the addition of new class rooms, science lecture room and laboratory, shops for technical classes, to extend the work already carried on of printing, bookbinding, carpentry, and engineering, besides the swimming bath before alluded to (the absence of which has long been felt to be a blot on the School), at a total estimated initial cost of at least £10,000.

"It is also generally admitted that the present rooms are insufficient for the existing number, and that extensive alterations would have to be made to perfect the work.

"For the reasons above-named, and having regard to the fact that every increase of building lessens the present inadequate playing ground space, the Board cannot advise the outlay of so large a sum on the present site.

"The total area of the property is 13½ acres, of which the School buildings and grounds immediately adjacent occupy 11½ acres, whilst the only playing field worthy of the name is just two acres in extent. Hence playing ground accommodation has to be found at a considerable distance from the School, involving loss of time and discipline.

"The Institution is always open for inspection by subscribers and friends.

"All who visit the Institution are struck with the undesirable surroundings. These, in many ways, are not conducive to the health of the boys, both physically and morally, and much expense to ward off illness has had to be incurred in consequence.

"The School has increased by 'leaps and bounds.' Only 11 years ago the number of boys receiving benefit was 215, now it is 278, of whom 16 are retained for higher education over the age of 15 years.

"The Board feels that its policy to extend the advantages and improve the educational curriculum has met with the entire approval of the Craft, this being shown by the generous contributions given during the past six years.

"We are now face to face with this fact. Forty-four candidates seek election in October, and there are only 10 vacancies. To increase this number by four, the Board has had, most reluctantly, to reduce the number of boys to be retained after January next for higher education from 16 to 12.

"The Board feels that the Craft in contributing so generously each year is practically asking for an extension of the benefits to a greater number, and thus relieve the list of candidates.

"This extension cannot be made on the present site, therefore it is necessary to go further afield.

"It is true that the the total cost of the present site and buildings extending over a period of upwards of 40 years, has been about £100,000, and that a loss must of necessity be made in disposing of them. It will, however, be well to bear in mind that in the assets of the Institution they have only been entered as £30,400.

"The Board is convinced that a removal further into the country will secure the following advantages:

"1. A School and grounds self-contained with ample accommodation for 50 or 100 more boys than at present receiving benefit, and even more, should the next generation require it.

"2. An extension of the Educational curriculum—

"(a) In Science and Art teaching;

"(b) Technical Classes;

"(c) In extending to a large number of deserving boys the advantages of higher education beyond the age of 15 years.

"3. A saving in the cost per head, viz.:

"(a) In Management and Establishment charges;

"(b) In Rates;

"(c) In cost of water, &c.;

and that, as a necessary consequence, any loss of capital in disposing of the present site will be regained by the greater benefits to be conferred, and the economy to be made in the working of a school adapted for our present and future needs.

"The Board has pride in pointing to its successful management and to the great strides and successes of the School during the past few years, the members can claim to be representative and business men, and they confidently submit the matter to the judgment of the Craft.

"The Institution is within two years of celebrating the 100th year of its existence. For more than one-half of that time its operations were limited, and have left no mark in history; the record of the real progress of the School dates from the present generation, and at no time has it shown such activity and usefulness as at present.

"Let the Institution be still more progressive, moving with the times, and let us celebrate the *Centenary* by laying the foundation-stone of a "greater" School, which can be pointed to by the Craft as a lasting memorial of their generosity.

"Signed, on behalf and by order of the

"Board of Management,

"RICHARD EVE, Chairman.

"GEORGE EVERETT,

"W. FENTIMAN SMITHSON, } Vice-Chairman.

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PLYMOUTH, Tavistock, Launceston, Devonport, NEW-
QUAY, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c.,
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8.5 a.m.—For Wellington, SHREWSBURY, Church
Stretton, Leominster, HEREFORD, Oswestry, Welshpool,
ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, BALA, Blaenau
Ffestiniog, DOLGELLY, BARMOUTH, Harlech, Criccieth,
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DUDDNO, BETTWS-Y-COED, Bangor, CARNARVON,
Llanberis (for Snowdon), &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

8.40 a.m.—For WESTON-SUPER-MARE, EXETER,
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MOUTH, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days.

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

11.15 a.m.—For FROME, Shipton Mallet, Wells,
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days.

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

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

4.5 p.m.—For SWINDON, Cirencester, Stroud,
GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, HEREFORD, &c.,
for 3, 10, or 17 days.

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

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

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The regular meeting of United Grand Lodge was held on Wednesday evening, but there was nothing of moment to engage the attention of the brethren. The programme of business was disposed of with the least possible delay, the only matter unprovided for in the agenda being the reading of a letter of thanks from Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, P.G.W., Private Secretary of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, for the resolution of congratulation on the 21st anniversary of his (the Prince's) installation as M.W.G.M.

There was little else than routine business transacted at the Quarterly Communication of the Mark Grand Lodge, on Tuesday, the 1st inst. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed, and the report of the General Board was adopted. Before, however, the regular proceedings were entered upon, the Earl of Euston, Pro Grand Master, paid a handsome tribute of respect to the memory of the late Bro. the Earl of Limerick, who had occupied successively various important offices in Masonry, but, notably, that of M.W. G. Master during the period from 1875 to 1878, and who, throughout the whole of his official career, had rendered most important services to the Degree. His lordship also moved a resolution of condolence with the widow of the deceased brother, which it is hardly necessary to say was adopted unanimously, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

* * *

Subsequently Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of Battle, P.G.C., D.P.G.M. of Sussex, rose and requested, on behalf of that Province, that Grand Lodge would honour it by accepting a portrait of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Past Grand Master, and Prov. Grand Master of Sussex, which the Mark brethren in that county had subscribed for. The Pro Grand Master having, in reply, said that the Grand Lodge would have great pleasure in accepting the gift, the Very Rev. the Dean unveiled the portrait, and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

* * *

With reference to "J. H. U's." letter *re* a proposal of "W.M." to the effect that permission be granted to brethren to wear a special jewel commemorative of the approaching completion of the 60th year of the Queen's accession to the throne, we confess we are unable to see the force of his objection. Permission was granted to all subscribing members of lodges to wear a special jewel in commemoration of her Majesty's Jubilee. But the commemoration was not confined to this. A meeting was held in the Royal Albert Hall under the presidency of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., at which an address of congratulation was passed by the brethren and subsequently presented to her Majesty by a deputation from Grand Lodge, headed by the Grand Master in person; and the guineas paid for admission to this meeting by the 6000 and odd brethren who attended, amounted in all to £6321, and was apportioned equally among the three Masonic Charitable Institutions. Moreover, if our Correspondent will kindly refer to his Grand Lodge Calendar, he will find that grants of £2000 to each of the three Institutions were made out of the funds of Grand Lodge. Thus the privilege of wearing the Jubilee Commemorative Jewel must not be looked upon wholly and solely as a tribute to the vanity of brethren, seeing that it was accompanied by the very substantial donation of £12,321 to the three Masonic Charities.

* * *

It is with sincere regret that we have complied with the wishes of the W.M. and brethren of St. James's Lodge, No. 448, Halifax, and made public the resolution they have seen fit to adopt in reference to the Girls' School, owing to the grant of a pension from the funds of that Institution to Miss Davis, after 35 years' service, from the post of Head Governess. We are very far from disputing their perfect right to adopt this or any other course which may appear to them to be just and proper. By all means let them contribute or withhold their contributions to this or either of the other Masonic Institutions, but on future occasions let them take to heart the advice of a famous judge when a jury was about to deliver not only its verdict, but its reasons for that verdict—"Let us have the verdict, but never mind the reasons"—or words to that effect. Had the W.M. and members of 448 ever heard of or remembered this advice, they might, perhaps, have been content to withhold their support from the Girls' School without stating their reasons why. We are afraid, as the case stands now, that Lodge 448 cuts but a very sorry figure in the presence of the Masonic public, which in all probability will be anxious to know what manner of men its W.M. and members must be when they deliberately abandon a deserving Charity because the opinions they hold have not found favour with the Governors and Subscribers generally.

* * *

There are, indeed, many who will perhaps go still further and declare it to be an act of presumption on the part of the W.M. and members of this lodge that they should thus publicly and ostentatiously sit in judgment on an act, legally done, by the Governors and Subscribers of the Girls' School in Quarterly Court assembled. Especially will they be inclined to adopt this view when they find that among the supporters of

the grant of this pension to Miss Davis which Lodge 448 thus publicly condemns are brethren who have not only attained to positions of the greatest eminence in the Craft, but who are likewise among the most generous supporters and experienced administrators of this or any other Charitable Institution. People will be naturally inclined to ask if such men as Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton, P.G.W., Past Pres. Board of General Purposes; Loveland Loveland, Pres. Board of Gen. Purposes; Robert Grey, Pres. Board of Benevolence; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; Henry Smith, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M. West Yorkshire; and others who have all served on the House Committee of the Girls' School for many years past, are likely to advocate a policy which is calculated to injure an Institution they have been supporting ever since they were enrolled as Masons, and about the administration of which they are necessarily a thousand times better informed than the general body of Governors and Subscribers.

* * *

We have already said as regards the pension granted to Miss Davis that the Governors and Subscribers of the Girls' School would have brought discredit on themselves and the Institution if they had allowed her to retire unpensioned. We can only, therefore, reiterate our regret that any lodge under the English Constitution should have called upon us to give publicity to such a letter.

* * *

It is with extreme regret we announce the death of Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, J.P., Past G. Treasurer, and one of the most generous supporters of our Institutions. Almost from the day of his initiation until his death during the present week Bro. Marshall was among the foremost benefactors of our Charities. Not a Festival was held but his name was found in the list of Stewards, while for a few years he served as Treasurer of the Institution for Girls. He was, indeed, a most enthusiastic member of our Society, whose loss will be deeply felt; and we tender to his son and the other members of his family our most respectful sympathy in the time of their bereavement.

* * *

There is every prospect of a successful meeting at Penzance on the 22nd instant, when the annual Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall will be held. The only drawback of which we have heard mention is that possibly the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, who has guided the destinies of the Province for the last 23 years, may be unable to attend and preside over the meeting. However, there is a fair prospect of the proceedings being of a satisfactory character. The Province is in excellent form, and its local institutions are rendering valuable services to the cause of Masonic Charity.

* * *

An exceptionally interesting function took place at Capetown last month, when Bro. Shekleton, Q.C., Dep. Grand Master Ireland, was formally received by British Lodge, No. 334, and most cordially entertained as a visitor. Bro. Shekleton has rendered infinitely valuable service to the Craft in Ireland, and fully deserves the honour that was paid him by the senior lodge in Capetown. Moreover, among those who played a leading part on the occasion were sundry of the leading members of the Dutch Constitution, who united most cordially with their English brethren in welcoming the Deputy Grand Master of Ireland. We trust that such auspicious occasions may be multiplied *ad infinitum*.

THE OLD Imperial troopship Malabar sailed from Portsmouth on Thursday afternoon for Bermuda, where she will take the place of the Urgent as a receiving-hulk. The vessel also conveys a number of ratings for the North American and West Indian stations. With the departure of the Malabar practically the last link is severed with the line fleet of Indian relief troopships which were so conspicuous, with such immunity from accident, in Anglo-Indian military reliefs.

MR. INGLIS, painter, Lanark, had a nest of canaries the other day, but as one of the eggs was late he resolved to break it. Upon doing so he was astonished to find that there was a bird in it with two heads, two bills, two eyes, one body, two wings, and two legs. But the really funny thing about it is the strong resemblance it has to the old arms of the burgh of Lanark.

A NUMBER of interesting Peninsular decorations bestowed upon Brigadier-General Dodgin were sold by auction for £210. The officer was colonel of the 66th (or Berkshire) Foot Regiment, was subsequently in command under the Queen of Portugal, and was killed at Gera in 1837. The decorations included the Grand Order of "Christ of Portugal" and the lesser order of the same. Messrs. Debenham, Storr, and Sons also realised £180 for a naval officer's gold medal, awarded to Captain (afterwards Sir David) Gould, of her Majesty's ship Audacious, which took part in the Battle of the Nile, and a silver Peninsular medal given to J. Martin (48th Foot Regiment) secured £2 12s. 6d.

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.

MISS DAVIS'S PENSION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

By command of the W.M. of St. James's Lodge, No. 448, I herewith forward you a copy of the Lodge Summons last issued, on which you will find copy of resolution which was brought before the brethren assembled and fully discussed, and at the conclusion a vote was taken, when 23 voted for, and one against. By kindly noting the same in your next issue of the *Freemason*, you will oblige the W.M. and brethren of 448.—Faithfully and fraternally yours,

Freemasons' Hall, Halifax, 28th August.

J. JESSOP,
Secretary 448.

The following is the resolution referred to in the letter: "That it be a Recommendation to those Brethren of the Lodge who are subscribers to the Masonic Charities to cease subscribing to the Girls' School, with a view of expressing their disapprobation of the manner in which the funds of the Charity are diverted from their proper course, more particularly with respect to the pension of £225 per annum just granted to Miss Davis, the late Head Governess of the School."

A SPECIAL MASONIC JEWEL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

Surely the suggestion in the letter of your correspondent, "W.M.," in to-day's issue, is not meant to be taken seriously, when one considers how terribly overdone the Masonic jewel business already is. The only persons to be benefited by the introduction of another jewel, would be the manufacturers. If it is considered desirable to establish some Masonic memorial of an event which has nothing whatever to do with Freemasonry let it be one which is creditable to the Craft, and alike useful to posterity. A sum of £2000 would endow an annual scholarship at each of the Masonic Schools, of the value of £30 at least. The scholarship could be named to commemorate the event.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. H. L.

August 29th.

SALUTING PROV. GRAND WARDENS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Should Provincial Grand Wardens be saluted during their year as such—(1) when visiting private lodges in their province (2) in their own lodges; and, if so, with how many?—Yours fraternally,

August 26th.

D. OF C.

RECEPTION OF BRO. R. W. SHEKLETON, D.G.M., BY BRITISH LODGE, No. 334 (E.C.), CAPETOWN.

A grand and impressive ceremony was held on the 7th ult., in the Temple of the British Lodge, in Roeland-street. An emergency lodge was called for the purpose of welcoming to South Africa the Deputy Grand Master of the Irish Constitution, Bro. Robert W. Shekleton; and to present Bro. G. E. O. Bennett, I.P.M. 334, with his own portrait, handsomely framed, and with a suitable inscription. Among those present were the following: Bros. W. Ledlie, W.M., R. Hazell, P.M., and G. McCann, P.M., all of the lodge; F. W. Smith, W.M. 398, and J. Hockey, W.M. 654 (S.C.); G. Bradford, W.M. 1735; E. Malzer, W.M. Lodge Zur Eintracht; C. J. Cole, P.M. 654; C. J. Muller, P.M. Lodge de Goede Hoop; F. T. R. Griesach, P.M., and T. Parratt, P.M. Lodge de Goede Trouw; C. Lewis, W.M. Lodge de Goede Hoop, Prov. G.M. of the Netherlands; the Rev. D. P. Faure, Dep. G.M. National, N.C.; T. Millward, W.M. 2577, D.A.G.D.C.; G. N. Withinslaw, W.W. 2538, D.G.S.D.; T. Healey, P.M. 2379, D.G.S.B.; W. E. Goodman, P.D.S.G.D.; G. E. O. Bennett, I.P.M. 334, D.G.D.C. and A.D.G.S.; J. A. Yallop, P.M. 1735, P.B.G.P.; J. Andrews, P.M. 398 (S.C.); Col. Morgan-Crofton, P.D.G.S.B. Gibraltar; C. J. Hogg, P.M. 1738, D.G.S.W.; J. B. Wheelwright, P.M. 2379, and 2537, D.D.G.M.; the Very Rev. C. Barnett-Clarke, D.G.M. South Africa, Western Division; and Robert W. Shekleton, Q.C., D.G.M. (I.C.)

The last-named, who was the guest of the evening, was received with most impressive Masonic ceremonies.

Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of CAPETOWN said he had been asked to present to the I.P.M., Bro. G. E. O. Bennett, a "mysterious something" shortly to be uncovered. Twenty-three gentlemen who had gone through the ceremony of initiation during the term of office of Bro. Bennett had subscribed for a framed direct photograph of him, executed in platinotype, attired in his regalia as District Grand Secretary, and it was his pleasant duty to present the photograph on their behalf, and to express their high appreciation of Bro. Bennett's services, and of the remarkable success which he had achieved in carrying out his difficult and onerous duties. The Dean concluded by inviting Bro. Bennett to "see himself as others saw him." (Applause.)

The inscription on the frame of the photograph was as follows: "Presented to Worshipful Bro. G. E. O. Bennett, by the brethren whom he initiated during his year of office, 1895-6."

In reply, Bro. BENNETT expressed his warm thanks for so very kind a token of their regard, and also for the very appreciative remarks that the Dean had made as to his Masonic career. No doubt his time had been ungrudgingly given to the British Lodge, but he was profoundly touched at so kind an expression of their regard. (Applause.)

At a banquet held in the dining-hall at a later period, after the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured,

The Very Rev. and R.W. Bro. the DIST. G.M. proposed "The Health of their eminent visitor, Bro. R. W. Shekleton," announcing that he had received a letter from the Grand Secretary of England, Bro. E. Letchworth, commending their visitor to their best behaviour, and adding that he was held in the highest favour by the Grand Lodge of England. Nearly all the leading lights of Freemasonry in Capetown and district were present at his reception, including representatives of the English, Irish, Scotch, and Dutch Constitutions, and embracing also visitors from New South Wales and Germany. The Worshipful Master had been kind enough to take in hand the scheme of welcoming their guest, and that lodge meeting was the result. There was only one thing which he deplored, and that was the reason which their visitor had in coming to South Africa, namely, his ill-health. It unfortunately happened that their right worshipful brother had suffered this detriment to his health two years ago whilst carrying on his Masonic duties. He met with an unfortunate accident, and had suffered the most excruciating pain ever since, so that his medical advisers

had ordered him to take that voyage to the Cape. They all trusted that that voyage and a short stay there—to say nothing of the welcome he would receive—would cheer him up and greatly improve his health. Mr. Gladstone had always claimed to be a Scotchman when he was in Scotland; when he was in Wales he announced himself as a Welshman; and became English when in the company of Englishmen. He (the Dean) might almost claim to be an Irishman also, for he had Irish blood in his veins. As he had lived in Wales also, he thought he might aspire to be considered a Welshman. In any case, his grandmother was "Oirish," and his great uncle was a famous Member of Parliament, very kind, hearted and lovable. He (the Dean) had inherited all those qualities. (Loud laughter.) It was therefore very natural to him, and certainly most agreeable, to bid a hearty welcome, as he did once more, to their gifted visitor. (Cheers.)

Bro. R. W. SHEKLETON, Q.C., said, in reply, that it afforded him very sincere pleasure in being present, and he warmly thanked those who had assembled to do him so much honour. In Ireland they had great difficulties as regards Freemasonry on account of the Roman Catholic religion, the members of which were forbidden to take any part in the Masonic Craft. Nevertheless, the Irish lodges were increasing in number, and the funds at their disposal were being augmented in amount. In Dublin they had a Masonic lodge, and some Roman Catholics had joined it, and had stated their determination to remain in it at any cost. (Cheers.) The Grand Master of the Irish Constitution, the Duke of Abercorn, practically left the whole management of Masonic affairs in his (Bro. Shekleton's) hands, so that he had plenty to do. He would once more thank them for the high honours and the kind consideration with which they had received him. (Cheers.)

The W.M. of the British Lodge, Bro. LEDLIE, next proposed "The Health of the District Grand Master of the English Constitution, the Very Rev. C. Barnett Clarke," whom they all delighted to see so often at their lodge meetings. In former years the visits of the D.G.M. had been most rare and formidable occasions, but happily that was now altered, and they desired to make the most of their good fortune in having the Dean with them.

Bro. the Very Rev. Dean CLARKE, in reply, thanked them for their reiteration of a cordial welcome. It had been proposed to open an Irish lodge in Capetown, and he had been approached with a view to his co-operation in the matter. He had consulted with his colleagues, and they had all agreed that there was no objection to that being done, and no doubt steps would be taken at an early date with that object. (Hear, hear.)

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed the toast of "The Deputy Grand Master of the Netherlands, Bro. the Rev. D. P. Faure," in a few graceful terms.

Bro. Rev. D. P. FAURE, in reply, said that in matters of Charity the Dutch Constitution of Freemasonry had always been well to the fore. He would take the opportunity of assuring their right worshipful guest that however enthusiastic a welcome might be given to him by his English brethren, he begged to assure him in the name of the Netherlands that their lodges also would extend the right hand of fellowship in a similar manner. (Cheers.) Some few weeks ago, when some brethren in Capetown wrote asking for his approval to their establishing an Irish lodge in this town, he very gladly replied that he had no objection, and adding that there was room for all. (Cheers.) If he had not given that reply he shuddered to think what would have been his position that evening. (Laughter.) It was a proud sight that they could not see anywhere else to see representatives of no less than four separate nationalities together in the most perfect amity and friendship at a common table. (Cheers.) All these four Constitutions worked together in South Africa, and they did not share the desire of other countries to have only one Constitution. There were at that table, Englishmen, Irishmen, Scotchmen, and Dutchmen, and they had not been fighting one another. (Cheers.) If they might boast of anything it was this, that in South Africa all four of them were doing something towards preparing the day when all brethren would live in harmony all over the world. (Loud cheers.)

Bro. Col. MORGAN-CROFTON, in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," said that their Craft tended to the cohesion of all classes. In times past it had had a great influence on English history, and doubtless would continue to do so in the future. In many foreign countries, unhappily, Masonry was merely a cloak for revolutionary organisations, but that was not so in England. (Cheers.)

Bro. the Rev. REGINALD SMITH, in responding, said he considered that Masonry was more truly Catholic than was the religion that was called Catholicism. Why the Roman Catholics wanted to quarrel with Freemasons he could not conceive. In Italy, no doubt, there was reasonable excuse for such hostility, but here, where Freemasonry was absolutely harmless, and in England and Ireland, he could not understand why any religion should fight against Freemasonry. He did hope that the day would come when people of all religions and all sects and all denominations would recognise that Freemasonry was ground whereon they might all meet. He had no hesitation in saying when asked what benefit there was in being a Mason that he met people in friendship round a common board whom it had been utterly impossible for him to meet anywhere else. (Cheers.) They were so divided in regard to religion or in regard to politics, that he could not possibly see how they could meet together on any other conceivable point than Freemasonry, which bound them one and all together. (Loud cheers.)

Other visitors also responded on behalf of their respective lodges, and the brethren dispersed at a late hour, it being generally agreed that the occasion was of a highly satisfactory character.

It may be added that of the 23 brethren who were initiated during the past Masonic year by the I.P.M., Bro. Bennett, and who subscribed for his portrait, only 13 have remained in Capetown. Of the remainder, two have left for the Transvaal, two are mariners, one has gone to England, one to Port Elizabeth, one (Bro. Kay) was drowned in the Drummond Castle, and the last (Bro. Audrey) died suddenly whilst on a railway journey.

PHENIX LODGE, No. 1830, SIMONSTOWN.

The St. John's Tide festivities may be said to have finished on the 4th July with the installation of the W.M. of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 1830 (E.C.), Simonstown. The pilgrimage to the Naval Station of the Southern Seas was undertaken by several of the Capetown brethren, some of whom beguiled the time by relating the difficulties of the journey in the past decade of this century, when a long and tedious journey by cart had to be undergone.

There was a good attendance of members of the Phoenix Lodge, including Bros. E. Turner and H. Crane, P.D.G. Wardens; S. Craig, P.D.G.S.B.; A. Hooper, D.G.S.B.; and C. G. White, I.P.M.; while the Scotch Simonstown Lodge—the Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 420—was represented by Bros. A. Patterson, R.W.M.; W. Gillard, I.P.M.; and other officers and brethren. Bros. F. W. Smith, R.W.M. 398 (S.C.); J. Rutter, Orator Lodge de Goede Trouw; and C. E. Lewis, W.M. Lodge de Goede Hoop, and Provincial Grand Master of the Netherlands Constitution in South Africa, testified to the cordial relationships of the sister Constitutions in Capetown. Bro. C. R. Goodspeed, P.M. 2379, P.D. G.S.B., with many brethren of the various lodges under the English Constitution in Capetown suburbs and the old country, helped further to make the gathering a thoroughly representative one.

The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. J. B. Wheelwright, the new D.D.G.M., Western Division of South Africa, who was accompanied by the following officers of District Grand Lodge: Bros. C. J. Hogg, P.M. 1938, D.S.G.W.; J. A. Yallop, I.P.M. 1735, President Board of General Purposes, D.J.G.W.; A. Hooper, P.M. 1860, D.S.G.D.; G. Withinslaw, W.M. 2538, D.J.G.D.; G. E. O. Bennett, I.P.M. 334, D.G.D.C., and A.D.G.S.; T. Millward, W.M. 2557, D.A.G.D.C.; T. Healey, I.P.M. 2379, D.G. Std. Br.; W. Ledlie, W.M. 334, D.G. Stwd.; and E. A. Buxton, D.G. Tyler.

Bro. C. W. Marshall, W.M. 1860, D.G. Stwd., presented Bro. A. Redclift, S.W., D.G. Stwd., to the Installing Officer, as W.M. elect for the ensuing year, and he was duly obligated and received the benefit of installation by a Board of Installed Masters and invested Bro. Marshall as I.P.M. He was then duly proclaimed and saluted by the brethren generally, and especially by the brethren of the Phoenix Lodge, the working tools in the Three Degrees being presented respectively by Bros. Hooper, Crane, and Marshall.

The D.D.G.M. made the other presentations, and the new-installed W.M., having taken the chair as a ruler in the Craft, invested, with the assistance of the D.G. Director and Assistant Director of Ceremonies, the following brethren with collars and insignia of office respectively: Bros. C. Bambury, S.W.; F. Woodhams, J.W.; S. Craig, P.D.G.S.B., Treas.; J. Westlake, S.D.; J. Taylor, J.D.; S. Williams, I.G.; J. Pollard, Org.; J. Currie, D.C.; G. Good and Chapman, Stwds.; and E. Hayward, Tyler.

Bro. J. A. Yallop then delivered the charge to the W.M., Bro. C. J. Hogg that to the Wardens, the Installing Officer giving that to the brethren generally.

A collection was made in aid of the Masonic Education Fund.

The visitors were then thanked for their attendance by the W.M., the W.M. of the Royal Alfred Lodge taking that opportunity of wishing the newly-installed Master a successful year of office, and touching on the universality of Masonry, and the proceedings in the Temple were closed.

The banquet immediately followed in the hall belonging to the lodge.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and honoured.

Bro. J. B. WHEELWRIGHT, D.D.G.M., in responding for "The R.W.D.G.M., the Dean of Capetown, and the D.G. Lodge," conveyed the good wishes of the ruler of the district to the W.M., and the pleasure it always afforded the D.G. Lodge to visit Simonstown, especially on such a fine day.

Bro. C. E. LEWIS, P.G.M. of the Netherlands Constitution, thanked them for their kindness, and hoped that the ensuing year would be as free from anything like a hitch as the recent ceremony had been.

Bro. MARSHALL, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," said that no words could tell how much the incoming Master had done for Masonry ever since he had been one of them.

Bro. A. REDCLIFT, in responding, thanked them all heartily for the cordial manner they had drank his health.

Bro. C. W. MARSHALL, I.P.M., in responding to the toast of "The I.P.M.," proposed from the chair, said that it was a source of pleasure to feel that the 12 months of his being in the chair was over, more especially as though there had been nothing extraordinary still they had improved during that time. They had had about 19 meetings, and he hoped before the next installation to be in a temple worthy the Phoenix Lodge.

"The Visitors" was duly proposed and responded to, many of those responding dealing especially with the qualities that should be possessed by all who were admitted into the Craft.

"The Wardens and Officers of the Phoenix Lodge" and "The Outgoing Officers" were also given and responded to.

MASONIC CHURCH SERVICE AT INVERESK.

Under the auspices of St. John's Lodge, No. 112, Fisherrow, a Masonic service was held in Inveresk Parish Church, New Edinburgh, on Sunday night, the 23rd ultimo. The building, which is seated for 1800, was crowded to overflowing, hundreds being unable to obtain admission. Deputations were present from nearly every lodge in Edinburgh and the County of Mid-Lothian, while numerous brethren also attended from West and East Lothian. Among the strangers were several representatives from America. The members of the Craft, including about 200 visiting brethren and some 80 belonging to the local lodge, occupied the centre area of the church, in the front of which was seated a choir of 100 voices.

Bro. the Very Rev. Professor STORV, Past Grand Chaplain, preached the sermon, being assisted in the service by Bro. the Rev. A. McNeill Houston, B.D., Auchterderran, Chaplain of Lodge Minto, No. 385, Lochgelly, and Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, of Newhailes, Bart., M.P., Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason, who read the scripture lessons.

The service of praise, which included the rendering of the Hallelujah chorus and other pieces by the choir, was under the conductorship of Bro. T. Jamieson Bone, St. John's, No. 112; while Bro. Charles Bradley, St. David's, No. 36, presided at the organ.

A collection was taken in aid of the Red House Home for Destitute Boys and the Musselburgh Training Home for Girls at Levenhall, the inmates of which Institutions attended the service.—*Scotsman*.

Craft Masonry.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.

The 122nd meeting of this lodge was held at Twickenham on the 8th ult., when there were present Bros. C. H. Wheatley, W.M.; H. Saunton, I.P.M.; J. Wheatley, S.W.; J. H. Anderson, J.W.; F. J. Peckham, S.D.; D. Hart Davies, P.M., I.G.; J. Beresford Ryley, P.M., Treas.; G. L. Wingate, P.M., Sec.; J. W. Brett, Stwd.; H. T. Tallack, P.M.; and F. W. Tallack. Bro. P. A. Hubbard Lewis, 1209, was a visitor.

After the lodge had been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Edmond Chas. St. Aubyn, which proved unanimous, and the chair was by request assumed by Bro. D. Hart Davies, when Mr. Edmond Charles St. Aubyn was duly initiated, and the charge was given by Bro. J. Beresford Ryley, P.P.G.D.

After the lodge had been closed, the brethren dined together at the Albany Hotel, when the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and honoured.

Abercorn Lodge, No. 1549.

This increasing lodge held its installation meeting at the Abercorn Hotel, on the 5th ult., with a large attendance of members and visitors, it being the 21st anniversary of its formation. There were present Bros. John Blackburn, W.M.; W. W. Mansfield, I.P.M.; C. T. Tolman, P.M., S.W.; C. J. Veal, J.W.; E. Bamford, P.M., Treas.; C. Veal, P.M., Sec.; F. S. Conway, S.D.; E. Winterbottom, J.D.; R. E. H. Fisher, D.C.; F. S. Winkley, I.G.; J. Percival, Tyler; R. W. Bilby, H.M.;

W. Taylor, E. Bull, F. Gurney, W. Truelove, W. J. Overhead, S. W. Hunt, C. Hilsden, H. Needham, T. S. Godwin, W. Woodman, H. Smith, A. Withers, J. Gurney, E. F. Jones, J. Westcott, A. Findlater, J. Hayes, Tom A. Godwin, G. Rookes, T. A. Webb, S. Lea-Smith, G. W. Dickson, and G. Cheshire. Visitors: Bros. J. P. Taylor, I.P.M. 1984; E. Stark, W.M. 1984; Regd. Groome, 1929; W. Halliday, 2548; J. H. Tychener, 2548; R. T. Wreathall, 2548, P.P.G.O. Middx.; H. W. Schartau, 1549; J. Lea-Smith, P.M. 1159; and Frank L. Moir, Org. 1594.

The lodge was opened by the W.M. The minutes of the previous meeting, with also a very satisfactory report from the Audit Committee, were read and confirmed. The W.M. (prior to vacating the chair for the I.P.M., Bro. Mansfield, to perform the ceremony of installation), then addressed Bro. C. Veal, P.M. and Sec., and complimented him on the success of the lodge under his long service of 21 years, and in remembrance of his regular attendance, not having once been absent from his duties, he had the pleasure, as his last duty in that chair of making him a presentation in the name of every member of the lodge, of a purse of gold—wishing him every success in life, and a continuance of that position he had held so long for many more years. To this Bro. Veal gratefully responded, and then approached the chair, presenting his eldest son Bro. Charles John Veal, W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, which ceremony was very ably performed by the I.P.M., and amidst the hearty salutes of many P.Ms., was placed in the chair of K.S. Having invested his I.P.M., the brethren were admitted, and the new W.M. was saluted. The officers were then presented and invested as follows: Bros. F. S. Conway, S.W.; E. Winterbottom, J.W.; F. S. Winkley, S.D.; R. E. H. Fisher, J.D.; W. Taylor, I.G.; A. Findlater, D.C.; and J. Percival, Tyler. The first address to the W.M. was very feelingly given by Bro. Bilby, the others to the officers and brethren were equally well rendered by the Installing Master. Letters of regret for absence were read from the D.P.G.M., the P.G. Sec., and many others. With "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

The usual excellent banquet followed. The W.M. ably submitted the customary toasts, and all were fully honoured.

The I.P.M., Bro. Blackburn, who had been regularly invested with the handsome Past Master's jewel, in returning thanks, also expressed to Bro. C. Veal the many kind letters of congratulation he, with Bro. Bamford, had received—one from an old P.M. in Johannesburg, also from Bro. Keyser, P.G.D., and many others.

"The Health of Mrs. Veale was also heartily joined in, it being their 38th wedding day.

Bro. C. Veal, Sec., feelingly replied, expressing his thanks on behalf of himself, wife, and family.

The W.M., the Installing Master, and officers replied for their respective toasts.

The music, as may be expected, was excellent in the hands of Bros. Schartau (an old initiate), Reginald Groome, Arthur Withers, and Frank Moir.

The Tyler's toast brought this long and eventful evening to a very happy termination.

Our Portrait Gallery.

BRO. SAM HENDERSON, W.M. 867.

In this issue we present to our readers a portrait of a W.M. of one of our Colonial lodges—the Royal Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 867, of Trinidad—a lodge which has of late years become somewhat prominent among Colonial lodges. This is in a great measure due to him whose portrait we present. The fate of the lodge was in his hands in 1894, in which year he so ably conducted the affairs as W.M., and to the firm and considerate way in which he this year also presides over it. Bro. S. Henderson is not a very old Mason; he was initiated in 1889; J.W., 1892; S.W., 1893; and W.M., 1894 and 1896. His excellent character as well as his high abilities were well known to many before he joined the Fraternity. He was looked upon as an acquisition to the lodge, and he advanced rapidly and deservedly from office to office till he reached the Master's chair. During his year of Mastership he made a very important move; he acquired a property in the centre of Port of Spain, which is in every respect worthy of our Fraternity. He succeeded in raising the lodge from the humble estate in which it formerly had



lived its quiet and slow life, and housed it in its present and magnificent building—a house which was built up in the days of slavery with thick solid walls and staircases, quite unlike the unsubstantial tropical buildings which surround it. Bro. Sam Henderson had, at the close of his year of office in 1894, this building dedicated to Masonry with great ceremony and pomp. On this occasion H.E. the Governor, his Lordship the Bishop, the Chief Judge, the Commander of the Troops, the Hon. C. C. Knollys, and many other Masons of rank attended, and after the solemn ceremony was ended, a sumptuous banquet took place. By thus acquiring suitable premises, Bro. S. Henderson secured the position of the lodge. Its membership soon rose, and new life was infused into the lodge. He was again elected W.M. for the present year, showing the appreciation in which he is held by his brother Masons, and he continues in advancing the welfare of Masonry in Trinidad.

He makes an excellent Master; he rules with determined, but kind, firmness, and is deservedly held in high esteem by the members for his straight and fair dealings in all affairs, so that they feel it a pleasure to obey his orders and submit to his authority. His position outside the lodge is an important one in the community, being perhaps the largest individual proprietor of sugar estates in Trinidad. On more than one occasion the lodge has benefited by his cheerful and open-handed Charity. The earnest wish of the lodge is that their worthy Master may long be spared to the Royal Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 867, and to the Craft.

Royal Arch.

All Saints Chapter, No. 422.

A meeting of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Gainsboro' on Tuesday, the 11th ult. Present: Comps. C. R. Farmer, M.E.Z.; F. Barnes, P.Z., acting H.; J. Constable, J.; T. B. Adlard, acting S.E.; S. Beaumont, S.N.; S. Middleton; C. Caldecott; H. Scott, Janitor; and others.

Apologies were read from Comps. T. Sowby, H.; R. Pearson, S.E.; C. F. Liversidge, P.S.; and G. Moxon, P.Z. The election of Principals and officers was the chief business of the evening, and resulted as follows: Comps. T. B. Lowby, M.E.Z.; J. Constable, H.; T. B. Adlard, J.; C. F. Liversidge, P.S. and Treas.; C. Caldecott, S.E.; S. Middleton, S.N.; and H. Scott, Janitor. A candidate was named for exaltation.

St. Peter's Chapter, No. 481.

The regular meeting—being the annual convocation—of this chapter was held on Wednesday evening, the 10th ultimo, at the Central Masonic Hall, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The presiding Principals were Comps. T. R. Short, P.A.G.S.E., M.E.Z.; T. Purvis, P.G.S.E., H.; James Shaw, J.; and among others present were Comps. John Nesbitt, Prov. G.H.; W. M. Lyon, P.P.G.S.N.; J. C. Ridley, P.P.G.H.; J. Usher, P.P.G.P.S.; C. F. Carmon, P.P.G.J.; John Spearman, P.P.G.H.; J. C. Moor, P.P.G.R. Durham; J. R. Turner, H. 431; J. R. Jobson, P.Z. 48; G. Harland, P.Z. 240; R. Ferry, and others.

The installation of the Principals for the ensuing year took place as follows: Comps. Thomas Purvis, P.G.S.E., M.E.Z.; James Shaw, H.; and J. A. Stelling, J. The officers were afterwards invested by Comp. T. Purvis, M.E.Z., as follows: Comps. L. Nixon, S.E.; G. Wilson, S.N.; John Spearman, P.Z., Treas.; J. R. Turner, P.S.; J. McPhail Bruce, 1st A.S.; J. A. S. Scott, 2nd A.S.; C. B. Ford, P.Z., D.C.; J. T. Spark, Stwd.; and Joshua Curry, Janitor.

After "Hearty good wishes" the chapter was duly closed, and the companions afterwards assembled at supper at Sayer's Royal Exchange Hotel, the M.E.Z., Comp. Thos. Purvis, P.G.S.E., presiding, and was supported by a large number of companions.

Stanmore Chapter, No. 1549.

This prosperous chapter held its installation meeting at the Abercorn Hotel, Great Stanmore, on the 8th July, with a very large attendance—Comps. A. J. Oliver, M.E.Z.; R. W. Bilby, H.; W. W. Mansfield, J.; W. R. Shutt, P.Z., Treas.; C. Veal, P.Z., S.E.; J. P. Taylor, S.N.; C. J. Veal and W. A. Cocks, S.E.s; J. Percival, Janitor; C. H. Webb, P.Z.; C. B. Todd, P.Z.; T. J. Maidwell, P.Z.; Nicholson, Wilson, Dancocks, A. E. Todd, E. Bell, Southam, Brown, W. Taylor, Sheppard, Moody, Buck, Peacock, Reed, Foyer, A. Hardy, and C. Solman. Visitors: Comps. T. C. Edwards, 1507; H. J. Tibbatts, 1385; E. Prince, 771; and A. Weston, 1572.

The chapter was opened, and after confirming the minutes and a very favourable report from the Auditors, the ballot was taken for Bros. H. G. Wigmore 1894; E. Stark, 1894; and John Hayes, 1425; also a joining member, Comp. C. T. Nelson, W.M. 1702 and 1716; and proving unanimous in favour of all of them Bros. Wigmore and Stark were duly exalted and invested as Royal Arch Masons. The chapter was called off, when a very successful photograph of the companions was taken by Comp. Arthur Weston. On resuming, Comps. R. W. Bilby, P.Z. 1396, P.P.G. Treas., was duly installed as M.E.Z. by Comp. Oliver; Comp. W. W. Mansfield, H., by Comp. Bilby; Comp. J. P. Taylor, J., by Comp. Webb, P.Z., and the following were invested officers: Comps. W. R. Shutt, P.Z., Treas.; C. Veal, P.Z., S.E.; W. Wilson, S.N.; C. J. Veal, P.S.; W. A. Cocks, 1st A.S.; T. Sheppard, 2nd A.S.; and J. Percival, Janitor. The usual handsome chapter jewel was then presented to Comp. Oliver on his retirement after a highly successful year of office with 13 new members, and for which he suitably responded. The letter of resignation was accepted with regret and several from inability to attend. The chapter was closed with "Hearty good wishes," and three candidates were announced for next meeting.

The M.E.Z. presided at a sumptuous banquet and gave the customary toasts, which were fully responded to.

The Visitors also complimented the chapter on its able officers, and a very enjoyable gathering was closed.

Mark Masonry.

Stamford Lodge, No. 148.

An emergency meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 17th ultimo, at the Town Hall, Altrincham. The lodge was opened by Bro. E. G. Parker, W.M., and two candidates were advanced by Bro. Fred Broadsmith, P.P.G. Reg., in his most eloquent style, and he was well supported by the other officers. There were present, in addition, to those already named Bros. Richard Newhouse, P.S.G.D. Eng., P.G. Sec.; G. S. Smith, P.M., Prov. G. Org.; Stanley Derbyshire, P.A.G. Sec.; Harry Gordon Small, P.M., P.G.D.C.; J. H. Nicholson, S.D.; J. Ferguson, Treas.; J. Davenport, I.G.; John Law, M.O.; and others.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 144.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, when there were present Bros. Thomas, W.M.; Thwaites, S.W.; Marriott-Matthews, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutfield, Sec.; White, S.D.; Royle, J.D.; Sellick, I.G.; Hayward, Place, Wall, Weller, and Markland.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Thwaites being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. invested his officers. Bro. Thomas gave the three addresses, and resumed the chair. The lodge was resumed to the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Place, who had previously answered the usual questions and been entrusted, being the candidate. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Thwaites was elected W.M. for the next meeting. After the third rising, the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The opening meeting of the season was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor, W.M.; W. Rapley, S.W.; C. Smith, J.W.; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. C. Renaud, S.D.; A. F. Hardymont, J.D.; S. Cload, I.G.; J. R. White, D. C. Ritchie, A. L. Langton, G. A. Hopkins, T. A. Spotswood, C. Nicole, G. Yexley, W. A. Goring, H. R. Bower, F. Stallard, P.M., W. J. North, P. F. Holmden, P.M.; G. Gregory, P.M.; G. Popham, H. B. Harding, and H. J. Kimbell.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Goring being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the questions leading to the Third Degree having been answered, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Hopkins being the candidate. Bro. Rapley was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation. After reading a number of communications, the lodge was closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, when there were present Bros. J. H. Neville, W.M. 1767, W.M.; W. Hyde, S.W.; W. H. Marler, J.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., Deputy Preceptor; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; H. G. Danby, P.M., S.D.; C. G. Hatt, P.M., J.D.; G. H. Poulton, I.G.; A. J. Clayton, Stwd.; A. Williams, P.M.; A. J. Turner, T. Lecte, Joseph Cox, W.M. 1585; F. F. Thompson, H. Robinson, N. Rodd, A. F. Hunt, J. T. Davies, R. N. Larter, W.M. 1791; and W. H. Dresden, P.M.

The lodge was opened in the usual form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. A. Williams offered himself as a candidate for passing, and was duly examined and entrusted. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and called off. When called on again it was resumed in the Second Degree. Bro. Clayton offered himself as a candidate for raising; he was, therefore, examined, and, having given the necessary proofs, was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree. Bro. Hyde was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting. The Secretary again reported the decease of Bro. David Stroud, P.M., and that a wreath had been sent to his family in accordance with a resolution passed at the previous meeting, and that several brethren had attended the funeral, which had taken place that day. The lodge was then closed.

HOORSEY CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 23rd ult., at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishops-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. T. C. Edmonds, P.Z. 1507, M.E.Z.; A. J. Taylor, H. 186, H.; W. Hillier, J. 834, J.; J. C. Tilt, M.E.Z. 862, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, Prov. G.P.S. Essex, S.E.; E. Fox, 795, S.N.; J. Cruttenden, 779, P.S.; J. Cox, J. 733, 1st Asst. S.; A. Clark, P.Z., M.E.Z. 2021; C. Hatt, P.Z., M.E.Z. 733; and T. Jobson, N. 733.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hatt acting as candidate. The M.E.Z. rose the usual number of times, and after "Hearty good wishes," the chapter was closed.

Obituary.

BRO. H. BROOKS MARSHALL, J.P., P.G. TREASURER.

Freemasonry has undoubtedly sustained a heavy loss by the death, on Tuesday, the 1st inst., of Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, J.P., Past G. Treasurer, and head of the well-known firm of Marshall and Son, newsagents, of Temple House, Thames Embankment. Bro. Marshall, who had been in failing health for the last two or three years, was initiated in the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, Twickenham, early in the year 1879, the first fruits of his E.A.P. ship being a donation of £105 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. He rose in time to be the W.M., in 1886, of this lodge, and retained his connection with it till the close of his life. He was also a member of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, and, we believe, of the Union Lodge, No. 127, Margate. In addition, he was a Royal Arch Mason, and was, in 1884, founder and first M.E.Z. of the Royal Hanover Chapter, No. 1777. In 1884 he offered himself as candidate for the post of Grand Treasurer of United Grand Lodge in opposition to the late Bro. J. Derby Allcroft, who served in that capacity in 1883, and presented himself for re-election the following year. The latter was, however, defeated, and Bro. Marshall was invested at the Grand Festival next ensuing, becoming also, *ex-officio*, Grand Treasurer of Supreme Grand Chapter a few days later. But Bro. Marshall's principal services were rendered in behalf of our Institutions, of each of which he was a Patron, and in support of which he had served—we think we are correct in stating—at every Festival that has been held since his initiation. For a time he was Treasurer of the Girls' School, but latterly his health had prevented him taking a very active part in our proceedings. However, though he himself has passed away, the services he has rendered to our Institutions—and we have great pleasure in adding to numbers of other Charitable Institutions likewise—will be affectionately remembered by his brother Masons and the very large circle of friends and acquaintances with whom he was associated.

BRO. C. J. STEPHENS, P.M., P.Z., No. 334, PAST DIST. S.G.W. SOUTH AFRICA (W.D.).

We regret to learn from the *South African Telegraph* that the British Lodge, No. 334, Capetown, has lost two of its members by the wreck of the *Drummond Castle*. Bro. Kay was not a very old Mason, but he was generally to be found in his place in lodge, and showed promise of increasing usefulness in the Craft. But a far heavier loss is that of Bro. C. J. Stephens. He was one of a circle, ever growing smaller, of old members of the British Lodge, deeply imbued with British traditions of the old days, when information from Masonic headquarters was not so easily obtainable as at the present time, when scarce a lodge is held at which there is not a visitor from the Old Country. The younger school of Masons may be in many respects far ahead of them in Masonic knowledge, but the elders should be by no means despised. What they knew was at the cost of many hours of labour, that those of the present day are not called upon to undertake. Bro. Stephens was W.M. of the British Lodge in 1878, and had also filled the chair of W.M. in the British Mark Lodge, No. 345. He had held several offices in the District Grand Lodge South Africa (W.D.), notably that of President of the Board of General Purposes and District Senior Grand Warden. In the British Royal Arch Chapter he had twice filled the chair of M.E.Z., being at the time of his death I.P.Z. The late esteemed companion, while filling the chair for the R.A. Masonic year 1894-5 had the very rare privilege of being the Installing Officer of the Grand Superintendent at the formation of a District Grand Chapter. This unique event took place on February 25th, 1895, and was a most brilliant function. Comp. Stephens was elected District Grand Treasurer on that occasion, but he retired at the end of his year of office. Bro. Stephens was also one of the Committee of Reference of the Masonic Education Fund, and held past rank in the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, having had the rank of Past Grand Standard Bearer of England conferred on him in connection with the Queen's Jubilee in 1887.

THE SECOND SON of the Emperor of Germany met with an accident while out riding at Plauen, his Imperial Highness being thrown and kicked by the horse. The young Prince, however, was able to mount and ride back to the castle, where he was for a time confined to his bed. The return of the Empress from Berlin on the same day after visiting her son is taken as an indication that the young Prince is in no danger.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, September 12, 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 SEPTEMBER 7.

RAFT LODGES.

- 144, St. Luke's, Anderson's Hotel.
1321, Emblematic, Criterion.
ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.
1591, St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant.
MARK LODGE.
130, Panmure, Mark Masons' Hall.

LOGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blacketh, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
Eleonor, 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.
Zeland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 8.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8.

RAFT LODGES.

- 167, St. John's, Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead Heath.
1304, Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1704, Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.

MARK LODGES.

- 22, Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
223, West Smithfield, Mark Masons' Hall.
459, La France, Cafe Royal.

LOGES 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, Dalton-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.
Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kubly, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Mount Elgumbe, 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, Waltham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
St. Key, 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, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terr. 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, SEPTEMBER 9.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.

RAFT LODGES.

- St. Anthony, Bridge House Hotel.
604, Honor Oak, White Swan Hotel, Upper Norwood.
774, Empress, Earl's Court.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 624, Eccleston, Criterion.
635, Canterbury, 33, Golden-square.

LOGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Bearonsfield, 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.
Conscience, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
Creton, 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.
Lewisham, Black Bull, Lewisham, S.E., 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.
Pucknett, 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 7.30.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10.

RAFT LODGES.

- 1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1642, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill.
2108, Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel.
2147, Bolingbroke, Municipal Buildings, Ealing.
2509, Barnet, Assembly Rooms.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 65, Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern.
860, Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel.
907, Royal Albert, White Hart Tavern, Abchurch-lane.

LOGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 38, 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, Berryman's 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, Cretched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.
United 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, SEPTEMBER 11.

RAFT LODGES.

- 780, Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.
1602, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall.
2552, Stoke Newington, Assembly Rooms.

LOGES 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.
Colborn, 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 8.
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.
Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, 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-terr., 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, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.
Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., 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, SEPTEMBER 12.

RAFT LODGES.

- 1446, Mount Edgumbe, Bridge House Hotel.
1607, Loyalty, London Tavern.
1685, Guelph, Town Hall, Leyton.
1743, Perseverance, Anderson's Hotel.
1839, Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall.
2200, Hendon, Midland Grand Hotel.
2384, Mitcham, Vestry Hall.
2513, Sir Walter St. John, Surrey Masonic Hall.
2579, Lewisham, Parish Hall.

LOGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hotel, 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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Masonic and General Tidings.

PRINCE LOBANOFF, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, expired suddenly on his way from Vienna to Kieff, on Sunday last, in the 73rd year of his age.

THE 50TH performance of "The Little Genius" took place at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Thursday evening last, when Miss Florence St. John assumed the title role.

THE BRITISH NAVAL SQUADRON which is about to visit the Bay of Phabrum will consist of 22 ships of various sizes, and King George of Greece will hold a State reception in honour of the Admiral in command.

ACCORDING to a statement by a Bolton correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, the Very Rev. Dean Grisdale, who has just been ordained Bishop of Winnipeg, Dominion of Canada, is the son of a Bolton working man, and was formerly an errand boy in that town.

AS THE passenger steamer Koh-i-noor was leaving her moorings to go alongside the Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, on Saturday last, some barges that were being towed down river came across her stern and twisted her rudder post, so that her passengers had to be landed.

THE WESTBOURNE PARK INSTITUTE will hold its sixth industrial exhibition on Monday, the 21st instant, and four following days, the object of this annual gathering being to encourage artistic and mechanical talents, either in the nature of business or in the pursuit of a more recreative hobby.

QUEEN WILHELMINA of the Netherlands completed her 16th year on Monday, the 31st ult., when she took her first communion. The event was celebrated quietly in the Royal Family, but the usual salutes were fired in honour of the occasion. Her Majesty will become legally of age on the 31st August, 1898.

ABOUT 160 heavy draught horses from Canada were disposed of by public auction at the Lamb's Conduit-street Repository on Monday. The bidding was keen, and some good prices were realised, an average of £36 per horse being given for the lot of 18 horses and £22 for that of another lot of the same number.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by the Princess Henry of Battenberg and her children, the children of the Duke and Duchess of York, and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of her Court, left Osborne House on Monday evening for Balmoral, arriving at her destination the afternoon of the following day.

LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN, Lord Chief Justice of England, with Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood and party, was entertained at dinner by the Rodean Club in Ottawa on Monday evening. On Tuesday they visited Montreal, from which city they will make their way, *via* Quebec, Saguenay, and Boston, to New York, returning thence to England.

BRO. THE DUKE OF PORTLAND has, we regret to hear, been bitten by one of his sporting dogs at Langwell Castle, Caithness, where he was residing at the time. His Grace was going to relieve the animal, which had got entangled in a deer fence, when it snapped at him before he could effect its release, but no serious consequences are anticipated.

COUNTESS CADOGAN, accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Lucan and Mr. Algernon Peel, arrived at Foxford, County Mayo, on Saturday last, and opened the Industrial Exhibition. Her Excellency was received on her arrival at the station by Bro. the Earl and Countess of Arran, whose guest she remained at Castle Gore, Ballina, until Monday.

AMONG THE GUESTS at her Majesty's dinner party at Osborne on the 28th ultimo were the Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark and Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, Lord Colville of Culross, Admiral Sir W. Salmon, K.C.B., V.C., and Captain Roland. On Saturday morning last Prince and Princess Charles left Osborne, crossing over to Portsmouth on the Royal Yacht *Alberta*.

THE CZAR AND CZARINA left Vienna at the conclusion of their visit to the Emperor and Empress of Austria on Saturday last. Their departure was comparatively free from ceremony, but the farewells between the two Imperial families were of the most cordial character. The Czar and his illustrious consort reached Kieff on Monday, and left for Breslau on the 3rd inst.

THE COMMITTEE of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have forwarded to Lord Salisbury a statement of their views respecting slavery in the East Africa Protectorate, and more especially in the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, and the methods by which they think it might be put an end to with the least amount of disturbance to the Arab and slave populations.

THE DUKE OF YORK, accompanied by the Hon. H. Stonor, proceeded to Invermark Shooting Lodge on Monday, and was loudly cheered at various stations *en route*. His Royal Highness, who is the guest of Lord Hindlip, was later joined by the Earl of Rosebery and the Hon. Derek Keppel, Equerry-in-Waiting to the Duke, while Colonel Oliphant and Mr. Macdonnell are also members of the party.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 26th ult., a large company, assembled at the parish church, Kingston-on-Thames, to witness the marriage of Bro. Geo. H. Drewett, third son of Bro. William Drewett, P.M., Sec., &c., 889, with Miss Katie Nuthall, younger daughter of Mr. Edward Nuthall, of the same town. The bridegroom received many handsome presents from friends, and over 40 employes employed by W. Drewett and Sons, joined together to make one gift, with which was sent a nicely-written congratulatory address, under it being appended the names of the donors. This token of goodwill was very highly appreciated.

THE CONTEST for the Sixth Annual Volunteer Infantry Long-Distance Challenge Cup took place on Saturday, the start and finish of each route being the White Hart Hotel, Blackwater, near Aldershot, and the distance covered being about 100 miles. No actual racing took place, and pace-makers were not allowed. The Duke of Connaught, commanding the Aldershot Division, offered every facility for the competition, the winners being the 1st V.B. Royal Fusiliers team, which won last year, the time they occupied in covering the distance being 6 hours 32 mins. 2 secs., while the first team of the Galloway Rifles did it in 6 hours 34 mins. 27 secs. Medals to each member of the winning and second teams were given, while the commanding officer of the former holds the cup for the year.

OF THE MATCHES played during the latter half of last week and brought to a conclusion on Saturday last, that between the Australians and Lancashire terminated in a big victory for the former by 217 runs. The Colonials scored 124 and 183 and Lancashire 62 and 28, McLaren being the only member of the defeated team who got into double figures, scoring 20 in his first innings. At Nottingham Notts beat Sussex by 188 runs, the scores of the Midland County being 253 and 280, and of the Southern County 184 and 161. The principal scorer in the Notts was Flowers, who made 24 and 107, while C. B. Fry made 89 and 67 and Ranjitsinhji 43 and 41 for Sussex. At Portsmouth Hampshire beat Leicestershire by six wickets, the scores being Leicestershire 144 and 226 and Hampshire 240 and 131 for four wickets, Burton contributing 57 and 75 (not out) to the latter. Yorkshire beat a South of England Eleven at Scarborough; scores, South of England 161 and 76; Yorkshire 135 and 103 for five wickets.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE inspected the 2nd Durham (Seaham Harbour) Volunteer Artillery Brigade, at Seaham Hall, the residence of the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, on Saturday last. The corps to the number of 800, was under the command of the Marquis, and the inspection was witnessed by a large gathering of spectators from the countryside for miles around, and at the conclusion, his Royal Highness, after paying a tribute of respect to the Marquis of Londonderry, distributed the prizes won at Shoeburyness and elsewhere during the past year. On Sunday the Duke attended a cyclists' church parade in the Seaham Hall grounds, at which quite 1000 riders from clubs in Newcastle, Sunderland, Durham, Stockton, Hartlepool, Gateshead, &c., were present. A collection was taken on behalf of the Seaham Harbour Infirmary and the Sunderland Eye Hospital. When the service was over, the cyclists were entertained with meat pies and bottled ale.

V. BENOIST, 36, Piccadilly, W.—Barquets, Dinners, Suppers, and Receptions served in the most unique style. Menus and estimates on application. Also French Comestibles of every description. Sole Caterer to the celebrated Grafton Galleries. The best locale in the West End for holding Private Parties, Balls, &c. Telephone, No. 3919. Telegrams, Gourmet, London.—[ADVT.]

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will arrive at Dover from Calais by special boat to-morrow (Saturday), about mid-day, and proceed to London.

PRINCESS CHARLES OF DENMARK has appointed Colonel Henry Knollys, R.A., to be Comptroller and Private Secretary to her Royal Highness.

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK has quite recovered from her long illness, and has gone to join Bro. Lord Warwick at Dunrobin Castle, on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland.

LI HUNG CHANG met with a slight accident through the sudden closing of a carriage upon his hand, and was consequently unable to attend the Chinese banquet, in New York, on Tuesday. On Thursday he was entertained at the Union League Club, at Brooklyn.

BIG BEN has been under repairs for some time past owing to the hammer connections in the belfry having suffered from exposure to the weather. It has told the time, however, though unable to strike the hours and quarters, but it will shortly resume its duties in this respect.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK, who has been spending the past few weeks on the Continent, has arranged to return to town on Monday next. Her Royal Highness will cross from Calais to Dover, and travel thence to Victoria by the London, Chatham, and Dover Company's boat train, to which a special saloon will be attached.

A MOVEMENT is on foot amongst the Dutch lodges in the Transvaal to secure their affiliation with the English Constitution. This has arisen through no want of loyalty to the parent Constitution, but is solely due to the inconvenience caused by the adherence to the rule that three Degrees cannot be taken within less than 12 months.

IT HAS BEEN arranged that a number of the orphans connected with the Stockwell Orphanage, which was founded by the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, shall leave England for America towards the end of this month for the purpose of bringing the institution before the American Churches, and of obtaining pecuniary help with which to purchase a sea-side home for the orphanage.

LIBRARIANS are to muster in force in London next year. It was resolved at the international conference of the Library Association, held at Buxton, that the meeting in July, 1897, should be held in the Metropolis, when it is expected that close upon 300 members of kindred societies in America will attend, and the council pledged themselves to make the gathering a success.

THE FIRST CLASS BATTLESHIP *Cesar*, 14,900 tons, was floated out of No. 12 dock Portsmouth, on Wednesday, the ceremony of christening the vessel being performed by Lady Salmon, wife of Admiral Sir N. Salmon, V.C., K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief. The dimensions of the huge warship are length 390 feet between the perpendiculars, extreme breadth 75 feet, and mean draught of water 27 feet six inches.

A MOVEMENT IS ON FOOT, under the auspices of the City of London Swimming and Life Saving Association for a proposed swim ming bath to be moored in the Thames, close to Blackfriars Bridge. Some 30 of the important City houses have promised subscriptions to the amount of £5,000, and should the Thames Conservancy grant the site the Corporation will be asked to take the matter up and provide more money.

THE MARRIAGE of Bro. the Hon. George Hylton Jolliffe, M.P., only son of Lord Hylton and the Lady Alice Hervey, second daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol, was solemnised at St. George's Church, Piccadilly, on Saturday last. The Bishop of Bath and Wells officiated, and after the ceremony the Marquis and Marchioness of Bristol entertained the wedding party at their residence in St. James's-square.

A SHORT TIME SINCE, when Bro. Lord Wolsley was presiding at the annual meeting of the Soldiers' Daughters' Home, at Hampstead, he was publicly appealed to to endeavour to get a grant for the home from the profits of the Military Tournament. The Secretary has just been informed that it has been decided to grant £200 to this Institution. Hitherto only the Royal Cambridge Fund has benefited from the tournament, but this year the profits are to be divided amongst 13 military charities.

MARLEY HOUSE, TOTNES, DEVON, the residence of the Misses Carew, a picturesque mansion which contains many valuable works of art, narrowly escaped destruction by fire. A painter, using a blow-pipe, accidentally ignited the woodwork, and the flames extended rapidly to the bed-rooms above and appeared likely to assume serious proportions. Engines from South Brent, Totnes, and Buckfastleigh were promptly on the spot, but their services were not required, as the tenantry on the estate, assisted by a plentiful supply of water from a neighbouring pond, succeeded in extinguishing the fire.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE opened the 15th Congress of the Sanitary Institute of which he is President, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Wednesday. His Royal Highness arrived early in the day from Wynyard, where he had been staying as the guest of the Marquis of Londonderry, and was driven firstly to the Mansion House and thence to the College of Medicine, where he was received by the Mayor, Sheriffs, and members of the City and College Councils, and presented with an address of welcome. The Duke was subsequently entertained at luncheon in the Grand Assembly Rooms, and later in the day opened the Health Institute.

THE AUSTRALIANS were handsomely beaten by Mr. C. I. Thornton's Eleven during the early half of this week, the match terminating in a victory for the latter in one innings with 38 runs. Scores: The Eleven—294, towards which Mr. F. S. Jackson contributed 67, Mr. L. C. H. Palaret 71, and Sir T. C. O'Brien 65; Australians—116 and 140, Ireland scoring 6 and 42, Darling 0 and 24, Trott 33 and 7, Kelly 21 and 8, and Jones 10 and 20. In the match at Brighton between Surrey and Sussex, the former won by 10 wickets, Brockwell for Surrey scoring 107.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND, accompanied by the Countess Cadogan, and attended by his suite, visited the City of Cork on Wednesday, arriving by special train from Fota, where he had been the guest of Bro. A. H. Smith-Barry, M.P., and was received on his arrival by Bro. the Earl of Bourdon, Lord Lieutenant of the County, the Sheriffs of the City and County, and a large number of the citizens. The Viceregal party were at once driven, under escort of the 12th Lancers, to the reconstructed Court Houses, which, after he had received an address, he declared open. Having lunched with the Mayor of the city his lordship opened a monster bazaar in aid of a local hospital.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall is fixed for Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at Penzance. It is feared that Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, the esteemed Prov. Grand Master, will not return from the Continent in time, in which event Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., P.G.W., will preside. The Prov. G.M. has presided over all the provincial meetings held since his lordship's appointment in 1873, and has long taken a most active interest in all that concerns the welfare of the Cornish Craft. The Mount Sinai Lodge, No. 121, is next to the senior lodge on the local register, and has often entertained the Prov. Grand Lodge, the 1st time being in 1884. But the assembly on the 22nd inst. will only be the second during the genial rule of Bro. Lord Mount Edgcumbe. There are now 30 lodges in Cornwall having 1800 subscribing members, 13 Royal Arch chapters, 12 Mark lodges, a Knight Templar preceptory, and one Rose Croix chapter. The Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund is in a very healthy state, and the progress of the province in all respects is most satisfactory. The Prov. Grand Secretary is Bro. E. D. Anderton, the present Junior Grand Deacon of England.

THERE ARE MEN who, in a modest, unobtrusive way render more valuable service to the world than many whose works make their names famous. Such a public servant was Mr. Horace Marshall, head of the firm of Horace Marshall and Sons, wholesale newsagents and publishers, who, we regret to say, died at his residence in Streatham on Tuesday morning. The business of Mr. Marshall was the important one of distributing the newspapers of the day to their countless readers, and it was conducted on a scale of magnitude only surpassed by that of W. H. Smith and Son. The firm was founded considerably more than half a century ago by Mr. William Marshall, father of the gentleman who expired on Tuesday, and was established successively in different parts of the City until it fixed its headquarters in its present commodious premises on the Thames Embankment. Here, as elsewhere, Mr. Marshall laboured assiduously, and it is stated that for 35 years he opened his warehouse at 1.30 a.m. and never failed to attend to its affairs in person. He was a worthy citizen and a good master, as well as a most able man of business, and his death will be widely and sincerely regretted. Mr. Horace Marshall is succeeded by a son of the same name, a gentleman of superior education and ability, who promises to tread worthily in the footsteps of his lamented father.—*Daily Telegraph*.