

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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THE NEW SYSTEM OF MASONIC RELIEF.

Our readers will doubtless have gathered from sundry articles which have appeared from time to time in our columns that an attempt is being made by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin to induce the other Grand Lodges in the United States to unite with it in reducing the free and unfettered relief which it is the duty of every Mason, within the limit of his means, to dispense to worthy brethren in distress to an organised system of Charity. As far as we are able to judge, this system, as proposed by Wisconsin, has just this one principal characteristic—there is in it nothing whatever of the true spirit of Charity. The following will illustrate this most clearly. A Mason, who is sojourning in a foreign country or in some part of his own which is remote from his home, finds himself in temporary difficulties, and learning that there is a lodge in the neighbourhood, he applies to it for help in his time of need. Inquiries are made, with the result that he is shown to be a worthy brother, while as to his being in difficulties, the fact speaks for itself. He is accordingly given such an amount of help as the lodge and its members are in a position to afford and as will enable him to meet the more pressing emergencies of his distress, and there, according to the true idea of Masonic Relief, the matter ends. The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, however, has evolved from its inner consciousness a new and startling idea, to wit, that the lodge, which, in relieving this poor brother, has performed a simple act of duty, becomes, *ipso facto*, entitled in its turn to be relieved from the burden it has voluntarily imposed on its own funds. In other words, the lodge which helps a poor Mason on his way, does so, not because it is actuated by the spirit of Charity, not from any sense of respect for the Masonic obligations of its own members, but because it is entitled under the new Wisconsin law to claim re-imbursement of its expenditure from the lodge of which the poor wayfarer was, or is a member. In fact, the expenditure of the relieving lodge is in the nature, not of a gift, but of a loan, and the most curious part of the scheme or arrangement is that the lodge which is called upon to repay the money—or in the event of the lodge being unable to do so, the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter—has no voice whatever in determining its amount.

This is the new idea of Masonic Charity as it is understood in Wisconsin—that “it is the duty of every lodge to take care of its own members in distress, wherever they may be. In case

of its inability so to do, this duty devolves upon the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter; it being understood that in no case is the lodge furnishing relief and asking re-imbursement to go beyond actual necessities, without express authority from the re-imbursing body.” But we are glad to say it has not found favour with the Grand Lodges of the United States, nearly all of which have formally pronounced it to be an innovation. One of them—the Grand Lodge of California—has endorsed it, but at the very next annual communication after that at which the proposal was so endorsed, it devolved upon the Grand Master to announce that one of its lodges, which had previously been in a flourishing state, “had been so borne down by the burden of support of one of its members” as to have become “substantially dead.” As for the Grand Lodge of Maine, which has exhibited the most determined opposition to the proposal, at its session in Portland, on the 7th May last, it appointed a Special Committee consisting of Bros. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, EDWARD P. BURNHAM, and ALBRO E. CHASE to consider and report upon the subject, and from this report, which is published in the “Freemason's Repository” for last month, it is evident that these distinguished brethren are entirely opposed to any such monstrous departure from ancient usage. They point out that “every Master Mason knows that he is under obligation to relieve a distressed worthy brother to the best of his ability (of which he is the sole judge) and having done that, his duty is performed.” Moreover, it is “an *individual* duty,” from which “no power on earth” can relieve him, nor is it “limited to members of his own lodge,” but “extends to every brother, ‘beneath every clime.’” The “original plan of Masonry,” they say, “never contemplated ‘organised Charity,’” and “just so far as it,”—*i.e.*, “organised Charity”—“departs from being merely *an aid to the individual Mason* in the performance of its duty, it *departs from ‘the original plan of Masonry.’*” As regards the Charity Funds which lodges and Grand Lodges have accumulated, the Report points out that they were “intended solely to give more prompt and efficacious relief to *any* distressed brother without regard to his Masonic home,” nor have the Committee been able to discover any indication in any charter or code of laws “that a member of the lodge had a right to ask a preference over any other worthy Mason, till since the advent of the imitation societies which are now so numerous.” True, a “Masonic Board of Relief” was organised in Boston in 1819 “for the sole purpose of aiding ‘stranger brethren,’” but it seems to have been established in great measure to prevent fraud and imposture, while though this Board existed for more than half a century, and “expended thousands of dollars” in dispensing its aid, “during the whole time no request, or even suggestion, of reimbursement was ever made.” Doubtless, “the organisation of a method of affording relief is very desirable, but it in no manner changes the character of giving relief; the fact that the relief is afforded by ‘an organised Charity’ no more entitles it to reimbursement than the giving of relief by an individual Mason entitles him to it.”

Among the other pronouncements made by this Committee in their report, we notice that they dissent entirely from the following proposition as laid down by the authors of the Wisconsin idea, namely: “It is not disputed that the relief of a distressed worthy brother is a duty devolving either upon the individual Mason or upon the lodge. *It naturally follows, then, that the brother has claim for relief, and that claim must be upon the lodge.*” As the Committee argue, no such conclusion

follows from the premisses as laid down. Again, the proposal is a violation of "fundamental Masonic principles" in three essentials, by declaring—"1. That a Mason, by maintaining membership in a lodge, *purchases* the right to relief; 2. That a Mason is entitled to relief, limited only by his necessities, without regard to the ability of those giving the relief; 3. That Masons are not members of a great fraternity whose duties and obligations are the same to *every other member*; but that Masons in every Grand Lodge jurisdiction are an association by themselves, whom, and whom only, they are under obligation to relieve when in distress." After pointing out that the proposal entirely destroys the main characteristic of Masonic Charity, which, like mercy, blesses him who gives as well as him who receives, and condemning it "as a scheme to encourage and cultivate *selfishness*, to harden the sensibilities, and to discourage the exercise of Charity and brotherly love," the report concludes with a resolution to the effect that the Grand Lodge of Maine is unable to accede to the Wisconsin proposal on the following grounds, which, as they clearly and effectually sum up the case against the scheme, we have taken upon ourselves to quote in full:

"1. That every Mason is under equal obligation to every worthy brother to relieve his distress according to his necessity and his own ability;

"2. That the sole claim of a distressed worthy brother for relief grows out of his *being a Mason*, and not out of his *having contributed to the funds of a particular lodge*;

"3. That the association of Masons in a lodge in no manner relieves them from their individual obligations, and that when they act as a lodge, their duty, and, therefore, that of the lodge, is precisely the same as that of the individual Mason;

"4. That Masonic relief is never purchased or sold, and therefore, never creates a debt."

After these outspoken declarations of the Maine Committee appointed to report upon the Wisconsin idea of Masonic Relief, there is not much chance of its finding any greater degree of encouragement and support than it has received up to the present time, and that is next door to nil.

There is one piece of advice we take this opportunity to tender to those American Grand Lodges which are eternally finding out something to legislate about or make the subject of resolutions. Let them leave Masonry and its fundamental principles to take care of themselves, and they will speedily find that the less they concern themselves about legislation, the better will it be for Masonry, both as an organisation and a morality.

FREEMASONRY IN OREGON.

The Grand Lodge of Oregon is among the younger Masonic organisations in the United States. It was founded in the year 1850, and held its 46th annual Communication in the earlier half of June last, under the presidency of Bro. MORTON D. CLIFFORD, M.W. Grand Master. It would appear to be in a fairly prosperous condition, having 102 lodges on its roll, with an aggregate membership not very far short of 5000. Its General Fund amounts to close on 12,500 dollars, and its Educational Fund to 5000 dollars, of which 1000 dollars was expended during the past year, while, as regards the interest taken by the lodges in the work of Masonry, we have evidence in the fact that as many as 93 of its 102 lodges were represented at its annual meeting. But though it is unquestionably a well-to-do body, and manifestly well-organised, some of the ideas entertained by its leading lights would seem to be exceedingly crude, while in one noteworthy particular one of the essential bases of true Masonry is openly set at defiance. Naturally, no objection would ever be raised to the adoption of "the District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lecturer system," or in the passing of any law empowering the latter officer "to arrange for and hold schools of instruction in the work and lectures at convenient places for groups of lodges to assemble." Nor will exception be taken to the establishment of a "Board on Application for Relief," provided that such Board in no way recognises the right of any lodge or board to a "reimbursement of relief extended." It does strike us, however, as being absurd that among the decisions rendered by Grand Master

CLIFFORD should have been included one to the effect that "a man who has lost the thumb of his right hand is not eligible for the degrees of Masonry," while in another case he decided that "an applicant who has lost the sight of one eye is eligible." The *Voice of Masonry*, to which we are indebted for the review of Oregon Proceedings from which we have derived our information says, in reference to these rulings, "Tested by the Levitical law, which is the fountain of the Masonic physical requirement, neither candidate was eligible," while in another review of Proceedings—those of the Grand Lodge of Vermont—it dissents entirely from a dictum of Past Grand Master PERKINS of that jurisdiction, who, in his Report on Correspondence, lays it down emphatically that "true manhood, not bodily infirmities, shall determine the eligibility of a candidate for initiation," and that "mental strength and power cannot be weakened by abbreviated fingers and toes or other physical defects revealed to the scrutinising eye of a Grand Master." This view of Bro. PERKINS is the one which has our sympathy. It may not be in accordance with the Levitical law, but it is grounded on broad and generous principles. It starts by recognising that Freemasonry is "a system of morality," which is independent of fingers and toes, and for this reason it seems to us that it appeals strongly, and, in our opinion justly, to our common sense. If, however, we differ in reference to this question as to the necessity for physical perfection in candidates for initiation, both with G. Master CLIFFORD and Bro. R. CLOW, the Editor of the *Oregon Report* on Correspondence, we heartily concur with the latter in his protest against "the recognition of the Gran Dieta of Mexico by the Grand Lodge of Kansas." On this matter, however, we need not, after the instructive article which appeared in these columns from the pen of Bro. R. F. GOULD, offer any observations of our own. But what does call for remark is the hearty congratulation extended by Grand Master CLIFFORD to "the Masons of Italy on their noble work for the unification of that country and the destruction of the temporal power of the Papacy," and the sincere hope he expressed "that Italian Masonry may continue in its excellent and glorious work and render Italy still more beloved." In offering those congratulations and expressing those wishes, Grand Master CLIFFORD has evidently lost sight of the absolutely non-sectarian character of Freemasonry in all questions relating to religion and politics. In the matter of religion the one pre-requisite in order to be a true Mason is that a man shall believe in the existence of a Supreme Being and a future state; in politics he is called upon to obey constituted authority. It would be impossible to find any questions more absolutely political than those of the unification of Italy and the destruction of the temporal power of the Papacy, and however much Italian Masons may have laboured, as patriots, to bring about these ends, as Masons, they were bound to leave them entirely outside their lodges. We know it is difficult, and perhaps, impossible for some Continental Masons to draw these very fine distinctions between what it is lawful for them to do as citizens and what as Masons, but the distinctions exist, notwithstanding, in genuine Freemasonry, and we confess to being amazed that the Grand Master of an American Masonic jurisdiction should have been, even temporarily, betrayed into the commission of so grievous an error as that of confounding the perfectly legitimate aspirations of the politician with the proceedings of the Craft. No wonder the enemies of Freemasonry regard the Masons of all countries as being tarred with the same brush when they find an American Grand Master applauding the Masons of another country for their political acts. It is evident that Bro. CLIFFORD's ideas about true Freemasonry are lax in the extreme.

BOOKS OF CONSTITUTIONS, 1723—1896.

Now that the new edition of the Book of Constitutions is published, it may be as well to glance back to those previously issued under the Grand Lodge of England, and likewise the eight in connection with the "Atholl" Grand Lodge, or "Ancients."

I. The premier edition was issued in 1723, in quarto size (all being 4to.—large or small paper—through that century), and has a fine frontispiece.
II. The second edition was in 1738, having the same Frontispiece as 1723, engraved by John Pine. This volume was also circulated, with a new title in 1746, by another publisher, but otherwise quite the same. Both were

by the Rev. James Anderson, D.D. III. In 1756, the Rev. John Entick, M.A., was the Editor, the Frontispiece being by *Boitard*, and engraved by *B. Cole*. It is one of the rarest of the series, more so, in my opinion, than those preceding. IV. The "New Edition" was in 1767, and the Frontispiece as that of 1756. In 1776, an Appendix was published with the work—so many remaining unsold—and was brought down to that year, the compiler being Bro. William Preston. This is much the scarcest of the set. An *unauthorised* edition was published in 1769, in octavo, "Printed for G. Kearsly, London." The text of 1767 was utilised, and an Appendix added to 1769. The same work was issued in Dublin, "Printed for Thomas Wilkinson," and having several curious plates and a Frontispiece. It is exceedingly scarce, in perfect condition. V. The last edition in the 18th century was that of 1784. It is a grand quarto, "brought down to the year 1784," by John Noorthouck, the Frontispiece being a fine one (B. Cipriani and T. Sandby, *Delin.*, F. Bartolozzi and T. Fittler, *Sculp.*). The plate is sometimes dated 1786, and I believe it was not ready for circulation until that year, or certainly not until 1785.

The "Atholl" Constitutions, (or "*Ahiman Rezon*") were published in octavo size in 1756, 1764, 1778, 1787, 1800, 1801, 1807, and 1813. They have all Frontispieces, excepting the first, the 2nd edition having a different one to the remaining six, which have a similar design throughout, though not always from the same plate. The issue of 1787 is one of the scarcest of Masonic Books. The editions of 1807 and 1813 have usually a List of Lodges attached, but neither is noted for its accuracy, about which Bro. John Lane's "*Masonic Records 1717-1894*" should be consulted; published by the Grand Lodge.

After the "Union" in December, 1813, the following have been published:

VI. The volume of 1815 is in large quarto, and termed 2nd part. The first part was never completed. VII. A corrected edition of 1815 appeared in 1819, the revised leaves being easily recognised because of a star on each. VIII. The next was an octavo, and still termed the second part. IX. In 1841 the first of the regular series, with plates of Jewels, was printed and published (Bro. W. H. White, G. Sec.) for the Grand Lodge. X. This was soon followed by another edition in 1847, under the same auspices, the illustrations being an improvement on those of 1841. XI. The year 1853 witnessed another issue. XII. The 1855 was in 8vo. and 32mo., the latter being rarely met with now. XIII. 1858, XIV. 1861, XV. 1863, XVI. 1865, 32mo. only. XVII. 1866, 32mo. only; XVIII. 1867, in 8vo. and 32mo.; XIX. 1871, in both sizes; XX. 1873, in both sizes. XXI. The "Book of Constitutions" was thoroughly revised, the *proposed* Regulations were published in 1882, in 8vo. size, with a synopsis (small folio), giving in brief an excellent description of the method followed by the Board, and other valuable information. In 1884, the new Volume was printed and circulated in the 8vo. and square 32mo sizes (10,000 and 20,000 respectively), a special feature being a most complete and well arranged Index; the Rules were also consecutively numbered throughout, and the work was a vast improvement on all previous issues.

XXII. The smaller size was soon exhausted, the work being very popular, so in 1888 another edition was published (in 8vo. and 32mo.) with slips inserted. XXIII. In 1894 the additions were printed and inserted in a sheet of eight pages, three having the new rules. XXIV. This year (1896) has witnessed the advent of the latest edition in both sizes, the new regulations being printed in their proper places and duly numbered, as well as noted in the valuable general index. In the *Freemason* for September 15th, 1888, in an article on the "Constitutions of the Freemasons 1723 to 1888," I remarked

We have the satisfaction of knowing that there is not a better code of laws in force in any Grand Lodge in the "WIDE, WIDE WORLD,"

and I feel assured this will be the verdict of brethren familiar with the regulations of other Grand Lodges. We only want the decisions of the Board of General Purposes during this century as to their interpretation of the laws to be printed, to make the work still more useful to the Craft and equal in such respects to those of the American Grand Lodges.

The latest edition is sold at one shilling per copy in the 32mo. size (postage, one penny extra), and is a most welcome book for reference in a pocket size. It is so handy in fact, and so capitally arranged, on the same lines as its immediate predecessors of 1884-1894, that I only need express the hope that the Masters of lodges will lose no time in studying its pages, and that all Craftsmen under the English jurisdiction will feel as proud as I do of our own Book of Constitutions.

W. J. HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE TRUTH CHAPTER, No. 1458.

The consecration of the above chapter took place on Wednesday, the 16th instant, at the Mosley Hotel, Manchester, and, from the amount of interest and enthusiasm displayed on the occasion, we may safely predict a very prosperous future for the chapter. The companions assembled at 2.30 o'clock. Comp. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, G. Superintendent, as Consecrating Officer, entered the chapter in company with the Grand and Prov. Grand Officers, and formally opened the chapter. The consecration was conducted in a most masterly and impressive manner throughout.

The GRAND SUPERINTENDENT addressed the companions on the nature of the meeting.

Comp. JAMES, P.G.S.E., expressed the wishes of the founders.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER called upon Comp. Chambers, P.D.G. Reg., to read the petition and charter.

The officers were approved of by the petitioners, and the GRAND SUPERINTENDENT called upon Comp. the Rev. JOHN CLAYTON, P.P.G. S.N., who gave the following beautiful oration:

M.E. and companions,—The popular world who are not Masons, who do not and cannot understand our principles and tenets, are never weary of misrepresenting us, and casting reproaches upon our system and ritual; calling the one a farce and the other childish folly and nonsense. It may be well then on the present occasion when we are about to consecrate a new chapter and to strengthen still further the

good work which Masonry was established to fulfil, to somewhat review our position, and see how it is possible for us to be members of a lodge or chapter and yet ignorant of the meaning and object of its various degrees. Unless we are fully persuaded in our own minds of the benefit and value of Freemasonry we may as well have never been initiated. I maintain then, that the minds of the brethren of every Degree ought to be thoroughly saturated with Masonic knowledge, so that without violating their Supreme Order they may be enabled to give to the outside world some reason for that which appears to them unmitigated nonsense. As a means to this end we have various lectures and charges, explanations of tracing boards and jewels. The regular and judicious use of which, in lodge or chapter, cannot fail to impart a genuine knowledge of the Masonic art and of the principles of morality and virtue which it inculcates. More especially is this the case with the Supreme Degree with which we are more particularly concerned to-day—the holy Royal Arch. Those who are thoroughly conversant with the beautiful ritual of the various ceremonies of the Order, with the addresses delivered to the Principals and other officers and to the companions, with the three lectures and explanation of the jewel can bear testimony to the fact that these Royal Arch records are full of symbolical teaching of the most interesting and fascinating character, all inculcating the highest possible morality. By means of them we are taught that great awe and reverence which are due to the very Name of the Most High God and to all things connected with His Holy Worship, never to draw near to His immediate presence, or to prostrate ourselves before Him in the most humble and devout manner; to reverence not only His Holy Name, but also His Word, more copious extracts from which are read in this than in any Degree in Craft Masonry. But this is not the time nor place to enlarge upon the various points of interest and instruction in this Sublime Degree. I commend it to the attention of all Principals of chapters, especially to those to be installed in this chapter, to see that the companions under their control are regularly and carefully instructed in the higher branches of Royal Arch Masonic knowledge. Permit me, however, in concluding these observations to make this remark—the very name of this Degree—the Arch—is very significant. An arch, if properly constructed, is, we know, one of the most useful and strongest forms of building, and it is a thing of beauty to admire, being graceful in form. But all its beauty, all its utility, all its strength may be spoiled, however carefully and scientifically it may be constructed. The system of building may be correct, but if there be faulty material used, the arch will be sure to suffer, and the whole building will soon be tumbling to ruin. So in this Royal Arch Degree. The system is excellent; the teaching noble; the ceremonies beautiful. All these may be worked in Royal Arch chapters to perfection, but one or two unworthy companions may bring discredit upon the Order, and cause the collapse and break-up of a chapter. This we hope may never be the case with any of our chapters, particularly in this province, more especially with the chapter about to be consecrated. As long as those in authority are careful as to the moral character and suitability of candidates for exaltation, they may hope to rear a structure perfect in all its parts and honourable to the builders.

After that the anthem "Behold how good," was sung by the choir, and the chapter was dedicated and constituted, concluding with the Patriarchal Benediction. The duties of installing the three Principals was undertaken by Comp. J. H. Sillitoe, P.G.S.B. England, P.G.H. East Lancashire, in the usual brilliant manner in which he is accustomed to show when performing any rite in this Supreme Degree. Comps. Buckley Carr, P.Z., was installed first M.E.Z.; Robert Caldwell, H.; and Samuel J. Mills, J. The investiture of officers was undertaken by the Most Excellent, describing to each officer their respective duties. In addition to the above-named companions the following were founders—Comps. Herbert Hellewell, S.E.; Geo. T. O. Crocker, S.N. 204; W. H. Worsley, Treas. 815; H. G. Ward, P. Soj. 993; Geo. Thos. Lenard, 1st Asst. Soj. 325; Alfred Hebden, 2nd Asst. Soj. 645; Thomas Oldham, 993; Leonard Jagger, 323; and Nelson J. Stokes, 581.

At the close of the proceedings Comp. BUCKLEY CARR proposed a vote of thanks to the Grand Superintendent for his kindness in consecrating the chapter.

In reply, the GRAND SUPERINTENDENT spoke also to the great pleasure it gave him to perform that important function, assisted by his Prov. Grand Officers that day. He conveyed the idea it was the most important he had ever attended, and thanked the Most Excellent for the splendid arrangements that had been made for them, and also spoke in high terms of the musical portion of the ceremony, which had given him so much pleasure, and thanked Comp. James Newton, P.G.S.E., for carrying out everything to his entire satisfaction. (Applause.)

It was a great disappointment to the companions the Grand Superintendent could not stay to the banquet which subsequently followed, but he had to leave owing to circumstances over which he had no control.

The musical portion of the ceremony was under the direction of Comp. L. H. Keay, P.G.O., assisted by Comps. Nelson Stokes, Ridsdale, Bowley, R. Rudman, and Thos. Shorrocks.

The following were present:

Comps. Buckley Carr, M.E.Z. designate; R. Caldwell, H. designate; Sam. T. Mills, J. designate; Herbert Hellewell, W. H. Worsley, H. G. Ward, Thomas Oldham, Nelson J. Stokes, Col. Starkie, Grand Supt.; J. H. Sillitoe, Prov. G. H.; J. Heelis, Prov. G.J.; Jas. Newton, Prov. G.S.E.; the Rev. W. R. Clayton, acting Prov. G.S.N.; Jno. S. Veevers, Prov. G. Treas.; W. F. Chambers, Dep. Prov. G. Reg.; J. Marshall, Prov. G.P.S.; Jas. Smallpage, Prov. G. 2nd A.S.; J. Williams, J. W. Mellor, and J. Hulley, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; W. B. Akerman, Prov. G.D.C.; J. Partington and Phillip Bibby, Prov. A.G.D.Cs.; L. H. Keay, Prov. G. Org.; E. H. Flower, Prov. G. Janitor; C. R. N. Beswicke Royds, P.P.G.H.; A. H. Jefferis, P.P.G.J.; Charles Swinn, P.P.G.S.B.; C. D. Cheetham, P.P.G.D.C.; T. D. Foreman, P.P.G.D.C.; Wm. Thomley, P.P.A. G.S.; G. S. Smith, P.P.G. Org.; Wm. Hayes, P.P.G.S.B. Malta; J. Rogers, P.Z. 2324; F. W. Lean, P.Z. 935; Clare E. Towell, P.Z. 204; W. B. Russell, P.Z. 204; Fred. Batty, M.E.Z. 1730; W. B. Midgley, J. 1055; T. Shorrocks, P.S. 204; R. Rudman, 581; and F. Ridsdale Bowley, 1720.

Royal Ark Mariners.

Collin Lodge, No. 157.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Maryport, on Thursday, the 17th inst., the lodge was opened by Bro. Jos. Abbott, W.C.N., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The election of W.C.N. for the ensuing year proved unanimous in favour of Bro. John James Little, P.J.; Bro. Jas. Gardiner, Treas.; Bros. J. Abbott, T. Atkinson, and J. O. Scott, Auditors; with Bro. J. Messenger, Warder. The following brethren were in attendance—Bros. Abbott, W.C.N.; Jas. Gardiner, P.M. 213; J. O. Scott, P.M.; J. Gardiner, Treas.; T. Atkinson, P.M.; J. P. Bennett, Jas. Menceley, John Smith, J. Messenger, and others.

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



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

On Wednesday, the 23rd instant, her Gracious Majesty the Queen completed a period of sovereignty exceeding that of any of her illustrious predecessors on the throne of England, and although her Majesty has expressed a desire that the event should not be publicly noticed until she has actually completed the 60th year of her reign, we cannot do better than follow the loyal example set by the Corporation of London and other public bodies, and tender to her Majesty our most respectful congratulations on the auspicious event. To apply the words of our respected brother,

Lord Mayor Sir Walter Wilkin, in his congratulatory message, May every blessing attend her Majesty, her family, and the nation for many years to come.

The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin held its 52nd annual communication in Milwaukee in June, Bro. W. W. Perry, M.W.G.M., presided, and of the 235 lodges on the roll as many as 217 were represented. It appears from the statistical returns that the number of subscribing Masons in the jurisdiction is 16,408, that the General Fund amounts to close on 15,500 dollars and that the assets fall not very far short of 11,000 dollars. Bro. A. Jenks was elected and installed M.W.G.M. for the ensuing 12 months, while Bro. John W. Laflin remains at his post of Grand Secretary. In the course of the business transacted we note that a Committee was appointed to compile the constitution of the Grand Lodge, with the amendments, edicts, and decisions in the form of a digest, and to report to the next annual communication, a copy of the constitution, &c., to be furnished to each lodge in the jurisdiction at least 90 days before the said annual meeting.

This is the Grand Lodge which some time since adopted a resolution for the reimbursement of relief extended to those entitled to receive it, and we regret to find the Special Committee on Relief reported in favour of continuing the same policy, which it considered was fully justified by the circumstances, but more particularly by a case in which the Grand Lodges of California and New Jersey were concerned, the former disbursing money required for relief, and the latter promptly reimbursing. But in these jurisdictions the reimbursement is voluntary, while Wisconsin desires that it should be imperative.

There are 100 lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, with an aggregate subscribing membership of 9694. The General Fund reached 10,198 dollars at the last report, and the amount disbursed out of it was 3790 dollars. The Temple Fund was returned at close on 6000 dollars, of which only the small sum of 176.58 dollars was spent. The last annual Communication was held at Burlington in June under the presidency of Bro. Kittredge Haskins, M.W. Grand Master, the number of lodges represented being 81. The Report on Correspondence was rendered by Bro. Marsh O. Perkins, who, as we mention elsewhere, is not in favour of the "physical perfection" dogma which is held by many Grand Lodges in the United States. Bro. Perkins's views on other questions appear to be equally sensible, especially in one case in which he supports a decision to the effect that "a lodge should not adopt resolutions censuring the acts of individuals and corporations, or take any notice of the doings of the profane."

Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, will hold its first regular meeting after the summer holidays at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 2nd prox., at 5 p.m., precisely. The business will include the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler for the ensuing year, a motion to amend one of the by-laws, so that the junior officers may be added to the permanent Committee, and a further motion that in future the retiring Master shall be presented with a Past Master's jewel, a similar jewel being presented to all previous Masters. There will also be read a paper by Bro. William Barlow, LL.D., P.M. Lodge St. Alban, No. 38, on the South Australian Constitution and of No. 728 (I.C.), entitled "A Curious Historical Error."

It is also announced that the lodge will hold its second conversazione in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday, the 5th November. The Master will receive the guests in the ante-room from 8 to 9 p.m., and will afterwards address a few words of welcome in the large hall. Among the special attractions of the evening will be an interesting exhibition of Masonic clothing, jewels, medals, glass, and china, under the direction of Bro. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., P.A.G.D.C.; an exhibition by Bro. S. T. Klein, F.R.S.A., of the Röntgen X Rays and other marvels of science. There will be a performance of both vocal and instrumental music throughout the evening under the direction of Bro. G. Greiner. Members of both circles will have the privilege of introducing ladies and other friends, and a dispensation to wear Craft clothing will be obtained. Tickets at 5s. each—inclusive of light refreshments—are to be had only of the Secretary, Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C.

The announcement which was made at the Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal on the 24th June last, that Bro. Sir H. Thoby Prinsep

had found it necessary to resign his office of District Grand Master, will be received everywhere with the most profound regret. Bro. Prinsep has presided over the Craft in the Bengal Presidency for 18 years, his patent of appointment as District Grand Master bearing date the 17th June, 1878. During that period his administration has been most successful. Thanks to his ability, energy, and zeal, but more especially to the tact and judgment he has displayed, Bengal at the present time is far stronger and more prosperous than it was when he assumed office. The number of lodges on the roll of District Grand Lodge has been doubled; the work is infinitely better done and with greater regularity; while the funds are ample, and the Masonic Association, which is supported by the brethren in the District, is rendering year by year still greater service to the children of deceased and indigent brethren. The progress which Bengal Masonry has made under Bro. Prinsep's auspices has not been restricted to any particular branch of labour, but has been as general in its character as it has been gratifying in its results. Others no doubt have loyally co-operated with him in order to ensure this progress; but the chief praise is due to Bro. Prinsep, and the splendid services he has rendered to the Craft will not easily be forgotten.

This, indeed, we gather from the remarks made by the acting District Grand Master—Bro. Brigadier General Yeatman Biggs, C.B., Deputy District Grand Master—who made the announcement in District Grand Lodge, as well as from those of Bro. W. H. Fitze, P.G.D. England, Past Deputy Dist. G.M., who moved that a resolution of regret at Bro. Prinsep's retirement be recorded on the minutes of District Grand Lodge. The Acting District G. Master spoke of Bro. Prinsep's rule as having been "characterised by firmness, sound judgment, and tact, which is well shown by the prosperity, harmony, and good discipline which characterise the District of Bengal." Bro. Fitze, who had worked with the retiring District Grand Master as Treasurer, Warden, and Deputy during his whole tenure of office, and who consequently had been brought into the closest relations with him, was even more emphatic in his testimony. "I can say deliberately," remarked he, "that I believe he has never done a single act during the entire period which he did not believe to be for the good of the Craft. The result of his firm and wise rule is that he retires from office leaving the District free from dissension and in a state of great prosperity."

Such praise as this is no more than natural when we note the spirit in which Bro. Prinsep administered his important office. In the course of the memorandum, in which he announced his approaching retirement and which was read at the meeting, he remarked: "I look back to many happy years passed amongst you of useful work, which has been accomplished only by the most cordial relations which have existed between us. Any cloud which may occasionally have arisen has been a very small one, and it has been confined to a very small area, and in reducing or obliterating it, I have invariably had your sympathy and assistance. Such occurrences have been very rare during an unusually long tenure of office. In dealing with them I have always endeavoured, in the first instance, to act in a spirit of forbearance, so as to obtain a reconciliation, without in any way abandoning the firmness by which the unity and prosperity of our Order can only be maintained."

When the proper time arrives, steps will be taken to recognise the services which Bro. Prinsep is acknowledged on all hands to have rendered to Freemasonry in a manner that shall be gratifying to him personally, and at the same time honourable to our Bengal brethren. In the meanwhile it is satisfactory to know that Bro. Prinsep will not—for a considerable period at all events—disappear from the scene of his labours, and that while he remains in Calcutta his services and long and varied experience will be at the disposal of his successor and his District Grand Lodge.

We may add that Bro. Sir H. Prinsep's services have been by no means confined to Craft Masonry. He has been Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry in Bengal since 1879, and is Prov. Prior of Bengal in the Order of the Temple, and Inspector-General 33° for India in the Ancient and Accepted Rite. According to a statement in the *Indian Freemason*, to which we are indebted for much of the information contained in the foregoing paragraphs, Bro. Prinsep had been a member of our Society for some 16 years, when, in 1877, he permanently settled in Calcutta, so that he has been a member for 35 years.

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.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

At the regular meeting of the Egerton Lodge, No. 1030, George Hotel, Stockport, East Lancashire Province, Bro. James Wm. Abbott, P.M., P.P. G.D.C., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

Bro. Abbott was initiated in this lodge in October, 1871; installed W.M., 1856; Prov. Asst. G.D.C., 1884; Prov. Deputy G.D.C., 1885; and Prov. G.D.C., 1886.

On the day of his re-installation he will attain his 25th birthday in the Craft, and during the whole of those years he has been present at every regular meeting of his mother lodge.

This I, along with my fellow members of the Egerton Lodge, consider to be "unique," at any rate, as far as regards Freemasonry in East Lancashire, and should be glad if you could say if it is not so further afield.

Kindly reply through your Correspondence Column to

P.M. 1030.

Manchester, September 22nd.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1086

I have lately purchased a copy of Batty Langley's "Builders Compleat Chest-Book, or Library of Arts and Sciences." London: Printed by H. Woodfall, 1738, 2 vols., 8vo.—Can anyone inform me if this is the 1st Edition of the "Builders Compleat Assistant" (title slightly altered for subsequent editions), as there are so many points of resemblance between the two works? The reference to "Geometry" occurs on p. 61 in both.

JOHN T. THORP.

OPENING OF NEW MASONIC ROOMS AT TRURO.

The inauguration ceremony of opening the new and commodious rooms in connection with the Fortitude Lodge, No. 131, took place on Tuesday, the 15th instant, at Truro, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Clark, who was supported by a large Board of Past Masters of the lodge and a considerable number of visiting brethren.

After the lodge meeting, a capital spread was provided in the spacious ante-room, and there were afterwards speeches, songs, recitations, &c.

The Worshipful Master and Bro. George, the architect, were warmly congratulated on the convenience and excellency of the rooms, which in every way meet the requirements of the lodge, and which will well compare in their suitability with any similar suite of rooms in the county.

The brethren of Fortitude Lodge can well be complimented on their possession, which, for completeness and accommodation, leave nothing to be desired. It was suggested by Bro. Fraser-Frizzell that the names of Bros. Clarke and W. J. George, with a record of the event, should be commemorated on the walls.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. D. D. Mercer, P.G.P., Senior Vice-President, occupied the President's chair; Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P., Junior Vice-President, was called to the Senior Vice-President's chair; and Bro. James Boulton, G.P., occupied the position of Junior Vice-President. Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Bro. W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; Bro. W. Dodd and Bro. G. S. Recknell, represented the Grand Secretary's department. The other brethren present were Bros. Wm. Vincent, Henry Garrod, George B. Chapman, Wm. F. Smithson, W. J. Mason, S. V. Abraham, George R. Langley, Wm. Fisher, Robert A. Gowan, T. Whitmarsh, Major-General Frederick Gadsden, W. Kipps, James Bunker, Henry Smith Syer, William Moulder, George Powell, James Linzell, Edward E. Ransom, W. E. Sutton, H. Massey, Frank Evans, T. H. Hobbs, Thomas Bugler, C. Wakefield, Charles J. Banne, J. R. Johnson, B. Sadler Wood, James Rutherford, C. M. Coxon, T. H. Barker, and R. H. Wimpey.

The brethren first confirmed a recommendation made at the August meeting to the Grand Master, which his Royal Highness had approved, that a grant of £30 should be made to a widow. The new list contained 24 petitions, the presenters of which were qualified through three lodges in the London district, one lodge in Guernsey, and one each at Chingford, Leighton Buzzard, Walton-on-Naze, Thame, Southampton, Leeds, Lucknow, Crewkerne, Blyth, East Dereham, Callington, Secunderabad, Halifax, N.S., Peterborough, Sidcup, Stockport, Halifax, N.Z., West Hartlepool, Jersey, and Sunderland. Out of these 24 petitions one case was dismissed, and the consideration of five petitions was deferred for further information. The remaining 18 were granted, or recommended to be granted, a total sum of £555. One petition was recommended to Grand Lodge for £100 and one for £75. The Grand Master was asked to approve of two grants of £40 each and four of £30 each. Eight petitioners were granted £20 each and two £10 each.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

W. M. Sewell Council, No. 11.

The regular quarterly meeting of this council was held on Monday, the 14th instant, in the Freemasons' Hall, Maryport, Bro. Jas. Gardiner presiding, supported by his officers. One candidate was inducted into the Degrees of St. Lawrence the Martyr, Knight of Constantinople, and Knight of the Red Cross, which were beautifully worked by Bro. Gardiner. The following also signed the attendance book: Bros. Col. P. K. Sewell, P.G.W.; Jos. O. Scott, Jas. Anderson, Thos. Atkinson, P.M.; Geo. Starkey, R. Brown, J. Smith, and J. Messenger.

Craft Masonry.

Fermor Hesketh Lodge, No. 1350.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the New Masonic Hall, Bootle, on Monday, the 14th instant. The W.M., Bro. F. J. Billett, appointed Bros. W. F. Robinson, as S.W.; J. C. Robinson, J.W.; and Connor, I.G.; after which the W.M. elect, Bro. Ernest James Robbins, S.W., was presented to the W.M. by Bros. Armstrong, P.P.S.G.W., and Taylor, P.A.G.D.C., for the benefit of installation. The ceremony was most ably rendered by the W.M., assisted by Bro. John Armstrong. The W.M. invested his officers as follows, viz.: Bros. F. J. Billett, I.P.M.; E. W. Armstrong, S.W.; T. W. West, J.W.; W. Taylor, P.M., P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; T. H. Gedling, Sec.; I. Bolton, S.D.; E. H. Jones, J.D.; E. E. Robin, P.M., D.C.; R. W. Jones, Org.; F. A. Davis, I.G.; J. L. H. Woods, J. Dilworth, H. G. Lowther, and Ivor Jones, Stwds. Bro. John Armstrong, P.M., was unanimously elected Charity Steward. Amongst the visitors were Bros. F. K. Stevenson, P.P.S.G.W., Cheshire; W. F. Arnott, P.J.G.W.; J. C. Robinson, P.A.G.D.C.; A. Kirkpatrick, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Simpson, P.P.G.S. Cheshire; J. Brotherton, P.M., and J. H. Tyson, P.M. 241; T. Lea, W.M. 1473; J. Forsyth, P.M. 1473; W. F. Robinson, P.M. 2132, W.M. 2433; Pearson Chambers, W.M. 2335; Thos. Gray, P.M. 2289; and others.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren at once adjourned to a sumptuous repast provided by the caterer of the lodge, Bro. Holmes.

After the usual loyal toasts had been proposed and duly honoured, the D.C., Bro. E. E. Robins, proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, R.W.P.G.M., and the Provincial Grand Officers of this and other Provinces," to which Bro. F. K. Stevenson, P.P.S.G.W., replied on behalf of Cheshire, and Bros. W. H. Arnott, P.J.G.W., on behalf of the officers of West Lancashire.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" having been proposed by the I.P.M. and suitably responded to,

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Health of the I.P.M.," alluded to the general satisfaction he had given during his tenure of office, which the lodge had marked by voting him a Past Master's jewel in recognition of its appreciation of his services, but the members privately desired to add their testimony by presenting him with a gold albert and seal, which he now handed to him.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. R. W. Jones, ably assisted by Bros. Forsyth, Wallace, Theo. Evans, I. Platt, and others.

Clapton Lodge, No. 1365.

It is always a red-letter day in the career of Masonry to initiate one's son into Freemasonry, but it does not often occur for a father to have the privilege and great honour to both initiate and, some years later, instal his son as W.M. This has fallen to the happy lot of Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., the esteemed Secretary of the above lodge, who installed his son, Bro. A. H. Church, on the 17th inst. at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, at which there was a good muster of the members and visitors present.

In the unavoidable absence of the W.M., Bro. J. D. Geddes, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., officiated, supported by Bros. A. H. Church, S.W., W.M. elect; F. C. Lintott, J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Middx., Treas.; W. Banks, S.D.; T. T. Gething, J.D.; Henry C. Muckley, D.C.; F. Orfeur, Org.; J. Holland and J. F. Thayer, Stwds.; W. Finch, P.M.; W. H. Caton, P.M.; E. S. White, W. Macklin, C. G. Diamond, S. J. Edwards, A. W. Diamond, E. J. Livett, E. J. Brooks, G. Schilling, T. Boulting, S. Shipman, P. Becker, W. D. Seaton, W. R. Cathrow, H. C. Amendt, J. Parfitt, H. J. Dyer, H. Green, J. Dolman, T. W. Vaughan, E. Wildash, E. M. Edwards, R. C. Flint, G. Minter, J. Whitehead, and J. Verry, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. W. Brookman, 175; A. Gibbs, P.M. 2101; W. Shurmur, P.M. 2374, P.P.G.T. Essex; Hamilton Scott, 1670; R. Brookman, W.M. 1424; S. A. Stanger, P.M. 12; H. Firth, S.D. 2098; F. Cuzner, 2271; A. Cuzner, 2271; J. J. Howson, 1446; J. Bunker, P.M. 1158; W. Fisher, Sec. 2411; A. F. Thompson, P.M. 742; J. Morley, P.M. 1891; T. Trounce, J.W. 453; E. J. Wickenden, W.M. 1599; P. C. Campbell, P.M. 1670; T. Orfeur, 1312; J. Hill, S.D. 1460; E. T. Page, 834; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, and the Auditors' report received and adopted, the W.M. elect, Bro. A. H. Church, was presented by Bro. W. Finch, P.M., and installed into the chair by Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., in a most admirable manner. The following were appointed and invested officers by the new W.M. for the ensuing year: Bros. F. C. Lintott, S.W.; W. Banks, J.W.; W. Blackburn, P.M., Treas.; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec.; T. T. Gething, S.D.; F. Orfeur, J.D.; Henry C. Muckley, I.G.; J. Thayer, J. Holland, and G. Schilling, Stwds.; E. S. White, Org.; and J. Verry, Tyler. The usual addresses were delivered by Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., and he is to be congratulated for the efficient manner in which he carried out the whole of the installation ceremony. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting and letters were read from Bro. J. D. Geddes, I.P.M.; D. Campbell, P.M., and E. Luker, P.M., regretting their inability to attend through illness and other causes, and after other business the lodge was closed.

A splendid banquet followed, which fully maintained the great reputation of Bro. Amendt, the general manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company's Hotel, and was everything that could be desired.

After the customary loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, Bro. W. Blackburn, P.M., in the absence of the I.P.M., Bro. J. D. Geddes, proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He said he gave the toast at Bro. Geddes' request, but he was sorry he was not present, as he would not be able to do it as well as Bro. Geddes. It was without doubt the toast of the evening, and none that would be proposed that night would be received with more cordiality. The Past Masters on the shelf had watched the Worshipful Master's career with much interest. They had seen him initiated, and had seen him take every office with credit to himself. He knew they had made an excellent choice, because he came from a good stock. They were glad to have such a leader—it would be impossible to have a better. He had worked hard to attain his position; he would be able to do everything asked of him, and they all felt he would be a very great success.

The toast was enthusiastically received, as was Bro. A. H. Church, W.M., on rising to respond. He thanked Bro. Blackburn for his kind and flattering remarks, but said he did not deserve them. He had the highest regard for Freemasonry, and he had tried to do his best in the offices he had filled, and it was his earnest wish to give every satisfaction as Master of the Clapton Lodge. When the members who had not passed the chair left the lodge room that evening, he had gone through what was a great surprise to him, and he should never forget it. In conclusion, he thanked all for his election and the way he had been received.

At the request of the W.M., Bro. Blackburn, P.M., gave "The Installing Master, Bro. W. D. Church," observing that they had all seen the excellent way he had done the installation ceremony, and he ventured to think that no one present had ever seen it performed better. That evening was their 25th birthday, and he felt it was one of the happiest since the consecration of the lodge. Looking to what Bro. Church had done so well that night, it showed the great interest he took in the lodge. He congratulated him on the way he had performed the ceremony, and he had fully maintained the well-known reputation of the lodge for good working of the ritual.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., who was received with much warmth, responded. He could not express in words what he felt in installing his son as W.M., and whom he had initiated. He was a good son, and he would be a splendid Master. He was perfect in the ritual, and when his year of office came to an end they would say it was well finished. He had started well with having two initiates proposed, and there were others coming on, and he was proud that his son was now W.M.

In submitting the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. stated that they had a good representative number, and they were proud to have them. He read out a list of their names, giving a kind word to each, and he assured them that they were all welcome. He associated with the toast the names of Bros. R. Brookman, W.M. 1420; A. Stanger, P.M.; E. V. Page; J. Morley, P.M.; W. Brookman; P. C. Campbell, P.M.; and J. Bunker, P.M. 1158.

Bro. R. Brookman, W.M. 1426, responded. It was always a pleasure to visit the Clapton Lodge, because the working was ever the same—excellent. He was closely

connected with the W.M., and he had looked forward with much interest to his installation. Looking to the admirable way in which he had invested his officers—and it could not have been done better—he had no doubt that he would be a great success, as was predicted.

Bro. A. Stanger, P.M., said that as a very old friend of the W.M., he was delighted to have had the privilege of being present at his installation. He was glad that his brother was joining the lodge, as he would find himself amongst happy brethren and where everything was perfect. The lodge was well known for its ardent support of the Charities, and that alone should make it always popular and successful, as it deserved to be.

Bro. E. V. Page also acknowledged the toast, observing that he had never more enjoyed an evening in Masonry.

Bro. J. Morley, P.M., said that as an old Past Master he had attended many lodges but he had never seen better working of the ritual than what they had witnessed that evening, and it was a red-letter day to him to see the excellent and pathetic way in which the father had installed his son, and it went home to one's heart. The members were most hospitable and the musical entertainment they had provided was of the very best.

Bros. Walter Brookman and P. C. Campbell, P.M., also replied in brief but appropriate terms and to the point.

Bro. J. Bunker, P.M., said it was now 14 years since he first visited the lodge in which he had seen 14 Masters installed. He had the pleasure of being present, not so many years ago, when the father, Bro. W. D. Church, initiated his son and he was glad he had not missed his installing that son. The W.M. had gained his high position through sheer hard work; he had gone on step by step in the ordinary way and he was delighted to greet him as W.M. of such an important lodge, and he would prove to be a worthy son and follower of a splendid Mason.

After the toast of "The Masonic Charities,"

The Worshipful Master gave "The Past Masters," who were, he said, a leading force, and if any difficulty occurred during his year of office he would only have to refer it to the Past Masters and they would put things right. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. W. Finch, P.M.

In response, Bro. Finch stated that they all appreciated the way Bro. W. D. Church had installed his son, who, it was needless to state, would be a great success as their ruler. That evening was the silver wedding of the lodge, and for 22 or 23 years Bro. W. D. Church had ably served that lodge.

The next toast was "The Treasurer and Secretary," the Worshipful Master remarking that they were both good officers. With regard to the Treasurer, Bro. W. Blackburn, P.M., he would keep a stern eye on the officers of the lodge, and he was a real good fellow and a splendid Mason. Then, as to the Secretary, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., well, they knew what he was, but he would certainly see that he did his work.

Bro. W. Blackburn, P.M., Treas., responded. He congratulated the lodge on its success, which was very satisfactory, and he thought the W.M. would increase its present popularity, and when he left the chair the good balance standing to their credit would be increased.

Bro. W. D. Church, P.M., Sec., said he was not going to thank the W.M. for proposing the toast, because the duties of Secretary of the Clapton Lodge were arduous, but still he was pleased to be the Secretary. They had not seven guineas outstanding, and for a large lodge, as they were, it was most gratifying. He would continue to do his best, but he was always assisted by Bro. Blackburn, who was the ideal of a Treasurer. He felt he could not resume his seat without referring to Bro. H. C. Amendt, who had met them in every way, and he had put on a banquet that night which could not be excelled in the Metropolis, and if he could not always be there, his able lieutenant, Bro. Becker, was ever at his post and was a good substitute.

In giving "The Officers," the W.M. stated that without a good staff the office of Master was not an enviable one. The officers were all good, or he would not have appointed them. The S.W., Bro. F. C. Lintott, was capable of at once working the Three Degrees, and the others who were coming on would be found perfect in the ritual when their time came to occupy the chair. He took that opportunity of referring specially to Bro. Harry Green, who had provided the splendid entertainment, and he wished him to convey his (the W.M.'s) best thanks, on behalf of the lodge, to all the artists for their great efforts, which were much appreciated.

Bro. F. C. Lintott, S.W., having acknowledged the toast,

Bro. W. Banks, J.W., said that he was proud to have been appointed to his office at the 23rd installation meeting of the lodge, and the great traditions of the Clapton Lodge would be well maintained by the new W.M.

Bros. F. Orfeur, J.D.; J. Thayer and G. Schilling, Stewards; and E. S. White, Org., also responded.

Bro. Harry Green thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks with reference to the musical entertainment, and he was glad that it had been satisfactory to the brethren.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a most enjoyable and memorable evening and, as mentioned before, certainly a red-letter day in the annals of the Clapton Lodge, and one that will long be remembered by those who had the good fortune to be present.

The excellent musical entertainment was carried out under the able direction of Bro. Harry Green, assisted by Bro. Louis Breeze, Mr. Jack Wilson, and Miss Alice Motterway, who gave Bro. Trotter's successful song, "The Lavender Girl," for which she deserves special mention. Bro. E. S. White, Organist, ably presided at the pianoforte.

The W.M., Bro. A. H. Church, was initiated in the Clapton Lodge by his father, Bro. W. D. Church, P.M.—his first initiate—on the 16th of October, 1890. He served as Organist to the lodge from the date of his raising until he was eligible in proper rotation for the position of J.D., after which he served all the offices up to the Master's chair, to which he was unanimously elected in May last. The reason why he went forward so rapidly was on account of the death of Bro. Stanger and the retirement of three other officers. All the various offices he filled were carried out to the entire satisfaction of the brethren and to his own credit. By profession he is an architect and surveyor, and his age is only 29. He has been a constant attendant at the Clapton Lodge of Instruction, where he rapidly made himself proficient in the ceremonies. Having a very retentive memory, he mastered and worked the Three Degrees within 12 months of his initiation. At the next meeting of the lodge in November he will have all three Degrees to perform, which is rather a big task, but, from what we know of his working of the ritual, we have no doubt it will be satisfactory.

Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 14th instant. Among those present were Bros. R. W. Rice, W.M.; R. W. Simpson, S.W.; J. E. G. Nye, J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Cant. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G.S.B., Sec.; C. Flack, S.D.; H. Crozier, G.S. Egypt, J.D.; D. A. Ross, I.G.; W. T. Peat, P.P.G.O., I.P.M.; T. Grant, P.M.; H. Sapsworth, P.M., Steward; H. J. Bond, P.M.; and J. Spooner, P.M. Among the visitors were Bros. R. W. Forge, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; E. J. Packington, W.M. 2444; the Rev. J. McKinn, P.M. 1030; Goodsen, 172; D. Jones, 219 (S.C.); and H. Spencer, 9 (U.S.A.).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. Spencer and Whitaker were passed to the Second Degree. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. R. Drummond, P.M., P.P.G.P.; F. Figg, Org.; W. Emson, and others.

The lodge having been closed, a banquet followed.

Bro. R. W. Forge responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers." In the course of his remarks, he touched upon the great progress that Middlesex had made of late years in matters Masonic. He congratulated No. 1656 upon its efficient and prosperous condition.

"The Health of the W.M." having been proposed by the I.P.M. in a neat speech, Bro. Rice briefly responded.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and was duly acknowledged by Bros. J. McKinn, H. Spencer, and others.

Bro. Spencer said that he was but a young Mason, and came from far off Kentucky, but he had seen sufficient that day to warrant him in saying that Freemasonry in England was a great institution. He was quite a stranger to them all, but they had admitted him into their midst, and extended to him the greatest kindness and hospitality.

"The Health of the Past Masters," coupled with the name of Bro. Peat, I.P.M., came next in order, and was duly responded to.

During the proceedings Bros. Packington, T. Grant, P.M., and D. Jones entertained the brethren. The last-named was particularly effective in his rendering of two dramatic pieces.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

The annual election meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Hall, Rawson-square, Bradford, Bro. Samuel Robinson, W.M., presided, and here were also present Bros. C. H. Ellis, I.P.M.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Last, P.M., Sec.; A. Stephenson, P.M., P.P.G.D., D.C.; John Niven, P.M.; T. W. Holmes, P.M., P.P.G.O.; J. B. Fearnley, S.W.; R. S. Hird, J.W.; C. J. Paul, as S.D.; J. W. Bland, J.D.; John Harland, I.G.; W. Docksey, Org.; T. H. Bedford and R. B. Nichols, Stwds.; H. Holmes, Tyler; T. P. Sykes, J. I. Whitaker, J. Morton, J. R. Peat, F. Betteridge, A. E. Harris, R. P. Markham, W. S. Smith, W. Walker, and F. Kinder. Visitors: Bros. John Haley, P.M. 10; and Rev. J. W. Clough, 2330.

After the lodge had been opened, the minutes of the previous regular lodge were read and approved. The report of the Audit Committee regarding the Treasurer's accounts was presented by Bro. Fearnley, S.W., and an abstract of the accounts was read by the Treasurer, which were approved and passed. The report of the Lodge Committee with reference to the proposed portraits of the Past Masters was presented by the W.M. and directed to be entered upon the minutes. The scroll was then taken for the W.M. for the ensuing year, which resulted in the election of Bro. Bailey, P.M., Treas., the junior brethren having manifested considerable and unusual interest in the election. Bro. C. H. Ellis, P.M., was elected Treasurer, and Bro. T. P. Sykes, Tyler, for the ensuing year. The business of the meeting having been concluded, apologies for several absent brethren were tendered; "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors were expressed, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned and supped together, and afterwards spent a pleasant evening, when the usual toasts were submitted, the responses being interspersed with songs.

James Terry Lodge, No. 2372.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, Herts, on Thursday, the 10th inst. Present: Bro. Dr. Wm. Pennyfather Warren, P.J.G.W., W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. R. Middlehurst, P.P. G. Std. Br., I.P.M.; Henry Edward Cole, S.W., W.M. elect; Fredk. Godfree, J.W.; Wm. Metcalfe, P.P.G.P., Treas.; Joseph Tydeman, P.M., P.A.G.D. of C., Sec.; G. S. Metcalfe, W.M. 1327, S.D.; W. G. Tydeman, J.D.; James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng., Prov. G.D.C., Sec. R.M.B.I., as D.C.; Robert Tuffee, Org.; Wm. Phipps, Stwd.; A. G. Young, Tyler; P. L. Blackmore, P.M., P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; Henry Trask, P.M., P.G. Supt. of Wks.; G. Holdsworth, P.M., P.P.G.P.; F. C. Smith, P.M. 1457; Thomas Reilly, P.M. 1327, P.P.G.P., hon. member; W. A. Champion, E. Champness, C. Chapman, J. W. Watson, S. Rosenberg, J. Rushbrooke, J. R. Codding, G. R. Crockett, R. Matthews, G. F. Stiles, G. H. Fell, G. Worboys, H. Wells, F. Wells, Walter Goodger, E. G. Twyman, James Findlay, and Mark Gilbert. Visitors: Bros. W. Parsons, W.M. 753; R. Wolfenden, S.W. 1837; J. Robinson, P.M. 1327, P.P.J.G.W.; A. J. Williams, I.P.M. 2518, P.G. Std. Br.; H. N. Bawtree; W. R. G. Emerson, 45; T. P. Trounce, J.W. 453; J. Fox, 860; and M. W. Ainsley, 765.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The ballot was unanimous in favour of Bro. Daniel Hindes Feltham as a joining member. The Auditors' report was received and adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B. Eng., Sec. R.M.B.I., D.C., then presented Bro. Henry E. Cole, the W.M. elect, for the benefit of installation, and the W.M., Bro. Dr. W. P. Warren, installed his successor in an able and creditable manner, Bro. Terry winding up in his usual brilliant style. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Dr. W. P. Warren, P.J.G.W., as I.P.M.; Fredk. Godfree, S.W.; G. S. Metcalfe, W.M. 1327, as J.W.; Wm. Metcalfe, P.M., P.P.G.P., as Treas.; J. Tydeman, P.M. 1327, P.A.G.D.C., as Sec.; W. G. Tydeman, S.D.; F. E. Abbott, J.D.; James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B. Eng., as D.C.; E. G. Twyman, Org.; Wm. Phipps, I.G.; R. Tuffee and S. Rosenberg, Stwds.; and A. J. Young, Tyler. The W.M. then presented a handsome Past Master's jewel to the I.P.M. in recognition of the very high esteem in which he is held by the lodge and the able and courteous manner he presided over its affairs during his year of office. The Doctor alluded to the honour conferred upon the lodge by having the privilege of entertaining the Provincial Grand Lodge during his Mastership. The W.M., Bro. Cole, signified his intention of representing the James Terry Lodge at the next Festival of the R.M.B.I. in February, 1897, and after some formal business had been transacted, the lodge was closed.

The brethren sat down to an excellent banquet provided by the new host, Bro. W. J. Nash.

After the cloth was removed, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and heartily responded to.

Bro. Terry, responding for "The Charities," expressed a sincere hope that under the distinguished presidency of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., &c., Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, &c., the coming Festival of the Old People would be even a greater success than any of its predecessors.

During the evening some good harmony was contributed by Bros. Twyman, Shelbourne, Williamson, Trounce, Metcalfe, and Blackmore. Bro. Emerson presided at the piano.

The Tyler's toast brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

Lewisham Lodge, No. 2579.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Ladywell Parish Hall, on Saturday, the 12th instant, when the following were present: Bros. C. Sims, W.M.; C. Lamb, S.W.; J. Coote, J.W.; Rev. W. J. Salt, Chap.; H. Visger, Treas.; E. Hall, Sec.; J. A. Shelton, S.D.; H. Lewis, J.D.; W. C. Tyler, I.G.; J. W. Drysdale, D.C.; C. W. Wilkes, Org.; H. Cole and W. T. Price-Taylor, Stewards; J. S. Gregory, Tyler; H. F. Bridges, J. H. Laing, F. W. Quandt, G. W. Perry, Col. K. Arnold, W. T. Feldon, W. Clark, R. Batchelor, H. Kortlandt, J. H. Minson, H. B. Brooman, D. Bartlett, M. Lucy, E. C. Cook, S. R. Cook, R. R. Cook, J. T. Wise, R. F. Mitchell, J. Hinds, T. Till, J. McLanachan, and W. N. Pennington. Visitors: Bros. J. Speller, P.P.G.D. Essex; J. E. Ruffell, W.M. 1793; A. O. Kiver, W.M. 206; A. P. Lindsay, 278 (Gibraltar); F. G. Rose, 13; and W. Bennett, 700.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes having been confirmed, Bro. R. F. Mitchell, 340, was unanimously elected as a joining member. Bros. M. Lucy, E. C. Cook, S. R. Cook, and R. R. Cook were raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M. Bros. T. Till and J. Hinds were then passed to the Second Degree by the W.M. Messrs. John McLanachan and W. N. Pennington, having been unanimously elected, were then initiated by the W.M., all the ceremonies being rendered in his usual efficient and impressive manner. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year then took place, and resulted in the unanimous election of Bro. Charles Lamb, S.W. Bro. Lamb thanked the brethren in suitable terms for the honour they had conferred on him, and stated, although it was a difficult thing to follow such a W.M. as Bro. Christopher Sims, who had initiated 21 brethren during his year of office, making, with the eight joining members, a grand total of 50 members in the lodge, yet, he felt sure, the lodge would still prosper, and he would do all in his power to make the second year of the lodge as successful as the first had been. Bro. H. Visger was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. S. Gregory, Tyler. Bros. W. T. Feldon and Stanley Cook were elected to serve on the Audit Committee. Bro. C. Lamb, S.W., then proposed—"That a Past Master's jewel be presented to W. Bro. C. Sims, W.M., in recognition of his eminent services to the lodge." This was seconded by Bro. Shelton, S.D., and carried unanimously. Several new members having been proposed, Bro. John Coote, J.W., stated that Bro. J. Lusty had sent a telegram asking him to present the beautiful banner in his name, which added so much beauty to the lodge, as he was unable to be present. It gave him (Bro. Coote) great pleasure to do so. He knew Bro. Lusty took a great interest in the lodge as one of its founders, and would continue to do so. Bro. J. A. Shelton, S.D., said he had much pleasure in proposing "That the handsome banner which Bro. J. Lusty had presented to the lodge be accepted, and that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to him for his kindness." This was seconded by Bro. C. Lamb, S.W., and carried by acclamation.

All business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren afterwards sat down to dinner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The following brethren contributed to the harmony of the evening: Bros. H. T. Bridges, H. Visger, H. B. Brooman, S. Cook, R. Cook, C. Lamb, J. McLanachan, C. W. Wilkes, and E. Hall.

Addiscombe Lodge, No. 1556.

The opening meeting of the session was held on Saturday, the 12th inst., at the Public Hall, Croydon, when there were present Bros. Sydney G. Edridge, P.S.G.W., W.M.; A. Young Hyland, S.W.; S.W.; Dr. Henry G. Thompson, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; Henry Burgess, P.P.G. Sec., acting Sec.; Joseph Harrison, W.M. 510, G. Stwd. England, S.D.; A. P. Keith, I.G.; R. F. Grundy, Stwd.; S. N. Lambert, P.M., P.P.G.R., acting I.P.M.; John Chumley, P.M., P.P.G.D., acting J.W.; P. N. Rentom, John Aris, Henry Berney, T. W. Dobson, G. Finch, W. H. Lascelles, Thos. Lascelles, J. Stovell, Dr. F. Nicholls, P.P.G.D.; Layton A. Richardson, I.P.M. 157; C. A. Oswald, and A. Bailey, acting Tyler.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bros. Pitmen and Thos. Lascelles, and they were unanimously elected joining members. Bro. Rentom was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. by the W.M. in a most impressive manner. Four candidates having been passed, the ballot was taken for the Rev. A. C. Oswald, and proving unanimous in his favour, he was duly initiated. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, and the S.W., Bro. Hyland, was unanimously voted to the chair of K.S. Bro. Hyland returned thanks in a few well-chosen words. Bro. Dr. H. G. Thompson was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Bowler, Tyler. The W.M. was requested to withdraw for a short time, and the request having been complied with, Bro. S. Lambert took the chair. Bro. Chumley then moved—"That the lodge bestow on the W.M., Bro. Sydney Edridge, P.J.G.W., a Past Master's jewel, of the usual value, as a mark of respect and esteem, and for his distinguished services to Masonry." This was seconded by Bro. Dr. Thompson, and carried unanimously. Bro. Edridge having returned thanks, Bro. S. N. Lambert announced the fact to him of a jewel being voted, at the same time offering him the congratulations of the lodge and himself on the great honour conferred upon him by the Provincial Grand Master by selecting him as Prov. J.G.W. Bro. Edridge returned thanks in a few words.

Letters were afterwards read, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then sat down to an excellent banquet, and the usual toast list was gone through.

The W.M. remarked that he felt somewhat sad that his year of office was drawing to a close, and thanked his officers for their valuable assistance during the past year.

"The Health of the W.M." was received with "Surrey fire" and cheering by the brethren, who one and all thoroughly appreciate the great services he has rendered to the Craft in general and to the Addiscombe Lodge in particular.

Much regret was expressed at the absence, through indisposition, of the esteemed Secretary, Bro. A. Lambert, P.M., P.P.G.D., and wishing him speedy recovery.

Mark Masonry.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 181.

This lodge met for the dispatch of business at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 16th inst., when there were present, among others, Bro. F. Bonney, W.M., P.G.O. Middx.; R. W. Forge, S.W.; J. Hill, J.W.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; H. Higgins, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; C. H. Köhler, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; and G. Harrison, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. was elected to represent the lodge at the next Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund, which will be held under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.M. of Middx. A notice of motion was given by the Secretary to vote a sum of money to head the W.M.'s list. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Lieut.-Col. Cook, George Everett, P.M., G.S.D., and others. The lodge was then closed.

Refreshments followed labour, and the customary toasts were duly proposed by the W.M., who presided in a kindly and genial manner.

Bro. J. T. Briggs responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." In the course of his speech, he alluded to the circumstance that Bro. G. Everett, since the last meeting of the lodge, had been honoured with a collar in Grand Mark Lodge, and he (the speaker) regretted that that worthy brother had not been well enough to attend their proceedings that day.

Bro. C. H. Köhler responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers;" Bro. H. Higgins for "The Past Masters;" and Bros. W. Fisher, R. W. Forge, and J. Hill for "The Officers."

The proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 23rd instant, at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. T. H. Clear, W.M.; H. C. Parker, S.W.; G. A. Sturgess, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; Geo. Hill, P.M., Treas.; W. E. Willby, P.M., and T. Smale, P.M., Secs.; T. Pringle, S.D.; W. Truman, J.D.; F. A. Zappenfeld, I.G.; W. Proctor, P.M., Tyler; E. Kraus, P.M.; W. Cumberland, J. Goldstein, J. Mason, T. L. Bowden, L. S. Genese, G. H. Evans, and S. C. Cross.

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 Degree, and Bro. L. Goldstein was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Goldstein being the candidate. The 3rd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. Thom. The lodge being resumed to the First Degree, the W.M. rose for the customary times. Bro. H. C. Parker was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of thanks was unanimously recorded to Bro. T. H. Clear, for the excellent manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of W.M. for the first time in this lodge of instruction. Bro. T. H. Clear suitably replied. The lodge was then closed.

RANELAGH LODGE, No. 834.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 18th inst., at the Six Bells Hotel, Queen-street, Hammersmith. Present: Bros. Walter Herring, W.M.; E. F. Nash, S.W.; Wm. Hide, W.M. 1275, J.W.; A. Williams, P.M., Preceptor; Thomas Jobson, Treas.; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; J. J. Lewin, S.D.; H. Sellick, J.D.; F. J. Ingram, I.G.; A. J. Clayton, Steward; J. H. Cumming, P.M.; H. P. Gilbert, P.M.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M.; W. W. Williams, P.M.; R. H. Williams, P.M.; Hans Scharien, W.M. 834; Joseph Cox, W.M. 1585; R. Reid, E. H. Tompsett, James Secker, and G. Aggett.

The lodge having been duly opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Cox acting as candidate. The lodge was called off and on. When the W.M. rose for the first time, the dues were collected, as usual. At subsequent risings, Bro. Nash was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and Bros. Secker and Aggett were elected joining members. The ballot for a Life Subscribership of a Masonic Institution took place, which resulted in favour of Bro. Coplestone, who renounced his claim in favour of the lodge, to complete its qualification as a Life Subscriber to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, for which a vote of thanks was passed to him. It was resolved that this ballot should not be counted against any member with regard to future attendances. A vote of sympathy and condolence with the family of the late Bro. W. G. Reynolds, P.M. 1441, whose decease took place on the 12th inst., was passed. The lodge was then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 22nd instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. V. R. J. Longman, W.M.; A. F. Hardymont, S.W.; R. Eddie, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P. G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; J. Amand, S.D.; S. Cload, J.D.; J.

E. Thomas, I.G.; R. Loomes, P.M.; R. P. Upton, P.M.; A. Oliver, P.M.; G. J. Hanson, D. C. Ritchie, A. L. Langton, C. Nicole, E. J. Harrison, C. Smith, C. T. Rayner, F. A. Johnson, C. C. Renaud, A. E. Armfelt, W. Rapley, G. Yexley, G. C. Zander, G. Gregory, P.M.; A. H. Robertson, H. B. Harding, P.M.; and J. T. Hoare.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Ritchie, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Harrison being the candidate. Bro. Hanson then occupied the chair, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Longman being the candidate. Bro. Armfelt was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Hardymont was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 18th inst. Present: Comps. C. Plant, M.E.Z.; J. A. Braik, H.; H. Cornford, J.; R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; T. Grumman, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., S.N.; G. Benedetti, P.Z., P.S.; Hardman, Telling, North, Morgan, Lewis, Dunn, Loader, Higgs, and Cass.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Higgs personating the candidate. Comp. J. A. Braik, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. A most cordial vote of thanks was voted respectively to Comp. Plant, M.E.Z., and Comp. H. Cornford, J., for their admirable working. The chapter will be placed at the disposal of Comp. Telling, M.E.Z. 2182, on Friday, the 9th prox. After "Hearty good wishes" the chapter was closed.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. SHERIFF-ELECT
R. H. ROGERS.

The presentation to Bro. Deputy and Sheriff-Elect R. H. Rogers of his shrieval collar and badge took place at Brewers' Hall, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., in the presence of many inhabitants of the Wards of Cripplegate Within and Without. The badge and chain was designed and manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, Little Britain, E.C.



The Badge consists of a raised and burnished framework, entwined with Acanthus leaves and ornamental filigree; upon this appears in high relief the full coat-of-arms of Mr. Sheriff Rogers. This is richly enamelled in correct heraldic colours, and forms the upper part of Badge. Underneath are two shields bearing the arms of the City Companies of which the Sheriff is a Liveryman; on the left that of the *Loriners*, and on the right the *Spectacle Makers*. The base of the Badge is formed by the arms of the City of London, beautifully enamelled and modelled. The whole Badge is fashioned in 18-carat gold; London hall-marked.

The Chain is composed of 16 ornamental devices, in keeping with the general character of the Badge; in 18-carat gold; London hall-marked. These are very massive, and are connected one with another by two lengths of heavy "curb" pattern chain. Each contains a domed medallion, upon which is painted a miniature representing some important feature in the life of Mr. Sheriff Rogers. The centre link from which the Badge is suspended contains a painting of old "Cripplegate," and, being surrounded by laurel leaves and flanked by cornucopia, forms a device indicative of the prosperity of the Sheriff's Ward. The other subjects depicted are *St. Giles's Church, Cripplegate*; *St. Mary the Virgin, Aldermanbury*; *Bexley Old Church*; the *Guildhall*; the *Guildhall School of Music*; the *Arms of Kent*, the *Irish Society*, and *Coleraine*; a Past Master's emblem of office, beside the Sheriff's initials, the City motto, and arms of Companies already mentioned.

WORTH KNOWING.

"I've wandered much this weary mortal round, and Sage
Experience bids me this declare,"

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, October 3rd, 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 28.**CRAFT LODGES.**

79, Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich.
1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel.
1632, Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1745, Farrington Without, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
1826, Shepherd's Bush, Bush Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

1201, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.**CRAFT LODGE.**

141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.**CRAFT LODGE.**

898, Temperance-in-the-East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
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.
Pannure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
Prosperity, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, at 7.
Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.
Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.
United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30.
United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8.

Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W., at 7.30.
Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.
Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Domestic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross,

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1.**CRAFT LODGES.**

27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel.
45, Strong Man, Guildhall Tavern.
192, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-street Hotel.
227, Ionic, Criterion.
538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
742, Crystal Palace, Crystal Palace.
1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel.
1216, Macdonald, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1425, Hyde Park, The Westbourne.
1707, Eleanor, Great Eastern Hotel.
1790, Old England, Masonic Hall, Thornton Heath.
1950, Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate.
2202, Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant.
2271, St. Pancras, Midland Grand Hotel.
2291, West Ham Abbey, Town Hall, Stratford.
2411, Clarence and Avondale, Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone.
2512, Fulham, Town Hall, Fulham.
2580, Crouch End, Gate House, Highgate.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
174, Sincerity, London Tavern.
1716, All Saints, Vestry Hall, Bow.

MARK LODGE.

211, Earl of Carnarvon, Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
Crescent, King's Head Hotel, Twickenham, at 8.30.
Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30.
Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham.
High Cross, Coach and Horses, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.
Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
Honor Oak, Crystal Palace Tavern, at 8.
Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.
Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.
Langton, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 5.30.
Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.
Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, at 7.
Priory, 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, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.
Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich.
Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.
Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2.**CRAFT LODGES.**

554, Yarborough, London Tavern.
850, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel.
1499, Marquess of Ripon, Cock Tavern.
1627, Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall.
2076, Quatuor Coronati, Freemasons' Hall.
2488, Eccentric, Criterion.
2511, St. John at Hackney, Old Town Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.
Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell-road, at 8.30.
Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 8.
Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.
Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, High-street, Wood Green, at 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-terrace, at 6.
Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.
Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, and 4th Friday, at 7.
Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, 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, OCTOBER 3.**CRAFT LODGES.**

1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tavern.
1622, Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1940, Brixton, Horus Tavern.
2406, Cheerybles, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.

LODGES 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.

THE ARRANGEMENT of the interior of Christ Church, Newgate-street, has been completely altered, and the church was re-opened for Divine service on Sunday last. The Bluecoat boys, who used to occupy the galleries, are now seated in the body of the church.

COMMANDER THE HON. STANLEY COLVILLE, R.N., who was slightly wounded in the wrist in the successful attack that was made on the Dervishes on Saturday last, is a son of Lord Colville of Culross, Chamberlain to the Household of H.R.H. the Princes of Wales.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE arrived at North Berwick on Saturday evening last on a visit to Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and on Sunday was received by Sir Walter and Lady Dalrymple. On Monday his Royal Highness brought his visit to a conclusion.

SUNDAY last was the 42nd anniversary of the Battle of the Alma, and in consequence a large crowd assembled at St. James's Palace to witness the relief of the guard, the 1st Coldstreams being relieved by the 1st Scots Guards. Both these regiments took part in the battle, and consequently their colours were decorated with laurel in commemoration of the victory.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY has arranged to preach in St. Paul's Cathedral at the Festival of the Guild of St. Luke (the Church Guild of the medical profession) on the evening of Wednesday, the 21st October. Members will wear their sashes, and Bro. Lord Mayor Sir W. Wilkin and the Sheriffs have accepted an invitation to attend the Festival in Civic State.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the entry of the Italian troops into Rome was celebrated on Saturday last in the usual manner. The Municipal Council of Rome and a deputation from the army placed wreaths on the tomb of Victor Emmanuel and also on the spot where the breach in the walls was made by the troops under Cadorna. A telegram of thanks and congratulation from King Humbert was read at a meeting of the citizens.

MASONIC SERVICE.—Following a custom which has been observed with varying regularity during recent years, the members of the local Masonic lodges, together with brethren who are visiting in Southport, attended Divine service at Holy Trinity Church, on Sunday afternoon, the 13th inst. The special object of the occasion was the raising, by means of the usual collection, of further funds towards the endowment of a Masonic Cot in the town Infirmary.

SOME TIME AGO the patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was enlisted on behalf of the silk industry in Spitalfields and Bethnal Green, in bringing about a revival of the fashion which prevailed during the last century of wearing silk waistcoats. Recently several samples of these fabrics have been laid before his Royal Highness, who, to the gratification of those anxious to revive the manufacture, has been pleased to order several lengths to be supplied for his use.

RAPID and satisfactory progress is being made with the restoration of Canterbury Cathedral. The work was commenced in the time of Dean Payne Smith, and it will not be long before it is completed. The faces of the columns in the crypt, which have been covered with earth for centuries, are now exposed to view. In the Norman portion of the crypt, the exact spot in which Becket's body was hidden after his murder is indicated by a stone slab in the shape of the original coffin lid.

A BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION has been formed in connection with the Lewisham Lodge of Instruction, No. 2579, to enable members and their friends (ladies and children are eligible), to become Life Subscribers (£5 5s.), or Life Governors (£10 10s.), of any of the Masonic Institutions. It is proposed to commence the Association on the first Wednesday in October, the subscriptions to be 1s. per share per week, and a charge of 1s. per share will be made to cover cost of printing, &c.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES visited Leith Docks on Sunday for the purpose of inspecting the arrangements for the reception of the Emperor and Empress of Russia on their arrival from Copenhagen. There were also present the Earl of Rosebery, the Russian Ambassador, Admiral Lord Walter Kerr (commanding the Channel Fleet), and General Chapman (commanding the forces in Scotland). After a stay of about three-quarters of an hour, his Royal Highness and the Earl of Rosebery drove away together to Dalmeny amid the cheers of the spectators.

THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE DENMAN, lately one of the Judges of the High Court, died at his residence in Cranley Gardens, South Kensington, on Monday, in the 77th year of his age, having been born in Russell-square on the 23rd December, 1819. The deceased was fourth son of the first Lord Denman, who for many years was Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench, and was educated at Repton and Trinity College, Cambridge, graduating as Senior Classic in 1842. He was made Judge in October, 1872, and retired from the Bench in October, 1892.

MONDAY, the 21st instant, was St. Matthew's Day, and in accordance with ancient custom the scholars of Christ's Hospital attended divine service in Christ Church, Newgate-street, the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir W. Wilkin), the Sheriffs, Alderman Halse, Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan (Treasurer of the Hospital), and Bro. Sir John Monckton (Town Clerk) being also present in State. After service, his lordship and the other Civic dignitaries adjourned to the Court Room of Christ's Hospital, where the lists of the Governors of the Royal Hospital were handed to the Lord Mayor, and by him transferred to the Town Clerk for preservation in the Corporation Archives.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg and the Duchess of Connaught, drove to Mar Lodge on the afternoon of the 19th inst. and visited the Princess Louise Duchess of Fife. In the evening Bro. the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P., had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal Family. The same day the funeral of the late Mrs. Thurston took place. The Princess Louise Marchioness of Lorne and General Sir C. Du Plat, on behalf of her Majesty, placed a wreath on the coffin. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Connaught, Princess Christian of Schleswig Holstein, and Princess Henry of Battenberg also sent wreaths, and were represented respectively by Bro. Sir Francis Knollys, Bro. Colonel Egerton, Colonel Gordon, and Colonel Lord William Cecil.

MASONIC GATHERING AT DURHAM.—On Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the invitation of Bro. J. J. Candlish of Shotton Hall, W.M. of the Fawcett Lodge, Seaham Harbour, the members of the lodge, together with their lady friends, had a very enjoyable outing to Durham. Arriving by train early in the afternoon, the party, which numbered nearly 40, had the pleasure of being shown over the Cathedral and Castle, and were highly gratified with all that was seen. After a pleasant walk through the banks and other pleasing environs of the city, the party adjourned to the Rose and Crown Hotel, where they sat down to a bountiful and tempting repast, provided in Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane's well-known style, and which received high commendation from the guests. A very enjoyable evening was subsequently spent until the arrival of train time. Among those present, in addition to the W.M., were Bros. Heslop (Secretary to Bro. Candlish), Emerson, P.M. (Secretary of the lodge), Froud, M.P.W.C., Clark, Young, Fox, Captain Smith, Cockburn, and others.

MASONIC MEETINGS IN DEVONSHIRE.—The Prov. Grand Royal Arch Chapter is to assemble at Freemasons' Hall, Princess-square, Plymouth, on Monday, the 28th inst., at 3 p.m. Comp. W.G. Rogers, Prov. G.H., acting Grand Superintendent, will take the chair. The business is of the usual character transacted at the annual meeting, and the officers for the year will be appointed and invested. There are 28 chapters in Devon, some of which have been at work for over 100 years. The Provincial Priory of Knights Templar is convened for the following day, at 2 p.m., at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, Sir Knight Major G. C. Davie, J.P., Prov. Prior, being in the chair. It is anticipated that renewed interest will be taken in this chivalric Degree now that the Great Priory has been re-formed and the new regulations have been published. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has consented to be the Sovereign of Knight Templary in Great Britain and Ireland, and is Past Grand Master of the Order for Canada. The new lodge at Buckfastleigh is to be consecrated in October. It is to be called the Trinity, and is numbered 2595. There will then be 53 lodges in Devon, which is one of the largest provinces in England. The Prov. Grand Mark Lodge will also assemble next month at Plymouth.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE has arrived at Glenmuick, Ballater, on a visit to Bro. Lord and Lady Glenesk, with whom the Duke and Duchess of York are also staying.

THIS (FRIDAY) evening the Lucknow anniversary dinner of Havelock and Outram's forces and of the original garrison of the Lucknow residency will be held at the Hôtel Métropole.

THE QUEEN has approved of officers who have commanded Volunteer Infantry Brigades and retire after holding their appointments for not less than five years being allowed to wear the uniform of Brigadier-Generals on the retired list.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHARLES OF DENMARK left Sandringham on Wednesday evening, travelling in a sleeping car attached to the train which left Wolferton at 6.45 p.m., and proceeded *via* Peterborough to Ballater, on a visit to the Queen at Balmoral.

THE COURT OF ALDERMEN met for the first time after the holidays on Tuesday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, Bro. Sir W. Wilkin. Among those present was Bro. Sir George Tyler, whose reappearance after his long and severe illness, was heartily greeted.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES did not reach Scotland in time to take part in the reception of the Czar and Czaritsa at Balmoral, but her Royal Highness visited Balmoral on Thursday *en route* to Mar Lodge, where she will make a long visit to Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Fife.

HIS EXCELLENCY, Bro. the Hon. Sir E. Monson, the British Ambassador at Vienna, who has been appointed to succeed the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava at Paris, left London for Vienna on Tuesday, in order to be present at the Hungarian Fetes or Celebrations, which include the Emperor's tour down the Danube.

THE AUSTRALIAN TEAM have arrived in the United States and on Wednesday commenced their first match at Benyon Point against a New Jersey team. The latter were unable to make any stand against the Australian bowling and were quickly got rid of for the small score of 28. The Colonials then went to the wickets.

ON WEDNESDAY, at Clothworkers' Hall, Dr. Phené, President of the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, read a paper before the members on "Old London," in which he described certain relics, supposed to be of an old Roman Temple, which were discovered when clearing the site on which the National Liberal Club stands.

PRINCE EITEL FRITZ, second son of the Emperor of Germany, is still suffering from the effects of the accident he met with some time since, when he was out riding. Professor Junker has lately visited his Imperial Highness at the Castle of Ploen, and in consequence of the Professor's report, the Empress has decided to go to Ploen and nurse her son.

AT A WARDMOTE for the Ward of Farringdon Without, which was held at the Court House, on Tuesday, under the presidency of Bro. Alderman Treloar, Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, M.A., was elected to the seat in the Common Council rendered vacant by the death of his father, the late Bro. Horace Brooks Marshall, J.P., Past G. Treas.

THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN forces under Sir Herbert Kitchener has occupied Dongola after a short and sharp engagement with the Dervishes, the latter taking to their heels very promptly. Numbers, however, were taken prisoners by the cavalry and camel corps, which were sent off in hot pursuit. The gunboats took part in the operations. Half-a-dozen cannon, with grain and other stores, were captured by the Egyptians.

THE CUP presented by the officers of the Household Cavalry Brigade was shot for at the Staines ranges on Wednesday by teams of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards, when, for the fifth year in succession, the 1st Life Guards won with an aggregate total of 805 points. The weapon used was the magazine carbine, with cordite powder, and the distances were 200, 500, and 600 yards—seven shots at each. The boisterous weather very seriously affected the shooting.

AN APPEAL is being made for the remainder of the sum which is necessary to restore the Parish Church of Burnham Thorpe, of which Lord Nelson's father was rector, as a memorial to our greatest admiral. The movement was set on foot in 1830, and of the sum of £6000 which is estimated to be necessary for the purpose, about £4000 has already been subscribed. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is President of the Committee, and subscriptions should be forwarded either to the Rev. J. Lister, rector, or the churchwardens, Burnham Thorpe, King's Lynn.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that the Commissioners of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings will distribute the surplus bedding-out plants in Hyde and Regent's Parks and the Gardens of Hampton Court Palace among the working classes and poor inhabitants of London. Clergymen, members of school committees, and others interested are advised to make early application to the superintendent of the park nearest their respective parishes or to the superintendent of Hampton Court Gardens. The time and manner of distribution will be made known at an early date.

THE SYSTEM inaugurated some time ago by the Great Northern Railway Company enabling agriculturists to send their produce direct to the consumers at greatly reduced rates will be materially helped in its operations by the publication of a list of farmers, market gardeners, and others wishful to open up business of this nature. The Great Northern Railway Company supply copies of this handy book free of charge. The rates, which have been put into operation experimentally on that Company's system, are exceedingly low, and are charged irrespective of distance. Quite a feature of the arrangement, and one that will be welcomed by those participating in it, is that no boxes of a special make are necessary, the Railway Company stipulating only that the packages must be such as will admit of other packages being placed upon them. It is easy to foresee that this plan for reducing the household expenses will prove most acceptable to paterfamilias, &c., and is bound to be extensively patronised.

DEATH OF MRS. W. G. CANNON.—We regret to announce the death, after a long and painful illness, of the wife of Bro. W. G. Cannon, who died on the 14th inst. at the early age of 47. The deceased lady was interred on Saturday last, the 19th inst., in the family grave at Forest Hill Cemetery. The cortege consisted of an open hearse and four carriages, the coffin being nearly hidden by wreaths sent by numerous friends and relations. Among the floral tributes of respect we may mention particularly those sent by the Masonic lodges with which Bro. Cannon is connected, viz., Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, No. 1539, of which Bro. Cannon is senior initiate and senior member, P.M. and Treasurer; the Earl of Lathom Lodge, No. 1922, P.M. and founder, and the Dagmar Lodge, No. 2262, of which he is also P.M. Bro. Major Thornhill, P.M. 1329, also sent a handsome wreath, and others by friends and relations and by the employees of Bro. Cannon's firm. The deceased lady took great interest in Freemasonry and was always most willing to assist her husband in cases of Charity. She was Life Governor to two of the Masonic Charitable Institutions, as were also 13 of their children, the two eldest also being members of the Dagmar Lodge, No. 2262, and one of them founder and I.G. of the Borough Lodge, No. 2589, lately consecrated. Bro. Cannon is Life Governor of the Masonic Institutions, member of three chapters and Past Principal of two, and is well known and respected among South London and provincial brethren.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF RUSSIA reached Balmoral on a visit to Her Majesty the Queen about 8 p.m. on Tuesday. Their Majesties left Copenhagen on board the Imperial yacht Standart on Sunday last about 12.30, and, after a capital passage across the North Sea, arrived in Leith Roads at 9.45 a.m. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught, who, with the Earl of Rosebery, the Russian Ambassador, the Earl of Pembroke, and others, had driven over from Dalmeny some time previously, having inspected the arrangements for the reception of the visitors, embarked on the Tantallon Castle, and made for the Imperial yacht. In a short time the Emperor and Empress, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and his brother, and those accompanying, went on board the Tantallon Castle, and, amid the thunder of the salutes from the Channel Squadron and the Imperial yacht, steamed for the jetty. The weather was anything but agreeable, a drizzling rain falling and the sky being overcast; but the visitors landed amid the cheers of the immense crowds of people who had assembled to give them a welcome, and, after the presentation of sundry addresses, the Imperial and Royal party drove to the railway station, and commenced their journey northwards. Ballater was reached within the stipulated time, and the party entered the carriages and drove to the Castle, where her Majesty met them with a most affectionate welcome. In the evening the Queen's dinner party included the Emperor and Empress of Russia, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Cambridge, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg.