

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 PROVINCE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

We published last week a summary of the proceedings at the recent annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire, in which we referred to the Operative Masonic work which the brethren of the Province have undertaken to carry out in connection with Gloucester Cathedral. We stated that the estimated cost of this work was about £520, and that the amount subscribed by the lodges and brethren was £422. We also mentioned that Prov. Grand Lodge voted 40 guineas (£42) from its funds towards this worthy object, the balance remaining to be subscribed in order to complete the estimated cost being thus very inconsiderable. We have since been favoured with a full report relating to this work, from which it appears that the Province having for some time past confined its attention almost exclusively to charitable objects, the brethren felt that the time had arrived when they might undertake yet another of those works of Operative Masonry with which on many previous occasions their Prov. Grand Lodge had been so honourably associated. Accordingly, at last year's annual meeting, a Committee consisting of the heads of the lodges and chapters in the Province, the principal Prov. G. Officers, and a few other brethren, was appointed "to choose and carry out some further work of restoration on behalf of the Province," and it being determined that in this instance the Cathedral should be the object of the brethren's beneficent intentions, a Sub-Committee, of which Bros. VASSAR SMITH, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., and the Baron DE FERRIERES, P.G.D., were the most prominent members, was chosen to confer on the subject with Bro. WALLER, the Cathedral Architect. A conference was held in October 1895, at which V.W. Bro. the Dean of GLOUCESTER, Past G. Chaplain of England, was present, and after sundry schemes had been considered, the Committee decided upon restoring the North Walk of the Cloisters, "to make it match the work done in the East Walk, by restoring the mullions and tracery of the windows, opening them where they had been bricked up and glazing them, and restoring the pinnacles to the lavatory." Bro. WALLER was requested to draw up an estimate of the probable cost, and at the same time to have, if possible, a small portion of the work done, so that the Sub-Committee might have the opportunity of judging of the general effect before anything definite was arranged. The Sub-Committee met again in February last, when Bro. WALLER submitted a portion of the work, with which the brethren were so struck that they at once resolved that it was "a work worthy

to be undertaken by the brethren of the Province," while Bro. the Dean of GLOUCESTER added that he proposed, with a view to making the work as distinctive as possible, to insert a brass plate in the wall, with a record inscribed upon it to show that the work had been done by the brethren of the Province. At the same time, Bro. WALLER stated the estimated cost of the restoration at £580, but as Bro. Baron DE FERRIERES generously undertook to do a portion of the glazing, the sum to be subscribed by the Province was reduced to £520. The recommendation of the Sub-Committee was forthwith endorsed by the Committee, and a subscription list having been opened, the work was at once commenced, and is now fast approaching completion, while from the figures we have before quoted, it will be seen that only a very small portion of the estimated cost remains to be subscribed.

This, as we have before hinted, is by no means the first occasion on which our Gloucestershire brethren have shown their respect for the magnificent structures erected by our Operative predecessors, the most prominent of the works with which they are associated being the beautiful reredos of the Cathedral, which was subscribed for by them during the Prov. Grand Mastership of the late Bro. Lord SHERBORNE. Nor are they the only Province that has shown this respect, while there are several instances in which the Craft as a body have exhibited a similar feeling. But in the case of Gloucestershire it seems to be almost a part of their Masonic profession of faith that the Free and Accepted or Speculative Masons of to-day should do honour to the works which have been handed down to us from the Middle Ages. It is a feeling on which they may very properly be congratulated, and we trust the particular work of restoration which is now being carried out in their behalf will redound, as the others before it have done, to their credit, and, at the same time, serve as additional evidence that Masons generally are not the graceless, Godless Society they have been described by their enemies.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland, which was held at Hinckley, on the 8th ult., and of which we published a full report last week, passed off, as usual, most satisfactorily, the main subject of regret among those who attended being that the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Right Hon. Earl FERRERS, was unable to preside. However, his lordship's place was ably filled by his respected Deputy, Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, P.A.G.D.C., and there was a full muster of the brethren from all parts of the Province, together with a fair show of visitors. According to the report of the Committee of General Purposes, there were on the 24th June last 738 subscribing brethren in the Province, while the record of the work done by the several lodges testified to the great zeal and activity shown by them in the discharge of their duties during the past year. The increase in membership over the previous year was very slight, but the Acting Provincial Grand Master, in reviewing, as he did at a later period of the meeting, what had happened during the year and the position of the Province, expressed his great personal gratification at the smallness of the increase, which he regarded as evidence that proper care and judgment had been exercised in the acceptance of candidates for initiation. "Freemasonry," he said, "was not a benefit society, and candidates should not be approved who would not be acceptable in one's own home." We are glad to find the leading brethren in the Provinces thus forcibly impressing upon their

lodges the necessity for exercising extreme caution as to whom they admit into their ranks. It was only last week that we expressed our hearty approval of similar advice tendered by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire at the consecration of a new lodge, while the necessity for the strictest caution in this respect is a theme which Consecrating Officers and brethren in authority never weary of dilating upon when the opportunity presents itself. It is, indeed, a subject to which it is impossible that too great prominence can be given, and it is by no means improbable, as Bro. PARTRIDGE suggested, that the present strain on the accommodation at our Boys' School—he would not have been very far out in his statement had he spoken generally of the strain upon the resources of all our Institutions—was due in a great measure to the lack, in past years, of such proper care and judgment on the part of lodges. The report of the Charity Committee of the Province was also most creditable to our Leicestershire and Rutland brethren. Bro. S. S. PARTRIDGE, as the Provincial Representative at the Boys' School, had taken up a list, which, though it was undoubtedly smaller than at previous Festivals, nevertheless amounted to the goodly sum of £231, while the same brother was able to announce that the sum actually subscribed to the WILLIAM KELLY Memorial Fund already exceeded £230, and that several further sums had been promised. Thus the Province, though it showed to less advantage at the Festival it elected to support, has, in fact, gone beyond its average figure, the amounts raised for the Boys' School and the KELLY Memorial Fund being together not far short of £500. Considering that Leicestershire and Rutland has only 14 lodges on its roll, these returns reflect the greatest credit on the brethren, and fully justify the encomiums passed upon them by their Deputy Provincial Grand Master and other critics on this and other occasions. In fine, the Province has acquitted itself right loyally during the past year, and we trust it may be our privilege in future years to publish reports of similar meetings which shall prove equally worthy of commendation.

THE CRAFT IN KENTUCKY.

The general condition of Freemasonry in Kentucky, to judge from the various accounts we have read of the Proceedings at the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge in October of last year, appears to be one of great prosperity, there being 461 lodges on the roll, with an aggregate membership of 17,399, which number includes 684 what are called "free members," consisting of ministers and 50 year-members. But the subject which appears to engross the attention of the brethren in this jurisdiction is that of their Masonic Home, which now has within its walls 265 widows and orphans, the maintenance of whom at about 100 dollars per annum costs 26,500 dollars. During the year 1894-5, however, sundry extraordinary expenditures for grading and paving the street in which the Home is located, and for replacing worn out water and steam pipes, &c., left a deficit of about 4000 dollars, and in consequence the Grand Master addressed a circular to the Masters, Wardens, and brethren of the several lodges, setting forth the facts we have quoted, and appealing to them to render all the assistance in their power in order to restore the financial equilibrium of the Institution and enable it to continue its beneficent work. As the 97th annual communication was doubtless held in the course of last month, we shall in all probability hear that the appeal of Grand Master HALMAN, on the 4th June, 1895, has proved successful, and that his successor, Grand Master FRANK C. GERARD, was in a position to congratulate Grand Lodge on the improved condition of the Home Funds. But our Kentucky brethren are apparently not content with making such provision as is possible for the Widow and the Orphan, and as the Centenary Celebration of the formation of their Grand Lodge is now only three years distant, they have resolved to mark the occurrence of that auspicious event by erecting an "Infirmary and Home" for aged, infirm, and penniless brethren. They have already commenced the task of raising the necessary funds for the purpose, and it is announced that at the date of the 96th communication in October, 1895, no less than 746

subscriptions, representing in the aggregate nearly 12,700 dollars had been secured. This is a brave beginning and we trust that when the great anniversary comes it will be found that such an amount has been obtained as will enable Kentucky to make decent provision for the maintenance of their aged and indigent members during the closing years of their existence, as well as for the widow and orphan children. There is only one matter in the accounts we have read of Kentucky Freemasonry and its proceedings to which we take exception. We refer to the passing of a resolution to the effect that the Grand Lodge "disapproves" of the "retail of spirituous liquors." It is in the power of the lodges to accept or reject persons engaged in that business who offer themselves as candidates for initiation, but neither lodge nor Grand Lodge has the right to interfere with a man's private avocations.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., G. Superintendent of Hants and the Isle of Wight, G.J., occupied the chair of G.Z.; Comp. Lieut.-General C. W. Randolph, G. Superintendent of Sussex, took the chair of G.H.; and Comp. Col. John Charles Macglasham, G. Superintendent of the West Indies and Central America, acted as G.J.

Amongst a large number of Grand and Past Grand Officers were Comps. James Smith Eastes, who acted as G.S.N.; E. Letchworth, G.S.E.; C. E. Keyser, Baron de Ferriers, W. M. Stiles, P.G.T.; J. Lewis Thomas, Peter de Larde Long, W. Lake, R. Clowes, J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. F. Smithson, Sir G. D. Harris, Frank Richardson, Gen. Gadsden, Walter Hopekirk, R. Clay Sudlow, George Boulton, George Graveley, S. V. Abraham, H. Tipper, S. Vallentine, George Everett, T. W. Whitmarsh, R. Horton Smith, O.C., Dr. Clement Godson, Charles Belton, W. E. Chapman, and Henry Lovegrove.

On the motion of Comp. Sir GEORGE D. HARRIS, President of the Committee of General Purposes, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, charters were granted for new chapters, according to the following petitions:

1st. From Comps. John Gordon, as Z.; John Harold Milton, as H.; James Pinder, as J.; and eight others for a chapter to be attached to the St. John at Hackney Lodge, No. 2511, to be called the St. John at Hackney Chapter, and to meet at the Old Town Hall, Hackney, London.

2nd. From Comps. Frederick A. Bowles, as Z.; Walter Hailes, as H.; Charles W. Garraway, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the Mount Everest Lodge, No. 2439, to be called the Mount Everest Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Darjeeling, in the District of Bengal.

3rd. From Comps. Augustus Frederick Lay, as Z.; Henry Burton Chamberlain, as H.; Edward James Anning, as J.; and 10 others for a chapter to be attached to Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364, to be called the Earl of Zetland Chapter, and to meet at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham street, London.

4th. From Comps. the Earl of Portarlington, as Z.; Capt. George Hearn, as H.; Lieut. Robert Andrew Marshall, as J.; and 15 others for a chapter to be attached to the Military Lodge, No. 2621, to be called the Military Chapter, and to meet at the New Trocadero, Piccadilly, London.

5th. From Comps. Rev. William Morris, as Z.; William Calder Aiken, as H.; John Wetherston, as J.; and six others for a chapter to be attached to the Tyrian Lodge, No. 1628, to be called the Tyrian Chapter, and to meet at the Masonic Hall, Bundaberg, Queensland.

6th. From Comps. W. Trevor Parkins, as Z.; James Daniel Murray, as H.; John Hackett, as J.; and seven others for a chapter to be attached to the St. Augustine's Lodge, No. 1941, to be called the St. Augustine's Chapter, and to meet at the Shrewsbury Arms Hotel, Rugeley, in the county of Stafford.

Sanction was also given to the removal of the place of meeting of each of the following chapters:

The Cray Valley Chapter, No. 2147, from the Institute, St. Mary Cray, to the Crown Hotel, Chislehurst.

The Addiscombe Chapter, No. 1556, from the Masonic Hall, High street, to the Public Hall, Croydon.

The Punjab Chapter, No. 782, to meet at Meean Meer, and at Lahore, alternately or as occasion may arise.

A charter was also granted to the companions of the Fortitude Chapter, No. 279 Leicester, authorising them to wear a centenary jewel, the chapter having proved an uninterrupted existence of 100 years.

Grand Chapter was then closed in ancient and solemn form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

The annual convocation of the above Prov. Grand Chapter was held at the Central Masonic Hall, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle, on the 26th ultimo, when there was a large attendance of companions from all parts of the province.

Comp. the Right. Hon. Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Grand Superintendent, presided, and was supported by the following, among other Prov. Grand Officers: Comps. John Nesbitt, W. F. Carmon, T. Purvis, A. T. Aitchison, G. E. Macarthy, T. J. Armstrong, G. C. Coates, George Spain, J. Gibson Youll, John Spearman, Thos. Blenkinsop, R. W. Cummings, J. Straker Wilson, John Page, Dr. C. D. Hill Dury, S. M. Harris, J. W. Gibson, John Strachan, J. C. Moor, W. Mures Lyon, Capt. Forbes, and Jacob Barker.

The roll of chapters was called, and the reports presented were very satisfactory.

The Grand Superintendent, Comp. Sir M. W. RIDLEY, Bart., M.P. expressed his satisfaction at the continued prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in the province, and hoped that harmonious working would long continue. He was glad that by their investment that day they were contributing a little to the success of the new central Masonic Temple, in which they held their provincial convocation for the first time. (Applause.)

The Grand Superintendent then invested the following as the officers for the ensuing year:

Comp. W. Mures Lyon	...	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" John Srachan	...	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" T. J. Armstrong	...	...	...	Prov. G.R.
" G. E. Macarthy (re-elected)	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. Purvis (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Geo. Blair	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. Hammond	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" Richard Harris	...	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" Walter Bell	...	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" J. A. Forbes	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Cohen	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" George Spain (re-appointed)	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" William Robson	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Jacob Barker	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Henry Rochester	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" Joshua Curry	...	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The next annual Prov. Grand Chapter was fixed to be held at Newcastle, under the banner of St. Peter's Chapter, No. 481.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SUSSEX

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in Brighton, on Thursday, the 29th ult. Bro. E. R. Currie, D.D., Dean of Battle, P.G.C., Deputy P.G.M., presided, in the unavoidable absence of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, P.G.M.

Among the visitors present were Bros. C. F. Matier, G. Sec., and Gerald W. E. Loder, M.P.

The financial position of the Provincial Grand Lodge was reported as satisfactory.

During the past year a portrait of the Duke of Connaught, subscribed for by the Sussex brethren, has been placed on the walls of Grand Mark Lodge.

The following Provincial Grand Officers were invested for the ensuing year:

Bro. F. W. Hotham	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. Wood	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" E. Mitchell	...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" C. R. Foster	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" J. A. Skinner	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. W. Wakeford	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. Tickle	...	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" W. Wright	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. H. Ewart	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" G. W. Willcock	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. Martin	...	...	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" A. Lloyd	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. H. Tester	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" C. Fox Goode	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. Potter	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. B. Guy	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" G. Fowler	...	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" J. R. Thornton	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" W. Hughes	...	...	...
" F. B. Sutton	...	...	...
" W. Gates	...	...	...

Bro. Jos. Farncombe, W.M. 484, was re-elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

The other business was of a formal character. Later on the brethren dined at the Old Ship Hotel.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

It is very gratifying to note the increasing interest which in these days the Mark Degree is exciting. When we contrast the vitality of the present with the almost pulseless condition of the Order some time ago, it is clear that, either through appreciation of its own intrinsic worth or through the energetic action of its admirers, it has received an impetus which seems to gather strength year by year. Doubtless both influences have been at work; hence the highly satisfactory result. This improved condition of affairs is very marked in the provinces, and nowhere more than in West Yorkshire. In the very interesting retrospect of the past 25 years given by Bro. C. Letch Mason, P.G.M. for West Yorkshire, it will be seen the province over which he so ably presides has recently made very substantial progress. From Bro. Mason's address—given below—we find that West Yorkshire has just completed its quarter of a century's existence as a province. Commencing in 1871 with six lodges, it now numbers 14, and its muster roll has increased from less than 120 to over 400. This may not be deemed very extraordinary advancement, yet it must be regarded as satisfactory. It is not, however, for the increase in the number of its lodges or in the total of its membership only that the province deserves to be commended, but for the harmony which pervades the lodges, and the spirit of emulation, good-natured emulation, which seems to actuate the brethren.

There was an earnest tone about the half-yearly meeting of Saturday last, which must have been as gratifying to the Provincial Grand Master as it was encouraging to all his well-wishers, and we congratulate Bro. Mason upon the organisation and the *esprit de corps* which his province displays. The meeting took place at Wakefield, under the banner of Integrity Lodge, No. 110. Besides his Deputy, Bro. John Barker, the Prov. G. Master was supported by—

Bros. W. E. Smithies, W.M. 493, P.P.S.G.W., as Prov. S.G.W.; G. H. Parke, P.M. 110, P.G.S., Prov. J.G.W.; Wm. J. Morris, P.M. 58, Prov. G.M.O.; Wm. Flockton, P.M. 111, P.P.S.G.O., as Prov. S.G.O.; G. Wragg, P.M. 53, Prov. J.G.O.; Rev. J. L. Brereton, M.A., Prov. G. Chaplain; T. Robertshaw, P.M. 58, Prov. Grand Treasurer; W. A. Statter, P.M. 110, Prov. Grand Registrar; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 110, Prov. Grand Secretary; W. R. Massie, P.M. 127, P.P.S.G.O., as Prov. S.G.D.; W. C. Fox, M.O. 53, Prov. J.G.D.; G. H. Clemons, P.M. 374, Prov. G.I. of W.; A. Leach, P.M. 110, P.P.G.D.C., as Prov. G.D.C.; A. Wilson, P.M. 457, Prov. G.S.B.; Wm. Cockcroft, W.M. 501, P.P.G. Std. Br., as Prov. G. Std. Br.; J. Dunnill, Org. 110, Prov. G. Org.; J. Martin, 110, as Prov. G.I.G.; J. W. Smith, Sec. 374, and John Reed, P.M. 398, Prov. G. Stewards; G. Hallas, W.M. 14, and T. Rowbotham, W.M. 53, as Prov. G. Stewards; and J. H. Newton, 111, Prov. G. Tyler.

Amongst the P.P.G. Officers were—
Bros. C. Woollons, P.M. 110, and J. H. Gratton, P.M. 127, P.G. Wardens; Dr. Jacob, J.P., P.M. 352, E. J. Massie, P.M. 127, T. Norfolk, P.M. (T.I.), and J. A. Thornton, P.M. 110, P.G. Overseers; H. G. E. Green, P.M. 110, P.G. Treas.; W. Langbridge, P.M. 398, P.G. Reg.; J. J. Martin, P.M. 110 and A. Gill, P.M. 137, P.G. Deacons; T. B. Wilson, P.M. 457, P.G.D. of C.; T. Tomlinson, P.M. 111, P.G.S.B.; and Geo. Carbert, M.O. 110, P.G. Org.

There were also amongst others: Bro. Geo. Martin, W.M., J. Clifford, J.W., W. H. F. Schütte, I.G., Edwin Fouldes, W. Lawson, and Wm. Laycock, of Old York (I.L.); A. E. Dilzell, W.M., Stwd., Milligan, S.W., W.M. elect, G. Patchett, P.M., and Jas. Milligan, S.O., of 58; W. H. Kingswell, W.M., F. Stafford, J.W., B. F. Glover, S.D., W. Fennell, J.D., W. N. Pearson, F. Massie, and H. Giltott, of 110; T. Pickles, S.W. 127; J. Naylor, J.W., J. H. Dyson, S.O., and Joe Sykes, 137; C. A. Phillips, W.M., and A. G. Mabin, J.W., of 457; and Henry Smith, P.D.G.M. (Craft).

The Worshipful Master of Integrity Lodge, No. 110, Bro. W. H. Kingswell, in whose very capable hands all arrangements were left, was ready with his officers to receive the Prov. Grand Master and his numerous following at 3.30.

When all were seated, Bro. Mason opened Provincial Grand Lodge, the Prov. G. Chap. Bro. Rev. J. L. Brereton offering solemn prayer. After the Prov. G. Master and his Deputy had received the salutations of the brethren, the roll of lodges was called. All were represented. There was an unusually long list of apologies, and several Prov. G. Officers were unable to be present. Amongst these were Bros. the Right Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., J.G.W. Eng., Prov. S.G.W.; H. S. Hildsworth, F. Smith, M. J. Dodworth, J. W. Monckman, R. Hodgson, T. Myers, T. G. Howell, Tudor Trevor, P.P.G. Sec.; and many others.

The Prov. G. Sec., Bro. JOSEPH MATTHEWMAN, P.M., presented the minutes of the annual meeting held at Huddersfield, on the 21st May last.

On the motion of Bro. Dr. JACOB, J.P., seconded by Bro. A. GILL, the minutes were taken as read and confirmed.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then addressed the meeting. He said:

Brethren.—The year 1896 is one which, in its relation to the history of our Order in West Yorkshire, ought, certainly, to be marked with a white stone. Not only does it complete the 25 years of our existence as a province, but, as I shall be able to show you, it has been in other respects remarkable, as well as exceptionally prosperous. I shall not on this occasion go into particulars as to the formation of the Grand Mark Lodge, nor shall I attempt to show the antiquity of Mark Masonry; but I shall confine myself to-day to a retrospect of the past quarter of a century and make a few comments thereon. It was in 1871 that the formation of this province took place. At that time, as many of you are doubtless aware, there were seven Mark lodges existing in West Yorkshire. Six of these united and on the 2nd of August of that year were constituted a province. This important event took place at Halifax, the meeting for the purpose being under the banner of Fearnley Lodge, No. 58, of which Bro. Thomas Perkinson, the first Prov. G. Master for West Yorkshire, was a member. The then Prov. G. Master for Lancashire, R.W. Bro. W. Romaine Callender, with a large number of his officers, attended to represent the M.W. Grand Master, Bro. Rev. Geo. Raymond Portal, M.A., to constitute the province and to install its first Prov. Grand Master. There was a large gathering, 46 of whom have recorded their names in the attendance book. Immediately after installation the Prov. Grand Master appointed his Deputy. The first Deputy Prov. Grand Master for West Yorkshire was Bro. John Wordsworth, who was at the time W.M. of Integrity Lodge, No. 110, under whose banner we meet to-day. The first S.G.W. was Bro. Henry Matthews, W.M. of Britannia Lodge, No. 53, Sheffield, and the first J.G.W. was Bro. Robert Vickerman Allison, W.M. of the Copley Lodge, No. 111, Leeds. Of the four brethren I have named three no longer remain amongst us, but one, Bro. Allison, I am glad to say still survives and I had the pleasure of meeting him in lodge only the other day. At that time, brethren, I was not myself a Mark Mason, though my good Deputy, Bro. John Barker, I believe was, and great changes have, of course, taken place during the passing of those 25 years; in fact, if that historic roll was called to-day I fear there would be many who would fail to answer when their names were uttered. In running my eye over the list I came upon one name well known within the portals of Integrity Lodge—I refer to Bro. Charles Woollons. Bro. Woollons signed that book as J.W. of his lodge, and to his honour be it said in all the vicissitudes of fortune through which Integrity has passed Bro. Woollons has ever been staunch in support of his lodge and regular in his attendance at its meetings. Moribund, at Morley, through the influence of Bro. Woollons, Bro. H. France, whose recent death we all deplore, and others, Integrity Lodge was in April, 1876, removed to Wakefield. It is now, I am pleased to say, prosperous and flourishing, and promises to take rank amongst the foremost in the province. Bro. Perkinson held the office of Prov. Grand Master until 1877, a period of six years. Bro. John Wordsworth, who had been his Deputy during that time, succeeded him. Bro. Wordsworth died in 1883, and in the April of that year—the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge took place on the day of Bro. Wordsworth's funeral—I was nominated for recommendation to the M.W.G. Master, Lord Henniker, as his successor. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on becoming head of our Order in 1836, confirmed me in that position, and you in your goodness have continued, at the expiration of each period of three years, to show renewed confidence in me by again and again with one consent, selecting me for re-appointment. Brethren, I am proud to possess your confidence and grateful for the evidences of your goodwill, and so long as my services are of use to you and the province, so long am I ready and willing to put them at your disposal. Commencing with six lodges in August, 1871, the province added one other to its roll the same year, viz., Truth Lodge, No. 137, Huddersfield. In 1874 Old York, Bradford, joined, and then, so far as the number of its lodges went, the province for some years

remained stationary. From 1885 progress was resumed, and at the end of 1895 we had 12 lodges. We now come to the present year, 1896. We have, as I have said, reached our quarter of a century as a province, and it was suggested that we should mark this 25th year in some peculiar and special way. Well, brethren, I think we *have* so distinguished it. This province has been honoured by the selection of your Prov. Grand Master as Chairman of the Mark Benevolent Festival. Determined to make that Festival a success, you have thrown all your energies into the work and by your generosity and enthusiasm placed me in the proud position of presiding at a Festival where the largest sum ever subscribed to the Mark Benevolent Fund was announced. That fact alone I think sufficiently emphasises our 25th birthday, and to you the Charity Stewards of the lodges and to those others whose persevering—I may say untiring—labours produced this splendid result, I owe and tender grateful thanks. It was through their efforts that the really excellent claims of the Mark Benevolent Fund were brought to the notice of the brethren in this province, and to those charitable appeals you, my friends, nobly and generously responded. 1896 stands out as a "record" year in relation to this Fund, and will ever be remembered by me with gratitude and pride. There is another circumstance, moreover, which has rendered this year conspicuous in our annals; in that we have added two new lodges to our roll. Both, I have good reason to believe, have supplied long-felt wants; both have been inaugurated under most favourable circumstances, and both are in strong, capable, and experienced hands. Their future success is, I feel confident, assured, and their example will, I doubt not, be emulated in other directions. Brethren, it is cheering to me to be able to speak so encouragingly of the progress and success of our Order in West Yorkshire. We have worked well; we have done well; we have made our mark; but we are not without our drawbacks and our sorrows. The lives of communities, as of individuals, are chequered. We mourn this year the loss of several good and faithful brethren from our midst. Amongst these I may name Bro. Joseph Brooks Parkin and Bro. Henry France. The former, an active citizen to the day of his death, a former Mayor of ancient Ripon, was a Past Master and prominent supporter of Prince Leopold Lodge, and held the office of Senior Grand Deacon in Provincial Grand Lodge. The latter, Masonically speaking, was a veteran. Having passed his three score years and ten, nay, having very nearly approached his four score years, Bro. France has recently gone through much physical pain and discomfort, yet was he always cheery and pleasant. He has been in his day and generation a pillar of Masonic strength, and a distinguished Mark Mason, and many younger brethren in this city owe much to Bro. France for friendly and encouraging Masonic help and tuition in time of need, and for sound and disinterested counsel at perhaps a critical period. Both these our good brethren, after active and industrious lives, have been called by the Great Overseer to submit their work for inspection. That that work will meet with acceptance we hope and believe, and the memory of their genial and unselfish careers will, I doubt not, long remain with those who survive to mourn their loss. Others there are, less conspicuous perhaps, but not less exemplary, of whom I may name Bros. Ingleby and Tempeley, both of the Old York Lodge, Bradford, and both, had they been spared, capable of fully illustrating Masonic devotion and Masonic worth. And now, brethren, there is nothing more, I think, for me to do except to thank you for your hearty salutations and your attendance here to-day. Your loyalty and attachment to our Order are well known to, and thoroughly appreciated by, me. They are only equalled by your munificent Charity, a Charity which will, I hope, be returned in blessings four-fold upon all of you. This, I may mention, is the fourth time Provincial Grand Lodge has met in Wakefield. The first was in 1885, when, I believe, Bro. Thornton was in the chair; the second time was in 1888, when Bro. Thomas Howden filled that important post; and the third was in the year of our Past Prov. Grand Treasurer, Bro. Herbert Green. Since that time, as you all know, Bro. Matthewman, our Prov. Grand Secretary, has occupied that position, and now you see it filled ably and worthily by his successor, Bro. W. H. Kingswell. I am sure you will all unite with me in wishing prosperity to Integrity Lodge and a successful year to its new Worshipful Master.

The Prov. Grand Master's address was most attentively listened to, and it was evident from the many expressions which it evoked that his references awoke echoes of sympathy in the breasts of many.

The next business was the investiture of Bro. F. Bateman, P.M. 352, as Prov. S.G.D. in the room of Bro. J. B. Parkin, who held that office at the time of his death.

On Bro. Bateman being presented to the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. MASON said that as he was wishful that the honour so deservedly won by Bro. Parkin should be continued in Prince Leopold Lodge, he had selected Bro. Bateman, knowing him to be a good and true brother and one who would prove a worthy successor to their recently-deceased friend.

Bro. Mason then invested Bro. Bateman with the collar of his office, and the newly-appointed Prov. S.G. Deacon took his place in Provincial Grand Lodge.

Bro. G. H. PARKE, P.M., J.G.W., then rose, as President of the Board, to present to the Provincial Grand Master the thanks of all the Stewards for presiding so successfully at the late Benevolent Festival. The vote of thanks, couched in graceful terms, was in the form of a beautiful address on vellum, illuminated in colours, and handsomely framed. Bro. Parke said that Bro. Mason's great triumph in London last July proved to his mind two things—first, how deeply the brethren of West Yorkshire esteemed and respected their Provincial Grand Master, and, secondly, how fully and completely they appreciated the excellent charitable Institution, which had been so well and economically organised by the executive of that increasingly popular Degree. After going into figures and particulars of the Festival, Bro. Parke said that, as President of the Board of Stewards, the gratifying duty of presenting that testimonial devolved upon him. It afforded him the utmost pleasure to do that, and he was quite sure Bro. Mason would value their little recognition, not for its intrinsic worth, but because it showed how gratefully the Board acknowledged his able advocacy of their Charity and his strenuous and effective support. After reading it, Bro. Parke handed the address over to Bro. Mason, with the hope that he might long be spared to see it hung beneath his roof.

Bro. MASON thanked the Board of Stewards, and was especially grateful to Bro. Parke for the kind and graceful manner in which he had discharged the duty devolving upon him. He, however, must say that the great success of the Festival was not due so much to his efforts as to the energy and devotion of two brethren, viz., Bro. Parke himself, the Chairman of the Charity Committee, and Bro. Matthewman, their Provincial Grand Secretary. It was with them the credit mainly rested, for they not only worked hard themselves, but they contrived to infuse their own spirit into others, and thus bring about a combination of loyal help and generous support, which produced the result of which he was so proud. This remark was warmly received by the brethren, and Bro. Mason, continuing, said that that cheer showed that, like himself, they, the brethren of the province, recognised to whom they were indebted for the Festival's success. It had been a success, and he was proud of it, and he hoped the Charity would continue to flourish and carry on the good work it was so well calculated to effect. As to that very handsome address, it should hang upon the walls of his own room, and

daily remind him of the loyalty of his province and the disinterested conduct of the brethren.

Bro. JOHN BARKER, Deputy P.G.M., next addressed the meeting. After thanking the brethren for their salutation and giving utterance to the pleasure it gave him to visit the Lodge of Integrity, Wakefield, and to see how by the efforts of one or two the present position of success had been reached, Bro. Barker complimented the province upon the record which they had established in relation to the Mark Benevolent Fund. He said the Prov. Grand Master had left him little to add, but there was one thing he would mention; it had relation to arrears. He would like to see their financial year close without a single instance of this kind, and if that were done they would add another and a most creditable record to their list. It was by no means impossible, for last year there was really only one lodge in that condition and he thought if W.Ms. and Treasurers gave timely and kindly attention to getting in subscriptions they could achieve this most desirable object. Bro. Barker expressed the gratification which the progress of the Mark Degree in West Yorkshire had given him, but would remind the founders of new lodges that with them rested serious responsibilities. It was their duty by example and precept to see that a high Masonic standard was maintained in their lodges; judiciously so to regulate the affairs that no improper person should gain admission; carefully to keep up with due solemnity the observance of the ritual; and to strike the key-note of friendly emulation amongst the brethren throughout the province. Bro. Barker next spoke of the very excellent accommodation which Integrity Lodge had provided for their comfort that day, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. W. H. Kingswell and his lodge for their kindness and forethought.

This was seconded by Bro. W. E. SMITHIES, and carried by acclamation.

Bro. KINGSWELL thanked the brethren and declared that he was proud that his lodge had been honoured by the visit of Provincial Grand Lodge.

Invitations of a most cordial character for the privilege of entertaining Provincial Grand Lodge at the annual meeting in May were proffered by Bro. T. Rowbotham, W.M., on the part of Britannia Lodge, Sheffield, and Bro. W. S. Milligan, W.M. elect Fearnley, Halifax.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER thanked the brethren and intimated that the invitations would be considered and communications made, but so far as he could at present see he thought the invitation of Sheffield would be accepted.

This concluded the business and Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

There was tea in the handsome dining room downstairs, of which 40 brethren partook. The Prov. Grand Master presided, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SOMERSET.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at Keynsham, at the local head-quarters, the Lamb and Lark Hotel, under the presidency of the P.G.M., Bro. R. C. Else, who was supported by the D.P.G.M., Bro. Col. Long.

The following P.G. Officers were appointed for the ensuing year:

Bro. A. J. Gray, P.M. 119 ...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" H. Humphries ...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" S. J. Lewis, W.M. 119 ...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. E. Perrett, P.M. 102 ...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" G. W. Wiltshire, W.M. 155 ...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. Thomas (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" Radway (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" R. Knight, P.M. 348 ...	...	Prov. G. R. of M.
" T. F. Elworthy (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" F. E. Pearse, M.D., 155 ...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" H. Davies, W.M. 191 ...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" A. W. Moore, P.M. 155 ...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" E. Fuller, 177 ...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" T. Bampfild (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. G. Coggan (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" R. H. Shrapnell, 119 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" T. Colemitt (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" A. Holborn, 119 ...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards.
" T. J. Jeffries, 119 ...	...
" A. G. Salter (re-appointed) ...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

CONSECRATION OF THE STAR LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS, No. 499.

The consecration of the Star Lodge, No. 499, held at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C., on the 30th ult., attracted a goodly number of Mark Masons, who had an opportunity of witnessing a most impressive rendering of the ritual. Prior to the consecration, a lodge was opened by Bros. H. J. Mcfarlane, P.M.; R. J. Wishart, P.M.; Captain E. M. Money, P.M.; J. D. Vicary, P.M.; and W. Kipps, P.M.; when 10 brethren were advanced to the Degree of Mark Master Masons. The Star Lodge thus starts with a strong roll of members, and officered as it is by experienced brethren, under Bro. Major Woolmer Williams, should prove a valuable acquisition to Mark Masonry in the Metropolis.

The Consecrating Officer, Bro. C. Fitzgerald Matier, P.G.W., Grand Secretary, was assisted by Bros. Major Gordon Miller, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; Major Walter E. Williams, G.S.D., as J.W.; Rev. V. P. Wyatt, G. Chap., as Chaplain; Major C. W. Carrell, G.D.C., as D.C.; and Dr. A. Stewart Brown, P.G.D., as I.G.

The brethren present included—

Bros. Maj. Woolmer Williams, W.M. designate; G. S. Elliott, S.W. designate; N. Churcher, J.W. designate; E. Apelt, P.M. 450; W. H. Toye, P.M. 173; H. Massey, P.M. 22; P. F. Matier, M.O. 406; A. E. Kipps, 332; W. Kipps, P.M. 334; J. D. Vicary, P.M. 451; T. Pritchard, I.G. 451; H. J. Macfarlane, P.M.; R. J. Wishart, P.M.; H. Harris, C. Meirshoff, T. Tucker, E. Fox, R.

Reid, T. Grummant, C. Wade, J. Marcham, C. Woodbridge Biggs, H. Harris, E. J. Mills, G. Tyler; and many others.

The Grand Officers having entered in procession and a hymn sung, the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressed the brethren on the nature of the meeting. He said they had met together on an exceedingly solemn and interesting occasion. It was many years since a Mark lodge was consecrated in the old City of London, and he thought that was the first time a Mark lodge had been consecrated under the shadow of the old Guildhall. Knowing as he did, the veneration the Corporation of that old City had for the grand tenets of Masonry, it could not fail to make a lasting impression upon the minds of all connected with the ceremony. They had met to consecrate a new lodge in the Mark Degree, to be dedicated to the worship of the Great Overseer of the Universe and the principles of the Order. As on all occasions of Masonic ceremonial they invoked guidance and direction from above, he would first call upon the Grand Chaplain to offer prayer.

The ceremony was then proceeded with, and, an oration having been delivered by the GRAND CHAPLAIN on the principles of the Order, the new lodge was solemnly dedicated and constituted.

The Grand Sec. then proceeded to install Bro. Major Woolmer Williams, after which the following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. G. S. Elliott, S.W.; N. Churcher, J.W.; E. Fox, M.O.; C. Woodbridge Biggs, S.O.; T. Grummant, J.O.; Cowley, Reg. of Mks.; C. Wade, Sec.; C. Meirshoff, S.D.; R. Reed, J.D.; H. F. Williams, D.C.; H. Harris, I.G.; T. Tucker, Stwd.; and Patrick, Tyler.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed that a very sincere and hearty vote of thanks should be accorded the Consecrating Officers, to whom they were deeply indebted for the very impressive rendering of the ritual, and that they should be elected honorary members.

The proposition was carried by acclamation, and

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., returned thanks for the compliment.

A vote of thanks was also passed to Bros. Macfarlane, Money, Wishart, Vicary, and Kipps for their assistance at the preliminary meeting for the advancement of candidates.

Other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet, the customary toasts received hearty recognition, "The Queen and Mark Masonry" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W. G.M.," being first honoured.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the WORSHIPFUL MASTER said it was with a feeling of very great satisfaction that the members welcomed so many Grand Officers that evening. He hoped those Grand Officers would take every opportunity of visiting them again and of witnessing their work.

Bro. Major GORDON MILLER, P.G. Treas., said it had given them the greatest pleasure to be present. They had heard the distinguished Grand Secretary consecrate lodges before, but he thought that on the present occasion Bro. Matier had excelled himself. It was a good thing to have such an able exponent of the ceremonial. The high officials of Mark Masonry took a great interest in the Order, and there were few occasions in Grand Mark Lodge when Bros. Lord Euston and Lord Dungarvan were not present.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G. Sec., then rose, and said that, although the proper form of expression was that they had already heard sufficient of his voice, he flattered himself that the toast he had to propose would be acceptable to all. It was "The Health of the Worshipful Master." He was sure they were properly prepared to honour that with the utmost cordiality. Their W.M. had not been so well known to him personally as his father was. He was not going to flatter the W.M., but would simply appeal to the members to prepare themselves to support him during the next year, and especially the officers. They would then find their W.M. had discharged his duty, and he would receive their stamp of approval, and they would also find he ruled over a happy, united, prosperous, and successful lodge.

Bro. Major WOOLMER WILLIAMS, W.M., in reply, said he could hardly sufficiently thank the Consecrating Officer for his very kind remarks. It was true his father knew the Grand Secretary better than he had the privilege of doing, but he hoped to know him more as years went on. Bro. Matier had put before them a hope which was his (the W.M.s.) greatest ambition—that it might be his privilege to rule over a prosperous, happy, and contented lodge. It was a happy circumstance to find himself surrounded by so many old workers in Freemasonry. There were several round the table who had worked with him in the Craft and Royal Arch for over 25 years, and they were still working together, and he hoped would continue to do so for many years to come. Those brethren knew that whatever he took up he tried to carry out to the best of his ability. This was a beautiful Degree and the more the brethren who had been advanced that evening saw of it the more they would like it and like to go through the various offices. He thanked the Consecrating Officer for his exceedingly complimentary remarks, and he only hoped that distinguished brother would do them the honour of attending again next year when he would be able to see that his remarks had, to a certain extent, been justified. The next toast he (the W.M.) would propose was "The Consecrating Officer." They were all deeply grateful to him for attending, and he was informed that there was no brother in Mark Masonry who could perform the consecration ceremony with greater dignity and greater expression than Bro. Matier. Those present would not forget the ceremony for many years, for it must have made a deep impression on all. He asked the brethren to drink the health of the Consecrating Officer and those who had assisted him in a most enthusiastic manner.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G. Sec., in response, said he did not take all the kindly expressions of the W.M. to himself, but shared them with the other Grand Officers who had most kindly and ungrudgingly given their assistance. He had had the assistance of two good Wardens and a most excellent G. Chaplain, who had given them a most charming oration, to which he had listened with implicit attention. The G.D.C. had acted in that capacity, as he always did, to the best of his ability, and Dr. Stewart Brown had kindly acted as I.G. They had heard of the many good deeds done by the Star Craft Lodge and Chapter, and there they had a magnificent field to draw from for this new Mark lodge. There was no reason why they should not maintain the honour of the Star in the three Degrees, and he hoped that lodge would prosper and flourish until time itself should be no more. In the name of those who assisted him, he thanked Bro. Kipps, who had helped considerably with the music, and contributed greatly to the success of the evening.

The W.M. next proposed "The Visitors."

Bro. H. J. MACFARLANE, P.M., in reply, returned sincere thanks. It was very pleasing to see one of his own advances as the first W.M. of that

lodge, and it had afforded him great pleasure to render assistance that evening.

Bros. E. M. MONEY, P.M.; W. KIPPS, P.M.; and E. APELT, P.M., also responded.

For "The Advances" Bros. GRUMMANT and TUCKER replied.

"The Officers" having been given, the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

Bro. W. Kipps, P.P.G. Org. Kent, conducted the musical arrangements, and was assisted by Miss Kathleen Williams, Miss Violet Carter, and Messrs. G. Carter and H. Howland.

FREEMASONRY AND LOCAL CHARITIES.

On Thursday, the 22nd ult., Bro. Dr. William Cock, of Queen's-road, Peckham, S.E., occupied the chair at the annual dinner of the Peckham and Old Kent-road Pension Society, held at the Holborn Restaurant. He was most ably supported by the estimable President of the Society, Chas. T. Harris, Esq., F. G. Banbury, Esq., M.P., G. R. Higgins, Esq., Jos. Messent, R. S. Tilling, Esq., Bros. Goddard Clarke, J.P., R. Lyon, J.P., L.C.C., Isaac Dunn, A. H. Dale, Treas., Revs. F. Werninck, S. H. Kingston, Stevenson, Bicknell, A. D. Jeffrey, and H. R. Finlay, Drs. Esler, Etheridge, and Burgess, and other local influential gentlemen, including many brethren of various lodges in South London to the number of about 270.

The toast of "The Houses of Parliament" having been proposed by Mr. G. R. HIGGINS, and duly responded to by Mr. BANBURY,

The CHAIRMAN next gave the toast of the evening, viz., "Success to the Society," remarking the gratification he felt in having around him so many men to do it honour and permanently benefit it. No words were needed from him to induce those present to give the Society support. The Charity was a noble one and sought to alleviate distress amongst a class of tradesmen whose needs increased as a body with the increase of population. The Society was admirably managed. Sermons on behalf of it had been preached at St. Marks (Rev. F. Werninck), St. Chrysostom (Rev. H. E. Bicknell), Queen's-road Wesleyan Church (Rev. J. Stevenson), Hanover Chapel (Rev. J. W. Bowman), and Clifton Church (Rev. Allen Jeffery.) His own appeal in respect of prospective Charity had been wonderfully met, and often in the least likely quarters. The Society entertained only thoroughly deserving cases, and was strictly non-political. He maintained that the workhouse was not intended for the succour of those who had fallen from better circumstances, and for these unfortunate creatures he stood there that evening a beggar, and the response to his appeal would be found in the subscription list.

Mr. RYE, the Collector, then announced the list, which amounted to the grand total of £600, which was the record, and marked an epoch in the history of this deserving Society. Included in this amount was the munificent sum of 200 guineas subscribed by brethren of various lodges in the district, to mark their appreciation of the splendid services rendered by the Chairman to the cause of Freemasonry in general, but especially to its noble Charitable Institutions, thereby showing that spirit of true benevolence which should be extended to every deserving person.

The Vice-Chairmen were Bros. T. Grummant, R. Lyon, J.P., L.C.C., Fred. Dunn, C. Goddard Clarke, J.P., and Messrs. T. Wade, C. Highland, and T. W. Tilling. The duties of Stewards were ably discharged by Bros. J. Finch, J. Messent, H. C. Reeves, and Messrs. J. Mitchell, J. B. Scalé, T. K. Griffin, J. Webb, J. C. Tessier, Sec., and A. Rye, Collector.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF FORFARSHIRE.

The quarterly communication of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the hall of Panmure Lodge, No. 299, Arbroath, on the 27th ult. Bro. James Berry Prov. G.M., presided, and there was a good attendance of brethren.

The PROV. GRAND SECRETARY read minutes of special visitations by the Provincial Grand Lodge to two lodges in Dundee which had, it appeared, been found fault with by the Grand Lodge for a breach of Grand Lodge rules. It appeared that these lodges were now, explanations having been given and accepted, admitted to full communion with the Provincial Grand Lodge and Grand Lodge.

In regard to the recall of the charter of Lodge Dunnichen, No. 684, Letham, it was agreed that no further steps should be taken to secure the recall of the charter.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER explained that the Grand Committee had now agreed by a large majority that the lodges would be allowed to pass candidates from one Degree to another after the expiry of 14 days, in place of 15 days as had formerly been held to be the rule. This would, he had no doubt, be felt to be a great convenience, and he hoped that after the matter had been thoroughly discussed the privilege would be given to the Provincial Grand Master or some other official to grant a dispensation from the new rule as to the expiry of a certain number of days before the passing of candidates from one Degree to another. (Applause).

The PROV. GRAND MASTER intimated that the annual meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge would be held in January next, and as nearly all the office bearers would retire at that time, he hoped there would be a large attendance of brethren, in order that the Prov. Grand Master should be properly supported.

Bro. LINDSAY, Carnoustie, held that a larger representation of the province on Grand Committee should be secured, and he suggested that Bro. the Hon. C. M. Ramsay should be sent to support Bro. Berry.

This suggestion was cordially received. The other business was unimportant.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was, after the business had been exhausted, closed.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG has taken the Villa Lisib at Nicc, which her Royal Highness occupied after the death of Prince Henry, for the season and will arrive with her children early in the month of January.

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Accumulated Funds	£4,671,000



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, and little time was occupied in disposing of the business indicated in the paper of Agenda we published last week. Indeed, the only remark that need be made is that of the six chapters for which warrants have been granted since the August Convocation, three, namely, the St. John at Hackney, No. 2511, the Earl of Zetland Chapter, No. 1364, and the Military Chapter, No. 2621, will meet in London; one—the St. Augustine's Chapter, No. 1941—at Rugeley, in the Province of Staffordshire; and two abroad, namely, the Mount Everest Chapter, No. 2439, at Darjeeling, in the District of Bengal; and the Tyrian Chapter, No. 1628, at Bundaberg, in the District of Queensland.

The following are among the annual Provincial meetings that will be held in the course of the present month, namely, that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland, at Carlisle, to-day (Friday); that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Northumberland, at Alnwick, on Tuesday, the 24th inst.; that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire, in the Masonic Hall, Derby, on Wednesday, the 25th inst.; and that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire, at Salford, on Thursday, the 26th inst. To the first of these meetings more than usual interest attaches, as the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord H. Bentinck, has promised to preside as Chairman at the 99th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and Cumberland and Westmorland, as "the Chairman's Province," will doubtless bethink itself at this meeting of informally making arrangements to support their chief.

It is not improbable also that the question of the Removal of the Boys' School may be considered, while there is very little reason to doubt that it will be discussed, and resolutions relating to it submitted, at those of the other Provincial Grand Lodge meetings we have specified. The Charities Committee of East Lancashire has already passed a resolution in opposition to the scheme, while a communication we were requested to publish last week shows that Northumberland is in favour of the removal. Indeed, from the considerations offered in behalf of the Charities Committee of the latter Province, which has passed a resolution in favour of the removal, Northumberland would seem to have grasped the situation completely. The Committee holds that the surroundings, the situation, and the subsoil of the present site are unfitting. It considers that a new building, specially designed for the Institution, would not only give ample accommodation, but would be more economically managed. It is in favour of giving ample space for purposes of recreation, and it desires that the boys should have "the best of every educational influence which can be obtained for them." It would be difficult to express more clearly the objects which the Board of Management have in view in proposing the removal than in the brief explanatory paragraph we were requested to publish last week.

We have been requested to announce that the annual meeting has been postponed from the date originally fixed of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire, and will be held under the auspices of the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, in the Masonic Hall, Cambridge, on Monday, the 23rd inst.

We most heartily congratulate our respected contemporary, the *Freemason's Repository*, of Providence, Rhode Island, on the completion of the 25th year of its career. It is a well-informed journal, while the articles and essays which appear in its columns are of a high class and eminently readable as well as instructive. For the last 20 years it has been under the editorial direction of Bro. the Rev. Henry W. Rugg, to whose successful efforts to improve the character of the magazine and make it a worthier and still more worthy exponent of sound Masonic opinion we are not only able, but delighted, to bear most favourable testimony. The 25th annual volume under Bro. Rugg's direction was completed with the September number. Since then to the cares of editorship he has added the responsibilities of proprietorship, and we trust that in this dual capacity he will be as successful as we are glad to acknowledge he has been as editor. In making this announcement Bro. Rugg speaks of adding new features which, in his opinion, will enhance the attractiveness of the *Repository*. We can only say that if he succeeds in keeping it as attractive as it has proved heretofore, we, as claiming to rank among those who value his services as writer and editor, shall be quite content.

From the returns presented at the 98th annual convocation of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, which was held in Hartford, in May last, it appears there are 38 chapters on the roll, with an aggregate membership of 5433, giving an average of more than 140 members per chapter. The G.H.P. for the current year is Comp. Samuel S. Lamb, while Comp. James McCormick retains the office of G. Secretary.

We publish elsewhere a short report of the proceedings of the meeting, on Friday, the 20th ult., of the supporters of the Fund which is being raised for the establishment of a Scholarship, or Scholarships in connection with the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

From this it will be seen that the subscriptions already promised fall not far short of £1630, of which all but about £96 has been already received. The expenditure for printing, stationery, advertisements, postages, falls some shillings short of £58. There is, therefore, already available for the purposes of the Fund about £1500, and, before the subscription list is closed, this will doubtless be augmented. We congratulate the promoters on the success of their scheme. Indeed, we should like to see the Fund substantially increased, so that in the course of time there may be two or more boys elected as Scholars.

We also publish two letters addressed by Bro. Jabez Hogg, P.G.D., Hon. Consulting Surgeon-Oculist to the Institution, to the Secretary. From these it will be seen that as regards the important consideration of the health of the School, Bro. Hogg views the removal from Wood Green to Bushey with the utmost satisfaction, his remarks as to the healthiness of the latter site fully confirming those of the owner of the estate from whom the purchase is being made. What Bro. Hogg says in his first letter as to the necessity for a due regard being paid to the principles of hygiene in erecting the new Schools is also a matter which the Board of Management will feel it their duty to give the closest consideration.

In one of our "Notes" of last week we announced the installation meeting of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, to be held on Friday, the 6th inst. We had overlooked the fact that though the day on which the lodge meets is ordinarily the first Friday in certain months, the installation meeting is a *fixture*, and is held annually on the 8th November. However, as this day falls on Sunday in the present year, the installation of Bro. Kupferschmidt as the W.M. of the lodge for the next 12 months will take place on Monday, the 9th inst.

We are informed that the annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Wiltshire will be held at Devizes to-morrow (Saturday), and that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has appointed Wednesday, the 25th instant, for that of his Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex at the Town Hall, Hastings. As his Royal Highness will preside at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February next, the proceedings at the latter gathering will be looked forward to with exceptional interest, especially if, as is generally considered likely, the Duke presides in person.

On Wednesday a new Masonic body was constituted at that favourite seaside resort for Londoners—Margate—the Alfred Wootton Royal Arch Chapter, so named after Comp. Alfred Wootton, who is one of the hardest working and prominent Masons in Kent, and who by his services well merits the compliment thus paid him, was consecrated by M.E. Comp. Earl Amherst, Grand Superintendent for Kent, assisted by Comp. J. S. Eastes, Prov. G.H., and the other leading officers of the Province. The new chapter will be attached to the Union Lodge, No. 127, which, though dating from the year 1763, has hitherto had no facilities connected with it for the study of Royal Arch Masonry, and as it will be started on its career under the auspices of the companion from whom it derives its name, as its first M.E.Z., there is little doubt as to the success of the career on which it has entered.

The ceremony, as will be seen from our report in another column, was held in the Masonic Hall, New Cross-street, which was opened in October of last year, and which since then has been very beautifully decorated, so that it is no exaggeration on our part to pronounce it as being one of the handsomest structures of its kind in England. It is the property of the Union Lodge, by whose generous outlay it has been erected, and M.E. Comp. Earl Amherst must have been gratified beyond measure at finding himself in a hall which has been specially built, and will, we believe, be specially reserved for the purpose of Freemasonry in its several branches.

THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS for the parish of St. John at Hackney, which have recently been erected at a cost of £8000 and will accommodate 300 boys and as many girls, were dedicated by the Bishop of Stepney and declared open by Bro. Lord Amherst of Hackney on Saturday last, there being a large gathering of persons present to witness the function, while the streets were gaily decorated with flags and banners of all descriptions and thronged with people. A mournful interest attached to the ceremony, as the Princess Henry of Battenberg laid the foundation-stone of the schools last year, and it was one of the last public ceremonies attended by the late Prince Henry. Bro. Lord Amherst congratulated the rector and churchwardens on the completion of the work.

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.

THE REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to the paragraphs and correspondence in your issue of the 24th instant, there are some points calling for remark.

You inform us that at the last Quarterly Court there were 86 provincial and 89 London brethren. Would you kindly supplement that information by giving the number of brethren hailing from different named provinces; at all events, let us know how many were from the "home provinces" in the vicinity of London, and from those further afield?

You state in your leading article that your "readers may carefully peruse the resolutions that have been passed in opposition to the scheme, they will not find in any one of them a single argument of any real value against the proposal."

Will you kindly state, for the information of your numerous readers, when it became the custom (except, possibly, at Trade Union meetings) to embody in a resolution a statement of the arguments on which it was founded? In the provinces, at all events, the practice is to confine the resolution to a bare statement of the conclusion arrived at, leaving the arguments for the speeches of the proposer and seconder.

You express your hope that now the scheme of the Board of Management has assumed a tangible form, you have heard the last of some "very un-Masonic threats of some lodges and brethren to remove their support if the resolution is persisted in." It is true that lodges and brethren—of whom the writer is one—have endeavoured to emphasise the fact that if the scheme of the Committee was carried into effect contrary to the views of a number of the Subscribers in the provinces, it would undoubtedly end in considerable additional support to the local charitable funds, to the probable detriment of the Central Charities, unless reasonable means were afforded by the Committee for allowing the provincial brethren to express their views. The Central Committee have preferred to rely on the purely legal ground of a resolution passed at a quarterly meeting. These meetings (held in London) it is impossible for the brethren at a distance—those to whom the question is the most important—to attend, except at an expense which is prohibitory. The Committee have carried their point, and can, so far, score a victory. But there are some victories which, in their after consequences, are worse than a defeat.

A large number of the brethren in the more distant provinces hold a strong view that a vote so obtained is not in any way morally binding upon them. You will not alter that view by the use of strong words. But whereas there is at present simply a decided movement in favour of strengthening the local Charities, you may, by a little judiciously-applied abuse, succeed in enlarging that feeling into one of direct hostility to the existing Committee. I submit that this is undesirable from any point of view.

I may mention that in this province a special meeting of the subscribers to the local Charity Fund (established 10 years ago) is just about to be held, with a view to largely strengthen its position and supplement its funds. The promises of financial support already received render the success of the movement a certainty.—Yours fraternally,

D.P.G.M. AND P.G.O.

Bristol, October 29th.

THE LATE BRO. SIR AUGUSTUS HARRIS, PAST G. TREAS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will you kindly allow me, through the columns of the *Freemason*, to put before the brethren the memorial which is being raised to perpetuate the memory of Sir Augustus Harris. It is not necessary for me to say what he did for Masonry, or to appeal in vain (I am sure) for contributions for the object we have in view.

Subscriptions may be sent to Bro. P.M. Alderman Frank Green, 193, Upper Thames-street, E.C.; or to me, at 14, York Buildings, Adelphi, W.C.—I am, yours fraternally,

Eccentric Club, 21, Shaftesbury Avenue,
Piccadilly Circus, W.,
October 31.

SIDNEY SMITH,
Hon. Secty.

A QUERY.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

I was speaking a few days ago of the "record" of Bro. James William Abbott, P.P.G.D.C. East Lancs., which appeared in your issue of the 26th September.

The brother to whom I was speaking sends me the following "record"—"Referring to our conversation, I find that I was proposed in Everton Lodge, No. 823, Liverpool, October 18th, 1871, and was initiated the next month. I have passed the chair, and been in office 17 years. I have not missed a lodge night—regular or emergency—and, as we have had on the average two emergency lodges each year, I think this is a 'record.'"

The writer of the foregoing is Bro. Joseph J. Boyle, P.M. 823, P.P.G.S.B. West Lancs.—Yours fraternally,

W. GOODACRE,
Prov. G. Sec. West Lancashire.

Granville Park, Aughton, near Ormskirk,
October 30th.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

We have had the following letters sent on to us by the Secretary, and as their contents concern the all-absorbing question of the removal of the School to another and healthier site, we have much pleasure in publishing them in our columns:

102, Palace Gardens-terrace, Kensington, W.,
Dear Bro. McLeod, October 20th, 1896.

I am sure it must be very satisfactory to you and your Committee to see that better counsels have prevailed among those brethren who were opposed to the removal of the School, and that a great majority of them are now disposed to lend a helping hand.

My object in writing to you, however, is to remind you that, so far, an important—I may almost say the most important—factor has either been overlooked

or not touched upon. This is the bearing which the removal will have on the health of the schoolboys and teachers.

The present hygienic surroundings at Wood Green are, in my opinion, detrimental to health, and much of the illness of the boys must be placed to this cause. No doubt most of the children that come to you inherit weak health, while many must have a deteriorated physique. This goes without saying, as the parents in most cases die early and from constitutional causes, so that the necessity for healthy surroundings is of the utmost importance to start with.

I shall never forget the disappointment I experienced when present at the laying of the foundation-stone at Wood Green, and had to walk about in a plastic clay and slush, a very slough of despair; and when I attended the opening ceremony two years later, the surroundings had scarcely improved.

"What an unfit place," a medical brother remarked, "for our Boys' School," and much since must their health have suffered. What a saving, then, in health will the removal be to the very excellent site chosen at Bushey. I know the spot well, the surroundings are first rate, while the gravelly soil will be so favourable to health. The water, too, is of the best, the air superior to that of Wood Green.

I would remind you, also, of a point for consideration. Since Wood Green was built, school buildings have gradually improved. They are now built with a keen eye to hygiene, and a change has been made in them for the better as educational structures. No doubt these changes bring with them greater care and watchfulness on the part of yourself and your Committee; indeed, your Committee have to watch over the mental as well as the physical health of the boys placed in their charge. Their great anxiety will, perhaps, be that the boys suffer no injury to their health, either mental or physical, while in attendance at School.

The conviction, however, remains in my profession that there is yet much to be done in amending our school hygiene, and while admitting that much has been done, it is clear that in many things we are at present only at the beginning of our improvements. Consequently the School question may not yet be dismissed from the order of the day.

In a matter of so much general importance, it will give me great pleasure if I can offer you any suggestion or assistance, especially with regard to the admission of light to the class-rooms, and the neglect of which creates defects of vision and short sight among the boys and delay in the development of their mental powers.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

(Signed) JABEZ HOGG,

Hon. Consulting Surgeon-Oculist to the R.M.I. for Boys.
W. Bro. J. M. McLeod,
Sec. R.M. Institution for Boys.

102, Palace Gardens-terrace, Kensington, W.,

Dear Bro. McLeod, November 2nd, 1896.

As you still have a remnant of doubting Thomas's to deal with leave you to publish my letter of last week if you think proper.

I may also mention a fact which came to my knowledge last year, namely, that steps were taken to build a Sanatorium for the better classes on, I believe, this very plot of land, but in consequence of the death of the principal promoter of the scheme, the negotiations were broken off. I am quite sure, however, that a higher price was asked for the land. I am confident that I am not exaggerating when I assert that it is one of the healthiest sites within that distance of London, while as to the question of water you know I am an authority on this necessary of life. I carefully examined the source and the chemical process of softening it after it had been pumped into the reservoirs, and I found it had lost about 10 per cent. of its hardness. This in every way renders it the most wholesome drinking water of the many supplies obtained near London. I wish and have long striven to make the London Water Companies adopt the same means of improving our water.

Believe me, yours fraternally,

(Signed) JABEZ HOGG,

Hon. Consulting Surgeon-Oculist, R.M.I.B.

To J. M. McLeod, Esq.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

A general meeting of the subscribers to this fund was held on Friday, the 30th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treas., and Vice-Patron of Institution, in the chair. There were present Bros. Sir John Monckton, G. E. Fairchild, W. A. Scurrah, Dr. W. H. Kempster, J. F. Haden, W. Russell, Dick E. Radclyffe, Thomson Lyon, J. G. Milbourn, Rev. H. A. Hebb, H. A. Tobias, J. W. Burgess, E. Margrett, J. W. Gieve, P. Ravenscroft, S. Cochrane, J. H. Whadcoat, C. Pulman, P. O'Doherty (Old Masonian), John Strachan, and J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B. (Secretary).

Bro. RAVENSCROFT submitted his report on the audit, from which it appeared the total amount promised to date was £1626 12s., of which £95 12s. was unpaid but in course of collection, and that the expenditure for printing and stationery, advertisements, postages, and clerical assistance had amounted to £57 8s. 2d.

The report was unanimously adopted, and Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, for the Executive Committee, submitted and explained the regulations which had been formulated after much care and thought on the part of those constituting the Committee.

The regulations were severally put to the meeting and carried with a few minor alterations.

It was unanimously resolved to invite Bros. Earl Amherst, Dep. G.M.; Sir John Monckton, P.G.W.; and Chas. E. Keyser, P.G.D., to become Trustees of the fund.

Bros. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B. and John Strachan were appointed the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer respectively.

Bros. Eve, Everett, F. Richardson, Fairchild, John Glass, W. Russell, D. E. Radclyffe, J. H. Whadcoat, and Walter Martin, with R. S. Chandler (Old Masonian), were elected as the Board of Governors of the Fund, and power was given to them to decide in what securities the fund should be invested.

Bro. Percy Ravenscroft, A.C.A., was appointed Honorary Auditor.

Votes of thanks to the officers who had worked up the Fund, and to the Chairman of the meeting, closed the proceedings.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1090] THE LAMENTED GENERAL PIKE, 33?

I feel personally indebted to Bro. John Yarker for his generous and most Masonic references to the late General Albert Pike, the beloved Grand Commander of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite" for the United States of America (S.J.), and, without doubt, the uncrowned king of the "High Degrees." The charges against my lamented friend are baseless and wholly untrue, as can be proved over and over again, not only from his honourable connection with the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the Knights Templar (Christian), and

the Degrees of the "Ancient and Accepted Rite," (Theistic, Philosophical, and Jewish, as well as Christian), but his many valuable works teem with evidence in disproof of the ridiculous and absurd statements as to his Pagan sympathies and practices. His correspondence with so many of us in this Country and Abroad alone give the lie to the accusations, which are as contemptible as they are unjust. He was a noble man, above expediency of any kind, and the soul of chivalry and honour, as thousands can testify who had the pleasure of his acquaintance or friendship. To know him was to love him, for his ripe scholarship, united with the simplicity of a child, the strength of a lion when opposing meanness or duplicity, and a never failing patience with the ignorance and weakness of many who profess to be teachers. Miss Lillian Pike, daughter of the esteemed General (one of our departed heroes), in an article in the "Washington Post," has written to refute the calumnies referred to by Bro. John Yarker, and which have been exploded by Mr. Waite. She says most truly—"The slander is so absurd and monstrous to all who knew him, that it would be unnecessary to notice it if it were not that credulous persons who did not know him might believe that it had some foundation in fact." Miss Pike denies that her father was in Charleston in April, 1889, when the meetings of the "Luciferians" were held, but in the City of Washington all that year, and she selects from his writings many passages which prove his belief in God and his abhorrence of any such doctrines as would be found in the teachings of a sect of "Devil Worshipers." Personally, I affirm that from actual correspondence with me, and his action concerning the regretted action of the Grand Orient of France, respecting the omission of a belief in God as a condition of membership of the Craft, there was never a firmer advocate of this distinctive and unalterable pre-requisite of our beloved Fraternity.

W. J. HUGHAN.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALFRED WOOTTON CHAPTER, No. 127.

The brethren of Margate are to be congratulated on possessing a Masonic Temple equal to any in the Province of Kent, and this possession has evidently stimulated them to further exertions in the work of Masonry. For some time past the Royal Arch Masons in the town have travelled to Ramsgate to attend chapter meetings, but by the consecration of the Alfred Wootton Chapter on the 4th inst., at their own Masonic home, a new centre of activity has been opened in the Arch Degree, and will doubtless prove of great advantage to Margate brethren in particular, and the Province of Kent in general.

The interesting ceremony of consecration was performed by the G.H., Comp. the Earl Amherst, G. Supt. Kent, assisted by Comps. J. S. Eastes, P.G.D., Prov. G.H.; Ben. Snell, Prov. G.J.; Alfred Spencer, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.S.E.; and H. Ward, P.A.G.S.B., P. Prov. G.J.

The founders of the new chapter, the large majority of whom were present, are—Comps. Alfred Wootton, P.Z. 429, P.P.G.J., M.E.Z.; F. Stanley, M.E.Z. 429, H.; Wm. H. Marcolyn, P.Z. 429, P.P. 2nd Asst. G. Soj., J.; Wm. John Clarke, S.E. 429, S.E.; A. H. Hale, P.Z. 429, Prov. A.G.D.C., S.N.; Sam. Redgrave Wilson, P.S. 429, Treas.; Jas. Hosking, J. 429, Org.; Henry Wootton, P.Z. 429, P.S.; J. G. Henning, P.Z. 429, P.P.G.S.B., 1st A.S.; William E. Leman, 2nd A.S.; John Brighurst, 429, D.C.; John Moore, 429, Stwd.; the Rev. R. A. Fawcett, 429; and W. Oxtoby, 429.

The large number of visitors present included—

Comps. A. Saunders, P.P.G.J.; H. M. Maugham, P.P.G.R.; E. G. Waltken, P.P.A.G.S.; F. Hitchens, H. 829; J. Plant, P.P.G. Org.; A. Norris; H. G. Sturgeon, P.P.G.D.C.; E. Dixon, 429; H. Slade Wilson, M.E.Z. 1073, P.G.S.; W. F. Gadd, 429; H. E. Barlter, 429; G. Carterey, 859; J. F. Baker, M.E.Z. 2046; N. F. Merriman, 429; G. J. Bussey, P.Z. 199; W. L. Seyfang, J. 2046; F. W. Wight, P.Z. 2046; R. J. Emmerson, P.P.G.P.; W. O. Bennett, P.Z. 199; A. Morley, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. K. Westropp, P.G.S. Kent; C. R. Harris, P.S. 1273; L. Seager, P.Z. 1273; W. G. Howis, P.P.G.J.; H. Morris, P.P.G. D.C.; H. Black; F. W. Pointer, 429; C. Lond, P.S. 709; W. S. Whitaker, P.P.G.R.; and others.

Prior to the consecration a luncheon was held at Lilley's Arcadian Hotel, Margate, at which the M.E.Z. designate, Comp. Alfred Wootton, presided, supported by the Grand Superintendent and many other Provincial Grand Officers and companions.

A few toasts were afterwards honoured.

"The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, G.Z." were heartily honoured.

In proposing "The Pro G.Z., G.H., and other Grand Officers," Comp. A. WOOTTON said that, as the time was short, he would also include the next toast—that of "The Grand Superintendent of Kent"—and was sure they would all drink it with heartiness. Speaking more particularly of Comp. Earl Amherst as Grand Superintendent, he could say that the companions of Margate were well acquainted with him and also with his services to the Province of Kent and Masonry generally. Had it not been for the great exertions of their Grand Superintendent, Masonry in Kent would not have attained its great success.

Comp. Earl AMHERST, G.H., G. Supt., said that, on behalf of himself and colleagues in Grand Chapter, he returned them sincere thanks for the toast proposed. He thought that of the names included in the toast, the name of the Grand J., Comp. Beach, should be prominently drunk, for he was always ready to fill up a vacancy caused by the absence of those superior to him in rank, and Comp. Beach never felt so happy at Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter as when thus occupied. He (Earl Amherst) was happy to come down to Margate on that auspicious occasion. It was with great pleasure he saw Royal Arch Masonry in the province progressing, and he hoped the new chapter would be a good centre for work in the future. He was certain that those who had applied for the warrant had the interest of the Order at heart, and would spare no effort to make the chapter a success. He congratulated them on the splendid sunshine that day after the tempestuous weather that had prevailed, and hoped that it would be symbolical of the career of the chapter they were about to consecrate—that it would have many fine days and very few rainy ones.

Comp. J. STANLEY, M.E.Z. 429, briefly proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers," remarking that they had the interest of the province at heart, and well and capably performed their work.

Comp. J. S. EASTES, P.G.D., Prov. G.H., in reply, said he need not tell them how grateful he was to be present, for about 12 months ago it was thought he was on the point of death, but through a merciful Providence he

was with them that day. Amongst the many congratulations and good wishes he received, he should never forget the great kindness he experienced from the brethren of the Union Lodge and lodges in the neighbourhood. He felt a deep interest in the proceedings of that day, and was delighted to see their splendid Masonic Hall, and congratulated them on the admirable manner in which Masonry was progressing. He was glad to see the good taste in which everything was carried out in their new hall, and congratulated them on the fact that there was nothing very superior to it in the Province of Kent. It must be gratifying to the Grand Superintendent and all companions to find such a beautiful room built for the service of Masonry for generations to come. From the numbers of the new chapter and the fact that there must be many companions who would not care to go out to Ramsgate, the chapter was sure to be a success. In their new home he hoped they would carry out their duties to the great advantage of R.A. Masonry in the province, and render service to many Masons who were desirous of joining the R.A. Degree.

Comp. BENJ. SNELL, Prov. G.J., also replied, expressing his pleasure at being present to assist in the consecration, and his hope that its name would be honoured amongst the chapters in the province.

Comp. ALFRED SPENCER, P.G.S.B., Prov. G.S.E., then gave the last toast, "Success and Prosperity to the Alfred Wootton Chapter, No. 127." He said the Grand Superintendent was supported by many companions that day and as there were many brethren waiting to be exalted in the new chapter it would doubtless be successful in the future. He was sure the Grand Superintendent would have great pleasure in performing the ceremony, and he had, therefore, no hesitation in asking the companions present to drink the toast.

Comp. A. WOOTTON, P.Z. 429, P.P.G.J., M.E.Z. designate, returned thanks. He sincerely trusted the chapter would be a success, as the founders believed it would. There had been several who said they would join a chapter in Margate but would not go to Ramsgate.

The companions then adjourned to the Masonic Temple, where the ceremonies of consecration and installation were performed.

After the formal opening of the chapter, the GRAND SUPERINTENDENT addressed the companions and said they were present, pursuant to a warrant granted by Grand Chapter, to consecrate a new chapter in the already flourishing Province of Kent. The occasion was one of peculiar interest to Royal Arch Masons and also to Masonry in the province. Many conditions and circumstances had to be considered before one in his position could recommend the granting of a new warrant. Time and place had to be considered before he could conscientiously recommend it and he had made enquiries to know if the new chapter would have a future success without injuring others. The names of those at the head of the chapter showed that neither care nor experience would be wanting in seeing that the rites of the Order would be well performed. They must remember that although numbers were something, quality was of greater importance, for they did not strive for great numbers, but excellence in those belonging to it. It was not so much by numerical strength that the prosperity and welfare of the chapter would be ensured, but by the care exercised in the admission of brethren to their high Order. It was by that care that a prosperous future would be ensured for the new chapter. Into no better hands could a Grand Superintendent have the pleasure of handing over a new chapter, and therefore, with perfect confidence, he asked them to give their attention to the ceremony of consecration.

An eloquent oration was delivered by Comp. B. SNELL, Prov. G.J., after which the Alfred Wootton Chapter was solemnly dedicated, constituted, and proclaimed, Comp. H. Ward acting as D.C. throughout the ceremonial.

The installations were next proceeded with, and the Principals designate were installed into their respective chairs by Comp. B. Snell, Prov. G.J. The founders enumerated above were then invested with the collars of their various offices.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Grand Superintendent for his performance of the ceremony, and he was presented by the M.E.Z. with a founder's jewel in commemoration of the occasion.

Votes of thanks were also accorded Comps. Snell and Ward, and the Consecrating Officers were unanimously elected joining members.

Numerous propositions for exaltation were received, and the chapter was closed.

Comp. Plant, assisted by Comps. Dewhurst and Hoskins, contributed to the success of the meeting by the excellence of the musical arrangements.

Craft Masonry.

Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859.

At the installation meeting of the above lodge at the Masonic Hall, Cambridge, on the 27th ultimo, Bro. T. B. Hope, B.A., of Trinity Hall, P.G. Purs., was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year, and the following officers were invested: Bros. the Rev. H. S. Cronin, M.A., Trinity College, Prov. G.C., I.P.M.; W. J. Fernie, Trinity Hall, P.P.G. Stwd., S.W.; I. Bland, B.A., Caius College, P.P.G.S., J.W.; the Rev. H. T. E. Barlow, M.A., St. John's College, Chap.; W. G. Bell, M.A., Trinity Hall, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; the Rev. Dennis Hall, M.A., Non-Coll., P.M., P.P.G.C., Sec.; A. P. Higgins, LL.B., Downing College, S.D.; H. Pollard, B.A., Caius, J.D.; A. S. Bell, Trinity Hall, D.C.; S. W. Burgess, Jesus College, I.G.; A. W. Izard, Trinity College, Org.; J. H. C. Dalton, M.A., M.D., Trinity College, C. O. E. Nicholson, P.G. Stwd., G. T. Bullard Trinity Hall, the Hon. R. F. B. Wilbraham, Trinity College, W. Fletcher, B.A., Trinity College, the Rev. A. Brown, M.A., Selwyn College, H. Higgins, B.A., King's College, and H. G. Comber, B.A., Pembroke College, Stwds.; and C. H. Ellis and G. Allen, Tylers.

Beadon Lodge, No. 619.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 21st ult., at the Holborn Restaurant, when there were present Bros. Moss Chapman, W.M.; J. C. Hayes, P.M., Treas.; A. E. Austin, P.M., Sec.; E. Croft Wise, S.D.; W. Slatter, J.D.; M. G. Hall, I.G.; C. A. Adams, Stwd.; L. Faull, Org.; Bowler, Tyler; A. W. Bilow, P.M.; Charles Norrington, P.M.; Charles Meierhoff, P.M.; John W. Harrison, W. J. Greenaway, Charles Hunton, G. Perry, T. G. Murray, G. Campbell, J. R. Kent, E. E. Baggs, F. J. Rawle, C. T. Turner, J. Chilcott, and R. Henchley. Visitors: Bros. F. Sydney Smith, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey; J. H. Cureton, P.M., Sec. 2182; Harry H. Jones, P.M., Treas. 1586; Thos. Gething, S.D. 1635; T. Carpenter, D.C. 1932; E. W. Ellis, P.M. 1314; J. W. Avery, P.M. 619; J. Woodcock, J.W. 1638; J. Falconer, I.G. 3; A. J. Baker, I.G. 2469; R. Evans, 893; S. Levy, 1178; and T. Levy, 1178.

Bro. Chas. Meierhoff having already filled the chair of this lodge in 1889, was once more called upon by the brethren by a unanimous vote at the election in August, to accept the honour a second time, and on the above date he was duly installed in a most able and impressive manner by Bro. Jas. C. Hayes, P.M. and Treas., whose

rendering of the beautiful ceremony was highly appreciated by the brethren assembled. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. E. Croft White, S.W.; C. A. Adams, J.W.; J. C. Haves, P.M.; Treas. Chas. Norington, P.M., Sec.; C. A. Hutton, S.D.; L. A. J. Faulk, J.D.; F. J. Rawle, I.G.; A. E. Austin, P.M., D.C.; and Bowler, Tyler.

At the subsequent banquet in the Caledonian Saloon a Past Master's jewel, which had been previously voted, was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Moss Chapman, in acknowledgment of the very able and efficient manner in which he had controlled the affairs of the lodge during the preceding year.

The usual loyal and other toasts were pleasantly interspersed with songs and glees, very excellently rendered by the Lieder Quartet.

Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Anderson's Hotel, on Monday, the 26th ult., when Bro. E. W. Pillinger was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The members present included Bros. Charles Cowland, W.M.; E. W. Pillinger, S.W.; Charles Butcher, J.W.; G. Gabb, Treas.; S. J. Byng, Sec.; E. S. White, P.M.; D.C.; W. Bean, S.D.; J. J. Fifield, J.D.; W. Graves, Org.; G. J. Brown, I.G.; A. Rouse Carter, P.M.; G. Fox, P.M.; T. H. Bishop, P.M.; J. Young, P.M.; G. Ainger, P.M.; T. Matthias, S. Rashleigh, P.M.; F. Reeves, R. H. Marchbank, A. Jenkins, W. Merrett, A. Holbrook, C. Ponsford, W. H. Snow, C. Horton, J. Oscrift, J. P. Hawley, Fred. Tolhurst, F. Richmond, W. E. Pratt, and Beddowes, P.M. Visitors: Bros. H. J. Gabb, P.M., Treas. 813; W. S. Andrews, J.W. 177, S.W. 2431; W. J. Shotton, 2427; John L. King, 1339; H. J. Barker, S.W. 2384; T. A. Compton, P.M.; G. H. Thompson, 1188; E. S. Friedberg, P.M. 1349; F. Cowie, 228; A. W. Shew, 32; Ivy, 1441; B. Cooper, P.M. 1441; A. G. Dodson, P.M. 188; T. V. Pilditch, P.M. 1428; W. M. Williams, 2417; G. Spice, S.D. 193; Sidney Napper, P.M. 1471; F. Kedge, 749; W. Kedge, 749; Hargreaves, 1349; W. Ives, 1929; H. S. Nash, T. H. Mills, Mitchell, Baldwin, P.P.G.S.B.; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. E. W. Pillinger, W.M. elect, was presented and installed by Bro. Chas. Cowland in a masterly manner. The new W.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers for the year: Bros. C. Butcher, S.W.; W. Bean, J.W.; G. Gabb, Treas.; S. J. Byng, P.M., Sec.; J. J. Fifield, S.D.; G. J. Brown, J.D.; C. Horton, I.G.; E. S. White, P.M., D. of C.; F. Richmond, and W. Merrett, Stwds.; J. Oscrift, A.D. of C.; W. R. Larter, Org.; and Gilbert, Tyler. The Installing Master, Bro. Chas. Cowland, gave the addresses in a way that those who had the privilege of listening to them will not easily forget. The ballot was then taken for Messrs. Charles E. W. Pillinger, son of the esteemed W.M.; Newton, W. Lawrence, and Henry George Crumbeholme, and proving favourable, they were admitted and initiated by Bro. E. W. Pillinger, W.M., in a very impressive and masterly manner. This ceremony he performed in such a way as to gain many compliments from the brethren and visitors.

The business of the lodge having been ended, the brethren adjourned to a *recherché* banquet.

After the banquet, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts in few words, quoting from Sheridan—"We serve a monarch whom we love."

The toast of "The Queen" was received with musical honours, Bro. Gabb, P.M. (solo), singing the National Anthem.

The toast of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was received with great cheering, the W.M. quoting from—

Spencer—"Of greatest ones, he greatest in his place."

Tennyson—"The mother featured in the son."

Bro. White, P.M. (solo), sang "God bless the Prince of Wales" in splendid style. The W.M. next proposed "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Earl of Lathom; the Dep. Grand Master, the Earl Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," quoting as follows—

"Hail ye, mighty Masters, Nature's true sons, the friends of man and truth."

This toast was received with true Masonic "fire."

Mr. Geo. Coles sang "The Everlasting Day."

Bro. Chas. Cowland, I.P.M., then gave the toast of the evening, "The W.M.," and said it gave him the greatest possible pleasure to propose that toast. In the W.M. they had three good qualities, viz., a good man, a good Mason, and a good Master. He was able and thorough in his work, and the proof of the quality was shown that evening in the ceremony of initiation; it reflected credit on the lodge.

Bro. White, P.M., sang "Gipsy John."

Bro. Pillinger, in responding, said he had little to say except to thank Bro. Cowland for his kind expressions and also for the manner in which the toast had been received by the brethren. As regarded Freemasonry, it was a grand institution, and if carried out as it should be, it would make them better men and citizens. In the Book of Books it said "But the greatest of these is Charity." That was the Charity they must carry out, and by so doing, if it was only a mite given with a good heart, or a kind word or look to a poor and distressed brother—such acts as those were the true Charity of which Freemasonry teaches.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of "The Initiates," who severally replied briefly, each hoping to become a true and loyal Mason.

Bros. Sydney Jamieson and Wingrove Ives sang in good form "Ladies fly from Love's smooth tale."

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. Charles Cowland." He said they all must have been impressed with his excellent working that day; he had had hard work to do, and he had done it well. He had, therefore, the greatest possible pleasure in presenting him, in the name of the lodge, with a handsome jewel, and, in pinning it on his breast, hoped it might ever remind him of his successful year of office as W.M. of that lodge.

"The Carnival" was sweetly sung by Miss Emerson Hurst, and Bro. Albon Nash sang "Molly Brown."

Bro. C. Cowland, I.P.M., who, on rising, was accorded a splendid reception, said that his warmest thanks were due to them for the way in which the toast had been received. His year as W.M. had been a very pleasant one, and during his term of office a very pleasant duty was afforded him, viz., the presenting to Bro. Byng, their beloved and honoured Secretary, a jewel to commemorate his 25 years' service to the lodge. He wished that he might have a similar jewel. All he could do for the prosperity of the Burgoyne Lodge he would do with the greatest pleasure.

In appropriate terms Bro. Pillinger gave the toast of "The Visitors," observing that they were always specially welcome. They had a strong muster, and he hoped they had all enjoyed themselves both at the lodge and banquet.

Bro. Kedge, P.M., responded. He thanked the W.M. and brethren of the lodge for the kindness shown him that evening. That was not his first visit, and he congratulated them on having such an excellent Master and I.P.M.

Bro. Napper also said he congratulated the members of the lodge on having such a W.M.; his able manner that evening proved he had a mind of his own—a very good thing to have as ruler of a lodge.

Bros. Jameson and H. J. Barker also replied, each thanking the W.M. and brethren for the kind way in which they were received.

"The Holy City" was sung by Mr. Geo. Coles, and was received with loud cheers.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was responded to by Bros. Cooper, Rashleigh, Byng, and Beddowes.

Bro. Byng said he was deeply sensible of the honour they had conferred on him by re-appointing him as Secretary. No brethren worked better together than Bro. Gabb and himself. There was no clique in that lodge, hence the success. He would like to say a few words about the Masonic Charities. They must not forget them; they each wanted all the support possible. He should like to see that lodge send up a Steward annually. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart for the way in which his name was received. Bros. Cooper, Beddowes, and Rashleigh replied in well-chosen words.

Bro. Sydney Jamieson sang a good song—"The Bandolero"—which was received with great applause, and Bro. Fifield caused roars of laughter by his humorous song in character.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was ably responded to by Bros. Gabb and Byng.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was next proposed by the W.M., who said he felt sure the lodge would never be found wanting in good officers.

Bro. White, P.M., sang "Big Ben."

The Officers replied.

The Tyler's toast brought a very happy evening to a close, the music especially being a feature of the entertainment.

Burdett Lodge, No. 1293.

This lodge held its regular meeting at the Mitre Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 24th ult. There were present Bros. J. E. Harling, W.M.; Stephen Richardson, S.W.; E. Swain, P.G. Reg., as J.W.; W. G. Kentish, P.P.G.D., Sec.; C. Fruen, S.D.; W. E. Berryman, I.G.; G. Niblett, D.C.; W. Maple, P.P.G.D., Stwd.; E. F. J. Carrick, Org.; Dr. H. W. Roberts, P.M.; Orchard, P.M.; B. J. Jacob, P.M.; and W. J. Trice.

The chief business on the summons was to pass Bro. Trice to the Degree of F.C. The ceremony was performed by the W.M. with his well-known ability and impressiveness, and he was well backed up by his officers. A distinct word of approbation should be given for the excellent manner in which Bro. Trice had prepared himself for what was before him. The explanation of the tracing board was given by the Secretary. Towards the close of the meeting, the Secretary rose and addressed the W.M. and brethren in the following words: The subject uppermost in our minds to-day is the sad loss this lodge has sustained by the death of our very true brother, Charles Sadler. He was one of the senior members of this (his mother) lodge, having been initiated on the same day as our Bro. Col. H. M. Gordon—on the 25th October, 1873. I am sure I am not exaggerating in the slightest degree when I say that he was a man who commended himself to every one with whom he was brought into contact, whether in Masonry or out of it. The more one saw of him the better one liked and appreciated him. Of him it may truly be said—"He lived respected and died regretted." I had the mournful satisfaction of attending the funeral of our deceased brother, and, in the name of the brethren of this lodge, deposited a Masonic wreath on his grave. May the fragrance of virtue, like the sprig of acacia, bloom over the grave of our deceased brother!

St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The annual installation meeting was held in the Masonic Rooms, Thorne, on the 28th ult. Present: Bros. G. Kenyon, W.M.; T. Barber, S.W., W.M. elect; H. A. Fenton, J.W.; B. Maskill, Treas.; J. J. Littlewood, Chap.; J. Constable, Sec.; G. Eland, S.D.; E. Simpson, I.G.; W. P. Robotham, Org.; F. T. Turner, D.C.; T. J. Smith, Steward; F. Pine, Tyler; A. L. Peace, P.M.; W. Hallgarth, G. E. Hardcastle, T. Tomlinson, J. Dugdale, T. R. R. Marsdin, R. Brew, J. H. Pawson, S. H. C. Ashlin, P.M.; and W. Pickering. Visitors: Bros. R. Bridge, W.M., F. Buckland, S.W., H. C. White, S.D., T. W. Turner, J.D., C. Woodhouse, Org., F. Duff, Sec., F. Rand, P.P.S.G.D., Treas., J. H. Pawson, P.P.G.R., I.P.M., E. Swales, J. F. Hanson, H. Foster, C. Reasbeck, J. Venus, and C. Richardson, of 242; T. Staniforth, P.P.S. G.W. Lincolnshire, G. S. Tyack, P.G.C. Lincolnshire, and J. W. Lee, of 1482; W. Baldwin, P.M., J. Loam, P.M., E. Everingham, S.W., W. H. Rylatt, J.W., and J. B. Walker, I.G., of 630; J. Robinson, W.M., R. Alcock, Sec., and W. T. Lumley, of 458; W. M. Langbridge, P.P.S.G.W. Lincolnshire, M. R. J. Behrendt, P.J.G.W., J. Wilkins, P.P.G.O., and J. Reed, P.P.G.S.B. Lincolnshire, of 2078; and J. Cawthorne, 458, P.P.G.P.

Bro. Barber was presented by Bro. Staniforth to Bro. A. L. Peace, the Installing Master, and installed into the chair of K.S. The solo "Be thou faithful" was effectively sung by Bro. Robinson. "Hail, Masonry Divine," was sung by Bro. W. Baldwin, all the brethren joining in the chorus. The addresses were well rendered by Bro. S. H. C. Ashlin, and the working tools were presented by Bro. J. Wilkins, F. Rand, and T. Staniforth. Bro. Barber invested his officers as follows: Bros. G. Kenyon, I.P.M.; H. A. Fenton, S.W.; G. Eland, J.W.; B. Maskill, Treas.; Rev. J. J. Littlewood, Chap.; J. Constable, P.P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; E. Hirst, S.D.; E. Simpson, J.D.; W. P. Robotham, Org.; W. Hallgarth, Almoner; F. T. Turner, D.C.; T. J. Smith, I.G.; T. R. R. Marsdin, Steward; and F. Pine, Tyler. Bro. Constable was unanimously re-elected Charity Representative.

Apologies for unavoidable absence were received from Bros. R. Wood, J. Hemingbrough, R. A. Brooke, C. L. Mason, J. Porrett, G. Smith, A. Walker, J. H. Bletcher, S. Pegler, and others.

The brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where they sat down to a banquet, provided by Mrs. Marsh.

The usual Masonic toasts were proposed and duly responded to.

Songs and recitations were given by Bros. T. W. Turner, Hardcastle, Peace, F. T. Turner, Hirst, Baldwin, Duff, and Pawson, and some splendid instrumental music by the Doncaster Masonic Quintette Party—Bros. Reasbeck, Venus, White, Duff, and Woodhouse. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361.

The installation meeting of this successful lodge attracted a large number of brethren to the "Frascati," Oxford-street, on the 21st ult., when Bro. James Stephens, Prov. G.W. Bucks, W.M., installed as his successor Bro. Walter Ginger. The members present included Bros. J. Stephens, P.G.W. Bucks, W.M.; Walter Ginger, S.W., W.M. elect; A. H. Oldrey, J.W.; Stanley Spooner, P.M.; J. Willing, jun., P.M., Treas.; J. Hutton Haylor, Sec.; S. W. D. Ball, S.D.; Major Willing, J.D.; J. A. Adams, I.G.; B. Haylor, Dr. Griffiths, C. Pinkham, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; H. Northcroft, 33; R. J. Campbell, P.M. 1489; R. F. Hardymark, J.D. 1500; F. Tooker, P.M. 1549; W. W. Mansfield, P.M. 1549; E. Coleman, P.M. 145; G. E. Grafton, Org. 2504; W. Wakeford, 2146; S. Hussey, P.M. 1637; R. Wright, P.M. 1305; J. S. Anderson, P.M.; J. G. Moore, 188; G. A. Duke, 1605; L. Levy, 2535; W. G. Dickinson, 2535; H. Carvill, P.M. 201; W. Allen, 784; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org.; W. G. Greig, Sec. 2489; J. J. Thomas, Vice-President Board of General Purposes; S. H. McGowan, P.M. 247; C. A. Sanger, 1642; W. H. Liddell, P.M. 45; J. T. Seymour, 1623; H. T. Reed, P.M. 1287; A. Jones, 1657; F. S. Priest, W.M. 1637; C. Penny, P.M. 1637; J. H. Chaine, S.W. 1159; E. Collard, P.M. 19; A. S. Ginger, P.M. 1608; A. M. Barnard, W.M. 1964; W. Bacon, 1638; W. Godson, J.D. 2185; H. A. May, I.G. 108; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, after which Messrs. G. W. Twyford and J. Morris Goodman were duly initiated. Bros. T. H. Payne, A. Toley, P.M.; and C. Cowley were unanimously elected joining members. Bro. Walter Ginger was presented as W.M. elect, and impressively installed into the chair by Bro. James Stephens. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. A. H. Oldrey, S.W.; S. W. D. Ball, J.W.; J. Willing, jun., P.M., Treas.; J. Stephens, P.M., Sec.; Major Willing, S.D.; J. A. Adams, J.D.; J. H. Haylor, I.G.; B. Haylor, D.C.; Dr. Griffiths and C. Pinkham, Stewards; and J. Lee, Tyler.

Several propositions for initiation were received—a sure sign of a busy year for the W.M.—and the lodge was closed.

An excellent banquet having been enjoyed, the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were proceeded with.

Bro. James Stephens, Prov. G.W. Bucks, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he was certain that the mere mention of the W.M.'s name would be sufficient to bring forth from them a hearty reception. He thought the members had been wise in the selection of Masters to preside over them in the past. Theirs had been a growing lodge, and it had not progressed by leaps and bounds, as that night's experience indicated they were likely to do during the coming year. There had been two initiates and three joining members, and the W.M. had evidently made up his mind that the forthcoming year should be the red-letter year of the lodge's existence. He (the I.P.M.) was not a jealous man, for surely rivalry in anything that appertained to Masonry was a very wholesome thing. He thought that lodge had asserted itself in the right direction by unanimously electing to the chair their distinguished W.M., under whose régime the Cricklewood Lodge would prosper and grow. Some years ago he met the father of the W.M., who predicted that his son would one day make a name, and possibly become member of Parliament. Proud as Bro. Ginger's father was of his son, the members of that lodge had the highest admiration for their W.M., and wished him, with all heartiness, "God speed" and every health and happiness during his year of office.

Bro. Walter Ginger, W.M., said that after the remarks of the I.P.M., he felt inclined to collapse, for he was not deserving of much that had been said of him. He could only say that he was particularly proud of his position as the first initiate of the lodge to reach the chair. Although theirs was a young lodge, it was fortunate in being surrounded by good Masons, and in having excellent Past Masters as officers, and their present position was entirely due to this fact. During the six years' existence of the lodge, it had been most successful, all the members working together well, and without any objections or cliques. He thanked them most sincerely for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received.

The Worshipful Master then proceeded with the next toast—"The I.P.M. and In-

stalling Master" and remarked that it would be needless for him to say much to the brethren respecting Bro. James Stephens, whom they all knew as a monument of strength in any Masonic lodge. Any lodge with which Bro. Stephens was connected was bound to go well, and in the Cricklewood Lodge, where Bro. Stephens assisted at the consecration, was for five years Secretary, and then became Master—it was safe to say the lodge had gone well. Not only in that lodge, but in the Masonic world generally, Bro. Stephens was admired for the earnestness and zealous way in which he exerted himself. He (the W.M.) was sure the I.P.M. would appreciate the jewel he was about to present to him, and think as much of it as the members did of Bro. Stephens. He hoped the I.P.M. would accept the jewel in the same spirit in which it was presented, for they owed him a deep debt of gratitude for his services, and they hoped for many years to receive the benefit of his advice and experience.

Bro. Jas. Stephens, I.P.M., P.G.W. Bucks, Sec., in reply, said he apprehended nothing more difficult for one to do than to speak in regard to one's self, therefore, he took all that the W.M. had said *cum grano salis*. Twelve months ago he had serious misgivings as to whether he should occupy the chair. When he told them that was the seventh chair he had occupied they might readily understand his doubts as to whether he should take it or not. Being a founder, he had, as the W.M. had said, devoted some interest to it in the past, and as it was the unanimous wish of the brethren last year—and particularly of their present W.M.—he consented. In a lodge in Bucks, where he was a founder with Bro. J. J. Thomas, he was S.W. for two years, and thinking he was keeping other aspirants back he asked the brethren kindly not to elect him as W.M. The lodge kindly recognised the spirit in which he acted, and a resolution was passed that it was their wish that he should occupy the chair, should he ever desire to do so. He had had a pleasant year as W.M. of the Cricklewood Lodge, and their kindness had culminated with the handsome jewel presented to him. He was deeply grateful for the honour done him. He wished to say that last year the ladies' night was such a decided success that the present W.M. had arranged for a second ladies' night on the 11th of January next. The W.M., with his popularity, would doubtless make it a success, and it would be a labour of love to do so. For all their kindly expressions, not only that night, but in the past, he was deeply grateful, and so long as he remained a member his best efforts would always be theirs to command.

Bro. G. W. Twyford, replying for "The Initiates," said how deeply he had been impressed with the ceremony. He felt he might have to go through something that was not pleasant, but he knew he was in the hands of a body of gentlemen who would treat him in a right and proper manner. He hoped to have health and strength to belong to them for some years, and trusted he should not disgrace them or the lodge.

Bro. J. Morris Goodwin also replied, and said that after the weird tales he had heard he was in a nervous condition, but felt much happier at that moment. He always felt that he was going to sneak out of this world without being any better for his exertions, but he fancied things would be quite different now. He thought there was a future before him, and after the very pretty things said about the W. Master he thought there was something to try for and his goal would be the chair in which the W.M. sat.

Bro. J. J. Thomas, Vice-President Board of General Purposes, acknowledged "The Visitors," and said the installation ceremony had been rendered by the I.P.M. with the impressiveness that characterised all his Masonic work. He had worked with Bro. Stephens in many lodges and chapters in perfect harmony and hoped that friendship which commenced long before they were Masons, would continue until the Grand Architect should be pleased to remove them from this sphere. He felt honoured by the fact that his colleagues on the Board of General Purposes had selected him as Vice-President, and Bro. Stephens was the first to rise to propose his election. All the visitors to this lodge had had a grand reception and had thoroughly enjoyed the Masonic treat.

Bros. Priest, Barnard, and A. S. Ginger also responded. Bro. Peall replied in suitable terms for "The Past Masters," after which the W.M. asked the brethren to drink the health of two distinguished Grand Officers who had just arrived, Bros. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., and J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Boys.

Bro. Smithson briefly returned thanks for the compliment. In giving "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. referred to the excellent services rendered by Bro. Haylor as Secretary during the past year.

Bro. J. Stephens, I.P.M., Sec., said he had accepted the office of Secretary in deference to the wishes of the W.M., but felt he was not equal to the strain of the many posts he filled. The post had been occupied by his good friend Bro. Haylor, who had studiously tried to do his duty, and a more genial and nobler disposition could not be met with.

Bro. J. H. Haylor briefly responded, and said he had but done his duty, after which the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

An excellent programme of music was arranged by Bro. H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Amongst the numerous artists who assisted were Miss Mary Beynon, Miss Marion Blinkhorn, Bro. Wm. Bradford, Mr. Anthony Evans, and the "May" Quartette, viz., Miss Florence Landerger, Miss Kate Moncrieff, Miss Julia Stanton, and Miss Alice Thomas.

Willesden Lodge, No. 2489.

The installation meeting of this highly successful lodge was held, by dispensation, at Blanchard's Restaurant, Beak-street, on the 19th ult. There were present Bros. C. Butler, W.M.; O. Claude Robson, P.M.; Stanley Machin, S.W.; W. Grant Greig, J.W.; F. W. Chant Hobrow, Treas.; Chas. J. Marrian, Sec.; Frank W. Marrian, S.D.; J. J. Hanbury, J.D.; H. C. Borradaile, D.C.; R. E. H. Fisher, I.G.; W. Fairfoot Webster, Stwd.; E. R. Bartley Denniss, Prov. J.G.W. Middx., W.M. elect; Walter Wellsman, P.M.; F. D. Davy, P.M.; Reynolds Wood, W. Knight, Emil Ernst, C. Starley Gibbs, E. G. Venables, J. W. Greig, W. A. Collins, E. B. Lemon, A. Johnson, H. Aylward Seagrove, G. B. Tydd, and Whiteway, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Arthur Ball, P.G. Stwd.; Col. W. S. Brooke, P. Dist. G.W. Bombay; W. Vincent, P.M. 1194; W. Sergeant Lee, P.M. 2488; C. D. Hoblyn, P.M. 231; T. E. Upfield Green, P.M. 404; B. D. Borradaile, 1243; G. Metzger, S.W. 260; Harold Senior, 2548; E. R. Harley, 404; A. C. Fisher, Sec. 2548; G. E. Gilbert, 1343; E. J. Palmer, S.W. 96; C. Pinkham, 2361; W. F. Hoydell, 404; C. Cowley, 2045; H. Machin, J.W. 231; W. Ginger, S.W. 2361; Percy Machin, J.W.; J. A. Adams, 1261; H. Urquhart, 19; J. F. O'Carroll, 1 (first lodge of Ireland); J. Kift, 1791; J. Wills, 1460; E. G. Croager, J.W. 1837; F. W. Levy, 1261; H. Kiver, P.M. 266; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Emil Ernst was impressively raised to the Third Degree by the W.M., Bro. C. Butler. The W.M. elect, Bro. Edmund Robert Bartley Denniss, was then presented and installed into the chair by Bro. C. Butler in a masterly manner. The following were appointed and invested officers by the new W.M. for the ensuing year: Bro. Chas. Butler, I.P.M.; Chas. J. Marrian, S.W.; Frank W. Marrian, J.W.; F. W. Chant Hobrow, Treas.; W. Grant Greig, Sec.; J. J. Hanbury, S.D.; R. E. H. Fisher, J.D.; W. F. Webster, I.G.; H. C. Borradaile, D.C.; G. Reynolds Wood, Org.; E. B. Lemon and C. Stanley Gibbs, Stewards; and Isaac Whiteway, Tyler. Bro. C. Butler gave the customary address in excellent style, and closed his career as ruler of the lodge with *éclat*. Letters and telegrams were read from Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Sir John Monkton, P.G.W.; Sir Reginald Hanson, P.G.W.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., and others, regretting their inability to attend. Two gentlemen having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after other business, the lodge was closed with the usual formalities.

A *recherché* barquet followed, which was prepared by Bro. W. G. Hunt, the manager, in his well-known good style, and gave every satisfaction to the large gathering. At the close of the repast, the W.M., on rising to propose the first toast, received a very hearty welcome.

The W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft" in an eloquent and effective speech, which was received with great applause. The other usual toasts were duly honoured.

In responding for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. Arthur Ball, P.G. Steward, whose name was associated with the toast, stated that he appreciated the honour of being called upon. It was always a great pleasure to him to attend the lodge, in which he had many personal friends, some of whom he had seen initiated and who had done good work for Masonry. The members who had started the lodge in such an excellent manner were no doubt proud of the great success it had achieved. The W.M. was one of the very best, and he congratulated them in having so eminent a Mason to preside over them.

Bro. C. Butler, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," said it was beyond doubt the toast of the evening. They knew him so well that they

were all agreed he would make a good Master. He had been through the chair in several other lodges, eminent in the Craft, was a good and true Mason, and a most eloquent speaker, and it would be impossible to have a better ruler. In conclusion, he regretted he had not the ability to further dilate upon the great things the W.M. had done for the Craft.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and Bro. Denniss, W.M., on rising to respond, was received with acclamation. He stated that when such a lodge, composed of good Masons, had elected him Master, it made him nervous and somewhat diffident, so that he could not express in words what he felt. He was surrounded by many dear friends, to whom he tendered his hearty thanks and gratitude for the great honour paid him. He had been through the chair in other lodges three times, and that was the fourth occasion he had been so honoured.

He was Masonically born in a fashionable lodge in the provinces, where he was brought up on the bottle. He came there as one of the founders of the lodge, which was brought about by his running across Bro. Robson, who suggested that he should be one of the founders. Bro. Robson had with him Bro. Butler and other good and true men, so that there was no doubt the Willesden Lodge would be a good one in every way and a great success. He felt that he would never be able to carry out his duties to meet the expectations of the other founders, but he hoped never to disgrace his splendid predecessors in the lodge. The I.P.M., Bro. Butler, had performed the installation ceremony that evening in an excellent manner, and to follow such a good man was a great task; but he would do his utmost to gain their satisfaction. Freemasonry was one of the highest and noblest of Orders; Charity alone was not Freemasonry or its festivities; it was something higher—as it taught virtue and sound principles, and made them all far better, and prepared them for the Grand Lodge above. He would strive to do everything to promote the interests of the lodge, and to hand down its traditions pure and unadulterated, and he hoped they would to his faults be indulgent and ever kind.

The W.M. proposed "The I.P.M., Bro. Butler, and the Past Masters," remarking that they were the bulwarks and pillars of the lodge; they relied upon them for assistance and to see that things went in the right direction. They were towers of strength, and so long as they were with them the lodge would continue its prosperity. He embraced that opportunity of presenting to Bro. Butler, I.P.M., in the name of the lodge, a Past Master's jewel, as a small token for his great and valued services, and no one better deserved it.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented by the brethren of the Willesden Lodge, No. 2489, to Bro. Charles Butler, P.M., in recognition of his services as W.M. 1895-96."

Bro. C. Butler, I.P.M., who was received with much warmth, responded. In thanking the W.M. for his kind remarks and the members for their hearty greeting, he said that he had had a happy year of office and what he had done had been a labour of pleasure. He left the chair with regret as he had received kindness from them all, but he had passed it on to a far better and more worthy Mason. He appreciated the handsome jewel and it would be a pleasure to him to wear it on every possible occasion, and in concluding his remarks, given with much feeling, he stated that he should ever have the interests of the lodge at heart.

In submitting "The Visitors," the W.M. stated it was a toast that was always received there with great enthusiasm. They were honoured that evening with a goodly number, who came from all parts, and in the name of the lodge he gave them a hearty welcome and hoped they were pleased with everything.

Bro. Col. W. Saurin Brooke, P. Dist. G.W. Bombay, said it was unfortunate the W.M. should have called on him to respond as his sole qualification was being a very old Freemason, having been initiated in 1860, and he was under further disadvantages to engage their attention after the eloquence of the W.M., who had touched on many things. He had been Master of a lodge of Christians and highest caste of Indians and Parsees who were Fire-worshippers. In this country they could not estimate the great interests of Freemasonry in India. In the Indian Mutiny no Mason was one of the rebels—truth and loyalty were always given by the Indian Masons. He hoped all those present would remember the loyalty of the Masons in India who stood to their Masonic vows in the great trouble of India years ago. He had had a large experience in Masonry, and it was his pleasure to record his testimony of the way the lodge was worked, which was excellent, and the visitors were gratified with the way they had been received and entertained.

Bro. W. Vincent, P.M. 1194, also acknowledged the toast, eulogising the grand working and the lavish hospitality of the members. He was glad to testify to the loyalty of the Indian Masons. He had met many in London, and they were all good, true, and loyal to English dependencies.

Bro. J. F. O'Carroll (first lodge of Ireland), said the Irish were a retiring and modest race, they had not the elquence of the W.M., but the Irish Masons were all enthusiastic and energetic. The Irish were most loyal, and if some of the Royal family would only pay them a visit they would have a great welcome. He appreciated the way they had received their guests, and he gave them all a pressing invitation to attend his lodge in Ireland, where they would have a very hearty reception.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," and said that Bro. Hobrow, Treas., was one of the best, and they all had a great affection for him. The Secretary, Bro. W. Grant Greig, was new to his office, but he knew him in the past in other capacities, and he felt sure he would do credit to them all.

Bro. Hobrow, Treas., responded, and said he was a Treasurer without arrears—a great thing for a young lodge to say—and 25 per cent. of the funds had been spent upon charity. He was honoured by being again elected Treasurer, and he hoped to continue to do his best for the lodge.

Bro. W. Grant Greig also acknowledged the toast. He was glad to be the Secretary, and he trusted that at the end of his year of office they would all say that the work had been well done.

In giving "The Officers," the W.M. stated that he congratulated the lodge on having such a good staff. He knew they were all working hard, and when their time came to go forward they would be found perfect. He felt sure that he would have their great assistance, which would give him every confidence to carry out his duties.

The toast was replied to in good speeches by Bros. C. J. Marrian, S.W., and F. W. Marrian, J.W.

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

Under the direction of Bro. Reynolds Wood, a splendid programme of music was got through, in which the following assisted: Bros. Arthur Johnson, W. Sergeant Lee (recitation) and James Kift, and Master Sterndale Bennett, the two last named receiving well-deserved encores, and their efforts were much appreciated.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

The usual weekly meeting of this lodge was held on Wednesday, the 4th inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. R. Sarson, W.M.; Kinipple, S.W.; C. Garton, J.W.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Meadows, Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; the Rev. T. Selby-Henrey, J.D.; J. G. Robeson, I.G.; Saunton, P.M.; J. Smith, P.M.; Maidwell, P.M.; Collins, Callingham, Drake, Cuzner, E. Croft Wise, Hill, Meurice, Joy, Strong, Farr, Galey, Batche; E. H. Mead, and Greig, Asst. Preceptor.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Croft Wise being the candidate. Bro. Meadows answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The W.M. then opened the lodge in the Second Degree, and Bro. Meurice was passed to the Degree of F.C. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the brethren present went through Masonic drill. The W.M. then resumed the lodge in the First Degree, and after rising the usual time, closed the lodge. The members are requested to remember the annual dinner on Wednesday next, the 11th instant.

TRANQUILLITY LODGE, No. 185.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 29th ult., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. D. Hills, W.M.; P. Ornstein, S.W.; W. Hinds, J.W.; G. Davis, Preceptor; J. Eisenmann, Treas.; J. A. Withaus, Sec.; W. Baddeley, S.D.; Gerson, J.D.; Dakes, I.G.; Rawles, Tyler; J. Lazarus, P.M.; J. Marrians, P.M.; E. S. Berry, P.M.; R. Solomon, P.M.; W. J. Mason, P.M.; L. Bloomfield, P.M.; J. Trenner, J. W. Taylor, G. D. Mogford, S. Whar-

man, L. Cohen, E. H. Bury, T. Simpson, Arnold Weiss, J. Cohen, H. Chetham, R. Hirsch, B. Cohen, C. Gilbert, J. Paul, H. Braham, S. Wasserberg, T. W. Moore, J. Standford, N. Bloomfield, A. Kosminski, and others.

This being the first annual meeting to commemorate the starting of this lodge of instruction, the only business transacted was the election of Preceptor, Treasurer, and Secretary for the ensuing year in accordance with the bye-laws. The brethren therefore adjourned, as soon as the necessary elections had taken place, to the Alpha Room, where an excellent dinner was provided, to which about 40 members sat down.

Bro. Hills, the W.M. of the mother lodge, after giving the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, which were heartily responded to, referred to the satisfactory progress that the lodge of instruction had made during the short period of its existence, and also spoke as to the excellent work that was being carried out in connection with it, the number of members on the books being 91, and the average attendance a trifle over 14.

In reply to the toast of "The Treasurer," Bro. J. Eisenmann, in happy terms, referred to the fact that according to the bye-laws when the sum of £8 8s. was in the Treasurer's hands, that a sum of £5 5s., to enable some brother to become a Life Subscriber to one of the Masonic Charities, was to be balloted for amongst those brethren who had attended two-fifths of the meetings of the lodge of instruction. That sum had been reached that evening, and at the next meeting the ballot would be taken, and so good had the attendance been that there was quite a large number of brethren who were entitled to participate in the ballot.

During the evening an excellent programme of music was rendered under the leadership of Bro. F. Stephens.

PERCY LODGE, No. 198.

This favourite lodge in the north of London held its usual meeting on Saturday evening last, the 31st ult., at the Jolly Farmers Tavern, Southgate-road, N., where it has held its meetings ever since its resuscitation some 20 odd years since, and those who were present enjoyed a Masonic treat, as the occasion was that of the Fifteen Sections being worked by the brethren of the New Concord Lodge of Instruction by special invite of the Percy, under the able Mastership of Bro. H. G. Gush, P.M. 1541, who was well supported by Bros. J. A. Powell, 186, S.W.; J. H. Gaskin, P.M. 1897, J.W.; J. P. Cohen, P.M. 205, I.P.M.; F. Stallard, P.M. 1603, Sec.; W. T. Oakley, S.D., I.G.; G. A. Peters, E. Hill, J. H. Wood, W. Fitch, E. Glass, F. N. Bishop, W. L. Barker, R. Heslop, L. Cohen, E. Williams, J. Carter, Jos. Jacobs, R. Bescoby, T. R. Jones, A. Watkins, S. Carlton, H. J. Calley, T. Matthews, B. B. Acton, J. Robinson, T. W. Alderman, J. Coulthard, J. Wyman, R. P. Walkden, John Moule, G. W. Moore, W. H. Recknell, C. W. Payne, H. Dean, T. Aulay, S. H. Russell, H. Hill, A. H. Stanley, H. Park, T. Cull, A. W. Fenner, and several others.

The lodge having been opened, the W.M. worked the various Sections, assisted by the following brethren—1st Lecture—1st Section, Bro. J. H. Wood, P.M. 145; 2nd, Bro. J. P. Cohen, P.M. 205; 3rd, Bro. J. H. Gaskin, P.M. 1897; 4th, Bro. H. Park, J.W. 1327; 5th, Bro. G. A. Peters, W.M. 1227; 6th, Bro. T. Cull, P.M. Earl of Mount Edgcombe Lodge; and 7th, R. Bescoby, 1287. Second Lecture—1st Section, Bro. T. Matthews, 1585; 2nd, Bro. J. A. Powell, 186; 3rd, H. Hill, P.M.; 4th, J. A. Powell, 186; and 5th, Bro. F. Stallard, P.M. 1603. Third Lecture—1st Section, Bro. R. Heslop, P.M. 1695; 2nd, Bro. T. Aulay, J.W. 177; and 3rd, Bro. R. P. Walden, P.M. 1366. We need hardly say that the whole of the Sections were worked in a very perfect manner, the chief amongst them being the beautiful rendering by Bros. J. A. Powell, G. A. Peters, T. Cull, R. Bescoby, H. Park, and H. Hill, and in truth it may be said that the whole of the workers were applauded; why then say more, except to note that it reflects great credit on the Preceptor's teaching. A very hearty vote of thanks was awarded Bro. H. G. Gush, as also to those brethren who so ably assisted him in his arduous duty. Bros. J. Jacobs, 205; A. Watkins, 933; J. Robinson, and J. Wyman, 188, were duly proposed and elected members. After which the lodge was closed, and the meeting adjourned.

The lodge has been of infinite use to the Craft, as the rule is that if any brother particularly wishes to rehearse the ceremonies opportunity is afforded him so to do, and we know many brethren who have benefited by this concession. May the lodge go on and prosper!

IA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. H. C. Parker, W.M.; J. Goldstein, S.W.; A. Zeppenfeld, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Smale, Asst. Sec.; T. Pringle, S.D.; Genese, J.D.; T. L. Rowden, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; J. Leather, G. A. Sturgess, E. Bissell, M. Beedle, and J. Mason.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read. The 2nd Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. J. Leather. The 3rd Section of the Lecture was worked by the Preceptor. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Sturgess being the candidate. The 4th Section of the Lecture was worked by Bro. J. Leather. The W.M. rose for the first and second times, and Bro. Genese, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 30th ult. Present: Comps. G. Benedetti, M.E.Z.; C. Plant, H.; W. Wills, J.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., acting Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; G. Lewis, S.N.; Stone, P.S.; Hardman, Drinkwater, Hinton, and Beecroft.

The chapter was declared open, and the minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hardman personating the candidate. Comp. C. L. Plant, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. The M.E.Z. rose the usual number of times, and, the business of the chapter being ended, it was closed.

Royal Arch.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

The monthly meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Rooms, Nether Hall, Doncaster, on Friday, the 30th ultimo. Present: Comps. J. Constable, M.E.Z.; F. Rand, P.Z., acting H.; S. Pegler, P.Z., acting J.; J. Fitzgerald, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; R. Brew, 1st A.S.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; C. H. Woodhouse, J. H. Pawson, and W. Mason, Janitor. Comp. R. Alcock, 458, was a visitor.

Bro. E. Hirst was duly exalted to the Sublime Degree of a K.A. Mason by the M.E.Z., Comp. Pegler explaining the signs.

The companions afterwards partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

Obituary.

BRO. CAPTAIN J. P. OUGHAM.

We regret to record the death, at his residence, West Cliff-road, Whitstable-on-Sea, of Bro. Capt. J. P. Ougham, of Lodge 1915, at the early age of 42. The sad event occurred on Friday, the 23rd ult., after a prolonged and exceedingly painful illness, borne with great fortitude and cheerfulness. This illness was brought about under somewhat singular circumstances. About 12 months since the deceased was steering his vessel, when, through over exertion, he sustained injury to the valves of the heart, to which his death is primarily attributed. Quite a gloom was cast over the town, especially among shipping circles, where the deceased was well-known and highly respected. Bro. Captain Ougham was for 15 years master of the brigantine Sela, originally owned by Mr. F. W. Fairbrass, and now belonging to the Whitstable Shipping Company, Limited. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, the 28th ult., the first portion of the service—conducted by the Rev. W. Blissard, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Whitehead—

being held in Seasalter Church, where the hymn "Thy will be done" was sung with much feeling by the large number of friends who attended. The mournful cortege then proceeded to Whitstable Churchyard, where the interment took place. Amongst those present to pay the last mark of respect, besides the immediate relatives, we noticed Bro. N. K. Daniels, who, in the absence of Bro. Captain J. R. Daniels, represented the Whitstable Shipping Company, several Freemasons and Foresters, to both of which Societies the deceased belonged, Bros. F. Southwell, H. L. Daly, A. Nicholls, F. Gibbs, and A. Wakefield (Station Master L.C.D.R.), his brother, Mr. C. H. Ougham, and many others. The coffin was carried to the grave by six captains, friends of the deceased (by their special desire), and was covered with exquisite flowers.

Our Portrait Gallery.

BRO. EDMUND ROBERT BARTLEY DENNISS,

whose installation as Worshipful Master of the Willesden Lodge, No. 2489, is recorded in another column, was born in the midst of the Crimean War, his grandfather being Maj.-General Sir Robert Bartley, K.C.B. He was Captain of the Grove House Rugby Football Club; thence passed high in the Civil Service; and was in the Legacy and Succession Duty Department of the Inland Revenue. He left there for Hertford College, Oxford, to read for the Indian Civil Service, and obtained the highest marks in that examination for English Language and Literature, and was second in English, History of Laws and Constitution, and in Composition; he took £100 a year Scholarship at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, in Electricity, Magnetism, and Botany. In 1876 he entered the chambers of Lord Justice A. L. Smith to read for the Bar, and remained there three and a half years. He was called in 1879, and has since enjoyed an all-round practice, principally in



the Queen's Bench Division and in matters relating to Municipal and Local Government, and has acted as Counsel to many local authorities; was for three years Chairman of the Hendon Local Board; and elected County Councillor for Harrow-on-the-Hill. Our brother was initiated in the Thames Valley Lodge, No. 1460, about 10 years ago, and has been through the chair in that lodge; he was founder and the first Master, for two years in succession—1895 and 1896,—of the Herga Lodge, No. 2548; he is also a founder of the Willesden Lodge, of which, as before mentioned, he is the W.M.—by dispensation; he was founder and first J. of the Willesden Chapter; and is also an officer of the Royal Middlesex Chapter; in 1895 he was P.G. Steward Middx; and he is now P.J.G. Warden in the same province; he has served as Steward for the "Boys," and he took up for the "Old People" the large sum of £200. In conclusion, we beg to tender our hearty congratulations to the members of the Willesden Lodge upon their good fortune in securing the services of so eloquent, so conscientious, and so industrious a Worshipful Master.

WORTH KNOWING.

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

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, November 14th, 1896.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9.

GRAFT LODGES.

- St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
Fidelity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
Confidence, Anderson's Hotel.
Highgate, Midland Grand Hotel.
Adelphi, Freemasons' Hall.
Egipse, Criterion.
Earl of Lathom, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Quatuor Coronati, Freemasons' Hall.
Archeant, Putney Confraternal Club.
Golden, Freemasons' Hall.
Wood Green, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel.
Guildhall School of Music, Holborn Restaurant.
Royal Rose, Head-quarters 3rd V.E. Royal Fusiliers, Hampstead-road.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- Pannure, Iforns Tavern.
Cable, Cafe Royal.

MARK LODGES.

- Macdonald, Mark Masons' Hall.
Menatschim, Criterion.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- Studholme, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

GRAFT LODGES.

- Burlington, Albion Tavern.
St. James' Union, Freemasons' Hall.
Percy, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
St. Michael's, Albion Tavern.
United Strength, Guildhall Tavern.
Nine Muses, Grand Hotel.
Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse.
Cosmopolitan, Cannon-street Hotel.
Urban, Anderson's Hotel.
Urban, Freemasons' Hall.
Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.
Covent Garden, Criterion.
Canterbury, 33, Golden-square.
Samson, Cafe Royal.
Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.
Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall.
Drury Lane, Theatre Royal.
Brentford, Assembly Rooms.
Hampden, Hampden House, St. Pancras.
Rahere, Frascati Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- Old Concord, Holborn Restaurant.
St. Dunstan's, Anderson's Hotel.

MARK LODGE.

- Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.

- Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
Enoch, Freemasons' Hall.
Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
Vitravian, Bridge House Hotel.
Good Report, Albion Tavern.
Justice, White Swan, Deptford.
Wellington, Cannon-street Hotel.
Belgrave, Anderson's Hotel.
Beaumont, Guildhall Tavern.
St. Leonard, Great Eastern Hotel.
Peuge, Blacket Hotel.
Alliance Guildhall Tavern.
Clerkenwell, Hollam Viaduct Hotel.
Honor Oak, White Swan Hotel, Upper Norwood.
Rye, Peckham Public Hall.
Grafton, Blanchard's Restaurant.
Bloomsbury Rifles, Headquarters.
Telegraph Cable, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Lancastrian, Frascati Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- Amity Cannon-street Hotel.
John Hervey Holborn Restaurant.
Montague Guest, Inns of Court Hotel.
Hiram, Freemasons' Hall.

MARK LODGES.

- Old Kent, Mark Masons' Hall.
King Solomon, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

GRAFT LODGES.

- Royal Athelstan, Cannon-street Hotel.
Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
Universal, Albion Tavern.
Friendship, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall.
Bank of England, Albion Tavern.
Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel.
Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
Capper, Guildhall Tavern.
Islington, Cock Tavern.
Skelmersdale, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting Hill.
1708, Plucknett, Woodside Hall, N. Finchley.
1791, Creaton, Freemasons' Hall.
1820, Sir Thomas White, Cafe Royal.
1987, Strand, Criterion.
2031, University of London, Freemasons' Hall.
2047, Beckenham, Public Hall.
2090, Hammersmith, Vestry Hall.
2108, Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel.
2417, Bollingbroke, Municipal Buildings, Ealing.
2509, Barnet, Assembly Rooms.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

- St. George's, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

MARK LODGE.

- Davidson, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13.

GRAFT LODGES.

- Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Bedford, Freemasons' Hall.
Domestic, Anderson's Hotel.
Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall.
Anchor, Cafe Royal.
Ordnance, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
Stoke Newington, Assembly Rooms.

ROSE CROIX.

- Mount Calvary, 31, Golden-square.
Tuscan, Mark Masons' Hall.
Hibernia, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Albion, The Abbeys, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., at 7.
All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
Cradel, Earlegh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.
Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell-road, at 8.30.
Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 8.
Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.
Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woodwick, at 8.
Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, High-street, Wood Green, at 8.
Loyalty, Private Rooms, 206, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8.
Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Jew Bridge, at 8.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.
Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.
Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8.
Lily of Richmond Chapter, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8.
Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

GRAFT LODGES.

- London, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
Phenix, Freemasons' Hall.
Granite, Holborn Restaurant.
Great City, Cannon-street Hotel.
Mount Edgumbe, Bridge House Hotel.
Loyalty, London Tavern.
Baxton, Surrey Masonic Hall.
Perseverance, Anderson's Hotel.
1839, Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall.
2029, King Solomon, Mark Masons' Hall.
2579, Lewisham, Parish Hall.

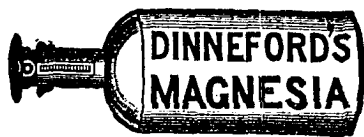
LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

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FOR THE CHAPLAINS' USE IN CRAFT LODGES.

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16 & 16A, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, W.C.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 11th inst., at 4 p.m.

BRO. SINCLAIR, the Archdeacon of London, will be canon in residence at St. Paul's during the month of November, and will preach on Sunday afternoons at the quarter-past three service.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF TECK have promised their patronage to the annual matinee of the Theatrical Charities' Association, which will take place at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, the 19th inst.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has been Barrister-at-law and Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple for 35 years, having been called to the Bar and elected a bencher on the 31st October, 1861.

AT THE ELECTION of officers at the Society of Architects, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, Bro. H. Lovegrove, G.S.B., headed the poll, and next came Bro. Walter Emden, P.G. Steward, and they will be the Vice-Presidents for the coming year.

THIS YEAR Hastings will again be visited by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex. The annual meeting is fixed to take place in the Town Hall on Wednesday, the 25th inst. It is fully expected that H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, P.G.M., will preside.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and her daughters, Princess Victoria, and Princess Aribert of Anhalt, attended an afternoon dramatic performance, given under the special patronage of the Queen, at the Albert Institute, Windsor, on Tuesday, in aid of the Princess Christian's Nurses' Home.

THE NEXT performance of the Elizabethan Stage Society will take place in Merchant Taylors' Hall, on the afternoon of Saturday, the 28th inst., the play selected being "The Two Gentlemen of Verona." This will be the first performance which has taken place in a City Company's hall within the memory of the present generation.

IN CONNECTION with the recent visit of the Emperor and Empress of Russia to Balmoral, the Queen has been pleased to appoint Count Paul Benkendorf, Master of the Emperor's Household, to the Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order. Her Majesty has also made several other appointments to the minor grades of the same Order.

BY ROYAL WARRANT, her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to grant to Bro. Baron de Bush her Royal licence and authority to bear and use in this country the hereditary title and dignity of Baron, conferred upon him by his Highness the late Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and has directed that such licence be recorded in the College of Arms.

THE HOLBORN RESTAURANT, whilst greatly enlarging their premises, opened a new grill room in the extension on the 2nd inst. The room, which is most lavishly decorated, is the best of its kind in London, and a new feature has been added in the form of a 2s. 6d. Table d'hôte Grill Lunch, which will undoubtedly prove to be extremely popular.

WE ARE GLAD to hear that Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Bedford are recovering from their recent carriage accident, but they are both obliged to move about with the aid of crutches, and it will probably be some time before the Duchess, who was seriously hurt by being dashed against a tree when the carriage was overturned, will be able to move without their assistance.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK will be the guests of Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland at Welbeck Abbey during the second week of December, and a distinguished party of guests has been invited to meet their Royal Highnesses. At the conclusion of their visit the Duke and Duchess will drive from Welbeck to Mansfield where they will make a short stoppage in order that they may be presented with an address.

WEDNESDAY WAS THE 19th anniversary of the death of Admiral Benbow, who died at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 4th November, 1702, from wounds received in his memorable action with the French off Carthage, in the West Indies, and Srewsbury, his native town, did honour to his memory by placing wreaths of laurel on his monument in St. Mary's Church, and on the old painting which hangs in the local National History Museum.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, Bro. Lord Walseley, visited Bethnal Green on Saturday evening last, and at the invitation of Colonel Whetherley and his officers, opened the new headquarters in Victoria Park-square, of the Tower Hamlets Royal Engineer Volunteers. His lordship was accompanied by Bro. Lord Methuen, General Webber, and Captain Freemantle, A.D.C., and at the conclusion of the address he delivered, was heartily thanked by Colonel Whetherley on behalf of the regiment.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, accompanied by the Duke of York, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, Prince Charles of Denmark, Bro. the Maharajah of Cooch-Bihar, the Earls of Pembroke and Cadogan, and Bro. Sir Henry Keppel shot through the Sandringham preserves on Tuesday, and were joined at luncheon by H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Duchess of York, Princess Charles of Denmark, Princess Victoria, the Countess of Pembroke, Countess Cadogan, and other ladies.

THE DUCHESS OF TECK, attended by Miss Tuffnell, opened a large bazaar in aid of the Building Fund of the Victoria Working Men's Club, Sandycroft-road, Kew, on Tuesday. Among those present to receive the Duchess were Bro. Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., and Lady Ellis, Sir J. and Lady Salumper, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Richmond. Before leaving, her Royal Highness attended a concert and visited a museum of local curiosities. On Wednesday the bazaar was opened by Bro. Lord and Lady Charles Beresford.

HUGHAN'S "OLD CHARGES."—Only two or three copies are left of Bro. Hughan's "Old Charges of British Freemasons" (1895), at 12s. 6d. each, *net*. The volume is really new out of print, and like all Bro. Hughan's works, is being quoted at a premium by second-hand booksellers. "A word to the wise" should be enough, and especially to Honorary Librarians of lodges, who should secure copies whilst they may be had at reasonable cost from our Office, 16, Great Queen-street. We shall be glad of reports of Bro. Hughan's other works that are for sale.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by General Ellis, Bros. Lord Suffield and Sir Francis Knollys, left town for Sandringham on Saturday last. Among those who travelled by the same train as his Royal Highness were Bro. Christopher Sykes, Bro. the Hon. Sir E. Monson, the British Ambassador at Paris, the Hon. Michael Herbert, Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, and Bro. Sir F. Abel. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria, and Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark met the Prince on his arrival, while the Duke of York joined the party later. On Monday the party of guests was augmented by the arrival of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Bro. the Maharajah of Cooch-Bihar, the Earl of Pembroke (Lord Steward of the Household) and the Countess of Pembroke, Earl Cadogan (Lord Lieutenant of Ireland) and the Countess Cadogan, and Admiral of the Fleet, Bro. Sir Henry Keppel, G.C.B.

"I DREAMT THAT I DWELT IN MARBLE HALLS" will be the pleasing fancy to every one who first crosses the threshold of the gorgeous Trocadero Restaurant, which now holds such a proud and enviable position in the "New London" starting into life round and about Piccadilly Circus. But instead of the "vassals and serfs" of the old song we shall find a warm and hospitable welcome from the courteous and spirited proprietors, Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Limited, and the proverbial attention and personal comfort ever extended to the public by these well-known caterers and restaurateurs. The basement floor is devoted to the grill room, with the buffet, smoking, reading, and billiard rooms. The entrance floor is occupied by the grand restaurant, with its golden minstrel and great gallery in the style of Louis Quatorze, and attached to the gold hall and gallery is a splendid adjacent saloon in the style of Louis Quinze. Small but deliciously cosy dining rooms surround these splendid public rooms. The first floor of the new Trocadero is another welcome surprise, consisting as it does of a ball room, a banquet hall in the Empire period—a most admirable reproduction—and an ante-room in the style of Louis Treize. On the gallery level, at the top of the grand staircase, will be found a reception room, again in the style of Louis Treize; a magnificent Masonic lodge in the period of Francois Premier, with, of course, the necessary ante-rooms for the comfort and convenience of the brethren of the Craft. Full particulars can be had on application at the Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus.

FIELD-MARSHAL H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE entered upon the 60th year of his military service on Tuesday, having been gazetted as Colonel in the Army on the 3rd November, 1837.

BRO. S. B. BANCROFT'S reading of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol," in aid of the Cancer Ward of the Middlesex Hospital, will take place on Monday, the 23rd, not on Tuesday, the 24th inst.

HONOUR FOR THE LORD MAYOR.—We are informed that the Queen has appointed the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir Walter Wilkin) to be a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

BRO. LORD AND LADY PIRBRIGHT'S party to meet Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Connaught will assemble at Henley Park, Pirbright, on Tuesday, the 17th, instead of on Monday, the 16th inst., as previously arranged.

THE MEETING of the Farmers' Club in Salisbury-square, E.C., was held on Monday, and was numerously attended, the chair being occupied by Mr. Frederic Street, while among those present were Mr. Clare Read and Bro. Arthur Pell.

THE WEST LONDON AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB have arranged to give an entertainment at St. George's Hall on the 3rd December in aid of the funds of University College Hospital, which at the present time has the misfortune to be in debt to its tradesmen and bankers to the extent of £15,000.

THE FINAL TIE in the competition for the National Life-Saving Shield was decided at the St. George's Baths, Buckingham Palace-road, on Saturday last, when, after a splendid contest, victory was declared in favour of the London and India Dock (the holders) by 96 points to 95½ points made by Coventry.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the North Borneo Company was held at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Bro. R. B. Martin, M.P., among the principal guests present being Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, Sir Charles Jessel, Rear-Admiral Leicester Keppel, Col. Turner, and Sir Hugh Low.

THE LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL has appointed a Committee, with the Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education as Chairman, to consider the mode in which the grants made to Science and Art Schools are distributed, and to report if it is desirable to make any alteration thereon.

A FINE ORGAN, both in appearance and quality of tone, has been erected in the Scotch Church, Camden-road, by Messrs. Bishop and Son, from a specification prepared by Bro. Dr. Warwick Jordan (professor of the organ at the Guildhall School of Music), who superintended its erection, and who gave the opening recital to a crowded congregation on Wednesday evening.

BRO. PASSMORE EDWARDS has intimated to the Tottenham District Council that he is willing to provide funds for the erection of a free public library and reading-rooms in the southern portion of Tottenham, providing a site is found. Bro. Edwards opened the Central Library and Reading-rooms situated near the High Cross early in this year, when he gave a large contribution of books.

THE NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY held its jubilee show at the Royal Aquarium during the present week. It was opened on Tuesday, and will remain open till this (Friday) evening. Quite a number of special prizes were awarded on the occasion, a quantity of jubilee medals being struck off in lieu of ordinary prizes, the value of the awards being over £1000, of which one quarter is given by the Aquarium.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., who was accompanied by Lady George Hamilton, re-opened, on Tuesday, the Stepney Parish Church Day Schools, which were founded in 1724, and have just been re-built by voluntary subscriptions. In the course of the proceedings, Lady George Hamilton unveiled a tablet dedicated to the memory of certain deceased treasurers. A vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton for their presence on the occasion.

THE LADY MAYORESS (Lady Wilkin) held her final reception at the Mansion House on Tuesday afternoon, but previous to the gathering a deputation of members of the Corporation waited upon her ladyship and presented her with a diamond crescent as a souvenir of her residence in the City and as a mark of the esteem and regard felt for her and the Lord Mayor in civic circles. The presentation was made by the Chief Commoner and gracefully acknowledged by the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir W. Wilkin).

AMONG THOSE who attended the interment of the remains of Lord Alexander Paget in the family vault at Lichfield Cathedral on Saturday last were Lady Alexander Paget (the widow) and Mr. Charles Paget (the son), Lord and Lady Berkeley Paget, the Marchioness of Hastings, the Earl of Romney, Viscount Combermere, the Earl of Horne, Lord George Scott, and Bro. Lord Burton. Simultaneously with the funeral at Lichfield, a memorial service was held in St. Peter's, Eaton-square, which was numerously attended by relatives and friends of the deceased.

THE ALDERSGATE LITERARY SOCIETY.—This society met on Tuesday at 186, Aldersgate-street. The discussion was opened in a spirited address by the President, Bro. the Rev. T. Selby Henrey, who moved as a resolution—"That this meeting is of opinion that woman is, mentally, not only man's equal, but in many respects his superior." Bro. Henrey, who met with a very cordial reception, disposed in a gallant manner of the stock arguments of those who admire women only for their domestic virtues, and drew attention to great female characters in history from Eve to Queen Victoria.

IN CONNECTION with the celebrations which are contemplated next year in honour of the Queen's long reign, it has been arranged that a fête and fancy fair shall be held in the Botanical Gardens from 21st to 25th June, in aid of the funds of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have already graciously signified their intention of bestowing their patronage upon it, while among the ladies who have announced that they will personally hold stalls are the Duchess of Sutherland, the Countess Cadogan, the Countess of Aylesford, Viscountess Chelsea, Lady Harris, and many others.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—The Dean and Chapter of our Metropolitan Church are again trying an experiment in the lighting of this vast edifice. The present system—the standards in the nave and the jets at the top of the quarter-arches of the dome—is totally inadequate, and moreover the jets of gas are not only destroying the stonework, but very seriously injuring the splendid mosaics which surround the dome. It is proposed to use incandescent gas, and the authorities are having large globes with five burners to each suspended from the top of the columns of the quarter-arches with a view of spreading a more beautiful and effective light around. It is to be hoped that the experiment will prove to be a greater success than that of the electric light, which was provisionally tried some year or so back.

"JOHANNIS" NATURAL TABLE WATER.—JOHANNIS SPRINGS, ZOLLHAUS (GERMANY).—Prominent amongst the many concerns actively working to supply the demand now existing and increasing for a pure and reliable natural table water is that which controls the extensive spring at Zollhaus in Germany, and has offices at 25, Regent-street, S.W., besides large stores in different parts of London. The high reputation which "Johannis" has obtained as a table water, and from its soothing properties and freshness, its peculiar suitability for invalids and those suffering from dyspepsia, gout, rheumatism, torpid liver, or weak digestion, is due, perhaps, in the first instance, to the care with which the high properties of their springs are guarded, and, in the next place, to the scientific principles on which the water and carbonic gas is collected and bottled. The Zollhaus Springs are so highly charged in carbonic acid gas that the company find it necessary to draw off some of their abundance to be utilised for other purposes than the saturation of their own natural water. They can then place on the market that which has been aptly termed "The King of Table Waters," an article clear and pleasing to the eye, and lively and sparkling, and, therefore, refreshing and agreeable to the palate. "Johannis" has the peculiarity of retaining an equality of temperature at all seasons. A special commissioner was recently appointed by the *Lancet* to examine the springs and thoroughly test the products of the company. The result has been eminently gratifying, if not indeed flattering to them, and the report proves not only the richness of the water in all the virtues claimed for it, but also its entire reliability and keeping qualities. The gold medals awarded to the company at different exhibitions are no less value as testimony in its favour than the chorus of medical recommendations which it has been received in all directions. In September, 1895, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales paid a special visit to the company's springs and expressed his delight with what he saw there, and his appreciation of the "Johannis" table waters, &c. It may be added that the company also hold the Queen's special warrant for supply of their product to her Majesty's household.