

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 KELLY MEMORIAL FUND.

On the lamented death in 1894 of Bro. WILLIAM KELLY, F.S.A., P. Prov. G. Master and G. Superintendent of Leicestershire and Rutland, steps were at once taken to determine whether any, and, if so, what kind of, memorial should be raised to commemorate the many and valuable services he had rendered to Freemasonry, both generally and in the Province of which he had been a member throughout his whole Masonic career. A special Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 21st November following his death, and it was then and there unanimously decided that a memorial should be raised which should take the form of a Benevolent and Educational Fund and be known as "The Kelly Memorial Fund." A Committee was formed to take the necessary preliminary arrangements for the establishment of this Fund, and in due course a code of bye-laws was framed, which were unanimously approved and adopted at the annual Prov. Grand Lodge held on the 6th November, 1895. At the same meeting it was announced that the promises of support which the Committee had received were very favourable, and Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, P.A.G.D.C. England, Dep. P.G. Master, was appointed to act as Steward in behalf of the Fund, while a grant of £25 from the funds of Prov. Grand Lodge was unanimously voted by way of inaugurating the long list of subscriptions which it is desired to accumulate. In fulfilment of this duty, Bro. PARTRIDGE is now issuing a circular letter to the lodges and brethren in Leicestershire and Rutland with a view to obtaining from them such donations and subscriptions as they may be able and willing to make. In doing this, he refrains from entering minutely into the particulars of our late Bro. KELLY'S services. He is content to speak of him in general terms as having been "one whom all delighted to look upon as the 'Father of Freemasonry'" in the Province of Leicestershire and Rutland, and he rests "his confident expectation that they"—the Masonic bodies and brethren generally throughout the Province—"will liberally contribute to make the Memorial an entire success" on the general tenour of Bro. KELLY'S career rather on any individual act, however brilliant or beneficial to the local Craft, which he may have done. "The untiring devotion and incomparable services of our departed brother," writes Bro. PARTRIDGE in this circular letter, "are too well known to even the youngest amongst us to render any details of his services necessary for the purpose of this communication. His name will continue a household word with

the brethren, and but little is needed to ensure favourable consideration for the Memorial. The objects will, I confidently believe, commend themselves to you, for, while preserving a permanent record of our dear Brother KELLY, we are at the same time instituting a means of exercising what he always strenuously advocated—the active principles of Benevolence and Charity." Bro. PARTRIDGE then proceeds to explain the purposes of the Fund, which are "to supplement the benefits of the great Masonic Charitable Institutions by providing for such relief as these Charities may not be able to deal with promptly. Up to the present time," he adds "the Charity Fund of the Province has sufficed to meet cases coming under its notice, but, having regard to the great increase, locally, in Freemasonry, it cannot be expected that the benefits of that Fund will be adequate to meet future claims, and it is consequently hoped that by the establishment of this Fund much Masonic distress may be alleviated." We trust that Bro. PARTRIDGE'S appeal will meet with the success it deserves, more especially as measures have been adopted to ensure the permanency of the interest which the Leicestershire and Rutland lodges and brethren may exhibit at the outset in the Fund by granting votes at each election held during the year of recipients of the benefits conferred by the Fund to donors and subscribers in proportion to the amount of their subscriptions and donations. Thus a lodge or brother, who contributed five shillings will receive one vote at every such election. A donor of two and a half guineas becomes a Life Subscriber and will receive two votes at each election for life; the donor of five guineas becomes a Life Governor and receives four votes for life; while the donor of 10 guineas is designated a Patron and receives eight votes at each election for life. These arrangements concern individual donors, but lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies obtain the same privileges by paying double, that is to say, five guineas to become Life Subscribers; 10 guineas to become Life Governors; and 20 guineas to become Patrons. Ladies and Lewises who are minors become Patrons and receive eight votes on payment of five guineas and four additional votes in respect of every additional contribution of two and a half guineas. The scheme is an excellent one, and considering what manner of man our late lamented Bro. KELLY was, how able and experienced in every branch of Masonic work, how enthusiastic, in fact, how entirely he was what is commonly designated "the heart and soul" of Freemasonry in Leicestershire and Rutland for a full half-a-century, we have every confidence that when the time comes to confer the benefits of the Fund on some deserving candidates, it will be found that Bro. PARTRIDGE'S appeal has not been made in vain.

FREEMASONRY IN CORNWALL.

It is to be regretted that Bro. the Earl of MOUNT EDGCUMBE, Past Deputy G. Master of England, Prov. G. Master of Cornwall, was unable to be present in his place at the annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., more especially as the cause of his absence was illness. However, his respected Deputy, Bro. Sir CHARLES B. GRAVES-SAWLE, Bart., ably presided in his stead and was in a position to assure the brethren that though their Prov. Grand Master had gone abroad for the benefit of his health, his illness had never been dangerous and he was being rapidly restored to convalescence. This was subsequently confirmed by the Prov. Grand Secretary,

who had received from Bro. Lord MOUNT EDGCUMBE a letter, in which he said he was getting on capitally and should start for home in about a fortnight. The programme of business at the meeting, with the exception of one item, was of the usual character, but the returns from the several executive officers were more than usually satisfactory. The Prov. Grand Treasurer was able to report a balance in hand at the close of the past year of £194 as compared with £146 at the close of the preceding year, while the Prov. Grand Secretary reported an increase in the aggregate membership of the Province which raised that aggregate to 1813, the highest return on record. But while congratulating the lodges on this total, the officer in question—Bro. E. D. ANDERTON, J.G.D. England—and subsequently the Deputy P.G.M. took the opportunity of uttering a salutary caution to the lodges against anything like carelessness as to whom they admitted as members. He pointed out that the fear was by no means groundless, that in their anxiety to add to their numbers, they should admit all who presented themselves for acceptance. It was within their knowledge that the Provincial Grand Master had on several occasions expressed a desire that lodges should be more careful in this respect, and, for our part, we trust the advice will be followed strictly by all the lodges both in the Province of Cornwall, to which, in this instance, it was especially offered, and throughout the country generally. The report of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund must have been exceedingly gratifying to all present, the amount received in contributions from the lodges being £288, as against £244 the year previous, while the interest on investments was £205. The total of the charges on the Fund was returned as amounting to about £300 a year. The report of the Charity Association was equally satisfactory, the amount received during the past year being £212, while the total subscribed during the 11 years the Association had been in existence reached £2971 10s., giving an average per year of £270. Bro. EDYVEAN, as the Charity Representative of the Province, was likewise able to give a good account of his Stewardship. With the assistance of the Cornish Lodge and Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, he had succeeded in carrying the election of their adopted candidate for the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, notwithstanding the untoward fact that the votes which the Province held in respect of this Charity were fewer than in 1893, and to this as well as to the excess of the amount they received from the Benevolent Institution over what they subscribed, Bro. EDYVEAN very properly referred in the further remarks he took occasion to offer. We do not think it necessary or even desirable that too much stress should be laid upon this circumstance. We must not lose sight of the fact that subscriptions to our Institutions are voluntary, and that brethren and bodies of brethren may be ready enough, and yet not possess the means, to give largely. Still, where a Province derives from one of these Institutions benefits which fall but little short of £300 a year, no pains on its part should be spared in order to ensure that in a term of years there is something like an approach to equality between the moneys contributed and the benefits received. It was announced that the memorial window and tablet to the late Bro. CHIRGWIN, Prov. Grand Secretary, in Truro Cathedral, were completed, and care was taken that credit should be given to Bro. S. TREVAIL, "who had designed and carried out the tablet free of any charge for his personal services." But what we have described as the exceptional feature at this meeting was the presentation of plate and his Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter clothing to Bro. E. D. ANDERTON, Prov. G. Secretary, on the occasion of his appointment as a Junior G. Deacon of Grand Lodge, and G. Sword Bearer of Supreme Grand Chapter. Bro. ANDERTON'S services to Freemasonry in the Province of Cornwall, both in the Craft and Royal Arch, have been of a highly meritorious character, and we have before stated that the honours conferred upon him are richly deserved. But the presentation made to him at this meeting must be regarded as the completion of those honours. It may be his lot to receive further testimonials in respect of the further services it may be his good fortune to render. But it will be difficult for him to exceed the measure of merit he has already attained. He has

been a member of our Order for some 40 years, and a few more years of active duty will have the effect of confirming, rather than of enlarging the obligations which Cornwall is under to him. The plate and clothing he received on the 22nd ult. are the outward and visible, and enduring sign of the respect and affection with which he is uniformly regarded by the Masons of Cornwall. That respect and affection has reached its culminating point, and accordingly, we congratulate him on a recognition of his long and well-tryed services, which is only less gratifying to the outside brother who equally admires all who conscientiously fulfil their appointed duties than it must be to Bro. ANDERTON and his friends and associates in Cornish Masonry.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CORNWALL.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at St. John's Hall, Penzance, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. In the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Bro. Sir Charles B. Graves Sawle, B. rt., D.P.G.M., presided. There was a very large attendance. The Prov. Grand Officers present were—
Bros. R. A. Courney, 510, P.S.G.W.; Rev. R. F. Fraser-Frizell, 131 and 699, P.J.G.W.; Rev. G. Durno, 1954, and Rev. H. W. Millett, 893, P.G. Chaplains; G. G. Bullmore, 1528, P.G. Treas.; T. W. Perry, 856, P.G. Reg.; E. D. Anderton, 331, P.G. Sec.; T. D. Deeble, 1071, and J. G. Henwood, 970, P.S.G. Deacons; J. T. Williams, 557, and J. G. Blight, 496, P.J.G. Deacons; R. A. Newcombe, 967, P.G.S. of W.; T. B. Tresise, 1136, P.G.D.C.; B. Parsons, 789, P.D.G.D.C.; G. Timmins, 1006, P.A.G.D.C.; Major W. H. Martyn, 1785, P.G. S.B.; W. R. Evans, 893, and W. M. Roberts, 1164, P.G. Std. Brs.; J. P. Ishell, 977, P.G. Org.; W. R. Rawling, 1071, P.A.G. Sec.; R. R. Alford, 2166, P.G.P.; J. Goodfellow, 1954, P.A.G.P.; W. J. Trythall, 589, J. W. Wilkinson, 450, G. B. Treverton, 330, J. Newland, 1544, N. C. S. Couch, 1151, and W. J. M. Gooding, 75, P.G. Stewards; J. T. Thorne, 1071, P.G. Tyler; and J. C. R. Crews.

Before the opening of the Prov. Grand Lodge,

Bro. Sir CHARLES SAWLE said reports had gone out that the Prov. Grand Master was seriously ill. He was happy to say he could give that an unqualified contradiction. The Earl of Mount Edgcumbe had gone abroad for the benefit of his health, it was true, but he (Sir Charles) had had a letter from him a few days ago, saying that his illness had never been dangerous, and that he was returning convalescent. He (Sir Charles), therefore, had every reason to hope that his lordship would continue to preside over the province for many years. (Loud applause.)

Later on, Bro. ANDERTON read a letter he had received from Bro. Lord Mount Edgcumbe, dated Bad Mannheim, Germany, September 20th. His lordship wrote—

I am sure Sir Charles will kindly express my regret at not being able to attend P.G. Lodge, and assure the brethren I shall be present with them in thought on Tuesday, and have lost no part of my interest in the welfare of Cornish Masonry. I hope you will have fine weather, and am sure that everything will be well done under the genial presidency of Sir Charles. . . I am getting on capitally, and am able to take long walks and don't mind hills. I am glad to say that I shall be able to get away from here this week, but it may be a fortnight more before I start homewards.

Before the business concluded, the following resolution was unanimously passed, on the proposition of Bro. the Rev. FRASER-FRIZELL: "The officers and brethren of the Province of Cornwall, in Provincial Lodge assembled, tender to their esteemed Grand Master their hearty congratulations on the improvement in his health, and thank him for his letter. Whilst venturing to express their regret that he is unavoidably absent from their present gathering, they earnestly trust that the Most High will speedily restore their beloved P.G.M. to health and strength, and that they may soon see him in their midst working for the good of one and all in the province and county."

On the calling of the roll, it appeared that every lodge was represented with the exception of Dunheved.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY said that was a very unusual exception; but Bro. the Rev. T. KENDALL then said he could answer for Dunheved, as he belonged to that lodge.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY also mentioned that apologies had been received from Bros. Hughan, Frank Harvey, Revs. G. Durno and A. H. Ferris, and others.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. G. G. BULLMORE, presented his report, which showed that the balance in hand was £194, against £146 last year.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY'S report showed initiations 152, against 130 last year, and the total number of brethren in the province now was 1813—the largest number on record. The increase on the year was 42.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY, however, said that while they might be pleased at the increase of Masonry, he knew the Prov. Grand Master would wish to impress upon all lodges to carefully consider whom they admitted. There was a fear least some of the lodges were too anxious to add to their numbers and through that anxiety accept everyone who came forward. The Prov. Grand Master had several times expressed his desire that lodges should be more careful whom they admitted into Freemasonry.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER endorsed these remarks.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY mentioned that the memorial window and tablet to Bro. Chirgwin in Truro Cathedral were now complete. They were indebted to Bro. Silvanus Trevail, who had designed and carried out the tablet free of any charge for his personal services. Everyone who had seen it was very pleased with it.

Bro. MILFORD presented the report of the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent Fund. The lodge contributions amounted to £288 8s. 6d., against £244 6s. 6d.; increase, £44 2s. The total was double that of 10 years ago. The interest on investments was £205 17s., and a Cape Bond of £200 was redeemed. The present annual charges on the fund amounted to £300. Bro. Milford added that 20 lodges had during the year increased

their subscriptions, and the total was double what it was 10 years ago when he first became Treasurer of the fund.

At this point the business was suspended, and the Prov. Grand Lodge went in procession to the Parish Church (St. Mary's); the weather was tolerably propitious for the event. Only a slight shower fell, but the wind was very boisterous, and very much tried the banners of the lodges and the brethren who carried them. The Volume of the Sacred Law was, as usual, borne by four "Lewises" before the Prov. Grand Lodge Officers. The service at church was, as is generally the case, much too long for the occasion. The sermon was preached by the Prov. Grand Chaplain, Bro. Rev. W. H. MILLETT. The text was Psalm cxxvii., 1, "Except the Lord build the house their labour is but lost that build it." The idea of building, he said, ran through the Sacred Volume. There were two builders—God was the Master Builder, the Supreme Architect; man was the workman. The temple God had planned and they had to build was "perfect man." God, the Master Builder, would and must co-operate with them, for, except the Lord build the house, they would labour in vain. They must build, too, on the true foundation—the one foundation provided by God, even Jesus Christ. The first stone put on that foundation was faith, and the last Charity.

The brethren having returned to the Hall, Prov. G. Lodge was resumed, and

Bro. BERNARD EDYVEAN, as the Charity Representative to manage the votes of the province for the great Masonic Charities, reported: I cannot but express my thanks for the cordial support which has been rendered by the brethren of the Province during the past year. That the Masonic Institutions have taken a firm hold of the sympathies of Cornish Freemasons is evinced by the fact that whereas in 1890, the province held but 1450 votes, it now possesses an annual income of 4300, thus trebling itself in six years. During the past year I have received from the province 1064 girls, 896 boys, and 2184 benevolent votes, total 4144, an increase of 107 on the previous year. At the Benevolent election in May (kindly assisted by Bro. Hughan and members of the Cornish Lodge) I polled for the province's adopted candidate 4187, which placed him 9th on the successful list. There are at present from this province three girls and four boys in the Masonic Schools. In the Benevolent Institution we have five male and three female annuitants, and although we receive the large amount of £296 per annum from this Institution, our votes have decreased by 39 since 1893. This year we shall have expended no less than \$500 votes, just double our income, and therefore every vote should be utilised in future, and forwarded to me without delay.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY read a letter he had received from Bro. Hughan testifying to the ability, courtesy, and success with which Bro. Edyvean managed the votes of the province in London, and he (Bro. Anderton) knew from what he had heard himself in London that no manager of votes from the province stood higher than Bro. Edyvean. (Applause.)

The DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER enforced the necessity of their raising more money for the general Charities. At present they were receiving considerably more than they gave. He fully endorsed what had been said of Bro. Edyvean's management.

Bro. G. PEARCE presented the report of the Cornwall Masonic Charity Association. The principal contributions were: Liskeard, £30; Hayle, £24; Helston, £18; Redruth, £15; Wadebridge, £15; Falmouth, £12; Millbrook, £12; and Bodmin, £11. There were five non-contributing lodges—two of them in the West of the county, and three in the East. The Western lodges had the advantages this year. The total subscribed during the 11 years of the existence of the fund was £2971 10s., an average of about £270. The total amount received this year was £212.

The Committee of Relief recommended that the following grants be made to Masonic Charities: To C.M.A. and B. Fund, 50 guineas; R.M. I.B. 20 guineas; R.M.I.G., 10 guineas; R.M.B.I., Male Fund, 10 guineas, and the Widows' Fund, 10 guineas; total 100 guineas. Temporary relief had been granted to the extent of £15.

Bro. READ proposed the election of Bro. Blamey as Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bro. Blamey, he said, was a very active and useful member of the Craft, both at Penryn and Falmouth.

Bro. W. K. BAKER said, as they had the privilege of electing this Provincial Grand Officer, there was no reason why they should accept the first nomination put before them. He should propose Bro. Small, of Mount Sinai Lodge.

A vote was taken, and resulted as follows: Small, 69; Blamey, 65. Bro. Small was, therefore, elected, and he returned thanks for what, he said, was a very unexpected honour.

A presentation of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter regalia and plate was made to Bro. Anderton, in recognition of his great services to the province. The silver salver bore the following inscription:

"This tea tray, together with a tea service and Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter regalia, was presented by the Right Hon. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. Grand Master and Grand Superintendent, on behalf of the brethren of the Province of Cornwall, Provincial Grand Lodge, 1896, to W. Bro. Edward Dixon Anderton, P.M. 331, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec., and P.Z. 331, P.P.G.J., Prov. G. Scribe E., on his being appointed to the office of J.G. Deacon in the Grand Lodge of England and Grand Sword Bearer in the Grand Chapter of England, as a mark of their appreciation and esteem for his long and valued services for the good of the province, and with their hearty fraternal greetings and congratulations."

Bro. CREWS said, having acted as the Secretary of the Committee for subscriptions, he asked Sir Charles, on behalf of the subscribers, to make the presentation in open lodge. The proposal had met with the very greatest success, and though the maximum amount of the individual subscriptions was 5s., no less a sum than £93 had been subscribed. This showed to some extent the esteem in which Bro. Anderton was held throughout the province.

Bro. Sir CHARLES SAWLE then made the presentation, and whilst regretting the absence of the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, said he felt it a privilege on his own part to make the presentation to so distinguished a member of Grand Lodge. (Cheers.) He wished Bro. Anderton every prosperity, and long might he continue to hold his present position in the Provincial Grand Lodge. (Applause.)

Bro. W. J. Hughan, who wrote regretting inability to be present, added: "I regret my non-attendance all the more because I shall not be able to take part with the other subscribers in greeting Bro. Anderton, to whom the presentation is to be made. I consider no one has ever better deserved Grand regalia and plate, and it is a great delight for me to note how widespread and popular is the presentation. I wish Bro. Anderton may live long to enjoy the satisfaction of us all, and may God richly bless him and his."

Bro. ANDERTON, received with cheers, briefly but effectively returned thanks for the presentation, and added that what he had done for the Province of Cornwall had been a labour of love. (Cheers.)

The following were invested with Past rank: Bros. Dr. Hammond, 510, P.P.J.G.W.; J. C. R. Crews, 131, P.P.S.G.D.; and W. E. Marchant, 893, P.P.J.G.D.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year having been appointed, the following resolution, as proposed by Bro. E. D. ANDERTON, J.G.D. Eng., Prov. G. Sec., and duly seconded, was unanimously agreed to, namely, that—

"The Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall desires to express its confidence in the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, as to the removal of the School, feeling that the members will do what is best for the true interest of the Institution and for Freemasonry."

A luncheon was afterwards held and the usual toasts proposed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WORCESTER-SHIRE.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 23rd ultimo, in the Public Hall, Worcester, under the auspices of the Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 529, and the presidency of Bro. A. F. Godson, M.A., M.P., P.G.D. Eng., P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Master. There was a large attendance of brethren.

Among those present were, besides the Prov. Grand Master, Bros. Lieut.-Col. W. Ottley, P.P.G.D.C., D.P.G.M.; A. Green, P.G.P. England; W. Waldron, P.P.S.G.W.; T. R. Arter, P.G. Treas.; T. E. Lucy, P.S. G.W.; T. F. Higgs, P.J.G.W.; the Rev. A. G. Maitland, P.P.G.C.; the Rev. W. J. Down, P.P.G.C.; G. R. Godson, W. T. Page, W. Thomas, F. H. Pinkett, James Jones, W. Wood, G. R. Buttery, H. M. Jackson, W. Dorsett, A. Pearson, F. W. Knott, W. E. Williams, J. Siddaway, R. Rhodes, B. Eppworth, J. Round, E. Stevens, E. Collins, J. E. Green, F. G. Russell, A. A. Frazer, W. S. Shepley, E. W. Smith, J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B. England, Sec. R.M.I.B.; J. Mason, the Rev. C. Black, J. S. Woods, F. H. Lingham, R. S. Blundell, A. Mytton, D. A. Martin, and H. Clark.

A Craft lodge was opened by the W.M. of the Semper Fidelis Lodge, after which the Prov. Grand Master and Prov. Grand Officers entered the lodge, and were received with the customary honours, which were acknowledged by the P.G.M.

The muster roll was called, which showed that 180 brethren were present.

The Prov. Acting G. Secretary, Bro. PAGE, reported that the returns for the year showed that there were 589 brethren in the province, being an increase of 43 as compared with the previous year. There had been 53 initiations, 25 joinings, and 35 resignations.

The report was considered satisfactory. The Worshipful Masters of the various lodges submitted reports of the respective lodges, all of which were considered to be satisfactory.

The financial statement submitted of the Benevolence Fund for the past three years showed that the total receipts were £218 9s. 9d., and the disbursements £114 13s. 5d.

The P.G.M. said the report was satisfactory. The report was adopted.

On the proposition of Bro. WALDRON, Bro. A. B. Rowe was elected Prov. Grand Treasurer, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the retiring Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. T. Arter, the P.G.M. paying him a high compliment for the pleasing manner in which he had performed the duties.

The report of the Charity and Benevolent Committee showed that the total amount of subscriptions to the fund for the past year was £653, and a hope was expressed that each brother in the province would deem it his duty to subscribe.

Bro. Page was unanimously re-elected Secretary to the Charity Committee.

Bro. T. R. ARTER reported that £166 4s. 6d. had been subscribed to the fund raised by the Lechmere Memorial Committee.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said it was originally intended that a memorial should be erected to the late Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Sir Edmund Lechmere, but a difficulty had arisen. The scheme for placing the memorial in the Cathedral had been abandoned, and it had been decided to subscribe to the Charities. He proposed that 25 guineas be voted from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge towards a Lechmere memorial donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER said he should like to see the sum raised to 50 guineas, but it was pointed out that the sum could not be increased without notice, and the Prov. Grand Master's proposition was carried.

It was resolved that £20 per annum be subscribed from the Prov. G. Lodge funds to the Library and Museum Committee, who should be authorised to enter into an arrangement with the Worcester Masonic Buildings Company, Limited, for the use of suitable premises for the care of the library and museum.

The Provincial Grand Master appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. T. R. Arter, 2034	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" G. H. Williamson, 529	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. G. F. Hough, 280, 529	...	...	...	Prov. Chap.
" Rev. C. J. Sneath, 2034	...	...	...	Prov. A.G. Chap.
" A. Pearson, 573	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" B. Rowe, 280	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. T. Page, 529	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" Walter Wood, 554	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Sharnan Wood, 280	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" H. Marley, 2385	...	...	...	Prov. S.G. of W.
" J. Attwood, 564	...	...	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" W. D. Richardson, 498	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" E. Collins, 560	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" James Jones, 252	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. C. Box, 529	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.

Bro. J. Millington, 529	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" T. Eden, 377	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" G. A. Veil	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" J. E. Hogg	...	...
" R. E. Harlow	...	...
" Frank Weldon	...	...
" A. Usher	...	...
" T. G. Chaplin	...	...

It was resolved to hold next Prov. Grand Lodge meeting at Moseley, under the banner of the Masefield Lodge.

The Prov. G. Chap., Bro. the Rev. G. F. HOUGH, vicar of Holy Trinity (Worcester), delivered an address, in which he congratulated the members of the Semper Fidelis Lodge upon celebrating its jubilee. He said Freemasonry had divine authority for its existence, and it was gratifying to him that it was flourishing, not only in the provinces, but throughout England, and, in fact, the world. He afterwards dealt with the objects of Freemasonry, and said it was a Brotherhood which helped them to prepare themselves for the brotherhood of heaven.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Bro. the Earl of Lathom, the Prov. Grand Masters and Deputy Prov. Grand Masters of Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Gloucestershire, and Monmouthshire, Bro. E. Letchworth (G. Sec. England), and Bro. W. E. Walker. A collection was made on behalf of the Masonic Charities, amounting to £10, after which Prov. G. Lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Shire Hall, where a banquet was provided, the Prov. G. Master presiding.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen," Bro. GODSON, M.P., said our beloved Queen was at present entertaining a very distinguished visitor, and there was no doubt that during the next few days questions of momentous importance would be dealt with. The Queen had great influence throughout the world, and their earnest wish was that her Majesty would be successful in maintaining peace in all parts of the world. Freemasons were a non-political body, and their great desire was for peace. He was sure that during the next few days the prayer of the Masonic brethren would go up to the Great Architect of the Universe for peace to be upheld and good fellowship to be maintained. The Prince of Wales (the Grand Master of England) had always interested himself in the cause of peace.

The PROV. SENIOR GRAND WARDEN proposed "The Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Bro. A. F. Godson," and referred to the splendid services he had for years rendered on behalf of Masonry in the Province of Worcester.

In responding, the PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER referred to the able assistance rendered him by the officers, making special reference to the services rendered by Bro. Page, the acting Secretary.

The other toasts were "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master," "The Visitors," "The Worshipful Master and Brethren of the Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 529," "The Masonic Charities," and "The Provincial Grand Stewards."

The toasts were interspersed with songs and recitations, and the proceedings throughout were of a very enjoyable character.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF S. WALES (E.D.)

A meeting of the Eastern Division of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Albert Hall, Swansea, on Thursday, the 24th ult., the hall having been specially decorated for the occasion. The lodge was opened by Bro. Lord Llangattock, Prov. G. Master, who was supported on the dais by a number of distinguished brethren, including Bros. M. Tennant, Deputy Prov. G.M.; the venerable Dr. Hall, F. Bradford (Mayor), Col. C. Lyne, Prov. G.M. Monmouthshire; J. McLeod, P.P.G.W. Derbyshire, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; T. Matthews, W. C. Peace, J. Cooper, and J. R. Davies, the Chaplains, and others. Bro. Lord Llangattock was escorted into the lodge by a long procession of Present and Past Prov. Grand Officers, and business began shortly before three o'clock in the afternoon. The roll of lodges was called and there was a good response from the brethren.

Bro. TENNANT proposed the adoption of the report.

On the motion of Bro. Dr. HALL, the Prov. Grand Treasurer's account was adopted; together with a vote of thanks to Bro. W. H. Lewis for his valuable services in the past year.

On the motion of Bro. W. H. LEWIS, seconded by Bro. J. R. DAVIES, the lodge confirmed the election of Bro. J. Lindley Smith as the new Treasurer.

The Prov. G. Master then proceeded to appoint his officers as follows:

Bro. N. M. Grose, P.M. 1573	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. T. Hogg, P.M. 1992	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. W. Williams	...	...	} Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. J. T. Wordsworth	...	...
" J. Lindley Smith, W.M. 237	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Lewis N. Williams, W.M. 679	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Walter Whittington, P.M. 364	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" G. H. Bedford, W.M. 960	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" C. H. Priestley, W.M. 36	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" George Palmer, W.M. 364	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" H. W. Goldsworthy, W.M. 2382	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Firbank King, P.M. 1578	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" D. Richards, W.M. 1573	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" E. Traherne, W.M. 1573	...	...	} Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Chris. J. Wearn, P.M. 1897	...	...
" D. Rowland Harris, W.M. 651	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Rees T. Heine, W.M. 651	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" T. P. Kernan, W.M. 1992	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" C. T. Evans, P.M. 2382	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" William Jones, 1752	...	...
" George Butterfield, 237	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bros. Lord LLANGATTOCK next presented a jewel to Bro. J. H. Taylor for his valuable services as Steward for the Masonic Educational and Widows' Fund, and expressed a hope that he would continue his valuable help to the Institution.

Bro. TAYLOR suitably responded.

Bro. Lord LLANGATTOCK then moved a cordial vote of thanks to the brethren of Swansea for the warm welcome given that day.

In the evening a grand banquet was given at the Royal Hotel. Among the brethren were a large number of Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers.

There was very little business of public interest transacted. It was decided that a sum of 100 guineas should be devoted to the Masonic Charities; and in aid of the local charities a collection was made among the brethren present, and as a result a sum of £8 was handed to the local lodge for division among the various charitable institutions of the town.

The dining hall was most handsomely decorated, and the tables very artistically laid out. Bro. Lord Langattock presided, and he was supported by Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, his Worship the Mayor of Swansea, and a number of Prov. Grand Officers. Mr. and Mrs. Tunbridge really excelled themselves in the catering arrangements, and all the guests spoke most enthusiastically of the way in which the repast was served.

The toasts were as follows: "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. the Grand Master," "The Pro Grand Master and Officers of Grand Lodge," "The Right Wor. Provincial Grand Master," "The Masonic Charities," "The W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge," "The Visitors," and "The Worshipful Masters of the several Lodges of the Province."

Musical selections were given during the evening by Mr. W. F. Hulley's string band, and the following took part in the harmony: Bros. J. T. Davies, A. Davies, W. Lloyd, W. E. Treharne, E. G. Protheroe, G. Palmer, Fred. Lewis, H. A. Alabaster, and W. Evans.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

The above Provincial Grand Chapter was held at Boston on Thursday, the 24th ult. Comp. Sissons presided as Grand Superintendent, and appointed his officers as follows:

Comp. T. Slater	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" Mossop	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" Vickers	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Kinby	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" James	...	...	...	Prov. G.P. Soj.
" R. M. Anderson	...	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" Carter	...	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" F. J. Sowby	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. L. Rayner	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Sale	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Haslam	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" W. H. Gane	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" G. H. Gregory	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Downer	...	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF NORTH WALES.

At Carnarvon on Thursday, the 24th ult., the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held and largely attended, under the presidency of Comp. Col. the Hon. W. E. Sackville West, Grand Superintendent. There were also present Comps. J. G. Tuxford, P.G.S.E.; W. C. Logan, P.G.S.N.; D. Cameron, P.G. Treas.; W. Morgan, P.G. Reg.; R. Owen, P.G. Soj.; D. W. Davies, P.G.S.B.; W. Morgan, P.G. Org.; H. J. Roberts, P.A.G. Sec.; J. W. Fenwick, P.G. Janitor; W. Mackenzie Williams, R. L. Jones, J. Hughes, Nathaniel Bunnell, J. W. Best, E. W. Kirby, R. D. Jones, G. F. Jackson, W. H. Wright, W. Lloyd Griffith, C. Rowland, P.P.A.G.S.; J. Williams, P.P.G.O.; R. G. Thomas, P.P.A.G.S.; J. Lloyd Griffith, P.P.G. Reg.; R. J. Davids, J. Daniels, R. W. Newton, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Cornelius Davies, P.Z.; W. C. Whiskin, P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Rees, P.Z.; R. James, W. Jones Morris, and others.

The Provincial Grand Chapter having been opened, statements were submitted by the Provincial Grand Treasurer, Audit Committee, and General Committee, and they were all adopted. Resolutions were passed upon the reading of communications touching the business of the province, and a vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Comp. R. Jones, a Prov. Grand Officer. It was announced that the next Provincial Grand Chapter would be held at Bangor.

The officers for the year were appointed as follows:

Comp. Col. Platt	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" Rev. Thomas Edwards	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" J. G. Tuxford	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Cornelius Davies	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Dr. Grey Edwards	...	...	...	Prov. G. Rer.
" A. E. Davison	...	...	...	Prov. G. Soj.
" Whiskin	...	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" Major Best	...	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" Langford Jones	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" A. Jones Roberts	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Tomlin	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Mackenzie Williams	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. G. H. Bromwich	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Kirby	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" J. W. Fenwick	...	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

At the close of the Provincial Grand Chapter a banquet was held at the Royal Sportsman Hotel, where a numerous company sat down to the excellent catering of Bro. Armstrong. The same day a convocation of the St. grontium Chapter was held, when Bros. Tom Armstrong and George Frederick Jackson were exalted.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Mark Lodge was held on Friday, the 25th ult. in the Freemasons' Hall, Fisher-street, Carlisle, under the banner of Cumberland Lodge, No. 60. The W. Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, presided, in the absence of the R.W. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P. After the usual routine business the following officers were appointed and invested :

- Bro. C. J. Nanson, 60 ... Prov. S.G.W.
J. O. Scott, 151 ... Prov. J.G.W.
W. Hodgson, 452 ... Prov. G.M.O.
J. F. Hope, 452 ... Prov. S.G.O.
J. P. Bennet, 229 ... Prov. J.G.O.
Rev. H. D. Rawnsley, 452 ... Prov. G. Chap.
G. Dalrymple, 213 ... Prov. G. Treas.
J. B. Thwaites, 462 ... Prov. G. R. of M.
J. Clifton Thompson, 282 ... Prov. G. Sec.
J. Bouch, 282 ... Prov. S.G.D.
J. Iveson, 151 ... Prov. J.G.D.
J. Gibson, 452 ... Prov. G.I. of Wks.
J. Wilkinson, 452 ... Prov. G.D.C.
J. M. Clark, 213 ... Prov. A.G.D.C.
H. S. Wilson, 452 ... Prov. G.S.B.
G. Brooker, 452 ... Prov. G. Std. Br.
G. A. L. Skerry, 282 ... Prov. G. Org.
J. Menelly, 282 ... Prov. G.I.G.
G. Johnston, 151 ...
J. Muncaster, 421 ...
Jos. Walker, 213 ... } Prov. G. Stwds.
Isaac Parker, 421 ...
T. Morant Compton, 60 ... Prov. G. Tyler.

On the motion of Bro. the Rev. Canon RAWNSLEY, seconded by Bro. T. A. ARGLES, P.G.D., the following resolution was passed, to be forwarded to her Majesty the Queen, at Balmoral :

"The Mark Master Masons of the Province of Cumberland and Westmorland, duly assembled, in the Freemasons' Hall, Carlisle, send to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen their humble congratulations on the fact that the Great Overseer of the Universe has granted to Her Majesty a greater length of days of rule than has been granted to any other English Monarch, and pray that she may be long spared to reign over her loyal subjects in peace and prosperity.—Frederick Robertson Sewell, Colonel, Worshipful Deputy Provincial Grand Master."

After the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to the County Hotel, where the usual banquet was served.

A NEW HOME FOR KEIGHLEY FREEMASONRY.

A memorial-stone was laid on Saturday afternoon, the 26th ult., with due ceremonial, in the lodge room of the new Masonic Hall, now in course of erection in Cooke-street, Keighley. The premises, which are to cost about £2500, give accommodation for a large lodge room and ante rooms on the top floor; a billiard room, conversation, news, and smoke rooms, &c., on the first floor; a suite of three offices on the ground floor; and here and on the basement apartments for the curator.

The brethren of the Royal Yorkshire Lodge, No. 265, assembled at the Masonic Rooms, Hanover-street, and, after the opening of the lodge, a procession was formed to the site.

On arrival, after a short service, Bro. Alderman F. Binns presented mallet and trowel to the Worshipful Master to lay the memorial-stone, Bro. GREEN reading the inscriptions to be recorded on them.

Bro. ROPER then requested the Worshipful Master to lay the memorial-stone, which was raised under the direction of the Superintendent of Works.

The SECRETARY read the inscription which the stone will subsequently bear, and after the Treasurer had deposited a phial in the cavity, the Worshipful Master discharged his duties in full Masonic order, the choir, led by Bro. A. Sharp, P.M., singing an appropriate ode.

At the close of the Worshipful Master's address, the brethren sang "Hail! Masonry Sublime," and after being photographed returned to the lodge rooms, where a banquet took place.

Bro. J. W. Monckman, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., assisted in arranging the order of proceedings.

INTERESTING EXTRACT FROM AN "OLD MASONIAN'S" LETTER TO THE SECRETARY R.M.I.B.

"St. George's Villas,
Green Point, Cape Town,
September 2nd, 1896.

"Dear Sir and Brother,

"I may preface my letter by saying that I am an Old Masonian who left the School in 1879 (Midsummer). My brother you may perhaps know by name; at least, he is Prov. Grand Secretary Essex, and has been a Steward for the Boys' School on several occasions. My interest in the School is as fresh as ever, and I have taken an active part out here in promoting the Masonic Education Fund of South Africa, and have the honour to represent the individual subscribers of the Lodge de Goede Hoop (the oldest lodge in South Africa) on the General Committee. On several occasions, when visiting other lodges, I have been able to refer with pride and gratitude to the benefits received at the School, and frequently advocate Masonic education in the Masonic column of the Cape Times, of which I have charge.

"All this is very egotistical, but, knowing the interest you take in the School, I thought these facts might not be out of place. It has pleased me greatly to hear of the proposed removal of the School to less crowded quarters. When I was at Wood Green the School was surrounded by fields, and many a lovely walk I have had in the country around. Now the builder has changed all this, it is quite time that something was done. I am delighted to hear of the great improvements effected both in the instruction as well as the general management of the School."

FREEMASONRY IN WIESBADEN.

NEW HALL OF THE PLATO LODGE.

With great dignity and pomp the new Masonic Temple in Friedrich Strasse has been inaugurated by the W.M. of the Plato Lodge, Bro. Kullmann, in a manner that penetrated the brethren with a high sense of feeling. At 12 o'clock noon the brethren assembled in the new hall to the number of some 200, from all parts of North and South Germany. The Prov. Grand Master of Frankfurt, Darmstadt, and Bayreuth were also present. With solemn music on the grand organ the members marched in with the three pillars enriched with gold, and the W.M. consecrated them. The ceremony over, a cantata by B. Mozart was sung and played by a fine band of brethren outside the lodge.

Then followed many speeches by the foreign brethren on the subjects of Masonic art. Bros. WILHELM KUHE, P.G.O., and L. LEHMEGER represented the English lodges and spoke of the brotherhood of all countries.

The W.M. of the Hohenzollern Lodge spoke of virtue and truth in Masonry and life.

The lodge was then closed, and a banquet in the magnificent hall finished the ceremony.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

ST. LUKE'S LODGE, No. 144.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, when there were present Bros. Thomas, W.M.; Smith, S.W.; Ingram, J.W.; Carlstrom, Preceptor; Stutfield, Sec.; Marriott-Matthews, S.D.; Royle, J.D.; Weller, I.G.; Bradley, P.M.; Foyers, P.M.; Holland, P.M.; Wall, P.M.; Beauchamp, Cottis, Hayward, Sellick, Tuckfield, Shott, Markland, and Rayner.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Beauchamp being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. invested his officers. Bro. Thomas gave the three addresses. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Markland and Sellick being the candidates. Bro. Smith was elected W.M. for the next meeting. After the third rising, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE, No. 1425.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 28th ultimo, at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne Terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., when there were present Bros. J. S. Hayes, W.M. 1425, W.M.; B. Cox, S.W. 1425, S.W.; H. Campbell, W.M. 742, J.W.; W. J. Ferguson, P.M. 177, Deputy Preceptor; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, Sec.; J. Spinks, S.D. 1425, S.D.; E. Lewis, J.D. 1425, J.D.; A. Colman, I.G. 1425, I.G.; G. E. Harris, Stwd.; J. Hutchins, P.M. 1425; G. D. Mogford, W.M. 2362; T. Middleweek, P.M.; A. Leclair, J. D. Hood, W. Smith, J. Chubb, W. H. Handover, H. Harris, and S. Maune. Bro. Ben Cox was a visitor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the officers of the mother lodge having taken their respective offices, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Campbell being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Harris being the candidate. After the usual preliminaries, the lodge was opened in the Third Degree and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Chubb being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Cox was elected a member and acknowledged the compliment. The W.M. rose for the second and third times, and communications were read from Mrs. Peter Gowland, thanking the brethren for their sympathy in her great trouble; also from Bro. McLeod, Sec. of the R.M.I.B., and from Mrs. W. G. Reynolds. "Hearty good wishes" were accorded, and the lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 29th ultimo, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. A. F. Hardymont, W. M.; E. J. Harrison, S.W.; J. Amand, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S. Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; S. Cload, S.D.; C. Smith, J.D.; C. Nicole, I.G.; A. L. Langton, A. Oldrey, R. P. Upton, P.M.; V. R. J. Longman, E. T. Mantle, W. Goring, Oliver, P.M.; G. Yexley, G. J. Hanson, A. E. Armfelt, F. H. Johnson, C. Isler, W. F. Roberts, G. Popham, Edmunds, P.M.; and H. B. Harding, P.M.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Johnson being the candidate. The Traditional History was given. Bro. W. F. Roberts was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Harrison was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. An Audit Committee was elected, and the lodge was then closed.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE, No. 1922.

The usual meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, on Wednesday, the 23rd, ult. Present: Bros. R. E. Lane, W.M.; F. W. Trotter, S.W.; W. H. Bathurst, J.W.; J. Andrews, P.M., Preceptor; C. Plant, W.M. 101, Deputy Preceptor; Hy. Cornford, Sec.; W. E. Groom, S.D.; Burton, J.D.; R. W. Cartwright, J. W. Chapman, C. H. Sisman, G. C. Hurley Lambert, H. Buckeridge, C. J. S. Ware, W. Hill, T. T. Harris, M. W. Harris, Carpenter, and T. R. Cass, P.M. 1320.

The minutes of the previous weekly meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Buckeridge being the candidate. Bro. R. E. Lane vacated the chair in favour of Bro. C. L. Plant, Deputy Preceptor, who rehearsed the installation ceremony, Bro. Buckeridge being installed, who afterwards invested his officers in a very able manner. The lodge was regularly closed to the First Degree. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. C. L. Plant for the excellent rendering of the installation ceremony, and the same to be recorded on the minutes. Bro. Plant suitably replied, thanking the brethren for such hearty support, and specially to the esteemed Bro. H. Cornford, Sec., who was most assiduous. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Cambridge, S.E., on Friday, the 25th ult. Present: Comps. Braik, M.E.Z.; Cornford, H.; Curet, n, P.Z., J.; T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; North, P.Z., S.N.; Lewis, P.S.; Beecroft, Meierhoff, Telling, W. H. Drinkwater, Wade, Higgs, Elgar, and J. J. White.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Drinkwater personating the candidate. Comp. W. H. Drinkwater, 140, was elected a joining member. Comp. H. Cornford, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. The sum of two guineas was voted from the chapter funds to be placed upon Comp. Dr. Cock's list as Chairman of the Peckham Pension Society in October. The chapter was then closed.

BRO. SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN, who has been staying at Cronberg on a visit to the Empress Frederick of Germany, is expected to return very shortly to England.

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Grand Patroness:

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Subscribers of this Institution will be held in the LARGE HALL, of the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, on THURSDAY, 8th October, 1896, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the General Business of the Institution, and to elect 10 Girls into the School from a list of 27 approved Candidates (Marian Radford, No. 10 on the List, having since died). The election will commence at One o'clock, or after the usual business is over, and close at Three o'clock precisely.

5, Freemasons' Hall, F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
1st October, 1896.

The 100th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will take place in MAY, 1897, under distinguished presidency. Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited to send in their names to the Secretary as early as convenient, Stewards being very greatly needed.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR BOYS.

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

GRAND PATRON:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Subscribers will be held in the LARGE HALL, FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on FRIDAY, the 9th day of OCTOBER, 1896, for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To receive a report from the Board of Management as to steps taken in reference to the acquisition of a Site for the New School.

To elect Fourteen Boys, from an approved list of Forty-four Candidates.

The chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

The Ballot for the Election of Boys will be open at One o'clock, or so soon as the General Business of the Court shall have terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By order.

6, Freemasons' Hall, J. R. McLEOD, Secretary.
London, W.C.,
1st October, 1896.

***The ninety-ninth ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on 30th JUNE, 1897, under the distinguished Presidency of LORD HENRY CAVENTISH BENTINCK, M.P., R.W. Prov. G.M. of Cumberland and Westmoreland. The services of Brethren representing Lodges or Provinces, and of Ladies as Stewards, are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION

FOR GIRLS.

The W.M. and members of Lodge Virtue and Honour, No. 494, earnestly solicit the favour of your votes and interest on behalf of

MARGARET LOVELESS,

whose father, Bro. S. G. LOVELESS, was initiated in the above lodge in 1874. He was twice W.M., and was P.G. J.D. of Devonshire. He died in July, 1895, leaving a widow (who is, unfortunately, in a Lunatic Asylum) and ten children unprovided for. The Board of Benevolence granted the family the sum of £75 in November, 1895, and the Devon Committee of Petitions the sum of £15, and the case is strongly recommended by many influential brethren.

A. P. REECE,

Heyop House, Axminster,

Secretary 494.

P.S.—Votes for the Institution for Boys will be equally serviceable.

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INCOME AND FUNDS (1894).

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



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

There will be the usual amount of excitement in Freemasons' Tavern next week, when the autumnal School elections will take place in the great hall of that well-known hostelry. The Girls' School election will be held at the regular Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers on Thursday, the 8th instant, and that of the Boys' School at the Quarterly Court on the day following, the hour of 12 noon having been fixed on both occasions for the chair to be taken and the proceedings to commence.

For the earlier of these elections there is no very serious disproportion between the number of vacancies and the number of candidates, there being 19 of the former and 27 of the latter. As we pointed out in the article we published about three weeks since, London furnishes directly five of these candidates, and is in part responsible for five others, while the remaining 17 hail from the Provinces and Stations Abroad. All are new candidates, that is, have had their cases approved, and their names placed on the list since the election in April, with the exception of Nos. 1 to 5, both inclusive, who have stood one or more previous elections, and bring forward the votes they then received. There are also three whose names will be removed altogether from the list in the event of their failing to win places on Thursday next.

* * *

The boy candidates, however, are less fortunately situated, there being as many as 44 and only 14 vacancies to be competed for. Of the whole number 20 remain over from the election in April and the other 24 have had their names placed on the list since. London is responsible absolutely for 18 and in part for a 19th, the remaining 25 being wholly dependent for their support on the Provinces and Districts Abroad. Of the senior candidates there are as many as eight who bring forward upwards of 1000 votes, while two of these eight have upwards of 2000, or within 200 or 300 of the lowest successful boy at the last election. Four of the total number have only this one chance of success available; if they are returned unsuccessful, their names will be removed from the list.

* * *

But we trust that in the case of neither the Girls nor the Boys who are thus circumstanced, will there be any such removals save on the ground that they have been elected to fill vacancies in the Schools for which they are respectively candidates. The three last cases on the Girls' list are Nos. 1 (Hants and the Isle of Wight), 15 (Surrey and London) and 28 (Warwickshire). The four on the Boys' List are Nos. 2 (London), 6 (Oxfordshire), 13 (Somersetshire and Wiltshire), and 30 (London). Accordingly, we appeal, as in all previous similar cases for many years past, most earnestly to those Governors and Subscribers who are not interested in, or have not as yet promised their support and influence to any particular case, to do what they can in behalf of the candidature of these seven children; and we do this on the ground we have always stated, that the claims of these girls and boys to the benefits of our Scholastic Institutions have been approved by the authorities. None of the other candidates will lose their chances of being ultimately elected if they fail next week, but the seven we have enumerated must win vacancies at these elections or be rejected altogether.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland will be held under the auspices of the Knights of Malta Lodge, No. 50, Hinckley, on Thursday next, the 8th inst. Business will commence at 3.45 p.m., and, in the course of the proceedings, the Special Report of the Board of Management on the proposed removal of the Boys' School will be considered, and if it should be thought necessary, a resolution thereon will be passed. The full report for the past year of the Leicestershire and Rutland Masonic Charity Association will also be considered, and no doubt some reference will be made to the "Kelly Memorial Fund," the preliminary measures for the establishment of which have been already taken, and towards which subscriptions are now being most earnestly invited. When the business is over, a banquet will be held at the George Hotel at 5.15 p.m., tickets for dinner and dessert being 6s. each.

* * *

The proceedings of the annual meeting, at Worcester, on the 23rd ult., of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire, appear to have been eminently satisfactory. Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, presided, and there was a full attendance of the brethren. The reports of the several executive officers left nothing to be desired. There was a small increase in the number of subscribing members, while Bro. T. R. Arter, Prov. Grand Treasurer, was in a position to show a very considerable balance in favour of Provincial Grand Lodge, and a cordial vote of thanks was passed to that officer for his services, the Prov. Grand Master laying particular stress on the pleasing manner in which Bro. Arter had discharged his duties, and still further emphasising this compliment

by subsequently appointing him to the chair of Prov. Senior Grand Warden.

* * *

We are pleased also to note that the Province has been doing good work during the past year. The Report of the Charity and Benevolent Committee showed that the total of the subscriptions during the past year amounted to £653, and Bro. Arter announced that £166 had been subscribed to the Lechmere Memorial Fund. On the motion of the Prov. Grand Master, a sum of 25 guineas was voted from the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge towards a Lechmere Memorial donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. It is also gratifying to know that the proposal to vote £20 per annum to the Library and Museum Committee with full authority to the said body to enter into arrangements with the Worcester Masonic Buildings Committee for the accommodation of the Library and Museum in suitable premises was agreed to unanimously. We heartily congratulate the Province, its respected chief, and our Worcestershire brethren generally on the success of the past year, and trust that future years may prove at least as successful as that which has just run its course.

* * *

It will be seen from the report of the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cornwall, which appears elsewhere in our columns, and also from a letter we have been requested to publish, that the Provinces of Cornwall and Kent are prepared to support any well-matured scheme which the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys may consider it its duty to formulate in respect of the proposed removal of the School. To be more explicit, the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall at its recent annual meeting unanimously adopted a resolution of confidence that the said Board would do what it deemed best for the Institution in this matter and most advantageous to Freemasonry; while the Charity Committee of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Kent adopted a somewhat similar resolution, at the same time requesting Bro. Russell, Prov. G. Treas., who is a member of the Board, to give effect to such resolution by supporting any reasonable and proper proposal for the removal. We are very glad these resolutions have been passed as they will have the effect of strengthening the hands of the Board in the very serious business it has undertaken.

* * *

On the other hand, we are informed that the Charity Committee of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire is opposed to the removal, but we have yet to learn the grounds of its opposition.

* * *

We publish also, in another part of our columns, a highly interesting extract from a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Boys' School by an "Old Masonian" resident in South Africa. From this it appears that some at all events of our "Old Masonians" rapidly develop into "young Masons," who take a deep and active interest in all that relates to the Charities of the Order. This particular Masonian, who bears the respected name of the Secretary of one of our home Prov. Grand Lodges, retains a sincere love for his *alma mater*, and, having left school in 1879, can well remember when it stood in an open country, which has since been for the most part covered with bricks and mortar by a legion of jerry-builders. This evidence, having regard to the quarter from which it comes, is not without its value.

* * *

The present has been a busy week in the Provinces. On Wednesday were held the annual meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Cheshire and West Lancashire, and on Thursday that of Warwickshire. It is on the cards, therefore, that next week we shall be in a position to publish accounts of the proceedings at some, if not at all, these gatherings.

* * *

We notice, with regret, in the "Editorial Notes" of the *Indian Masonic Review*—and from what is stated in one of them, the regret applies equally to the *Indian Freemason*—that matters of ritual are made the subject of remark in its columns. The remarks are, to a certain extent, veiled, the initial letters of the words being printed, instead of the complete words. But the custom of thus referring to matters which are intended to be kept hidden from the public, is greatly to be deprecated, and we trust our contemporaries will find some more discreet way of discussing their differences, or informing their correspondents as to what this or that means, or what they should or should not do, at certain times and under certain conditions.

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.

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am desired by the Provincial Grand Secretary of the Province of Kent to forward to you a copy of Resolution which was unanimously passed at a meeting of the Charities of the Province, held at Ashford, on Friday, 18th inst.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

30th September.

J. M. McLEOD.

"The Charity Committee of the Province of Kent having read and considered the statement issued by the Board of Management of the R.M.I. for Boys, desire to accord its heartiest support to the proposed removal of the School to a more healthy site, and to a building more in accordance with modern requirements, and capable of extension at a future date, at moderate cost, it calls upon its representative on the Board (Bro. W. Russell) to give its full support to resolutions calculated to further these important objects."

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

A meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 29th instant, of the brethren appointed by the Leeds lodges to consider various questions connected with the London Charities, the following proposition was carried:

"That this Committee, consisting of three brethren from each of the nine Leeds lodges hear with regret that it is proposed to dispose of the freehold of the Boys' School and erect new premises, involving a large additional capital expenditure; and consider that such a step should not be taken without first ascertaining the views of the Governors and Subscribers by means of voting papers."

We should be glad if you would kindly give publicity to this in your next issue.—We are, yours faithfully and fraternally,

RICH. WILSON, P.M. 289, P.P.G.W., Chairman.
W. W. CLAYTON, P.M. 1311, Hon. Sec.

September 30th.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1087

From the description of Bro. J. T. Thorp, I am of opinion that the book mentioned is the same as Batty Langley's "Builders' Compleat Assistant." The fourth edition is not dated, but is in two volumes, 8vo. I should like to know if the book is for sale, and, if so, the price?

HENRY LOVEGROVE, G.S.B.

Herne Hill, S.E.

Craft Masonry.

Lion Lodge, No. 312.

The regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Whitby, on Monday, the 21st ultimo, when there were present Bros. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, P.P.G.C., W.M.; J. Stevenson, P.M.; Middleton Smith, P.M.; R. Gray, S.W.; R. Harrowing, J.W.; J. N. Lawson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; Burton Newbold, Sec.; R. W. White, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., acting S.D.; T. Taylor, J.D.; H. S. Horne, I.G.; T. Allon, D.C.; H. A. Spiegelhalter and G. K. Meares, Stwds.; and many others.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. L. Frazer and J. Seymour were duly passed. During the evening, Bro. R. W. White, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., was re-elected a representative to serve on the Masonic Charities Association for the Province of North and East Yorks for the ensuing year. The following presentations were made to the lodge—From the W.M., a framed lithograph and key of the picture in the Grand Lodge of Scotland entitled "The Inauguration of Robert Burns as Poet-Laureate of the Lodge Canongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh, 1st March, 1787." From Bro. G. Dickson, M.D., W.M. of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel), No. 1, S.C., a photograph of Robert Burns' Masonic apron; a photo of Burns' "Clarinda," photographed from the original in possession of the Poet at the time of his decease; a photo of the oldest minute of the Lodge of Edinburgh, dated July, 1599, and "believed to be the oldest lodge minute known"; and a photo of the lodge and brethren of Mary's Chapel, No. 1, S.C. From Bro. Wm. S. Hunter, Master of Temple, Societas Rosicruciana in Scotia, a photo of an old plate in St. Mark's Lodge, Glasgow, and a copy of the "Rosicross," being the first vol. part I. of the Transactions of Societas Rosicruciana in Scotia. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the above brethren for their valuable gifts. A full account was given by the W.M. of his recent visit to Edinburgh to view the Hall of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and also the Canongate Kilwinning Lodge, which he was enabled to see through the personal kindness of the R.W.M., Bro. R. Bathgate, and the I.P.M., Bro. G. Crawford.

The brethren separated after a very successful and enjoyable evening.

Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 529.

The above lodge, under whose banner the Provincial Grand Lodge was held this year, celebrated its jubilee on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. The lodge is the younger of the two Worcester lodges, and was consecrated at the Reindeer Hotel, then also known as the Freemasons' Tavern, in September, 1846. In 1846 the lodge moved to the Crown Hotel, and in 1887 to the Masonic Hall, in High-street, and it is expected early next year to make another move to the new Masonic Hall now being built in St. Nicholas-street. The lodge has been continually prosperous, and is one of the strongest numerically in the province. A Royal Arch chapter, founded in 1890, though the youngest chapter in the province, is numerically the strongest.

The brethren of the lodge thought the occasion of the jubilee a fitting opportunity to invite the Provincial Grand Lodge to meet under their banner, and on the 22nd ult. invited the other members of the older Worcester Lodge, No. 280, and the Malvern Lodge, No. 1204, and a number of Prov. Grand Officers and officers of lodges in the province to a conversazione at the Guildhall.

The gathering was well attended, amongst those present being the Prov. G.M., Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., and Mrs. Godson. The hall was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants. Supper was served in the Council Chamber, and the old Council Chamber was used as a smoke room.

In the assembly room a musical programme was performed, including orchestral selections by Mr. Austin's band, songs by Mrs. Glover Eaton and Mr. D'Arcy de Ferrars, and a violin solo by Mr. J. W. Austin.

Dancing took place subsequently, and the evening proved most successful and enjoyable.

Weyside Lodge, No. 1395.

An emergency meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Woking, on Tuesday, the 22nd ultimo, when there were present Bros. A. H. Bowles, P.P.G.D., W.M.; W. E. Robinson, I.P.M.; R. Mossop, S.W.; F. E. Pearse, J.W.; the Rev. J. H. Robson, Chaplain; G. H. White, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Treas.; C. T. Tyler, P.M., Prov. G. Sec., Sec.; R. Stileman, J.D.; S. Boorman, I.G.; Major F. A. Bowles, P.M., D.D.G.M. Punjab; A. W. R. Sowman, P.M.; S. C. Knight, P.M.; Ralph Nevill, P.M.; E. G. Baker, P.M. 476; Captain Munro, G. T. Bowyer, F. R. Russell, J. H. M. Clier, and C. J. Scott. Visitors: Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. Grand Master; J. T. Tomlinson, S.D. 2317; S. G. Kirchoffer, P.D.G.D.C.; J. H. Wohlymouth, P.P.G.D. Middx.; G. B. Smallpiece, P.M. 370; and C. F. Passmore, P.M. 2317.

The lodge having been opened by the W.M., Bro. A. H. Bowles, who is serving a second term of office, having originally filled the chair so long ago as 1883, the special business for which the lodge had been convened was proceeded with. The items on the agenda comprised two initiations and a raising. Viscount Cranley (son of the Prov. G. Master) and Mr. Henry Hostache Phipps were the candidates for initiation, and the ceremony of their admission into the Society was performed with singular impressiveness by the W.M. and officers of the lodge. The charge to the initiates was delivered with great power by Bro. Major F. A. Bowles, Royal Artillery, P.M., who was warmly greeted on his return from military service in India by the brethren of the lodge. The lodge was then opened successively in the Second and Third Degrees, and Bro. Francis Rutherford Russell, having previously given proof of his efficiency as a Craftsman, was raised to the Degree of a Master Mason by the W.M. with an ability which was the theme of general remark.

The brethren, about 24 in number, afterwards dined together.

Kensington Lodge, No. 1767.

The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, on Saturday, the 19th ultimo, when there were present Bros. J. H. Neville, W.M.; A. J. Turner, S.W.; J. J. Rumbal, J.W.; J. W. Barker, P.M., Treas.; G. Read, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; J. W. Facey, S.D.; F. A. Norman, J.D.; R. H. Williams, P.M., D.C.; F. Miller, A.D.C.; F. J. Oliver, P.M., Org.; A. Talbot, I.G.; W. Clapp and L. Beale, Stwds.; A. Norman, P.M.; J. Wiggins, P.M.; J. J. Mackay, P.M.; W. B. Neville, P.M.; C. C. Hatt, P.M.; W. Dresden, P.M.; J. W. Wakeham, R. H. Meyer, R. Bidgood, J. Chinn, Dr. Whitlock, R. Hendy, J. A. Battersby, J. Ortner, M. Moss, C. Ortner, W. B. Jennis, J. Smith, and others. Visitors: Bros. Alderman B. E. Blazby, P.M. 2032; H. Lynn, M.L.S.B., P.M. 217; Captain R. H. Grey, P.M. 858; the Rev. G. S. Flack, 1615; the Rev. C. J. Smith, 2157; J. R. Roberts, P.M. 2335; R. E. H. Goffin, P.M. 1572; G. N. Watts, P.M. 194; Jubal Webb, P.M. 55; W. J. Mason, P.M. 1328; J. K. Gwyer, P.M. 1426; F. L. Chandler, P.M. 1656; A. Williams, P.M. 834; W. Hillier, P.M. 1366; J. W. Morley, P.M. 189; H. F. Foale, P.M. 1381; T. W. Blott, P.M. 742; G. Paxton, 742; A. S. Fowles, 1668; W. Herring, 2416; M. Phillips, 2365; H. Jones, 1642; T. Simpson, 2157; H. Stoke, 834; and L. F. Dury, 180.

The lodge having been opened by Bro. J. H. Neville, W.M., the proceedings commenced with the raising of Bro. Saunders and the passing of Bro. Nelder, both of which ceremonies were performed by the W.M. in a most able and impressive manner. Bro. A. J. Turner, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, and the beautiful ceremony was performed according to ancient custom. The newly-installed Worshipful Master invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. H. Neville, I.P.M.; J. J. Rumbal, S.W.; J. W. Facey, J.W.; J. W. Barker, P.M., Treas.; G. Read, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; F. A. Norman, S.D.; A. Talbot, J.D.; F. Miller, I.G.; R. H. Williams, P.M., D.C.; F. J. Oliver, P.M., Org.; W. Clapp, A.D.C.; and L. Beale and J. H. Byrne, Stwds. The W.M. then proceeded to initiate Mr. S. M. Jones, the ceremony and charge, which were listened to with marked attention, being rendered with great effect. Bros. F. D. Head and W. S. Thwaites having been unanimously elected as joining members, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted.

"Hearty good wishes" were then given for a happy and prosperous year of office, and the lodge was closed.

Bro. A. J. Turner, W.M., presided at the banquet, which was attended by over 70 brethren.

After doing justice to the good things provided, the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," said that in a palace within a stone's throw of the place in which they were then assembled their beloved Sovereign was born, and during her long reign—which in a few days would be the longest reign recorded in English history—she had been a model wife, mother, and Queen. Her Majesty, like the Craft, was ever ready to sympathise with the fatherless and widow, and to help those in poverty and distress, and while they continued to have monarchs like her Majesty to reign over them, the first toast at Masonic dinners would always be the King or the Queen and the Craft.

In giving the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. referred to the enormous work done by Grand Lodge for the Craft generally, and also for the great Masonic Charities. The Grand Officers were brethren who had rendered distinguished services to the Craft, and although many of them belonged to different races, and different creeds, yet they were working together to bring about that bond of brotherhood throughout the world which all Freemasons so much desired. The toast was coupled with the name of Bro. George Read, P.G. St. Br., who expressed his pleasure at the cordial way the toast had been received. The Grand Lodge did a grand work, and the Grand Officers were always glad to know that their services were acknowledged and appreciated.

Bro. J. H. Neville, I.P.M., proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and referred to the great interest Bro. Turner had always taken in Freemasonry. He was a thoroughly kind, genial man, and a good worker, and he was sure that they all wished him a happy and successful year of office.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and in reply, the Worshipful Master expressed his sincere thanks for the flattering manner in which his name had been received. He had hoped for some years past that he might become W.M. of his mother lodge, and he was highly pleased that his hopes had been realised. He assured them that he would do his very best to maintain the high position the lodge held for good work and fraternal affection, and he trusted that when the time came for him to hand over the warrant of the lodge to his successor, he might feel as he did then, that he had the good feeling and good wishes of every brother in the lodge.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," and alluded to the excellent manner he had carried out his duties during the past year. He concluded by presenting to him a handsome Past Master's jewel, which had been unanimously voted by the lodge.

The I.P.M., who was received with loud applause, returned thanks for the kind remarks of the W.M. and for the splendid jewel which had been presented to him.

In proposing the toast of "The Initiate," the W.M. remarked that their newly-made brother was now not only entitled to many and great privileges, but that his position as a Mason brought with it certain responsibilities. The first lesson a young Mason had to learn was that of unselfishness, and the brother who practised that virtue was bound to take a high position in the Craft. They all gave Bro. Jones a cordial welcome into the Kensington Lodge, and they trusted he already felt that he had joined a Society of men who were willing to act with him as brothers.

Bro. Jones thanked the brethren for having elected him a member of the lodge, and he assured them that he should do his utmost to act up to those principles which had been so forcibly impressed upon him in the lodge.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," said that the lodge was always delighted to welcome visitors, and he was particularly proud to see so many present at his installation meeting. Much was to be gained by visiting other lodges, for they then had an opportunity of observing little varieties of work, cementing old friendships, and making new friends.

The following brethren responded in eloquent terms, expressing pleasure at the work that had been done in the lodge, and at the enjoyment they had experienced at the after meeting: Bros. Alderman Blazby, P.M.; H. Lynn, M.L.S.B., P.M.; R. E. H. Goffin, P.M.; G. N. Watts, P.M.; Jubal Webb, P.M.; J. Mason, P.M.; and W. Hillier, P.M.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was next proposed by the W.M., who said that those two officers reminded him of the two great pillars which stood at the porchway entrance to King Solomon's Temple, for Bro. Barker, in having control of the £ s. d., denoted "in strength," while Bro. George Read, as a founder and first W.M., denoted "to establish," and when two brethren were conjoined in directing the affairs of the lodge it meant "stability," for they all knew that in strength those two worthy brethren had established that lodge, and they all hoped that it would stand firm for ever.

The toasts of "The Past Masters" and "The Officers" were duly honoured and responded to.

The Tyler's toast concluded a most successful and enjoyable evening. Some excellent music was given during the evening. Miss Greta Williams sang "The voice of the father," for which she received an encore, and then sang "Kathleen Mavourneen." Songs were also given by Bros. C. Ortnor, J. Ortnor, F. J. Oliver, and J. J. Mackay, all of which were received with great applause.

St. Osyth's Priory Lodge, No. 2063.

The 13th installation festival took place in the Town Hall Buildings, Clacton-on-Sea (by special dispensation from the Prov. Grand Master), on Friday, the 18th ultimo, when Bro. R. T. Stebbings, P.M. 1685, was installed in the chair of K.S. There were present on the occasion Bro. A. Swann, W.M.; A. K. Chamberlaine, I.P.M.; R. T. Stebbings, S.W.; D. Mackenzie, J.W.; E. Frayling, Sec.; C. V. Harman, S.D.; F. G. Warren, J.D.; C. A. Brasted, I.G.; F. C. Noble, O.G.; Frank Chapman and J. W. Franks, Stewards; R. Pollard, Tyler; J. Ferry, P.G.S.B. England, Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. Boulton, G.P. England; R. Pitt, P.P.G.S.B.; W. M. Foxcroft, P.M.; J. P. Allen, P.M.; W. F. Reed, P.M.; R. W. Hunter, P.M. 1685; R. Ayton, P.M. 933; R. D. Poppleton, P.M. 433; W. Bacon, P.M. 433; W. G. Lowe, P.M. 2348; J. W. Dixon, 27; R. Outtewed, 1024; W. H. Ham, 2477; C. H. Mitchell, 2184; E. J. Martin, 1056; W. Goring, 1471; T. Ivory, 697; Trefelyn David, 1929; E. J. Pearson, 1507; T. W. Howard, 12; P. J. Green, E. Mills, C. H. Mann, W. Schofield, H. Eldred, S. G. C. Wallis, Rev. G. B. Fenwick, 1557; and H. E. Sutton, 1799.

The lodge was opened, and, after the usual preliminary business, the ceremony of installation was ably performed by Bro. J. Boulton, G.P. England, assisted by Bros. J. Terry, P.G.S.B. England, Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. P. Allen, P.M.; and W. M. Foxcroft, P.M. After the customary addresses, which were most impressively given, the W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. Swann, I.P.M.; D. Mackenzie, S.W.; C. V. Harman, J.W.; Rev. G. B. Fenwick, M.A., Chap.; J. Pullen, Treas.; E. Frayling, Sec.; F. G. Warren, S.D.; C. A. Brasted, J.D.; F. Chapman, I.G.; W. M. Foxcroft, D.C.; F. C. Noble, Org.; J. W. Franks and E. Mills, Stewards; and F. Quilter, P.M. 51, Tyler. The W.M., on behalf of the lodge, then presented Bro. A. Swann with a handsome Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the able manner in which he had performed the duties of his office during the past year. Bro. R. T. Stebbings was again elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee. The following brethren were elected as joining members of the lodge: Bros. Rev. G. B. Fenwick, M.A., 1557, and H. E. Sutton, 1799. Bro. Stebbings also had the pleasure of initiating his old friend, Mr. H. A. Atkinson, which ceremony was most efficiently performed.

After the closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to the Royal Hotel, where a splendid banquet had been provided.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly honoured, an excellent programme of music was gone through by Miss Theresa G. Kellaway and the following professional brethren: Bros. Harry Bluff, W. Goring, and Trefelyn David, and Mr. H. T. Baynton (with a splendid cello solo)—who very kindly gave their services for the occasion—assisted by Bros. C. A. Brasted, J. W. Franks, and J. W. Martin, who amused the company with some of his excellent recitations. Bro. F. C. Noble presided at the piano in his usual masterly manner.

Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, and we trust Bro. Stebbings may have a successful year of office.

Abbey Lodge, No. 2120.

A meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Chertsey, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., when there were present Bros. J. Webb, W.M.; C. Welch, P.G. Supt. of Wks., as I.P.M.; F. Harper, P.G.S., S.W.; W. Brooks, J.W.; H. C. Leigh Bennett, P.P.S.G.W., Treas.; H. J. Bidwell, P.P.G.D.C., Sec.; the Rev. E. R. Parr, P.P.G. Chap.; A. McCormick, S.D.; A. G. Hutchings, J.D.; H. G. Nesmyth, I.G.; C. Head, D.C.; J. F. Baily, Org.; R. J. Hunt and E. Squire, Stwds.; G. J. Mason, Tyler; A. W. Crewdson, P.M., P.G.S.; E. T. Madeley, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Dix, P.M.; J. Hunt, Binns, Bradbury, Martin, Reed, E. A. Brown, Bates, and White. Visitors: Bros. J. B. S. Lancaster, 2317, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Budd, 2521; E. Head; and W. Smith, 1681.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. H. E. White was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M. in an impressive manner. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and, all business being ended, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards sat down to dinner, provided by Bro. G. J. Mason in his usual excellent manner.

At the conclusion of the dinner, the toast list was proceeded with. The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," mentioned that that day the Queen would have occupied the throne for a longer period than any other ruler of the Empire.

The toast was received with acclamation, and the brethren all sang "God save the Queen."

The W.M. next proposed "The M.W.G. Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales." In submitting the toast of "The R.W.P.G.M., the Earl of Onslow," the W.M. said he hoped the lodge would be visited by the Prov. Grand Master on some future occasion.

"The Deputy Prov. G.M. and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," was responded to by Bros. Welch, P.G. Supt. Wks.; Crewdson, P.G.S.; and Harper, P.G.S.

Bro. H. Leigh Bennett, P.P.S.G.W., proposed the toast of "The W.M.," who, he said, had taken every office with credit to himself and satisfaction to the lodge.

The W.M., on rising to respond, was enthusiastically received. He thanked Bro. Bennett for the very kind things he had said of him, and was sorry his year of office was drawing to a close. He had been fortunate in having plenty of work to do, and hoped to have two initiates at the next meeting. He would always do his best to keep up the prestige of the lodge, as he had done in the past.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Visitors," remarking they were always pleased to receive visitors at the Abbey Lodge. They had several visitors that night, and he would ask Bros. Lancaster, P.M. 2317; Budd, 2521; Head, and Smith to respond.

Bro. Lancaster, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to visit the brethren and also to see the working of the lodge.

Bros. Budd, Head, and Smith also responded.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Past Masters," said no lodge could have better Past Masters than the Abbey Lodge, they were always punctual in their attendance and were always ready to assist the brethren in the lodge, and also at the lodge of instruction.

Bros. Madeley, P.M., and W. Dix responded, saying they would always do their best to assist the brethren in any way they could.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was given by Bro. Rev. E. R. Parr, Chap., in a very able speech, mentioning that Bro. Bennett, the Treasurer, was the first Master of the lodge and was the connecting link between the St. George and the Abbey Lodges; he also spoke in most flattering terms of his sterling qualities as a Mason, he was very pleased that night to see the portrait of their excellent Treasurer placed on the walls of the lodge banqueting hall, and hoped he would long be spared to be amongst them. The duties of Secretary were ably carried out by Bro. Bidwell, who had done so much towards making the lodge the prosperous one it now was.

The Treasurer, in responding, thanked Bro. Parr, for his very kind remarks and also the brethren for presenting the portrait, and said he should always do his best for the Abbey Lodge in the future as in the past.

The portrait is the work of Bro. Bates, a member of the lodge.

The Secretary, in response, said the success of the lodge was due to the great unanimity and concord that prevailed amongst its members, and so long as that con-

tinued it would still go on and prosper; he would always use his best endeavours to keep the lodge up to its present standard.

The Worshipful Master next gave the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," observing that no W.M. could get on with the ceremonies unless assisted by good officers.

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

Some excellent songs were given during the evening by Bros. Baily, Squire, White, Harper, Welch, Head, and Bates.

Royal Victoria Jubilee Lodge, No. 2184.

Bro. C. Jolly, P.M. 1472 and late W.M. of the above flourishing lodge, finished a most harmonious and successful year of office as W.M. on Thursday, the 24th ult., by installing his successor into the chair of K.S. in faultless style, and in the presence of a most distinguished body of Masons, both brethren of the lodge and visitors from London and the province generally.

The lodge, which is held at the Phoenix Hotel, Rainham, was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. John Thornton Jones and Robert Crawford, and it proved unanimous in their favour. Bro. Peterson was then passed and Bro. Tulley raised by the W.M., who then proceeded to the ceremony of installation and installed Bro. Carlton, sen., S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge, in which position the new Master was duly proclaimed and saluted. He then invested his officers as follows: Bros. Joseph Cohen, S.W.; C. H. Mitchell, J.W.; C. H. Canning, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; C. Jolly, P.M., Sec.; J. Millin, S.D.; W. H. Catt, J.D. (by proxy); G. F. Penny, I.G.; J. W. Joyce, D.C.; R. J. Mitchell, Org.; W. Harvey, P.M.; S. H. Brocklehurst, C. W. Millington, E. J. Couves, W. S. Penny, and F. H. Penny, Stwds.; and J. Ives, Tyler. The installing Officer then gave the addresses in his most eloquent and impressive manner, and so concluded a ceremony which, for its perfectness and solemnity, has seldom been surpassed. The new W.M. commenced his reign by initiating Mr. Crawford in excellent style. He was then elected to serve on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee as lodge representative. The balance-sheet and Auditors' report were received and adopted. Bro. Jolly was accorded a vote of thanks, the same to be inscribed on the minutes of the lodge, for his services as Installing Officer. He was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, of the value of 10 guineas, as a mark of the esteem of the brethren, and for his valuable services to the lodge during his year of office, and also with a Past Secretary's jewel, of the value of five guineas, for his services as Secretary during the five years previous to his Mastership, the latter jewel being specially designed, and much admired.

Bro. Jolly returned his earnest thanks for these several gifts, and, after several propositions for initiation had been received, the lodge was closed.

The banquet was served in Bro. Joyce's best manner; was *recherché* in character, and was much enjoyed, and we may here say that the catering of Bro. Joyce has been so excellent at both the Royal Victoria Jubilee Lodge and Chapter banquets, that his imminent removal to Romford is much regretted by the brethren and companions.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. F. J. Eedle, P.M., P.G.S. of W.; Easton; T. J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51, P.A.G.D.C. England, P.G. Sec.; Trask, P.M. 2372, P.P.G.S. of W.; Middlehurst, P.M. 2372, P.P.G.S.B.; Smith, P.M. 933; Ware, P.M. 1076; Stebbins, P.M. 2063; W. Beecroft, P.M. 1158, W.M. 2442; Taylor, J.W. 45; A. E. Kipps, J.D. 1275; Harris, I.G. 1695; Chapman, 2063; Watkins, 933; Pavit, 860; Cunningham, 1343; Jarvis, 12; Eastern, 1607; W. Welch, 1327; W. Spines, 2294; Berry, 45; Hoakes, Org. 861; and others.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen and the Craft," the W.M. alluded in graceful terms to the long and happy reign of the Most Gracious Majesty, who had just completed the longest reign of any monarch who had ever ruled over England, and, amid enthusiastic cheers, wished her many years yet to reign over a united and prosperous nation.

The toast was drunk in bumpers.

The toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Order," was also drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. Ralling, whose name was coupled with that of "The M.W. Pro G. Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom; the R.W.D.G.M., the Right Hon. Earl Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," in responding, said it was a consolation to hear from their W.M. that the speeches were to be brief, but the toast was a most important one. When some years ago their then Grand Master, Lord Ripon, went over to the Church of Rome, it was said that Masonry would decline, but when his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales came to the throne of Masonry, the Order, under his rule, progressed in a remarkable manner, and the reflux of the progress went throughout the whole Kingdom, and especially in the Province of Essex, where the number of lodges had doubled under their esteemed P.G.M. and during his reign. In their Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master they had two most excellent Masons; their Deputy Grand Master was Prov. Grand Master of their neighbouring province, the Province of Kent, and Bro. Jolly, who was a Kent Mason as well as an Essex Mason, could tell them that Earl Amherst was not only a grand Mason, but of the immense strides Masonry had taken in the Province of Kent under his rule. As for himself, he felt proud of being an officer of the Grand Lodge of England, and was also proud of his position in their province. If possible, he should have been at four different places that day, but as he could not cut himself up into quarters, and had such a pressing invitation to be present he accepted it and came. He was exceedingly glad to be present and hear Bro. Jolly finish the installation ceremony in such an excellent manner, and regretted not being present at its commencement. He was glad also to see the way in which their new W.M. initiated the candidate and the good work of the officers, it showed that there was "grit" in the lodge, and was an augury of its continued prosperity.

The toast of "The R.W. Prov. G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick," was drunk with rounds of applause, and Bro. Eedle, in response to that of "The V.W. D.P.G.M., his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Reg., and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," said he felt greatly honoured in being coupled with, and selected to respond to such an important toast. He felt it a very great honour and a grand thing to be a Grand Officer of such a province as that of the Province of Essex. The position was one that had raised him to the summit of his Masonic ambition, and when he received the collar of his office he felt that he was one of the happiest men in the world, and there were a "jolly" lot more like him.

Bro. Ralling then proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and after wishing Bro. Carlton a pleasant and successful year of office, referred to the consecration of the lodge during the jubilee year of her Majesty's reign, and now they were that year celebrating the longest reign of any sovereign that ever reigned in England. During that reign what wonderful progress had been made in science and art, and he trusted it would continue to be one of prosperity, and one that would for ever be celebrated as the reign of her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

Bro. Carlton briefly returned thanks. He said it would be his aim to continue the good work done by his predecessors, and heartily thanked them for the toast.

The next toast was that of "The Installing Officer," and in giving it, the W.M. spoke highly of the splendid working of Bro. Jolly, averring that he had never seen the ceremony surpassed or equalled.

Bro. Jolly returned thanks feelingly, and thanked the brethren not only for the hearty reception of the toast, but for their universal kindness and courtesy to him during his year of office. He also thanked them for the two beautiful jewels presented him that day by the brethren of the lodge, and assured them that if he had deserved their thanks in the past, he would endeavour to still further deserve them in the future.

Bro. Canning responded for "The Past Masters," "The Visitors," "Officers," "Masonic Charities," and Tyler's toast, concluded the proceedings, which were most harmonious and agreeable.

The musical portion of the programme was in the hands of Bro. Tom Taylor, Bro. Kipps presided at the piano, and Bros. Spencer, Noakes, Tom Taylor, and J. J. Berry contributed some grand singing.

St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Thorne, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult. Present: Bro. G. Kenyon, W.M.; Constable, acting I.P.M.; I. Barber, S.W.; H. A. Fenton, J.W.; B. Maskill, Treas.; G. Eland, S.D.; W. P. Robotham, Org.; E. Simpson, I.G.; I. J. Smith and W. I. Chambers, Stwds.; F. Pine, Tyler; F. Tomlinson, W. Hallgarth, R. Brown, G. E. Hardcastle, and A. L. Peace. Bro. Constable gave an explanation of the second tracing board. The following unanimous elections took place: Bros. I. Barber, W.M.; B. Maskill, Treas.; and Bro. F. Pine, Tyler.

The brethren afterwards partook of refreshment.

Chough Lodge, No. 2264.

The installation meeting of this musical lodge was held at the City Terminus Hotel, on the 24th ult., when Bro. Wm. Close Smith, W.M., presided over some 50 brethren. He was supported by all his officers, besides Past Masters Bros. Walter B. Marcus, G. J. Judge, J. W. Dewsnap, and George Scott Miller; and by the following visitors: Bros. H. Jenkins, P.M. 860; F. Denning, 1772; H. T. Gurney, S.W. 1048; F. J. East, 11; W. J. Carroll, 1227; E. W. Mackney, P.M. 134; Charles H. A. Harris, P.M. 1599; C. R. Higgins, J.W. 1076; F. J. Holdsworth, 1538; James Dickson, P.M. 1572; F. Henry Sharp, 1; C. F. Hodge, J.W. 2020; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; W. Hayden, P.M. 2603; E. Horton, 1435; A. Tite, 558; J. Levy, P.M. 205; Thomas W. Chant, 2128; Charles A. Revell, 869; John Henry Edwards, 945; Ernest J. Tiley, P.M. 1237; Edward White, P.M. 177; E. Durrant, S.W. 1704; C. Gompertz, P.M. 869; Charles G. Marcus, W.M. 1590; H. Lewis Thomas, 1962; B. F. Foian, 27; John Culver, P.M. 1839; G. R. Hoare, P.M. 1314; Joseph Powell, I.G. 1950; W. Robins, P.M. 25; W. T. Jay, 1614; H. Woods, P.M. 1309; and A. W. Larcome, P.M. 3.

The work before the lodge was heavy, but the arrangements were so admirably carried out that the hours for each item of business were strictly adhered to, and the banquet took place at the time fixed by the summons—seven p.m. The W.M. initiated five gentlemen—Messrs. H. Wardle, William John R. Willson, Walter Willson, H. A. Milner, and H. F. Joel—and afterwards installed Bro. James Frederick Percival, S.W. and W.M. elect (who was presented by Bro. Walter Martin, P.M.) as Master of the lodge for the ensuing year. Bro. W. C. Smith received the collar of I.P.M., and the officers chosen to support the Master were Bros. W. V. Jull, S.W.; H. Saqui, J.W.; George Scott Miller, P.M., Treas.; Walter S. Miller, S.D.; M. J. Almond, J.D.; Arthur Strugnell, I.G.; Alfred Haynes, D.C.; Turle Lee, Org.; C. Frölich and C. Marco, Stewards; and Thomas Bowler, Tyler.

After the transaction of some other business, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet.

The toasts were admirably disposed of, and no time was wasted.

There was a lovely selection of music performed by most able artists, in the persons of Bros. Miles Mole, J. Mullerhausen, Arthur Strugnell and Gae, under the direction of Bro. Turle Lee, the Organist of the lodge, and everything was done to bring about the complete success which the meeting proved to be.

The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W. Grand Master," and "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," were disposed of in a few minutes.

Bro. William Close Smith, I.P.M., in proposing "The Worshipful Master," said that was the first time, as the majority of the members of the lodge and visitors well knew, that he (Bro. Smith) occupied his present position of proposing, as the I.P.M., the important toast of the W.M., but he was sure they would all honour the toast. They—he spoke in the plural—the children of the lodge, were proud of their parentage, and they wished to show what they could do. The W.M. had started with a splendid evening's work, and the brethren trusted and hoped that he would have a successful year of office. He had passed through the various stages of Masonry; he had not started running before he could walk, but had gradually got up the ladder, and now he was holding the proudest position the Craft and the brethren of the lodge could confer upon him. All the brethren wished him every success, happiness, and prosperity during his term of office. Although the W.M. was not a very old Freemason, he had had presented to him within the last two or three days a juvenile Mason—a Lewis—and as Bro. Percival was a generous brother, no doubt that during his year and when he went up as a Steward, representing the Chough Lodge; for one of the Charities, he would be only too proud to put down that Lewis on his list. He (the I.P.M.) wished the brethren to drink success to the W.M. and the Lewis, and by God's grace might the W.M.'s wife get round and be about as soon as possible.

Bro. James Frederick Percival, W.M., in acknowledging the toast and its hearty reception, said he would mention, that like the I.P.M., this was the first time he was in his present position, and consequently he was nervous. The I.P.M. made allusions to the working of the lodge. It appeared to him they were going to have a grand year of work, judging by the number of initiates they had had that evening. The ceremony might, perhaps, appear more impressive when it was performed on only one or two at a time. However, if they came on in their shoals, they would find him ready to operate upon them. The I.P.M. had kindly mentioned a certain family matter which had taken place within the last 48 hours. It had relieved him of a great amount of anxiety, for he had had doubts whether the event would happen during the day and keep him away. He thanked the brethren very much for the way in which they had received the toast.

Bro. Percival, W.M., in proposing "The I.P.M. and Installing Officer," said that all the brethren who witnessed the ceremony of installation as well as the ceremony of initiation that evening would agree that it was something for the Chough Lodge to be proud of. Bro. Smith was a good Mason and a good man; he was always ready to do his work. It was with great pleasure he put the toast before the brethren, and it was also with great pleasure that he then presented to Bro. Smith the Past Master's jewel which the lodge had voted to him. (Cheers.)

Bro. W. C. Smith, I.P.M., replying, said that if he made the remark that he was not proud that night he would be perverting the truth. Twelve months ago when he occupied the proud position Bro. Percival now held he was somewhat excited. That night he was not so excited, he certainly was proud on account of the way in which Bro. Percival had proposed his health and of the kind way in which he had been received by the brethren. The services he had been able to render to the Chough Lodge he was glad had been appreciated, and he could only say that they, one and all, as Choughs ought to work well. They had a good example set them, and they would be poor people if they could not beat the whole people. Speaking of his year of office he must couple with the mention of it the name of the I.P.M., their good Bro. Scott Miller, for it was with his assistance he had come out as he had. He hoped that the W.M. in the performance of his duties would not require the services of the I.P.M., but should he through some press of business or some unforeseen mishap be unable to do his work he might rely on the assistance of the I.P.M. If the W.M. did his work in the manner their predecessors had done it he, in conjunction with the young Choughs, would be a credit to the old Choughs.

Bro. Percival, W.M., proposed "The Initiates." There had been five that evening, but the brethren must not run away with the idea that quantity spoiled quality. From what he had seen of their newly-made brethren that evening he thought they had seen splendid Masons enter into the Craft. He had not had the pleasure of knowing the brethren personally, but, as he had already intimated, from the attention they paid to the ceremony he presumed they would be a great acquisition to the Chough Lodge.

Bros. Wardle, J. R. and W. Willson, Milner, and Joel responded.

Bro. Milner, in the course of his reply, said he was deeply sensible of the solemn oath he had taken, and he would do his best to be a good Mason. He thanked the brethren very much for the kind way in which they had drunk his health. The Queen and the Prince of Wales had not been with them that evening, but the initiates had been with them all the evening. It was an old saying that the pith of Masonic good fellowship was heaven, the want of it was hell; it was the brotherhood of man, and he thought in joining Masonry he had joined the ideal of his life, the universal brotherhood of man, the working for the common good of all. He was article as an architect, and he knew something of the use of the tools Masons had. He thought he could touch the Tyler's business, but, with all due deference to the mysteries and science of the Craft, he trusted he might in the future help the Freemasons; at all events, he would do his best.

Bro. Joel thought it only remained for him to endorse what had already been said by his brother initiates. He felt most grateful to all the brethren for the very kindly way they had received him. He considered it a very great honour to be admitted a member of the Chough Lodge, and he sincerely hoped to be a good member of the Craft and of the lodge in particular. He was very pleased at the cheering words the W.M. gave to his initiates, and he trusted that step by step he should climb the ladder until he finally reached the position of W.M.

Bros. W. Hayden, Gompertz, Hegerty, and E. W. Mackney (the veteran entertainer, more than 40 years a Mason), P.M. 434, replied to the toast of "The Visitors;" Bro. Marcus, P.M., to that of "The Past Masters," who, he said, took the greatest interest in the lodge; and Bros. Scott Miller and Dewsnap to that of "The Treasurer and Secretary;" and all the officers to the toast of "The Officers."

"The Masonic Charities" was most heartily proposed by the W.M., who said if no other member of the lodge took up a Stewardship he would do so himself.

No one was present to reply to the toast.

The Tyler's toast was given by Bro. Thomas Bowler, and drunk enthusiastically by the brethren, who shortly afterwards dispersed.

Bushey Park Lodge, No. 2381.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on Saturday, the 20th ult., when there was a good attendance of members and visitors to witness the installation of Bro. Charles Fruen, P.M., as W.M. Under the auspices of such a popular and genial member of the Craft—who has already passed with distinction through a similar office in another lodge—a continued period of prosperity for the Bushey Park Lodge is confidently anticipated by the members. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Bro. H. Hooper, W.M., the lodge was opened by Bro. G. W. Castle, I.P.M., supported by Bros. A. Blenkarn, Prov. G. Treasurer; G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D.; C. Fruen, P.M., W.M. elect; J. J. Newland, P.M.; Dr. Sanson, P.P.G.W.; C. R. Cutler; B. Forster, P.M.; W. J. H. Mayer, P.M.; J. W. Stevens; W. W. Lee, P.M.; J. Joel, E. J. W. Scott, A. Leighton, J. F. Potter, G. Swales, and others. Visitors: Bros. Col. H. M. Gordon, P.G.S.B.; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; W. G. Kentish, P.M. and Sec. 1298, P.P.G.D.; A. Bannister, P.M., Sec. 1632; M. A. Attwood, Org. 1348; A. Heasman, P.M. 167; J. Morris, 2264; T. Grummant, P.M. 1559; Sebastian Hart, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Ellinger, P.M., Treas. 2222; C. H. Stone, P.M. 507; C. H. Denny, S.W. 1671; F. W. Tew, S.D. 1298; J. L. Haddon, 1708; H. Gardiner, W.M. 1261; R. E. Clitherow, 1304; and E. J. Reynolds, S.D. 62.

After the confirmation of the minutes and the adoption of a very satisfactory audit report, the chair was taken by Bro. G. R. Langley. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Fruen, was presented for installation, and was duly inducted into the chair by Bro. Langley, who carried out the ceremony in a manner worthy of his position as Preceptor of the Brixton Lodge of Instruction. The following officers were appointed: Bros. S. H. Latham, S.W.; J. J. Newland, J.W.; A. Blenkarn, Prov. G. Treas., Treas.; G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D., Sec.; C. R. Cutler, S.D.; B. Forster, P.M., J.D.; W. T. H. Mayer, P.M., I.G.; A. W. Fawkes, D.C.; J. W. Stevens and J. Joel, Stwds.; and Mitchell, Tyler. The W.M. was nominated to represent the lodge as Steward for the Girls' School, and five guineas was voted from the Benevolent Fund. It was announced that a few guineas were still required to complete the sum of £300 necessary for the "Francis Memorial Fund," and the necessary amount was subscribed by the brethren. This completes a worthy memorial of a worthy and painstaking teacher of the ritual, whose name will be kindly and affectionately remembered by his old pupils in South London for many years to come. Letters of regret for non-attendance were announced from the Prov. G.M., D.P.G.M., Prov. G. Sec., Bro. W. H. Lee, P.P.G.D., and many others.

Lodge was closed, and an excellent banquet was subsequently enjoyed.

The customary toasts followed, the W.M. being commendably brief in his remarks, and his excellent example was followed by the subsequent speakers.

Bro. Dr. Sanson, P.P.G.W., replying for "The Prov. Grand Officers," said their Prov. Grand Master had the weight of State cares upon him, but yet found time to devote to the affairs of the province and Masonry generally, as witness his chairmanship of the last Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution Festival when a record total was achieved. With respect to this lodge he (Dr. Sanson) was at all times pleased to renew his old associations with it, to meet once again the excellent brethren of which it was composed, and to see yet another worthy brother installed into the chair with the best and most earnest wishes of all who knew him.

Bro. W. G. Kentish, P.P.G.D., also responded.

Bro. G. R. Langley, P.M., Sec., then said that owing to the unfortunate absence of the I.P.M., and also Bro. Lee, P.M., who was the first Master of the lodge and was highly respected by every member and by all who knew him—he had the pleasure of proposing the next toast, "The Health of the W.M." In Bro. Fruen they had a W.M. who had had previous experience in other lodges and the brethren would give him all the assistance they could. Their W.M. was prepared to carry out every duty of his office, and if the members gave him work to do would perform it to the credit of the lodge. If the brethren had friends in whom they had every confidence and who were desirous of joining the Order, they would doubtless remember that the W.M. was fully prepared to undertake the full performance of the ritual. He trusted the W.M. would have a successful year, and that at the end of the year the brethren would say Bro. Fruen had done his best, and that it could also be said that the members had done their best to support the W.M.

Bro. C. Fruen, W.M., in reply, said the kind remarks made about him had touched him beyond expression. He happened to be the last of the founders who would attain the chair of the lodge, and proud he was to be in that position. Up to the present time they had achieved the objects for which they started the lodge, and were one and all glad it had attained its successful position. He was always delighted to see a thing going well and strong, and it was a matter of congratulation that the lodge should be all the founders wished it. They had a goodly number of members, but should be glad to see a few more. They could have had many more members at the start, but were content to limit the number to that of a family party. The principles for which he joined the lodge he hoped would be the principles for its future guidance, and would conduce to the benefits of Masonry in Middlesex. They were closely allied to London, and would do their level best to make the lodge known in Middlesex and in Masonry generally. He was proud to be their W.M., and only hoped that everything in the future would be thoroughly enjoyed in a Masonic spirit, as had hitherto been the case. They might call upon him to do what they liked, he would respond to the best of his ability. They were all members of the same lodge of instruction, where the name of the late Bro. Francis was revered as a true and good Mason, and he was therefore glad to hear the sentiments expressed in the lodge concerning the "Francis Memorial Fund."

"The Visitors" was next cordially given by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. H. Gardiner, W.M. 1261; T. Grummant, P.M.; Sebastian Hart, P.P.G. Org.; and others.

Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G., responded for "The Masonic Charities," and said that had Bro. Terry been present he would have been proud to have thanked the lodge for the great support given the Benevolent Institution. He was glad the W.M. had been nominated as Steward for the Girls' School in behalf of the lodge, and was sure the Bushey Park Lodge would retain its reputation for liberal support.

"The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary" and "The Officers" having been given, the Tyler's toast closed a successful gathering.

Bros. Sebastian Hart, P.P.G. Org., and Mark Attwood presided at the pianoforte, and were assisted in a capital programme of music by Bros. S. Masters, J. L. Haddon, and Walter George.

Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge, No. 2432.

The last sessional meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C., on Thursday, the 24th ultimo. There was a good attendance of the brethren, including Bros. D. Phillips, W.M.; G. Emblin, I.P.M.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Klingenstein, P.M. 73 and 1540; Treas.; A. F. Scholding, P.M. 1512, Sec.; H. H. Lowry, P.M. 1839, J.W.; W. F. Bates, P.M. 1507, S.D.; C. Ransford, J.D.; Thomas Rayner, I.G.; H. Mavor, A.D.C.; W. H. Bullock, P.M., and R. Amble, Stewards; J. H. Custance, P.M.; H. O. Winter, O. C. Moore, H. Cosins, E. Grahnert, S. Maur, W. C. Lightfoot, L. Weenen, J. L. V. Gelder, E. Assir, G. Steven, F. C. Buckingham, A. Simpson, W. Pearson, S. F. Atkin, A. S. Benjamin, and H. Evenden, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. H. Brounswood, P.M. 180; R. H. Unsworth, W.M. 959; E. Wolff, and J. Brittan, 2063.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bros. F. C. Buckingham, A. Simpson, W. Pearson, and S. F. Atkins were passed, and Bro. G. Steven raised. Bro. W. Klingenstein was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. W. H. Bullock was elected Treasurer; and Bro. H. Evenden re-elected Tyler. The Audit Committee having been appointed, two brethren who have removed from London were placed on the list of country members. It was unanimously decided to present Bro. Phillips with a valuable Past Master's jewel, as a mark of appreciation of the way he has discharged his duties.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from several brethren, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The W.M., in proposing "The Queen," alluded to "the record" length of her reign, and the interest and support her Majesty had given to Freemasonry, his remarks being enthusiastically received.

The I.P.M., Bro. Emblin, proposed "The W.M." in eulogistic terms, remarking that the roll of Past Masters of the lodge was a short one, but each successive W.M. had done his best, and they thought they could all claim to be regarded as good

Masters. All would agree that Bro. Phillips had been a good Master; his delivery of the ritual was perfect; his general administration of the lodge was highly successful; and his speeches commendably brief. As one of the founders, the W.M. in retiring from the chair would still continue to take a great interest in the welfare of the lodge.

The W.M., in reply, thanked Bro. Emblin for his kind remarks, the officers and brethren for the assistance they had given him, and the way they had received the toast. If his humble efforts had met with their approval he was satisfied.

The W.M. then said he had the pleasure of proposing what was really the toast of the evening—"The W.M. Elect." It was the unanimous wish of the founders that Bro. Klingenstein should be the first W.M. Unfortunately, at that time Bro. Klingenstein contemplated taking a long voyage, and could not accept the office. As they could not have him then, they had patiently waited until now, and he was sure, they all appreciated the fact that he has consented to fill the office so unanimously conferred upon him. They would learn much from such an experienced Master, who would give additional dignity to the office and the lodge.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm. Bro. W. Klingenstein, P.M. 73 and 1510, Treas., in responding to the toast said: "Worshipful Master, Officers, and brethren,—I am much obliged for the elegant terms in which you have proposed my health and the cordial way it has been received. It is very gratifying to be proposed to the highest office in a lodge of good men, but especially so when that good feeling is expressed by those with whom I am in daily contact. I hope you have done well in selecting me, at all events I will do my best. (Bro. Bullock anxiously, what about the ladies night with a bachelor W.M.?) Bro. Klingenstein, well I will do my best for that also. The ladies' night does not consist of the W.M. alone, I shall get the assistance of the ladies of my family and (with a merry twinkle) perhaps we shall succeed."

"The Past Masters" was responded to by Bro. Bullock, the first W.M. and Treasurer elect (who appeared in great good form.) After thanking the brethren for the honour conferred upon him by electing him to succeed Bro. Klingenstein as Treasurer, remarked that it was the duty of Past Masters to devote their time to the lodge, and give the W.M. that assistance and support they had themselves been so glad to receive; he would not make a long speech as he could see Bros. Ransford and Emblin were bubbling over with eloquence.

Bro. Ransford, P.P.G.S.B., fairly boiled over with a fervid appeal for votes for that most deserving of cases, A. D. Eales, aged eight years, son of Bro. Robert Eales, P.M. 1512, P.P.G.P. Middx., who died leaving a widow and nine children.

Bros. Unsworth, W.M. 959; Brounswood, P.M. 180; and E. Wolff responded for "The Visitors," after which the flow of eloquence and grape juice, mingled with sparkling anecdote and a lively selection of songs and recitations, contributed by Bros. Bates, J. L. Van Gelder, W. H. Lowry, Brounswood, O. C. Moore, and others, gently meandered on through "The Officers," "The Secretary," and clouds of smoke to the Tyler's toast, which brought a most successful meeting and enjoyable evening to a close.

Mark Masonry.

Stamford Lodge, No. 148.

The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 21st ult., at the Town Hall, Altrincham. In the absence of Bro. E. G. Parker, W.M., Bro. Fred Broadsmith, P.M., P.S.G.W., took the chair. Bro. Richardson, S.W., was elected as W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. J. Fergusson, P.P.A.G. Sec., Treasurer. On a notice of motion by Bro. Broadsmith, seconded by Bro. R. Newhouse, P.G.D., P.G. Sec., the sum of five guineas was voted as a donation to the Mark Benevolent Fund and five guineas to the Cheshire Educational Institution. The candidate for advancement not being able to be present, Bro. Fred Broadsmith kindly consented to read a most instructive and interesting paper, dealing with the ancient history of Freemasonry, which was listened to with pleasure and admiration of such a deep-studied subject. At the conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Broadsmith, which was carried with applause.

The following were present, in addition to those already named, Bros. S. Thompson, P.M.; Wm. Ramsden, P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; J. Stanley Derbyshire, P.P.A.G. Sec.; T. Nicholson, P.P.G.S.; A. W. Boucher, J.O.; G. Sam Smith, P.M., Prov. G. Org.; A. Huxley, J. Davenport, C. D. Higginbotham, A. H. Fray, and G. H. Hollins.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 211.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Thursday, the 27th ult., when there were present among others Bros. S. H. Parkhouse, P.M., as W.M.; G. W. Larter, S.W.; P. Monson, P.M., as J.W.; R. Lawson, P.M., G.S., M.O.; T. Rosedale, J.O.; J. N. Frye, P.M., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., Sec.; J. M. Huish, P.M.; and S. Ellis, Tyler. In consequence of the recent death of Bro. Hill Wadham, I.P.M., the lodge was in mourning.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Larter, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M., Bro. J. N. Frye, P.M., Treas., and Bro. S. Ellis, Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Dr. H. Kiallmark, P.G.S., W.M., and a Past Master's jewel voted to him. A vote of condolence was proposed by Bro. Parkhouse, P.M., seconded by Bro. Huish, P.M., and carried with many expressions of regret, to the widow of the late Bro. Wadham, I.P.M., and the Secretary was directed to forward the same to Mrs. Wadham. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Dr. Kiallmark, W.M.; E. W. Beard, J.W.; F. C. Frye, P.M.; Dr. Pocock, P.M. (hon. member); and others.

The lodge was then closed. Refreshment followed labour. The W.M. in the chair, presided in a most genial manner.

CONSECRATION OF THE BEACH LODGE, No. 2622.

The Horns Tavern, Kennington, was the scene of great activity on Wednesday, when the Beach Lodge, No. 2622, the membership of which well, we believe, be restricted to those connected with the railway interest, was consecrated. The event had been looked forward to for some time past, and when the time fixed for the ceremony was at hand, the brethren assembled in considerable force in order to witness so important an event. The Grand Secretary, upon whom devolved, as is usually the case with new London lodges the duty of ushering the new lodge into existence, was the Consecrating Officer, and was assisted in his task by Bros. George Everrett, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; J. H. Matthews, P.D.G.D.C., as J.W.; and the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Ernest St. Clair, A.G.D.C., as I.G.

Lodge having been opened in the three Degrees, the G. SECRETARY briefly addressed the meeting on the object for which they were met together, and the petition and warrant having been read and the founders having signified their approval of the officers named in the latter, the Rev. Bro. BROWNRIFF delivered one of his brief but telling orations on the Nature and Principles of Freemasonry.

The ceremony of consecration was then proceeded with, and the lodge having been dedicated and constituted, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hants and the Isle of Wight, was installed as the first Worshipful Master. After the customary proclamations and salutations, the W.M. appointed his officers, the most important being Bros. R. Lingley, P.M. 1381, as Senior Warden, and H. Almond, as Junior Warden, who were named in the warrant; and Bro. J. Letchford, P.M., as Secretary. Bro. T. Higgs, P.M., who had been previously elected as Treasurer, was also invested with the insignia of his office, and votes of thanks to the

Grand Secretary and the rest of the Consecrating Officers having been passed by acclamation and acknowledged, a Committee was appointed to frame by-laws, and several propositions for initiation and joining having been handed in, the lodge was closed and the brethren dined together.

The musical arrangements were in charge of Bro. Frank Swinford, and among those present were Bros. John Aird, M.P., P.P.G.D., and H. Sadler, Grand Tyler; in addition to the majority of the founders, of which the following is a complete list:

Bros. W. W. B. Beach, P.G.M. Hants; R. Lingley, P.M. and M.E.Z.; T. Higgs, P.M.; J. Letchford, P.M.; M. M. Dodge, P.M. and P.G.P. Surrey; E. Miles, P.M. and P.P.G.S.B. Surrey; H. Almond, H. Spooner, A. Lundie, P.M.; S. Rumbelow, W. W. Allan, E. Sweeting, H. Lemon, W. Hammond, F. H. Larkham, W. F. P. Holgate, P.M. and 33 D.F.C.; W. F. P. Tipper, J. Davis, P.M.; J. P. Leach, C. Long, C. Coleman, and W. Wickens.

We congratulate the brethren on the success of the proceedings and trust the Beach Lodge may have a long and prosperous career.

CONSECRATION OF THE BLACKPOOL ROSE CROIX CHAPTER, No. 136.

This unique and interesting ceremony took place on Thursday, the 24th ult., at the Victoria Hotel, Blackpool, under the direction of Ill. Bro. Thos. Forrester, M.V.S., the preliminary arrangements and the furnishing of the chapter, which were most elaborate, had been carried out in a most perfect manner and left nothing to be desired. The Supreme Council in attendance were Ill. Bros. Col. le Gendre N. Starkie, Grand Capt. of Guards, 33°; J. H. Matthew, Grand Chamberlain, 33°; Col. A. B. Cook, Inspector General, 33°; Sir George D. Harris, S.P.R.S., 33°; and Capt. Clement R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Inspector-General, 33°.

The candidates attended at 3.30 to have the Degree conferred to the 17th, which ceremony was performed by the Most Ill. Bro. Sir George D. Harris, Grand G.D.C., 33°. The ceremony of consecration subsequently followed. The Supreme Grand Council, 33°, entered and were received by the Princes under an arch of steel.

The M.P.S. GRAND COMMANDER assumed his position and addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting. The ceremony throughout was conducted with the high dignity appertaining to this High and Supreme Degree.

The GRAND CHANCELLOR called upon Ill. Bro. Capt. Clement R. N. Beswicke-Royds to install the M.V.S. designate, who was presented by the Grand Director of Ceremonies and duly placed on the throne and saluted.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the M.V.S. thanked the Consecrating Officers for their services that day, and expressed his pleasure at the magnificent manner everything had been performed by them, terminating his remarks by proposing they should become honorary members of this chapter, which was accepted by all, followed by most gracious remarks from Bros. Col. LE GENDRE N. STARKIE, J. H. MATTHEWS, and Sir GEO. D. HARRIS.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Dr. G. H. Whitaker, 18°, who presided at the organ and subsequently as accompanist at the banquet.

The following brethren were founders, who all wore a most beautiful 18ct. gold jewel specially designed for the occasion: E. and P. Bros. Thos. Forrester, 18°; Albert B. Lamm, 18°; Edmund Taylor, 18°; J. E. Hargreaves, 18°; Whittaker Bond, 18°; Wm. Longbottom, 18°; and R. H. S. Butterworth, 18°.

The officers for the ensuing year are Bros. Thos. Forrester, M.V.S.; Whittaker Bond, 1st General; Edmund Taylor, 2nd General; W. Longbottom, Grand Marshal; Albert B. Lamm, Raphael; Robert H. S. Butterworth, Herald; T. Forrester, Treas.; J. E. Hargreaves, Capt. of Gd.; Henry Harrison, Recorder; and John Wray, D.C.

Bro. Lockstone, the manager of the Victoria Hotel, had been very successful in providing a most *recherché* banquet, which all seemed entirely to enjoy.

Ill. Bro. Forrester, M.V.S., presided, with his usual geniality, which made every brother happy around him. The consequence was that during the toast list many short, but pithy and witty speeches were made, and the pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by songs and glees given by Bros. J. H. Greenwood, Seymour Jackson, J. W. Clough, and J. S. Derbyshire.

During the evening a most beautiful silver loving-cup was presented to the chapter by Ill. Bro. Thomas Forrester, the first M.V.S.

There were present, in addition to those already mentioned, as visitors and candidates: Bros. J. Stanley Derbyshire, 18°, and Geo. Sam Smith, 18°, of Humphrey Chapter; Dr. G. H. Whitaker, 18°, 31; and Sonner Fisher.

WORTH KNOWING.

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

THE

BRITISH WORKMAN'S

18

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE MEETINGS of the Royal Savoy Mark Lodge of Instruction will be resumed at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on Sunday next at 7 p.m.

THE KHEMIVE OF EGYPT has been on a private visit to Paris, and reached Trieste, where he embarked on board his yacht Brindisi on his return home, on the 25th ultimo.

LORD RUSSELL OF KILLOWEN, Lord Chief Justice of England, and Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood were the guests of Mr. August Belmont at the Gravesend (U.S.A.) races on Saturday last.

THE NORTH LONDON CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT will commence the winter session on Monday, the 5th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury. Companions are cordially invited to attend.

IT IS SAID that Colonel Rhodes, half-pay late 1st Dragoons, brother of Bro. Cecil Rhodes, is retiring from the service, and that a notice to this effect may be looked for in the *London Gazette* at an early date.

DURING A CYCLISTS' CARNIVAL at Exeter on the 25th ult., a tableaux representing Britannia, which had been built upon a trolley, overturned amongst the crowd, and several of the lighted lamps which surrounded it exploded, and burned a number of people.

ADELINE DUCHESS OF BEDFORD will re-open the Strand Branch of the Children's Happy Evenings Association on Wednesday next. The institution was started three years ago, and has been the means of affording much happiness to the poor children of Clare Market and the neighbourhood.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the Cordwainer Ward Lodge will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, the 7th instant, at 6 o'clock p.m. Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan is the W.M.; Bro. H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., the Treasurer; and Bro. H. Lovegrove, G.S.B., the Secretary.

IN RECOGNITION of his services during the expedition up the Nile, which has terminated in the capture of Dongola and the utter destruction of the Dervish force entrusted with its defence, her Majesty has been pleased to approve of the Sirdar—Sir H. Kitchener—being promoted to Major-General.

THERE HAS BEEN a further surrender of chiefs in Matabeland, and, though the younger indunas place every possible difficulty in the way of bringing about a restoration of peace, there is every reason to hope that at an early date the country will be pacified, and measures taken to restore confidence and reawaken trade.

IT IS ANNOUNCED that Bro. Viscount Ebrington has decided upon selling the whole of his estate in South Devon, which has been in the possession of the family several generations. Indeed, portions of the property in Tavistock and other parishes have already been sold, the tenants being among the purchasers.

THE SIRDAR and his staff left Dongola on Sunday for El Debbeh and Merawi, which it is expected will be the frontier of the newly-acquired Egyptian province. Numbers of Sheiks and others have come in and besought and received pardon, and steps are being taken to obtain the arms and baggage which the Dervishes abandoned during their flight.

THE POOR HOP PICKERS from the East-end of London who went down into Kent and Sussex about a month ago in the hope of making money enough to keep them going for a time have returned home for the most part in a miserable plight, those who generally succeed in bringing back with them £10 or £12 having little more than £2 or £3, while others could only muster a few shillings. The hop crop has been a complete failure, and not the smallest among the sufferers will be these poor East-end folk.

DURING THE PRESENT month as many as four important musical festivals will be held; that at Norwich, of which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is President, from the 6th to the 9th instant; that at Sheffield, on the 13th and 14th instant; that at Bristol, from the 14th to the 17th instant; and the North Staffordshire Festival at Hanley, on the 29th and 30th instant. Handel's "Jephtha" heads the list of the performances at Norwich, and will be followed by Sir A. C. Mackenzie's "Rose of Sharon," while other important works will be given.

THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS appear to be carrying all before them in the United States. Having defeated the New Jersey men in a single innings towards the end of last week, they commenced a match with a Philadelphia eleven, and going first to the wickets, ran up a total of 422. The local team responded with 144, and having to follow on, had made 89 for the loss of four wickets, when stumps were drawn for the day. On resuming the next morning the Philadelphia gentlemen increased this figure to 207, and thus sustained a single innings defeat.

THE IRON GATES CANAL on the Danube has just been opened by the Emperor Francis Joseph, who was accompanied by the Kings of Roumania and Serbia, the event being marked by an unbounded display of enthusiasm on the part of those who witnessed it. After the sovereigns had passed through the Gates, they quitted their steamer, and proceeded to Berkuhabad, where a grand banquet was served in honour of the occasion. In the evening the sovereigns took farewell of each other, the King of Serbia leaving for Belgrade, the King of Roumania for Crajova, and the Emperor for Bucharest, where he rejoined King Charles of Roumania, and experienced a splendid reception.

THE CZAR, with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of York, and Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg took part on Friday and Saturday last in deer drives, while on Monday the English Princes, with their Imperial visitor, went grouse shooting. The Queen's dinner parties on the same days 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, Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg, and others. The Marquis of Salisbury (Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs) arrived at the Castle on Saturday last, accompanied by Lord Hugh Cecil, on a visit to the Queen. On Friday the Russian Ambassador (M. de Staal) left Balmoral for Birkhall. The daily arrangements and excursions have been of a similar character ever since.

WE ARE ASKED TO STATE that the following telegram was dispatched on the 23rd ult., by Bro. Sidney Holt, of the Cranbourne Lodge, to his Royal Highness, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Balmoral Castle, N.B. "At a meeting of the Cranbourne Lodge, held at Hatfield last evening, it was unanimously resolved that the hearty and respectful congratulations of the lodge be tendered to her Majesty on her having now reigned longer than any previous British Sovereign, and that it earnestly trusts she may be long spared to reign over her people—and that Bro. Sidney Holt be requested to ask your Royal Highness to convey the above loyal wishes of one of the most prominent of the Hertfordshire lodges to your august mother—which resolution he now has much pleasure in respectfully forwarding to the Grand Master of England." The Grand Master graciously acceded to the request of the brethren of Cranbourne Lodge, and Bro. Holt received the following reply from the Queen's Private Secretary. "Queen thanks members of Cranbourne Lodge of Freemasons for kind congratulations and good wishes forwarded through the Grand Master of England."

HER MAJESTY'S cruiser, Melpomene, which left Portsmouth on the 24th ult., for the Cape of Good Hope, with new crews for the gunboats Sparrow and Widgeon, and a large quantity of stores for both vessels, put back again to Portsmouth harbour on Saturday last under stress of weather. Off Portland the wind blew with tremendous force, and huge waves were continually breaking over the vessel, sweeping away everything that was not fastened. Early on Friday morning, when the storm was at its worst, the port lifeboat was lifted right out of the ship, the stern tackle being torn away. The wreckage was at once cut adrift, and was soon swept clear of the ship. A few minutes later it was found that the starboard anchor davits were loose, and a party of men under First Lieutenant J. H. S. Bender went to secure them, when a tremendous wave swept the ship from stem to stern, and Lieut. Bender had to be taken to the Sick Bay, where he was found to have one of his thighs broken, and his elbow dislocated. A warrant officer sustained internal injuries, and a Second Class Petty Officer had four ribs broken. In all, two officers and seven men were injured. The storm was equally terrible in the Downs, and the passenger service between Folkestone and Boulogne was stopped. Several wrecks took place off Folkestone, and the services of the lifeboats were frequently requisitioned.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE arrived at Crieff on Saturday afternoon last from Ballater, on his way to Drummond Castle on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Ancaster.

THE ALBION LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 9, now meets at seven every Friday evening at The Moorgate, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2021, will meet at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on Monday, the 5th instant, at 8 p.m. and every succeeding Monday until further advised.

BRO. SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Bart., M.P. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), and Lady Lucy and Miss Hicks-Beach, are staying with Sir John and Lady Heathcote. Amory at their place at Pitlochrie.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY has promised to preside at a lecture which will be delivered by Bro. Sir Walter Besant on "London," early in December, under the auspices of the Metropolitan Reform Union.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, which has been closed for repairs during the long vacation, will be opened on Sunday, the 4th inst., for divine service. The Master, the Rev. Canon Ainger, is expected to preach on the occasion.

MARIAN RADFORD, aged eight, a Dorset candidate for the Girls' School at the approaching election, died at Lyme Regis on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 29th ult. This reduces the number of candidates for next week's election to 27.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE arrived on Wednesday evening at Appleby Castle, Westmorland, on a visit to Bro. Lord and Lady Hothfield, among the guests invited to meet his Royal Highness being Bro. the Earl and Countess of Kintore, Lady and Miss Sheffield, and others.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY and Mrs. Benson, with Bro. the Archbishop of Dublin and the Hon. Miss Plunkett, were amongst the guests of the Earl and Countess of Mayo at Palmerstown on the occasion of the opening service in the restored Cathedral of Kildare.

INTELLIGENCE has been received at the Admiralty to the effect that a boat belonging to H.M. ship Narcissus was capsized at Fish River, Grossevitich Bay, in the China Sea, on the 11th ult., when Capt. H. B. Lang (commanding the ship), an able seaman, and two ordinary seamen were drowned.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN has graciously consented to present the prizes and certificates won by lady members of the Southern suburban branches of the St. John's Ambulance Association. The ceremony will take place at the Crystal Palace on Friday, the 30th inst.

NUMEROUS CONGRATULATIONS were received by the veteran Mr. Thomas Sidney Cooper, R.A., on Saturday last, on the occasion of his completing his 93rd year. It is more than 50 years since Mr. Cooper was made an Associate of the Royal Academy, while in 1867 he was elected a Royal Academician.

A MEETING of the annual Court of Governors of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution will be held at the Masonic Hall, Hope-street, Liverpool, this (Friday) evening, for the transaction of regular business and for the election of eight children, four on the Educational Fund, one on the Combined Fund, and three on the Advancement Fund.

THE MARQUIS OF LONDONDERRY'S annual sale of pedigree Clydesdales and Shetlands took place at the Stud Farm, Seaham Harbour, on the 25th ult. Some very good prices were realised, some of the horses fetching as much as 100 guineas. Lord Londonderry, who was accompanied by Lord Lionel Cecil, presided at the luncheon, and Mr. Ernest Crow was the auctioneer.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, who had been staying for some time at Glenmuick House as the guest of Bro. Lord and Lady G'nesch, left for London on Tuesday morning. They were accompanied to the railway station by their host, and though the hour was unusually early, their departure was witnessed by a considerable number of the townspeople.

ACCORDING TO THE Registrar General's returns, the number of deaths in the Metropolis last week was 185 below the average of the corresponding period for the last 10 years, but there was a slight increase in the rate as compared with the previous week from 14.6 to 14.9. The death rates in Brighton and Croydon were respectively 11.7 and 9.7, while that at Portsmouth stood at 9.9.

PRINCE RANJITSINGHI was entertained at a banquet in the Town Hall, Cambridge, on Tuesday evening to commemorate the fact of his heading the batting averages for the current year. The Mayor presided, and both Town and Gown were well represented, among the principal guests being the Master of Trinity, the Lord Lieutenant and High Sheriff of the County, the Master of Peterhouse, Bro. Sir John E. Gorst, Q.C., one of the Members for the University, Mr. C. W. Alcock, Secretary of the Surrey Cricket Club, Mr. W. W. Read, Mr. F. S. Jackson, Mr. N. F. Druce, and other well-known cricketers. The toast of the evening was proposed by the Master of Trinity (Dr. Butler) and very gracefully acknowledged by the Prince.

THE 41ST Annual Exhibition of the Royal Photographic Society was opened on Monday in the galleries of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours, and on Saturday evening last a large number of the members attended the private view, the company being received by Bro. Sir H. Trueman Wood, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the unavoidable absence of Captain W. de W. Abney, the President of the Council. Efforts have this year been made to raise the standard of excellence, and as a consequence out of 1100 submitted for exhibition only 354 have been accepted. However, there can be no doubt that though, with the exception of the Röntgen Ray exhibits, there are few new processes that have been attempted in the production or treatment of plates, great progress has been made as compared with the products of past years.

A COURT OF ALDERMEN of the Outer Chamber was held at the Guildhall on Monday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, Bro. Sir W. Wilkin, when Bro. Alderman Ritchie, the senior Sheriff elect, was introduced by the two senior Aldermen present, and then Deputy H. Rogers, the junior Sheriff elect, by two Aldermen below the chair. A procession was then formed, and conducted by the City Marshal into the Great Hall, where the oaths of office were administered by the Town Clerk (Bro. Sir John B. Monckton) to the new Sheriffs, who were thereupon invested with the official robes and badges. The procession then returned to the Aldermen's room, and afterwards the majority of the City magnates adjourned to the Sheriffs' Breakfast in Clothworkers' Hall.

ACCORDING TO A PROSPECTUS we have received the South London Masonic Charitable Association, which was established as recently as January, 1894, has already been doing some excellent work. Its object is to secure by its organisation the election of those candidates for our several Charitable Institutions who hail from South London. At the outset only 10 lodges and a single chapter enrolled themselves as members of the Association, but the votes and influence they were able to concentrate by this means sufficed to carry the election of three out of the four candidates adopted by the Association. An appeal is now being made to other South London lodges and chapters to join and thus ensure the success of future candidates. The joining fee for lodges and chapters is only one guinea each, while there is no individual subscription. The Honorary Secretary is Bro. Robert Edgar, "Brynlyns," Love-walk, Denmark-hill, S.E., of whom all necessary information may be obtained. The Association meets quarterly on the second Wednesday in the month of March, June, September, and December, at 7.30 p.m., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.

AFTER ATTENDING Divine service at St. Laurence, Jewry, the Lord Mayor, Bro. Sir Walter Wilkin, and the members of the Corporation of London, went in procession to the Guildhall, on Tuesday, where, under the presidency of his lordship, a Common Hall was held. Among those who were present as spectators of the proceedings were Bro. Lord Pirbright, Sir E. Lawson, Sir T. Sutherland, M.P.; and Sir Eyre Shaw, while among the civic dignitaries were Bro. Alderman Sir J. W. Ellis, Bart.; and Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P.; Alderman G. Faudel-Phillips, Bro. Alderman Davis, M.P., Treloar, and Sir J. V. Moore; the City Chamberlain, the Town Clerk (Bro. Sir J. B. Monckton); and others. In due course, Alderman Faudel Phillips was elected Lord Mayor of London for the ensuing year, and received the hearty congratulations of those present. A vote of thanks to the retiring Lord Mayor having been proposed and unanimously adopted and acknowledged, the Common Hall was dissolved. In the evening the Lord Mayor entertained the Lord Mayor Elect at dinner at the Mansion House, there being a large company assembled to do honour to the occasion.