

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;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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CONTENTS.		PAGE.
LEADERS—		
Freemasonry in Bombay	...	37
The District Grand Lodge of Bengal	...	38
Consecration of the Guardian Lodge, No. 2625	...	38
Consecration of the Byfield Lodge, No. 2632	...	39
Provincial Grand Mark Lodge of Wiltshire	...	40
Provincial Priory of Kent	...	40
Masonic Banquet and Ball	...	40
Old Masonians' Cricket Club	...	40
Opening of a New Masonic Hall at Lyme Regis	...	40
Annual Meeting of the Kirby Lodge of Instruction, No. 263	...	41
Board of Benevolence	...	41
Obituary	...	41
MASONIC NOTES—		
Celebration of 21st Anniversary of the Studholme Lodge, No. 1591	...	43
Consecration of the Guardian and Byfield Lodges	...	43
Annual General Meeting of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution	...	43
Correspondence	...	44
Masonic Notes and Queries	...	44
Reviews	...	44
Craft Masonry	...	45
The Craft Abroad	...	46
Masonic and General Tidings	...	48

FREEMASONRY IN BOMBAY.

The address delivered by Bro. GEO. O. W. DUNN, D.D.G.M., as Dist. G.M., at the half-yearly communication of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay on the 27th November, 1896, contains, as we hinted in one of our Notes of last week, several remarks of more than usual interest not only to the local brethren, but to the whole English Craft. At the outset Bro. DUNN drew attention to the very small number of Hindu and Mahomedan brethren as compared with the European and Parsi, there being as many as 708 of the latter out of a grand total of 797 for the whole District of Bombay. Said Bro. DUNN—and the very words he used are well worth quoting—"I am convinced that nothing but good can come of a larger admixture of our Hindu and Mohammedan fellow subjects under the banner of Freemasonry. The free interchange of ideas, the social intercourse, the absence of religious and political differences—the airing of which is very particularly discouraged among us—and the charitable objects which we have in common, all these work for good only, by showing to each race or sect the good qualities of the others, by teaching us that charitable hearts, noble thoughts, and kindly dispositions are not the exclusive property of any one class among us, but that we are all the children of one common Father, endowed with the same human feelings, the same human weaknesses, the same human virtues." And to this eloquent exposition of the purposes which Freemasonry is designed to effect and does effect where it is rightly understood and practised, he added, "I have said before, and I repeat now, that in my opinion Freemasonry has peculiar duties in this country, and that it is doing and can do still more important work in more closely knitting together the various classes, races, and creeds that go to make up this wonderful Empire of India." The Acting District Grand Master then went on to recommend "the establishment of more native lodges, and more particularly of mixed lodges," as a means that would conduce most effectually towards knitting together the classes and races and creeds. He further pointed out that the District would be greatly strengthened in numbers if those who for various reasons had left the Craft were to return to the lodges, and once again become active members of the Fraternity. But even the non-affiliate, of whom we read so much in American Masonic newspapers and their reports of Masonic proceedings, has his uses, in Bro. DUNN'S opinion—that is, of course, if he adheres to his Masonic principles. In such case his influence "cannot be without good

effect, playing, as it must, the part of the little leaven that leaveneth the whole lump."

The next point of interest will be found later where Bro. DUNN announces that on his first day of office as Deputy District Grand Master he was present, by invitation, at the consecration of the Scots Lodge, No. 828, Bombay, under the Scottish Constitution. With reference to this, he was content with remarking, but very pertinently and appropriately—"As we welcome the extension of the Craft, whether under the English or Scottish Constitution, I am sure this new Scotch lodge has your very hearty good wishes. It has been my good fortune to have attended one of the ordinary meetings of the lodge since then by invitation, and I hope it will not be my last visit." On many previous occasions we have noted—and doubtless we shall have many future occasions of noting—with pleasure the exceeding harmony which prevails between these two sections of the Craft. But we have invariably done this with the view of pointing out that relations of this kind which are not only possible but actually exist between two sections of brethren in the presidency of Bombay, must likewise be possible in other colonies and dependencies of the British Crown. If the brethren of the English and Scottish Constitutions in Bombay can live together in complete harmony, exchanging visits to their respective lodges, conferring honorary rank in one constitution on distinguished members of the other, and sharing between them the cost of erecting a Masonic Hall for their joint use, then we say, what has been said or written in the past about the difficulty of reconciling the conflicting—or at least, rival—interests of two or more bodies working side by side under different systems—which systems, however, are the same in essentials, though differing in details—is all moonshine. We used to hear such statements in former days when the question of establishing some local Grand Lodge was being discussed, and in reply we invariably singled out this presidency of Bombay as our evidence to the contrary. We said in effect—It is all very well for you to make these statements, but go to Bombay and there you will find that the difficulties you speak of do not exist. There the most complete harmony prevails between the members of the English and Scottish Constitutions.

One other part of Bro. DUNN'S address must be referred to, namely, that in which he describes what has been, and is being, done in the matter of erecting a Masonic Hall in Bombay for the joint use of the English and Scottish Craft. It appears that a site has been secured, and the plans and estimates for erecting the hall have been prepared by the Joint Hall Committee, but it is, first of all, necessary that these plans should be submitted for the approval of the Government, and when that has been obtained, the work of building will be commenced. Matters, however, were in such an advanced stage at the date when this address was delivered, that the Acting District Grand Master was able to announce that His Excellency, Bro. Lord SANDHURST, Pro District Grand Master, had fixed upon Thursday, the 21st January current, for the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the edifice. It is estimated that a sum of between 53,000 and 54,000 rupees will be required to be raised in *donations* towards defraying the cost of erection, and of this about 32,000 rupees had been obtained up to about the middle of last November. More, of course, has since been raised, and we can only express the hope that the whole of the sum required will be obtained by this means. Otherwise, as the Acting District Grand Master was careful to point out, it will be necessary to raise it by means of

debentures. That means the yearly payment for some time to come of interest at 4 per cent, and will necessitate that the lodges and other Masonic bodies which use the building will be called upon to pay a higher rental for their accommodation. Everything, however, seems to proceed so smoothly in this favoured district that we have every confidence the amount required will be forthcoming in the form which is considered most desirable.

THE DISTRICT GRAND LODGE OF BENGAL.

A mere reference to the Grand Lodge Calendar for the present year will suffice to show that Bro. Sir H. THOBY PRINSEP is no longer District Grand Master of Bengal. Some time since he announced in open District Grand Lodge his intention of resigning the important office he had held for the past 18 years, and since that announcement was made his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to appoint as his successor Bro. Brig.-General A. G. YEATMAN-BIGGS, C.B. It seems, however, that Bro. Sir H. PRINSEP more than a year before had made arrangements to hold an emergent meeting under the auspices of one of the up-country lodges, the members of which, in consequence of their being located at a distance from Calcutta, have very few opportunities of being present at the meetings of District Grand Lodge in that city. Accordingly the promised meeting was held under the auspices of Lodge Independence with Philanthropy, No. 391, Allahabad, at which Bro. Sir H. PRINSEP appeared as Past District Grand Master, and as representing the actual ruler of the District. There was no such numerous attendance of District Grand Officers and brethren as is the rule when the District G. Lodge is held in Calcutta, the lodges up-country being very widely scattered, but this perhaps was, at least in one respect, a fortunate circumstance, as the Past District Grand Master took the opportunity of referring at some length to a movement which has, it seems, been started with a view to obtaining a sub-division of the District, so that one section might remain, as at present, under the rule of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, and another be constituted into a separate and distinct District Grand Lodge under the rule of some brother hereafter to be appointed. Bro. Sir H. PRINSEP in his remarks pointed out that some short time previous to his appointment in 1878 to the office he had just vacated, a somewhat similar movement was set on foot but came to nothing. He further pointed out that the main argument in favour, then and now, of this sub-division, was based on the distance of the up-country lodges from Calcutta and the consequent difficulties which brethren experienced in attending District Grand Lodge. He was in a position, however, to show that though this plea may have carried with it a certain weight 18 or 19 years ago, it had no such force now. Then the journey to Calcutta occupied several days and cost a round sum of money; now the journey can be accomplished in a few hours. Moreover, the same difficulties would present themselves if a District Grand Lodge were established at Lucknow or Allahabad for the up-country lodges, and he pointed to the fact that at the emergent meeting held at Meerut in the autumn of 1895, as well as at the meeting then being held, there were in attendance only the representatives of a few lodges. It would follow, therefore, that the management of the affairs of the new District Grand Lodge would be practically in the hands of the representatives of the two or three lodges located at the head-quarters of the said District Grand Lodge, and though, as he said, those affairs might be managed equally as well as now, the arrangement would become less satisfactory than it was at present. He then turned his attention to the position of the Bengal Educational Fund, which had 42 children under its charge. As showing that the claims of the up-country lodges to a participation in the benefits of this Fund, Bro. Sir H. PRINSEP pointed out, that 22 of these children hailed from up-country. He further pointed out that the difficulties in maintaining this Fund in a state of efficiency were sufficiently great with upwards of 40 lodges to appeal to for support, and that those difficulties would be still greater if the District were sub-divided. As for the argument that the District was too large he pooh-poohed it, remarking that if Dist. Grand Lodge honours were augmented

in number, they would cease to be of any value, and he pointed to the far stronger Provinces of East and West Lancashire, and West Yorkshire, in all of which the number of lodges on the roll is far greater than in the District of Bengal. At the conclusion of the address and when the remaining business had been disposed of, Bro. A. PAXTON, Past Dep. Dist. G.M., rose, and in an eloquent and feeling speech, expressed the gratitude of all present to their Past Dist. G. Master, "for that peace and harmony" which had been characteristic of his rule during the past 18 years, and the hope that he would long live to enjoy the goodwill and hearty good wishes of those who had been associated with him in Freemasonry, but more especially of those older members of the Craft, who from their longer experience were in a better position to appreciate the many valuable services he had rendered to the District.

CONSECRATION OF THE GUARDIAN LODGE, No. 2625.

The Guardian Lodge, No. 2625, was consecrated on the 15th instant, at the Ship and Turtle Hotel, Leadenhall-street. The new lodge, which is for the City of London, and membership of which is intended for those who are associated in the administration of the Poor Law, originated in the City of London Union, its principal mover being Bro. James Tollworthy, a well-known member of that body. It was to have been consecrated some time ago, but the convenience of many persons had to be consulted, and delay consequently occurred. At length, however, all obstacles were overcome, and a very large party of brethren were got together to witness the ceremony of launching the new venture.

The ceremony was performed by Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Secretary, Bros. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., acting as S.W.; Robert Grey, P.G.W., as J.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, G.C., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as Director of Ceremonies; and J. Morrison McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., as I.G.

The musical part of the service was conducted by Bro. Herbert Schartau, who had for his assistants Bros. Frank Tebbutt, Wm. Fell, and Wingrove Ives.

There was a large attendance of brethren.

After the lodge had been formally opened,

Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, addressing the brethren, said it was unnecessary for him to occupy their time for many moments with any words of his on such an occasion. They were met together for a purpose which could not fail to enlist the sympathies and secure the good wishes of all who had at heart the good of the Masonic Order. The ceremony they were met to perform was a very interesting one, and, at the same time, a very solemn one—the constitution of a new lodge and the dedication of it to the service of God. He could only hope that the lodge they were about to start into existence that day might be the means of advancing the best interests of the Order, and that it might more particularly accomplish those special objects which he understood its founders had in view—of uniting those who were associated together in discharging the duty of administration of the Poor Law in connection with the great City of London. He must congratulate the founders of the lodge on the fact that they had in their first Master so accomplished a brother as the one he should shortly have the privilege of installing in the chair of that lodge. He trusted that the lodge had before it a career of unclouded and unbroken prosperity.

Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon STEVENS, in delivering the oration, said:

A few days ago, the M.W. Grand Master, before proceeding to lay the foundation-stone of a building, referred in brief, but very significant terms to the nature of the Masonic Brotherhood and its responsibilities; he reminded the brethren at that time assembled, and there were many of them present, that they had been entrusted by the brethren who had gone before them with secrets which no man had discovered, and he went on to point out that they were entrusted with certain duties to the outside world; he referred to the early material building that was wrought in days gone by, a work specially in charge of the Order there could be no doubt, and of duty along with it. He (Archdeacon Stevens) took it that Masons had a duty before them, the building of a moral edifice, and that was the work they were now met to promote. The world outside Masonry knew very little of the Masonic mysteries, but it observed much of the moral edifice; and every one who took part in it had a great responsibility for the way in which the building was reared, in other words, they were judged by their fruits. There were some who spoke slightly of Masons; there were others who ridiculed them; there were many who thought the Order mischievous and irreligious. It rested with Masons to give the lie to each by the way in which they went about their duties, and by the way in which they conducted themselves in the world at large, that men might judge Masonry by its fruits, by the fidelity of Masons, and by their allegiance to those grand principles, brotherly love, relief and truth. Although he spoke with diffidence in the presence of Masons much more experienced than himself, he thought it not inappropriate when they were met to consecrate a new lodge that he should dwell on this great fact that Masonry had its great responsibilities to the world outside, and it was on an occasion like that to show that Masonry rested upon a very firm foundation, because it was not merely that they met for good fellowship—it had a foundation deeper than that; they should make known to the world at large and spread abroad in society the principles on which Masonry rested. There could be no doubt that the Guardian Lodge, by its constitution, was connected with, as the Installing Master had reminded them, the administration of relief, and the brethren would have a special cause to pay attention to that great truth. But more than that, it seemed to him they had a duty to the world at large, to show by their conduct that those great principles of Masonry—brotherly love, relief, and truth, were both valued and put in practice by Masons. And, turning from that to what Masonry taught, surely it was practical in its teachings. It taught them to try to become wiser, to acquire

knowledge, to live as men, to look forward to a higher life, to live uprightly and truthfully, and to feel that to the just and upright man death had no terrors equal to the stain of falsehood and dishonour. Masonry taught them to use their daily life for the glory of God and the good of man; it taught them the lesson of natural equality and mutual dependence. In Masonry there were those who ruled and those who obeyed; and so it was in the world at large, and it seemed inevitable that it should be so. And it was the same in the erection of a building. Some had to perform great duties, some had to perform very humble duties; there were those who knew very little of the great plan of the building, but they had to take part in the erection of the plan and to discharge the duty assigned to each one, and be it high or be it low, the man who laid only the brick must lay it well and truly if the building was to be reared as it should be. And so in the world they had their duties to do whether as men or as Masons; and whether the duties were high or low, yet it was their part to do their duty and lay the brick, if it be only a brick, well and truly, in the best possible way as though the eye of the Great Architect was upon them. Just one more word. Masonry ever set before them this great truth that they were working very much in the dark—that they were like the bricklayer who laid his brick in the dark and in ignorance of the great design; they were taking part in a great work of which they saw only a little portion, and they were looking forward to the revelation of something higher, better; they were seeking after that which was lost; they were ever looking upward and onward for the completion of the design of the Great Architect of the Universe; they formed but an insignificant portion of the work. Be it the work of the Guardian Lodge to take up this work, to carry it forward to the fulfilment of the vast design. Long might the lodge prosper, and might it be known for the excellence of its work, but more by the fidelity of its members to the great principles of Masonry which held it together! The consecrating elements which the Grand Secretary would shortly carry round the lodge were not mere empty formalities; they were symbols of something higher; they were emblems of brotherly love and unanimity, of the cheerfulness and goodwill which should pervade this lodge in years to come; and lastly, the incense as its smoke ascended reminded them of the great truth that all their efforts without the Divine blessing were unavailing. Might they look forward and count upon the blessing of the Most High on the work of the lodge from generation to generation!

At the conclusion of the ceremonies of the consecration of the lodge and its dedication to Freemasonry, Bro. James Tollworthy was installed as the lodge's first W.M.

Bro. Tollworthy, it may be remarked, was initiated in Freemasonry in the Clarendon Lodge, No. 1769, and, after passing through the various offices, was installed as its Master in November, 1894. During his year he served as Steward for the lodge at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, when he took up a substantial sum in aid of that Charity. He also represented the Clarendon Lodge at the Festival of the Girls' School last year, when the amount on his list exceeded that of any single lodge in London. As a Guardian of the City of London Union he originated the lodge which was consecrated on the 15th instant. He is a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and a Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The brethren chosen as the Master's officers for the year were: Bros. W. Shurmur, acting I.P.M.; H. V. Clements, S.W.; T. A. Bullock, J.W.; the Rev. P. Clementi-Smith, Chap.; W. J. Johnston, C.C., Treas.; W. R. Caldwell Moore, C.C., P.M., Sec.; A. E. Pridmore, C.C., S.D.; A. P. Little, J.D.; R. H. Barton, I.G.; H. Weber Brown, B.A., D.C.; W. D. Barnett, E. Ardley, and C. Farris, Stewards; and E. L. Partridge, P.M. 1686, Tyler.

There were four other brethren who were among the founders of the lodge, viz., Bros. ex-Sheriff Hand, J. H. Lile, C.C., F. Dunn, and H. Bird, C.C.

When the ceremonies were closed, votes of thanks were passed to the Consecrating Officers, who were also elected honorary members of the lodge.

The SECRETARY announced that the following presentations had been made to the lodge: The banner by the W.M.; Bible, cushion, silver square and compasses by the S.W.; a set of books for the lodge by the Treasurer; a silver inkstand by the Secretary; firing glasses and case by the D.C.; two wands with silver doves for the Deacons by the I.G.; three ivory-handled gavels by the Steward; and the Tyler's sword by the Asst. Steward, Bro. Farris.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a choice banquet.

The usual toasts were afterwards honoured.

Bro. Archdeacon STEVENS, G.C., responding to the toast of "The Grand Officers," said that it would be difficult to find any one to conduct the ceremony of consecration with greater dignity or impressiveness than the Grand Secretary. It had been a pleasure to all the brethren, and the Grand Officers were glad to take part in starting the Guardian Lodge and to wish it God speed.

Bro. JAMES TOLLWORTHY, W.M., proposed "The Consecrating Officers," and was sorry the Grand Secretary, and Bro. Robert Grey and Bro. Frank Richardson had been obliged to leave. He felt greatly indebted to the Consecrating Officers, and he thought Bro. Letchworth had performed the ceremony to perfection.

Bro. Sir JOHN B. MONCKTON, P.G.W., in reply, said he was now in his fifth decade as a Freemason and had assisted at many consecrations but he had never been at one consecration more sympathetically than at that of the Guardian Lodge. In the first place because the lodge met in the old City of London; in the second because it was consecrated to what he might term one of the phrases of official life in that city. He was a great believer in what were called "class" lodges, although perhaps they might be carried too far, and degenerate into something undesirable; but where men were accustomed to meet officially he thought it well, if they were so inclined, that they should have the opportunity of meeting fraternally. Such meeting assisted them very much in their intercourse. To quote an example in the old Latin grammar—*Emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros*: it softened the manners, nor suffered them to be rough. Three-fourths of what had happened to him happily and successfully in life he attributed to Freemasonry. He said that to younger brethren in Masonic life. When their ages permitted, he personally initiated his three sons; that was his best answer to people who asked what he thought of Freemasonry. At that end of his Masonic career he was rather given to the Charities; he did not mind a little work now and then. He installed his 145th Master that week at the Albion; he hoped to make it up to 150 shortly, and then to devote his time entirely to the old folks and the young folks. He did not think it out of place for a Consecrating Officer to say—Keep the Charities well in your mind, but not so as to do more than they could afford; that was what

he called un-Masonic; that was robbing others for them; but let them do what they could afford; it was an admirable thing to do. He then only had to wish the W.M. success, and he would propose "The Health of the W.M." They saw that night in lodge how Bro. Tollworthy comported himself. He was not then for the first time a W.M., but equally they might say that he remembered what he learned in his previous experience, and he comported himself in a capital, dignified, capable, and able manner, promising well for the year before him. That he had work was seen by the proposals made in lodge, and they were sure to be followed by others. The officers of the lodge were just and upright men in the service, and he had no doubt they would support their W.M. as they should do. In Bro. Tollworthy they had one of the ablest and most respected members of the Craft; in fact, the Guardian lodge had everything in its favour. He was proud to be one of its honorary members, and he was sure his colleagues with him and those who had left hoped they would have an opportunity hereafter of attending to see the W.M. do his work.

Bro. JAMES TOLLWORTHY, W.M., acknowledged the toast. As regarded the Guardian Lodge his heart and soul had been in forming that lodge, and he would do his best to further it, not only for its welfare in the working, but he would do his best for the benefit of the founders as well as of those who should join it. It certainly had been some time since the lodge was first thought of. They had to wait the convenience of several members in the arrangements to get the lodge consecrated. So far as he had seen he thought they had had a very enjoyable evening, and he hoped they would still complete that evening in a further enjoyable manner. He thanked the founders for choosing him as their first Master, and anything he could possibly do, he should do to the utmost of his ability to further the interests of the lodge.

Bro. Alderman VAUGHAN MORGAN in responding to the toast of "The Visitors," said he should only be echoing the voice of every one in the room when he said how much they were indebted to the W.M. for the great treat, intellectually and corporeally, which they had had—the consecration was admirably done, and the banquet before the brethren was excellent. He only hoped it was an evidence of the great prosperity that would attend the lodge. He was happy to say many members were old friends and brothers of his, and he trusted he should on some future occasion repeat his visit. He thanked the W.M. for his kind motive in inviting him to assist him in getting the position he would like to attain to. If he attained it he hoped he would not disgrace those Grand Treasurers who had gone before him. The very last thing he did before he came to this lodge was to complete the signature for the petition for the founding of a lodge in connection with the schools he had the honour to be educated in—Christ's Hospital, to be called the Christ's Hospital Lodge. The secret had not been divulged until now. Sir John Monckton said he had initiated three sons. He (Alderman Vaughan Morgan) hoped his lodge would be the means of initiating 300 or 400 of Christ's Hospital children—and he desired to have the pleasure of introducing many members of Christ's Hospital himself.

Bro. JAMES STEPHENS also replied. He had never seen a lodge better consecrated, and the oration of the Archdeacon was superb. When he saw what a fine body of men the members of the lodge were, he felt sure they would do their duty. A more ardent and zealous worker than the W.M. he did not know, and they were wise in the choice of a W.M. He wished every prosperity for the lodge. He could not but refer to and take up the thread of the remarks of Alderman Vaughan Morgan, whom he had the honour of nominating for election as Grand Treasurer last Grand Lodge. He was then hopeful that the Alderman would have that courtesy shown to him, and that true Masonic spirit extended to him which he had the pride and pleasure of giving last year, when he stood on one side to avoid a contest, although he had the previous year polled 1000 votes; but with that self-abnegation ever characteristic of him, he stood aside. At next Grand Lodge, in March, he hoped all the brethren would attend and elect him.

Bro. JAMES COOPER, in saying a few words in response to the toast, informed the brethren that Bro. Tollworthy was one of his boys that he had initiated. He felt confident of the success of the lodge.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" was replied to by several of those brethren, and the Tyler's toast closed the evening.

Besides the musical brethren who attended the lodge, Miss Emily Briggs assisted in after-dinner singing.

CONSECRATION OF THE BYFIELD LODGE,

No. 2632.

The ceremony of consecrating the new London lodge, which will be known henceforth as the Byfield Lodge, No. 2632, took place in the Masonic Rooms of the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, on Monday, the 11th instant. There was a very full attendance, and promptly at the appointed hour of 4.30 p.m. the chair was taken by the Consecrating Officer, Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, who was assisted in his duties by Bros. George E. Fairchild, P.A.G.D.C., as S.W.; James Terry, P.G. S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., as J.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, G. Chap., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and C. J. R. Tijou, P.A. G.P., as I.G.

The G. SECRETARY having briefly addressed the meeting, the CHAPLAIN gave the opening prayer, and the founders having been arranged in order by the D.C., and, in reply to the inquiry of the Consecrating Officer, having signified their approval of the officers named in the warrant, Bro. Archdeacon STEVENS delivered an eloquent oration on the nature and principles of the Institution.

The ceremony of consecration was then performed, and the lodge having been duly constituted, the Grand Secretary proceeded to install Bro. James Boulton, G.P., the W.M. designate, in the chair of K.S., and the new W.M. having been proclaimed and saluted, appointed and invested the following brethren as his officers for the year, namely: Bros. Walter Gladding (S.W. designate), S.W.; R. C. Flint (J.W. designate), J.W.; W. B. Abrahams, P.M. and Sec. 1816, Secretary; W. Stewart, S.D.; T. Cole, J.D.; W. G. Mortlock, I.G.; and H. Stewart (elected by show of hands), Tyler.

The addresses having been delivered, the W.M. rose and, having presented a Founder's jewel to each of the Consecrating Officers, proposed and the S.W. seconded, "That a cordial vote of thanks be given to the Consecrating Officers for the able manner in which they had performed the ceremonies of the day," and the motion having been carried by acclamation and gracefully acknowledged by the GRAND SECRETARY on behalf of himself and his colleagues, a Committee to frame by laws was appointed and sundry propositions for initiation and joining were handed in. The other business was then disposed of and Lodge was closed in due form, with solemn prayer.

The brethren then adjourned to the banquet-room and dined together, under the presidency of Bro. Boulton, W.M. Subsequently the usual list of toasts was honoured, those of "The Consecrating and Installing Officers" and "The W.M."—proposed by the GRAND SECRETARY—being received with especial favour.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was also given and heartily and eloquently acknowledged by Bro. JAMES TERRY, P.G.S.B., Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who announced that Bro. Boulton, as first W.M., had undertaken to serve as Steward for the Old People.

The musical arrangements throughout were under the direction of Bro. Harry Greene, and in the intervals between the speeches that followed the banquet a number of good songs were admirably rendered.

The founders of the Byfield Lodge are Bros. James Boulton, G.P.; Walter Gladding, 1816 and 933; and R. C. Flint, 1365, the principal officers designated in the warrant; Bros. W. B. Abrahams, P.M. and Sec. 1816; W. Stewart, 186; F. Cole, 1607; and W. G. Mortlock, 2157; and these were present together with the following visitors:

Bros. E. H. Brown, W.M. 1685; E. Smith, P.M. 1816; R. Innes, D.C. 2409; W. J. Love-day, 1607; M. Jutsum, P.M.; J. Jarman, Org. 1000; L. Breeze, 1679; R. Tucker, J. Byford, P.M., Treas. 898; J. Wright, P.M. 95; R. Williams, 95; G. Robins, P.M. 1056; G. F. Penny, 2184; S. V. Abraham, P.G.P.; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec. 1365; D. Campbell, P.M. 1365; J. Newton, P.G.P.; W. S. Page, P.M., Sec. 186; J. Moore Smith, W.M. 2573; H. Madden, 2513; C. H. Amendt, 1365; G. Bane, P.M. 1625; G. S. Smith, Org. 2157; P. J. Lynch, 1306; F. Lloyd Palmer, 2054; S. A. Slanger, P.M. 12; A. Calver, P.M. 933; and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WILTSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Salisbury, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., under the banner of the Elias de Derham Lodge, No. 443. A good attendance of Salisbury, Devizes, and Swindon brethren was presided over by Bro. the Earl of Radnor, P.G.M., who appointed the following as his P.G. Officers for the year:

Bro. H. Howse, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. A. Randell, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" F. S. Hanccock, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" J. C. Maclean, P.M. 401	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" E. Waters, P.M. 443	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. F. W. Macdonald, P.M. 443	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" H. Bevir, P.M. 401	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. H. Chandler, P.M. 401	...	...	Prov. G.R. of M.
" G. M. Wilson, P.M. 443	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" A. Plummer, P.M. 401	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" F. Griffin, W.M. 443	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" B. W. Crees, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" J. Chandler, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" F. G. Billingham, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. S. Bambridge, P.M. 178	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" A. Barnes, W.M. 401	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. Dear, 401	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The usual collection of alms was made and amounted to £2 4s. 3d.—which it was decided to devote to the funds of the South Wilts Dispensary.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the White Hart Hotel, where luncheon was partaken of, and the usual Masonic toasts honoured.

PROVINCIAL PRIORY OF KENT AND SURREY.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Priory of Kent and Surrey, was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult.

Owing to the much regretted absence, through illness, of the Provincial Prior, the Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., the Provincial Priory was opened by the Sub-Prior, Sir Knight Horatio Ward.

Dispensation to hold the meeting out of the Province having been read, and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The muster roll was called, and the Treasurer's accounts approved, the Treasurer being re-elected.

A very handsome state sword, was presented by Sir Knight Ward to the Province, and a cordial vote of thanks passed to him for the same.

The Prov. Officers were appointed and invested as follows:

Sir Knight Horatio Ward	...	...	Prov. Sub-Prior.
" Rev. H. Cummings	...	...	Prov. Prelate.
" J. M. McLeod	...	...	Prov. Chancellor.
" J. G. Kirchoffer	...	...	Prov. Senior Constable.
" Frank Williams	...	...	Prov. Junior Constable.
" Col. Bircham	...	...	Prov. Treasurer.
" A. H. Bateman	...	...	Prov. Reg. and Vice-Chan.
" B. R. Bryant	...	...	Prov. Marshal.
" R. Clout	...	...	Prov. Almoner.
" R. J. Voisey	...	...	Prov. Warden of Regalia.
" J. Dimsdale	...	...	Prov. Herald.
" W. Briant	...	...	Prov. 1st Std. Br.
" J. Barnwell	...	...	Prov. 2nd Std. Br.
" A. H. Bevan	...	...	Prov. Banner Bearer.
" Sibert Saunders	...	...	Prov. Priors Banner Bearer.
" Major Collins	...	...	Prov. Sword Bearer.
" H. M. Biggleston	...	...	Prov. Capt. of Guard.

Frater Harrison was elected and invested Guard.

The alms were collected and Prov. Priory closed.

The sir knights subsequently dined together at Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of Sir Knight Horatio Ward, when the toasts usual to Christian Masonry were duly honoured. Amongst the guests were the Great Prelate, Sir Knight the Rev. E. C. Wright, the Great Vice-Chancellor, Sir Knight Matier, and Sir Knight C. Morton Challenger.

MASONIC BANQUET AND BALL.

A Masonic banquet and ball took place at the North London Academy of Dancing, Devonshire Villa, 133, Seven Sisters'-road, on Monday, the 28th ult., and proved a great success, about 60 being present. The banquet was timed for 8.30, and Bro. J. A. Soper ably took the chair, when the usual toasts were proposed by the CHAIRMAN, viz., "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers."

Bro. REYNOLDSON proposed "The Health of the Visitors," and Mr. ROLANDS ably responded.

"The Ladies' Health," was proposed, with a few appropriate remarks, by Bro. TOYNTON, and Bro. W. W. ROWE humorously responded on their behalf.

Bro. R. C. MASON then proposed "The Health of the Committee of the Ball," complimenting them for the perfect manner in which all the arrangements were carried out.

Bro. COOKE, in responding, said he would like to couple the name of Messrs. Beale and Co., expressed his gratification at the success of the function, and hoped it would become an annual fixture.

Bro. WOODROW, in a few well-chosen words, proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and the company then repaired to the ball room, where the well-arranged programme of 18 dances was gone through, the company dispersing at three o'clock after spending a most enjoyable evening.

The following M.Cs. officiated: Bros. W. W. Rowe, J. W. Cooke, W. Toyn-ton, F. F. Reynoldson, and J. A. Soper. Amongst others present were Bros. W. B. Inder, W. Digby Owen, C. J. Wotten, C. T. Plucknett, G. W. Harvey, W. E. Beale, W. W. Wooder, J. Powell, J. Emary, and W. W. Rowe, jun., Messrs. T. W. Rowe, A. H. Rowland, T. Smith, Sage, H. Inder, and J. Inder, Masters Powell, Mrs. W. W. Rowe, Mrs. W. W. Rowe, jun., Mrs. T. W. Rowe, Mrs. W. Cooke, Mrs. W. Toyn-ton, Mrs. J. A. Soper, Mrs. R. C. Mason, Mrs. W. Digby Owen, Mrs. Bonner, Mrs. W. Inder, Mrs. H. Inder, Mrs. J. Inder, Mrs. Wotten, Mrs. Plucknett, Mrs. Woodrow, Miss Inder, Miss Ray, Miss E. Hodge, and Miss Powell.

OLD MASONIANS' CRICKET CLUB.

A most enjoyable evening was spent with the Old Masonians and their friends on Friday, the 8th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, the occasion being the first Bohemian concert given by the Cricket Club. The President, Bro. R. Harold Williams (an old Masonian) was in the chair.

Mr. J. H. Hewett opened the concert with a pianoforte solo—"The Geisha"—and the following ladies and gentlemen contributed to the programme: Bro. C. Patrick O'Doherty, who was in good form, sang "The storm fiend" and "Queen of the earth" with much effect. Miss Lottie Lewis sang "In the time of roses" and "The land of yesterday" in a most pleasing manner. Mr. G. N. Cook's humorous songs—"They're coming on again" and "My Diary" were much liked—and encores called for in both instances. Mr. H. W. Orchard (tenor) and Mr. S. Tinney (bass) were also very good in their respective songs. Miss Ethel O'Doherty was heard to advantage in "The gift" and "Thady O'Flynn." The hit of the evening was made by Mr. E. N. Proff, who recited in capital style "Me and Bill," "The house that Jack built," and gave a humorous rendering of "The charge of the Light Brigade." This gentleman's elocutionary powers were much appreciated and encores vociferously demanded. Mr. Harry Hawkes was also on the programme, but did not appear.

During the evening presentations were made to Messrs. R. McLeod and R. Norman for their valuable services in the cricket field last season.

The CHAIRMAN, after thanking the artists for their services, stated that the Old Masonians' Cricket Club had passed through a most successful season, and he hoped the club would continue to receive the hearty support of all old boys who took an interest in the great national game.

After a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, the concert terminated.

OPENING OF A NEW MASONIC HALL AT LYME REGIS.

The brethren of the Montagu Lodge, No. 665, were peculiarly happy in electing to hold their first meeting for this year in a new hall at Lyme Regis. The late Bro. J. M. P. Montagu, P.D.P.G.M. for Dorset, founded a lodge to bear his name in the town as early as the 26th February, 1856, and hitherto its rendezvous has been located at the Royal Lion Hotel. Although dignified by the title "Masonic Hall," the room in which the brethren prosecuted their labours was not exclusively the property of No. 665. For years past it has been felt, then, that a less commodious, yet more comfortable, meeting-place was desirable. Moreover, the Provincial Grand Master, it was clearly known, was averse to the members meeting at an hotel.

In 1890 an opulent brother came forward as a candidate for Freemasonry. Impressed with the dignity of the ceremonies, and realising the cheerlessness and practical publicity of the lodge-room, this worthy patron—Bro. T. E. D. Philpot, then Mayor of the ancient borough—resolved on building a hall worthy the name and in keeping with the decorum of an ancient ritual. A suitable site was easily available close by the old lodge, conveniently excluded from the main thoroughfare, and most pleasantly situated on an eminence looking direct south over a fine stretch of the English Channel from Portland Light to Start Point. Midway about in this bend of picturesque coast, founded on a bed of famous blue lias, rises the new Montagu Hall. Mr. Vials, A.R.I.B.A., was the architect engaged, and Bro. H. Randall the builder.

On "holy ground," due "east and west," extends the main building. Entering on the S.W. corner by a porchway, one looks into a lodge room, 48 ft. long, by 21 ft. broad. At the east end beyond a proscenium projects a spacious apse. An elliptic roof, constructed with trussed principals, moulded and panelled throughout, with lower members finished in pitch pine, rises from a cornice on either side, and spans the main hall. The foot of each truss—eight in all—forms a block for an incandescent burner. Twenty double pilasters, reeded and tastefully moulded, having caps and bases with cantilevers to roof, form substantial side supports. The front of the proscenium is formed by a massive entablature and moulded pilasters, leaving a semi-elliptic pre-entment for future decoration and the sacred sign. Two large lanterns with ceiling lights, glazed in muffled glass, and leaving a margin for ventilation open into the roof. Looking south, face five windows

with leaded lights of obscured cathedral glass. Round the entire hall runs a warm dado of pitch pine, four feet high, with moulded capping. The fire places comprise slow combustion grates of the "teale" pattern, having glazed brick borders with black marble curbs. Between pine and marble rise arches of Ham Hill stone to support massive overmantles of the same kind of wood, stuccoed panels, in light blue, fill in the remaining wall-surface. The pronounced groinings of the entrance doors are extremely effective. In keeping with the other woodwork, the floors are laid in pitch pine blocks of the herring-bone pattern. A door in the N.W. corner opens into an ante-room, 15 ft. by 10 ft., having a lantern roof also, and abutting, an office and store-room. The walls are hollow-built of brick, exteriorly rough-cast, with slate roof.

Bro. Philpot has been generous enough to lease the hall to the brethren for 21 years, at the nominal rental of £5 a year only. Thus it will be seen that the brethren of No. 665 are peculiarly fortunate in securing one of the nicest halls in the province on extremely easy terms. The Provincial Grand Master ruled that a consecration was unnecessary, inasmuch as a lodge for Lyme Regis had already been consecrated, hence only official sanction to the removal was needed. This obtained the Worshipful Master and officers settled on a short dedication office as a fitting mode of opening the new building.

On the evening of the 11th inst., Bro. Kerbey, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, as D.C., organized the following procession, viz., Bro. J. L. Rumsey, P.P.G. Org., at the organ, playing the "March of the Israelites," the members of the lodge *juniores priores*, Bros. C. E. Smith, I.G.; H. Randall, S.D.; J. Beer, J.D.; R. C. Radford, Sec.; J. Radford, P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; Rev. R. Hill, Chap.; H. R. Morgan, J.W.; W. H. Wilson, S.W.; E. H. Wallis, I.P.M.; S. S. Hasluck, W.M., P.M. 18; Oakley, P.P.G. Std. Br. Devon, 1181; G. Bailey Toms, 1181; F. E. Yapp, 1181; W. H. Shephard, and G. Legg, Tyler. Having proceeded three times round the lodge the brethren took their respective places, and the W.M. proved the brethren. The National Anthem (Masonic version) was next loyally and heartily sung. Then the brethren were ordered to turn to the E. for the benefit of the dedicatory prayer offered by the CHAPLAIN as follows:

"Let us invoke a blessing from the G.A.O.T.U. upon the building to be set apart for the teaching and labours of Freemasonry. Here may we meet upon the level of equality, in perfect brotherhood, in trusting belief in the Most High for the furtherance of morality, benevolence, and common worship! As our lodge stands on holy ground, so may the Most High guide our feet in a straight path; as our lodge is supported by pillars of wisdom, strength, and beauty, so may our lives be enabled in the power of the Most High by the knowledge of the volume of the Sacred Law and mercy; and our actions properly squared, according to the principles of our Craft to the glory of God and in obedience to His precepts—High and Holy—So mote it be."

The W.M. then read the lesson taken from the V.O.T.S.L. (I. Kings, vii. 13 to end), after which Dr. Watt's hymn "O God our help in ages past," was sung.

The CHAPLAIN proceeded with the following oration, viz.: "Worshipful Master and Brethren, the building and consecration of another lodge fills the hearts of all true and accepted Masons with gratification and encouragement, and it reminds us of the building, completing, and dedicating of the Temple at Jerusalem by our Master. Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty were the great characteristics of His work—even as the Wisdom of God is infinite, His Strength omnipotent, and the Beauty of His presence and His handiwork eternal. Every building whether the material building of operative or stone masonry, or the moral and spiritual edification, which is the aim and object of speculative Freemasonry—every building reflects the care and knowledge and overruling Providence of God, who filleth all in all. Year after year and century after century men continue to look upwards for the mighty cause of all the marvellous story of human life and death, no less than for the significance of the great scenery of the Heavens and the succession of the seasons. Behind the orderly and sublime beauty of Nature, behind the intelligence and capacity and working powers of man, we worship and admire the omnipotence of the Most High—whose attributes and qualities are far in excess of those which are revealed in Man and Nature, and which are in course of continual evolution through Nature and Man. Therefore, we do well with all reverence and humility to express our gratitude to the G.A.O.T.U. for his favours already received, and for bringing to completion and perfection this new home of Masonry to the Honour and Glory of His name. To Him we ascribe the strength which has supported our efforts with men and materials and masterly workmanship in beautifying and adorning the building. And, lastly, let us learn the moral lessons which are taught so evidently by material things that he who runs may read them. By the help of the Most High, let us adjust the rectangular corners of our characters, so that we be not at cross purposes with our neighbours; let us bring rude matter into due form by subduing our evil tempers and fleshly lusts; let us try and prove and practise what is honest and honourable, and pure and temperate, and of good report; let our actions be properly squared with our principles and our principles brought to the level of the law of God: so in silence, by not talking of ourselves, in secrecy, the life being hid in God, and in the security of the faith and protection of the Most High, each esteeming his brother better than himself; let us raise within ourselves a building whose foundation is solid and whose masonry is sure, till we be raised to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever, where every one shall give account of himself to God."

The Masonic hymn, "Hail, Masonry divine," was next sung, after which the WORSHIPFUL MASTER gave a short address, urging the brethren to practise outside the lodge the ennobling precepts they are taught within it, and giving a concise *resumé* of the duties inculcated in the First Degree—principally "Trust in God" and "Charity." Let there be no opportunity for the least shadow of reproach on account of excess, but a real striving after happiness in showing sincere love for our fellow men.

An *apropos* poem by Leigh Hunt pointed an excellent moral to the Master's address.

The chanting of Psalm cxxxiii (without the Doxology), the Mosaic Benediction, and "All Gratitude to the Most High" brought a most impressive and reverent ceremony to an end.

Lodge was then opened and Mr. F. G. Greenham initiated by the Master, after which Bro. Kerbey gave the charge. Congratulations and interchanges of "Hearty good wishes" were proffered prior to retirement from labour to refreshment.

Bro. host Grove served up the usual Christmas supper, and a very pleasant hour was spent in fare, toast, song, and sentiment.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KIRBY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 263.

The annual meeting for the election of permanent officers and Committee for the year was held at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras, on Tuesday evening, the 12th inst. The members present were Bros. A. D. Kennaby, as W.M.; Martin Kennaby, S.W.; Oldham, J.W.; Jowett, S.D.; Jenkins, J.D.; Whitmore, I.G.; W. Baker, Sec.; Lewis and West, Preceptors; Humphries, Mills, Bennett, West, Watts, Clark, Reside, Hamel, Codina, F. W. Ward, Jeffery, Rankin, and MacCarthy.

The lodge having been opened in the First Degree, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. for the evening, Bro. A. D. Kennaby, then worked the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Mills acting as candidate. The lodge having been opened in the Second Degree, Bro. D. D. West, Preceptor, assumed the W.M.'s chair, and conducted the ceremony of installation in his well-known masterly manner, Bro. W. R. Bennett, acting as Master elect. The ceremony being concluded, and the lodge resumed in the First Degree, the permanent officers and members of the Committee for the year were appointed as follows: Committee—Bros. Henry Sadler, P.M., &c., Grand Tyler; M. B. Evans, S., Grand Steward; and W. R. Bennett, W.M. 1963. Treasurer—Bro. Henry S. Welcome, P.M. 3. Preceptors—Bros. Charles Lewis, P.M. 1706, 2508, Prov. J.G.D. Essex; and D. D. West, P.M. 108. Secretary—Bro. Baker, S.D. 2205.

It was announced that programmes of the work for the year would be issued to members within a few days.

The meetings are held every Tuesday evening throughout the year—in room No. 76, at the Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras (one of the most comfortable and convenient lodge rooms in London), and the work is conducted strictly on the lines of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, for which university of the Craft, the Kirby Lodge of Instruction is a good preparatory school.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Bro. J. H. Matthews, the President, in the chair. Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, Junior Vice-President, occupied their usual seats. Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; W. Lake, A.G. Sec.; G. S. Recknell; W. Dodd; and H. Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the Grand Secretary's department. The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master at the meeting of December last, to the amount of £735. There were 21 cases on the new list, qualified through lodges in the London District, and at Manchester, Port Louis, Norwich, Jersey, Cheltenham, Nottingham, Birkenhead, King's Lynn, Antigua, Buckhurst Hill, Wareham, Beckenham, Workington, Grand Lodge of New York, and Saugor. Out of this number, 17 petitioners were awarded the total sum of £480, one case was deferred, and three petitions were dismissed. Of the relieved petitioners, one was recommended to Grand Lodge for a grant of £75, seven were recommended to the Grand Master for £40 each, and two for £30 each. Six petitioners were awarded £10 each, and one petitioner received £5.

Obituary.

BRO. THE REV. J. SENIOR, LL.D., P.G. CHAP. ENG.

On the 7th instant there passed away, at his residence, 14, Trafalgar-square, Scarborough, in his 91st year, Bro. the Rev. Joseph Senior, LL.D., G. Chaplain of England 1861, the oldest holder of that distinguished office; the same year he was appointed Assistant Grand Sojourner. Bro. Dr. Senior was initiated in the Three Grand Principles Lodge, No. 208, Dewsbury, in 1836, to which lodge he subscribed 16 years, resigning in 1852. He served the office of W.M. for three years (by dispensation), viz., 1838-9, 1840. He was appointed Head Master of Batley Grammar School about this time, and joined Nelson of the Nile Lodge, No. 264, Batley, 1837; after subscribing 15 years, resigned in 1852. He became Vicar of the newly-formed parish of St. Mary's Wakefield, and joined the Wakefield Lodge, No. 495, in 1851, to which he subscribed up to the time of his death, 45 years. He held the appointment of evening lecturer at the parish church (now the Cathedral), Wakefield, and was for some years Vicar of Horton, in Ribblesdale. He took at one time a very active part in Freemasonry, and held many appointments and offices in the Craft and Royal Arch, viz., that of Prov. G. Chaplain in 1854, Prov. S.G. Warden in 1861, and Provincial Prior in 1866. He assisted in the formation of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee in 1860, of which he was Chairman in 1867. He was exalted in Wakefield Chapter, No. 495, in 1838, and was at the time of his decease a subscribing member. He joined the Three Grand Principles Chapter, No. 208, Dewsbury, in 1842, and served the office of M.E.Z. in 1844, and continued his membership of this chapter until his death. He assisted at the formation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire in 1858, and served the office of Prov. G.H. in 1859. He was interred in St. John's Burial Ground on the 11th inst.

BRO. LIEUT.-COL. H. SOMERVILLE BURNEY, P.G.D.

Very sincere regret will be felt throughout the Craft at the news of the death of Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. Somerville Burney, Past G. Deacon of England. The sad event occurred at Princes Mansions, Victoria-street, on the 17th inst., the deceased being at the time in the 79th year of his age. Bro. Burney was initiated while serving with his regiment (the 51st) in the East Indies, at Bangalore, on the 13th April, 1847, and was passed and raised in the Lodge of Perfect Unanimity, No. 150, Madras, in 1850. In 1857 he joined the Angel Lodge, No. 51, Colchester, and the same year took part in founding the United Lodge, No. 697, which meets in the same town. In 1859 he joined the Wellington Lodge, No. 784, Deal, and in 1863 was elected and installed its W.M. In 1875 he joined the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, which had been founded four years previously, and in 1876 was a founder of the Bayard Lodge, No. 1615. For these many and varied services he was honoured in 1880 with the collar of Junior Grand Deacon of England. In Royal Arch Masonry he took an equally active part. He was exalted in August, 1851, in the School of Plato Chapter, No. 150; was a founder in 1861 of the Wellington Chapter, No. 784, Deal, and accordingly filled the three Principals' chairs. Subsequently in 1876 he helped to found the Friends-in-Council Chapter, No. 1383, and was elected to the office of Treasurer, and in 1878, the Bayard Chapter, No. 1615, of which he occupied the chair of First Principal. In 1880 he was appointed G.S.B. in Supreme Grand Chapter. In the Order of the Temple, he was a Past E.P., a Past Knight Commander, and Past Prov. G. Commander; in the Ancient and Accepted Rite he was perfected Rose Croix, at Manchester, in 1856, took the 30° in 1860, and the 33° in 1879, and at the time of his death was G. Marshal of the Supreme Council, having previously served as Inspector General of the E.C. district, and G. Director of Ceremonies. He was a founder and a first M.W.S. of the Bayard Rose Croix Chapter, and a founder of the Studholme Chapter of the same Degree, while in the Mark Degree, in which he was a founder of the Studholme Lodge, No. 197, he was a P.M., and a Past G. Officer of Grand Lodge. He had also rendered many important services to our Charitable Institutions, of which he was a generous supporter, both by his personal contributions and the sums he raised for them as Steward. We tender our respectful sympathy to his family and many friends both in and out of Masonry.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The Masonic Hall in Golden-square was the scene of a brilliant gathering of our most distinguished brethren on Wednesday evening, when the Studholme Lodge, No. 1591, celebrated the 21st anniversary of its constitution, and Bro. the Right Hon. Walter Hume Long, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, Past S.G. Deacon of England, was installed in the chair of W.M., the ceremony being performed by Bro.

the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom (Lord Chamberlain), Pro G. Master. Amongst those present were Bros. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), P.G.W.; Lord Balfour of Burleigh (Secretary for Scotland), P.G.W.; the Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, M.P. (Secretary of State for India), P.G.W., Prov. G. Master of Middlesex; the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P. (Chancellor of the Exchequer), P.G.W., Prov. G. Master of Gloucestershire; the Right Hon. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P. (Secretary of State for the Home Department), Prov. G. Master of Northumberland; and the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, M.P. (H.M.'s. First Commissioner of Works), P.G.W.; who are all of them colleagues of Bro. Long in the Cabinet of Lord Salisbury; and the following ex-Cabinet Ministers, namely, Bro. Lord Herschell (who was Lord Chancellor under Mr. Gladstone and the Earl of Rosebery), P.G.W., and the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, M.P. (Secretary for Ireland in a former administration of Lord Salisbury), Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire.

In addition, there were also present Bros. the Right Hon. W. C. Gully, Q.C., M.P. (Speaker of the House of Commons), the Earl of Yarborough, P.G.W., Prov. G. Master of Lincolnshire; the Earl of Essex, the Earl of Portarlington, the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of Northants and Hunts; Viscount Dungarvan, Prov. G. Master of Somersetshire; Lord Amptill, Prov. G. Master of Bedfordshire; Lord Skelmersdale, P.G.W.; Lord Charles Montagu, Lord Addington, Prov. G. Master of Buckinghamshire; Lord Herbert Vane-Tempest, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight; and others. Such a gathering at the installation meeting of a private lodge is very exceptional and Bro. Long is to be congratulated on having had such a number of the most prominent Masons of England to witness his induction into the chair of K.S.

Two new lodges were added to the roll of the London district 1st week. On Monday, the 11th inst., the Byfield Lodge, No. 2632, was consecrated, with Bro. James Boulton, G.P., as its first W.M.; while on Saturday last the Guardian Lodge, No. 2625, the membership of which it is intended to restrict to those officially engaged in the administration of Poor Law relief in the City of London, was ushered into existence, with Bro. Tollworthy as its first presiding officer. Both lodges started on their career under the most encouraging auspices, and both have our best wishes for their future success.

The Annual General Meeting of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., when the report of the Finance and Audit Committee will be presented, the officers and members of the General Committee elected for the ensuing year, and the other business proper to such a meeting disposed of.

The report of the Finance and Audit Committee is an eminently satisfactory one. Of course, any comparison with the year 1895, when the first great Festival was held in behalf of the Institution and the sum of £4413 raised in donations and subscriptions, is out of the question. Yet the Returns of 1896 compare very favourably with those of any previous year. The donations, &c., from individual brethren and lodges, chapters, and other Masonic bodies amounted to £1354 9s. 9d., or £21 8s. 4d. more than was received in 1894. On the other hand, the disbursements in relief, for educational purposes, and in annuities amounted to £892 11s., or nearly £150 more than in 1895. There was also invested in mortgage at three per cent. on the Manchester Masonic Hall the sum of £5000, by which the total of investments belonging to the Institution was increased to £18,755 14s. 5d. The number of children to whom grants for educational purposes were made during the year was 29, and there are seven annuitants on the Fund, each receiving the sum of £26 per annum.

From the Treasurer's Statement of Account we learn that, including the large sum of £4837 6s. 8d. in hand on the 1st January from previous account, the receipts reached £6713 3s. 3d., including Donations and Subscriptions, as already stated in the previous Note, and £506 16s. 4d. interest on investments. The Disbursements for relief amounted to £454 14s. 6d., for educational purposes to £265 16s. 6d., and for annuities to £182. The establishment charges, including Bank Interest and Commission, amounted to

£148 10s. 10d., and £5000, as before stated, was invested on mortgage, while £210 was subscribed to the Central Masonic Institutions, one-half of it being assigned to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the other apportioned equally between the two Schools. The Balance in hand and at bank on 31st December last amounted to £441 11s. 5d. We congratulate the Institution on this very satisfactory account, and trust that future annual accounts may never be less satisfactory.

We learn from the *Australasian Keystone*, that the Masters and Wardens' Association, held its regular monthly meeting at Freemason's Hall, Melbourne, on the 16th November last, when a recommendation that a warrant should be applied for to open a lodge of instruction in connection with the Association was held over to the following meeting, in order that the proposal might be inserted on the agenda paper and members attend prepared to discuss the matter fully. A paper was then read and discussed on "The Opening and Closing of Lodges in the Three Degrees," that is so far as the reading and discussion could be carried, the First Degree ceremonies only being completely dealt with, while the discussion on those of the Second Degree was adjourned till the next meeting.

On the same authority we learn that the Lord Brassey Lodge, No. 180 (V.R.), was consecrated at Bair's Hotel, Leongatha, on the 18th November last. There was a very large attendance of the brethren and the ceremony of consecration was performed by Bro. Geo. Baker, Dep. G. Master, the oration on the Nature and Principles of the Institution by the G. Chaplain—Bro. the Rev. E. W. Rodda—being described as most eloquent. On the completion of the ceremony Bro. John Jeffrey was installed as the first W. Master. The customary banquet followed, after which the toast list was gone through, that of "Prosperity to the New Lodge" being drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

According to a communication received from a correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette*, there has recently died at Tramore, County Waterford, a Mr William Congreve Rogers, who was a centenarian, and who, though he would never tell his age, is reputed to have been from 105 to 110 years. He is said to have been a member of our Society, and also of the Society of Friendly Brothers for over 80 years. Our contemporary was informed that Bro. Rogers retained his faculties to the last, and had never been known to suffer from any ailment. He is said to have died at last for lack of further vitality.

When will those of our American Grand Lodges which are rabidly intemperate in their crusade against intemperance learn to understand that what is sanctioned by the laws of this country cannot be opposed to the laws of Masonry. Those who are engaged in the liquor trade in the United States are so engaged with the full sanction of the law, and therefore it cannot be an offence against Masonry either to sell or buy, any more than it is to consume, alcoholic liquors. The members of a lodge may agree among themselves not to elect a candidate for initiation or joining who is engaged in the liquor traffic, just as they may agree not to accept as fellow members candidates who are lawyers, doctors, bootmakers, butchers, &c. But it is distinctly *ultra vires* on the part of any lodge to go about denouncing what the law sanctions. It is the duty of Masons, as citizens of the United States—which they do not cease to be when they become Masons—to obey and respect the laws of their country. Moreover to condemn the liquor traffic and liquor consumers in this fashion is to condemn the great bulk of the Craft, who use God's gifts temperately, not abuse them.

But, though all this must be patent to every man of common sense, we find the Grand Lodge of Wyoming at its communication in September last, adopting the following: "It shall be, and is hereby made the imperative duty of lodges in this jurisdiction to sustain as far as possible the course of intemperance and hereafter no subordinate lodge shall admit by initiation or affiliation any person engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicants. Engaging in such business hereafter by any brother shall be considered a Masonic offence, and if after trial he be found guilty of the charges he shall be suspended or expelled, as the case may require, and for the faithful performance of this duty each lodge shall be held accountable to the Grand Lodge. Provided, that the above provisions shall not be deemed to apply to persons who are regularly engaged in the business of druggist and inn-keepers, nor to dealers in liquors used exclusively in the arts and sciences." We yield to none in our admiration for the virtue of temperance and in our desire to see its principles universally adopted. But only evil will follow to the Craft if Grand Lodges thus insist on placing the laws of Masonry above the laws of the land.

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.

BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In your issue of Saturday last I observe a report of a meeting of the Committee of Management of this Institution. Amongst other things, I see that Bro. Saunders states that a boy from Manchester, after having been educated at our Schools as a gentleman, on his return "looked down upon his brothers and sisters." Will Bro. Saunders kindly give the name of that boy? as I have been connected with the Charity Committee of the Province of East Lancashire for the last 25 years, and have never heard a single word of such a case.

I am afraid this is on a par with the other rubbish which is so frequently talked about taking a boy from a family and educating him well while the rest of the family are allowed to live in the gutter. Whenever I hear anyone make this remark I invariably ask whether the brother making it has ever known of such a case, but up to the present I have not been able to find one.—I am, yours fraternally,

MANCUNUM.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1093]

CORRECTION.

PROVINCE OF MIDDLESEX.

I was in error, much to my regret, in quoting the number of members in the Province of *Middlesex*, owing to my misunderstanding the Table. The correct figures are as follow: There are 42 lodges in the province, the returns for 1896 exhibiting a total of 1416 members, being an average of nearly 34 to each lodge, and the largest number yet recorded for Middlesex. When the province was formed there were only about a dozen lodges, and as that event occurred as recently as 1870, it will be seen how rapidly the numbers have increased and how prosperous the Provincial Grand Lodge is under the present régime. From the start the brethren in Middlesex have been blessed with zealous and capable rulers, indefatigable Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, and Provincial Grand Secretaries. The notes appended to the Calendar, so ably edited by Bro. Howard H. Room, Prov. G. Sec., &c., should not only be studied by the members of the province, but are deserving of being reproduced in other similar publications for the information of officers of lodges generally.

W. J. HUGHAN.

Reviews.

(Continued from p. 32.)

"MOTHER LODGE KILWINNING.—The Ancient Lodge of Scotland." Discussion of an Old Historical Question. By Rev. William Lee Ker, M.A., Minister of Kilwinning, Author of "Kilwinning Abbey," &c. Alexander Gardner, Publisher to her Majesty the Queen, Paisley; and 26, Paternoster-square, London. 1896.—We concluded the first part of our review of this work by expressing our opinion that the peculiar expression in the opening paragraph of William Schaw's Statutes of 1599—"the heid and second Lodge of Scotland," as applied to the Lodge of Kilwinning, must be interpreted to mean that it was, at one and the same time, "the heid" lodge "within the boundis," set forth in the opening lines of the said paragraph, and the "second lodge" in the whole of Scotland. In this opinion we are confirmed by the further statements respecting the Lodge of Kilwinning which are contained in these Statutes. Thus in the second paragraph, which begins "it is thocht neidfull and expedient by my lord warden generall that every lodge within Scotland sall have in tyme cuming the auld and antient liberties therof vsit and wont of befor," it is added "and in speciall, that the lodge of Kilwinning second lodge of Scotland, sall haif thair warden present at the election of the wardenis within the boundis of the Nether Ward of Cliddisdail, Glasgow, Air, and boundis of Carrick; with power to the said warden and deken of Kilwinning to convene the remanent wardenis and dekenis within the boundis fairsaid quhan thay haf any neid of importance ado, & thay to be judgit be the warden and deken of Kilwinning quhen it sell pleis thame to convene for the tyme, either in Kilwinning, or within any other part of the west of Scotland and boundis fairsaid." Here, then, we have it laid down that the "Lodge of Kilwinning," notwithstanding it is declared to be only the "second lodge of Scotland" shall exercise a certain supremacy over the lodges within certain well-defined "boundis." The third paragraph still more clearly defines the position of the lodge of Kilwinning on what we now speak of as the roll or register of lodges in Scotland, for in it we are told "it is thocht neidfull and expedient be my lord warden generall that Edinburgh sall be in all tyme cuming, as of befor, the first and principall lodge in Scotland, and that Kilwinning be the second lodge, as of befor is notourlie manifest in our auld antient writtis, and that Sirueling sall be the thrid lodge, conforme to the auld privileiges thairof." Taking these three paragraphs together we deduce from them the following position:—(1) Edinburgh shall be "in all tyme cuming, as of befor, the first and principall lodge in Scotland; (2) that the Lodge of Kilwinning shall be "the second lodge, as of befor, is notourlie manifest in our auld antient writtis;" and (3) the Lodge of Kilwinning, notwithstanding that it is only the "second lodge of Scotland," shall exercise supremacy over the lodges "within the boundis of the Nether Ward of Cliddisdail, Glasgow, Air, and boundis of Carrick." Here, at all events, to use Bro. Ker's own expression, which we quoted last week, "there is no forcing of the language of Schaw. There is no twisting of it. It is simply making him look on and speak of Kilwinning Lodge in the aspect in which, as we believe, he felt himself forced to regard it." Though Edinburgh was "the first and principall lodge in Scotland" and Kilwinning only "the second lodge," yet the latter was to possess and exercise certain powers and prerogatives over the lodges in a certain district of Scotland, which powers and prerogatives would, in the natural order of things, belong to and be exercised by "the first and principall lodge in Scotland." And to use a further expression of Bro. Ker, we say "Adopt this solution, and then the Statutes present no difficulty. Set it aside, and there is nothing but guesses, suppositions, and doubts respecting the most important historical references in them." So far, indeed, are we from thinking, as Bro. Ker evidently thinks, that Schaw looked upon the Lodge of Kilwinning as having been "the heid" lodge of Scotland in the past and had resolved that in the future it was to be only the "second" lodge, that we consider he (Schaw) both recognises and allows the supremacy of Edinburgh "in all tyme cuming, as of befor," as "the first and principall lodge in Scotland," and this he does the very moment after he has conferred new powers upon Kilwinning. In our opinion it is hardly possible for Schaw to have defined the positions of Edinburgh and Kilwinning towards each other more clearly and precisely, and the reason why the latter figures so prominently in these statutes is that it had been "thocht neidfull and expedient" that within the "boundis" of which it was "the heid" lodge it was to have and exercise certain new powers which it had not had or exercised "as of befor." At the same time it was not "thocht neidfull and expedient" that the

conferring of those new powers should be allowed to disturb the pre-existing order of priority of these two lodges. We say "pre-existing," because we attach the greatest importance to the introduction of the words "of befor" or "as of befor;" nor do we think it necessary to go out of our way to prescribe a time limit to which it may be held to apply. Bro. Ker tells us, indeed, that "none of the Masonic historians place much importance" on the phrase, and assuming his statement is correct, we can only say that in this particular we differ from them. Omit it, or attach to it no importance, and we have the order of seniority of these two lodges determined prospectively without any reference to what it may have been in the past. It becomes, indeed, a matter of absolute indifference what that order may have been, that is to say, whether Kilwinning was the first, and Edinburgh the second, or Edinburgh was the first, and Kilwinning second. But Schaw does not take upon himself to settle this question of precedence as between the two lodges in this summary fashion. On the contrary, he justifies the settlement for the future by declaring it to be in strict accordance with the pre-existing order, though, how long such order had pre-existed it is not in the power of anyone of us to determine, and possibly even Schaw himself could not have done so. As regards the Edinburgh lodge, he declares it to be "neidfull and expedient" that it "sall be in all tyme cuming, as of befor, the first and principall lodge in Scotland," while as regards that of Kilwinning, he says it shall be "the second lodge, as of befor is notourlie manifest in our auld antient writtis." This is the justification he goes out of his way to furnish in his third paragraph, and we quote another of Bro. Ker's expressions, though not in the sense in which he applies it, that "Schaw is speaking retrospectively as well as prospectively, but his dicta, both retrospective and prospective are precisely to the same effect, namely, that Edinburgh was to remain "in all tyme cuming as of befor the first and principall lodge in Scotland," and Kilwinning "as of befor is notourlie manifest in our auld antient writtis" the second. As regards any claims to priority which may have been made by the Lodge of Kilwinning itself—as when in 1643 she styled herself "the ancient lodge of Scotland"—or in her behalf, it will need something more than the series of vain imaginings which form the staple of Bro. Ker's vindication to disturb the dictum of William Schaw in his Statutes of 1599 as to the priority of Edinburgh over Kilwinning. Doubtless, Bro. Ker is a Past Master in the art of special pleading, and as an illustration of what an able man may do in the presence of insuperable difficulties, his book is interesting and even instructive. But it will not do even for so able a writer as he to settle down and determine now what was in the mind of a Masonic lawgiver when he was compiling his Statutes three hundred years ago. There are many who will accept Bro. Ker's ingenious theories, because there are many who believe in the "heidship" of Mother Kilwinning; but it is not the partisan to whom we must look for a decisive judgment on a question of this grave importance, but rather the man of strictly unbiased judgment, who, after the manner of a judge in one of our courts of law, will pass by without the slightest comment the eloquent appeals of opposing advocates in behalf of their respective clients, and confine himself to a minute and careful examination of the value of every tittle of evidence that has been brought to his notice. And what man is there among those to whom it is a matter of complete indifference whether in this particular case it is Edinburgh or Kilwinning which emerges triumphant from the trial, who will not affirm that the statements contained in the Schaw Statutes of 1599 establish indubitably the priority of Edinburgh over Kilwinning, not only at the time when these Statutes were compiled but "of befor" likewise. Bro. Ker argues that Schaw was making a new departure when he arranged the order of precedence of these two lodges in these Statutes. Says he—as we have before quoted—"Schaw in speaking retrospectively as well as prospectively of the Lodge of Kilwinning, speaking of it, that is, as the head lodge in the past and what he wishes it to be, viz., the second lodge of the future." All it is necessary for us to do in replying to this assertion is to call attention to the third paragraph of the Statutes in which the expression "as of befor" is introduced in connection with both the Edinburgh and Kilwinning lodges. How far back this "as of befor" may be understood to extend it is impossible—nor indeed is it necessary—for any one to say or even to guess. Schaw cannot, or does not, of his own knowledge speak more definitely, but he declares the precedence of Edinburgh over Kilwinning to have existed in the past and he considers it "neidfull and expedient" that it shall continue to exist in the future. Then Bro. Ker points out, as Bro. Gould, whom he quotes, had previously pointed out, that these 1599 Statutes "were arranged especially for the old Lodge of Kilwinning, Ayrshire," and he offers "two reasons which must naturally suggest themselves," namely—(1) "because it was the head lodge of Scotland;" and (2) "because there was an attempt to be made to limit its jurisdiction and lessen its authority." To this we reply as regards the first reason that Schaw distinctly declares in the third paragraph that Edinburgh was at the time of his writing and had been for some undefined period previously "the first and principall lodge in Scotland;" and as regards the second, that it was because special powers and prerogatives were being conferred upon the lodge of Kilwinning as "the heid" lodge in a certain district under these statutes that it absorbs nearly the whole of his attention as their compiler. But it is not necessary that we should prolong this argument. Had Bro. Ker taken as great pains, and exhibited as much ingenuity in trying to interpret Schaw's Statutes of 1599 in their natural sense, that is, in the only sense which their language will bear, after a careful consideration of the more important passages, we should, doubtless, have had a scholarly vindication of Mother Kilwinning's claims to distinction as one of the most ancient and most respected of our Scottish lodges, in place of an elaborate array of grotesque theories which, to the earnest student of the more remote history of our Order, must be both amazing and amusing. There are some further comments which we desire to make on the acts of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1736 and 1807 in respect of the Lodge of Kilwinning, but these must be reserved for a third and concluding part, which will appear in our next week's issue.

(To be continued).

"MASONIC CALENDAR OF LODGES, COUNCILS, &c., meeting at Mark Masons' Hall, and Roll of Grand Officers from 1856, &c., &c. Published by authority of the General Board, 1897."—This able and most interesting, as well as very accurate, Mark Annual is edited by Bro. C. F. Matier, the esteemed Mark Grand Secretary, who is noted for the excellence and thoroughness of his work, whether editorial, ritualistic, or official. The labour of compilation must have been considerable, and yet, with all the numerous figures, details, and names, so far as we have tested the particulars, all the many items are exact, well arranged, and most complete. This welcome and most useful publication is in its 12th year of issue, and is sold at sixpence per copy, so it is a veritable *multum in parvo*. Every Mark lodge as well as each of the Present and Past Grand Officers should secure copies whilst the limited edition is on sale, for it is quite indispensable for those who wish authoritative and reliable information as to the Mark Grand Lodge.

"REPRINT OF THE MINUTES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF PENNSYLVANIA. Compiled by Joshua L. Lyte. Vol. II., 1801 to 1810. Philadelphia, 1896."—There are seven members who form the Committee on Library, under whose direction this great volume of over 500 pages has been compiled, the Chairman being Dr. Edward S. Wyckoff, the others being Bros. Highley, Hall, Rambo, Packer, and Francis. Each volume is complete in itself, and a marvel for the insignificant sum of one dollar. Copies may be had from the Grand Secretary or any of the Committee, Masonic Temple, Philadelphia, U.S.A., for 5s. post free to this country, and it is to be hoped that not a few libraries in England will soon contain copies of both volumes, for the sum is made so low as to encourage a very large sale. The frontispiece to this time is the old Pennsylvania Freemasons' Hall, 1801—1811, which is in striking contrast to the magnificent building of the present day, devoted exclusively to the Craft and the finest of the kind in the world. These old records are very curious, and full of interest to all students, and the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and especially the Library Committee deserve the heartfelt thanks of the Fraternity, far and wide, for producing such a fine volume for the information of brethren in the United States and abroad.

A COMPLIMENTARY dinner was given by the members of the Northern Circuit at the Hotel Metropole on Saturday evening last, to Mr. McConnell, in celebration of his recent appointment to the Chairmanship of the Quarter Sessions of the County of London. Bro. S. Pope, Q.C., Leader of the Circuit, occupied the chair, and among the other leading guests present were the Lord Chief Justice (Lord Russell of Killowen), the Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons (Bro. W. C. Gully, Q.C., M.P.), Bro. Justice Bruce, Bro. Loveland Loveland, Deputy Chairman, and Bro. Tomlinson, M.P.

Craft Masonry.

Scientific Lodge, No. 88.

The installation festival of this old lodge, which was consecrated in 1754, was held at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on Monday, the 11th inst., and was largely attended, about 80 brethren being present. These included Bro. Rev. J. H. Gray, Deputy Prov. G. Master; Bro. W. A. Scurrah, Grand Std. Br. England, and the following Past and Present Masters—Bros. A. E. Chaplin, W.M., B. Chennell, T. Hunnybun, T. Nichols, O. Papworth, J. V. Pryor, W. Purchas, F. Piggott, W. P. Spalding, C. H. Banham, J. L. Rutter, Mullett, and Hazeldine, all of the lodge; F. W. Potts, W.M., J. Vail, J. S. Youngman, F. Dewberry, J. Sheldrick, T. Watts, J. Catling, E. W. Harry, and W. R. Roper, all of 441; B. Anningson, 859; W. H. Francis, 859; and J. Turner, W.M. 2107. Twenty-eight of the above attended the Board of Installed Masters. The ceremony of installing Bro. William Sindall was very ably performed by the out-going W.M., Bro. A. E. Chaplin, to whom the lodge then voted a Past Master's jewel. The charges were then delivered by Bro. Benj. Chennell, the senior P.M. Bro. F. Piggott, P.M., discharged the duties of D.C. In presenting the Past Master, the D.P.G.M. congratulated Bro. A. E. Chaplin on his work in the province and in lodge. Bro. Chaplin, in thanking the brethren, said that beautiful jewel, together with the scroll they had previously given him as a memento of five years' work as Secretary would ever remind him of the kindness he had received and the friendships he had made and cemented in the lodge. The officers for the year are as follows: Bros. W. Sindall, P.P.G. S. of Wks., W.M.; A. E. Chaplin, P.P.G.S.B., I.P.M.; J. H. Moyes, P.G.S.B., S.W.; H. S. Davison, P.P.G. Stwd., J.W.; J. Bester, P.G. Purs., Chap.; B. W. Beales, jun., P.P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; Major Oliver Papworth, P.M., P.P. S.G.W., P.G.S., Sec.; F. J. Moden, P.G. Stwd., S.D.; W. James, J.D.; Frank Piggott, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., D.C.; C. F. Charlton, P.P.G. Stwd., Std. Br.; J. Morley, Org.; Arthur R. Hill, I.G.; B. W. Beales, sen., P.P.G. Treas., Stwd.; and G. A. Allen, Tyler. Two candidates were balloted for and elected, and two others were nominated, as well as a joining member from the Antipodes. The Treasurer's account being found satisfactory, the Charities were thought of, and 10 guineas were voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on Bro. B. Chennell's list.

In connection with the banquet, an elegant menu was designed and executed by Bro. W. P. Spalding, which reminded visitors that the first W.M. of this venerable lodge was Bro. Z. Mart (1753), and that a centenary jewel was granted during the Grand Mastership of the Marquis of Ripon.

The usual toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, in responding for "The Grand Officers," (proposed by Bro. W. P. Spalding, P.M.), spoke of the arduous duties performed by Lord Lathom and Lord Amherst, and remarked that Grand Lodge was never better served by Executive Officers than at the present time. He expressed the pleasure which the admirable work he had seen in the lodge afforded him, and said it was a double pleasure to be there as the guest of his ardent co-worker in the management of the Boys' School, Bro. Papworth, their Secretary.

The Deputy Prov. Grand Master expressed regret at the unavoidable absence of his chief, and wished the W.M. of the lodge a happy and prosperous year of office. Bro. Sindall had been installed by men of repute in the province, Bros. Chaplain and Chennell, and he would find it no light matter to succeed so efficient a W.M. as Bro. Chaplin. Still, having superintended the works of the province, he ought to be equal, and doubtless would be equal, to his duties in lodge, and they all wished him success. The D.P.G.M. also took the opportunity to speak through the Wisbech brethren present to the Prov. Grand Superintendent of Works, and to express the hope that something was being done in certain parts of the county to form new lodges.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was received with great heartiness.

"The Masonic Charities" found a fervent advocate in Bro. J. V. Pryor, P.M., and the toast was ably acknowledged by Bros. W. A. Scurrah and O. Papworth.

Bro. F. Piggott, P.M., gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, which was acknowledged by Bros. Gilling, S.W. 809; W. H. Francis, P.M. 859; Rev. G. B. Finch, Prov. G.C.; J. Turner, W.M. 2107; and J. Royston, P.M. 441.

"The Health of the Officers of the Lodge" was given from the chair, and was duly acknowledged by the S.W., Bro. J. H. Moyes, whose father was such a tower of strength to the lodge, and served as D.P.G.M. for many years.

The harmony of the evening was considerably enhanced by some capital vocal efforts, in which Bros. O. Papworth, W. Purchas, E. M. Duncombe, T. Nichols, and W. H. Berridge took part.

Bedford Lodge, No. 157.

This lodge held its first regular meeting for the year on the 8th instant at Freemasons' Hall. In the ordinary course of events this should have been the installation day of a new Master, but the J.W., who was entitled to go on, elected to serve the final office of S.W. prior to his acceptance of that of W.M. No other brother below the Degree of P.M. being available, the brethren agreed amongst themselves to re-elect their present W.M., Bro. Henry W. Dyne, for a second term, and he, having signified his willingness to accept the office, was unanimously re-elected to fill that position once again. This is as it should be, as under his sway and guidance the old Bedford is showing wonderful signs of resuscitation. Its membership during the past 12 months has increased by 50 per cent., which, according to the oldest Past Master's (Bro. Briggs) knowledge, is a record. This in a measure may be said to have been brought about by the progressive spirit of the present Secretary, Bro. J. C. Main, P.M., who, observing the number of new lodges being formed and the rush made for the same, consulted with his brother P.M.s and the other members and pointed out the causes, also showing the effects upon the older lodges, and made certain propositions and carried them, so that it is now possible for a gentleman to be initiated or a brother join the old lodge on equal terms with the modern article. As before mentioned, the lodge duly re-instated its present W.M., and he appointed and invested as his officers: Bros. R. C. Cork, S.W.; J. R. Hill, J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., Treas.; J. C. Main, P.M., Sec.; Wm. Smith, S.D.; H. Rogers, J.D.; E. Cockerell, I.G.; S. J. Owers, D.C.; C. A. Dyne, A.D.C.; W. Larner, P.M.; and E. Dyne, Stewards; and E. Mallett, Tyler.

The lodge met at four o'clock p.m., on account of the heavy programme before it—three raisings, two passings, and four initiates—the Past Masters of the lodge, Bros. Burton, Jones, and Main, lending willing assistance, and were very worthily supported by Bros. Hill, S.D.; E. Cockerell, S.W. *pro tem.*; Sam Owers, and W. Smith, and very expeditiously the whole thing went—as a visitor afterwards observed that he never saw such unanimity and concord in his life before—the officers seeming to work in a wonderfully harmonious manner. The lodge presented the usual handsome Past Master's gold jewel to the W.M., per Bro. Richardson, I.P.M., who, in a few felicitous words, expressed the feelings of the lodge, and the W.M. replied with that good taste so proverbial of himself. Bro. Richardson, I.P.M., signified his intention to represent the lodge at the forthcoming Festival of the R.M.B.I., and was promised support from the lodge and also by its members individually.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern, where a very enjoyable banquet was presented.

The visitors were Bros. A. Sproat, P.M., Treas. 1327; J. H. Codling, 2572; H. B. Green, 1808; P. C. Walker, I.P.M. 2006; E. Morgan, 1288; C. Reeve, P.M. 816; H. Grimwade, 2601; F. Verley, P.M. 1260; G. S. Smith, 1185; F. Daw, 1949; and Wm. Graves, Org.

Some first-class music and singing was furnished by Bro. Harradine and cornet solos by a budding "Levy," which terminated a late, but pleasant, meeting.

Domestic Lodge, No. 177.

One of the most interesting and successful gatherings of this ancient lodge took place on the 8th instant, when a large number of brethren assembled at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet-street, to enjoy the goodly entertainment provided of excellent working and bountiful hospitality, and last, but not least, to congratulate the worthy Sec., Bro. T. Morris, in seeing his son, Bro. T. N. Morris, installed into the chair of K.S. that afternoon as W.M. of the lodge, and his grandson initiated. A reputation for a high standard of excellence in work ng creates a responsibility which some Masonic lodges might shrink from, but the visitors to the above-named lodge discovered that the determination of the W.M. and officers to maintain the character and prestige which this

ancient lodge has gained in the past has been amply justified, and the *personnel* of the officers leaves no room for doubt that for, at any rate, many years to come, there is no fear of falling off in point of excellence.

The lodge was opened in the presence of a numerous gathering of members and visitors, including the following: Bros. T. H. Hobbs, W.M.; W. S. Wigmore, I.P.M.; C. N. Morris, S.W.; W. S. Andrews, J.W.; James Stephens, P.J.G.W. Bucks, S.D.; T. Morris, Sec.; T. S. Smith, D.C.; John Anley, Treas. *pro tem.*; R. B. Hopkins, Org.; T. C. Edmonds, Tyler; W. Reece, J. Blades, Victor E. Gammon, R. E. Clarke, J. W. Sydney, J. Webster, W. Murrell, T. G. Newitt, P. S. Wallis, Fisher, G. Everett, H. J. Selby, W. S. Birch, Frank Williams, Jas. J. N. Morris, F. W. Archer, G. H. Bower, John Hart, J. M. Barker, W. S. Birch, P. S. Wallis, W. S. Wigmore, P.M.; W. J. Ferguson, P.M.; Harry Price, P.M.; Alfred Piper, P.M.; P. Pierpoint, P.M.; W. M. Foxcroft, P.M.; R. Salmon, P.M.; and Edward White, P.M. Visitors: Bros. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G. Std. Br., Sec. R.M.I. for Girls; A. S. Bennett, 44, P.P.S.G.D.; Herbert Black, P.M., P.G.D.C. Herts; A. G. Hayman, 2005, P.P. S.G.W.; W. Avery, 463; D. W. Sargent, W.M. 2305; John Lodge, 2308; Henry Morris, P.M. 1273; J. A. Harvey, P.M. 1314; W. Green, W.M. 2099; J. C. Hill, S.W. 1572; J. H. Payne, 733; Lewis Lake, 87; E. Hobbs, J.D. 2308; Fred. Defries, P.M. 2208; Geo. Palmer, D. W. S. Argent, W.M. 2305; W. Powell, W.M. 2206; J. T. Davis, W.M. 1348; V. Newell, Fred. K. Davis, 2426; Saunders, 2308; H. Denny, W.M. 1671; G. Palmer, 2467; Fleck, W.M.; W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572; W. Roght, P.M.; T. H. Mills, and others.

After the usual formal business of reading the minutes of the last general meeting, and the passing and raising of brethren, Bro. T. N. Morris, S.W., was presented to receive the benefits of installation, and was duly placed in the chair and invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. H. Hobbs, I.P.M.; W. S. Andrews, S.W.; James Stephens, P.J.G.W. Bucks, J.W.; George Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas., Treas.; Thomas Morris, Sec.; J. Anley, jun., S.D.; W. Hanes, J.D.; T. S. Smith, I.G.; R. B. Hopkins, Org.; P. S. Wallis, D.C.; F. G. Newell, A.D.C.; H. N. Price, P.M., and P. V. Newell, Stwds.; and T. C. Edmonds, Tyler. A ballot was then taken for four candidates and having proved in their favour, they were initiated in a masterly style by Bro. Morris. After "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *raucher* *à la* banquet, presided over by the W.M.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were most forcibly given and right loyally received.

The Worshipful Master then gave the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," at the same time expressing the pleasure he felt in having as a visitor Bro. Hedges, P.G. Std. Br., Sec. R.M.I. for Girls.

Bro. Hedges, in reply, thanked the W.M. and brethren of the Domestic Lodge for the splendid reception given him that evening as representing Grand Lodge.

In proposing the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. T. H. Hobbs, I.P.M., reminded the brethren that no member of the Domestic Lodge was more loved and respected than Bro. Thomas Morris, their worthy Secretary, whose son was now their W.M., and he, therefore, had the greatest possible pleasure in proposing the toast.

The W.M., in acknowledging the enthusiastic reception of his name, said he would do his best to carry out the duties of the chair in the efficient way hitherto done by his predecessors.

The toast of "The Initiates" was responded to by Bros. Morris, Trimmer, Williams, and Stringer, each of whom expressed a hope to become true and lawful brethren.

The W.M. next proposed "The Masonic Charities." He said he was glad to see the worthy Secretary of the Girls' School amongst them that evening. He intended to go up as Steward at the next Festival, and he hoped to be able to take up 100 guineas. He had, therefore, the privilege of calling upon Bro. Hedges to reply.

Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G., who was received with true Masonic "fire," said, on behalf of the three great Charities, they each required all the help it was possible to give them. As regards the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, there were 400 annuitants, and the sum to be distributed during the current year would be over £16,000. The Boys' School had 270 boys to look after, and many more were waiting to be elected. The Girls' School had 268 on the roll. At the last Cambridge Local Examination the whole of the 31 girls who were entered had been successful in passing—in several cases with honours and distinction. That was the fourth year in succession that all the candidates had satisfied the examiners. In music, also, all the candidates that were sent to the R.A.M. passed, and Dr. Martin, Organist of St. Paul's Cathedral, was so delighted, that he told the Matron that any recommendation they might require they were to refer to him. In conclusion, Bro. Hedges strongly advocated the claims of the Institution.

We have no doubt that Bro. Hedges's strong appeal to the brethren of the Domestic Lodge will receive their hearty support, and we may add that the esteemed Treasurer, Bro. George Everett, P.G. Treasurer, some time since proposed that the sum of 25 guineas from the lodge funds should be voted annually to one of the Masonic Charities. This year it will be devoted to the Girls' School.

In giving "The I.P.M. and Past Masters of the Lodge," Bro. Morris, the W.M., stated that Bro. Hobbs had proved himself a thorough Master; he had therefore very great pleasure in presenting him with a Past Master's jewel, and, on pinning it on his breast, said: May it ever remind you of your pleasant year of office as W.M. of the Domestic Lodge.

Bro. Hobbs, in reply, thanked the W.M. and brethren for the beautiful jewel, and anything he could do for the benefit of the lodge he would do so with the greatest pleasure.

Bro. Ferguson, P.M., stated that he was delighted to see Bro. Morris installed that afternoon. A son of a worthy father, he had no doubt whatever of his proving himself a unique Master.

Bros. Walford, P.M.; and Pierpoint, P.M., also responded in brief and happy terms.

The W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," remarked that it was a toast always received there in a cordial manner. They were honoured by the presence of a goodly number, and they were all welcome.

Bros. W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1573; Herbert Black, P.M., P.G.A.D.C. Herts; and Denny, W.M. 1671, responded.

"The Treasurer and Secretary and Officers of the Lodge" having been given and responded to, the Tyler's toast brought the successful meeting to a close.

This lodge is most ably conducted, and may congratulate itself upon possessing not only a Secretary who is devoted to his work and a Treasurer who guards its funds, but a W.M. who has the affection and respect of every member of the lodge, who know his worth and kindly disposition.

An excellent musical entertainment was carried out, in which the following took part: Miss Emily Foxcroft; Bro. James Stephens, P.J.G.W. Bucks; Mr. A. Davis; Bro. Wingrove Ives; Mr. Harry Hudson; Stuart Lane; and Bro. R. B. Hopkins, who has had the honour of performing by special command before her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family.

Lodge of Friendship, No. 206.

The installation meeting of this old-established lodge was held on Thursday, the 14th inst., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C., when there were present Bros. Kiver, W.M.; Bloxham, S.W.; Jones, J.W.; A. Jones, S.D.; Nissen, J.D.; S. Gammon, P.M., Treas.; A. R. Rumsey, P.M., Sec.; Clarke, I.G.; H. Wharton Wells, Org.; Arber, P.M.; Gowland, P.M.; Hamill, P.M.; Burgess, P.M.; Marquis, P.M.; Heron, P.M.; Kiver, P.M.; Count Norden, Bailey, Shearsmith, Dodd, Bateman, F. Dodd, Souther, and others. Among the numerous visitors were Bros. H. Whitney, W.M.; M. A. Krellwitz, P.M. 511; C. F. Pailthorpe, E. P. Luke, D. P. Holness, P.M.; and C. Evans, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Mr. C. E. Chatten was initiated, the ceremony being performed by Bro. E. Squirrel, P.M., in the temporary absence of the W.M. The installation of Bro. Edwin Birch Bloxham as W.M. was next proceeded with, Bro. Squirrel, P.M., acting as the Installing Master. The newly-installed Master then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. Kiver, I.P.M.; W. E. Jones, S.W.; A. H. Jones, J.W.; S. Gammon, P.M., Treas.; A. R. Rumsey, P.M., Sec.; J. L. Nissen, S.D.; R. F. Clarke, J.D.; G. C. Williams, I.G.; H. W. Wells, Org.; and G. A. Ball, Tyler.

After the banquet the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

In proposing the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Kiver, I.P.M., took the opportunity of observing that the lodge was fortunate in having selected for their Master for the ensuing 12 months, a brother who had evinced so warm an interest not only in the work

of the Lodge of Friendship, but in the Craft generally. Bro. Bloxham, he added, could be depended upon to discharge the duties that might devolve upon him during his tenure of the chair with zeal and assiduity, and had spared no pains to perfect himself in the ceremonial ritual as well as in section working, at which he was an adept. He wished Bro. Bloxham a very happy and busy year of office, and hoped the brethren would loyally support him throughout.

Bro. E. B. Bloxham, W.M., in reply, expressed his great pleasure and gratification in having attained what he regarded as a very proud position indeed—the Mastership of his mother lodge. He highly appreciated the very flattering remarks that had fallen from his worthy predecessor, and assured the brethren that he would spare no efforts in carrying out the duties of his office to the best of his ability.

"The Health of the Initiate, Bro. Chatten," was received very cordially, and he responded to the toast in a graceful speech.

The toast of "The Visitors" was then proposed by the W.M., who said he was delighted to welcome, on behalf of the lodge, so many of their friends. It was by no means unusual to see a goodly number of visitors at the Lodge of Friendship, and he hoped that those brethren who had been present that evening would carry away none but the most pleasant recollections of their visit.

The names of Bros. D. P. Holmes, P.M., and C. Evans, P.M., were coupled with the toast, and both responded briefly, but in cordial terms, the former mentioning incidentally that, having known the W.M. (Bro. Bloxham) for upwards of 40 years, it was indeed most pleasing to him to be present on the auspicious occasion of his taking the chair of Master for the first time.

Other toasts having followed, the proceedings were brought to a termination by the Tyler's toast.

The musical arrangements of the evening were conducted by Bro. H. Wharton Wells, who was ably assisted by Bros. Gurney Russell, Arthur Wilson, W. L. Freeman, J. Orner, R. Clark, and Mr. Frank Percival (ventriloquist).

Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1599.

The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, on the 14th inst., under the presidency of Bro. E. J. Wickenden, W.M., supported by Bros. F. W. Horn, S.W.; H. Pierce, J.W.; A. J. Shotton, P.M., Treas.; George Laker, P.M., Sec.; Ernest Cove, S.D.; W. Callingham, J.D.; C. W. Hall, I.G.; E. Stuart Lane, Org.; Fred. Lewis, P.M.; Enos Howes, P.M.; C. H. A. Harris, P.M.; A. W. Diamond, H. S. East, Thos. Ogden, Percy Callingham, H. Williams Mellor, A. Feaviour, S. G. Woods, G. A. Keen, F. Cundall, F. R. Callingham, J. T. Smith, W. Mokler, and J. Rawles, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Jno. Simpson, 177, and R. T. West, 1744.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, after which the W.M. passed Bros. Percy Callingham, A. Feaviour, and T. Ogden to the Second Degree. The excellent working of Bro. Wickenden deserves the highest praise, and it has seldom fallen to our lot to witness a more perfect rendering of the ritual.

Before closing the lodge, the W.M. referred to Bro. S. G. Wood—who had been abroad for several years—and said they were all delighted to see him again in the lodge and, on behalf of the members, he tendered him the right hand of fellowship with all good wishes, which Bro. Woods acknowledged in a few appropriate words.

A substantial supper followed, which gave great credit to the establishment, and was well-served under the superintendence of the manager, Bro. E. Ashby.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been honoured,

Bro. Enos Howes, P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M., Bro. Wickenden," and said his excellent work that evening redounded to his credit and to the lodge, and while he was in the chair it would lose none of its lustre. The candidates who were initiated at the last meeting were fortunate in having such a good Master, as there was not the slightest doubt that he was one of the very best in the annals of the lodge.

Bro. E. J. Wickenden, W.M., on rising to respond had a very hearty welcome. He said that Bro. Enos Howes had exaggerated his small abilities, but anything he could do to promote the interests of the lodge he would be only too pleased. He took a very great interest in Freemasonry, and he had endeavoured to do his work so as to give satisfaction. The trouble he had had in mastering the ritual was amply repaid by the honour of his being Master and the kind way they had always received him.

Bro. J. Simpson, responding to the toast of "The Visitors," said he came particularly to see the working of the lodge, of which he had heard so much, and he could not eulogise too much the grand working of the W.M.

Bro. R. T. West, who was called upon, also acknowledged the toast.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters," observing that they were the backbone of the lodge, and without them it could not exist; they had brought it to the high credit it then stood in the Craft; they were all good men and true, and they were appreciated by all the members.

In response, Bro. A. J. Shotton, P.M., Treas., said it was always a pleasure to do everything for the lodge, of which he had been a member for over 20 years, and he hoped they would all be spared for many years to be together. The W.M.'s year of office would be a successful one, both financially and otherwise.

Bro. G. Laker, P.M., Sec., said it was a great honour to be the Secretary of such a good lodge, which came of age in April next.

Bro. C. H. A. Harris, P.M., acknowledged the toast on behalf of the Past Masters, remarking that they were proud of the efficiency of the W.M.

The Worshipful Master said it gave him much pleasure to propose "The Health of Bro. S. G. Woods." Bro. Woods was initiated in the lodge and within two years of his initiation he went to British Honduras, where he was Registrar-General and late acting Chief Justice. They had often thought of him while he was away and anxious to know how he was getting on. They were all very pleased to have him with them again and hoped he would make a long stay.

The toast was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

Bro. S. G. Woods responded. He said that the general impression was that men of the Law had a lot of jaw, but that was not his case. He was proud to be a Mason and a member of an English lodge, and he was glad that he had been initiated in that lodge.

After an absence of six years he was pleased to be there and that was enhanced by seeing his Masonic father, Bro. C. H. A. Harris, P.M., present. While away he endeavoured to start a lodge at British Honduras and he explained fully the difficulties he had to encounter but unfortunately he was not successful in his desire. He had never lost sight of that his mother lodge and he was touched and gratified with the very hearty way they had received him. All the members were dear friends of his and he would be very glad if ever he could do anything for them.

"The Officers" was proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bros. F. W. Horn, S.W.; H. Pierce, J.W.; Ernest Cove, S.D.; W. Callingham, J.D.; C. W. Hall, I.G.; and E. Stuart Lane, Org.; and the Tyler's toast concluded a very happy evening.

The following brethren contributed to the harmony of the evening: Bros. C. W. Hall, G. J. Shotton, P.M.; W. Callingham, F. Lewis, P.M.; S. G. Woods, W. Mokler, and C. H. A. Harris, P.M., who gave Bro. Trotter's beautiful song, "Asthore." Bro. Stuart Lane presided with his well-known ability at the pianoforte.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

The lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 8th inst., when there were present Bros. Kupferschmidt, A.G.S.G.C.; E. Macbean, I.P.M.; S. T. Klein, J.W.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D.C.; G. Greiner, Stwd.; and the Rev. J. W. Horsley. Also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. W. G. Poole, R. Palmer Thomas, G. Powell, Rev. Dr. Cunningham, B. H. Brough, Hamon le Strange, P.G.D.; Rev. A. G. Lennox Robertson, F. W. Levander, W. J. Songhurst, C. Lewis, F. A. Powell, E. C. Stimson, G. Bailey, P. G. Edwards, Sir Francis G. M. Boileau, Bart., G. W. Taylor, R. S. Ayling, J. W. Stevens, J. P. Richards, H. Riley, E. Armitage, J. Moyssey, R. A. Gowan, J. F. Henley, C. M. Brander, C. Hammerton, C. F. Hogard, P.G.Std. Br.; G. J. Taylor, F. W. Mitchell, H. E. Herman, E. Newland, Thomas Cohu, A. C. Bradley, G. Martin, H. Harris, Milton Smith, and G. B. Davis. Visitors: Bros. S. Rideal, 777; C. S. Ayling, 2128; T. B. Fullwood, 25; and E. J. Turnbull, 1524.

The W.M. having greeted the brethren and wished them all a happy New Year, alluded with feeling to the great loss the lodge had sustained since their last meeting in the death of Bro. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, M.D., F.R.S., &c., and called upon Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., who delivered an eloquent oration and tribute to the worth of

the departed brother, as a man, a scientist, a man of letters, a Mason, and a member of the lodge. The report of the Audit Committee and statement of the accounts of the lodge during the past year was taken as read, and adopted. A telegram from the M.W.G.M. in reply to the one sent him at the last meeting was read. The following four lodges and 59 brethren were admitted to the membership of the Correspondence Circle, viz., Temple Lodge, No. 318 (I.C.), and Excelsior Lodge, both of Mackay, Queensland; Anglo-Belge Lodge, Antwerp; and Royal Alfred Lodge, No. 877, Jersey; Bros. R. S. Rogers, 141, Melbourne, Victoria; F. W. Haslam, 2597, Christchurch, New Zealand; in Queensland, F. W. Riley, 2365, Winton, and J. Kahl, W.M., and W. G. Dudley, 2207, Blackall; in India, E. C. Dowse, W.M. 2288, Sitapur, Capt. C. W. Garraway, P.M. 552, Bengal, G. E. Walker, P.M. 150, Madras, Lieut.-Col. C. M. Keighley, P.M. 1960, Rawal Pindi, and Rev. W. E. Hodgkinson, Singapore; W. F. Pierce, P.M. 188, San Francisco, Cal.; J. Mc. C. Lamberton, W.M. 21, Concord, New Hampshire; H. P. Fitz G. Marriott, 5, Las Palmas; J. J. Lloyd, 2486, Florida, South African Republic; G. B. Deverux, 618 (S.C.), Port Said, Egypt; C. M. Block and T. C. Jackson, 3, Rio de Janeiro; Surg. E. Cooper, 276, H.M.S. Skipjack; Rev. H. H. Cooper, Bandon, Cork; R. K. Clay, Killiney, Dublin; H. Graham, W.M. 107, Langholm, Scotland; J. W. Lambton, P.M. 541, North Shields; W. N. Cochrane, W.M. 1379, Darlington; A. Procter, 236, York; G. R. Lloyd, P.M. 2231, and W. O. Rolands, 2387, Manchester; W. J. Greenstreet, 702, Stroud; T. Ballington, 925, Birmingham; D. J. Grant, 117, Shrewsbury; W. Crosskey, 601, Wellington; C. J. Glasson, 2131, Ellesmere; W. H. Tarrant, W.M. 1703, Witney; P. S. Abraham, 2540; C. W. Skinner, 2000, Theydon Bois; H. E. Smith, 1184, St. Leonards-on-Sea; H. Boyce, 40, Hastings; A. Lambert, 1556, Croydon; H. P. Hay, P.M. 1627, Bexley; Maj. G. A. P. Evans, P.M. 1994, Tunbridge; A. C. Bradley, 1507, Petersham; W. J. Holloway, 105, and C. T. Miles, P.M. 2153, Bournemouth; and F. Levick, P.M. 404, W. P. Fuller, W.M. 8, H. K. Cheese, P.M. 145, S. Wales, P.M. 1803, E. E. Lewis, P.M. 1706, A. J. Cannon, 1044, F. J. Allan, M.D., 1768, F. J. Rebman, 2000, J. P. Leith, P.G.D., A. D. J. Chinnery, 1366, R. C. Widdicombe, 1366, E. C. Wagstaffe, 948, G. S. Collins, 1602, S. Pond, 1266, J. F. Henley, 2504, T. L. Miller, 2105, and E. J. Turnbull, 1524, all of London.

Bro. S. T. Klein exhibited a volume of Dr. Syntax's Tour, with a plate of the interior of Freemasons' Hall early in the century and the doctor addressing Grand Lodge at the banquet table. Bro. A. F. Powell exhibited two curious certificates, one of which was hand-painted, and a silver-pierced jewel. Bro. E. C. Lewis exhibited a large leather apron covered with pictures and symbols from an engraved steel plate; and the Secretary exhibited three jewels formerly worn by Bro. the Rev. G. A. Browne, being a Royal Arch jewel of old design and his jewels of office as Grand Chaplain and Prov. G.M. for Cambridge and Huntingdon. Bro. G. W. Speth read a paper entitled "Free and Freemason, a Tentative Enquiry," in which he developed a new theory as to the original meaning of the prefix free. Owing to the late hour, it was impossible to devote much time to the discussion, and the speeches were rigorously confined to three minutes each, but several brethren announced their intention of forwarding their comments in writing, which will appear in the Transactions of the lodge.

The brethren then adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant for dinner.

Warrant Officers Lodge, No. 2346.

A regular meeting of the above lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 15th instant. The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. Thomas Griffiths, a candidate for initiation, and, having proved unanimous in his favour, he was initiated. Bros. A. Crow, W. A. Gillfillan, W. B. Shorter, P. W. Mitchell, S. Q. Hayman, and J. F. Dewdney were passed, and Bros. H. Childs and S. Poole were raised. Bro. A. Molony was elected Treasurer, and two candidates and one re-joining brother were proposed.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned for refreshment.

The Craft Abroad.

Albion Lodge, No. 196 (E.C.).

The installation meeting of the above lodge (holding a centenary warrant) was held at the Masonic Hall, Bridgetown, Barbados, W.I., on the evening of Wednesday, the 2nd ult., a goodly number of members and visitors being in attendance, including Bro. Robert Haynes, Dep. D.G.M.

After the agenda had been got through, including the passing of a brother and the lecture on the F.C. tracing board by Bro. R. J. Clinctett, W.M., who had been again elected to the chair of K.S. for a second year, he proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing 12 months, and, in the course of his address, before closing the lodge, expressed the fervent hope that in the year just dawning peace, love, and harmony would prevail among the brethren of the lodge, which, to use the expressive phraseology of the ritual, should characterise all Freemasons. To the Masters and brethren of the sister lodges present, he would say that he sincerely trusted that the fraternal concord which had subsisted between them and that lodge during the past and the present year would be maintained unimpaired in the future, and tendered them a general welcome. Bros. Bryden, W.M. 2253, and J. Walton, W.M. 2196, then respectively replied to the W.M., and tendered the "Hearty good wishes" of their respective lodges. The alms' plate was then handed round.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to the lower floor, where light refreshments were partaken of. And thus ended a very pleasant Masonic reunion.

CAPTAIN EDWARD MILNER, Scots Guards, and nephew of Bro. Sir F. Milner, Bart., M.P., and Evelyn Augusta, youngest daughter of Col. the Hon. Hercules Rowley, were married in St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Tuesday, in the presence of a numerous congregation, and later in the day left for Eastwell Park for the honeymoon.

THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR will visit the Mansion House on Tuesday, the 2nd March, in order to attend the farewell banquet given in his honour by the Lord Mayor, and on the Thursday following he will dine with the London Chamber of Commerce, this being the last occasion on which he will appear publicly in his official character as Ambassador from the United States.

What is the British Workman's?

It is the Ideal Life Office—The Life Office of the People.

What its Business?

Life Assurance—Ordinary and Industrial.

What the Secret of its Wonderful Success?

The Equity and Liberality of its Terms.

What has it done?

It has Popularised and Perfected Life Assurance.

What its Annual Income?

It is rapidly approximating to Half-a-Million Sterling.

What its Rank?

Though only 30 years old, it stands with respect to Premium Income the tenth in a list of British Life Offices.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, January 30th, 1897.

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 25.**CRAFT LODGES.**

- 4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
26, Castle Lodge of Harmony, Savoy Hotel.
28, Old King's Arms, Freemasons' Hall.
79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
183, Unity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
222, St. Andrew's, Albion Tavern.
706, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.
902, Burgoyne, Anderson's Hotel.
905, De Grey and Ripon, Freemasons' Hall.
1540, Chaucer, Bridge House Hotel.
1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
1632, Stuart, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1744, Royal Savoy, Criterion.
1745, Farringdon Without, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
1838, Shepherd's Bush, Bush Hotel.
2396, Bishopsgate, Great Eastern Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 13, Prudence, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
25, Robert Burns, Freemasons' Hall.
188, Joppa, Guildhall Tavern.
410, Eclectic, Freemasons' Hall.
1694, Imperial, Clout's Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26.**CRAFT LODGES.**

- 14, Tuscan, Freemasons' Hall.
46, Old Union, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
141, Faith, Anderson's Hotel.
145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
180, Industry, Freemasons' Hall.
205, Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
259, Prince of Wales's, Hotel Metropole.
1158, Southern Star, Bridge House Hotel.
1348, Ebury, Criterion.
1441, Ivy, Surrey Masonic Hall.
2108, Empire, Criterion.
2424, St. Stephens, The Art Club, Lewisham.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 21, Cyrus, Blanchard's Restaurant.
228, United Strength, Guildhall Tavern.
890, Hornsey, Anderson's Hotel.
1275, Star, Guildhall Tavern.
1365, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.

ROSE CROIX.

- 132, Camden, Anderson's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, 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, West-
minster, at 8.
Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and
4th Tiers, at 7.30.
Hendon, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
Mount Edgumbe, Havelock Arms, Naylor-road, Asylum-road,
Peckham, at 8.
Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-street, N.W., at 8.
New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30
St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South
Hackney, at 8.
Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8
Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-
road, at 8.
Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green,
S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27.**CRAFT LODGES.**

- 2, Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
212, Euphrates, Holborn Restaurant.
754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Hotel.

- 898, Temperance in the East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.
1056, Victoria, Guildhall Tavern.
1360, Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel, Wimbledon.
1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderson's Hotel.
1718, Corinthian, Inns of Court Hotel.
1818, Clapham, Criterion.
2132, Boro' of Greenwich, Masonic Rooms.
2305, Avondale, Clarence Rooms, Brixton.
2416, Hiram, Freemasons' Hall.
2455, St. Martin's, New Town Hall.
2502, Papyrus, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
435, Mount Lebanon, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
764, Camden, Anderson's Hotel.
753, Prince Frederick William, Frascati Restaurant.
1269, Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1471, Islington, Great Eastern 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.
Creighton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Derby Alcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Duke of Albany, The Clock House, Battersea-park-road, at 8.
Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.
Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
Fidelity, Alfred Tavern, Roman-road, Barnsbury, N., at 8.
Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8.
La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
Lewisham, Black Bull, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-street, Mayfair, at 8.
London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30
Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 294, Boro' High-street, at 8
Panmure, 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.
Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 8.
Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross,

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28.

General Committee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

CRAFT LODGES.

- 22, Neptune, Guildhall Tavern.
34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
95, Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern.
66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
99, Shakespear, Albion Tavern.
507, United Pilgrims, Bridge House Hotel.
766, William Preston, Cannon-street Hotel.
871, Royal Oak, White Swan, Deptford.
1421, Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford.
1523, St. Mary Magdalen, Cafe Royal.
1524, Duke of Connaught, Anderson's Hotel.
1601, Ravensbourne, Board of Works Offices, Catford Bridge.
1618, Kilburn, Blanchard's Restaurant.
1658, Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1974, St. Mary Abbots, Bailey's Hotel, Kensington.
2192, Highbury, Cock Tavern.
2204, Chough, Cannon-street Hotel.
2319, Scots, Scottish Corporation Hall, Crane Court.
2435, Sir Walter Raleigh, Inns of Court Hotel.
2621, Military, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 5, St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
101, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
177, Domestic, Anderson's Hotel.
534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
538, Vane, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGE.

- 363, Ruspini, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8
Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
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.
Tredgar, 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, JANUARY 29.

Council Boys' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

MARK LODGE.

- 399, Euston, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROYAL AND SELECT MASTERS.

- Matier, Surrey Masonic Hall.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 26, Faith and Fidelity, Mark Masons' Hall.

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 Hotel, Wood Green, N., 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, 8, 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, 2nd
and 4th Friday, at 7.
Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pikes," 131, 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, JANUARY 30.**CRAFT LODGE.**

- 1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

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Giving the Pronunciation and Definition of every word susceptible of a mispronunciation, used in the work of Initiation, Installation, Consecration, and Funeral Service, in the Craft Lodge, Chapter, Council, Commandery, and the Supreme Council, in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, by

REV. JAY A. FORD,

Past Master and Masonic Lecturer, and Prelate of Battle Creek Commandery, No. 33, Knights Templar.

London: GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16a Gt. Queen-st., W.C.

NOTES ON THE CEREMONY

OF INSTALLATION, by H. SADLER, P.M., P.Z., Author of "Masonic Facts and Fictions," with a Masonic Autograph, Portrait, and Autograph of SIR ALBERT W. WOODS, C.B., Garter King of Arms, Past Grand Warden England, and Grand Director of Ceremonies. The 'Freemason' Office, 16 & 16a, Great Queen-st., W.C.

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(Arranged by Request.)

BY THE

REV. JOHN A. LLOYD, M.A.,

Grand Chaplain of England,

Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of Oxon, Wilts, and Somerset, P.M. 379 and 1633, &c.

FOR THE CHAPLAINS' USE IN CRAFT LODGES.

GEORGE KENNING,

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

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL in behalf of the Gordon Boys' Home will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, on Thursday, the 20th May next, under the presidency of the Duke of York.

BRO. LORD GLENESK will preside as Chairman at the annual festival which will be held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole, on Friday, the 14th May next, in behalf of King's College Hospital.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN and her daughter, Princess Christian, and Prince Francis Joseph of Battenberg, visited the Queen on Saturday last at Osborne, arriving from Portsmouth on board her Majesty's yacht *Alberta*.

SUNDAY LAST, the 17th instant, was the anniversary of the battle of Abu Klea, and in commemoration of the event, the Royal Sussex Regiment, which is quartered at Brighton, decorated with wreaths the obelisk erected in the Steine to the memory of those who fell in the engagement.

THE BECHUANA REBELS were defeated at Kaboga, some 20 miles below Takoon, on the morning of the 15th inst., their loss being 40 killed, while the British force, composed of police, volunteers, and burghers, had one trooper wounded and three horses killed. Very few of the rebels escaped.

HER MAJESTY'S cruisers *Theseus* and *Forte* sailed from Malta for Gibraltar on Saturday last, being under orders to proceed at once to the West Coast of Africa. The former is a first-class cruiser of 7350 tons and carrying 12 guns, and the latter a second-class cruiser of 4360 tons and carrying 10 guns.

AT THE MEETING of Beadon Chapter, No. 619, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, Comp. Geo. Rice Bolton, P.Z., P.P.J.G.W. Kent, of Devon, Lordship Lane, Forest Hill, on retiring from the chair for the second time, was presented with a jewelled bar, massive silver salver, and illuminated vellum, subscribed by all the members, in token of esteem and regard for services.

BRO. H. G. HOLLAND, Secretary to the Sailors' Orphan Girls' School and Home at Hampstead, has been unanimously elected Master of the Hugh Owen Lodge, No. 2593, which holds its meetings at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street. Bro. Holland is now W.M. of the Wilson Isles Lodge, No. 2054, and a P.M. of the Broxbourne Lodge, No. 2353, both in the Province of Hertfordshire.

THE 12TH ANNUAL MASONIC BALL of the Mount Edgcombe Lodge, No. 1446, will be held at the Hotel Cecil, on Friday, the 19th prox. Bro. A. E. Mullins, W.M., is President of the Stewards: Bros. G. W. Perry, P.M., Treas.; G. M. E. Hamilton, P.M., Sec.; and T. Toffs, 214, Barry-road, East Dulwich, S.E., Ball Secretary, of whom tickets, price 10s. 6d., to include light refreshments and supper, can be obtained.

THE 14TH ANNUAL DINNER in aid of the Tailors' and Outfitters' Assistants' Mutual Association was held at the St. James's Restaurant on Saturday evening last, under the presidency of Mr. Lionel Holland, M.P., the proceeds, amounting to about £100, being handed over to the Annuity Fund. The Association, though on a modest scale, has been doing some excellent work during the period of its existence.

SPECIAL COMBINED EFFORTS on a large scale will be made at Hampstead during the present year in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in aid of the North London Hospital for Consumption, the Hampstead Hospital, and the Hampstead Nursing Association. These three institutions confer benefits far beyond the Hampstead district, receiving patients from all parts of the kingdom, this being more particularly the case with the Consumption Hospital.

AT THE FORTHCOMING general meeting, the directors of Harrod's Stores, Limited, will recommend a dividend of 20 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the six months ending December 31st, 1896, which, together with the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid in July last, will make 25 per cent. for the year, and a dividend of £17 per share upon the original founders' shares. At the following general meeting, the directors of Harrod's Stores Founders' Shares Company, Limited, will recommend a dividend of 3s. 5d. per £1 share for the year ending December 31st, 1896.

IT IS IN CONTEMPLATION to present a testimonial to Bro. James Thom, P.M. 2262 and 2331, in recognition of the services he has rendered to Freemasonry during the past 12 years, more especially as the Preceptor of the Camden Lodge of Instruction, Deputy Preceptor of La Tolerance, and Eclectic Lodges of Instruction, and past Preceptor of the Ravenscroft Masonic Club and the Joppa, Queen's Westminster, St. Marylebone, William Preston, and Great Northern Lodges of Instruction. An influential Committee has been formed, with Bro. W. Curry, Treas. 2331, 195, Great Portland-street, W., as Hon. Treasurer, and Bro. J. Hume, Stwd. 1305 and J.D. 2331, 5, Charlton-street, W., as Hon. Secretary, of whom all necessary particulars may be ascertained as to whom all contributions should be sent.

A LARGE and influential meeting was held at the Mansion House on Saturday last in support of the Indian Famine Fund. The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Misses Faudel-Phillips, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P. (Secretary of State for India), and Lady George Hamilton, the Hon. George Curzon, M.P., and Mrs. Curzon, Lord Harris, Lord Hobhouse, Sir Donald Stewart, Bart., Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Sir Lepel Griffin, Sir Arthur Arnold, Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P., Bro. Alderman Treloar, Bro. Gerald Loder, M.P., and many others. The resolutions submitted to the meeting were carried, and a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor brought the proceedings to a close. Up to Saturday evening last the Fund amounted to £83,000, which has since been increased to about £120,000.

THE MINISTERIAL and opposition leaders gave their usual full dress Parliamentary dinners on Monday evening. Among the invited guests at the Marquis of Salisbury's were the Duke of Cambridge, the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury), the Lord Privy Seal, Bros. the Duke of Portland, the Marquis of Hertford, and the Marquis of Zetland, the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain (Bro. the Earl of Lathom), Bros. the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Kintore, and the Earl of Dartmouth, Earl Stanhope, Bros. the Earl of Warwick, the Earl of Onslow, the Earl of Dunraven, the Earl of Yarborough, the Earl of Londesborough, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Hothfield, Lord Wantage, Lord Rathmore, and the Hon. Schomberg McDonnell (private Secretary.) Among the guests of Bro. the Duke of Devonshire were Bros. the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Fife, the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Durham, Lord Amphil, Lord Monk Bretton, and Lord Burton. Bros. the Earl of Cork and Earl Carrington were among those who dined with Earl Spencer. The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., First Lord of the Treasury, invited, among others, the Speaker (Bro. W. C. Gully, Q.C.), Bros. Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart., and Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., the Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain, Bros. Lord George Hamilton, A. Akers-Douglas, W. Hume Long, Gerald Balfour, Sir John E. Gorst, Lord Arthur Hill, Ellison Macartney, Hayes Fisher, and Lord Stanley, and the Attorney and Solicitor-Generals—all members of the House. Bros. Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Bart., A. H. Dyke-Acland, C. Seale-Hayne, Sir Frank Lockwood, and Sir B. W. Foster were among the guests of Sir William Harcourt.

"I DREAMT THAT I DWELT IN MARBLE HALLS" will be the pleasing fancy of 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 barqueting 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.

THE BANK RATE yesterday (Thursday) was reduced from 4 to 3½ per cent.

BRO. COL. PHINEAS COWAN has been elected for the third year Master of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has consented to attend the opening of the Queen's Commemoration Trades Exhibition in King's Lynn, on February 10th.

THE DUKE OF FIFE will preside at the annual dinner in aid of the funds of the Alexandra Hospital, which is fixed to take place at the Whitehall Rooms on April 8th.

BRO. LORD WOLSELEY has latterly been suffering from an attack of jaundice, but we are glad to hear that his lordship is progressing favourably towards convalescence.

AT A MEETING of Provincial Grand Lodge of Renfrewshire East, held in Paisley last Saturday, Bro. Lord Blythwood, Prov. Grand Master, nominated Bro. Major F. W. Allan as his Dep. Prov. Grand Master.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Capt. Holford and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham on Monday afternoon, and in the evening witnessed a performance of "Betsy" at the Criterion Theatre.

THE LIVERPOOL DRAMATIC LODGE, No. 1609, possesses a long roll of names of members who are prominently identified with the dramatic and musical professions, and there is to be a considerable accession to its ranks on Tuesday next of gentlemen who are so connected.

MASONIC REGALIA BURNED.—The regalia of the Mayor of Kidderminster and other members of the Freemasons' lodge in Kidderminster were destroyed by a fire which broke out on Tuesday morning at the Masonic Club in the town. The installation of the new W.M. had taken place on Monday evening.

COURT OF ALDERMEN.—On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Court of Aldermen at Guildhall, at which the Lord Mayor presided, a letter was read from Bro. Sir G. Tyler resigning his gown as an Alderman, but it was unanimously resolved to ask him to reconsider his decision, to which request, it is understood, he will consent.

WE UNDERSTAND that Bro. L. A. Richardson is endeavouring to arrange for a Masonic church service in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, either in Croydon or at one of the churches on the Bedford estate in London. Bro. Richardson is I.P.M. of the Bedford (centenary) Lodge, No. 157, and will represent it at the Festival in February next.

ON THE OCCASION of her Jubilee the Queen gave a commemorative medal to servants and officials in her service, and to mark the completion of the 60th year of her reign her Majesty will shortly bestow a commemorative medal impressed with the date and occasion of its bestowal. Those of the officials and servants who already possess the Jubilee medal will have a dated clasp or bar instead of a second medal.

THE ANNUAL CINDERELLA DANCE in connection with the Prosperity Lodge, No. 65, will take place at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Thursday, the 18th February next. Tickets, including light refreshments during the evening, 6s. each, or double ticket to admit two ladies, or lady and gentleman, 10s. 6d. A supper, which is optional, will be provided at 3s. each, and for which separate tickets will be issued.

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society was held in the Town Hall, Reading, on Thursday. His Royal Highness Prince Christian, who has accepted the presidency for the year, attended. The object of the gathering was to appoint certain officials to carry out matters in connection with the show to be held in June next year, at Reading, and to discuss certain questions. The Mayor of Reading, Mr. William Ferguson, afterwards entertained the party to luncheon.

UNDER THE AUSPICES of the L.O.A. Club a concert will be given at St. Martin's Town Hall, on Tuesday next, in aid of that excellent Institution, the London Orphan Asylum, Watford. Among the entertainers will be Mesdames Belle Cole, Florence Bethell, Marian Blinkhorn, E. Clare Gritten, Jessie Hotine, Fanny Wentworth; Messrs. A. Dennant, Theo. Distine, E. Edwards, W. Emerson, Arthur Grover, George Grover, F. Louis Schneider, Vernon Taylor, W. Edwards, and Frederick Williams.

THE LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC, in Great Marlborough-street, was the scene of a pleasant gathering on Thursday evening, when the students attending that institution gave a conversation, which brought to their midst many of their friends. It was only natural on such an occasion that the programme carried out should be of a light and bright order, and that no attempt should be made to put to the test the attainments of the pupils in a classical direction. A special feature, and one that obtained instant and cordial recognition, was the performance of an opera-ta, written and composed by "Leslie Gordon," entitled, "The Stage-struck Slavey," in which Miss Susetta Fenn and Mr. Sinclair Dunn acquitted themselves with no little credit.

A GRAND MASONIC SERVICE is to be held at the Parish Church of St. Michael, Wood Green, by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. J. Thomas, on Sunday, the 31st inst., at 3.30 p.m. Bro. the Venerable Archdeacon Sinclair, D.D., P.G. Chap., will deliver an address. The brethren will appear in Royal Arch and Craft clothing. The musical arrangements will be under the direction of Bros. James Hallé, Org. 2426; C. A. Wilkinson, P.M. 1322; and H. E. Knight, 2005. Bro. Hallé will preside at the organ. The brethren will be admitted on production of their badges, and will assemble in a specially-erected marquee adjoining the church at 2.45 p.m., the procession being formed at 3 p.m.

AFTER BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE'S Parliamentary banquet on Monday, the Duchess of Devonshire held a crowded reception at Devonshire House, which was attended by most of those present at the various Parliamentary dinners, the *corps diplomatique*, and many others, among whom were Bro. Lord Justice Loperz, Bro. A. Staveley Hill, M.P., and Mrs. Staveley Hill; Bro. the Right Hon. Sir James Fergusson, Bart., M.P.; the Hon. W. Massey-Mainwaring, M.P., and Mrs. Massey-Mainwaring; Bro. the Hon. Thomas Cochrane, M.P., and Lady Gertrude Cochrane; Bro. Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., and Lady Sutherland; Bro. Sir W. Dixon-Hartland, Bart., M.P.; Bro. General and Mrs. Laurie; Bro. Herman Hodge, M.P.; Bro. Halsey, M.P., and Mrs. and Miss Halsey; Bro. Stanley Leighton, M.P., and Mrs. Stanley Leighton; Bro. Tomlinson, M.P., and Mrs. Tomlinson; and Bro. R. G. Webster, M.P., and Mrs. Webster.

THE THIRD SESSION of the 14th Parliament of her Majesty the Queen was opened by Royal Commission on Tuesday, the Commissioners being the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury), the Lord Privy Seal (Viscount Cross), the Earl of Pembroke (Lord Steward), and Bros. the Earl of Kintore and Lord Balfour of Burleigh. The opening was fixed for 2 p.m., and the Lords Commissioners having taken their seats on the bench, immediately in front of the Throne—which, as usual, was uncovered—the House of Commons was summoned, and the Speaker, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and accompanied by a numerous body of members, appeared at the bar, and the Lord Chancellor at once read the Queen's Speech. The representatives of the Lower House having retired, both Houses adjourned, and re-assembled at 4 p.m., when the debate on the Address in reply to the Speech was commenced in each House. In the House of Lords the Address was agreed to, and the Lords adjourned at 6.30 p.m., but in the Commons the debate was adjourned at a quarter before midnight.

IN THE extremely interesting article which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of Thursday, the 14th inst., headed "Fifty Years of Railway Life," the career is sketched of "Mr. G. Abbott," who has been in the service of the South-Eastern Railway Company for upwards of half-a-century, and holds at the present time the responsible post of Superintendent of the Cannon-street and Charing Cross Stations. He began as assistant to the toll-collector then stationed at the gate of the tunnel under Spa-road on the 8th February, 1846, and, having been transferred to London Bridge, was subsequently employed as guard, first on the North Kent Line and then on the Main Line. In 1864 he ceased to be a guard, and became Chief Inspector at London Bridge. In 1866 he was placed in charge of Cannon-street, and in 1890 he became, in addition, Superintendent of Charing Cross Station. He was a lad of 12 years when his experiences began, and he is still engaged in the full discharge of his very responsible position, with no idea whatever at present of retiring from office. It will probably interest our readers to know that the "Mr. G. Abbott" who figures thus honourably in our contemporary's article is none other than Bro. George Abbott, a P.M. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, who, when holding the office of Secretary of that lodge, compiled a neat little sketch of its history, which was read and extremely well received at the Centenary Celebration in 1889. We trust that Bro. George Abbott may acquire, if possible, still further honour in his capacity of Superintendent of two of the busiest stations in the Metropolis of London.