

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 SO-CALLED "FOURTH" DEGREE.

We were reminded the other day, when we came across certain remarks by Bro. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Past Grand Master of Maine, on the subject of Grand Lodge banquets, which were quoted in one of our American exchanges, that there are many worthy and well-meaning brethren who consider it derogatory to the grand principles of Freemasonry that so much attention should be paid to what is variously spoken of as the "Fourth" or "Knife and Fork" Degree. They say, in the first place, that it is not an essential part of our Masonic system, and, in the second place, that, rightly or wrongly, Masons are credited with over-indulgence in the good things of this life, and they argue that, though a little refreshment after labour is by no means undesirable, it is far better to forego that refreshment, and, by so doing, give the lie direct to so injurious an allegation. The question is one that has been discussed for a number of years, and, in all probability, will continue to be the subject of discussion until the arrival of the Greek Calends. There is, of course, a certain amount of reason in the arguments of those who favour the abolition of the "Fourth" Degree, and, on the other hand, there is an absence of all reason from some of the arguments employed by those who think it impossible that a Masonic meeting, of any kind or for any purpose, should be held without refreshment following labour. But, on the whole, it is our belief that there is rightly a preponderance of opinion in favour of refreshment. We see no reason why it should not be provided whenever it is known that a number of brethren intend meeting together for the discharge of their duties, so that those who desire it may refresh themselves, while those who do not have the option of going empty away; while, as regards the manner in which it should be served, we would far rather see it take the form of a set meal, such as dinner, tea, or supper, than have it served promiscuously and in a rough-and-scramble fashion.

But we are forgetting the text we have chosen, namely, Bro. DRUMMOND'S remarks about Grand Lodge banquets. Bro. DRUMMOND does not object to "banquets *per se*, nor to the 'annual feasts' of the Grand Lodges whose usage it is to have them, but," he adds, "the Grand Lodge meets to transact important business, and it is the universal experience that 'entertainments' always interfere seriously with the proper performance of the duty of any legislative Masonic body." We are afraid we do not quite grasp our brother's meaning. He

does not object to "banquets *per se*," that is to say, as a certain amount of eating and drinking is necessary to sustain life, he does not object to the members of Grand Lodge going through the necessary amount of eating and drinking, even when it takes the form of a set banquet. Nor does he object to the "annual feasts" of those Grand Lodges whose usage it is to have them. The term "feast" is generally understood to imply a greater amount of eating and drinking than is necessary for man's sustenance. Still, he has no objection to them in the case of those Grand Lodges which have made them a part, as it were, of their Masonic usage, and which, like all other Grand Lodges, meet, we suppose, for the transaction of important business. But though he does not object to "banquets *per se*" or "annual feasts" where it is the usage to hold them, it is both his and everybody else's experience that "entertainments"—which are not necessarily "banquets" or "feasts," but may be lectures or musical and dramatic performances—interfere materially with the transaction of that important legislative business which it is the duty of Grand Lodges to perform. It follows that our distinguished brother both objects and does not object to banquets. He does not mind a dinner, and no doubt considers it allowable to indulge in one, both *per se* and *cum quibusdam aliis*, and especially when he is visiting a Grand Lodge whose usage it has been from time immemorial to dine at its annual communication. But in the case of those which do not dine on the ground that dinners, banquets, feasts, and entertainments seriously interfere with the transaction of important Masonic business, he figuratively pats them on the back, tells them they are all brave Grand Lodges, and earnestly implores them never to be guilty of the sin of dining.

It is to be regretted that Bro. DRUMMOND should have written so contradictorily that it is almost a matter of impossibility to determine what he really means. We in England are not without our differences of opinion upon the question—To dine or not to dine, but happily it is only a small minority which inclines to the latter alternative. As for our Grand Lodge it solves the difficulty which Bro. DRUMMOND connects with the banquet or dinner, by not dining together as a body at those regular Quarterly Communications at which it meets for the transaction of business, and not transacting any business—beyond that of appointing and investing the Grand Officers for the ensuing year—when it meets for the purpose of dining. The majority of the American Grand Lodges meet only once a year, and as the Grand Officers and brethren attending these annual communications come from all and even the most distant parts of the States—which, in some cases are as big as half a dozen European States put together—we imagine that when they arrive at the place of meeting they will be in a fit state to do justice to the dinner, banquet, feast, or entertainment that is prepared for them. If it is a non-banqueting Grand Lodge then the brethren will transact their business and go about their business till the next annual meeting. Our Provincial Grand Lodges which, as a rule, only meet annually, have a happy knack of combining business and the banquet in such a manner that neither interferes with the other. The hour appointed for meeting is generally early, so that by the time the important business of P.G. Lodge is ended the brethren are in a fit state to enjoy themselves at the festive board. As for our private lodges, the brethren, as a rule, meet in greater numbers, and discharge the duties of the lodge more smartly and efficiently when they know that refreshment will follow labour, and that in partaking of such refresh-

ment they will be afforded the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with each other, as it is right and proper they should do as members of the same body, and united therefore by a common interest in the fortunes of that body. It must be remembered that the members of our lodges are, as a rule, in the habit of taking refreshment at home in the form of dinner or supper, and we see no just cause or impediment why they should not refresh themselves similarly when they meet for Masonic purposes. We do not therefore understand why our so-called Fourth Degree should be abolished or less generally esteemed than it has been in the past. Those who would abuse it by over-indulgence are obviously the class of men whom it is desirable we should keep outside our ranks. But as it is the hope of reward that sweetens labour, and as it is clear, as we have before said, that lodges meet in better force, and do their work better when there is refreshment to follow labour, we shall take a leaf out of Bro. DRUMMOND'S book. We shall not object to banquets *per se*, nor shall we form a worse opinion of any Grand, Provincial Grand, or Private Lodge, whose usage it is to have banquets, because they do not see their way to discontinuing that usage.

MASONRY IN THE TRANSVAAL.

We have on many occasions called the attention of our readers to the progress which Freemasonry has been making of late years in South Africa, one of the most direct evidences of this progress being the establishment of a District Grand Lodge of the Transvaal, which already had some 14 or 15 lodges on its roll at the commencement of the present year, that is to say, within about 12 months from the date when Bro. GEORGE RICHARDS received his patent of appointment as District Grand Master. Several of these lodges were in existence before that auspicious event, but the District has advanced with more rapid strides since its erection into a District, not only as regards strength and numbers, but in other directions likewise. This shows that the Craft has taken a firm hold as well in the deep-seated affection of the brethren, for the tenets and principles of Freemasonry as in their fancy for a thing that is new to their experience. But the most honourable of all the steps which our Transvaal brethren have taken in furtherance of Masonry is undoubtedly the establishment, on what is likely to prove on a large scale, of a Masonic Educational Institution, which we learn from the Johannesburg *Star* of the 17th October was at that date on the point of becoming an accomplished fact. The constitution of the new Charity, which has been framed by Bro. DA SILVA, the District Grand Secretary, is spoken of as being of the most comprehensive character, and such as cannot fail to commend itself to all, whether members of the Craft or not, "who have at heart the mental, and moral, and physical training of the young." Though established under the auspices of the English Constitution, it is hoped that lodges and brethren under the other Constitutions will give it their best assistance. It is intended to be a self-supporting Institution, with Patrons and Vice-Patrons, Presidents and Vice-Presidents, and Life Governors, whose rank as donors and subscribers will be determined by the amount of their contributions. It will provide for the education, maintenance, and clothing of the children of those brethren who have died in poor circumstances or whose position has been altered for the worse through illness or misfortune. At the same time it will be open to all brethren to place their children in the Institution, on payment of moderate fees, care being at the same time taken that the education of all, whether paying or non-paying pupils, is of the very highest character. An Annual Festival will be held and Bro. RICHARDS, Dist. G. Master, has very kindly promised to preside at the first, which it is proposed to hold sometime during the spring of 1897. As for the support which is anticipated the Johannesburg *Star* announces that several donations of one hundred guineas each have already been promised, and that five stands in the neighbourhood of Johannesburg have been presented as a building site. Moreover, many of the lodges in Cape Colony and the Free State have signified their intention of joining in the movement,

The children will be elected by ballot, and the utmost care will be taken that none are admitted until after strict examination as to their eligibility. The scheme is an admirable one, and we doubt not, when carried out, will be not only honourable to our Transvaal brethren, but at the same time of the greatest benefit to the children of those who, through death, illness, or misfortune, have dropped out of our ranks. It is needless to add that such a scheme has our entire sympathy, and will receive, so far as we are able to render it any help, our warmest support.

UNITED GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday, the 2nd prox.

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 2nd September for confirmation.
2. Nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year.
3. Nomination of a Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
4. Appointment and investment of a President of the Board of Benevolence.
5. Election of a Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence.
6. Election of 12 Past Masters to serve on the Board of Benevolence for the ensuing year.
7. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:

A brother of the High Cross Lodge, No. 754, London ...	£75 0 0
A brother of the De Warren Lodge, No. 1302, Halifax ...	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the British Union Lodge, No. 114, Ipswich ...	100 0 0
A brother of the Lebanon Lodge, No. 1326, Feltham ...	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Lodge Brotherly Love, No. 329, Yeovil ...	50 0 0

And a resolution of a vote of thanks to the President, V.W. Bro. Robert Grey, for the courteous manner in which he has, during the past year, presided over the meetings of the Board.

8. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board have to report that the following presentations have been made to the Library and Museum since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, all of which have been accepted with thanks:

TITLE OF OBJECT.	BY WHOM PRESENTED.
Robert Burns' Commemoration Medal ...	William James Hughan, P.G.D., &c.
The Great Pyramid ...	John Chapman, P.P.G.D. Devon, &c.
The Descent of Symbolic Masonry, &c. ...	John Armitage, P.M., &c.
Jachin and Boaz, 1805 ...	John Lane, P.A.G.D.C., &c.
History of the St. Michael Lodge, No. 63, Dumfries ...	James Smith, R.W.M., &c.
Photograph of By-Laws of Prov. G. Lodge of York, 1785 ...	Michael C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br., &c.
Royal Alpha Lodge Members' Jewel of the late Col. Shadwell H. Clerke ...	Mrs. Shadwell H. Clerke.
History of the Lodge of Honour, No. 526 ...	Thomas J. Barnett, P.P.G.W. Staffs.
Historical Sketch and Centennial Medal Washington Lodge, Massachusetts ...	Herbert F. Morse, W.M.
By-Laws of Lambton Lodge, No. 789, 1825 ...	Robert Hudson, P.G. Std. Br., &c.
Thoughts, Moral and Divine (Wellins Cott) 1764 ...	Thomas Francis, Past Prov. G. Warden Hants, &c.
Backs reports of Grand Lodge of Wisconsin ...	John W. Laffin, Grand Secretary.
Old Masonic Oil Painting ...	George Everett, P.G. Treas.

The Board also submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts, at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 13th day of November instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £5528 7s. 9d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
18th November, 1896.

APPEAL.

9. By Bro. EDWARD H. GIBSON, P.M. No. 2119, Queensland, against the ruling of the District Grand Master that a motion was in order, and could be put to Quarterly Communication, to excise from the minutes a resolution actually come to at the preceding meeting of District Grand Lodge, although no notice of such motion had been given.

10. Names of brethren nominated to the offices of Senior and Junior Vice-President of the Board of Benevolence: Bros. David Dixon Mercer, P.G.P., as Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Charles Alexander Cottebrune, P.G.P., as Junior Vice-President.

11. Names of Past Masters nominated to serve on the Board of Benevolence: Bros. George Graveley, 898; Walter Martin, 879; G. R. Langley, 2381; George B. Chapman, 27; Charles Dairy, 141; William Fisher, 834; James Bunker, 1158; William Vincent, 1194; Simon H. Goldschmidt, 1329; Robert A. Gowan, 2029; William Kipps, 1275; and E. Nightingale, 87.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:

- No. 2625, The Guardian, London.
- 2626, The Leyton, London.
- 2627, The District Grand Stewards' of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.
- 2628, The Perseverance, Molteno, South Africa (E.D.).
- 2629, The Killarney, Killarney, Queensland.
- 2630, The Tuthbury Castle, Hatton, Derbyshire.
- 2631, The Commercial Travellers, Liverpool.
- 2632, The Byfield, London.
- 2633, The Jubilee, Brisbane, Queensland.
- 2634, The Hopeful, Corinda, Queensland.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, &c.

The following is the business to be transacted on Tuesday, the 1st proximo:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 1st September, 1896.
2. Report of the General Board.
3. A motion will be made that the report be taken as read.
4. A motion will be made that the report be received and entered on the minutes.
5. Recommendations arising out of the report—
 - (a.) That the thanks of Grand Lodge be given to the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, for the gift of a table on which to place the Consecrating Vessel.
 - (b.) That the thanks of Grand Lodge be given to Capt. Geo. Hearn for the gift of two trophies of Chinese Spears.
 - (c.) That the thanks of Grand Lodge be given to the President of the Board for the gift of Japanese Adzes, Tomahawks, and Ancient Knives.
 - (d.) Fund of Benevolence—Grant recommended.
£25 to a brother of Lodge St. Andrew, No. 34.
6. A motion will be proposed that the report be adopted.
7. Nomination of the M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year.
8. Nomination of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CAMBRIDGE-SHIRE.

The annual meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Guildhall-street, Cambridge, under the auspices of the Isaac Newton (University) Lodge, No. 859, on Monday last. Present:

Bros. Col. R. Townley Caldwell, P.G.M.; Rev. J. H. Gray, D.P.G.M.; J. V. Pryor, 88, P.S.G.W.; H. T. Trevor-Jones, 859, P.J.G.W.; Rev. H. S. Cronin, 859, P.G.C.; W. W. Rouse Ball, 859, P.G. Treasurer; J. Taylor, 441, P.G. Registrar; Major Oliver Papworth, 88, P.G. Secretary; J. R. Bambridge, 809, P.J.G.D.; James Catling, 441, P.G.S. of W.; F. Dewberry, 441, P.G.D.C.; J. G. Chennell, 2107, P.A.G.D.C.; J. H. Moyes, 88, P.G.S.B.; H. Davis, 809, P.G. Organist; T. Byron Hope, 859, P.G. Purst.; and Dr. M. R. Roper, 441, E. B. Bellairs, 809, and C. O. E. Nicholson, 859, P.G. Stewards. Visitors: Bros. H. Le Strange, P.G.D. England, D.P.G.M. Norfolk; J. T. Ralling, P.G. Sec. Essex; J. J. Turner, P.P.S.G.W. Essex; J. Mason, P.P.S.G.D. Middlesex; C. Kent, 699; W. H. Lomas, 1741; A. E. Chaplin, W.M., B. Chennell, P.M., F. Piggott, P.M., W. P. Spalding, P.M., J. Bester, F. J. Moden, T. W. Allsop, A. R. Hill, E. S. Wood, and W. Treadway, of 88; W. R. Roper, W.M., J. S. Youngman, P.M., T. Watts, P.M., P. H. Young, P.M., E. W. Harry, P.M., F. R. Leach, L. Hosegood, G. R. Barnes, W. H. Berridge, P. Body, G. F. Ward, W. T. Bowman, J. C. M. Skinner, S. Wheaton, and R. J. Fuller, of 441; J. R. Bambridge, W.M., W. Bray, P.M., A. Bothamley, P.M., J. H. Foster, and W. Gilling, of 809; T. B. Hope, W.M., H. C. Knott, P.M., A. Hill, P.M., W. J. Fernie, G. I. Bland, J. H. C. Dalton, Rev. G. B. Finch, H. T. E. Barlow, W. A. J. Archbold, W. Briggs, John Briggs, and S. W. Burgess, of 859; C. H. French, W.M., J. R. Green, P.M., and C. E. Broughton-Leigh, P.M., of 1492; and J. Turner, W.M., W. Hutchinson, P.M., G. Simpson, G. Barrow, J. W. Carr, J. C. Laxton, and F. H. Potts, of 2107.

Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, and the P.G.M. and the D.P.G.M. saluted, the minutes of the last annual meeting were confirmed.

The roll of the P.G. Officers and the roll of the lodges were called.

The Auditors' report of the Treasurer's accounts was presented, Bro. ROUSE BALL stated that, although, they had increased their contributions to the Masonic Charities this year, their credit balance was larger than it had been for 11 years. The report was adopted.

The Registrar, Bro. Joshua Taylor, P.M., presented the return of the lodges for the past year. The return showed the present number of members to be 424, against 437 last year.

Bro. W. W. ROUSE BALL, Treas., proposed, and Bro. F. DEWBERRY, D.C., seconded that Bro. Thomas Watts, P.M. 441, be P.G. Treasurer for the ensuing year. Carried unanimously.

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested the Provincial Grand Officers, as under:

Bro. H. C. Knott, P.M. 859...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. W. Rouse Ball, P.M. 1492	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. G. B. Finch, 859	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. H. T. E. Barlow, 859	...	
" T. Watts, P.M. 441	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" T. Hunnybun, P.M. 88	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Oliver Papworth, P.M. 88 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" P. H. Young, P.M. 441	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" T. B. Hope, W.M. 859	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" E. B. Bellairs, W.M. 809	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" F. Dewberry, P.M. 441 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" C. H. French, P.M. 1492	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" W. J. Fernie, S.W. 859	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" A. W. Aldrich, 2107	...	Prov. G. Org.
" John Bester, Chap. 88	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" F. J. Moden, J.D. 88	...	Prov. G. Stewards.
" L. Hosegood, S.D. 441	...	
" W. Gilling, S.W. 809	...	
" F. C. Begg, 859	...	
" W. B. Pike, 859	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. W. Carr, J.D. 2107	...	
" C. H. Ellis, 859	...	

The brethren having saluted the Prov. Grand Officers, The 13th annual report of the Province of Cambridgeshire Masonic Charity Association was read by Bro. OLIVER PAPWORTH, Hon. Secretary. The members were congratulated upon a successful year. The province was represented at the anniversary Festivals as follows: Aged and Widows, by Bro. W. P. Spalding, P.M. 88, who took up £91 5s.; the Girls, by Bro. S. H. Sharman, P.M. 441, £63; the Boys, Bro. O. Papworth, P.M. 88, £78 15s., and Bro. the Rev. H. S. Cronin, W.M. 859, £89 5s.; and at all three Festivals by Bro. W. Briggs, 859, who subscribed 10 guineas to each Institution. The contributions through Stewards from the province during the years 1883 to 1895, both inclusive, to the three Masonic Charities amounted to £3881, and the £353 15s. taken up this year made a total of £4234 15s. The recipients in the province of benefits from the Charities were three boys, one girl, and two benevolent.

The report was adopted, upon the motion of Bro. W. P. SPALDING, P.M., seconded by Bro. H. T. TREVOR-JONES, P.M.

Bro. F. PIGGOTT, P.M., as a member of the Committee of the Masonic Charity Association, proposed—"That Provincial Grand Lodge tenders its heartiest thanks to Bro. Oliver Papworth for the arduous services he has rendered to the Masonic Charity Association of the Province since its establishment in 1883, and especially congratulates him upon his successful efforts in procuring the election of each and every candidate for the several Masonic Charities who have from time to time been approved and supported by our Masonic Charity Association." (Applause.)

Bro. B. CHENNEL, P.M., seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. PAPWORTH, in reply, observed that if his services had given satisfaction he was amply repaid. He trusted members would not only send their voting papers, but would spare trouble by sending in their subscriptions promptly.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then presented a Charity jewel to Bro. W. Briggs, 859, and Charity jewel clasps to Bros. Oliver Papworth, P.P.S. G.W., Prov. G. Sec., and S. H. Sharman, P.P.S.G.W.

Upon the motion of Bro. W. W. ROUSE BALL, the sum of 15 guineas was voted to the Cambridge Masonic Charity Association for current expenses, and the sum of 10 guineas to one or more of the Royal Masonic Institutions.

Bro. H. C. KNOTT, P.S.G.W., proposed "That the action of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys as to the proposed removal of the Boys' School to a more desirable locality commends itself to this Provincial Grand Lodge as worthy of the hearty and liberal support of all subscribers to the Institution and of the Craft generally." He spoke from personal knowledge as an Examiner.

Bro. JOSHUA TAYLOR seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER proposed votes of thanks to those brethren who had served as Stewards to the different Masonic Charities during the year, which were adopted, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

At the banquet which followed in the Masonic Hall,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in felicitous terms, gave "The Queen and the Craft," and "The Grand Master of England." He observed that during her Majesty's long reign, the Craft had prospered more than in any previous period of its history.

In submitting the toast of "The Grand Officers of England," the PROV. GRAND MASTER remarked that there were many questions affecting the welfare of the Craft, which had to be solved with the advice and assistance of these officers, and the Craft was indebted to them for these and other services.

Bro. HAMON LE STRANGE, P.G.D. of England, D.P.G.M. Norfolk, and an honorary member of No. 859, acknowledged the toast, and spoke of the good example set the Grand Officers by the Grand Master. Freemasonry would go on and prosper so long as they had such good working Masons at the head of the Craft, all of whom did their best to deserve the honours conferred upon them. The Province of Cambridgeshire was not numerically large, but it comprised a University lodge, from which Freemasons went out through the length and breadth of the land; and, although a small province, they showed up well in the Charities. He had never been present with them without seeing a jewel or bar bestowed.

The DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER proposed "The Health of the Prov. Grand Master," which was received with the utmost cordiality. The province prided themselves on two things—(1) in being happy and united, always working together with the greatest cordiality, and (2) they were uncommonly proud of their Prov. Grand Master. (Applause.) It certainly would be impossible to find a more genial and consistent Master under whom to work. The Province of Norfolk had enjoyed 20 years of Lord Suffield's rule, and he hoped Colonel Caldwell would preside 20 years or more over the Province of Cambridgeshire. Long might the province flourish under his kindly rule! (Applause.)

The PROV. GRAND MASTER said he deeply felt the honour of presiding over the province from his first appointment by the Prince of Wales, and that feeling was heightened the more he came to know the brethren who composed it, as he could safely and confidently rely upon their kind co-operation and good advice in any difficulty that might arise. He was especially fortunate in having such an excellent Deputy Prov. Grand Master and such a methodical and painstaking Prov. Grand Secretary. True, the province was not large; but small though it was, they would find members of it scattered over the whole face of the globe—illustrative of the wide range of Freemasonry itself. Go where they would, they would come across a member of it. This had happened to himself whilst travelling in Carthage and Tunis, and also in Corsica. And wherever found, they might rely upon the kind advice, co-operation, and support of these brethren.

The PROV. G. MASTER, in proposing "The Health of the D.P.G.M. and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," said he knew the eagerness with which this annual gathering was awaited. They were fortunate in having a larger number of purple collars bestowed than could possibly be the case in larger provinces. At the same time it was difficult to make the selection from amongst the deserving brethren who hard worked well in their respective lodges. But through the kindly advice and thoughtful consideration of their ubiquitous, observant, and painstaking D.P.G.M., his task was rendered easy; and he knew that whoever was appointed, would prepare himself to discharge his duties in a satisfactory manner.

The DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER, after congratulating his friends in the S.W., J.W., and Chaplain's chairs, pointed out again that the weak places in the province were Ely, March, and Chatteris. He hoped Bro. Bellairs (the Mayor of Wisbech) and other brethren in the Isle of Ely, would lay the foundation of future lodges in the towns he had mentioned.

Bro. H. C. KNOTT, P.S.G.W., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and spoke from personal experience of the sound and healthy work done in the Boys' School.

Bro. J. MASON, P.P.S.G.D. Middx., in acknowledging, spoke of the excellent work done by their Prov. Grand Secretary, Bro. O. Papworth, on the Board of Management of the Boys' School. He regarded their three great Charities as the three proudest gems that adorned Freemasonry. He was glad they had in Provincial Grand Lodge carried a motion approving of the proposed action with regard to the removal of the Boys' School. He was delighted to find that Bro. B. Chennell was going up as a Steward to the Old People's Institution at the next festival, and he hoped this province would make their contribution three figures on that occasion. It would sound so much better than two, and would help their Secretary to pay off the votes he owed. Let every Mason in the province do something. "There is that that scattereth and yet increaseth." They had given more to Charity last year, and yet their balance was larger than usual. The Province of Cambridge-shire had done well in the past, but it was wanted that they should do a little more this year, "if you please." Let them kindly remember the old people this winter, and they might depend upon it the rewards would come to them. (Applause).

Bro. the Rev. G. B. FINCH, P.G. Chap., proposed "The Health of the Visitors."

Bros. J. T. RALLING and J. J. C. TURNER responded. The former mentioned that they were about to build a Masonic hall at Colchester, and it was a special pleasure to come and see such a noble hall in Cambridge, giving them the opportunity of carrying home useful ideas for their own structure.

Bro. A. E. CHAPLIN, W.M. 88, proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Isaac Newton Lodge," under whose banner they had met. He related the experience of a Masonic friend whilst travelling in Algiers, in further confirmation of the remarks from the chair as to the influence of Freemasonry. He congratulated the Isaac Newton Lodge in possessing such a beautiful Masonic hall, and also upon the collars bestowed upon its members that day.

Bro. T. B. HOPE, W.M., said it gave their lodge great pleasure to see the members of the Province assembled for the first time in that building. He hoped during his year of office to have the pleasure of the company of both the P.G.M. and the D.P.G.M. at the lodge meetings, and he also invited the brethren of the Province.

Bro. J. H. C. DALTON also responded, and with the Tyler's toast, the proceedings terminated.

The harmony of the evening was enhanced by songs from Bros. J. C. Laxton, T. W. Allsop, W. Gilling, J. Briggs, C. E. Boughton-Leigh, and H. Davies.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF OXFORDSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the University Masonic Hall, Oxford, on Tuesday, the 10th instant, under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Jersey, P.G.W., who was supported by Bro. Viscount Valentia, M.P., P.G.W., D.P.G.M.

About 150 brethren attended the meeting, and amongst them were Bros. Rev. H. A. Pickard, P.G. Chaplain; R. E. Baynes, G.D.; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; M. Nathan, Prov. S.G.W.; J. Hastings, Prov. J.G.W.; P. Colville Smith, P.P.S.G.W.; W. L. Morgan, M.A., Prov. G. Sec.; Rev. D. H. W. Horlock, P.P.S.G.W.; and others.

The D.P.G.M. presented a report on the state of the lodges in the province, each of which he had visited, and the returns were very satisfactory.

Bro. LUCAS, P.P.G.D.C., Secretary of Charity Committee, presented a report, which showed that a boy had been elected in October to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and making special mention of assistance rendered to the case by Bros. Sir John Monckton and F. Richardson. The province had contributed £346 3s. 6d. to the three Institutions during the current year.

Charity jewels and bars were presented to Bros. Colville Smith, Baynes, Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, Freeman, Morrell, and Bland.

The Provincial Grand Officers for the year having been appointed and invested, some discussion took place respecting the removal of the Boys' School from Wood Green, and Bro. McLeod was invited to address the meeting thereon.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, having given the desired information,

Bro. MORGAN, P.G. Sec., moved, and Bro. PICKARD, P.G.C., seconded a proposition "that this Provincial Grand Lodge cordially approves the step that has been taken to remove the Boys' School to a healthier locality where increased advantages to the boys may be given, and expresses its confidence that the Board of Management of the Institution will carry out the scheme to the best interests of the Craft."

The PROV. G. MASTER, before putting the motion, said that Provincial Grand Lodge would feel indebted to Bro. McLeod for his clear and full statement of the case. He had carefully followed the discussions that had been going on for some time and wished to say that the removal met with his entire approval.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A sum of five guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys' Scholarship Fund, and 10 guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Grants amounting to £10 10s. were made to several local Charities.

Provincial Grand Lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the Randolph Hotel for banquet. About 90 sat down under the genial presidency of the Prov. Grand Master.

The following are the officers appointed for the ensuing year:

Bro. Viscount Valentia, 478 ...	...	Dep. Prov. G. M.
" G. H. Annetts, 340 ...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" R. J. Verney, 1515 ...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. J. H. Scott-Tucker, 357 ...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" F. M. Davies, 478 ...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Edward Rice, 478 ...	...	Prov. G. Reg.

Bro. W. L. Morgan (re-elected) ...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" J. Freeman, 340, 1399 ...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" G. C. Sykes, 599 ...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. H. Rowell, 1036, 2414 ...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" Hubert Bartlett, 599 ...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" R. Overy, 1895 ...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. Rogers, 1515 ...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" W. S. Miller, 1703 ...	...
" C. M. Taphouse, 340 ...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" A. Rowley, 340, 1399 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" G. C. Druce, 340 ...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" A. F. P. Barton, 478 ...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" W. J. Tomkins, 2334 ...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" T. C. Rogerson, 357 ...	...
" H. Collison, 357 ...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" M. W. Ridley, 357 ...	...
" A. F. Theodosius ...	...

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF CHESHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Priory of Cheshire was held at the Town Hall, Altrincham, on Saturday, the 14th instant, under the banner of the De Tabley Preceptory, which was resuscitated in May last. The proceedings commenced by the opening of the De Tabley Preceptory by the E.P., Sir Knight the Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson, M.A., Prov. Prelate, there being present Sir Knights J. M. Sinclair, as 1st Constable; James Davenport, as 2nd Constable; James Cookson, as Marshal; John Cliffe, Captain of the Guards; J. S. Derbyshire, Reg.; T. M. Lockwood, A. C. Mee, and A. Huxley, Guard.

It was announced that the V.E.P. Prior, Sir Knight the Hon. Alan De Tatton Egerton, M.P., and his Provincial Officers were desirous of entering the preceptory, amongst whom were the following: Sir Knights W. S. Sutton, Prov. Sub-Prior; F. K. Stevenson, Prov. Chancellor and Treasurer; R. Newhouse and H. G. Small, Prov. Marshals; J. Wagstaffe, Prov. Almoner; E. G. Parker, Prov. W. of Regalia; S. Blackshaw, Prov. Std. Br.; Hugh Lowndes, Prov. Capt. of Guards; G. H. Brown, P. Prov. Capt. of Guards; F. W. Lean, P.P.V.C. Lancashire; and E. Pike, P.G. Reg. Lancashire.

The Prov. Prior proceeded to open the priory, and was accorded the usual honours.

The roll of Prov. Officers and preceptories was called over, all the latter being represented.

The following appointments were made for the ensuing year by the Prov. Prior:

Sir Knight W. S. Sutton ...	...	Prov. Sub-Prior.
" Rev. C. C. Atkinson, M.A. ...	...	Prov. Prelate.
" F. K. Stevenson ...	...	Prov. Chan. and Treas.
" Arthur C. Meir ...	...	Prov. 1st Constable.
" J. Fred May ...	...	Prov. 2nd Constable.
" John Wagstaffe ...	...	Prov. Registrar.
" Hugh Lowndes ...	...	Prov. Vice-Chancellor.
" S. Blackshaw ...	...	Prov. Marshal.
" Jonathan Crowther ...	...	Prov. Almoner.
" E. G. Parker ...	...	Prov. Wdn. of Regalia.
" C. Disraeli, M.P. ...	...	Prov. Herald.
" T. M. Lockwood ...	...	Prov. 1st Std. Br.
" J. M. Sinclair ...	...	Prov. 2nd Std. Br.
" James Cookson ...	...	Prov. Banner Bearer.
" John Cliffe ...	...	Prov. Sword Bearer.
" James Davenport ...	...	Prov. Capt. of Guard.
" J. S. Derbyshire ...	...	Prov. Chamberlain.
" Mark Alcock ...	...	Prov. Guard.

The E. PROV. PRIOR expressed himself very pleased as to the progress made in the province during his first year of office. He was glad to find the De Tabley Preceptory had given evidence of vigorous growth; he hoped they would long continue to increase. He was pleased to hear the statement read by the Treasurer, and more so to find the funds had been made use of for the purposes they were intended for. It had been suggested that there were insufficient badges for the Provincial Officers, and he thought it necessary that each officer ought to be distinguished by his proper decoration, but he rather objected to their funds being used for that purpose, and intimated that it would give him much pleasure to present those badges to mark the first year of his appointment as Prior.

The distribution of several charitable donations was decided upon, after which a very excellent paper was read by Sir Knight F. K. STEVENSON on the progress of the Order from its earliest existence in that province, for which he was highly complimented.

The proceedings ended, a banquet was provided by the proprietor of the Unicorn Hotel.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards given.

CONSECRATION OF THE EARL OF LATHOM ROSE CROIX CHAPTER, No. 137.

A new Rose Croix chapter bearing the honoured name of the Earl of Lathom, M.P. Sov. G. Commander of the Supreme Council, 33° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite and ranking as No. 137 on the roll of chapters, was consecrated at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, on Friday the 13th instant. There was a very full attendance on the occasion and the ceremonies of consecration and installation were rendered both ably and impressively. Six members of the Supreme Council were present, namely, Bros. Captain N. G. Phillips, Past M.P. Sov. G.C. and Lieut. G. Commander, who acted as Consecrating Officer; Frank Richardson, who was the Installing Officer; Col. A. B. Cook, R. Loveland-Loveland, J. H. Matthews, the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, and Sir George D. Harris.

The chapter having been opened, a number of candidates, who had been recommended by the founders and approved by the Supreme Council were perfected in accordance with the rites proper to the occasion. The chapter having been consecrated and proclaimed, Bro. Frank Richardson then took the chair and installed the M.W.S. designate, Bro. Major G. H. N. Bridges,

V.D., in office, and the latter having appointed and invested his officers, and a Committee to frame by-laws, having been appointed, the other business was disposed of, and the chapter closed. The musical arrangements were in charge of Bro. Herbert Schartau, and among the visitors were Bros. Dr. Balfour Cockburn, 32°, Ralph Gooding, 32°, and E. Armitage, 31°.

The following is a complete list of the founders, namely, Bros. Alfred Bevan, 3°, William Briant, Major G. H. N. Bridges, William Cock, W. Russell Finlay, J. A. Fletcher, J. W. S. Godding, Harry F. Greig, Capt. George Hearn, 30°, the Earl of Portarlington, F. C. Richmond-Parry, Robert J. Voisey, Frank Williams, and the Rev. C. E. Leigh Wright, 30°.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE ROYAL ATHELSTAN LODGE, No. 19.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. W. M. BYWATER, P.G.S.B., ON HIS JUBILEE IN FREEMASONRY.

The regular November meeting of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, was held on the 12th inst. at the City Terminus Hotel, Bro. Edwyn George Young, W.M., presiding. The brethren who attended were, besides the W.M., Bros. W. F. Stauffer, S.W.; G. Risdon Carsberg, J.W.; Henry Glenn, P.M., Treas.; C. B. Barnes, P.M., Sec.; W. Stacey, S.D.; M. Marsland, J.D.; J. H. Merrett, I.G.; Milton Smith, I.P.M.; Witham M. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., D.C.; W. Pound, P.M., Stwd.; W. P. Campbell Everden, Org.; F. E. Collard, P.M.; J. H. Whadcoat, P.M.; H. C. Jeffs, P.M.; James Dix, P.M.; Arthur Wormull, P.M.; T. E. Williams, G. Stevens, G. W. Capel, F. W. Dunn, O. Marsland, C. H. Barnes, W. C. Barnes, J. W. Barnes, M. Pulvermann, A. C. Burnley, M. Mirov, W. Foxton, and A. D. Green, P.M. The list of visitors included the names of Bros. G. Clark, jun., P.M. 2228; Robert Colsell, S.W. 1695; R. Hovenden, P.M. 21; R. Clowes, P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Lamigeon, W.M. 2551, Treas. 1929; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Thos. Fenn, P. Pres. Bd. Gen. Purposes; Frank Richardson, P.G.D.; H. Massey, 160, P.M. 619 and 1928; W. Humphry, I.P.M. 195; George Mickley, M.D., P.M. 63; James Boyton, 1426; H. H. Pinkney, P.M. 1389, P.P.J.G.W. Durham; Walter Tyler, J.W. 862; F. H. Riddle, I.P.M. 173; C. E. Birch, P.P.J.G.W. Herts; J. Edward Cockett, P.M. 1364 and 1672; Will E. Chapman, A.G.D.C.; B. M. Hammond, 463; G. W. Cordery; F. H. Mabbett; G. R. Blades, 1; Geo. Lambert, P.G.S.B.; H. Scott Smith, 2470; A. D. Jollye, 1287; and J. Selham Browne, 1648; R. F. Gould, P.M. 92, P.G.D., and many others.

The W.M. initiated Messrs. Ernest Morton Wyche, David Galbraith, and David Paterson, and the J.W., Bro. Carsberg, delivered the charge. Following upon this came the presentation of an address of congratulation to Bro. Witham Matthew Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., on his completing the 50th year of his entrance into Masonry.

The presentation of this address was made in lodge, but the portrait in oils, painted by Bro. Bywater's daughter, Miss Katherine D. M. Bywater, was presented later in the evening, before a full company of brethren and ladies, this being the ladies' night.

Bro. JAMES DIX, P.M., in presenting the illuminated address, said the brethren all knew the reason for which he rose to address them. They were there on that occasion to celebrate the jubilee of a brother who was highly esteemed not only in the Royal Athelstan Lodge, but in the Craft in general. He thought they would have to go far to find a brother more renowned and respected in the lodge and in the whole course of Masonry. He could say more in dealing with that subject, but another opportunity would be afforded him later on, and, therefore, he reserved himself for that; but he would say that the way in which the proposal to make that presentation had been responded to by the brethren showed that it was the general wish of the brethren that a suitable testimonial should be presented to Bro. Bywater to hand down to succeeding generations the fact that he had been so many years attached to the lodge, and had served in all the offices, and that during the whole of that time he had been a true brother among all those with whom he had come in contact. With the brethren's permission, he would now read the address:

"Dear Bro. Bywater,—We, the Master, Past Masters, Officers, and members of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the United Grand Lodge of England, cannot permit the occasion of your attaining the 50th anniversary of your initiation and full membership of this ancient lodge to pass without celebrating it in true Masonic fashion. A period so extended, covering as it does the estimated duration of nearly two lives, is not often attained, and we are thankful that the Great Architect of the Universe in His great goodness has spared your life so long and that you are still with us. We desire also to express the gratitude we feel in remembering that your association has been one to all of us of unbroken unanimity. Your natural kindness of heart and your being a true Mason have caused us all to find they have in you a guide, a counsellor, and friend, and that sinking all personal feelings the interests of the lodge ever have been and are paramount with you. That you may still be spared many years to your daughters and to us is our earnest prayer. We beg the acceptance of a portrait of yourself painted in oils by your daughter, as a token of the affection and love we bear towards you. We are, dear Bro. Bywater, with all fraternal regards" &c.

Then followed the names of all the members of the lodge. The address was dated 12th November, 1896, and at the bottom was a representation of the centenary jewel. It was chiefly to Bro. Bywater, coupled with the exertions of Bro. Goldsmith, in searching through the records of the lodge that they were enabled to obtain the centenary jewel. Therefore it was thought apt that a representation of the jewel should appear on the testimonial.

Bro. W. M. BYWATER, P.M., P.G.S.B., rose to acknowledge the gift, when he was received with loud applause. He said: W.M. and brethren,—I receive this address with considerable emotional feelings because I look back to 50 years of connection with the lodge. (Hear, hear.) I have a great love for this lodge, brethren, and the longer I have known it the stronger and stronger have been the ties; and I have ever present in my mind the friendship and kind regard and consideration which I have always received from the members of No. 19—(hear, hear.)—I do not know, brethren, that I can say more than thank Bro. Dix for kindly being your mouthpiece on this occasion, and as, I suppose, as has been intimated to me, something will be said below, I adjourn till then what I have to say. I beg to thank you, brethren, most heartily. (Cheers).

During the course of the evening the SECRETARY announced that Bro. Hinckel died on July 7. All old members, and many young members, remembered him. He was initiated in the lodge in 1867, and remained a subscribing member until his death. He passed through the various offices, and obtained the position of Warden, but from some circumstances in business he was not able at that time to take the Master's chair. He (Bro. C. B. Barnes, P.M., Sec.) only received notice of Bro. Hinckel's death on the morning of the day on which he was to be buried. He telegraphed and wrote to the family that he had no knowledge of the death until it was too late. He now proposed that this record of Bro. Hinckel be put on the minutes. As the lodge would not meet for several months after the death, he sent a letter of condolence, sympathy, and regret to the family at once.

The motion having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

Lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren adjourned to the pillar hall to banquet, most of them being accompanied by one lady at least.

The usual toasts followed a very choice repast, and a charming concert between the speeches was executed, under the direction of Bro. Septimus Marsland, by Miss Stella Maris, Miss Beatrice Castelle, Bro. Septimus Marsland, and Bro. W. H. Webb, with Mr. Charles B. Gammon at the piano.

Bro. EDWYN GEORGE YOUNG, W.M., in proposing "The Queen and the Craft," said the toast was always well received in a Masonic lodge, especially this year, as they were very near the completion of the 50th year of her Majesty's reign, and he was sure the brethren's hope was that she might long be spared to reign over them.

Bro. YOUNG, W.M., in submitting the toast of "The M.W.G.M.," said the Prince of Wales had now held the office of Grand Master for nearly 22 years. He did not think they could have a better Grand Master; they were well satisfied with him.

Bro. Sir J. B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., replying to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said that although he had very frequently risen to respond to that toast, he had never done so under circumstances more interesting than those which prevailed that evening. Many occasions of importance and interest had occurred to him, but it was a new thing to be present at the jubilee of a brother so highly esteemed in the Craft as Bro. Bywater. Although not wishing to take the wind out of the sails of the brother who would propose Bro. Bywater's health, he thought it would not be reasonable, or in accordance with the feelings of himself and the other Grand Officers if he were to fail to make a few remarks of congratulation to Bro. Bywater on the occasion. To be present in good health in his mother lodge, of which he was Master before the present Master was born, was a marvellous thing when looking at the surrounding circumstances. No doubt there were many fifty-year-old Masons in the country, but the question was whether they were any good physically or Masonically; but here was their good Bro. Bywater a great deal better; he had been a good Mason; a working Mason and a Charitable Mason during the whole of his life. He therefore congratulated Bro. Bywater and also the young ladies, his daughters, who were with him that night; and he congratulated the lodge on having so honoured and so distinguished a brother at their head as father of the lodge. Having travelled thus far out of the ordinary beaten track in responding to that toast, he returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers.

Bro. MILTON SMITH, the I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master." He said Bro. Young had worked most assiduously in the offices leading up to the chair, and had so discharged his duties that no one could find fault with him. Bro. Young had done so well hitherto as W.M. that the brethren might feel sure the remainder of his term would be fulfilled to the satisfaction of the brethren, and that at the end of his year of office they would all say "well done." On that occasion he had not only the appreciation of the brethren, but that of the ladies. When he (Bro. Smith) last year was Master he initiated the summer outing, which had not taken place for many years, but Bro. Young backed him up, and the great success of that festival up at Henley was due very much to Bro. Young's exertions and energy. Bro. Young's year had eclipsed his (Bro. Smith's) year, for now they had the ladies for the first time in the memory of the P.M.s. sitting down to dinner with the brethren. Therefore, they might look upon Bro. Young as a ladies' man. His efforts in pleasing the ladies were due to his good wife, whom they were all pleased to see with them looking so pleasant. The present occasion was one they would all look back to for many years, and they would all now join in wishing the W.M. long life and good health. There was no danger in wishing him long life, because as long as ever he lived he would always be Young.

Bro. E. G. YOUNG, W.M., replying, thanked Bro. Milton Smith for his very flattering remarks, and the brethren for so heartily receiving them. It was not every Master of the Royal Athelstan Lodge who had the privilege and pleasure of presiding over a meeting of brethren and ladies. He hoped the practice would be continued many years to come, and it would be his pleasure to boast that he presided over it on the night of Bro. Bywater's jubilee with ladies present.

Bro. JAMES DIX, P.M. (W.M. in 1860), proposed "The Health of Bro. Bywater"—an important toast—and he scarcely knew how well and sufficiently to fulfil it; but he could assure the company that from the position he held as the next senior Past Master to Bro. Bywater, whom they had met to honour, he had known him so many years, and his heart was so warm to him, that was the only reason he accepted the office. In looking back upon the past, he did not think that that lodge, and certainly very few lodges, had been honoured with a jubilee of one of its members. That lodge in times past might have held a jubilee on behalf of Bro. Gale, who was known to many of the brethren, and who attained his 50th year, but was not in full membership on account of his health, and had retired to the country. But Bro. Bywater, whose name was so well known and who was so dear to them all, was initiated in that lodge on that day the second Thursday in November, 1846, and it was a great pleasure to them to think that on the very day, as it were, they were met together to celebrate this anniversary. Bro. Bywater, after having been initiated in the lodge and admitted to the light of Freemasonry by Bro. Robb, who was W.M. of the year, appeared to have been deeply impressed with the ceremonies and principles of the Craft, and he (Bro. Dix) remembered when he became afterwards a member of the lodge, Bro. Bywater introduced him to lodges of instruction where he was holding important positions, such as the Lodge of Emulation and the Percy Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Bywater was Secretary then, and taking a prominent position in the work. Bro. Bywater was raised to the chair of the Royal Athelstan Lodge in 1853, and under such an able president the lodge greatly prospered and increased. Whilst attending to the duties of W.M., Bro. Bywater, of course, had the privilege of attending the Board of Benevolence and the Board of General Purposes. In a few years they found him elected by the suffrages of the Grand Lodge in 1870, '71, '72, '73, and '74 as a member of the Board of General Purposes. That showed what progress he had made, and the impression he had created on the Craft by association with the brethren. After that he held the office of Honorary Secretary of the Athelstan Lodge for 15 years. They all knew what the duties of Secretary were, and how they told upon the time and energy; but Bro. Bywater went heartily into the work, and the lodge had never had a better Secretary. Then an important epoch occurred in the lodge—the obtaining of a centenary jewel. The brethren thought the time had come when the lodge should have attained the 100th year of its existence, and Bro. Bywater and Bro. Goldsmith searched the archives and proved to the Grand Secretary that they were entitled to a centenary jewel. The event was celebrated in 1869—one of the most successful years they had ever seen. That was greatly owing to the energy and talent of their worthy P.M., Bro. Bywater, who gave them (he was full of generosity and kindness) a history of the lodge, which was deposited in the archives of the lodge. It gave the lodge membership from 1769. It was a great work, and ought alone to have made his name in the lodge. Time forbade him (Bro. Dix) to say what Bro. Bywater had given the lodge. It was partly due to his influence and Bro. Levinson's that that lodge was affiliated to the Mount Sinai Chapter. Many of the brethren present were companions of that chapter. On that occasion they need not be surprised that such distinguished and special services should at last have met with some kind of acknowledgment on the part of the brethren and the Craft in general, and they found that Bro. Bywater was no exception to the rule that merit meets its reward. At the Annual Festival of the Society in April, 1887, he was appointed by the

(Continued on page 638.)

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Interest	172,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,671,000



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1896.

Masonic Notes.

The Regular Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 2nd proximo, but from the Agenda, which will be found in another column, it is evident there will be no very important business brought before the brethren. There will be the usual nominations for the offices of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer, and we shall be curious to know, as regards the latter, whether the excellent plan adopted last year of nominating only one brother, and thereby avoiding the excitement of a contested election in March, will be repeated. We sincerely hope it will. There will also be the appointment and investiture of a President of the Board of Benevolence, but for the offices of

Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents the only brethren nominated are Bros. D. D. Mercer, P.G.P., and C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; and as no more than 12 Past Masters have been nominated to serve on the said Board, so that in these cases there will be no contests.

* * *

We note further that warrants for the constitution of 10 new lodges have been granted by his Royal Highness, the M.W.G. Master, since the September Communication. Of these, three are to be located in London, namely, the Guardian Lodge, No. 2625; the Leyton Lodge, No. 2626; and the Byfield Lodge, No. 2632. Two are to be located in the Provinces, namely, the Commercial Travellers Lodge, No. 2631, Liverpool, in the Province of West Lancashire; and the Tuthbury Castle Lodge, No. 2630, Hatton, in the Province of Derbyshire. The other five are for Districts Abroad, namely, the Killarney Lodge, No. 2629, Killarney; the Jubilee Lodge, No. 2633, Brisbane; and the Hopeful Lodge, No. 2634, Canada, in the District of Queensland; the District Grand Stewards' Lodge of Canterbury, No. 2627, Christchurch, in the District of Canterbury (N.Z.); and the Lodge of Perseverance, No. 2628, Molteno, in the District of South Africa (E.D.).

* * *

The Quarterly Communication of the Mark Grand Lodge will be held at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen Street, on Tuesday, the 1st prox. The business will be of the ordinary character and will include the report of the General Board, which will be submitted, as usual, for adoption. From this report it appears that during the quarter ended the 30th September last there were issued 179 Mark Certificates, raising the total number of registered Mark Master Masons to 36,018, and 34 Royal Ark Mariner certificates, raising the total of registered Royal Ark Mariners to 5030. It appears also that a warrant for a new Royal Ark Mariner Lodge—the Old York, to be attached to the Old York T.I. Mark Lodge, Bradford—has been granted. His Royal Highness, the M.W.G. Master, has likewise been pleased to re-appoint R.W. Bro. Col. George S. Tudor, as Prov. Grand Master for Staffordshire, for a further term of three years.

* * *

The report, after dealing fully with certain questions submitted to the Board by the District Grand Secretary of South Africa as to the status of Mark Masons under the Grand Lodge of Scotland and giving Grand Registrar's decision thereon, announces certain gifts to Grand Lodge, namely, of a gilt table by the Pro and Deputy Grand Masters; a portrait of the M.W. the Earl of Lathom, Prov. Grand Master of Lancashire, by Bro. Geo. W. Parke, of Lancashire and West Yorkshire; and two sets of trophies, one consisting of two magnificent trophies of Chinese spears, and the other of Japanese adzes, tomahawks, and ancient knives, given by Bros. Capt. Hearn and R. Loveland Loveland respectively.

* * *

It is also announced that Bro. Colonel A. B. Cook, Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, has very kindly promised to preside as Chairman at the 29th Anniversary Festival, which will be held in the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 8th July, 1897, in aid of the Mark Benevolent Fund. This is good news, and will be appreciated all the more from the announcement having been made at so early a date, thus enabling the lodges and Provinces to make their preparations betimes for this interesting celebration.

* * *

We have much pleasure in announcing that among those whom the Lord Chancellor has called to the inner bar is Bro. John Strachan, who has accordingly taken silk as a Queen's Counsel. Bro. Strachan is a P.P.S.G.W. of Northumberland, and Hon. Treasurer of the Boys' School Scholarship Fund.

* * *

By the way, the mention of this Fund reminds us that at the meeting held at Freemasons' Hall on the 30th ult., the Regulations for its administration were adopted. These regulations have now been published as an appendix to the list of Subscribers, and enable us to see more clearly what are the intentions of the promoters in establishing the Fund and how it is proposed to give effect to those intentions. Briefly, the object is to enable boys of exceptional ability who had acquitted themselves during their career at the School, to have at their disposal means that would enable them to compete, under more favourable conditions than were previously possible, against other boys of about the same age and capacity in the field of Higher Education, and win, if possible, some of the prizes awarded to the most successful students in that field.

The proposal, at the outset, is to give a Scholarship or Exhibition of the value of £35 for one year, but renewable for a second and third year, to the boy who passes first in one of two groups of subjects, namely, Group I—English, French, German, or other Modern Language, Latin, and Greek; Group II—Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry; it being understood, however, that no award will be made to a boy who has not passed both in Latin and in Mathematics before the examiners appointed to make the award, or in the same subjects in the Higher Oxford or Cambridge Local or similar Examinations. The Scholarship is tenable at any University approved by the Governors; at one of the Inns of Court; at any of certain specified places of higher Technical education, or any of a like nature approved by the Governors; or at any one of certain specified places of professional training or any of a like nature approved by the Governors. The age at which boys in, or who have left the School, are eligible to compete for a Scholarship ranges from 15 to 19 years, and the holder of a Scholarship who is guilty of serious misconduct or idleness, who fails to maintain a fair standard of proficiency, or who wilfully fails to pursue his studies is liable to be deprived of any further benefits arising from his Scholarship.

* * *

The regulations as to the election of Trustees, Governors, Hon. Treasurer, and Hon. Secretary do not need to be recapitulated, but we may mention that the first group of three Trustees includes Bros. Earl Amherst, Dep. G.M.; Sir John B. Monckton, Past G. Warden; and C. E. Keyser, Past G. Deacon; that the first group of 10 Governors includes Bros. Richard Eve, George Everett, Frank Richardson, G. E. Fairchild, J. H. Whadcoat, W. Ramsey, John Glass, Walter Martin, D. Edwards Radclyffe, and Mr. R. E. Chandler (old Masonian). Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., is the first Hon. Treasurer, and Bro. James Morrison McLeod the first Hon. Secretary.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Nottinghamshire will be held at the Masonic Hall, Nottingham, at 3 p.m., on Thursday, the 10th prox., when the new Prov. G. Officers will be appointed and other business of importance transacted. On the same day, but at the hour of 4.30 p.m., and in the same hall, there will be held the annual convocation of Prov. G. Chapter, when Comp. his Honour Judge W. Masterman, Past G. Std. Br. of England, will be installed in the office of G. Superintendent, which has been vacant since the death of Comp. Sir Henry Bromley, Bart. The Installing Officer will be M.E. Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand J. and G. Superintendent of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. When Prov. G. Chapter has been closed there will be served a banquet for R.A. Masons, tickets for which, price 10s. each, must be obtained, previous to the 8th prox., of the Prov. G. Scribe E., Comp. Arthur Stubbs, Journal Chambers, Pelham Street, Nottingham.

* * *

It is with great pleasure we publish in another column resolutions passed by the Prov. G. Lodges of Jersey and Derbyshire, at their annual meetings on Friday, the 20th inst., and Wednesday, the 25th inst., respectively, approving of the action of the Board of Management of the R.M. Institution for Boys in purchasing a new site for the School premises. These raise the number of resolutions of this kind passed between the 7th and 25th inst., both inclusive, to four, and though three of the Provinces which have passed them are not large, they and Derbyshire are generous supporters of the School, and as such their votes will materially strengthen the hands of the Executive in the course they are pursuing.

* * *

We are sorry to learn that the Duke of Connaught's illness was severe enough to prevent his visit to Hastings and St. Leonards after all. He had intended to take part in some important Masonic ceremonies, and preparations were made by the Mayor (Major Weston) and the Town Council for his becoming reception. Decorations were also undertaken, but late on Wednesday morning a message was received to the effect that the Duke would be unable to pay his promised visit owing to a severe bronchial attack.

Bro. LORD HALSBURY was entertained at dinner by the St. Stephen's Club, of which his Lordship is an original member—on Wednesday, a celebration of his being for the third time Lord Chancellor of England. Bro. W. Ellison Macartney, M.P., presided, and among those present were Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P., and Sir E. Clarke, M.P.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I fancy I have discovered some explanation for the extraordinary opposition of some of our Yorkshire Brethren, to this admirable scheme.

It appears to me to be a question of local influence and politics *v.* Masonic duties and responsibilities.

I learn that the East Riding County Council, in the face of some opposition has decided to apply £2000, money received from the Government under the Local Taxation Act, 1890, to the relief of the Rates, instead of applying the sum to Technical Education.

Such a retrograde and unpatriotic movement would be impossible in a community desiring better education, improved teaching, and schools for its children.—Your obedient servant,

J. G., P.M. and P.Z.

23rd November.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your issue of the 21st instant, there appeared a letter signed by "A P.G. Secretary Who Knows."

From the contents of that letter I should say the writer thereof must be "A P.G. Secretary who knows very little," otherwise he must be aware of the fact that we elect our boys with a voting power which represents so much capital invested in the Institution.—I am, yours fraternally,

J. H. SILLITOE,

Chairman East Lancashire Charity Committee.

Freemasons' Club, Manchester,

November 23rd.

THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I point out, through your columns, as I pointed out at the recent meeting of the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, that the proposal made to celebrate in the year 1899 the jubilee of the Widows' Annuity Fund is, in point of fact, an attempt to have a second Jubilee Festival of the Institution.

All of us recollect the magnificent sum raised at the Benevolent Jubilee Festival in 1892.

The circulars then issued invited our support for "the Jubilee Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons," and reminded us that the elder, or Male, Annuity Fund was founded in 1842, and the Widows' Annuity Fund in 1849, and gave the numbers of annuitants on each Fund at 181 and 230 respectively. The special privileges granted to donors at this Festival were not restricted to donors to the Male Annuity alone, but applied also to the Widows' Annuity Fund.

I submit that, upon these facts, I was justified in arguing that the Widows' Annuity Fund had celebrated its Jubilee Festival in 1892, and that consequently it was unreasonable to ask the Craft to support the proposal for a second Jubilee Festival. At the meeting above referred to, I was the only brother present who protested against the proposal, and, although no answer was made to the argument I put forward, the proposal was carried by 12 votes to 10. I am aware that the Benevolent Institution, as some brother remarked at the meeting, has no concern with our two Educational Institutions, and that if it is right that a second Jubilee Festival should be held, the interests of the other two Institutions should not be studied; but, admitting for a moment that it is right to have a second Festival, is it necessary or expedient, in view of the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in 1898, to put forward in 1896 proposals for a Jubilee Festival in 1899?—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours faithfully and fraternally,

STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH,

Patron R.M.B.I. and R.M.I.B.; Vice-Patron R.M.I.G.

18, Piccadilly, W., November 19th.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Two years ago the surplus funds subscribed for the children's banquet in the Guildhall were spent in sending 200 hampers to poor crippled children.

Last Christmas the public enabled the Press to extend this seasonable gift to 5000 applicants. I am informed that though Edinburgh, Manchester, Sheffield, Nottingham, and other towns have adopted the idea, there is no intention on the part of any London newspaper to repeat this noble distribution this year. Meanwhile, it has come to my knowledge that charitable people are anxious to continue the splendid work; and I believe that if nothing is done, the disappointment of the afflicted little ones will outweigh the good which was accomplished a year ago. I have, therefore, resolved to appeal to the public to supplement the means which are annually placed at my disposal for the New Year's Entertainment of about 1500 poor children in the Guildhall by the permission of the Corporation, a Festivity which will be attended by the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and the Sheriffs in State. These children are selected by the Ragged School Union, from the poorest districts in London, and many of them have crippled brothers or sisters who will be denied all participation in the treat unless I have a surplus sufficiently large to send them a seasonable hamper each.

A great deal of money has been spent in the classification of the 6000 cripples who are registered on the books of the Ragged School Union, and it will be possible for me to adopt exactly the same machinery of distribution which was in operation last year. I should propose, at a certain time, to make a first selection of cases according to the funds in hand, giving preference to children who are bedridden, who could not, therefore, be given the summer outing. If the money prove sufficient I would add indigent cases between certain ages, and so enlarge my hamper list accordingly as the public should help me to do. But I hope and trust I shall be in a position to deal with them all, and that the size of the hamper may grow with the generosity of the public.

To supplement it gifts in kind would be welcomed at the offices of the Ragged School Union, 37, Norfolk-street, Strand, but subscriptions should be sent to me.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. P. TRELOAR.

68, 69 and 70, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

THE NEW ZEALAND QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In view of the approaching Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge it will, perhaps, not be out of place to call attention to the extraordinary state of things now existing.

At the special meeting in July, Grand Lodge was asked to "request the Grand Master to take such steps for the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and for the establishment of fraternal good feeling with our New Zealand Brethren, as he may consider consistent with the honour of this Grand Lodge, and with just consideration for those Lodges which may desire to retain their connection with the Grand Lodge of England."

This Grand Lodge did by a large majority, and in your leader of the 8th of August, some rather strong language was used about the minority who had dared to exercise the right of thinking for themselves, and voting against what seemed to them an ill-considered and ill-timed resolution, and had ventured to hesitate before accepting as absolutely correct the rose-coloured views and statements of the speakers in favour of the resolution.

Great stress was laid in that Article, as previously in Grand Lodge, upon the statement by Bro. Lord Onslow as to the altered circumstances in New Zealand, and a great point was made of his statement that the warrants previously detained by the seceders had been returned to their rightful owners.

In your leader of the 21st instant, you quote from the *New Zealand Craftsman* a speech of a Bro. Bell, Immediate Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, detailing the steps he had taken whilst in England, with a view of securing, if possible, the recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand; and it would seem that he ascribed "the ultimate success of the application" to the influence of Bro. Arkwright, District Grand Master of Wellington, and he (Bro. Bell) further stated that he undertook, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, that all the rights of the District Grand Lodges would be conserved, except that of warranting new lodges.

The report of the Board of General Purposes, to be presented to Grand Lodge at the December Quarterly Communication, contains, it would appear from the Grand Lodge business paper, no allusion to the New Zealand question.

The business paper, however, does contain a statement that, since the last Quarterly Communication a warrant has been granted for a new lodge in New Zealand, viz., "No. 2627, the District Grand Stewards Lodge of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand."

The *Otago Daily Times* of October 2nd contains a very full account of a meeting of Masons under the English, Scotch, and Irish Constitutions, which was largely attended, when the D.G.M., Bro. T. S. Graham (E.C.), occupied the chair, and among others present were D.G.M., Bro. J. Gore (S.C.); D.P.G.M., Bro. D. A. McNicoll (I.C.); D.G. Sec., Bro. S. James (E.C.); D.G. Sec., Bro. H. Neill (S.C.); and many others holding high rank.

Bro. Graham's speech, which occupies nearly two columns out of the two-and-a-half devoted to the report of the meeting is not altogether pleasant, though it may possibly be salutary, reading to loyal members of the Craft at home. I send you a copy of the paper, and I trust you will see your way to reprint in your next issue the full account of the meeting.

Perhaps the most salient points in Bro. Graham's speech are—

1. His remarks on Article 219.
2. His complaint as to the neglect of Colonial Correspondence in the time of the late Grand Secretary.
3. His complaint against the present staff, and thereby the Grand Lodge of England.
4. His comment as to the unusual course taken at the Special Grand Lodge in July.
5. His denial of the accuracy of Bro. Lord Onslow's statement as to the Warrants.
6. His statement as to the neglect of the Officials at home to reply to the communications of the Acting District G.M. of Canterbury, Bro. Thomas.
7. His comments upon the line of action taken by Bro. Bell, and the distinct denial of Bros. Cunningham and Arkwright, D.G.Ms. of Canterbury and Wellington respectively, of the truth of written statements made by Bro. Bell.

I refrain entirely from attempting to offer any opinion as to the accuracy of any party to the controversy, but I do submit that charges of this nature, made by brethren of high standing, which practically impeach the veracity of highly respected brethren in high office at home, are not to be treated lightly or passed over in silence, but should be fully and frankly met. And I further submit that until this has been satisfactorily done no further action should be taken to recognise the seceders.—I am, yours faithfully,

November, 1896.

LEX SCRIPTA.

REMOVAL OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

We have had forwarded to us, and have great pleasure in giving publicity to, the following letter from the Prov. G. Secretary of Jersey to the Secretary of the R.M. Institution for Boys:

Masonic Temple, Stopford-road,
St. Helier, Jersey,
November 21st, 1896.

Dear Sir and Brother,—

I have much pleasure in informing you that at the annual meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, held on Friday, November 20th, the following resolution was unanimously carried:

"That this Prov. Grand Lodge approves of the action of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Boys' School with regard to the purchase of a new site for the School-house."

Believe me, yours faithfully and fraternally,

(Signed) ALFRED C. GODFRAY, P.G. Sec.

J. M. McLeod, Esq.,
Sec. Boys' School.

We have also been favoured with the following information:

At the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Derbyshire, held on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at Derby, a vote of confidence and approval of the policy of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on the question of removal of the Schools was unanimously passed.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP *REVENGE*, flying the flag of Admiral Sir J. P. Hoskins, sailed from Spithead on Saturday morning last for the Mediterranean, where he has been appointed to succeed Sir Michael Culme Seymour as Commander-in-chief of the British Fleet in those waters.

Craft Masonry.

Belgrave Lodge, No. 749.

The installation meeting of this successful lodge was held on Wednesday, the 11th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. There were present Bros. R. W. Binns, W.M.; Constantine Doreza, S.W.; S. E. Williams, J.W.; G. S. Elliott, P.M., Treas.; H. Garrod, P.M., P.G. Purst., Sec.; Henry Hexter, J.D.; T. Weeks, P.M., D.C.; W. Graves, Org.; R. Harman, W. Elliott, J. Grossutt, T. Jones, H. M. George, A. W. Beney, Fred. W. Brett, H. M. Winch, F. D. Germain, Geo. F. Harvey, H. K. Turnbull, S. Ritcher, W. Kedge, W. Wells, J. Moss, Geo. Grogan, J. Lines, E. J. Dwelley, G. King, F. Collins, H. W. L. Hobbs, P.M.; F. Kedge, P.M.; Augustus F. Leach, P.M.; A. E. Austin, P.M.; Ed. Triggs, P.M.; Greenwood, P.M.; and J. H. Brand, P.M. Visitors: Bros. S. J. Bowmaker, W.M. 1000; W. Potter, P.M. 1260; W. H. White, 1260; P. E. Beard, 1000; J. V. H. Whitford, 1734; E. F. Barnes, Org. 1950; W. F. Windsor, I.P.M. 1950; S. Rashleigh, P.M. 902; C. Bhue, 1585; Chas. O. Burgess, 1614, 2460, P.S.G.D. Surrey; J. H. Wheeler, I.P.M. 1125; G. Yaxley, 1471; A. H. P. Snow, J.D. 2191; J. H. Mills, and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Mr. Frederick Collins, and he, being present, was initiated in a masterly manner by Bro. R. W. Binns, W.M., after which Bro. William Henry White (initiated in the John Hervey Lodge, No. 1260) was passed to the Second Degree. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Doreza, was then presented and installed into the chair by Bro. Binns in such a splendid manner as to gain the congratulations of many who had the pleasure of witnessing it. The following were appointed and invested officers for the ensuing year: Bros. R. W. Binns, I.P.M.; S. E. Williams, S.W.; H. Hexter, J.W.; G. S. Elliott, P.M., Treas.; Henry Garrod, P.M., P.G. Purst., Sec.; A. J. Hexter, S.D.; H. Cole, J.D.; H. A. Turnbull, I.G.; Thos. Weeks, P.M., D.C.; W. Elliott, A.D.C.; W. Graves, Org.; H. W. L. Hobbs, P.M., and E. J. Dwelley, Stewards; and J. S. Gregory, Tyler. Bro. Binns gave the customary addresses in perfect style, thus closing his career as ruler of the lodge with *éclat*. Bro. Garrod read a letter from Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Secretary R.M. Benevolent Institution, advocating the claims of that Institution. Three gentlemen having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting, a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. Binns, I.P.M., and in pinning it to his breast, the W.M. said: May you be spared many years to wear it, and on looking at it may it ever remind you of your pleasant year of office as W.M. of the Belgrave Lodge. Bro. Binns, in reply, said: W.M. and brethren,—what I have done while Master has been a labour of love, and all I can do for the benefit of the lodge I will do with all my heart. After other business the lodge was closed.

A *recherche* banquet followed, which was prepared by Bro. Clemow in his well-known style, and gave every satisfaction to the brethren.

At the close of the dinner, the W.M., on rising to propose the first toast, received a hearty welcome. The W.M. in giving "The Queen and the Craft," said her Majesty was an example as a woman and a Queen.

Miss Maggie Purvis, in sweet form, sang The National Anthem.

The toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" was received with great applause, Mr. Gwilym Richards singing "God bless the Prince of Wales."

In responding for "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," Bro. Henry Garrod, P.G. Purst., whose name was coupled with the toast, said once more he returned thanks. As regarded Bros. Earls Lathom and Amherst, they were proud to serve under such chiefs; the other Grand Officers had Freemasonry at heart, and were ever willing to do all they could for the benefit of the Craft.

Bro. R. W. Binns, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," said it was beyond doubt the toast of the evening. In Bro. Doreza they had a W.M. who had worked up in all offices leading to the chair. He trusted he would have a good year of office, and health and strength to carry it out.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Gwilym Richards sang, "Oh, how I love thee."

Bro. Doreza, W.M., on rising to respond was received with acclamation. He said it was not his intention to say much, he intended to be witty, brevity being the soul of wit; he hoped at the end of his year of office as W.M. of the Belgrave Lodge to have gained the goodwill of all.

In proposing the next toast, that of "The Initiate," the W.M. said he believed in Bro. Collins, he would make a good and loyal Mason; his position was attainable by every Master Mason of that lodge; he had every reason to believe that in time, if health permitted, Bro. Collins would attain to it.

Miss Maggie Purvis sweetly sang, "O, swallow, swallow."

Bro. Collins, in reply, said he must have the eloquence of a Burke to give full vent to his feelings that evening, the ceremony would never be effaced from his memory, and he hoped to be a useful member for many years.

The Worshipful Master, in giving the toast of "The Visitors," said, on behalf of the lodge, he extended to them the right hand of fellowship, and he therefore gave them a hearty welcome. He assured them they gave way to no other lodge as regards the working. He had visited many lodges in his time but had always come away proud that he was a member of No. 749.

Miss Osborne Rayner sang, "Songs we used to sing." By the way, we might just say in passing, that this young lady was educated at the Girls' School.

Bro. Burgess, P.S.G.D. Surrey, said that was the third installation ceremony he had had the honour and privilege of attending; when Bro. Binns was installed he thought he would make a good W.M. and such it had proved. As regards the W.M. he was the right man in the right place. On behalf of the visitors he was gratified with the way they had been received and entertained.

Bro. Bowmaker, 1000, also said: On a very busy day last summer he had the invite to that prosperous lodge at its installation meeting; he was proud to be with them that evening; he was proud to meet his dear old friend, Bro. Hobbs, who is a member of the Priory Lodge, and was gratified both at the lodge and banquet.

Bro. Rasleigh, P.M. 902, in reply, remarked that after what had been said there was not much left for him to say, except to re-echo the remarks of Bros. Burgess and Bowmaker. If the W.M. at the end of his year of office carried out the duties of the chair as Bro. Binns, I.P.M., did, they might say, well done.

Bro. Wheeler, P.M., replied, also Bros. Price, Beard, and Whitford, each echoing the remarks of the former visitors.

Bro. Quarterly, in a few words, said that was the third time he had attended their installation ceremony, all the brethren were friends of his, he tutored most of them. He strongly advised the younger brethren of the lodge to attend the lodge of instruction, that being the only medium to gain the knowledge of the ritual.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The Installing Master and Past Masters," said from the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh. Bro. Binns had fulfilled his duties right nobly, his work spoke for itself; he had devoted his time and energy for the benefit of the lodge, had worked hard, and had carried out the duties of the chair well. As regards the Past Masters they were good men and true. Bro. Elliott was always with them and he had the greatest possible pleasure in giving the collar of A.D.C. to his son that evening.

Mr. Joseph Claws then sang "Even bravest heart," and Mr. Wallis Arthur also a good comic song—"All through a dear little lady"—which was received with roars of laughter.

Bro. Binns, I.P.M., in reply, said he thanked them for the way in which the toast had been received. When he was initiated he was determined to do his best, and he hoped he had done it to their satisfaction. His pleasant year of office had now passed, but yet he hoped to be a useful member of the lodge for years to come, and anything he could do for its benefit he would do with the greatest possible pleasure.

In reply for "The Past Masters," Bro. Greenwood said they should all look well into the balance-sheets of their Charities. As regards the working of the Girls' School, while agreeing with a sound education, he thought that too much money was spent, viz., £53 for each girl per annum. It far exceeded any other school or institution in London, and he thought the money should be handled more economically. He advised them to peruse the balance-sheets and judge for themselves.

Bro. G. S. Elliott, P.M., also replied in his usual genial way. He said: Worshipful Master, the lodge over which it is your privilege to rule to-night, and of making a gentleman a brother, he should like to tell the initiate—there's nought what is good to be understood by a Free and Accepted Mason. He thought that Masonry was a grand institution if properly carried out. If brethren would only attend to the business a little more, and alter that business if they had any spare time to give to Masonry, give

it, he believed by so doing there would not be so many applicants for relief. Although he was a Past Master of the lodge, he was also Treasurer. He had Masonry at heart, but never neglected business on account of Freemasonry. He had the greatest possible pleasure in responding to the toast.

Bro. Garrod, P.M., also said he had been a member of the lodge for 39 years, and was pleased to be their Secretary as long as the officers thought fit to elect him.

The W.M. next proposed "The Officers," and said when investing his officers he was certain they would meet with their approval. Both the S.W. and J.W. were qualified for the chair to-morrow if it was possible. All the others had been well through the lodge of instruction. He had, therefore, the greatest pleasure in proposing that toast.

Miss Maggie Purvis and Miss Osborne Rayner sang in sweet form "Nocturne," and Miss Rayner also sang "When all was young."

Bro. Hexter, J.W., in reply, said he had to thank Bro. Quarterly, P.M., for the good instruction given him in the lodge of instruction. If it had not been for that tuition he would not be their J.W. He would do his best in supporting the W.M. in every way.

Bro. S. E. Williams, S.W., replied in similar language.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a happy meeting.

The last song—"Good-bye"—was beautifully sung by Mr. Joseph Claws. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Dobie Lodge, No. 889.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Kingston-on-Thames on the 18th inst. There was a good attendance of members, and a full programme of work, which was all got through admirably by the W.M., Bro. Arthur Watkin, and his officers. Bros. Bignall and Cayley were raised to the Degree of M.M., and Bro. Munday passed to that of F.C., after which Mr. Montague Smith was initiated into the mysteries of the Order. Several visitors representing lodges renowned for good work were present, and at the usual period of the evening paid very high compliments to the W.M. and his officers for the correct and excellent way in which all the ceremonies were performed.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

A meeting of this lodge was held on the 3rd inst., at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park. Among those present were: Bros. Charles Colwell, W.M.; Barry, S.W.; Chisholm, J.W.; R. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Secretary; T. Davis, S.D.; Sharpington, I.G.; Hopkins, Org.; Pohl, Stwd.; George Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas. Eng.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Captain T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br., Eng.; Cockburn, P.M.; Lingley, P.M.; Dennis, P.M.; and Dr. Milsom, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. C. J. Harris was raised to the Third Degree. The ballot was taken on behalf of Mr. W. J. Monk, and, it being unanimous, he was duly initiated into Craft mysteries. The petitions of three widows of deceased members requesting relief were favourably considered and handsomely relieved. It was also agreed that No. 1381 should bear the third part of the expense of the monumental stone, &c., to the memory of the late Bro. W. Stuart, P.M. and Sec. of Nos. 87, 141, and 1381 for many years.

The lodge was then closed, and refreshment followed labour.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts were given and duly responded to, but in consequence of the lateness of the hour they were necessarily brief.

During the proceedings, Bros. Hopkins, T. Davis, and the Misses Nellie and Edie Colwell, daughters of the W.M., instrumentally and vocally entertained the brethren. The young ladies both sang and played with taste, and their respective efforts were greatly appreciated.

West Lancashire Lodge, No. 1403.

The above lodge, which was consecrated at Ormskirk in September, 1872, by Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Skelmersdale, now the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Pro G. Master, and has within the past two months been removed to Preston, held its installation meeting in the Masonic Hall, Bull and Royal Hotel, Preston, on Thursday, the 5th instant. The outgoing W.M., Bro. George Lea, was succeeded in the chair of K.S. by Bro. J. R. Burrows, the installation ceremony being given in a most impressive manner by Bro. T. W. Rice, P.P.G.W., in a representative Board of Installed Masters. The officers for the ensuing year were invested as follows: Bros. G. Lea, I.P.M.; J. S. Sommers, S.W.; J. Sellers, J.W.; J. Orrett, P.M., Treas.; Thos. Forrester, P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; E. B. Leech, S.D.; W. L. Gee, J.D.; T. W. Rice, P.P.G.W., D.C.; G. Burton, I.G.; and Forrester, Charity Representative. The balance-sheet, as audited, was presented, received, and adopted, and showed the lodge to be in a favourable position.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 11th inst. Among those in attendance were Bros. W. Fisher, P.P.G. Treas., P.M., W.M.; Anthony Macchi, S.W., W.M. elect; Brown, J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.P.S.G.D., P.M., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., P.M., Sec.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.G. Chap. Middx, P.M., Chap.; W. H. Saunders, P.P.S.G.D., P.M.; E. W. Davis, P.M.; Tompsett, acting I.G.; and G. Harrison, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. George Read, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.; J. C. Jessett, P.P.G.S.B., P.M. 1512; and W. Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. A. Macchi was duly and ably installed as W.M. for the year ensuing by Bro. Fisher. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. Brown, S.W.; Dr. Hinton, M.A., P.P.G.O., J.W.; the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.M., Chaplain; J. T. Briggs, P.M., Treas.; Capt. T. C. Walls, P.M., Sec.; H. Bright, S.D.; Tompsett, J.D.; W. H. Saunders, P.M., I.G. (*pro tem.*); and G. Harrison, Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., and a vote of thanks passed to him for his services as Installing Officer. Apologies were received from Bros. Dr. Hinton, H. Bright, W. Taylor, P.P.G.D., P.M.; Captain Parry, P.M.; A. Toulmin, jun. P.P.G.D., P.M.; H. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br., P.G. Sec. Middx.; the Rev. R. J. Simpson, P.G. Chap. Eng.; and others.

The lodge was then closed, and a banquet followed.

Bro. G. Read responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and Bro. the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders for "The Provincial G. and Officers."

The I.P.M., in giving the toast of "The Worshipful Master," said that Bro. Macchi had shown that night by his working as S.W., and subsequently as W.M. in investing his officers, that he would do justice to the position he had been elected to fill. He (the speaker) hoped that there would be a candidate or two during the W.M.'s year, and he felt confident that the ceremony would be well performed.

Bros. W. H. Saunders, P.M., and W. Fisher, I.P.M., responded on behalf of "The Past Masters."

Bros. J. C. Jessett, P.M., and W. Tyler, J.W., acknowledged in very able terms the toast of "The Visitors." They both expressed themselves as being highly delighted with the manner in which the installation ceremony had been performed, and for the hospitality of the lodge, which had been most generous.

The Worshipful Master, in giving the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," particularly spoke of the first-named, whose exertions and efforts to keep the lodge in a sound financial condition were beyond all praise. He, the W.M., also desired to express his acknowledgments to Bro. Briggs for the very excellent banquet which he had arranged that evening and for the arrangements generally.

The Treasurer, in response, said that he felt gratified by the remarks that had fallen from the W.M. He considered it a Treasurer's duty to endeavour to collect all arrears of subscriptions, and to carry on the financial matters on the strict lines of economy. The lodge for some years had honoured him by electing him as its Treasurer and he was wished to do his best for it in return.

The toast of "The Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Brown, S.W., and E. Tompsett, J.D., terminated the proceedings, which were from first to last highly successful.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1559.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Eastern Hotel, Limehouse, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., when there were present Bros. Frank Adams, W.M.; J. W. Westmoreland, S.W.; J. Coote, J.W.; H. Warner, S.D.; R. O. Hinderwell, J.D.; Chandler, I.G.; Wilson, D.C.; Sweeting and Gower, Stwds.; C. Wakefield, P.M.; Treas.; Parrett, P.M., Sec.; Atkins, P.M.; Trappoits, P.M.; Fielder, P.M.; Omer, P.M.; and a large assemblage of the brethren and visitors. Bro. James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B., Secretary Benevolent Institution, was the Installing Master for the 28th time, with one exception through illness. Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., supported him. The lodge having been opened, Bro. Terry, P.M., proceeded to instal Bro. J. W. Westmoreland as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. After other business the lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the Town Hall, where Bro. Chandler, the host of the Eastern Hotel, catered for the 80 brethren in a manner appreciated by them.

After the banquet the usual toasts were duly honoured.

Bros. J. Terry and J. M. McLeod, in replying to the toast of "The Masonic Charities," thanked the brethren for their assistance in the past towards the Charities and hoped for similar favours in the future.

Bro. Westmoreland, the W.M., having promised to serve the office of Steward to the Boys at the next festival, hoped that the brethren would respond to the appeal of Bro. McLeod to make his list as large as possible.

A pleasing feature of the lodge meeting was a vote of 10 guineas to purchase a present for Bro. Geo. Parrett, P.M., Sec., also a private present by the outgoing W.M. to Bro. Parrett of a handsome diamond pin and stud.

A fine selection of songs, &c., was rendered during the evening by Miss Fielder, Miss Parsons, Mr. Grant, Bros. T. Taylor, Bennett, and Hall.

Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607.

The 21st installation of the above lodge attracted a large muster of brethren to the London Tavern on the 14th inst., when Bro. James Lawson, S.W., was installed into the chair of K.S. by Bro. G. E. Wilkinson, the outgoing W.M., in a manner which has never been excelled even in this lodge whose standard of excellence is nothing short of perfection. A Board of not less than 25 Installed Masters was constituted and their hearty congratulations testified to the great popularity of the new W.M. After appointing and investing his officers as follows: Bros. G. E. Wilkinson, I.P.M.; W. L. Barker, S.W.; M. W. Jameson, J.W.; R. S. Cushing, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Webb, P.M., Sec.; G. Cunningham, S.D.; R. C. Halford, J.D.; H. McLachlan, I.G.; T. Cole, D.C.; E. Godfrey, Org.; J. Hattersley, P.M., and E. Hetherington, Stwds.; the W.M., as one of his first and most agreeable duties, presented to Bro. G. E. Wilkinson, I.P.M., in the name and on behalf of the lodge a handsome Past Master's jewel as a token of their high appreciation of his services as W.M. during the past 12 months. Bro. Wilkinson feelingly returned thanks and expressed his sense of the kindness and loyalty which the brethren had shown to him during his year of office and of which the presentation was the crowning point. A less agreeable announcement followed in the shape of a communication from Bro. Very, the Tyler of the lodge since its consecration, placing his resignation in the hands of the lodge. We deeply regret to learn that this worthy brother has, through illness, been compelled to relinquish all Masonic and other duties. The value of his services was testified to by many of the brethren present and a tangible expression of the regret of the brethren at losing so valuable and esteemed a servant was, upon the proposition of the Treasurer, unanimously agreed to. After the numerous visiting brethren had tendered their greetings to the W.M. the lodge was closed. Labour being ended the brethren adjourned to the noble banquet hall, where Bro. Start furnished a most excellent repast.

The usual Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the I.P.M. proposed in tender and graceful terms "The Health of the W.M." They had many of them watched with pride and interest the Masonic career of Bro. Lawson who by his earnest zeal on behalf of the noble Order of Freemasonry had most worthily reached that post, which was the highest honour the lodge could bestow, and there was no doubt that the important duties of the chair would be discharged in such a manner as would fully maintain the prestige of the lodge.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and the W.M., in reply, regretted that the surprising warmth of the reception which had been accorded to him had entirely banished all his carefully chosen sentences which he, admittedly, had prepared for the occasion. He could only now thank them from the bottom of his heart for their kindness and for the honour which had been conferred upon him. He should do everything in his power to worthily follow the roll of distinguished brethren who had preceded him in the office of Master of that lodge. He was not unmindful of the responsibility which devolved upon him, and he pledged himself to maintain and uphold to the utmost of his ability the honour and dignity of the lodge; above all, he trusted that the spirit of kindly good feeling which had always been the keynote of their meetings might never be disturbed, but might remain with them for all time.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. extended them the heartiest welcome of the lodge. He thought it spoke well for the lodge that they saw so many old faces amongst their visitors, for it showed that when brethren had once come to them they were not chary of repeating their visits. He thanked them for their attendance, and for the interest they had taken in the lodge.

Replying, Bro. E. J. Morgan, P.M. 1571, stated that he had been present at the last meeting of the lodge, when the W.M. had been unanimously elected for the ensuing year, and it afforded him great pleasure to be present to witness his installation. After a faithful apprenticeship of several years, he (the W.M.) was rewarded for his services with the highest honour to which Freemasons could aspire—he had obtained the blue ribbon of the Craft. He (the speaker) was quite certain, from past experience, that the W.M. would worthily maintain the best traditions of the lodge for the excellence of its working. He would have liked to have seen the ceremony of initiation that evening, but there was a time to sow and a time to reap; the harvest would come by-and-bye. The lodge was not developing with a mushroom growth, which was well, for after all a lodge of Freemasons was not to be judged by the number of its members, but above all by the exercise of that great virtue which they had been taught was the distinguishing characteristic of the Craft. In that the Loyalty brethren had always excelled. He wished the lodge continued prosperity and many happy returns of the day.

Several other brethren also responded to the toast.

In response to the toast of "The I.P.M.," Bro. Wilkinson briefly returned thanks for all the kindness of the brethren, which had gone so far to make his year of office a delightful one. With the duties of the chair Freemasonry had presented new pleasures, and he would carry with him the warmest recollections of a very happy time. If the brethren had been pleased with him he was amply rewarded.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was next given, the W.M. remarking that the Institutions of which they were all so proud were undoubtedly the chief ornaments of the Craft. There had recently been held elections to the Masonic Schools, and it was an education to be present at such functions. There were to be seen earnest, devoted men high up in the Craft as in society, giving time and trouble without stint in furtherance of the success of cases in which they could have no personal interest other than the memory of some departed brother whom they had cherished. And these were not men of leisure to whom such duties as these came as a relief to the dullness of otherwise uncoloured lives. These were men who were in the very forefront of the world's great business enterprise, men to whom time, indeed, was money. What was the secret of this? From what sacred altar had the fire come which had touched these men's hearts? It was that they had learned the lesson which Freemasonry was teaching all over the kingdom; that the Divine essence of the great truth of brotherly love as the great principle of our Order was, indeed, something more than a name.

Bro. Arthur J. Clark, P.M., as Secretary to the Benevolent Association, gracefully replied to the toast.

In response to the toast of "The Past Masters," Bro. W. Gayton, P.M., said that after-dinner speeches were certainly the most difficult of speeches, because a man was expected to talk for some time about nothing. Medical men generally contented themselves with stammering a few sentences, making holes in the table-cloth and breaking a few glasses. He must, nevertheless, be allowed to congratulate the W.M. and express the hope of all the Past Masters that the moral and social virtues might be maintained through his year of office. The toast of "The Officers" was duly honoured and responded to, and the Tyler's toast brought a very happy evening to a conclusion.

An excellent programme of music was performed during the evening under the direction of Bro. Fred. W. Stephens, P.M. 1348. A new feature of the entertainment was the introduction of a lady artiste, Madame Alice Lovenez, who delighted her audience by her rendering of "The Moorish Maid" and "Carita." Needless to say, Bro. Stephens was a host in himself.

Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657.

A meeting was held on Monday the 16th inst., at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, when there were present Bros. Septimus Croft, W.M.; James Shotton, I.P.M.; W. R. B. Bristoe, S.W.; Thomas Briggs, J.W.; Samuel White, P.M., Treas.; George Kenning, P.M., Sec.; H. N. Bennett, S.D.; Rupert Smyth, C. R. R. Hopper, I.G.; H. Thomas, Tyler; Arthur B. Hudson, P.M.; George Rawlinson, P.M.; Ralph Langton, and S. George C. Sansom. Visitors: Bros. Dr. Newling, 890; C. A. Hooper, 1613; J. G. Vigo, 1671; James C. Hayes, 619; and William Candy, 10.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. S. George C. Sanson was initiated. Bro. Thomas Briggs was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. Samuel White, P.M., was elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. Bros. Sansom, Smyth, and Bennett were elected Auditors. The following resolution was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously—"The brethren of the Aldersgate Lodge, No. 1657, deeply regret that circumstances will prevent Bro. S.W., W. R. B. Bristoe, from accepting the office of W.M. of this lodge after having so admirably filled the junior offices, and wish to congratulate him upon his appointment in Egypt, and beg to assure him that their goodwill and brotherly love will follow him wherever he may be." Notice of motion was given by the Treasurer for an alteration of one of the by-laws.

The brethren dined together under the gavel of the W.M., Bro. Septimus Croft.

Crays Valley Lodge, No. 2147.

The installation meeting of this flourishing provincial lodge (Kent) was held at the Schools, St. Mary Cray, on Wednesday, the 11th inst. Present: Bros. R. J. Pugh, W.M.; J. T. Cookson, S.W., W.M. elect; F. Stanger, J.W.; H. Tyrer, P.M., Treas.; G. H. Miles, acting Sec.; W. E. Bailey, S.D.; A. E. Oxley, J.D.; L. Pugh, acting I.G.; G. Harlow, jun., P.M.; J. Pollard, P.M.; A. M. Mitchell, G. Harlow, sen., W. Bratt, F. Lewis, A. Taylor, W. Beer, G. Tyrer, and W. Tapsell, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. G. T. A. Ward, 1504; E. Griffiths, 299; G. Martin, W.M. 829; W. R. Ashley, 1531; R. J. Voisey, P.M. 1329; J. G. Twist, 700; C. W. Stone, S.D. 507; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, S.D. 1461.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Walter Beer, which proving unanimous, he was initiated in a commendable manner by the W.M. The report of the Auditors was received and adopted, which showed the lodge to be in a sound position. Bro. J. T. Cookson, S.W., W.M. elect, was next presented to the W.M. by Bro. G. Harlow, jun., P.M., to receive the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed by the W.M. in a very impressive and perfect manner. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. J. Pugh, I.P.M.; Frank Stanger, S.W.; W. E. Bailey, J.W.; Hy. Tyrer, P.M., Treas.; R. J. Pugh, P.M., Sec.; Geo. Harlow, P.M., D.C.; A. E. Oxley, S.D.; S. Gale, J.D.; L. Pugh, I.G.; A. Taylor and G. Miles, Stwds.; and Wm. Tapsell, Tyler. The addresses to the Master and Wardens were ably rendered by the Installing Master, Bro. Pugh. Letters for non-attendance were read from several influential brethren unable to attend to do honour to the W.M.

The business of the lodge ended, the brethren adjourned to the Five Balls Hotel, St. Mary Cray (by dispensation), to a capital repast, which was much appreciated.

The W.M. gave the loyal and Masonic toasts in forcible and eloquent terms, as also that of "The Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which were duly received.

Bro. G. Harlow, jun., P.M., next presented the toast of "The Prov. G. Master, Earl Amherst," which he did with a great deal of pleasure, and felt it an honour, for no one residing in Kent could help being struck at the excellent manner he performed his duties as Prov. G.M., and he was undeniably one of the ablest workers in Freemasonry. He (Bro. Harlow) should never forget his consecrating the Crays Valley Lodge, and starting it upon its successful career (then Lord Holmesdale), since which time he had consecrated the Crays Valley Chapter (which was an excellent one), in each case was it performed in a most exemplary manner. He was, too, ably supported by Bro. Eastes, Dep. Prov. G.M., one of the best of Masons, who had endeared himself to all who came in contact with him. He would ask the brethren to drink to the toast in bumpers, wishing them long life and health. He also stated that he had received a letter from Bro. Eastes, saying he was improving in health, which was, indeed, very gratifying.

The toast was received with acclamation.

Bro. R. J. Pugh, I.P.M., next presented the toast of "The Worshipful Master," which he designated as the toast of the evening. All wished to do him honour and congratulate him upon attaining that position in his mother lodge. He was the 10th Master, and able to continue the good work of his predecessors in the chair, and maintain the efficiency of the lodge second to none in the province. The W.M. had removed from their midst, and was now resident in London, but, nevertheless, his duties towards the lodge would not be relaxed upon that account. What was required was the introduction of good men and true to the lodge, and the W.M. would show his thorough capabilities.

Bro. Cookson, W.M., in reply, thanked the brethren for such a cordial greeting. He trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would give him health and strength to enable him to do his duty to the utmost. He hoped to rely upon the hearty co-operation and support of the brethren, and he was confident of the able guidance of one, Bro. Pugh, the esteemed I.P.M., who had done so much for the lodge, which seemed to be taking a fresh lease of prosperity. He trusted to steer the same course so wisely mapped out by Bro. Pugh, and with their able assistance to raise the lodge to its former prestige and continue one of the best in the province. The lodge had voted a jewel to the I.P.M. for able services rendered to the lodge and to mark their high appreciation of him, and it gave him great pleasure to present it, with the earnest hope that he might live many years to wear the same and remind him of the esteem he was held in by the brethren of the Crays Valley Lodge.

Bro. Tyrer, P.M., Treas., proposed the toast of "The Installing Master" in eulogistic terms, which was most cordially received.

In reply, Bro. Pugh, Installing Master, said he was extremely obliged for such kind expressions of Bro. Tyrer, who seconded him for initiation in the lodge. He had attended all the meetings of the lodge since its consecration with one or two exceptions, and when installed into the chair had promised to do his utmost for the lodge, and follow his able predecessors who had done the same. He could not refrain from thanking the officers for their loyal services during the past year, and trusted the same would be meted out to their W.M., Bro. Cookson. To attain any degree of proficiency an amount of self-denial was requisite, and he hoped the officers and brethren of the lodge would attend the lodge of instruction held weekly, and he would promise them that the assistance which had been given so cheerfully in the past would be extended to them in the future to enable them to fulfil their duties with loyalty to the W.M.

The toast of "The Initiate" was next proposed by the W.M. in very cordial terms. He said that Bro. Beer was the thorough type of a man to be a Freemason and the brethren of the lodge greeted him well. He hoped that they should enjoy his company for many years to come and that more of his calibre would be introduced to the lodge.

The Initiate, in reply, thanked the W.M. for the honour done him and trusted he should carry out its principles to the very fullest.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was presented by Bro. Stanger, S.W., in very commendable terms, paying a high eulogium to Bro. Pugh, I.P.M., who had conducted the affairs of the lodge during the past year to the gratification of all the brethren. He had spared no pains in instructing the officers, and, for himself, he would say they one and all were greatly indebted to him for his great kindness; also of Bro. Harlow, it was always a very great pleasure to see him among the brethren. He had removed from the district, as also had Bro. Tyrer, but the thanks of the lodge were due to them for the great services they had rendered, and were also willing to bestow, whenever called upon.

In reply, Bro. Harlow, jun., said, on behalf of the Past Masters, he heartily thanked the brethren. The lodge was progressing very favourably, and he hoped that the same success would attend it as hitherto. It was to be deeply regretted that during the last year or so two of the Past Masters had passed away, but those who were spared would ever be ready to assist in the well-ruling of the lodge when required. He wished the W.M. a successful year, and thanked Bro. Stanger, S.W., for his very cordial expressions towards him.

Bro. Tyrer also very gratefully replied.

The toast of "The Visitors" was presented by Bro. W. E. Bailey, J.W., in appropriate terms.

The toast was exhaustively responded to by Bros. G. Martin, W.M. 829, and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507.

The W.M. next gave the toast of "The Officers," congratulating himself and the lodge upon such a good array. The toast was duly responded to by the Senior and Junior Wardens. The Tyler's toast closed a very happy and successful meeting. The inscription upon the jewel was—"Presented to Bro. R. J. Pugh, P.M., by the members of the Crays Valley Lodge, 2147, as a token of esteem, and in acknowledgment for his valuable services as W.M.—1895-96." Some capital harmony was rendered by Bros. Harlow, jun., Brett, Twist, C. W. Stone, Oxley (elocutionist), and C. H. Stone.

Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168.

A large gathering of the members of this flourishing lodge and many distinguished visitors assembled at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on the 12th inst., the occasion being the installation of Bro. Robert Daniel Cummings, P.M., an esteemed and popular member of the lodge. Bro. W. Lawrence, P.M., W.M., presided, and he was supported by Bros. J. W. Dixon, I.P.M.; R. J. Smerdon, S.W.; Jno. Nash, J.W.; W. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.; W. Mackie, P.M., S.D.; S. Garcia, P.M., D.C.; Dr. J. F. Haskins, P.G. Org. Herts, P.G. Org. Essex; N. Robinson, P.M., Stwd.; G. E. Fairchild, P.A.G.D.C. (Hon. Mem.); J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M.; Joseph Corbett, P.M.; J. P. Harding, P.M.; J. Muir Smith, P.M.; W. J. Wetenhall, A. A. Millward, Isaac C. McLearn, W. G. Curnick, W. P. Martin, G. A. Payter, T. Wholey, F. Paterson, J. H. Mitchell, A. Ingram, F. A. Baldwin, T. H. W. Idris, M. Kuehn, W. Short, E. F. James, R. H. Booth, G. M. Phillips, M. Hyman, J. H. Moggridge, C. Duvall, E. Wallis, R. H. Goddard, Tyler, and others. Visitors: Bros. R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br.; Oliver Papworth, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G. Sec. Cambs.; H. J. Macfarlane, P.G. Org. Surrey; Jas. Robinson, P.P.A.G.D.C. Middx.; H. W. Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; E. Branscombe, P.P.G. Org. Surrey; Geo. Corbie, P.P.J.G.W.; J. J. Thomas, 753, Vice-Pres. Bd. Gen. Purps.; F. W. Bailey, 2308; J. Haddu, 2308; R. G. Robinson, 1531; J. F. Croager, 30; W. J. H. Dixon, 27; W. Prevost, 1766; T. H. Bolton, G. Arnold, P.M. 2331; T. H. Russell, 2048; R. Andrews, 35; D. Baker, P.M. 2331; E. Redman, P.M. 1238; G. Eade, 1677; Evan Jones, 1677; Thos. T. Bolton, W.M. 1687; A. T. Yardley, 901; J. J. Dixon, W.M. 1415; R. Manuel, P.M. 1195; W. A. Brown, 73; G. Johnson, W.M. 1319; Walter Lewis, 1366; Thos. Moss, P.M. 2048; W. Bradford, G. W. Robinson, 55; G. Glover, W.M. 2048; E. D. Richards, 534; S. J. Heilbron, 1668; H. J. Bolton, P.M. 1718; Edwd. White, P.M. 177; W. H. Hughes, P.M. 179; T. C. Davis, 1143; Jas. Kift, 1791; Fred. Davis, 1319; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the chief business of the day was at once proceeded with, and Bro. R. D. Cummings, P.M., was installed as W.M., the ceremony being performed in a manner that was perfect by the outgoing Master, Bro. W. Lawrence, P.M. The officers appointed for the ensuing year were Bros. R. J. Smerdon, S.W.; John Nash, P.M., J.W.; W. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Dixon, P.M., Sec.; W. Mackie, P.M., S.D.; R. Gregory, J.D.; Nathan Robinson, I.G.; Sam Garcia, P.M., D.C.; Dr. J. F. Haskins, Org.; Dr. Wholey, Stwd.; and R. H. Goddard, Tyler. The delivery of the usual addresses was very ably and impressively rendered by Bro. W. Lawrence, P.M., and he is to be congratulated on the efficient way in which he carried out the installation ceremony. In eloquent and pathetic terms Bro. Joseph Corbett, P.M., referred to the death of Bro. W. J. Morton, which happened a few days previously. He said that their deceased brother abounded in good actions—the true test of a Mason—and it was difficult to come across so good and dear a friend. He had passed away doing his duty and many poor families would miss him this Christmas. His bereaved widow had received over 200 letters of condolence; nearly all the letters expressing that they had lost a dear friend. Several of the members having paid a tribute to Bro. Morton's memory, it was unanimously resolved that a letter of condolence should be sent to Mrs. Norton. Bro. J. P. Harding, P.M., presented the lodge with a splendid set of gavel, bearing suitable inscriptions, and he was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his very useful and handsome present, which he acknowledged in a few words. Notice of motion was given for 25 guineas to be voted from the lodge funds to be placed on Bro. Harding's list as Steward for the "Boys," and a gentleman having been proposed for initiation, at the next meeting, the lodge was closed and a superb banquet followed.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G. Master" having been honoured, The Worshipful Master gave "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said they were deeply gratified to the Grand Officers who had honoured them with their attendance that evening as they did real solid good work for the Craft. Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., had journeyed all the way from Gloucester in order to be present, and also their dear friend, Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., who resided at Aldershot. Bros. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treas.; G. E. Fairchild, P.A.G.D.C.; and James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., were very old friends, and last, and certainly not the least, was Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br.; they were all heartily welcome and he hoped they would all come again and again. He was glad that good men were now recognised at Grand Lodge and he trusted it might always be so.

Bro. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., responded in a very humorous strain which elicited great laughter, and in conclusion he stated that it was a great pleasure to him and the other Grand Officers to be present, and they all appreciated the hearty reception they had had. It was 28 years ago since he became a Grand Officer, and that evening would rank as one of the most pleasant during his Masonic career. Everything that night had been done well, and the members should be proud of the name the lodge bore. The Grand Officers were always glad to visit the Derby Allcroft Lodge, and he wished all the brethren God-speed.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master, Bro. R. D. Cummings," was very enthusiastically received, the I.P.M., Bro. W. Lawrence, remarking that no words of his were necessary to extol his many virtues, as they all knew the sort of man he was. He had been the Secretary from the consecration of the lodge, and he thought it went without saying that he would be the ideal of a W.M. After 10 years' hard work, he had been unanimously elected their ruler. He had taken a great interest in Freemasonry, and had done big things for the Charities, which was a good record to have. He had never missed a single meeting of the lodge, which was another good record. It was a particular pleasure to him to have the honour and privilege of submitting the toast, as the W.M. was one of his very oldest and dearest friends.

Bro. Cummings, W.M., on rising to respond, received quite an ovation. He stated that he recognised the kind remarks of the I.P.M. and the way he had been received by the members. He had been attached to the lodge from the first, and he had noticed the way they had always received their Worshipful Masters, and they had paid him the same compliment. They were a united lodge; not an atom of discord among the members, which was a great delight to him after his 10 years' work. If spared for another 10 years to be with them, they might rest assured that he would do everything to promote the interests of the lodge.

In proposing "The I.P.M., Bro. W. Lawrence," the W.M. stated that he had the honour of proposing him in Freemasonry, and he was the second initiate of the lodge who had passed the chair. They had had a successful and happy year under his reign, which he had crowned with the splendid way he had performed the installation ceremony. It was his pleasure to present him, in the name of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, which was of some value intrinsically, but it did not represent in value what they felt towards him, and they hoped he might be spared for very many years to wear the token amongst them.

In response, Bro. W. Lawrence, I.P.M., thanked the W.M. for his kind words, which he thought he did not deserve, and the hearty manner in which he had been received by the brethren. While he was Master he endeavoured to do his very best, and no one could do more. He had received every kindness from them all, which made his year of office one of pleasure, and he should never forget that his mother lodge, and so long as he lived he would support it in every way. The W.M. was his father in Masonry, and he was honoured by having the privilege of installing him into the chair.

The W.M. proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said that ever since the consecration of the lodge they had never missed sending a Steward to the Festivals, and the Treasurer had taken up a record list at one of the Festivals.

Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., on rising to respond, had a hearty reception. He said that he was more indebted to the W.M. for the able way in which he had proposed the toast, and for the kind reference he had made to his (Bro. Terry's) services. The lodge had given good support to the three Institutions, and he was glad they would at their next meeting vote a substantial amount to the Boys', and in Bro. McLeod's absence, who was engaged elsewhere on Masonic duties, he acknowledged, on his behalf, their liberality. After giving some full and interesting details of the three

Institutions, he brought to an end a very effective and eloquent speech, which was received with rounds of applause, and we venture to think that the result of his oratory will be that Bro. J. P. Harding, P.M., as Steward for the Boys, will take up a list large in amount, which will keep well to the front the reputation of the lodge for its ardent support of the Charities.

In giving "The Visitors," the W.M. remarked that it was a toast that was always received there with pleasure and acclamation. They had 50 guests, and he hoped they would again honour the lodge with their attendance, as they would always receive the greatest welcome. He could not ask them all to respond, but he associated with the toast the names of Bros. T. H. Bolton, E. White, P.M.; and J. J. Thomas, V.P. B. of G.P.

Bro. T. H. Bolton said it was a great compliment to be singled out of 50 visitors to respond. He was a humble Mason, and he certainly thought he would not have been called upon. He was a stranger there, but that was not his fault, although he did not feel as a stranger in St. Pancras. All the visitors recognised the way they had been received and entertained, and from what he had seen of the installation ceremony it redounded to the credit of the lodge.

Bros. E. White, P.M.; J. J. Thomas, and Johnson, W.M. 1319, also responded. The W.M., in presenting the toast of "The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary," stated that he could not tell them in words the good stuff of which the Past Masters were made. The lodge could not have been the great success it was if it had not been for them, who were all good men and true, and the big things they had done for the lodge was appreciated by all the members. They were told the lodge had a good name in the Masonic world, but that was due to the Past Masters. Then as to the Secretary, he knew no one in the lodge better able to discharge the duties of that office than Bro. J. W. Dixon, P.M., and he wished he might long continue to act as the Secretary. He joined with the toast the names of Bros. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M., the "father" of the lodge, and the Secretary, Bro. J. W. Dixon, P.M.

Bro. Fitzgerald having replied in eloquent terms, Bro. J. W. Dixon said that he was a joining member, and he should never regret the day he became connected with the lodge, of which he was proud to be a Past Master. He was honoured by being appointed the Secretary, and it would be his pleasure to do everything he could for the lodge.

"The Officers" having been duly honoured and responded to, the Tyler's toast brought to a close a most enjoyable and memorable evening, and one that will long be remembered.

The excellent musical entertainment was carried out under the able direction of Bros. Dr. J. F. Haskins and W. Bradford, assisted by Bros. E. Branscombe, Herbert Schartau, J. Kift, E. James, and W. Short, but special mention should be made of Bro. Branscombe for his great efforts.

Obituary.

BRO. SIR BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON.

It is with very sincere regret we mention the death of Bro. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.A., M.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.C.P., &c. The sad event occurred in the early hours of Saturday last, at 25, Manchester-square, the deceased being in the 68th year of his age. Bro. Richardson was the inventor of the lethal chamber in which animals passed from life to death without pain or even consciousness. It was he who, 10 years ago, adopted the ether spray for locally driving away pain, and who later still adopted other modes of producing anaesthesia, and, above all, a means for restraining and controlling tetanus and other spasmodic affections. He was likewise skilled in, and had given the closest attention to, all matters connected with sanitation; was a strong advocate of temperance, and an equally staunch upholder, both by precept and in practice, of all athletic exercises in moderation. For these and other services, both scientific and literary, he received the honour of knighthood in 1893. The many claims upon Bro. Sir B. W. Richardson's time did not allow of his cultivating as intimate an acquaintance with Masonry as doubtless he would have liked, but nevertheless he had done good service to the Craft. He was, we believe, initiated in the St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 231; was a founder and first W.M. of the King Solomon Lodge, No. 2029; and an enthusiastic member of the Inner Circle of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, of which he was elected a joining member on the 8th November, 1889. Doubtless, had he been spared longer, he would have attained to greater eminence, more especially in connection with our great literary lodge. It remains for us to tender our respectful sympathy to Lady Richardson (his widow), his two sons, and his daughter, in the time of their severe bereavement.

The following are the arrangements for the funeral of the late Bro. Sir B. W. Richardson: The funeral cortege will leave the residence of the late Bro. Sir B. W. Richardson to-day (Friday) at 11.30 a.m., and will proceed to Marylebone Parish Church. Here the first portion of the funeral service will be conducted by Canon Wilberforce and Canon Barker at 12 o'clock. Deputations from medical, Masonic, and temperance societies will be present. Subsequently the remains will be conveyed to Woking, where the last rites will be conducted by Canon Barker. Amongst the numerous wreaths received on Wednesday by the widow of the late Bro. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson was one from the Queen.

BRO. JOSEPH TODD, P.G. Std. Br.

Bro. Joseph Todd, P.G. Std. Br., whose lamented death was briefly recorded last week, was initiated on the 4th February, 1861, in what was then the Union Lodge, No. 287, York—now the York Lodge, No. 236, and having been successively appointed Junior and Senior Warden, was installed in office as W.M. in December, 1870. From 1873 to 1877 inclusive he acted as Secretary, and was then transferred to the post of Treasurer, which he has held by annual re-election ever since. Moreover, from 1878 to the present time he has acted as Installing Master, nor is there a brother who has been elected W.M. during all those years whom Bro. Todd has not personally inducted into the chair of K.S. As a matter of course such services as these have been again and again recognised by the Provincial authorities, and we find Bro. Todd appointed Provincial Grand Registrar of North and East Yorkshire in 1878. In 1887 the Earl of Zetland conferred upon him the rank of a Past Prov. Senior Grand Warden, while since 1893 he had served as Prov. Grand Treasurer. In April, 1895, his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. was pleased to appoint him G. Std. Bearer of Grand Lodge. He had also been Vice-Chairman of the Provincial Charity Association since 1885, and Vice-Chairman since 1878, as well as Treasurer since 1893, of the Educational Fund. In 1879 he was exalted in the Zetland Chapter, No. 236, and twice filled the chair of First Principal, namely, in 1874 and 1876, while he had served uninterruptedly as Treasurer. In 1879 he was rewarded for his services to Royal Arch Masonry with the appointment of Prov. G.J. of North and East Yorkshire, and since 1893 had been Prov. Grand Treasurer, while in May, 1895, he was appointed 2nd A.G.D. of C. in Supreme Grand Chapter. He had attained to almost equal distinction in Mark Masonry, having been advanced in the York Time Immemorial Lodge on the 14th May, 1861, and having served the office of W.M. in 1873, and for the second and third times in 1893 and 1894. He was Treasurer of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of North and East Yorkshire from 1881 to 1883 inclusive, and in 1887—the year of the Queen's Jubilee—his services to the Degree were recognised by his appointment to the rank of Past S.G. Overseer of Mark Grand Lodge. Bro. Todd had served a Stewardship for the Girls' School, and was a Life Subscriber of the three Institutions. He was, too, one of the very limited number of brethren who have rendered service in a literary capacity. He was the author of the *History of the York Lodge, No. 236*, which was published in 1875, and was one of the editors of the "York Rolls of Constitutions," which was published in 1894.

(Continued from page 631.)

Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, to the office of Grand Sword Bearer. No doubt many worthy brethren had held office in Grand Lodge, and rightly deserved the honour they obtained, and it gave great pleasure to all the brethren to know that Bro. Bywater met with that reward which his position deserved. A great many of them were gathered together on the occasion of Her Majesty's Jubilee a few months later, and a great sight it was when they were collected in the Royal Albert Hall. It was a sight never to be forgotten how their brother distinguished himself in his position, he bore the sword before the Grand Master with dignity and self-possession, nerve, and confidence; he desired to do what was right in the Craft, as he always had done in Masonry. Then the brethren thought that on the present occasion they ought to do something very special in consideration of such services and such a special event. They decided that they could not do better than present him with his portrait, and that it would be the most acceptable if it could be painted by his daughter Katherine. They were quite sure it would be painted in a way that would meet with the approval of the whole of the brethren. He was sure the brethren would say it could not have been done so well by any one else. Looking at it the brethren would say there was life thrown into the picture in addition to skill. He asked Bro. Bywater, in the name of the lodge, to accept of this portrait, and he hoped he might be spared many years to the brethren and his daughters and son. In the whole course of Bro. Bywater's career there had been no jar in the lodge, and as long as God preserved the Royal Athelstan Lodge he hoped there never would be. It had been the result of that kindly feeling which always existed in the lodge. (The portrait was then uncovered, and met with general approbation.)

After the portrait had been unveiled, Bro. Dix said the brethren must all feel that they owed a debt of gratitude to the artist as well as their kind fraternal regards to Bro. Bywater. The toast was then enthusiastically drunk.

Bro. W. M. BYWATER, P.M., P.G.S.B., who, on rising to respond, was received with loud cheers, said: W.M., ladies, my brother visitors, and brethren of No. 19, I am quite sure that at this moment you will sympathise with me and acknowledge that I stand in a most difficult position in my attempts to thank you, as I have to do, for this grand manifestation of your goodwill towards me. It has been my happiness to be associated, as you have just been told, so many years with this lodge, and it has been a continual feast of love—of brotherly love; and as years go by my affections towards the lodge become stronger and stronger. You know, brethren, 50 years are a long time to look back to. We have had her Majesty's jubilee, and there is a discussion as to the manner of celebrating her 60th year. Therefore I need not offer any remarks about the great progress that has been made in art, or literature, or science during that time. But I think I may reasonably allude to the wonderful progress that has been manifested in the Masonic circle. I find that when I was initiated 50 years ago we had only about 500, certainly not more than 600 lodges. We have now, I believe, over 2600. That is a grand advancement, and it must be hoped that amidst the thousands that have been brought within the sway of the square and compasses there have not been many black sheep. Brethren, our Charities demand also a word. We have our Girls' School and our Boys' School, and the Annuities and the Asylum for the Old Folks. Well, the Girls' School in 1846 was located in St. George's Fields and had about—I say "about," because I am not definite with regard to the number—about 40 pupils. The pupils are now housed in the vicinity of Wandsworth to the number of 270. (Applause.) Take our Boys, they were about the same number at the period I speak of. They were educated at private schools in the vicinity of their own homes. Now they are lodged in a most excellent house at Wood Green to the number of girls in the Girls' School, about 270. (Renewed applause.) As for the Old Folks—the old men and old women—they were relieved to a considerable extent at the time I refer to; but now there are something like between 400 and 500 annuitants taking between them something like £15,000 a year to keep them. That is a grand advance. (Cheers.) In 1846 the united festivals of the three Charities produced nearly £3000. In the present year the united festivals have produced something like £54,000. And, brethren, this is cheering to a well-disciplined Mason. It shows something like "Excelsior"—forward, upward—and it is due, no doubt in a large measure, to the prestige of the M.W.G.M. and the great influence he has brought to bear upon Freemasonry. But we must not speak of the Grand Master only, loyal as I am to him. We have a Pro Grand Master and other Grand Officers—Lord Lathom in particular—and, considering the high position in which he stands, and the demands upon his time, he seldom fails to appear at any festivals of Freemasons or any function of theirs at which he feels they would benefit by his attendance. (Applause.) I remember very well the home of the Athelstan Lodge, where I was initiated—the George and Blue Boar in Holborn—the site of which is now occupied by the Inns of Court Hotel, from which the Leeds coaches went, and a great many mails started from that hostelry. I was made at a time when at that place there was not the odour of sanctity, but the odour of the stables, and there we had many good old Masons—Stephen Barton Wilson, and William Honey, and John Savage—whose portrait the lodge possessed—and many other notable men in their day and generation. They have all passed away and gone. But here I stand, by the providence of God, as their representative on this occasion. But, brethren, think not that I am quite alone. I have some other Past Masters coming on close on my heels, and all I can say is if you will admit such hale and hearty young fellows you must expect at last they will become a burden to you. (Laughter.) The absence of one distinguished Grand Officer I regret, but in his kind letter he hopes to sit at my centenary, and I am sure our Bro. Barnes is ever ready with his pencil to take the name of a brother to have here on that occasion. I have had an overpowering compliment paid me in your presenting me with that address and that portrait, which I look at until I begin to hate him. If you knew the many smiles that were demanded while I was standing for it, you would well suppose no other smile could be extracted from me—(laughter)—and I did not know I could until I came to this meeting, when I saw so many smiling ladies around me. I ought to thank you sufficiently; but I must say the labours of the Portrait Committee have, to my knowledge, stimulated the artist to her best, and she has done it conscientiously, and if there are brethren among them whom I may specially refer to, I would mention the names of Bros. H. Glenn, James Dix, and C. B. Barnes, who have laboured most assiduously. I said just now, being a man of few words I know not how to express myself sufficiently. I am reminded of a celebrated Bishop Magee. It is said of him, when dining out the waiter deposited the contents of a soup plate in his lap. Smarting, the Bishop said: "Is there no layman present who will express my feelings?" (Laughter.) That is my case. I look around for someone; I do not see a volunteer, and therefore I say at once—thank you all, and God bless you. (After a pause.) There is virtue sometimes in a postscript. I have thought it desirable to ask you, on behalf of the lodge, W.M., to accept of a loving-cup as a memento of this occasion, and in it I beg to drink "Success to the Royal Athelstan Lodge, and may it prosper root and branch."

The loving-cup was then passed round, all drinking out of it. The inscription on it was—"Presented to the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, by Bro. Witham Matthew Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B., on the occasion of his attaining his Jubilee. 12 Nov., 1896."

The toast of "The I.P.M. and Past Masters" was acknowledged by Bro. WHADCOAT, P.M.

Each of the initiates responded to the toast of "The Initiates," and the toasts of "The Ladies," "The Visitors," and "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers" followed, and the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

MASONIC SERVICE AT ST. PHILIP'S, EARL'S COURT.

A most successful Masonic service was held at the above church on Sunday evening, the 15th inst., and, in spite of the wretched weather, the sacred edifice was crowded in all parts. The service commenced with the Processional Hymn—"The Church's one Foundation"—which was sung by the choir, who entered the church preceded by the Churchwardens wearing Masonic clothing and carrying wands. Between the boys and men of the choir, the W.M. of the Kensington Lodge, Bro. A. T. Turner, supported by Bros. W. B. Neville, P.M., and R. H. Williams, P.M., P.P. J.G.W., carried the open Volume of the Sacred Law on a cushion, which was afterwards reverently deposited on a white pedestal in the Sacrament. Immediately after the choir came a procession of over 150 Masons of all ranks, amongst them being Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treasurer; Harry Tipper, P.G. Purst.; Captain Reid, Prov. G.M. of Banff; S. W. Keene, P.P.G.P.; A. Higerty, P.P. G.W.; A. E. Young, P.G.S.B.; H. Nash, P.P.G.R.; G. Gardner, P.P.G.S.B.; G. H. Lister, P.G.S.B.; W. J. Nash, P.P.G.D.; and many other brethren of distinction.

The Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were sung to Sir J. Stainer's beautiful setting in A. The lessons were read by Bros. Darby Reade and Dr. Robbins, P.G.C.

The first anthem was "O, rest in the Lord," faultlessly sung by Miss Greta Williams, whose singing is always so particularly appreciated by Kensington Masons. This was followed by the chorus, "He that shall endure to the end." After the prayers had been intoned by Bro. the Rev. H. V. Tyrrell, the choir sang two choruses from Spohr's anthem, "How lovely are Thy dwellings fair."

Bro. the Rev. W. SMALE, M.A., the Vicar, then preached the sermon, in the course of which he made graceful and careful allusions to the Craft.

During the singing of the hymn, "O, Lord of Heaven and earth and sea," the offertory was collected by various brethren, and presented at the altar by the Vicar, its object being the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

After the alms had been presented, Bro. Norman Salmond sang "For behold darkness" and "A people that walked in darkness," from the "Messiah," in which his fine voice was heard to great advantage.

After the Benediction, "Christ is our corner-stone" was sung as a Recessional, during which the choir, clergy, and brethren left the church.

The whole proceedings passed off with the greatest precision. Bro. E. Warden Denniss, P.M., D.C., and M.E.Z. elect 2108, was the Director of Ceremonies.

MASONIC SERVICE AT ST. CATHARINE'S CHURCH, HATCHAM.

A special service to commemorate the long reign of the Queen was held last Sunday evening at St. Catharine's Church, under the auspices of the Lodge of the Royal Leopold Lodge, No. 1669, by special dispensation granted by the Grand Master.

Prior to the service, the following congratulatory telegram was sent to the Queen at Windsor Castle. May it please your Majesty to accept the heartfelt congratulations of the Vicar and brother Masons assembled on the occasion of a special Masonic service at St. Catherine's, Hatcham, to commemorate the sixtieth year of an honoured and beneficent reign. Wishing your Majesty future blessings. HOWARD J. H. TRUSCOTT, St. Catherine's Vicarage, Hatcham.

The service commenced with the singing of the national anthem, and the Rev. J. S. Barrass, rector of St. Michael's, Bassishaw, City, preached the sermon.

The following reply was received later in the evening, addressed to the Vicar:—"The Queen thanks you and your brother Masons for your kind congratulations."

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at the Weavers' Arms, London Wall, E.C., when there were present Bros. W. J. Greig, W.M.; J. Kinipple, S.W.; S. Spencer, J.W.; W. C. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; H. T. Meadows, Sec.; E. T. W. Drake, S.W.; A. J. Rippin, 192, J.D.; Bullworthy, I.G.; H. J. Harriss, P.M.; D. Harlow, (Preceptor), P.M.; Jas. Smith, 192, P.M.; E. M. Ion, P.M.; E. Sarson, W.M. 192; William Baker, J. G. Robeson, Collins, Farr, Fishleigh, Lockett, Stokes, all of Lodge 192, Shipman, Cuzner, and Strong.

The lodge being opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the W.M. rehearsed the ceremonies of passing and raising in a most masterly manner, Bros. Stokes and Robeson being the candidates.

This being the first meeting of a new Masonic year of this lodge of instruction, the report of the Audit Committee, which showed the lodge to be in a most satisfactory and flourishing state, was brought forward and adopted, after which the following brethren were unanimously re-elected for the ensuing year, viz., Bros. D. Harlow, P.M. 65, Preceptor; W. J. Greig, W.M. 65, Assistant Preceptor; W. C. Thomas, P.M. 65, Treasurer; H. T. Meadows, W.M. 1571, Secretary; and James Smith, P.M. 192, Assist. Sec.

It being announced that the lodge would be at the disposal of the Lion and Lamb Officers, on Wednesday next, 2nd prox., it was closed in due form and the meeting adjourned.

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, December 5th, 1896.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30.

House Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at Croydon, at 3.

CRAFT LODGES.

79, Pythagorean, Ship Tavern, Greenwich.
1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
1745, Farringdon Without, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

188, Joppa, Guildhall Tavern.
1201, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Cripplegate, Goldsmiths' Arms, Gutter-lane, at 6.30.
Eleanor, Rose and Crown, High Cross, Tottenham, at 8.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.

Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.

Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
Marquess of Ripon, Midway Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.

Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Tavern, 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, DECEMBER 1.

Colonial Board, at 4.

GRAND MARK LODGE.

CRAFT LODGES.

9, Albion, Freemasons' Hall.
18, Old Dundee, Cannon-street Hotel.
101, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
166, Union, Criterion.
172, Old Concord, Freemasons' Hall.
217, Stability, Anderton's Hotel.
765, St. James's, Bridge House Hotel.
1159, Marquis of Dalhousie, 33, Golden-square.
1257, Grosvenor, Freemasons' Hall.
1259, Duke of Edinburgh, 1, West India Dock-road.
1261, Golden Rule, Cafe Royal.
1361, Kennington, Horns Tavern.
1397, Anerley, Clarence Hall.
1472, Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich.
1693, Kingsland, Cock Tavern.
1803, Cornhill, Cafe Monaco.
2128, United Northern Counties, Inns of Court Hotel.
2150, Tivoli, Frascati Restaurant.
2150, Savage Club, Freemasons' Hall.
2398, Holborn, Holborn Restaurant.
2469, Hortus, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

169, Temperance, White Swan Hotel, Deptford.

MARK LODGE.

355, Royal Savoy, Criterion.

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, and 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, Waltham Green, S.W., at 7.30
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.

Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.

Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2.

QUARTERLY COMMUNICATION GRAND LODGE, at 6 for 7.

CRAFT LODGES.

511, Zetland, Anderton's Hotel.
1595, Royal Commemoration, Holborn Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

55, Constitutional, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
1624, Eccleston, Criterion.
2345, Duke of Fife, Anderton's Hotel.

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.
Creation, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.

Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Duke of Albany, The Clock House, Battersea-park-road, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.

Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, N., at 8.
Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.

Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8.
La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.

Lewisiam, Black Bull, Lewisiam, 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, Foresters' Arms, 294, 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 7.30.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3.

CRAFT LODGES.

10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
27, Egyptian, Anderton's Hotel.
45, Strong Man, Guildhall Tavern.
102, Lion and Lamb, Cannon-street Hotel.
227, Ionic, Criterion.
231, St. Andrew, Freemasons' Hall.
538, La Tolerance, Freemasons' Hall.
842, Victoria Rifles, Freemasons' Hall.
1178, Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel.
1216, Macdonald, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1351, St. Clement Dances, Holborn Restaurant.
1361, United Service, Cafe Royal.
1425, Hyde Park, Frascati Restaurant.
1672, Mornington, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
1707, Eleanor, Great Eastern Hotel.
1765, Trinity College, 13, Mandeville-place.
1772, Pimlico, Victoria Mansions Restaurant.
1790, Old England, Masonic Hall, Thornton Heath.
2076, Quatuor Coronati, Freemasons' Hall.
2202, Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant.
2271, St. Pancras, Midland Grand Hotel.
2291, West Ham Abbey, Town Hall, Stratford.
2411, Clarence and Avondale, Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone.
2512, Fulham, Town Hall.
2550, Piccadilly, Cafe Monaco.
2580, Crouch End, Gate House, Highgate.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

2, Chapter of St. James, Freemasons' Hall.
34, Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
174, Sincerity, London Tavern.
1693, Kingsland, Holborn Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8
Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 345, 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.

Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
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, DECEMBER 4.

CRAFT LODGES.

99, St. John's, Albion Tavern.
554, Yarborough, London Tavern.
890, Hornsey, Anderton's Hotel.
1275, Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1480, Marquess of Ripon, Cock Tavern.
1627, Royal Kensington, Freemasons' Hall.
2467, Pickwick, Anderton's Hotel.
2488, Eccentric, Criterion.
2511, St. John at Hackney, Old Town Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
259, Prince of Wales, Whitehall Rooms.
2511, St. John at Hackney, Old Town Hall.

MARK LODGE.

8, Thistle, Freemasons' Tavern.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Albion, The Moorgate, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., at 7.
All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.

Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
Crusaders, Northampton Arms, Goswell-road, at 8.30.

Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 8
Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.

Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.

Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.

Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms, High-street, Wood Green, at 8.
Loyalty, Private Rooms, 206, Mare-street, Hackney, at 8.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8.
Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.

Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.

Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, and 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, DECEMBER 5.

CRAFT LODGES.

142, St. Thomas's, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
1572, Carnarvon, Albion Tavern.
1622, Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1949, Brixton, Horns Tavern.
2466, Cheerybles, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

975, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammersmith, at 7.30.
Duke of Connaught, The Lord Napier, West Side, London Fields, at 8.

Ebury, 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 7.
Star, New Cross House, Deptford, S.E., at 8.
Vitruvian, Duke of Albany Hotel, Kitto-road, St. Katherine's park, Hatcham, S.E., at 7.30.

Mount Sinai Chapter, Red Lion Hotel, 14, King-st., Regent-st. W., at 8.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. MURPHY, O.C., has been elected Treasurer of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple for the ensuing year.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE has consented to act as Vice-President of the Committee of Advice at the Victorian Exhibition, Earl's Court, while Bro. Sir Arthur Sullivan will be the Chairman of the Musical Section Committee.

THE RIGHT HON. the Lord Mayor of London, whose country seat of Balls Park is situated in Hertfordshire, was entertained at dinner at Hertford on Saturday evening last, among the guests present being Bro. the Earl Cowper, K.G., and Bro. Abel Smith, jun.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK concluded their visit to Bro. the Earl and Countess Cowper on Saturday last, and returned to York House, the Duchess travelling direct, while the Duke, who was attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel, broke the journey at Norwich for the purpose of inspecting the Fat Stock Show.

BRO. R. I. FINNEMORE, K.C.T., 33°, Past District Grand Master, Past Dist. Grand Mark Master, Past Grand Superintendent, Past Prov. Prior, &c., who, in consequence of the pressure of his official duties as Crown Solicitor, resigned his Masonic offices in 1895, has just been raised to the judicial bench, as a Puisne judge of the Supreme Court of Natal.

BRO. WILHELM KUHR has arranged a Sarasate Concert at the Dome, Brighton, to-morrow (Saturday) at 3 p.m. The selection which will be given by this distinguished violinist will include several of his own compositions and Bach's second sonata for violin and piano. The pianist will be Dr. Otto Neitzel, who will play pieces by Mendelssohn and Liszt.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES presided at a meeting of his Council, held at the offices of the Duchy of Cornwall, Buckingham-gate, on Saturday last, among those present being the Earl of Ducie, Lord Playfair, Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Dighton Probyn, and others. In the evening his Royal Highness and suite visited the Comedy Theatre, and witnessed a performance of "A White Elephant."

THE CRICKET TEAM which Lord Hawke will take out to the West Indies early next year, will consist of himself as captain, and Messrs. H. D. G. Leveson Gower, G. R. Bardswell, P. F. Warner, H. R. Bramlin Davenport, A. M. Miller, W. H. Wakefield, T. M. Dawson, R. W. Wickham, A. E. Leatham, and R. Berens. The party will leave England on board the R.M.S. Don, on the 13th January.

A MEETING of the Barnby Memorial Trust Fund was held at the Royal Academy of Music, under the presidency of Sir Alexander Mackenzie on Wednesday, when it was announced that the subscriptions amounted to £1,451. Bro. Sir Archur Sullivan, Mr. Littleton, and Mr. Brooks-Hitching, were appointed trustees. It was suggested that a concert should be held on the 28th January, 1897, the anniversary of Sir Joseph Barnby's death and if the expenses are guaranteed that it should take place under the auspices of the committee of the Trust Fund.

SATURDAY, the 21st inst., was the 56th birthday of the Empress Frederick of Germany (Princess Royal of Great Britain and Ireland), and the auspicious event was celebrated at Windsor in the usual manner by the firing of the Royal salute in the Long Walk and the ringing of the church bells. In Berlin the Emperor and Empress gave an evening entertainment, in honour of the anniversary, at the New Palace, Potsdam, at which the British Ambassador (Sir Frank Lascelles) and Lady Lascelles were invited to be present.

AN EMBLEMATIC SCULLERYMAID.—Denise Duval was recently a scullerymaid in the employment of a lady whose husband is a Freemason. The dishonest servant stole her master's apron, scarf, and insignia, and went away. She offered a rare mark to the police, however, by walking through Monmartre on Saturday, her hat ornamented with triangles and other extraordinary articles, while a Masonic scarf did duty on her shoulders as a shawl.

THE MID-WINTER SHOW of the National Chrysanthemum Society will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday next, at the Royal Aquarium, when a remarkable display of late flowering varieties of superb character will be on view. Persian cyclamen, Chinese primroses, and berried plants will be added to the display of chrysanthemums, and the whole will form a unique exhibition. The flower show will not interfere with the ladies' cycle racing, which has proved most successful.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HERBERT KITCHENER, Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, arrived at Windsor Castle on Saturday, and was introduced by the Lord-in-Waiting to her Majesty, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, and afterwards invested him with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath (Military Division). The Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha were present with the Queen, and Bro. the Earl of Kintore, Capt. Drummond, and Bro. Col. the Hon. Henry Byng were in attendance.

THE NORTH GERMAN LLOYD STEAMSHIP COMPANY have had built for them a new vessel, the Frederick the Great, to run between this country and the Australasian Colonies. The ship has a tonnage of 10,500, while those of the P. and O. and Orient lines do not average more than about 6000 tons and do not exceed 8000 tons. The German steamer thus far will be largest that has as yet been put on this route, and this fact may not improbably stimulate our British shipbuilders to build bigger and faster ships than those hitherto employed.

MRS. KEELY, the venerable actress, celebrated her 90th birthday on Sunday last, and received innumerable letters and cards of congratulation and souvenirs of the happy occasion. Among those who sent messages were Bro. Sir Henry Irving, while among those who called or sent were Bro. J. L. Toole, Bro. and Mrs. Bancroft, Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough, Lady Freahe, and others. Mrs. Keely, in spite of her great age, is hale and hearty, and was not only able to receive her numerous callers, but took her usual place at the dinner table in the evening.

STANLEY SHOW.—The Self-Adjusting Bicycle Support Company, Limited, whose temporary offices are at 83, Piccadilly, are showing a most ingenious and useful attachment which can be easily fitted to any machine, enabling the rider to stop at pleasure whilst retaining his seat, an obvious boon to beginners or those who ride in crowded thoroughfares. It is not at all unsightly; in fact, from the front or back of the machine it is invisible, and a touch to a spring on the handle-bar instantly adjusts it. For military purposes it would be invaluable, as the men could shoot without dismounting. The price at which it is proposed to retail the invention is not at all prohibitive.

THE CEREMONY of consecration and installation will be rehearsed by Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., at the Lewisham Lodge of Instruction, No. 2579, at the Parish Hall, Ladywell—adjoining Ladywell Station, S.E.R., on Wednesday, the 9th prox. Lodge will be opened at 6.30 p.m. precisely, but only Master Masons can attend, and Masonic clothing will be worn. The musical arrangements will be in charge of Bro. C. W. Wilkes. We understand there is ample accommodation in the hall for a large attendance, and brethren will, doubtless, avail themselves of so excellent an opportunity of witnessing what, under the guidance of so experienced a Mason as Bro. Terry, cannot prove otherwise than a most impressive performance. We will add that the Lewisham Lodge of Instruction meets every Wednesday throughout the year, at 8 p.m., at the Black Bull Inn, High-street, Lewisham. For the particulars, if desired, may be had of Bro. Edward Hall, Hon. Secretary, 17, Mount Pleasant-road, Lewisham, S.E.

DROPS OF SCENT WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD.—In a recent article in *Answers*, it was erroneously stated that Messrs. Blondeau, the manufacturers of the well-known Vinolia Soap, consume 1000 ounces of otto of roses every year. Considering that otto of roses is more than worth its weight in gold, probably some readers thought that the writer was romancing. As a matter of fact, however, his statement fell far below the truth, as a representative of *Answers* discovered the other day when he paid a visit to the famous Vinolia factory. Roughly speaking, this firm's yearly consumption of this golden fluid is about 5000 ounces! The precious liquid has a strong-room all to itself, wherein it reclines in curious-looking flagons swathed in flannel. These flagons are undoubtedly the most valuable in the world. Although less than 12 inches long and only about six inches in diameter, each of them contains £180 worth of liquid! The same sized flagons, if filled with wine of the rarest and most costly vintage, would not be worth one-tenth of their present value.—*Answers*.

BRO. MAJ.-GENERAL LORD METHURN will present the prizes of the North Middlesex Rifles at the regimental headquarters in Camden Town, on Friday, the 18th December.

BRO. SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Bart., M.P. (the Chancellor of the Exchequer), and Lady Lucy and Miss Hicks-Beach have been visiting Earl Fortescue, at Castle Hill, North Devon.

BRO. THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN, who is lieutenant of the County of Limerick, went early in the week to Adare Manor to meet his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, on his visit to that county.

BY COMMAND of the Queen, the choir of St. George's Chapel sang before her Majesty and the Royal Court at Windsor Palace on Wednesday evening, the concert taking place in St. George's Hall. Bro. Sir Walter Parratt conducted.

THE QUEEN REGENT and Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands visited the King and Queen of Italy at the palace at Maza on Saturday afternoon, and returned to Milan in the evening, while on Sunday the King and Queen of Italy returned the visit.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE, Marchioness of Lorne, opened an addition to the premises of the Scottish Branch of the Jubilee Nurses' Institute, at Castle-terrace, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, among those present being the Lord Provost, the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Reay, and others.

AMONG THE GUESTS who have been staying at the Earl and Countess Brownlow's seat, of Ashridge, near Great Berkhamstead, were the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Wharcliffe, the Earl of Ilchester, Bro. Lord Rathmore, and Lady Amphil, and Lady Constance Russell.

BROS. A. AKERS-DOUGLAS, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Sir M. Hicks-Beach (Chancellor of the Exchequer), the Duke of Devonshire, Lord George Hamilton, W. H. Long, and Sir M. White Ridley were among the ministers present at the Cabinet Council held at the Foreign Office on Tuesday.

MONDAY WAS the 10th birthday of Prince Alexander, eldest son of Princess Henry of Battenberg, an exhibition of the animatograph was given by command of her Majesty by Mr. Downey, before the Royal children at Windsor Castle. The entertainment was given in the Crimson Drawing-room, which had been especially prepared for the purpose.

BRO. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT was prevented by indisposition from presiding at the meeting of the Aldershot Military Society on Tuesday, when Colonel E. T. H. Hutton delivered a lecture on "Our Comrades of Greater Britain." However, his Royal Highness's place was taken by Lieut.-General Sir William Seymour, who expressed regret at the indisposition which had prevented the Duke's presence.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES and their daughter, the Princess Victoria, with the Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, travelled to Blenheim on Monday on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough. Their Royal Highnesses were attended by Major-General Ellis and Lady Emily Kingscote, while among the guests invited to meet them were the Marchioness of Londonderry and Lady Helen Stewart, Viscount and Viscountess Curzon, the Earl of Chesterfield, the Hon. George and Mrs. Curzon, Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. H. Chaplin, Bro. and Mrs. Grenfell, and Lady Randolph Churchill.

CORNWALL AS A WINTER RESORT.—The Great Western Railway Company have issued a revised edition of a pamphlet upon "Cornwall as a Winter Resort," and it will appear from the tables contained in it that the claims of West Cornwall, and of Falmouth in particular, as a residence during the winter, in comparison with the South of France and the Riviera, are unimpeachable. The equability and mildness of the climate are remarkably illustrated by the numbers of exotic and subtropical plants which thrive and flower in the open air throughout the winter. Sir Edward Sieveking, M.D., LL.D., and Sir Joseph Fayer, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., have, at meetings of the Medical Association, by articles in the *Medical Journal*, and in various other ways, directed the attention of medical men to the peculiar advantages of Falmouth, which, at the cost of a short land journey by express trains from all the principal towns served by the Great Western Railway and other lines in direct communication, gives the invalid a choice of climates rivaling those of the South of France, without the drawbacks of long and fatiguing travel, foreign languages, unfamiliar habits, and unaccustomed surroundings.

THE ARMOUR OF JOAN OF ARC.—In discoursing of the known portraits and relics of the Maid of Orleans in the sumptuous Christmas number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* Mr. Andrew Lang says:—"The armour of Jeanne has probably disappeared. One suit of harness she dedicated to St. Denis, when her attack on Paris was foiled by her King in September, 1429, 'for St. Denis is the cry of France!' The English, on the departure of the French army, robbed the church of St. Denis, and the arms are lost. The Revolution would have destroyed them in any case. In the reign of Louis XII. the author of an inventory mentions the harness of the Maid as extant in the Châteaux of Amboise, and suggests that the illuminator of a manuscript of the period copied this armour. In 1581 a suit of her harness is said to have been at the Châteaux d'Anet. At the end of last century Carré describes a suit of hers at Chantilly—armour certainly made for a woman, he says, and covered with crosses. It may or may not be the Chantilly harness which is now in the Musée des Invalides, in the Series G, No. 119. There is also a so-called harness of Jeanne's in the Museum of Berlin. A sword, said to be hers, was given by Peiresc to Charles du Lys, a descendant of her family, in 1632, and thence came to the family of De Maleyssié, who lost it (and some of their own heads) in the Revolution."

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Great Western Railway Company have issued to the public, in a concise and handy form, a pamphlet embodying particulars of scales of reduced rates recently adopted by the company for agricultural, farm, and dairy produce carried by passenger and goods trains respectively. The scales of reduced rates granted for traffic sent by goods trains embrace fresh meat, dead poultry, dead rabbits, eggs, butter, fruit, and vegetables, and apply to quantities of 10cwt., 1 ton, 2 ton, and 3 ton lots respectively. One important advantage in connection with these rates is that they will cover mixed consignments of any or all of the articles named, so that farmers may combine to send away varying small quantities (exceeding 3 cwt.) amounting in the aggregate to 3 tons, 2 tons, 1 ton, or 10cwt., and have the whole of the separate lots charged at the rates applicable to those quantities, the only stipulation being that the traffic must be sent at one time from one station to another station; and that the carriage must be paid by one sender or by one consignee. In addition to the reductions thus announced, rates for the same descriptions of traffic have been specially arranged to London, in no case exceeding the scales above referred to; and rates have also been given for consignments of less than 10cwt. by goods train in order to supplement the facilities offered by passenger train for small quantities going to the London markets. The company have also revised and largely reduced the rates for cider and perry from the producing districts of Devonshire, Somersetshire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire; and are making numerous and important reductions in the charges for other articles of agricultural traffic, such as potatoes, turnips, parsnips, carrots, mangold wurzel, feeding stuffs, and manures.

"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 banqueting 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.

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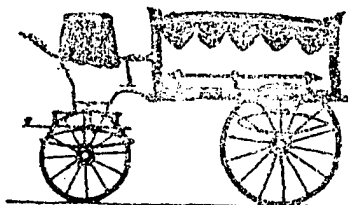
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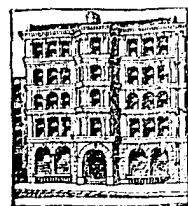
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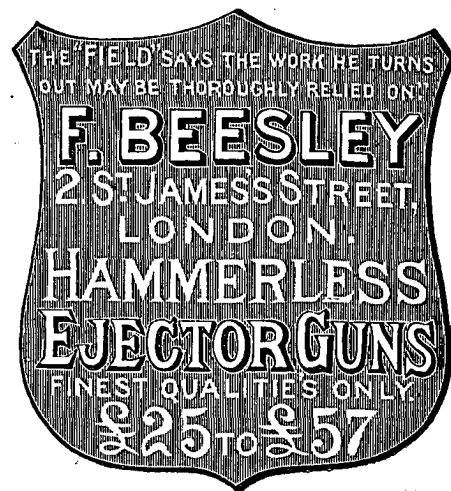
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