

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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OUR DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMEMORATION NUMBER.

For some time past the public mind has been engaged in considering how most fittingly to commemorate the completion of the 60th year of the QUEEN'S reign. So far, only two schemes have been sanctioned, one—the thanksgiving service at St. Paul's Cathedral, which her Majesty will attend in State—being national; and the other—the Prince of WALES'S Hospital Fund for London—being Metropolitan. But it is probable that every town in the United Kingdom, and every society and institution, but more especially those which minister to the needs of the poorer classes, will adopt its own method of celebrating this auspicious event. What the Masons throughout the Empire may decide upon doing is as yet unknown, but there can be little doubt that a Society whose watchwords are "Loyalty" and "Charity," will be equally forward with the rest of their fellow-subjects of her Majesty in rendering honour to a lady whose reign, of unprecedented length, has at the same time been one of unprecedented progress and prosperity. But though we cannot utter what we do not know as regards the form which any Special Masonic Commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee that may ultimately be decided upon may assume, we take an early opportunity of announcing our intention of publishing a special number, to be called "The Royal Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Number," on similar lines to that which we issued in 1887 in commemoration of the QUEEN'S Jubilee. The contents will include a review of Freemasonry in the United Kingdom, from 1887 to 1897, in continuation of the similar review from 1837 to 1887, which appeared in the Jubilee year; and as the QUEEN'S Family has been so closely connected with the Craft during the past 160 years, there will also be an article entitled "Royalty and Freemasonry," in which Masonic particulars will be given of all those members of the Royal Family who have been members of our Order. In addition, there will be articles by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN and other eminent Masonic writers, the whole being profusely and appropriately illustrated. We shall spare no pains in order to make this number worthy of the Craft and of our own reputation as its representative organ, and we trust that at least an equal measure of success will attend this as attended the previous Special numbers we have published. Additional particulars will be found on page 146.

THE APRIL SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

The voting papers for the School Elections, which will be held on the second Thursday and Friday in April, respectively, have been issued, and we are in a position to furnish such general information as to the numbers and distribution of the candidates, and the vacancies which will be filled up in the two Schools. For the election into the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS,

which will be held in Freemasons' Tavern, at the close of the ordinary business of the Quarterly General Court of Governors and Subscribers, on Thursday the 8th prox., there are 29 candidates, of whom the first six were unsuccessful in October last and bring forward the votes they then obtained, and the remaining 23 have had their claims approved and placed on the list during the last six months. The vacancies are 20, so that each of the candidates, but more particularly those who enter upon the poll with a goodly array of votes to their credit, has a fair chance of winning a place, and as there are four *last* cases, there is every reason to hope that these will receive such an amount of support as will secure them from the unhappy lot of being sent empty away. The candidates are distributed between town and country as follows: London is responsible for five and has a part interest with the Province of Surrey in carrying the election of a sixth, the remaining 23 being Provincial. The five London girls are placed at Nos. 4, 12, 17, 21, and 22, the first mentioned having been a candidate at the election in October, 1896, when she had the good fortune to poll 1607 votes, which will be of essential service to her on this occasion, more especially as this is her last chance of winning admission into the School. The London-Surrey girl at No. 1 is also a candidate for the last time, but as she brings forward 2716 votes from last October, it will be exceedingly hard lines indeed if she does not succeed in finding a place among the successful at the approaching contest. As regards the 23 girls from the Provinces, four of them, who are all new to election experiences, and rank in the list as Nos. 9, 14, 20, and 25, are furnished by West Yorkshire, No. 20 being a *last* case; Gloucestershire is responsible for Nos. 7 and 15, and the Western Division of South Wales for No. 2, who has already 2041 votes to her credit from last October, and No. 11. The other 15 Provincials are distributed singly among the following Provinces, or groups of Provinces, namely: Surrey (No. 3); Warwickshire (No. 5); North Wales and South Wales (W.D.) (No. 6); Cornwall (No. 8); Middlesex (No. 10); West Lancashire (No. 13); North Wales (No. 18); Northants and Hunts (No. 19); Oxfordshire (No. 23); Cambridgeshire (No. 24); Kent (No. 26); Staffordshire (No. 27); Berkshire (No. 28); Lincolnshire, N. and E. Yorkshire, Surrey, and Staffordshire (No. 29); and the District of Bengal (No. 16). The only remark we are called upon to make in respect to any one of these cases is that the Staffordshire girl (No. 27) has but this one chance of being admitted, and it will behove her friends and supporters to work their hardest in order to ensure her admission. Taking the candidates collectively, we note that 23 of them are fatherless, three have lost both parents, and three have both parents living. In by far the largest number of cases the father was a subscribing member of a lodge, or lodges for 10 years and upwards, and in three cases for upwards of 20 years, while in about one-fourth of them he had been a supporter of, or had acted as Steward for, one or more of our Institutions. Many of them also had worthily filled office in lodges and Prov.

Grand Lodge. Such are the leading circumstances connected with the Girls' School candidates, so far as they are disclosed by the lists appended to the voting papers.

The Quarterly General Court of the Governors and Subscribers of the

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS

will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, the 9th April, and as soon as the ordinary business of the Court has been transacted, or at the very latest at 1 p.m., a poll will be opened for the election of 21 from a list of 60 candidates, of whom 28 remain over from the election in October, 1896, and the remaining 32 have had their claims accepted and their names placed on the list during the last six months. These 60 boys are distributed in the manner following as between London on the one hand and the Provinces and a District Abroad. London sends up 19 candidates of its own and has a joint interest with one of the Provinces in each of three other cases. Of the London candidates as many as six are included among the first 10 on the list, No. 1, who has been a candidate during the last three years and is about making his seventh attempt to win a place, having 2885 votes to his credit already, so that his prospects of success on the 9th are most encouraging. No. 2, who has been before the electors for two years and will be an applicant next month for the fifth time, has 2198 votes to the good and may therefore hope to be one of the successful if his friends look after his interests well, while No. 6 starts with 1936 votes obtained at the last three elections and consequently stands well for his next attempt. Nos. 8, 9, 10 who have had experience at two elections have 254, 344 and 986 votes respectively to their credit. There are, in addition, six other London boys who rank among the unsuccessful in October last, and of these Nos. 11 and 13 have stood two elections and bring forward, the former 1210 votes and the latter 3031 votes. Nos. 17, 19, 23, and 26 were all candidates for the first time last October, when they polled 231, 1124, 706, and 170 votes respectively. The following seven cases are new and were placed on the list in January, namely, Nos. 29, 31, 34, 39, 40, 56, and 58. Of the three boys, whose claims are partly London and partly Provincial, No. 18, hailing from London and Berkshire, has to his credit the 2480 votes he polled in October last, while No. 55 hails from London and Essex, and must win a vacancy at this election or lose all chance of being admitted, and No. 59 from London and Kent. As regards the Provinces, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and Kent furnish each three candidates, the three sent up by the former Province being No. 21, with 446 votes from last October, No. 32 and No. 51; while the Kentish three are No. 28, who brings forward 1006 votes, and Nos. 33 and 53. There are seven Provinces and one District Abroad who furnish each of them two candidates, namely, Herefordshire, which is responsible for No. 3, who has 183 votes in hand from three previous ballots, and No. 41; Middlesex, which sends up No. 12, with 1032 votes to the good, and No. 48, who has only this one chance of gaining admission; Devonshire, whence are returned No. 14, with seven votes from October last, and No. 52; Northants and Hunts, which is answerable for No. 20, who starts with 267 votes in hand, and No. 43, who will have no other chance of gaining admission into the School; South Wales (E.D.), from which come Nos. 36 and 50; West Yorkshire, which sends Nos. 46 and 60; and West Lancashire, Nos. 38 and 39. No. 7, who has 1807 votes in hand from the April and October elections of last year, and No. 30 hail from the Argentine Republic. The remaining candidates are distributed among the following Provinces, namely, No. 4, Cumberland and Westmorland, who has 53 votes to the good; No. 5, Essex, with 1010 votes; No. 15, Cheshire, who starts for his last chance with only 25 votes to his credit; No. 16, Surrey, with 944 votes; No. 22, with claims on North Wales and South Wales (W.D.), who enters on his second ballot with 1116 votes to his credit; No. 24, Nottinghamshire, with 232 votes, No. 25, Suffolk, who has this solitary chance of being elected, and has 1955 votes in hand; and Guernsey and Alderney, whose candidate, at No. 27, brings forward 213 votes, the remaining boys being No. 35 (Oxfordshire), No. 37 (Buckinghamshire), No. 42 (Hertfordshire), No. 44 (Berkshire), No. 45 (Staffordshire), No. 47 (Durham), No. 54 (Gloucestershire), and

No. 57 (Worcestershire). It is a long list, and seeing that there are only 21 vacancies to be competed for, the struggle for places is likely to be a very keen one. Of the whole 60 boys there are 51 who are fatherless, one who is motherless, and whose father is a lunatic, four who have lost both parents, and four who have both parents living. In only a very small proportion of the cases was the father able in his life to assist our Institutions, either by donations or by acting as a Steward at one or more Festivals, but there are several who had held high office in lodges or Provincial Grand Lodge, and some who were members of two or more lodges. A large proportion of them were subscribing members for less than 10 years.

As usual, we conclude these remarks by appealing earnestly to all those lodges and brethren who are not committed to the support of particular candidates, to give their votes and influence to those children who will be shut out from the benefits of which they have been adjudged worthy, if they do not win places among the successful at these elections. These children are—in the case of the GIRLS' SCHOOL—Nos. 1, 4, 20, and 27; and in that of the BOYS' SCHOOL—Nos. 15, 25, 43, 48, and 55. Others can afford to wait a further six months, or even longer, but these nine girls and boys must win vacancies next month or their names will be removed from the lists.

CONSECRATION OF THE ALLEYN LODGE, No. 2647.

The consecration of the above lodge took place at the Half Moon Hotel, Dulwich, on Saturday, the 27th ult., Bro. E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, officiating as Consecrating Officer, assisted by Bros. J. H. Matthews, President of the Board of Benevolence, as S.W.; Henry Lovegrove, G.S.B., as J.W.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C., as Chaplain; F. Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec., as I.G.; and Henry Sadler, G. Tyler.

The founders present were Bros. C. J. Axford, P.M. 2048, P.P.G.D.C. Middx., W.M. designate; G. W. Capel, S.W. designate; J. Joel, J.W. designate; Rev. A. E. Woodward, M.A.; John Songhurst, P.M. 227; John Read, P.M. 720 and 2105, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; T. C. Stanley, 435; E. J. W. Scott, 2381; J. F. Henley, 2504; and W. A. Hine, W.M. 933.

Visitors: Bros. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G.M. Worcestershire; C. Bullock, Prov. G. Sec. Herts; Rev. J. H. Smith, P.P.G.C. Leicestershire and Rutland; J. C. Manning, P.M. 1928; J. W. Stevens, I.P.M. 2234; Rev. W. R. Finlay, W.M. 2182; E. Glaeser, 1627; John Nicole, 2317; E. Harris, 435; C. H. Phillips, 1580; E. G. Lundberg, 1287; J. Underwood, P.M. 2182; C. J. Smith, W.M. 2504; P. G. Mollony, 2319; T. Trimmill, 1395; W. T. Lane, 834; H. Hooper, P.M. 2381; J. Norrest, P.M. 933; W. H. Bamford, 1580; B. Dowsett, W.M. 101; L. P. Fisher, 217; T. Kempton, 1706; H. Stubbs, 771; and G. May, 200.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and an opening chorale sung.

The CONSECRATING OFFICER then addressed the brethren in a few well-chosen words on the object of the meeting, and alluded to the very appropriate name selected for the new lodge, it being consecrated on a part of the Alleyn estate, and concluded his brief remarks by wishing the new lodge the greatest possible success and prosperity.

Prayer was offered by the CHAPLAIN, and the Founders signified their approval of the officers named. An anthem "Behold how joyful a thing it is," composed by Bro. C. S. Jekyll, P.G. Org., was then most effectively rendered by the musical artistes. The hymns and two other anthems, together with a solo by Bro. Stubbs "Be thou faithful" (Mendelssohn), were also effectively given, and to the satisfaction of the brethren present.

Bro. C. J. Axford, P.M. 2048, P.P.G.D.C. Middx., was next presented as W.M. designate, and duly installed into the chair of K.S. by the Grand Secretary.

The W.M. then invested Bros. John Read, P.M. 720 2105, as I.P.M.; G. W. Capel, S.W.; J. Joel, J.W.; Rev. A. E. Woodward, M.A., Chap.; J. Songhurst, P.M. 227, Treas., subsequent to election; John Read, Sec.; T. C. Stanley, J.D.; E. J. W. Scott, D.C.; J. F. Henley, Stwd.; and Mitchell, Tyler, subsequent to election.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers, for their impressive and successful rendering of the ceremony, and proposed, for their acceptance, that they should be elected as honorary members, which was carried by acclamation.

The GRAND SECRETARY kindly and courteously expressed his best thanks for the compliments paid them.

Letters of regret for inability to be present at this meeting were received from Bros. Barry, P.G. Supt. of Works; Page, S.W. 2182; H. H. Shirley, P.M. 1491; R. C. Liversedge, P.M. 2087.

Propositions for initiation and joining were received, and the lodge was closed.

After the banquet the WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and next "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER then gave the toast of "The Grand Officers," which was replied to by Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. Grand Master for Worcestershire, who expressed his pleasure at being present, particularly as in a short time he would be called upon to consecrate a new lodge in his own province; the working of the ceremony on this

occasion had been done so impressively, and so considerably enhanced by appropriate music, that he should remember it as one of the most successful and pleasant meetings that he had attended. He concluded by wishing every success to the new lodge.

The toast of "The Consecrating Officers" was given by the I.P.M., Bro. JOHN READ, who congratulated the lodge on its good fortune in having obtained the services of such august brethren to carry out the ceremony. The distinguished Grand Secretary carried out his impressive and solemn duties in his usual faultless manner. He was well supported by Bros. J. H. Matthews, Pres. B.I. Benevolence, S.W.; the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, P.G. Chap.; H. Lovegrove, G.S.B., as J.W.; F. Richardson, P.G.D., as Director of Ceremonies, who carried out his duties most ably; William Lake, Asst. G. Secretary, as I.G.; and H. Sadler, G. Tyler. Bro. Read, in the name of all the founders, tendered to them his best thanks for the honour done, and he also took that opportunity of thanking the Grand Secretary for his great courtesy in the initial proceedings attending the petition and obtaining the warrant, and for the kindly interest he had taken in the lodge.

Bro. LOVEGROVE, G.S.B., in the unavoidable absence of the Grand Sec. and the President of the Board of Benevolence, in reply, said that the Grand Officers were always ready to assist in such ceremonies as had been performed on the present occasion, and, in conclusion, wished a pleasant and prosperous career for the Alleyn Lodge.

Bro. A. GODSON, M.P., Prov. G.M. Worcestershire, then gave "The Health of the W.M." In proposing the toast he said that the Alleyn Lodge had been begun under exceptionally favourable circumstances, but there was always much to be done in bringing a young lodge into shape, assuming that, as should always be the case, it was brought into proper shape. Of this, however, in respect to the Alleyn Lodge, there did not appear to be any room for doubt. It had for its first Master a brother of great experience—one who had been twice Master of his lodge—a brother in every respect worthy of the trust and confidence that had been reposed in him, and they need, therefore, anticipate no difficulty, but might rest assured that the Alleyn Lodge would be started on its beneficent course with a good and worthy Mason in the chair. In taking that position for the third time he had gathered about him a group of efficient officers who, he was quite certain, would rally round him should difficulties arise, and would at all times aid him loyally and faithfully in carrying out the working of the lodge efficiently and well, entertaining for him that respect and esteem which all good and worthy Masters invariably commanded. He had very great pleasure in submitting the toast, his only fear being that, in the few remarks he had made, he had not done justice to the high Masonic qualities and to the personal worthiness of character which they all knew were possessed by the new Master of the Alleyn Lodge in so eminent a degree.

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER, who, on rising to respond, was warmly received, said that he thanked Bro. Godson very cordially for his kind expressions of appreciation, and the brethren around him for their generous reception of the toast that had been proposed in such flattering terms. All he could do, after thanking them for this, their appreciation and kindness, was to assure them that he would, at all times and under all circumstances, endeavour, to the very best of his ability, to carry out the duties and the work of the Alleyn Lodge to the satisfaction of Grand Lodge, and in a way that, he trusted, would be a credit to himself and to all who were associated with him. He was encouraged by the knowledge that, in his own best endeavours, he should be loyally supported by very able and efficient officers, from the Senior Warden downwards, which, as they all knew, was a great thing, and was one of the surest elements of Masonic success. It would not be his desire, nor would it be the desire of any of them, that the Alleyn Lodge should be a large lodge. Their chief concern would be to take care that the lodge should be built up of members on whom they could depend; members on whom they could rely in helping to carry out those moral obligations imposed upon them by their splendid ritual and its teachings. If they at all times adhered to this principle of action, and did their best to carry out the duties in accordance with what Freemasonry taught, there need be no fear as to the future of the Alleyn Lodge, and no doubt as to the care which would at all times be exercised in the gradual building up of its membership. Speaking for himself, he would do his best, and he was quite sure he could say the same with confidence in regard to the very able and efficient officers, on whose support he knew he could at all times rely.

"The Health of the Visitors" was proposed by the Treasurer, Bro. JOHN SONGHURST, P.M. 227, in very happy terms, giving them all a very hearty welcome, and trusting they had received a favourable impression of the Alleyn Lodge. "Noscitur a Sociis" was a good motto, but amongst the visitors there were so many distinguished names, that he had some difficulty in making a selection to reply, but he would name three, viz., W. Bro. Rev. J. H. Smith, P.P.G. Chap. Leicester; W. Bro. Bullock, P.G. Sec. Herts; and Bro. Rev. W. R. Finlay, W.M. 2182.

Bro. Rev. J. H. SMITH, P.P.G. Chap. Leicester, in reply, gave an interesting history of the Alleyn foundation, with which Bro. Smith has been connected for some years, and he hoped that the Alleyn Lodge would be as great a success in Masonry as the Alleyn Institutions and School had been in the world.

Bro. C. BULLOCK, P.M., Prov. G. Sec. for Herts, expressed his thanks very warmly for the opportunity of being present on the occasion, and at which he had been greatly interested and pleased, and congratulated the W.M. on the successful start made by the founders of the Alleyn Lodge, and joined with the visitors in wishing it every prosperity.

Bro. Rev. W. R. FINLAY, W.M. 2182, made a very interesting reply, which was much appreciated by all present, and concluded by expressing his interest in the lodge generally, and the W.M. in particular, and his sincere wish for success.

The toasts of "The Chaplain," "Treasurer," "Secretary," and "Officers of the Lodge" were suitably given and acknowledged by the officers.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. John Read, P.M., assisted by Bros. May, Stubbs, Kempton, and Bamford.

BRO. LIEUT. DAN GODFREY, lately bandmaster of the Grenadier Guards, was on Monday afternoon presented at the Guards' Club, with a magnificent tea service of antique silver of the period of George II. and George III., as a mark of the esteem and affection in which he was held by the officers, past and present, of the Brigade of Guards, and in recognition of his valuable services during the last 40 years. The presentation was made by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and among those present were Bro. Major-General Lord Methuen, General Sir G. Higginson, Bro. Col. the Hon. H. Eaton, Lieut.-Gen. Clive, Col. Hatton, and Col. Mackinnon.

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

GRAND IMPERIAL CONCLAVE.

The annual assembly of the Grand Imperial Conclave was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 1st instant, when the Earl of Euston, M.I.G. Sovereign, presided, and was supported by Sir Knights Baron de Ferrieres, Col. A. B. Cook, Belgrave Ninnis, Rev. A. W. Oxford, Rev. H. J. Mason, C. F. Matier, and many others.

The Grand Imperial Conclave having been duly opened, the minutes of the last assembly were confirmed.

The report of the Executive Committee, which was adopted, showed that considerable progress had been made during the past year, 71 Red Cross certificates having been issued, and 112 K.H.S. and St. John—a number considerably in advance of those issued for many years back. A new conclave had been consecrated at Birkenhead, with every prospect of success.

Sir Knight J. W. WOODALL proposed the Earl of Euston for re-election as M.I.G. Sovereign, which was carried with acclamation.

The Earl of EUSTON returned thanks, and assured them that he would continue to do his best to increase the strength of the Order.

On the proposition of Sir Knight Col. A. B. Cook, Viscount Dungarvan was re-elected G. Viceory.

Sir Knight Col. A. B. COOK, in returning thanks for his re-election as Grand Treasurer, expressed his thanks for the donation of 35 guineas given towards his Chairmanship of the next Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The following were appointed members of Grand Council:

Sir Knight Gordon Miller	...	...	G. Sen. Gen.
" Belgrave Ninnis	...	...	G. Jun. Gen.
" Rev. A. W. Oxford	...	...	} G. High Prelates.
" Rev. H. J. Mason	...	...
" J. H. Thompson	...	...	G. High. Chan.
" Col. A. B. Cook	...	...	G. Treasurer.
" C. F. Matier	...	...	G. Recorder.
" F. F. Schnitger	...	...	G. High Almoner.
" H. W. Stickland	...	...	G. Chamberlain.
" T. Graham Robinson	...	...	G. Architect.
" Peter Bois	...	...	G. Marshal.
" H. H. Andrew	...	...	G. Orator.
" J. Baker	...	...	G. Historiographer.

The Most Illustrious Grand Sovereign appointed the following members of Grand Senate:

Sir Knight A. H. Jefferies	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" A. Woodiwiss	...	...	G. Examiner.
" J. J. Binney	...	...	G. Prefect.
" Rev. G. R. Johnson	...	...	G. Sub-Prelate.
" J. Armstrong	...	...	G. Vice-Chan.
" Major Clifford Probyn	...	...	G. Asst. Recorder.

The following sir knights were elected Grand Senators and appointed to office as follows, viz.:

Sir Knight C. Dalrymple	...	...	G. Sub-Almoner.
" C. S. Brewer	...	...	G. Ins. of Regalia.
" J. Kenyon	...	...	} G. Std. Brs.
" A. H. Baird	...	...
" W. D. Grant	...	...	G.S.B.
" F. A. Jewson	...	...	G. Org.
" W. F. Carmon	...	...	G. Preceptor.
" T. M. Richard	...	...	G. Vice-Cham.
" T. Paget	...	...	G. Asst. Marshal.
" Major Carrell	...	...	} G. Heralds.
" W. Miller	...	...
" J. H. Elliott	...	...	G.D.C.

Sir Knights Walls, Carrell, Powell, Gordon Miller, and Lardner were elected to the Executive Council, and Sir Knights Col. Cook, R. Berridge, and F. Richardson were elected to the High Almoner's Committee. Sir Knight E. J. Mills was re-elected G. Sentinel, and the Grand Conclave was closed.

A Commandery of St. John the Evangelist was then held, and the orders of K.H.S. and St. John were conferred upon several candidates.

A banquet was held at Freemasons' Tavern under the patronage of the M. Illus. G. Sovereign.

CENTENARY MEETING OF THE LODGE OF STABILITY, No. 217.

This eventful epoch in the history of any lodge took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 2nd instant, under the able guidance of the esteemed W.M., Bro. James Edwards, ably supported by Bros. George Say, S.W.; J. R. Ayris, J.W.; J. Nixon, P.M., Sec.; Samuel Fisher, Treas.; W. H. Smith, S.D.; H. B. Handcock, J.D.; S. C. Phillips, I.G.; J. Addington, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Edwards, A.D.C.; Wm. Gorrie, P.M., and J. E. Cosham, Stwds.; Leaman, Org.; Thomas Bowler, Tyler; F. C. Woolmer, P.M.; Wm. Eckersall, P.M.; H. Marfleet, P.M.; J. T. Wright, P.M.; J. Owen, P.M.; and others.

Lodge having been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the following centenary warrant was read:

"Albert Edward, Grand Master.

"To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and the Officers and members of the Lodge of Stability, No. 217, and all others whom it may concern.

"Greeting—

"Whereas by the records of the Grand Lodge it appears that on the 1st March, 1797, a Warrant of Constitution was granted to several Brethren therein named, authorizing and empowering them and their regular successors to

hold a Lodge of free and accepted Masons at the 'Crown,' near St. Dunstan's Passage, Fleet St., London, and which Lodge was registered in the books of Grand Lodge as No. 300. But in consequence of the union of the two Grand Lodges and the formation of the United Grand Lodge on the 27th December, 1813, it became No. 381. Since which, owing to the general alterations in the Nos. in 1832 and 1863, it has become and now stands on the register as No. 217, meeting at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, London, under the Title and Denomination of

"Lodge of Stability,

and whereas the Brethren comprising the said Lodge are desirous when it has completed the centenary of its existence on the 1st March, 1897, to be permitted to wear a jewel commemorative of such event, and have prayed our sanction for that purpose.

"Now know ye That we having taken the subject into our consideration have acceded to their request, and in virtue of our prerogative, Do hereby give and grant to all and each of the actual subscribing members of the said Lodge being Master Masons, permission to wear in all Masonic Meetings, suspended to the left breast by a sky-blue ribbon not exceeding an inch and a half in breadth, a jewel or medal of the pattern or device that we have already approved of as a centenary jewel. But such jewel is to be worn only by those brethren who are bona-fide subscribing members of the said lodge, and for so long only as each shall pay his regular stipulated subscription to the funds thereof, and be duly returned as such to the Grand Lodge of England.

"Given in London this 5th February, A.L. 5897, A.D. 1897.

"By command of the Most Worshipful Grand Master,

"His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., &c., &c.

(Signed)

"E. LETCHWORTH,

"Grand Secretary."

A dispensation was also read from the M.W.G.M. granting the wearing of Masonic clothing.

The business of the lodge ended, it was closed, and a reception was held by the W.M., Bro. J. H. Edwards, and Mrs. Edwards.

The following members and guests attended: Bro. Geo. Say and Mrs. Say; Bro. J. R. Ayris and Mrs. Ayris; Bro. J. Nixon, Mrs. Nixon, and friend; Bro. H. Marfleet, Miss Marfleet, Mr. Marfleet, jun., and Mrs. Marfleet and friend; Bro. P. H. Garner, Mrs. Garner, and friends; Bro. Wm. Eckersall and Mrs. Eckersall; Bro. R. Elgar and Mrs. Elgar; Bro. Horley and Mrs. Horley; Bro. C. H. Stone and Mrs. Stone; Bro. Jas. Addington and Mrs. Addington; Mr. Addington and friend; Bro. Wm. Cowley and Mrs. Cowley; Bro. W. R. Smith and Mrs. Smith; Bro. J. T. Wright and Mrs. Wright; Bro. Wm. Gorrie and Mrs. Gorrie; Bro. F. C. Woolmer and friend; Bro. J. Finch and friends; Bro. J. Owen; Bro. J. F. Jones and friends; Bro. H. B. Handcock and Mrs. Handcock; Bro. E. F. Giraud and Mrs. Giraud; Bros. H. Hardman, Rev. R. Finlay, David Rose; Bro. G. Tennant and friends; Bro. S. P. Fisher, Mrs. and Miss Fisher; Bro. J. Itter and Miss Itter; Bro. W. H. Smith, Mrs. Smith and friend; Bro. W. H. Edwards and Mrs. Edwards; Bro. J. E. Cosham and Mrs. Cosham; Bro. B. Grant and Mrs. Grant; Bro. Anderson and Mrs. Anderson; Bro. H. Walter, Mrs. Walter and friends; Bro. J. M. Hodder and Mrs. Hodder; Bro. L. Vague and Mrs. Vague; Bro. W. J. Wratten and friend; Bro. S. Maier and friend; T. H. Carleton and friends; Bro. F. D. Landeker and friends; Bro. S. C. Phillips and Mrs. Phillips; Bro. F. H. Bence; Bro. E. T. Baker and Friend; Bro. H. Ellis and friend; Bro. T. Lavenbein and friend; Bro. S. Leaman and friends; Bro. H. C. Cuttriss and friends; Bro. J. Lightfoot; Bro. A. Bradshaw and friend; Bro. H. Ellis and friend; Bro. F. Becker and friend; Bro. J. Uncle; Bro. T. Hinks and friend; Bro. A. E. Taperell and friend; Bro. W. D. Thomas and friend; Bro. A. T. Tuvnell and friend; Bro. G. Kirk and friend; Bro. F. V. Goddard and friend; Bro. A. Taylor and friends; Bro. A. Botterill and friend; Bro. C. E. Dodwell and friends; Bro. W. F. Mountjoy and friend; Bro. R. W. Palmer and friend; Bro. T. Foster and friend; Bro. J. W. Elam and friends; Bro. R. Fisher and friend; and Bro. Thos. Bowler (who acted as toastmaster.) In all 155 were present.

The reception concluded, the company adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent dinner was provided under the superintendence of the proprietor, Bro. Clemow.

The cloth removed, the guests assembled in the large hall, where a capital arrangement of music had been provided under the able management of Bro. S. Leaman, Organist of the lodge, ably assisted by Miss Isabelle Wallace, Miss E. F. Fisher, G.S.M. (who was warmly applauded), Bro. F. Russell, ventriloquist, (rapturously encored), Bros. A. Taylor and Harry Greene. Bro. Leaman ably presided at the piano.

Bro. J. EDWARDS, W.M., presented the toast of "Her Gracious Majesty the Queen," remarking wherever an English gathering met, it was always a duty to testify its loyalty to our Sovereign and none more so than the body of Freemasons who were among the first to recognise that duty.

The toast of "H.R.H., the M.W.G.M.," the W.M. stated was in himself a tower of strength and under his sway Freemasonry had flourished all over the world. He was a most ardent Mason and always ready and attentive to do his multifarious duties.

The toast was most cordially received.

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," in terms of high eulogium, stating the able assistance they gave to the M.W.G.M.

Bro. W. MASON STILES, P.G. Treas., in reply, said it was a very high honour to respond at so interesting a function, viz., the centenary of so valuable a lodge, whose working was known and appreciated throughout the land. It was indeed a great pleasure to visit the lodge, and see the ladies present only once in a hundred years. On behalf of the Grand Officers, he most heartily thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks of them, and the hearty manner it had been received by the brethren.

In proposing the next toast—"The Lodge of Stability," the toast of the evening—Bro. W. R. SMITH said it was indeed a very great honour at such an eventful period, and one he did with readiness and cheerfulness. He should like to state he was highly honoured in being chosen to propose such an important toast, especially on the celebration of its centenary. He was sure all would be delighted to drink to it with enthusiasm, because all were Masonic, either by profession or by the close and dear ties of affection. The lodge whose centenary all had assembled to honour was started in a humble way by only eight founders in March, 1797, at the Crown Tavern, near St. Dunstan's Church close by. It was now held about a stone's cast further east, and had met in 23 different habitations, and had borne four different numbers, viz., 300, 381, 264, and 217. There had been 99 Worshipful Masters who had presided over its business, and every one of whom, he was certain, had devoted himself to the welfare of the lodge with zeal and assiduity. He felt constrained to mention two, viz., Bro. Philip Broadfoot, W.M. in four years, viz., 1812, 1817, 1820, and 1821, as well as Secretary from 1827 to 1835. He was a grand old Mason, the founder of Stability Lodge of Instruction, and one whom the Craft delighted to honour. Secondly, Bro. Geo. Augustus Taylor, W.M. in 1859 and 1868, and Secretary 12 years. He had been a faithful servant of the lodge for 40 years, and had it not been for his exertions, he (Bro. Smith) felt sure the brethren would not then be

celebrating the centenary of Stability Lodge. Of Secretaries in the lodge there was none more steady, attentive, and beloved, and more useful than the present courteous and genial Bro. Nixon, P.M., who had quietly borne the brunt of the lodge work for 18 years that day. Time would fail the speaker to tell of all the workers who had assisted in building up the grand old lodge, 217. Concerning them he would commend the words of inspiration—"These all died in faith not having received the promises, but were persuaded of them"—viz., the success and continuance of the Stability Lodge. How astonished the brethren of 50 years ago would have been to see the present splendid gathering. Fancy the long churchwarden pipe and the glass of grog, with the small talk they had afterwards on ordinary nights, or the plain 2s. 6d. cold suppers they had on installation nights only, and then fasted Masonically for 12 months, or the humble kind of summer festival in 1869, at the Bell, at Edmonton, where John Gilpin wished to dine, but his horse prevented him, or the summer banquets at Bro. Brodie's Inn, "The Widow's Son," at Bromley, E. All those failed before the magnificence attendant on Masonic meetings at the present time. Go back further and think of the eight founders, Bros. Jacob Sarratt, the first W.M.; John McArthur, S.W.; James Hays, J.W.; John Kendall, Wm. Ott, Thos. Birkin, John Hulme, and Robert Baynton. Fancy them, without electric light or gas, or petroleum lamps, only having candles and the necessary snuffers, in a low-ceiled room, with time-stained beams, clothed in breeches, very high collared coats, double-breasted waistcoats, with wide frilled shirts, and the indispensable bunch of seals; fancy them feasting on bread and cheese, and home-brewed ale; fancy the vast difference of the custom that divided them from Masons of the present day. Think of that little band, averaging 10 for the first 10 years, meeting twice monthly all the year round as the charter said, and one must feel certain that only high hopes joined with brave hearts kept the lodge together during those earlier years. Those founders and early brethren of the lodge deserved the gratitude of all the brethren present who were the rich harvest sprung from their humble sowing. Of the 548 members who had joined the lodge during the century, a complete list of whom had been compiled and printed in the book giving the history of the lodge. What a catalogue of character! of appearance! of profession! of worth! There had been but four years when no members had joined, viz. 1800, 1817, 1833, and 1864. Nearly 600!! a veritable Masonic Light Brigade. When duty calls us may we be ready and willing to go even into the jaws of death, "for our God, our country, and our laws." May this lodge ever flourish "like a tree planted by the waterside that bringeth forth its fruit in due season." May brotherly love, relief, and truth,



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

ever shine in this lodge with undimmed and undiminished lustre till time shall be no more. And W.M., as the head of the lodge, he trusted that his year of office would, if possible, eclipse each of the previous 100, and be a blessing to himself and the lodge, and as he, the W.M., was the visible embodiment of the lodge, its mouthpiece and ruler, he would couple his (the W.M.'s name) with the toast, and ask him kindly to respond on behalf of that ancient and honourable lodge in centenary form assembled. He called upon all ladies, gentlemen, and brethren, to be up-standing and drink with enthusiasm "Success to Stability Lodge," coupled with the name of the W.M.

Three cheers were given to the Stability Lodge as well as the W.M. and Mrs. Edwards.

In reply, the W.M., who received quite an ovation, thanked Bro. Smith, P.M., for so kindly alluding to him and coupling his name with such an honoured toast. The Lodge of Stability certainly had made great advancement, and stood high in the cause of Freemasonry. During his Mastership it would be his aim to uphold the prestige of the lodge, and when he vacated the chair his desire was that the lodge should be in a more flourishing condition, if it were possible, than when he acceded to it. Before resuming his seat, on behalf of the brethren, he tendered most hearty thanks to Bro. Smith, P.M., for his great trouble taken in preparing the history of the lodge and the highly intellectual manner he had entertained all present.

In proposing the toast of "The Ladies," Bro. MARFLEET, P.M., said he should most certainly do his best, but it might have been placed in more able hands; he was the oldest member of the lodge, and therefore very modest. It was indeed a most pleasing duty, and he was highly gratified with their company—in fact, the brethren were honoured. Bro. Smith, P.M., had entertained the company so highly that he almost felt unable to do the toast justice. The Committee for bringing about that auspicious meeting had done its best and had catered for the comfort of the ladies, especially Bro. Nixon, P.M., who had been most indefatigable. The W.M. and Mrs. Edwards had been most kind, too, for allowing the Committee to meet at their residence, and had done their utmost that the gathering should be a thorough success. He hoped that the ladies had enjoyed themselves and that their reply would be that they had treated them well, and that they would never forget the centenary meeting of the Stability Lodge.

Bro. NIXON, P.M., replied in a very neat speech on behalf of the ladies, who, he said, had been at last admitted into the lodge after the space of 100

years, and now once admitted, their intention was to stay and participate in its mysteries. However, he would like to make a compromise with them, and, with the consent of the lodge, he trusted that their presence would grace the Stability Lodge once in each year. He hoped with the brethren that next year he should again see the ladies, and, on their behalf, most cordially thanked the brethren for their very kind expressions towards them.

The toast of "The Visitors" was next presented by Bro. P. H. GARNER, I.P.M., who remarked that the Stability Lodge gave them a most cordial welcome. There were many distinguished brethren present, among whom were Bro. Stiles, P.G.T.; Bro. David Rose, who was highly esteemed by all who knew him as a teacher and a most able Preceptor; Bro. Anderson, a P.M. and able exponent of the Stability working; Bro. Grant, W.M. of the Papyrus Lodge, a young off-shoot of the Stability Lodge; and many others. The lodge gave them a most hearty greeting.

In reply, Bro. ANDERSON said it gave him very great pleasure to be present on that exceptional occasion. As Preceptor of Stability Lodge of Instruction, which was founded in 1817 by many eminent Masons, among whom was Bro. Brodfoot. Bro. Peter Thompson became Preceptor in 1851, Bro. Henry Muggeridge Preceptor down to the year 1886, and since that time he had done his best to continue that excellent work and act as its Preceptor. The Stability working was the oldest working and the Emulation Lodge of Instruction was not started till six years afterwards. On behalf of himself and visitors he most cordially thanked the brethren for coupling his name with the Stability Lodge of Instruction.

Bro. DAVID ROSE very heartily and gratefully responded, and paid a high compliment to Bro. Smith, P.M., for his eloquent speech. He said Bro. Garner, the I.P.M., had done excellent service during the past year, and Bro. Edwards, the W.M., had begun in the same manner. The lodge had done good suit and service during its 100 years existence and he knew of no lodge in London where the work was done better, it was one of the highest order and every officer did his duty in the same efficient manner.

Bro. Rev. R. FINLAY also ably responded.

The company at the close of the toasts left the concert hall for the ball room, where they highly disported themselves on the light fantastic till the small hours of the morning to the strains of a capital quadrille band. The brethren acting as M.Cs. were Bros. A. E. Taperell, J. W. Elam, E. F. Giraud, A. Botterill, and Mr. E. Addington.

The whole proceedings were admirably arranged and most efficiently carried out to the great delight of all present.

The Committee was as follows: Bros. J. H. Edwards, W.M.; P. H. Garner, I.P.M.; H. Marfleet, P.M.; W. R. Smith, P.M.; Wm. Eckersall, P.M.; Geo. Say, S.W.; J. R. Ayris, J.W.; S. P. Fisher, Treas.; J. Nixon, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Smith, S.D.; H. B. Handcock, J.D.; S. C. Phillips, I.G.; Wm. Gorrie, P.M., and J. E. Cosham, Stwds.; Jas. Addington, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Edwards, A.D.C.; S. Leaman, Org.; E. F. Giraud, A. Botterill, C. E. Dodwell, Robert Fisher, and T. Bowler, Tyler.

The W.M. and Mrs. Edwards presented to each lady present a handsome bottle of scent as a souvenir of the memorable occasion.

RE-OPENING OF THE MASONIC ROOMS IN ROCHDALE.

During last month the rooms of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 298, Rochdale, were formally re-opened after undergoing a thorough re-construction on the expiration of the lease. The lodge, though with various numbers, has had a continuous existence of 104 years, the centenary being celebrated in 1893, on December 7th. On that evening a service was held in commemoration of the event, Archdeacon Wilson and the Rev. Dr. Salts conducting it, and the Rev. E. Bigoe-Bagot, M.A., preaching a sermon. Its first place of meeting was at the Unicorn Inn, Royton, where it was started on December 5th, 1793, at a time when the French Revolution was at its height. One of its first members was Mr. John Lyon Taylor, father of the late Alderman Taylor. The year following its inauguration it was removed to Rochdale, taking up its abode at the Blue Ball, Yorkshire-street, where it remained till 1844. Since that year it has moved several times, the following being the places at which its members have met: 1844-50, the Grapes Inn; 1850-52, the Wellington Hotel; 1852-57, the Grapes Inn again; 1857-59, Masonic Rooms at 54, Cheetham-street; and in 1859 to the place which they have occupied ever since in Drake-street and Ann-street. These rooms were enlarged in 1886 by the addition of the house, 100, Drake-street, now occupied by the offices of the N.S.P.C.C., and the lodge also had the upper part of the Botanist Inn and a cottage behind. Some time since the license of the Botanist Inn lapsed, and this has been taken advantage of to practically re-construct the whole of the premises, no difficulty being placed in the way by the owners, the Rochdale and Manor Brewery Company. The rooms of the lodge are placed in the first and second floors of what was formerly the inn and the cottage in Ann-street. On the upper floor are the lodge-room, ante-room, and dressing-room, the two former of which may be formed into one room by the removal of the partition between them. On the first floor are the dining-room, cloak-room, and kitchen, all commodiously situated. The entrance to the room is from Ann-street; on the ground floor are the entrance-hall, which may be used as a subsidiary cloak-room, the lavatory, and, fronting Drake-street, a lock-up shop. The rooms will be valuable for purposes public or private other than Masonic, and will undoubtedly form a convenient meeting-place. All the rooms are exceptionally well furnished and form a very handsome suite. The lodge has now 50 members. It is numbered 298, but has previously had other numbers.

Owing to the bad weather which prevailed in the autumn, the inaugural dinner, which also was in honour of the installation of Bro. William Brooks as W.M. for the year, which should have taken place early in January, had to be postponed till the premises were completed, and was accordingly held on Wednesday evening.

At the dinner there were present 33 members of the lodge, five guests representing various other lodges in the district, and 18 private guests.

Bro. William Brooks occupied the chair after dinner, and a short toast list was gone through. "The Queen," and "H.R.H. the Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family" were honoured from the chair, and other toasts were "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, our Grand Master;" "The Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, M.W. Pro Grand Master; the Right Hon. the Earl Amherst, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past;" "Col. Le Gendre Nicholas Starkie, R.W. Provincial Grand Master; Bro. C. R. N. Beswick-Royds, V.W. Deputy Provincial Grand Master; and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past;" "Bro. William Brooks, Worshipful Master;" W. Bro. Edmund Rothwell, Immediate Past Master, and the Past Masters of and in the Lodge of Harmony;" "The Officers

of the Lodge of Harmony;" "The Visiting Brethren;" "The Untoasted;" "The Masonic Charities;" and "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

During the evening the opportunity was taken of presenting to Bro. John Tonge the Past Master's jewel, in gold. A similar presentation was made to Bro. John Whittaker at the previous meeting, and in both cases the jewel was presented in recognition of their distinguished services to the lodge, particularly in connection with the re-construction of the building.

The officers for the present year are as follows: Bros. William Brooks (who presided), W.M.; E. Rothwell, I.P.M.; Thomas Townend, S.W.; W. O. Steinthal, J.W.; James Cross, P.M., Chap.; T. Oakden, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Grey, P.M., Sec.; John Hanson, S.D.; James Clegg, J.D.; John Tonge, P.M., D.C.; Albert E. Royds, Org.; William Shepherd, I.G.; James Meadowcroft, Fred. W. Turner, and David B. Carse, Stwds.; and A. F. Simpson, Tyler.

During the interval supper was served, the catering being well carried out by Bro. France, of the Navy Arms, Queen-street.

After the usual loyal toasts,

Bro. SYER, P.M., proposed "The Health or the W.M.," which was acknowledged by Bro. RUSSELL.

The toast of "The Ladies," proposed by the W.M., was responded to by Bro. McQUEEN, S.W.

The members of the lodge may be complimented upon the success of the evening's entertainment, and the Committee upon their efforts to promote the comfort and enjoyment of those present, Bro. F. Dickson, as Secretary of the Committee, being most energetic in his endeavour to make the evening an enjoyable one.

LADIES' NIGHT AT THE FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

This very successful North London lodge met at the Highbury Station Hotel (Old Cock Tavern) on Thursday, the 4th inst., when the following officers were present: Bros. Richard Parish, W.M.; Inder, I.P.M.; Hrauda, S.W.; Harrap, J.W.; Kelley, S.D.; Varley, J.D.; Perrin, I.G.; Edmunds, Tyler; and other brethren.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. C. Brunjes answered the questions, and was passed to the second Degree in an impressive manner. Donations to the Dimsdale-Keyser Fund for endowing a bed in Guy's Hospital, and to the Grand Master's Fund for the London Hospitals, were unanimously voted, after which the lodge was closed.

The Worshipful Master, assisted by his indefatigable Secretary, Bro. J. Oldis, P.M., Bros. Inder, I.P.M., and I. V. Davies, P.M., D.C., received the ladies and visitors to the number of about 80, in the reception room.

The following ladies, and brethren, and visitors were present: Mrs. Parish, Miss Parish, and Mr. Holford; Bro. G. Smith, W.M. Yarborough Lodge and Mrs. Smith; Bro. Birch, Dramatic Lodge, and Mrs. Birch; Mrs. Inder, Mrs. Varley, Bro. C. Varley and Mrs. Maude Varley; Miss F. Wyman, Mrs. Perrin, Bro. G. Weidner, A.W.S.; Bro. S. H. Price, P.M., and Mrs. Price; Bro. Syckle Moore, P.M.; Bro. Elam, A.D.C. and Mrs. Elam; Bro. F. Partington, P.M.; Bro. A. Mullord, P.M., Mrs., and the Misses N. and C. Mullord; Bro. Veale and Mrs. Veale; Mr. Garside and the Misses Garside; Mr. Mayger, Mr. J. Mayger, Mr. F. P. Allisch, Bro. Dicks and Mrs. Dicks; Mr. and Mrs. Julier; Bro. R. Roper, Mrs. Roper, Miss E. Roper, Miss R. Roper and Miss F. Roper; Bro. J. C. Brunjes, Miss M., and Miss L. Brunjes; Bro. E. Morgan and Mrs. Morgan; Bro. J. Davis and Mrs. Davis; Bro. H. Peck and Mrs. Peck; Mr. H. Hunt, Mr. A. Kemp, Bro. Farris, Mr. T. J. Wells, Mr. McCann, Bro. Mortimer and Mrs. Mortimer; Bro. Duck and Mrs. Duck; Bro. J. Bayne, Org.; Bro. Hayes, Bro. Steadman, and others.

About 7 p.m. the whole party proceeded to the banqueting hall, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. Jagers, manager to Bro. Andrews, proprietor of the establishment.

At the conclusion, the WORSHIPFUL MASTER announced that as dancing was the order of the evening, he would be as brief as possible with his speeches. He therefore proposed the toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," stating that during her glorious reign of nearly 60 years she had won the esteem and respect of all her subjects.

The toasts of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and "The W.M." having been proposed and responded to,

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER proposed, in a genial and pleasing manner, the toast of the evening, "The Ladies," stating he thought that all brethren present must acknowledge how essential the ladies were to their comfort and happiness; he had no doubt that most of them could remember the tender and loving care of a mother, the sincerity and kindness of a sister, the love, devotion, and self-sacrifice of a wife in time of sickness, trouble, and affliction. As the ladies shared in their misfortunes, he thought they ought to be participators in their festivities occasionally. He had heard it stated that some of the brethren did not agree with ladies' nights. His advice was that if any ladies wished to go to the ladies' night in future, and their husbands objected, they (the ladies) should communicate with the Worshipful Mistress for the time being, and request her to summon a jury of 12 ladies, who should have power to try the case and pass sentence, and he (the W.M.) would gladly assist them by drawing the prosecuting brief, providing his legal Bro. S. H. Price, P.M., would not report him to the Incorporated Law Society, and if the trial was carried out, as he was sure the ladies were capable of doing, he would venture to say the recalcitrant brother would not want a second trial. On behalf of the lodge, he tendered the ladies his heartiest welcome, and hoped they would grace the lodge with their presence for many years to come.

The toast having been responded to by Bro. DAVIES, P.M., in a very jovial style, a photograph of the assembled guests was then taken, by request of the Worshipful Master, to commemorate their ladies' banquet during her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee year.

The banquet being over, the guests retired to the reception-room, where a select concert was carried out under the direction of Bro. Syckle Moore, P.M., musical director, assisted by Miss Emily Davies, Mrs. Price, Bros. Inder, Baines, and Kelley.

About 10.30 p.m., the W.M. announced that the ball-room was ready, and in a very few minutes dancing commenced to the strains of Bro. W. Wright's Quadrille Band, and was continued with vigour until 3 a.m., all agreeing it was a very successful night, and regretted the time had passed away so quickly. Bros. Davies, P.M., and Syckle Moore, P.M., were the M.Cs.

MASONIC CONVERSAZIONE IN BOURNEMOUTH.

The Masonic conversazione which took place in the Masonic Hall, Bournemouth, on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., was one of the most enjoyable sociable events of the Bournemouth winter season. It was carried out under the auspices of Lodge Horsa, and to the untiring energy and zeal of the Secretary, Bro. J. J. Brazier, P.M., the great success which attended the function was largely due to the W.M., however, and various other brethren of the lodge, took also an active and practical interest in the preparations for the event; and the efforts of all were supported by the ready co-operation of kindred lodges in the district, and of individual Masons and Masonic lodges in other parts of the country.

The hall had been specially prepared for the conversazione, Bros. Dowden and William Hankinson having carried out that work very effectively. Bro. Ratsch lent a lot of beautiful palms and other plants, which also helped very much to give an elegant aspect to the interior. The large collection of beautiful things of many kinds which were exhibited were, however, of themselves sufficient to make the scene a gorgeous and most interesting one. Surrounding the Master's chair were the handsome banners of the Horsa, Hengist, Boscombe, St. Cuthberga, and other lodges; Masonic clothing—some which was exceedingly beautiful, both in respect of design and enrichment—adorned the walls; of pictures and rare and curious prints there was a large collection; of Masonic jewels and gems and antiques of various kinds there was such a magnificent display as to quite fascinate the lady visitors, whilst they were also of special interest to the Masonic brethren; and "the mysteries of nature and science" were revealed by a demonstration of the Röntgen X Rays, by Bro. MacGillicuddy, and by means of microscopes, and electrical and chemical apparatus and illustrative slides, under the care of Bro. J. H. Williams.

The boudoir prepared for the ladies was artistically arranged by Bro. Hogg; the catering for the buffet was entrusted to Bro. Holloway, the Tyler of the lodge; whose ample and special experience enabled him to carry out this important department to the utmost satisfaction of all.

Bros. G. W. Speth, F.R. Hist. S., P.A.G.D.C., and Harvey were in charge of the Masonic exhibits; the scientific exhibits were, as already stated, under the care of Bros. MacGillicuddy and J. H. Williams; Bro. G. E. Bridge had the direction of the musical arrangements; Bro. H. Youngman, P.M. 1571, was Director of the Ceremonies; and the Assistant Directors of Ceremonies were Bros. T. Cox and F. J. E. Evans-Vaughan. The various functions thus assigned were all very satisfactorily carried out.

As regards the exhibits, the most important collection was that shown by Bro. Speth, and embraced jewels and medals, seals, commemorative coins, curious engravings, &c. Among the medals was one which was struck by the Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee in 1887; a bronze square and compass, in the same case, was dug up at Corfu, with coins and vessels of the eighth and ninth centuries; there were also 21 copper halfpenny tokens, struck to commemorate the election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of English Masonry on the 24th November, 1790; a curious medallion in Battersea enamel; a bronze devotional medal, of the time of Urban VIII., who restored the Church of the Quatuor Coronati in Rome, in 1624—the obverse side of the medal showing St. Michael, and the reverse side the four martyrs; and many others of great interest. The seals also were a very fine collection. The quaint and curious prints appeared to have a special interest for the ladies, as they "professed" (as Bro. Speth subsequently neatly put it) to afford an insight into some of the mysteries of Freemasonry. The Masonic clothing also proved attractive.

Bro. G. E. Turner, of Blandford, had sent a collection of nine articles, which included a letter from George Washington to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and other interesting relics. Lodge St. Cuthberga, No. 622, Wimborne, had lent a valuable collection, which included a sketch of a sword of state presented to the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons by Thomas Duke of Norfolk in 1730, when his grace was Grand Master of England; a sketch of a jewel presented by the brethren of Grand Stewards' Lodge to their Past Master, Bro. Wm. Williams, Prov. G.M. of Dorset, 1818; an original and very valuable engraving of the "Procession of Miserable Masons before Somerset House," presented to Lodge 622 by the P.G.M., Bro. Montague Guest; a silk Masonic chart, presented to Lodge St. Cuthberga by Bro. Geo. Habgood, jun., P.P.G. Std. Br.; a Masonic chart, depicting the "Rise and Progress of Masonry in England from its introduction until the year 1866," dedicated to the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of England in that and for many previous years; two French engravings, presented to Lodge St. Cuthberga by the P.G.M., Bro. Montague J. Guest, caricaturing Masonic ceremonies; the new banner of the lodge, painted by Frank A. Smallpiece, and depicting St. Cuthberga holding a figure of the Wimborne Minister in her left arm and a pastoral staff with her right hand.

Lodge Unity, Wareham, exhibited the I.G.'s dagger; the I.P.M.'s jewel, which is of a curious and antique design, somewhat like the jewels now worn by the P.G.M. and G.M.; a silver trowel, the jewel formerly worn by Deacons; the lodge bible, a black-letter "breeches" bible; the two original banners of the lodge; an apron of Bro. Charles Wyndham, P.M. of Lodges Unity, 386, Wareham, and St. Cuthberga, 622, Wimborne, with the P.P.S.G.W.'s badges of Dorset and Wilts affixed; and six old firing glasses engraved "Twelve Brothers Lodge," with the emblems of the W.M. (old pattern), S.W., and Treasurer, and one representing Mercury—probably intended for the Deacon's design.

Bro. Brazier sent a Masonic chart and medallion, showing some Masonic emblems; the Worshipful Master of the lodge exhibited a large collection of Masonic jewels; Bro. F. E. Cridland sent a curious old Bible; Bro. C. Waters exhibited some large and scarce silver coins; Bro. J. E. Marsden sent an old English lever watch, with Masonic signs instead of figures on the dial; Bro. F. W. R. Hedges (Sec. R.M.I. for Girls), photographs and views of the Girls' School; Bro. Deane Webb, an antique carved oak *Prie Dieu* chair; Bro. Horace Budden, a Turkish enamelled brooch, a Moorish brass tray, and a Norwegian Masonic drinking glass.

Lodge Amity (Poole), contributed an old painting by Philip van Dyke, being a portrait of Thos. Dunckerley, Provincial Grand Master of Dorsetshire from 1780, a proof print of William Williams, Provincial Grand Master of Dorsetshire from 1812 to 1839; the historic biscuit of the Lodge of Amity, together with its curious history, and a list of the Past Masters of the lodge from 1765 to 1897. Bro. Chapin, of Lodge Amity, had sent two curious aprons, said to have been worn in the East Indies.

Bro. H. Harvey, as was to be expected, showed some interesting relics, including a curious Chinese pottery, landscape, and other things.

Lodge Hengist, No. 195, lent a Master's gavel, made from olive wood specially brought from Jerusalem for the purpose, and presented to the lodge by Bro. the Rev. Gordon Brown in 1878; a valuable picture, depicting the execution of Lady Jane Gray, or rather the scene where she met the dead body of her husband being carried from the scaffold to which she was being led. This picture was presented to Lodge Hengist by Mr. Penney, per Bro. E. W. Rebbeck, at the foundation-stone laying of the hall on January 15th, 1877, and is kept there; an

autograph letter from H.R.H. Bro. King Oscar of Sweden, in response to an invitation to visit the Lodge of Hengist in 1888, when staying at Bournemouth; a portrait of Thomas Dunckerley, natural son of George II., one of the most eminent Masons of the 18th century, first Prov. G.M. of Hants (b. 1742, d. 1795), 1761, Isle of Wight added 1798. (He was a founder of the Lodge of Hengist at Christchurch in 1770, and visited it as Prov. G.M. in 1776); a warrant of the Lodge of Hengist, then No. 405, dated November 23rd, 1770, with autograph signatures of James Hesclint, G.S., and Thomas Dunckerley, Prov. G.M. Hants; a banner of the Lodge of Hengist, presented when the lodge was meeting at Christchurch; a letter of invitation from Lodge Hengist to the lodge at Havant on the occasion of opening the Christchurch Masonic Hall; a facsimile of Benoist's celebrated engraving "A Geometrical View of the Grand Procession of Scal'd Miserable Masons," already referred to. An interesting description of the picture was given in the catalogue.

The Hengist Royal Arch Chapter sent their five principal banners. The Boscombe Lodge also exhibited its banner. Bro. Minty sent various articles, including an old Masonic mug, a copy of a summons of True Friendship Lodge, Calcutta, giving a list of Past Masters from 1773 to 1894, Persian vases, &c. Lodge Unity sent the lodge charter, dated 1764, and the lodge banner. Bro. J. J. Fisher exhibited a jewel presented by French Masons, in recognition of distinguished services; a French Masonic sash, worn by Masons of the Third Degree; and Bro. J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, gave on the occasion a phototype illustration of the Masonic Boys' School. By Bro. F. J. W. Crowe, P.P.G.O. Devon, of Torquay, there was sent for exhibition a large and interesting collection of aprons of various kinds and belonging to different countries, two old K.T. seals of the extinct "St. James' Encampment," Aberdeen, and a set of 36 coloured plates from Masonic Clothing and Regalia, British and Continental," edited and compiled by Bro. Crowe this year.

The company present included: From Lodge Horsa—Bro. C. Pearce, W.M., with whom were Mrs. Pearce and Miss Chudley; Bro. W. J. M. Dowden; Bro. H. J. Atkins; Bro. C. Waters, accompanied by Mrs. Waters and Miss Mitchell; Bro. J. B. Atkinson, Mrs. and Miss Atkinson; Bro. J. J. Brazier and Mrs. Brazier; Bro. H. E. Hawker and Mrs. Hawker; Bro. C. T. Miles and Miss F. M. Miles; Bro. Henry Youngman and Mrs. Youngman; Bro. Horace Budden; Bro. F. A. K. Hounsell and Mrs. Hounsell; Bro. H. J. Tuson and Miss Tuson; Bro. G. E. Bridge and Mrs. Bridge; Bro. H. G. Knight and Mrs. Knight; Bro. H. B. Harvey; Bro. H. Robson, Mrs. Robson and Misses Thickpenny; Bro. G. W. Powell and Mrs. Powell; Bro. H. T. Pottle and Mrs. Pottle; Bros. J. H. Williams, Deane Webb, R. Tuffin, J. E. Marsden, and F. J. Evans-Vaughan; Bro. H. C. Ratsch and Mrs. Ratsch; Bro. J. Judd and Mrs. Judd; Bro. H. W. Francis and Mrs. Francis; Bro. Thomas Cox and Mrs. Cox; Bro. W. J. Street and Mrs. Street; Bro. Wm. Hankinson, Mrs. Hankinson and Miss King; and Bro. E. C. Duchesne, Mrs. Duchesne, and Miss Tunnacliffe.

Among the visitors were—Bro. G. W. Speth, F.R. Hist. S., and Mrs. Speth; Bros. S. T. Klein, F.R.A.S., &c., MacGillicuddy, M.R.C.S.E., and A. T. George; Bro. C. J. Whitting and Mrs. Whitting; Bro. F. T. Cutler and Mrs. Cutler; Bro. J. Harvey, Mrs. Harvey, and Miss Thompson; Bros. C. H. Mate and Mrs. Mate; Bro. W. Miller; Bro. J. W. Sandell and Mrs. Sandell; Bro. M. C. Burke and Miss H. Burke; Bro. Oakley and Miss Oakley; Bro. E. Whitley Baker and Mrs. Baker; Bro. Gush; Bro. F. H. Turner and Misses Turner; Mrs. Shakespeare and Miss Shakespeare; Bros. A. C. Chapin and J. J. Fisher; and Bro. R. Homewood and Mrs. Homewood.

The Worshipful Master of Lodge Horsa (Bro. PEARCE), just before the musical portion of the conversazione was commenced, said a few words of welcome and of thanks. He expressed the great pleasure it gave him to see present in the lodge on that occasion so many ladies, because it showed their sympathy with, and their appreciation of, Masonic work. He spoke briefly of the elevating and sacred principles of Masonry, and said that no Mason could be true to those principles without becoming all the better man by so doing. To the Masons in various parts of the country, who had lent ready help in connection with the exhibits on that occasion (and in this connection the name of Bro. G. W. Speth, F.R. Hist. S., was specially mentioned); to the brethren of neighbouring lodges who had given their willing co-operation; to the ladies and others who had so kindly come forward to carry out the musical programme which they were to enjoy; and to all others who had in various ways assisted in the arrangements, he, in the name of the lodge, expressed his most hearty thanks.

Bro. SPETH said their Worshipful Master had asked him to say a few words: why, he knew not. (Laughter.) He could only suppose that he had fixed upon him to represent those whom he had so eloquently thanked, and that he wished him, in their name, to acknowledge the thanks which had been given them. (Hear, hear.) He assured those assembled that, so far as he was concerned, it had given him very great pleasure to co-operate with Lodge Horsa in its very successful effort, and to be present on that auspicious occasion. The ladies who had assembled that evening had, doubtless, come there with divided feelings; partly, they wished to grace that occasion with their presence, and to give them all the pleasure of seeing them; partly, they might have thought that, once admitted within the sacred enclosure of the lodge room, they might, perchance, obtain some insight into the mysteries of what was carried on within those walls upon certain occasions. (Laughter.) He noticed that the Worshipful Master, in addressing them, was very careful not to give the slightest clue to anything which ever took place there—(laughter)—and he himself should not dare, in his presence, to take the ladies into his confidence and tell them all about it. (Laughter.) But he had brought with him, from his extensive museum in London, a collection of prints published in the last century, and which were exhibited on the walls that night, which "professed" to tell them—he did not say that they did—(laughter)—and he did not say that they did not, and some of them contradicted others—(laughter)—but which "professed" to tell them exactly how the thing was done. (Much laughter.) Now, he thought he had been very kind in satisfying their curiosity—and he might say their "laudable curiosity": because when their brothers or husbands absented themselves from the family circle on certain occasions in order to go elsewhere, it was only right that they should know where they went and what they went for. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) If, therefore, the ladies present only studied those prints, and read between the lines—(laughter)—and brought to bear in that study those intuitive qualities which enabled them so easily to jump at conclusions—(laughter)—sometimes without any reason whatever—(laughter)—they would then have a much keener perception and a much deeper knowledge—(laughter)—of the mysteries of Freemasonry. (Applause.)

The musical part of the conversazione was then proceeded with, and gave the greatest satisfaction, many of the songs being most heartily applauded.

The proceedings, which were of a most enjoyable character throughout, terminated shortly after 11 o'clock.

CONVERSAZIONE OF THE UNION WATERLOO LODGE, No. 13.

A very successful conversazione was held under the auspices of the above lodge on Friday evening, the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Plumstead. About 250 ladies and gentlemen were present, including many brethren representing the neighbouring lodges.

By dispensation from Grand Lodge, the brethren wore Masonic clothing which added very much to the brilliancy of the scene.

Both halls were decorated, and in the concert room an arrangement of small tables allowed parties to group themselves at pleasure, the platform and tables being much admired for the artistic arrangement of plants, &c.

An excellent musical programme was carried out by Miss Blanche Blake, Miss Cheal, Messrs. Everett, Osborne Morgan, Maple, and Parsons, with Mr. Dungey as accompanist.

After the concert an adjournment was made to the ball room, where dancing was carried on to a choice selection of dance music by Mr. Percy Godfrey's quadrille band, Bro. Butteriss, assisted by Bros. Matthey and Chambers, officiating as M.Cs.

CONSECRATION OF THE CHALONER LODGE, No. 2644.

An important and imposing Masonic ceremony was performed at Melksham on Saturday, the 27th ultimo, when the Prov. Grand Master of Wilts, Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Radnor, consecrated a new lodge to be known as the Chaloner Lodge, No. 2644. There was a very large assembly of members of the Craft. Every one of the 11 Wiltshire lodges was represented, and there were many visitors from a distance.

Owing to the Prov. G.M. being unable to catch the morning train, the ceremony had to be postponed for more than an hour, but fortunately the weather was delightfully fine, and little inconvenience was suffered. The brethren assembled in Miss Fowler's Hall at about three o'clock, and on the arrival of the Prov. G.M. and his officers the impressive ceremony was at once commenced.

A very able oration on the nature and principles of the Institution was read with much solemnity by Bro. the Rev. S. T. Wood, Rector of Ilperton and Grand Chaplain for the Province of Wilts, and many present expressed a hope that they might see it in print.

The ceremony of consecration was watched with deep interest, and the lodge having been duly constituted, the installation of the W.M. designate, Bro. Capt. Chaloner, took place, and the W.M., having taken the chair, invested his officers as follows: Bros. John Parker, I.P.M.; Chas. Saxty, S.W.; Edward Lowther, J.W.; Charles Sawtell, Treas.; John Parker, Sec.; Henry Sawtell, S.D.; Robert J. Parker, J.D.; F. W. Bascomb, I.G.; J. K. Macdonald, D.C.; and Joseph Collett, Stwd.

The lodge having been closed, a procession was formed, and, headed by a band, marched to the parish church. By a special dispensation the brethren were allowed to wear their regalia in the street, and the novel and imposing sight, which is so seldom seen, was witnessed by a large crowd, the streets being lined with spectators. At the church, where the bells had been pealing for several hours, the congregation was very large. The brethren filled the greater part of the spacious nave, and the general effect of the combined mass of so much colour and such varied symbols was striking. Bro. Earl Radnor and one or two more were seated in the choir, and two of the numerous lodge banners—the handsome one of the Grand Lodge and that of the Richard Chaloner Lodge—stood either side of the chancel arch. The general congregation found accommodation in the aisles and the west end of the nave. A shortened form of service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. G. Wyld, with special prayers bearing on unity, and Bro. Millington, P.P.G. Org. Wilts, was at the organ. The service was choral, and included an anthem and two hymns.

The special preacher was Bro. the Rev. F. W. MACDONALD, Past Grand Chaplain of England and P.P.S.G.W. of Wiltshire. His text was Proverbs xx., II—"Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it is right." Upon this our rev. brother delivered a most eloquent address, which was listened to with rapt attention by the whole congregation.

A collection was taken at the close of the service for Masonic Charities, and then the procession was re-formed to the hall.

A banquet followed, held at the Town Hall, to which about 120 sat down, the host being Mr. Larcombe, of the King's Arms Hotel.

The representatives of the Prov. Grand Lodge present were—

Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Radnor, P.G.M.; C. N. P. Phipps, D.P.G.M.; W. J. Mann, P.P.S.G.W.; W. B. Gregory, P.P.S.G.W. Somerset; B. W. Watts, P.P.S.G.W.; A. Plummer, P.P.S.G.W.; G. L. Palmer, P.P.J.G.W.; H. Merrick, P.P.J.G.W.; E. Noke, P.P.J.G.W.; W. C. Powning, P.P.J.G.W.; J. Sparks, P.P.J.G.W.; Rev. E. Anderson, P.P.G. Chap.; Rev. F. W. Macdonald, P.G. Chap. Eng.; Rev. A. H. L. Bolton, P.P.G. Chap.; Rev. S. T. Wood, P.G. Chap.; G. W. Collen, P.P.G. Reg.; R. W. Merriman, P.P.J.G.W.; T. C. Hopkins, P.P.G. Reg.; H. Bevir, P.G. Sec.; A. Beaven, P.P.S.G.D.; E. Eyres, P.P.S.G.D.; J. S. Hill, P.P.G. Reg.; George M. Wilson, P.G.R.; C. W. B. Bryant, P.P.J.G.D.; Sir W. R. Brown, P.P.J.G.D.; J. A. Randall, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; W. E. Taylor, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; N. Bengafield, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; W. E. N. Browne, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; H. J. Johnson, P.G. Supt. of Works; James Hibberd, P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. E. Bishop, P.P.G.S.B.; Walter Genge, P.P.G.S.B.; F. Wyatt, P.P.G.S.B.; W. H. Brinkworth, P.P.G. Org.; W. H. Bush, P.G. Org.; H. H. Baker, P.P.G. Org.; A. Wallington, P.P.G.P.; James Taylor, P.P.G.S.B.; B. W. Crees, P.A.G.D.C.; F. G. Billingham, P.G.S.; and H. Dean, P.G. Tyler, together with a very numerous attendance of officers and brethren from the several lodges in the Province.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. Richard Chaloner, John Parker, Charles Sawtell, Charles Saxty, Frederick W. Boscombe, Henry Sawtell, Robert John Parker, Joseph Collett, George Childe, and Edward Lowther.

Mark Masonry.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 181.

A meeting of this highly prosperous lodge was held at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on the 17th ult., when there were present, among others, Bros. F. F. Bonney, W.M.; R. W. Forge, S.W.; W. Hill, J.W.; W. Fisher, P.M.; P.G.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; George Everett, I.P.M.; G.S.D.; and Henry Higgins, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.M. Middx., honoured the lodge with his presence.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. R. W. Forge was unanimously elected W.M.; W. Fisher, P.M., Treas.; and G. Harrison,

Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the W.M. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The Treasurer gave a notice of motion to vote the sum of five guineas to the Mark Benevolent Fund per Bro. F. F. Bonney as Steward for the forthcoming Mark Festival. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. C. H. Köhler, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Porter, P.M.; A. R. Simmonds, P.M.; E. W. Davis, P.M.; E. Hopwood, P.M.; and W. Thomas, P.M.

The lodge was then closed.

At the subsequent banquet, Bro. G. Everett, G.S.D., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

The toast of "The R.W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Cook, Prov. Grand Master," was warmly received.

The Prov. Grand Master, in reply, said that it had afforded him a great deal of pleasure to attend that evening. He had visited them before and he trusted to do so many times in the future. The lodge bore a most distinguished name and he had every reason to believe that its constant support to the Mark Benevolent Fund was highly gratifying to the well wishers of that deserving Institution. However, he had not attended there that night to advocate the cause of the Fund over which he hoped to have the honour to preside on Wednesday, July 7th next, but because he owed the lodge a visit. He had heard the audit statement read that night and it pleased him to hear that No. 181 was in so prosperous a condition. No doubt a great deal of the success of the lodge was due to the exertions of the Past Masters, many of whom were well and deservedly known in Masonic circles. In concluding his remarks he expressed a hope that the Master whom they had elected that night would have in every respect a prosperous and happy year of office.

The toasts of "The Master elect," "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers," terminated the proceedings.

Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 238.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 23rd ult. Among those present were Bros. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., W.M.; T. B. Dodson, S.W.; R. Burleton, J.W.; Major T. C. Walls, P.G.S.B., Sec.; and A. N. Clemow, P.M. Visitors: Bros. H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.S.G.D.; F. Graves, P.G.S.; and F. W. Driver, M.A., P.G.S.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. T. B. Dodson was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., Treas., vice Bro. N. Prower, M.A., G.S., resigned; and Bro. Goddard, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted to the W.M. Bro. N. Prower, M.A., G.S., now in Cyprus, sent an apology for enforced absence. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.S.G.D., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." In the course of his remarks he touched upon the great strides that the Degree had made during the last few years. It had afforded him a great deal of pleasure to visit the Prince Leopold Lodge, because it numbered among its members several old friends of his. He was sorry that a lodge bearing so distinguished a name should be so few in number. He, however, trusted that the worthy brother elected that night to fill the Master's chair would be able to introduce new members during his year and restore the lodge to the strong position it once held.

"The Health of the W.M." followed. The proposer of the toast regretted exceedingly that Bro. Fillingham had had no work to do during his year. He (the speaker) only recently witnessed the excellent working of the W.M. in another important Degree in Freemasonry, and felt confident that in the Mark ceremony he would have been equally as proficient.

This pledge having been duly received,

The W.M. replied. In the course of his remarks, he thanked the brethren for the jewel that they had voted to him that evening, and he hoped to live many years to wear it in their midst. They had also reposed great confidence in him by electing him to be their Treasurer. In consequence, unfortunately, of their weakness numerically it would not be a very onerous duty to discharge.

"The Health of the Master Elect" followed, and was briefly acknowledged by Bro. Dodson.

Bro. F. W. Driver responded on behalf of "The Visitors."

The toast of "The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary," coupled with the names of Bros. Clemow and Walls, terminated the proceedings.

Royal Ark Mariners.

Prince Leopold Lodge, No. 238.

The election meeting of this lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 23rd ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. F. Graves, W.C.N.; the Rev. A. C. Fillingham, M.A., J.; Major T. C. Walls, P.G.C., P.W.C.N., Scribe; and F. W. Driver, M.A., P.W.C.N.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., was unanimously elected W.C.N. and Treasurer, and Bro. Goddard, Warder. A vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to Bro. F. Graves, W.C.N., for his services during the past year. A letter from Bro. N. Prower, M.A., P.W.C.N., was read, in which he resigned his Treasurership. The lodge was then closed.

The members dined with the Prince Leopold Mark Lodge, under the presidency of Bro. the Rev. R. C. Fillingham.

In the course of the evening the toast of "The W.C.N." was duly drunk. Bro. F. Graves unfortunately, through indisposition, was unable to stay to the banquet.

Secret Monitor.

Premier Conclave, No. 1.

The regular meeting was held on Thursday, the 25th ult., at the Holborn Restaurant, under the presidency of Bro. Japheth Tickle, P.G. Treas., &c.; Bro. Dr. Kempster, P.G.V. Councillor; Bro. Spratling, G.R., Guide, in place of Bro. Dr. Roberts, P.G.B.B., unable to be present. There were also present Bros. Dr. I. Zacharie, P.G.S.N.; F. E. Lemon, N. Brokenshire, P.G.C.; J. Bastone, P.S.R., A. Gamman, J. Kay, Guy, Nelson, Jewson, Sheppard, Reep, Tyler, Capt. Loder, Edmonds, Taylor, and others. Bros. Lee and Snelling were candidates for induction. The induction ceremony being performed, Bro. Spratling, G.R., presided as David, and Bros. Gamman, Nelson, Jewson, Sheppard, Reep, Tyler, Loder, Edwards, and Taylor were admitted to the second Degree (Prince of the Order), the S.R. in the chair being ably assisted by Bros. Guy (Ab.); Tickle (J.); Bastino (Ez.); Lemon (Ad.); and Brokenshire (Sh.). Bro. Tickle was re-elected S.R. for the second time, and Bro. Dr. Kempster, in proposing his re-election, took occasion to compliment him and the conclave on the new life and spirit he had infused into it during the preceding year. The two candidates inducted that evening are the 107th and 108th members inducted in this conclave since its foundation, and those who remember Bro. Dr. Alfred Meadows, in whose memory the conclave was founded, felt that the monument thus raised to his honour was in a fair way to prove a worthy and lasting memorial of that distinguished and urbane Mason. The conclave has attempted on several occasions to find a night of meeting which should be convenient to all its members, and the acting Secretary announced the result of a post-card poll which had been taken during the previous week. The results were so discordant that the S.R. determined to cut the hopeless knot by the appointment of a Committee of officers to finally settle the question. Bros. Nelson and A. Gamman were appointed Grand Stewards for the forthcoming Festival.

The brethren dined together under the presidency of Bro. Tickle, and it is not needful to add that "all went merry as a marriage bell."

The next meeting is due on Tuesday, May 11th, unless the Committee should previously determine to alter the date (by dispensation).

During the evening, Bro. Tickle asked the brethren to remember that a conclave of instruction is held at his chambers, Crown Court, 63, Cheapside, E.C., every Friday evening at 6.30, under the competent Preceptorship of Bro. N. Brokenshire, P.G.C., P.S.R. 11. All brethren are invited.

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THE
109th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

WILL TAKE PLACE

On WEDNESDAY, the 12th MAY, 1897,

LORD LLANGATTOCK

R.W. Prov. Grand Master South Wales (E.D.),

IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards on this important
occasion are most earnestly solicited to send in their names
to the Secretary as early as convenient. Stewards are
greatly needed, and their services will be very gratefully
received.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Offices—5, Freemasons' Hall,
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Secretary.

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Summary of the Report presented at the FORTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL MEETING, held on 4th March, 1897.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies
issued during the year was 64,241 assuring the
sum of £8,507,820 and producing a New Annual
Premium Income of £354,526.

The Premiums received during the year were
£2,543,262, being an increase of £239,249 over the
year 1895.

The Claims of the year amounted to £588,874.
The number of Deaths was 4,598 and 365 Endow-
ment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the
year was 455,795.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The premiums received
during the year were £4,578,793, being an increase
of £226,168.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,706,481.
The number of deaths was 183,959 and 1,630 Endow-
ment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the
year to those Policyholders of five years' standing, who
desired to discontinue their payments, was 59,534,
the number in force being 499,296. The number of
Free Policies which became Claims during the year
was 9,283.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of
the year was 12,130,542: their average duration is
almost exactly eight years.

The assets of the Company, in both Branches, as
shewn in the Balance Sheet, are £27,059,111, being
an increase of £3,143,221 over those of 1895. A
supplement showing in detail the various investments
is published with this Report.

In their last Report the Directors drew attention to
the success which had attended the introduction of the
special tables combining Life Assurance with a pro-
vision for old age. The popularity of these tables
still continues, and it will interest the Shareholders to
learn that Endowment Assurances and other forms of
provision for old age are largely adopted by the public,
the number of Policies securing benefits at age 60 and
upwards being over 550,000, and securing capital
sums exceeding £23,000,000.

Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co. have ex-
amined the Securities, and their certificate is appended
to the Balance Sheets.

THOS. C. DEWEY, } Managers.
WILLIAM HUGHES, }

W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

The full Report and Balance Sheet can be obtained
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INCOME AND FUNDS (1895).

Fire Premiums	£732,000
Life Premiums	239,000
Interest	172,000
Accumulated Funds	-	-	-	£4,671,000



SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The other day we gave particulars of the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations—Preliminary Stage—in December, 1896, as far as they affected the children entered from our Boys' and Girls' Schools. We are now in a position to announce the results obtained at the more advanced stage of the same Examinations. As regards the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, we learn that 22 pupils competed, of

whom 20 passed, three of these 20 taking honours, while the other 17 were awarded Passes. In addition, there were distributed amongst them four Distinctions for proficiency in one or other of the prescribed subjects. Bearing in mind that of the 19 girls entered in the Preliminary Stage, only one failed to satisfy the examiners, we cannot do otherwise than congratulate Miss Redgrave, the new Head Governess, and her staff on results which are so eminently satisfactory. The credit thus resulting from the education and training the children undergo at their hands will materially strengthen the hands of those ladies and brethren who have undertaken the duties of Stewards at the approaching Festival of the Institution, under Bro. Lord Llangattock, Prov. Grand Master South Wales (Eastern Division), on the second Wednesday in May.

Doubtless, also, it will facilitate their work in obtaining the much-needed donations and subscriptions, if we add that of the 31 children entered for the College of Preceptors' Examination, 25 passed, while all the 11 girls, who submitted themselves for examination in music by the Associated Board of the Royal College and the Royal Academy of Music, passed. At the recent annual test in swimming, there were further obtained, four prizes, two silver medals, and 21 certificates. These are facts upon which it will be the duty of the Stewards for the 109th Anniversary to lay all possible stress.

It will also materially assist the same ladies and brethren in their efforts as Stewards, if we mention that the annual Statement of Accounts for 1896, which has been issued with the voting papers for the election next month, is in all respects satisfactory, and that, after defraying on a liberal scale the expenses of the past year, the authorities were in a position to expend £6000 in the purchase of £5435 19s. 4d. India 3 per cent. Stock, thereby permanently enlarging the fixed income of the Institution. This purchase augments the invested capital to £88,676 14s. 10d. This is undoubtedly a considerable amount to have accumulated, and will enable the Institution to tide over a rainy day, should one ever, unfortunately, come. But it is not as large as it ought to be, considering that the only other fixed sources of income are the Grants by Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter amounting to £160 10s., while the expenditure for 1896 was £13,640.

Turning to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in connection with which we recently noted that of the 40 pupils entered at the Preliminary Stage of the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last, 36 passed, of whom one took First Class, two Second Class, and three Third Class Honours, while five Distinctions in Geography, Latin, English, and History were distributed amongst them, we have much pleasure in reporting that of 14 boys who entered in the "Senior" Division of the more advanced stages of the same examinations, 11 passed, one with Third Class Honours and two with Distinction in one of the prescribed subjects. The limits of age for this Division are from 16 to 18 years, and the average age of our candidates was 16 years. For the "Junior" Division—age up to 16 years—30 boys entered, one taking Second Class and one Third Class Honours, and 22 satisfying the examiners. Average age of candidates, 14 years 2 months. We congratulate our Rev. Bro. Hebb, the Head Master of the School, and his staff, on results which reflect such credit on their labours.

As for the other examinations at which sundry of "Our Boys" were entered, two passed the London University Matriculation Examination and were placed in the First Division. At the South Kensington Science and Art Examinations in May of last year, 39 gained certificates, while in Shorthand there were obtained 68 First Grade Certificates, and 10 memberships of the Phonetic Society. We may further mention that an ex-pupil, who left the School in 1890, has gained a Research Scholarship in Natural Science of the value of £150 for two years at Owens College, Victoria University, and that an out-educated boy took a Third-Class in the Third Division at last year's College of Preceptors' Examination. We trust the Stewards for the Festival in June next under Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Cumberland and Westmorland, will bear these gratifying facts in mind when they are canvassing for donations and subscriptions towards the expenses of the current year. Such excellent results as those we have just enumerated are calculated to materially diminish the severity of the task they have undertaken. Brethren are always more inclined to contribute to our Institutions when they realise that the money they give is carefully and beneficially used.

As regards the Statement of Account for 1896, which, as in the case of the Girls' School, has been issued with the voting papers for next election, we have every reason to congratulate the Board of Management on the continued success of their financial administration. After defraying the cost of maintaining the Institution—which amounted to £13,117—the Board found themselves in a position to spend £8175 2s. in the purchase of £8000 South Australian Three per Cent. Inscribed Stock, and, at the same time, to set aside a substantial sum towards the purchase of the new estate at Bushey, Hertfordshire. The present invested capital amounts to £58,814 12s. 5d., and to this must be added the purchase money—£13,186—of the Bushey estate, towards defraying which £10,000 2½ per Cent. Consols were sold out, realising £10,949 7s. 6d.

When in 1890, the new régime was inaugurated the invested capital of the Institution amounted to £17,500. Hence, if we put the excess over this sum of the present capital, that is to say, £41,314 and the price paid for the new estate—£13,186—together, we find that during the six and a half years of the present administration, there has been accumulated after liberally providing for the needs of the Institution, about £54,500. This is a fact which cannot be controverted and should go a long way towards convincing those who may have been unfavourably influenced towards the Board by the clamours of critics who were either uninformed or would not take the trouble of informing themselves, that the Board of Management have conscientiously discharged their duty towards the Institution. We trust this also will be remembered by those who have accepted Stewardships for the forthcoming 99th Anniversary in the month of June.

A fortnight since, we published a letter from Bro. Julius O. Jacobs, I.P.M. 227, in which he cautioned our readers to be on their guard against a certain notorious impostor who appends the letters "B.A.T.C.D." to his name, and who for some time past has been defrauding benevolent-minded brethren. Since then we have been favoured with another letter, from which it appears that the fellow has twice visited another brother, who, on the first occasion gave him a trifle, and promised him assistance on receiving a statement in writing of his position, if, on inquiry, it proved satisfactory. But the statement never came, and on the second occasion, our brother inquired of the fellow if he ever read the *Freemason*, and gave him to understand that if he ever called upon him again, that he would probably have an opportunity of recounting his story to a policeman.

From this it is clear that, notwithstanding he has been sentenced to imprisonment by two different magistrates for obtaining money under false pretences, and cautioned by a third, the fellow with the letters "B. A. T. C. D." appended to his name must find his imposture is a paying game, and we suggest that it will be an act of charity to the whole Craft if the next brother who is honoured with a visit from him will hand him over to the police. There will not be the slightest difficulty in proving him up to the hilt to be an arrant knave who makes a living by his fraudulent misrepresentations, to the very serious detriment of the brother who is really and truly in need of help. We shall probably take occasion to refer in some future number to this and similar cases, with a view to urging upon the brethren to take steps to put a stop, as far as possible, to the little game of the Masonic vagrant, or, at least, to make it extremely perilous to play it.

It is a mistake to assume that the Queen's reign of 60 years is the longest on record, though it is the longest of any English Sovereign. At all events, there is the case of Louis XIV. of France (le Grand), who succeeded his father in 1643, and died in 1715. The reign, therefore, lasted 72 years, but then his Majesty was only a boy of five years old, when his father died, and for the early years of his reign France was governed by a regent (Anne of Austria), while our Most Gracious Sovereign was of age when she ascended the throne, having completed her 18th year a few weeks prior to the death of her uncle, William IV.

What next? According to our contemporary the *Voice of Masonry* for last month, "many of the Masonic lodges and chapters of the Eastern Star," in Illinois, "hold joint public installations of officers, musical and literary entertainments and banquets. In some cases the Royal Arch chapters do likewise," and it is added "almost invariably such services give perfect satisfaction." The lodges and chapters in Illinois, to which this statement applies, are guilty of two capital errors—firstly, in holding public installations, and secondly, in holding them jointly with associations of women who have nothing whatever to do with Masonry. Of what use is it to anathematise Mexican Freemasonry for initiating women, and at the same time permitting meetings to be held "jointly" with Eastern Star bodies, which are composed of women?

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.

GUY'S HOSPITAL RE-ENDOWMENT FUND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am happy to be able to state that in response to the circular sent out last January to the London lodges by V.W. Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G. Treas., and myself, donations to the amount of £117 13s. have been received, and we propose next week to publish the names of the lodges which have contributed. We sincerely hope that the 330 lodges who have not yet replied will in each case vote the modest sum of one guinea solicited for this most deserving object.—Yours truly,

Aldermaston Court, Reading.

CHARLES E. KEYSER.

FREEMASONRY IN CAPE TOWN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

As some of my Masonic friends may care to hear something of Masonry in this part of the world, I am sending you a brief account of what I have seen of the Craft in South Africa. Of the quaint and pleasing city itself, nestling at the base of Table Mountain, of its busy streets, fine buildings, electric trams I shall say nothing, leaving such matter to be dealt with outside the columns of your paper. Of the cordiality with which I have been received, the hearty fraternal greetings which have been showered on me by Masons in and out of lodge, I cannot say too much. To be a stranger in Cape Colony seems to be a passport to the homes and hearts of its inhabitants. As this year many South Africans will visit London, I shall be glad to hear that at every lodge meeting in London some South African Masons will be made to feel as much at home as I have been made to feel in this great Colony.

There are now four Constitutions at work in Cape Town, viz., English, Irish, Scotch, and the Netherlands. The English is governed by the District Grand Lodge of South Africa (Western Division), under the able guidance of R.W. Bro. Very Rev. C. W. Barnett Clarke, the Dean of Cape Town. A capable, zealous, and active worker, it is no wonder that Masonry flourishes under his rule. In Cape Town there are four English lodges and in the Division 12. The District Grand R.A. Chapter has one chapter in Cape Town, one in Simon's Town, and one in Woodstock. There is one English Mark lodge in Cape Town and one in Simon's Town, principally composed of officers in H.M.'s Navy, and a Rose Croix chapter. Under the Scotch Constitution there are two lodges, a Royal Arch and a Rose Croix chapter, and a 30° Consistory in Cape Town. Under the Grand East of the Netherlands there are three lodges in Cape Town, and 13 others scattered over Cape Colony, Orange Free State, and the Rand. There are also two R.C. chapters under the jurisdiction. The Irish have just established a lodge here.

There are the British Temple in which the E.C. meet and the Temple De Goede Hoop and Temple de Goede Trouw in which the other Constitutions find a beautiful resting-place. The former Dutch Temple is one of the most completely furnished and beautifully-arranged Masonic Halls in the world.

During my stay in Cape Town I had the privilege of visiting the British Craft and Mark lodges, an installation of the Southern Cross (S.C.) Craft, the Phoenix Mark at Simon's Town, the Woodstock R.A. Chapter, the Wynberg Lodge, and the Consecration of the St. Patrick's Lodge (I.C.). Not a bad record for two weeks. At all of these I found a great variety of work, most of it well done and some of it exceptionally so. But at all of the meetings, no matter of which Constitution, the warmth of my welcome can never be forgotten by me. It was so hearty, so spontaneous, that it could not fail to impress me, and very deeply was I struck with the manifestations of loyalty which were evinced by the members of all the lodges and chapters. There is a small educational fund in existence in Cape Town, but efforts are to be made to establish a permanent fund for the assistance of the distressed and indigent cases who come before them. The movement was enthusiastically received to make this a Masonic feature of this special year, in all the lodges I visited only one brother opposed it, his objection being that we had nothing to do with the Queen, and if they had any money they should keep it for themselves. But this travesty of Masonic principles found no response and the brother (E.C.) saw himself in the majority of one.

There is much more I should like to say, but time and space forbid. From here I journey to Kimberley, where, I believe, Masonry flourishes like a De Beers' shareholder, and I may tell you something of my experiences in the diamond city at a future time.—Yours fraternally,

Cape Town, February 15th.

ITHURIEL.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1098]

TENNESSEE.

What is an answer to a summons? I should say that brethren answer signs and obey summonses, unless reasonably hindered, in which case they apologise in some form, which apology is accepted, of course.

"If I go and live in Tennessee,

What right can a local lodge have over me?"

C. H. W.

Reviews.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, 1897" (Derry and Sons, Nottingham).—The Editor of this accurate and ably compiled Directory is the respected Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. Arthur Stubbs, and is published by the authority of the Deputy Prov. G.M. The expenses are defrayed by the Prov. Grand Lodge, copies being sent to all members of the Prov. Grand Lodge and to the Secretaries of the lodges for distribution to all the Master Masons in the Province, returned as subscribing members on June 30th, 1896. There are not many Provinces that are so liberal with their official Calendars, though such a local feature must be advantageous to all concerned, and it is hoped lessen the arduous duties of the Prov. Grand Secretary. The "Masonic Notes" should also tend in the same direction. The very full Calendar of meetings, &c., runs from March, 1897, to February, 1898, and the particulars of all the Provincial Organisations are also ample and well arranged. There are 18 lodges, with 836 members, exhibiting an increase of 37, as compared with the previous Returns. The eight R.A. Chapters have 263 members, the total for 1895 being 258; and the four Mark Lodges have 156 subscribers. A new page is devoted to the list of these Mark Lodges on the same plan as the other Masonic Bodies. The List of Votes for the Central Masonic Charities has been corrected by Bro. Thomas Salisbury, P. Prov. S.G.W., the arrangement being of the best, and the total strength is 1414, being 110 in advance of last year. Not only are particulars afforded of the neighbouring Provinces, but the names of all the members of all the lodges, chapters, &c., in the Province are given according to seniority, as well as the rolls of officers of each, with the Past Masters. It will be seen, therefore, that this is a Freemasons' Calendar worthy of the name.

Craft Masonry.

Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4.

A large and influential gathering of brethren assembled at Freemasons' Hall, on the 22nd ult., to honour the installation of Bro. A. Stewart-Brown, Grand Steward, as W.M. There was a full attendance of the members of the lodge, and an especially large number of visitors, among whom were some brethren of distinction in the Craft, for we noticed as having signed the attendance book the following: Bros. F. M. Hartung, W.M.; A. M. Stewart-Brown, G. Stwd., S.W.; W. S. Fenn, J.W.; W. Resbury-Fenn, S.D.; J. Stanhope Stott, J.D.; Fred West, P.G.D., Sec.; Robt. Gresley Hall, Treas.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org.; A. W. Oxford, Chap.; R. Devonshire, I.G.; Chatham Ellis, Stwd.; W. S. Hoyte, P.M., P.G. Org.; Albert J. Venn, P.M.; H. S. Gardiner, P.M.; H. C. Thompson, Percy F. W. Simpson, Ashton Godwin, J. E. Lane, A. Ellis, Wilfred J. Hardcastle, Clifford Probyn, W. H. Whadcoat, J. E. Law, W. Crewdson, J. C. Inglis, and Plummer. Visitors: Bros. Viscount Dungarvan, D.L., Prov. G. Master of Somerset; Brigade-Surgeon James Balfour Cockburn, Prov. G. Master of Guernsey and Alderney; Fred. West, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Surrey; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., P.P.B. of G.P.; Howard H. Room, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Sec. Middx.; Chas. Belton, P.D.A.G.D.C.; Chas. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Loveland Loveland, P. Bd. of Gen. Pur.; Richard Clowes, P.G. Std. Br.; E. Jackson Barron, F.S.A., P.G.D.; F. Bevan, 1706, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, Surrey; Jas. H. Smale, 708, P.P.G. Chap.; John Sampson Peizer, 2, P.P.G.D.; Atherley Jones, Q.C., M.P.; W. Hayman Cummings, 2454; Edgar M. Brandon, W.M. 23; W. Woodward, P.M. 1920; T. Lang Day, 1328; J. Stewart, 2100; David Urquhart, J.W. 10; R. Payar, 1328; H. J. Newberry, 106; Thos. Fraser, 2488; J. R. Eastwood, 89; W. Briggs, 45; H. A. Lormer, 91; Reginald Wilbraham, 859; T. H. Mills, A. E. Priddle, W. Russell-Finlay, W.M. 2182; H. W. Wyburn, W.M. 548; C. Batcheler, 2536; Chas. Kempton, 1287; and others.

Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed, after which Bro. A. Stewart-Brown, P.M., G. Stwd., was installed into the chair of King Solomon and invested his officers as follows: Bros. F. M. Hartung, I.P.M.; W. Resbury-Fenn, P.M., S.W.; Feir, J.W.; J. Stanhope Stott, S.D.; R. Devonshire, I.G.; Chatham Ellis, I.G.; Fred West, P.G.D., Sec.; Gresley Hall, Treas.; Hugh Mackintosh, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; and W. Crewdson, Stwd.

One of the usual bountiful banquets followed the working, and in the interval between the speeches in proposing and replying to the toasts was some capital singing, under the direction of Bro. Frederick Bevan, P.M., P.P.G. Org. Essex, by Miss Florence Bethell, Miss Marie Hooton, and Bros. Edward Branscombe and Robert Hilton.

"The Queen and the Craft" having been loyally honoured, the W.M. gave "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," and alluded to the great interest taken by his Royal Highness in Freemasonry.

"The Grand Officers" were next given, and in few words the W.M. said he felt it an honour to propose that toast in the presence of 15 Grand Officers. It was his pleasure to couple with the toast the names of Viscount Dungarvan, D.L., Prov. G.M. Somerset, and E. Jackson Barron, F.S.A., P.G.D.

After the toast had been drunk with full Masonic honours, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan said he felt very highly the honour of coupling his name with so important a toast. It was sufficient to bring the virgin blush on a Grand Officer's cheek to respond for the Grand Officers in that great lodge of so much interest.

Bro. Barron, F.S.A., P.G.D., also replied.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was then given by Bro. F. M. Hartung, I.P.M., in a most hearty manner, and in highly complimentary terms.

The Worshipful Master responded, expressing his gratitude to the brethren for giving him such a hearty reception of the toast. Nothing should be wanting on his part to endeavour to carry out the duties of the chair successfully. He strongly advocated the Emulation Lodge of Instruction as a medium of knowing the Masonic ritual through, and advised the younger members of the lodge to be members of it.

The W.M., in proposing "The Visitors," said the lodge was always pleased to receive visiting brethren, and they were always welcome. Amongst the 40 visitors present there were 15 Past Masters and five Worshipful Masters, and he coupled with the toast the names of Bros. W. H. Cummings, Guildhall School of Music Lodge, and Atherley Jones, Q.C., M.P.

After the toast had been drunk with full Masonic honours,

Bro. Cummings said he was delighted to be their guest that evening. He loved antiquity, and was glad to hear that amongst the archives of the lodge were piles of ancient music. To him it would be a pleasure to look them over, and he hoped to be allowed to do so.

Bro. Atherley Jones, Q.C., M.P., also replied.

The W.M., in proposing "The Past Masters," said they were those who had borne the heat and burden of the day. Few lodges could boast of better Past Masters than No. 4.

Bro. Hartung replied.

Bro. Gresley Hall responded for "The Treasurer and Secretary," and the S.W. for "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast brought a very successful meeting to a close.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

The installation meeting of this old established and distinguished lodge was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., at Cannon-street Hotel, when there were present Bros. Robert Sarson, W.M.; Charles Garton, J.W. and W.M. elect; Thos. Cohu, P.M., Treas.; H. Legge, P.M., Sec.; William Baker, S.D.; Rev. T. Selby Henrey, Chaplain and J.D.; James Smith, P.M., D.C.; J. G. Robeson, I.G.; T. Stokes, A.D.C.; Geo. Everett, P. Grand Treasurer; George Kenning, P.M., P. Prov. G.D. Middx.; J. G. Marsh, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; F. Hughes, P.M.; J. M. Mower, P.M.; G. F. J. Goodes, P.M.; S. T. Lucas, P.M.; B. Perkins, P.M.; A. J. Rippin, J. C. Peach, J. Collins, H. Williams, C. C. Welch, S. Rippin, G. Wetton, W. Lloyd, F. H. Farr, E. C. Pierson, A. Ferguson, C. H. Purbrook, R. F. Roche, F. A. Pitt, T. J. Crawshaw, R. J. Dart, W. Hawkins, W. J. Fishleigh, F. J. Duddy, J. T. Virgo, W. J. Lockett, W. T. Dixon, A. R. Hipwell, J. J. Bassett, A. Rawkins, W. V. Franklin, and C. Couchman, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Dr. Geo. Mickleby, P.A.G.D.C.; Jas. Speller, P.P.G.D. Essex, 2236; H. Bond, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent; James Boyton, 1426; E. E. Robinson, 1421; E. C. Windsor, 1693; G. Harvey, 2264; F. G. Joy, 1426; J. A. Blake, 548; H. Folsom, P.M. 1604; J. G. Twinn, P.M. 1306; G. K. Durant, 2291; A. Naughton, 2581; J. W. Hyde, 293; J. H. Peirson, 1567; H. Kemp, S.W. 862; F. Newman Kent, Arthur L. Coles, 8; W. A. Medwin, P.M. 1613; J. H. Shipman, 1365; E. Tidman, 1716; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a most satisfactory audit report was adopted. Bro. F. Hughes, P.M., then assumed the chair and installed Bro. Charles Garton as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, which he did with precision and dignity. In an excellent manner the new W.M. invested his officers, and his remarks were received with applause. The following are the officers: Bros. R. Sarson, I.P.M.; William Baker, S.W.; Rev. T. Selby Henrey, J.W. and Chap.; Thos. Cohu, P.M., Treas. and Stwd.; H. Legge, P.M., Sec.; John G. Robeson, S.D.; T. Stokes, J.D.; C. C. Welch, I.G.; Jas. Smith, P.M., D.C.; E. Chatterton, W.M. 879, Org.; T. J. Crawshaw, A.D.C.; A. Ferguson, Stwd.; and C. Couchman, Tyler. The delivery of the usual addresses was very ably and impressively rendered by Bro. F. Hughes, P.M., and he is to be heartily congratulated on the efficient manner in which he carried out the installation ceremony. Bro. Charles Garton, the new W.M., commenced his reign by initiating Messrs. A. R. Hipwell, J. J. Bassett, A. Rawkins, and W. V. Franklin, and his working of the ritual was excellent, and proved beyond doubt, if any evidence were needed, that the members had made a wise selection in electing him as W.M. Bro. Wm. Hawkins, 1382, was unanimously elected as a joining member, and the sum of 10 guineas was voted from the lodge funds to be placed on Bro. A. J. Rippin's list as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, while a like sum was voted to the Indian Famine Fund; one guinea was also voted to the Guy's Hospital Fund. The next duty of the W.M. was, as he observed, a very pleasing one—to present Bro. Robert Sarson, I.P.M., with a Past Master's jewel and collar, which he did in a few appropriate words, remarking that they had no more worthy brother, and

they all condoled with him upon account of his bad health during his year of office. In acknowledging the jewel and collar, Bro. Sarson stated that he felt great difficulty in accepting them because he had not been able to do much as Master, but he appreciated their great kindness towards him, and he should ever have the interests of the lodge at heart. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the goodly array of visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet.

"The Queen and the Craft" having been duly honoured,

The Worshipful Master proposed "The M.W.G.M., the Prince of Wales," and suggested that the contents of the Charity box for that evening should be given to his Royal Highness's Hospital Fund.

The next toast was "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was proposed by the W.M., who said they were honoured that night with the presence of two Grand Officers, Bro. Geo. Everett, P.G. Treasurer, and Dr. Geo. Mickley, P.A.G.D.C., and it was a pleasure to him to couple their names with the toast.

The toast was drunk with acclamation.

Bro. Geo. Everett, P.G.T., responded, and stated that the W.M. had submitted the toast in felicitous terms, and the brethren had accorded it the usual welcome. The toast was an important one for those who had done good suit for the Craft. The Grand Lodge of England was the great centre of Freemasonry, and the Grand Officers did their utmost for the Craft. He was glad to be there that evening to see the excellent work; everything had gone off in a perfect manner, and the Installing Master was also perfect in his task. The W.M. appeared to the manner born, and he had no doubt he would have a prosperous year of office. Some thought that Masons confined themselves to Masonic Charities, but that was not so, as the Grand Lodge had at the last meeting given £1000 to the Indian Famine Fund, and the lodge had voted a sum to the same object, and the contents of the Charity-box that evening would go to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Scheme.

Bro. Dr. Geo. Mickley, P.A.G.D.C., also acknowledged the toast, and said that he was only a young member of Grand Lodge, but he emphasised all the remarks of Bro. Everett. He was delighted to attend the Lion and Lamb Lodge, in which he had many old and dear friends.

Bro. R. Sarson, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Garton," and said it was the principal one of the evening. He felt sure they would all agree with him that they had a paragon Master and one who was perfect in the ritual, and he had attained his high position in four years. He (Bro. Sarson) well remembered the night he was initiated, as he was the Deacon and he took him round. He could leave the chair in no better hands, and it was a pleasure to have such a perfect Mason and good fellow to follow him.

Bro. Chas. Garton, W.M., on rising to respond, was received with great enthusiasm. He said he could only thank one and all for the kind way they had received the toast and for the remarks of the I.P.M. When he entered the lodge as an initiate it seemed a long way to reach the chair, but in little less than four years he was Master



THE INSTALLING MASTER.

of their good old lodge. He was proud of the lodge, the members, and his initiates that night, and his earnest wish was to be able to do his utmost to promote the interests of the lodge, and when his time came to leave the chair he hoped to have no regrets in his own mind or those of the members that he had been Master of the Lion and Lamb Lodge.

The W.M. gave "The Visitors," whom he cordially welcomed. It had often been said that lodges could not exist without initiates, and that, he thought, applied also to visitors. They had a good number present, several of whom were distinguished in the Craft, and he was honoured by their attendance at his installation. He associated the names of Bros. J. Speller, P.P.G.D. Essex; H. Bond, P.M., P.P.G.D.C. Kent; and E. Tidman, 1716, with the toast.

Bro. J. Speller said it was very kind of the W.M. to ask him to respond to the toast. It was an honour to him to visit the lodge. The working of the Installing Master was splendid, and as to the way the W.M. had performed the ceremony of initiation, they could all say with emphasis—well done, good and faithful Master.

Bro. H. Bond also responded, and said he appreciated having been called upon. He had, through the kindness of his old friend, Bro. S. T. Lucas, P.M., attended the lodge on many occasions. He congratulated the members on the selection they had made of the W.M., who was, he thought, the right man in the right place, and he was sure he would return what he had received as pure and unsullied.

Bro. E. Tidman also acknowledged the toast in a very humorous speech, remarking that one of his principal duties as a visitor was to see the W.M. out of the chair and safely home.

In submitting the toast of "The Initiates" the W.M. stated that only a few hours before they were nobodies but they were then in the light and he hoped they would appreciate and take to heart what they had gone through in the ceremony of their initiation. He thought they were all good men and would add lustre to the Craft.

In response, Bro. A. R. Hipwell stated that he was at a loss what to adequately say, but he would claim infancy in the Craft for his inability to respond. He certainly had to thank them for drinking his health, but it had been done so many times, and why? He hoped to do his best in the future in his new career as a Freemason.

Bro. J. J. Bassett thanked them for the way he had been received, but he could not add to the remarks of Bro. Hipwell, except to say how glad and honoured he was to be a Mason.

Bro. A. Rawkins said he had gone through an ordeal that evening which he previously understood was a terrible one, but he found it was not so, and he was delighted to be one of them.

Bro. W. F. Franklin said he had never made a speech and he hoped that would be his first and last. It was a serious matter to join Masonry, but the ceremony of his initiation had been a surprising and an interesting one. He earnestly trusted to be able

to do everything a good Mason should do, but he hoped some day to have the right to do to others what had been done to him that night at their festive board.

In giving "The I.P.M., the Installing Master, and Past Masters," the W.M. stated that the I.P.M., Bro. Sarson, had through his year of office been handicapped with illness, but they all appreciated his services. He (the W.M.) was initiated by the Installing Master, Bro. F. Hughes, and it was a great honour to have been installed by him, and they would all agree that he did the installation ceremony in a splendid manner. In eulogistic terms he referred to the Past Masters, setting out the great things they had done for the lodge, and he joined the names of Bros. R. Sarson, I.P.M.; F. Hughes, Installing Master; S. T. Lucas, P.M.; and Jas. Smith, P.M., with the toast.

In responding, Bro. Sarson thanked them heartily for the way the toast had been received. He had the lodge at heart and was sorry ill-health had not permitted him to do all he could wish during his year of office. He had come up specially from St. Leonards that day to attend the lodge, he looked upon the members as his bosom friends and he should never sever his connection with the lodge.

Bro. F. Hughes, P.M., said that the W.M. was one of his initiates and he was honoured to have installed him W.M. of his mother lodge. In the W.M. they had a stalwart Mason and everyone was delighted to see him in the chair.

Bro. S. T. Lucas, P.M., also acknowledged the toast, observing that it was not his fault he was not more often there, but his business prevented him; it was always a pleasure to attend to meet his very old friends.

Bro. J. Smith, P.M., also responded in happy terms.

The W.M. proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said he expected the Secretary of the Girls' Institution would have been present, but he had received a telegram from him that his duties at Committee did not permit him to be in attendance. He would go up as Steward next year for the Old People, and he hoped they would give him a bumper in amount. In referring to the other two Institutions, he trusted the members would liberally support Bro. A. J. Rippin's list as Steward for the Girls' Festival.

Bro. A. J. Rippin responded, remarking that he had up to then collected 56 guineas, but he hoped it would amount to a larger sum.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," and said he could not speak too highly of their services, because it would be impossible to find two better officers.

Bro. T. Cohn, P.M., Treas., responded, observing that he was glad the lodge was in a prosperous condition, and might it ever be so.

Bro. H. Legge, P.M., Sec., said they were then an united and happy family, and under the auspices of the W.M. the lodge would continue its prosperity.

"The Officers" was next given, the W.M. stating that if time permitted he could give a long story as to their abilities, but he felt sure he would have their great assistance.

Bros. William Baker, S.W., and J. G. Robeson, S.D., whose names were joined with the toast, responded.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

During the evening the W.M. announced that the contents of the Charity-box, amounting to £5 5s., would be devoted to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund.

An interesting programme of music and entertainment had been arranged by the W.M. and Bro. Thos. Cohn, P.M., Treas., comprising the following well-known artists: Mr. W. H. Webb, Bro. Herbert Emlyn, Mr. W. E. Dudley, Miss Annie Swinfen, and Miss Emily Foxcroft, but a special word is due to the two ladies for their sweet and exquisite singing. Mr. Mowbray Balme presided at the pianoforte, and was an able accompanist.

Enfield Lodge, No. 1237.

A meeting was held on Monday last at the George Hotel, Enfield. Present: Bros. A. J. Monk, W.M.; W. Humphrey, S.W.; C. H. Penny, J.W.; A. G. Fidler, Sec.; J. M. Dexter, S.D.; W. Hibberdine, J.D.; H. E. Brown, D.C.; A. Millbourn, A.D.C.; C. W. Offord, Org.; M. Meyer, Steward; A. Bryant, Tyler; W. Marshall, I.P.M.; H. B. May, P.M.; W. Woodley, P.M.; J. A. Taverner, P.M.; T. H. Thompson, P.M.; H. Ernst, and J. H. Kirby. Visitors: Bros. H. W. Dobb, I.G. 1579; H. Cope, 1331; and W. G. Symmons, 1489.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. A ballot was then taken for Bro. J. H. Kirby, 1579, as a joining member, which proved unanimous in his favour.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to dinner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bros. Offord, Dobb, Cope, and Kirby, by their vocal efforts, contributed much to an exceedingly pleasant evening.

Ebury Lodge, No. 1348.

There was a large muster of brethren at the installation meeting of this successful lodge, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 23rd ult. The brethren were rewarded for their visit by witnessing an excellent rendering of the ritual by the retiring Master, Bro. J. T. Davies. Charity was also a prominent feature of the proceedings for a sum of 20 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and the contents of the Charity-box at the banquet table, realising £7 3s., was devoted to the Hospital Fund.

The W.M., Bro. J. T. Davies, was supported by Bros. H. Morris, S.W.; A. J. Atkin, C. Botterill, W. C. Wigley, P.M., Treas.; H. Fincham, P.M., Sec.; J. Holland, Stuart Walker, and many others. Visitors: Bros. N. Salmon, P.M. 177; H. Roberts, P.M. 765; G. P. Pointer, P.M. 1613; J. T. Jones, 1446; A. Wood, W.M. 1685; G. H. Barrett, P.M. 1579; C. Tucker, W.M. 2136; S. G. Van Os, P.M. 1695; E. T. Wickenden, W.M. 1597; R. T. H. Eccles, J.W. 1669; F. C. Bradley, J.W. 15; R. Hodgson, P.M. 1613; G. Wagstaff, S.W. 569; J. Herron, P.M. 206; F. Adcock, J.W. 2202; J. Mayo, W.M. 1646; W. Roots, W.M. 2589; J. H. Hurson, P.M. 1567; R. A. Kearney, P.M. 15; E. L. Berry, W.M. 2473; D. J. Ross, P.M. 862; and many others.

After the opening of the lodge and the confirmation of the minutes, Bros. Abraham and Hall were passed to the Second Degree, and Mr. G. W. Lander was duly initiated. Bro. H. Morris was presented as W.M. elect, and impressively installed into the chair. The following officers were appointed: Bros. Jesse T. Davies, P.M., I.P.M.; Alfred Atkin, S.W.; C. Botterill, J.W.; W. C. Wigley, P.M., Treas.; H. Fincham, P.M., Sec. and Steward; J. Holland, S.D.; Stuart Walker, J.D.; Frank Clark, I.G.; Mark Attwood, Org.; Wayman Morris, D.C.; G. W. Beaman and W. M. Ward, Stewards; and R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler. A sum of 20 guineas was voted from the lodge funds to the R.M.B.I.

Other business was transacted, and lodge was closed.

After banquet in the Victoria Hall, the usual toasts were honoured, the W.M. setting an example of commendable brevity.

Bro. J. T. Davies, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he was sure it would be received with enthusiasm. In the Ebury Lodge they delighted to give the brother who had been honoured with the position of W.M. the utmost expression of their goodwill and esteem. In welcoming their present W.M. they united in wishing him every happiness during his year. He (the I.P.M.) might be excused if he went back a few years and recollected what occurred eight years ago on a corresponding night, when the present W.M., S.W., J.W., and another were all initiated into Freemasonry in that lodge. He was glad to see them all keeping close together in their Masonic progress, for whilst the members took such interest in the Ebury Lodge it would continue to prosper.

Bro. Harry Morris, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. and brethren for the kind proposal and reception of the toast. He was very proud of his position that night and felt it was a great honour to be the W.M. of his mother lodge during the Diamond Jubilee year of her Majesty. During his year he should endeavour to do his best to show the confidence of the brethren had not been misplaced.

The W.M. proposing "The Initiate," said that from the attention paid by Bro. Lander to the ritual there was every reason to predict he would prove a worthy Mason.

Bro. G. W. Lander suitably replied, and the W.M. then proposed "The I.P.M.," and said that Bro. Davies had carried out all his duties with credit to himself and honour to the lodge. In placing a P.M.'s jewel on the breast of Bro. Davies he asked him to accept it as a mark of appreciation of the efficient manner in which he had discharged his duties. They hoped to have the benefit of the I.P.M.'s advice and support for many years to come.

Bro. J. T. Davies, I.P.M., in responding, said the past year of office had been one of sincere pleasure not only because he had occupied the proud position of the chair or because he was fond of Masonic working, but because he had met with the good feeling and good will of every member of the lodge. He could say without hesitation that no shadow of dissension had arisen, but it had been a time of sincere pleasure, and he

trusted that that cordiality and good feeling would always prevail in that lodge. He thanked the brethren for presenting him with the handsome jewel, which he should always regard with pride and as a memento of a happy year spent as W.M. of the Ebury Lodge.

"The Visitors" was given by Bro. Fowler in cordial terms.

Bros. N. Salmon, P.M.; Wood, W.M. 1685; Tucker, W.M. 2136; and Van Os, P.M. 1695, made suitable acknowledgment of the profuse hospitality they had received.

Other toasts were given before the pleasant proceedings terminated.

Bro. Fred. Stephens, P.M., was in charge of the musical arrangements, and was assisted by Miss Gertrude Snow, Miss Emily Foxcroft, Miss Jessie McLaren, and Bros. Stuart Walker, Geo. Robins, Alf. Atkin, Wm. Webb, Fred. Russell, Laughton Field, and Amies King.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 5th inst. Present: Bros. C. Kupferschmidt, A.G. Sec. German Correspondence, W.M.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., as I.P.M.; C. Purdon Clarke, S.W.; T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B., as J.W.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.G., Sec.; Rev. J. W. Horsley, as S.D.; Gotthelf Greiner, as J.D.; Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, P.M.; and W. M. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B.; also the following members of the Correspondence Circle: Bros. Rev. A. G. L. Robertson, Brandon Dansie, T. Charters White, as I.G.; H. P. FitzGerald Marriott, R. Palmer Thomas, A. Digby-Green, J. J. Rainey, J. B. Nicholes, C. Wells, J. Peeke Richards, Thomas Cohu, Hamon le Strange, P.G.D.; W. J. Armitage, H. B. Chamberlin, F. D. Davy, Dr. R. T. Cooper, S. W. Morris, J. W. Stevens, A. G. Boswell, J. R. Farrar, E. Bissell, J. W. Aplin, F. Dowse, R. A. Gowan, B. H. Brough, S. R. Baskett, F. W. Mitchell, F. J. Allan, J. H. Montague, E. C. Stimson, E. A. T. Breed, O. Marsland, F. J. Reiman, J. S. Gibson-Sugars, W. C. Barnes, J. W. Barnes, E. Cooper, E. S. Shelton, S. Mendelssohn, C. B. Barnes, C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.; Pitt Becker, R. Orttewell, W. J. Songhurst, T. Adams, Dr. G. Mickley, P.A.G.D.C.; G. W. Taylor, C. H. Barner, Miller, and J. B. Welch. Visitors: Bros. J. Gibson Harris, 222; M. Marsland, 19; Col. Alex. S. Bacon, 656 (New York); W. J. Rivers Willson, 2264; Dr. W. G. Walford, P.M. 1584; and W. J. Potts, P.M. 1805.

The following six lodges and 41 brethren were elected to the membership of the Correspondence Circle, viz.: Lodge Cleveland, No. 2503, and Lodge Hibernia and Albion, No. 289 (I.C.), Townsville Royal Arch Chapter, No. 207 (S.C.), Townsville, and Lodge Leichhardt, No. 932, Rockhampton, all in Queensland; United Manawatu Lodge, No. 1721, Palmerston North, New Zealand; and Easterford Lodge, No. 2342, Kilvedon, Essex; Bros. Wm. Dodds, 932, Rockhampton, and G. Smith, 819 (S.C.), Townsville, Queensland; Capt. W. Laidlaw, P.M. 36, and H. C. Handford, 36, both of Ballarat, Victoria; Capt. A. R. Nethersole, 150, Vizagapatam, P.M. 391, Allahabad, and N. Nadel, P.M. 273, Madras, India; A. W. Adams, P.M. 2383, Kimberley, C. Dansie, Port Natal, and Dr. P. B. D. Stubbs, 2537, Cape Town, S. Africa; F. J. Morphy, P.M. 617, Buenos Ayres; J. H. F. Rickon, P.M. 2, Little Rock, Arkansas, and M. C. Baum, W.M. 209, New York, U.S.A.; C. Calkoen, 92 (E.C.), Amsterdam; R. Patey, P.M. 622, Wimbourne; P. Bevan, 1679, Eastbourne; W. L. Carrick, P.M. 543, Stokesby, Yorks; R. R. Riddell, W.M. 393, Berwick-on-Tweed; A. H. Harding, 289, Leeds; J. J. Pittman, P.M. 538, Croydon; S. Warburton, P.M. 1052, Manchester; R. K. Ellis, 442, Peterborough; Dr. M. Le Cronier, D. P. Vincent, and A. W. Godfray, all of 590, Jersey; the Rev. A. E. Purvis, 379, Bath; J. R. Pastfield, 39, Exeter; Dr. H. Gervis, 409, Bishops Stortford; A. J. Thompson, 2433, Liverpool; W. J. M. Dowden, P.M. 2208, Bournemouth; T. C. Stanley, 435, F. R. Farrow, 1196, Maj. C. Probyn, 21, G. Inskipp, P.M. 1997, J. G. Albert, P.M. 227, J. M. Bastone, 1861, Capt. F. C. J. Loder, J. B. Welch, 1524, W. T. Potts, and W. Gladding, 2632, all of London.

The Secretary called attention to the following exhibits: A certificate of the Grand Orient of France dated March, 1774, and, therefore, one of the earliest issued by this body, and signed by some 30 of the most prominent Masons of that time in France, including such names as Dr. Guillotin, the Duke of Luxembourg, Lacorne, Dr. Gerbier, De la Chaussée, Baron de Toussaint, de Langes, Pyron, Morin, &c., exhibited by Bro. J. T. Thorp, of Leicester; a beautiful pierced silver jewel, exhibited by Bro. J. J. Hogg, of Kelso; a facsimile of the apron in the possession of the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes at Berlin, said to have been worn by Frederick the Great, exhibited by the W.M.; a beautiful jewel presented by the Caledonian Lodge, No. 325, in 1768, to Bro. A. Ten Brock, exhibited by Bro. S. R. Baskett; and a large leather apron from an engraved plate, published by the notorious Finch, a very rare specimen, exhibited by Bro. Orttewell. Bro. J. J. Rainey read a paper describing and giving the history of the curious furniture of the Shakespeare Lodge, No. 426, at Spilsby. There ensued an animated conversation on the peculiarities of working the M.M. Degree in various parts of the country and abroad, in which a large number of the brethren took part. A vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Rainey for his interesting paper. The Secretary then read a paper prepared by Bro. Gustave Jottrand, of Brussels, on the antiquity of the Lodge at Mons, in Belgium, wherein that brother sought to prove that the tradition of its origin in 1721 was trustworthy. In the discussion which ensued Bros. Speth, Gould, and Kupferschmidt took part, and a great deal of interesting information was contributed, but they were unable to concur in the position taken up by Bro. Jottrand. A vote of thanks was also accorded our Belgian brother for his interesting paper. The following joining brother was proposed from the chair, and seconded by the S.W., viz., George Lawrence Shackles, Hull, P.M. of Nos. 57, 1511, and W.M. No. 2494.

The brethren then adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant for dinner.

St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The monthly meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Thorne, on Wednesday, the 24th ult. Present: Bros. T. Barber, W.M.; J. Constable, acting I.P.M., Sec.; H. A. Fenton, S.W.; G. Eland, J.W.; E. Hirst, S.D.; R. Brew, J.D.; T. J. Smith, I.G.; W. P. Robotham, Org.; W. Halgarth, Almoner; T. R. R. Marsdin, Stwd.; T. Tomlinson; and F. Pine, Tyler.

The draft scheme of the West Yorkshire Benevolent Institution was read and discussed and approved. A candidate was proposed and seconded. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren afterwards partook of supper in the Club Room.

Warrant Officers Lodge, No. 2346.

The above lodge met at Freemasons' Hall on Friday, the 19th ult. The minutes having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Alfred Joyce and T. Alfred Crichton, and the same proving unanimous in their favour, Mr. Crichton was afterwards initiated. Bro. Samuel Hammond, 86, was balloted for as a re-joining member, the same proving unanimous in his favour. Bro. W. Morgan was passed to the Second Degree, and Bros. A. Crow, W. A. Gilfillan, W. B. Shorter, P. W. Mitchell, S. O. Hayman, and J. F. Dewdney were raised to the Third Degree. Bro. H. B. Dickens, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, and Bro. A. Molony, P.M., Treasurer.

At the audit of the lodge accounts the books showed a substantial balance in hand, and the business done for the past year was greatly in excess of that of the year previous, and we feel that the lodge is still going up.

Holborn Lodge, No. 2398.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Holborn Restaurant on Tuesday, the 2nd instant, when Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.M. 2473 and 1614, W.M. 2460, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey, was installed as W.M. The members present included Bros. J. Appleton, W.M.; C. O. Burgess, W.M. elect; Dr. S. R. Lovett, P.M., Treas.; C. R. Ellis, P.P.G.S.B. Cambs. and Surrey, Sec.; C. H. Perryman, J.W.; Creswell Wells, W. Hemming, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. L. Isaacs; J. R. Cleave, W.M., P.P.S.G.D. Surrey; R. W. Steggles, W.M.; E. Rice, W. Harburt, S.W.; W. Ratley, F. Kedge, P.P.G. Reg. Berks; P. M. Barnum, W.M.; A. H. Snow, P.M.; O. E. F. Cobb, A. Robertson, F. Jackson, W.M.; W. W. Lee, and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes confirmed, and other business having been transacted, Bro. C. O. Burgess was duly installed as W.M. by Bro. Appleton, who performed the ceremony in a highly creditable manner. The following brethren were appointed as officers: Bros. J. Appleton, I.P.M.; C. H. Perryman, S.W.; Creswell

Wells, J.W.; Dr. S. R. Lovett, P.M., Treas.; C. R. Ellis, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. Cambs. and Surrey, Sec.; Rev. C. P. Marriott, Chap.; R. D. Freeman, S.D.; A. L. Jones, J.D.; N. Dukas, I.G.; Dr. S. Lloyd, P.M., D.C.; F. German, A.D.C.; E. Angel, P.M., and R. Sandland, Stewards; and James Westcott Harding, P.M., Tyler. A very satisfactory audit report was adopted, which showed the lodge to be in a sound financial condition. On the proposition of the W.M., it was unanimously resolved that a ladies' night should be held, and a Committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. Five guineas were voted to the Indian Famine Fund, five guineas to the Hospital Fund, and one guinea to the Endowment Fund of Guy's Hospital.

Lodge was closed, and after banquet the usual toasts were honoured.

The following toasts having been disposed of, Bro. J. Appleton, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said it was difficult to know what should be said first in his favour. Bro. Burgess was one of the founders of the lodge and came in at the lowest office of Steward. They all knew him as an eminent Mason, being Vice-President of all the Masonic Institutions, and a member of a large number of other Degrees. As a Craft Mason this was the fourth chair Bro. Burgess had occupied, and it therefore followed that they had an eminent and experienced brother as W.M. The brethren therefore knew perfectly well that the business of the lodge would be conducted in the most satisfactory manner possible. He (the I.P.M.) congratulated the lodge on having such a W.M., and wished Bro. Burgess a very happy and prosperous year of office.

Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M., returned thanks, and said it was not perhaps the easiest task to reply to a toast so kindly proposed, because the most friendly things the I.P.M. had said were calculated to bring blushes even into the hardened cheek of a W.M. Like the plaintiff in an action for breach of promise of marriage who said she never knew how much she had suffered until she heard it from the eloquent lips of her counsel, so he (the W.M.) never knew how many attributes he possessed until he heard the kindly utterances of the I.P.M. Those utterances were dictated by sincerity, for Bro. Appleton, I.P.M., was one who could be gauged by his truthfulness, and who said what he meant. He (the W.M.) became one of the founders, by the kindness of Bro. Lincoln, at the eleventh hour, and he had worked through most of the offices from Steward to Worshipful Master. So much had he enjoyed each office that he sincerely wished he could go through them all again. It had been one of the most pleasing of his Masonic experiences. The Steward was looked up to by some of the brethren with more homage than the W.M., and when he first performed the duties of Deacon he thought the eyes of civilised Europe were upon him. He could not but feel it was a great honour to be the W.M. of such a prosperous lodge as that. He would only ask for their friendly assistance in providing him with a certain amount of work, so that they might be profitably occupied. He trusted that during his year the prosperity of the lodge would suffer no diminution at his hands.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The I.P.M.," and said that reciprocity of compliment gave him the opportunity of acknowledging the services rendered by the I.P.M. during the past year. Bro. Appleton had conducted his duties with credit and dignity, which had given the greatest satisfaction to all the members. Although the I.P.M. was occupied by important public duties he had found time for his Masonic work and the lodge had prospered during his Mastership. The brethren, in recognition of his services, had voted Bro. Appleton a handsome jewel, which he (the W.M.) now asked the I.P.M. to accept as a souvenir of a happy year of office. They hoped the I.P.M. would have long life to enjoy his well earned position.

Bro. J. Appleton, I.P.M., in response, said it gave him great satisfaction to know he had discharged his duties and won their approval. He had used his best endeavours to discharge his duties in a proper manner. He felt some satisfaction in the balance sheet and in the fact that he left the finances in a better state than he found them. He, however, did not take all the credit, as much was due to the officers, especially the Treasurer and Secretary.

For "The Visitors," Bros. F. Kedge, P.P.G. Reg. Berks, J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey; F. Jackson, W.M.; and R. Steggles, W.M., returned thanks.

Other toasts were given before a pleasant evening was brought to a close.

Bro. E. P. Delevanti, Org., directed the musical arrangements and was ably assisted by Miss Snow and Miss Alice Thomas (both daughters of prominent Freemasons), and Bros. R. Leyland and William Walshe.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

The installation meeting of this lodge, which has attained phenomenal success during its short career, was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 1st inst. Bro. J. R. Roberts, who had presided during the past year as W.M., and who recently took up the largest London list, amounting to £259, as Steward, representing the lodge for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, installed as his successor Bro. E. Valeriani. The newly-installed W.M. is well-known as a P.M. and Secretary of the Rothesay Lodge, in which he has been instrumental in doing a vast amount of good for the Masonic Charities, and it must have, therefore, been especially pleasing to him to have been installed in another lodge which has also taken a very prominent part in Charitable work. Indeed, at the meeting under notice, a further sum of 50 guineas was voted for this purpose. Bro. Valeriani invested his officers with the skill of an old Past Master, although under very painful circumstances, having just previously heard of the death of a very intimate friend and companion, Bro. Nicols, founder and proprietor of the Café Royal.

Lodge was opened by Bro. J. R. Roberts, W.M., who was supported by Bros. E. L. P. Valeriani, P.M., W.M. elect; W. H. Bailey, G. Treas., I.P.M.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; G. Everitt, P.G. Treas.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; James Stephens, P.G.W. Bucks, Sec.; E. Rogers, P.G. Steward, S.D.; Major E. J. Reed, J.D.; B. Carter, I.G.; W. H. Making, P.M.; J. H. Haylor; W. H. C. Rudderforth, P.M.; S. Hussey, P.M.; W. J. Batho; M. S. Rubinstein, Org.; G. Griffin, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; T. J. Bolton, W.M. 1687; W. H. Cranshaw, 2521; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; L. Verdier, P.P.G.S.; T. Button, W.M. 2410; E. Bonham, W.M. 1305; J. F. Spiers, 1637; R. M. H. Griffith, 1677; T. W. Lidlington, S.W. 2012; F. Gallezia, P.M. 1637; H. Jones, 1432; J. McNeil, 669; C. H. Burns, S.D. 1637; S. Tromanzi, 1637; T. Hurdle, 15; J. Sinclair, 1601; J. W. Dawson, 1790; N. J. Turner, W.M. 1767; A. L. Coles, J.D. 8; W. James, P.M. 1708; H. Whale, 1366; R. Ballenger, I.G. 1637; S. Fonseca, 1563; W. H. White; G. Samuel, W.M. 1706; Henri Gros, P.M. 1637; and R. Davis, P.M.

The confirmation of the minutes was followed by the principal feature of the proceedings, Bro. E. Valeriani being presented as W.M. elect by Bro. James Stephens, P.M., Sec., and duly installed in the chair. The following officers were appointed: Bros. W. Thomas, P.M., S.W.; E. Rogers, P.M., J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; James Stephens, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Reed, S.D.; B. Carter, J.D.; W. H. Making, P.M., I.G.; J. H. Haylor, P.M., and W. H. C. Rudderforth, P.M., D.Cs.; S. Hussey, P.M., and W. J. Batho, Stwds.; and M. S. Rubinstein, Org. The W.M. presented the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel as a token of respect and esteem from the members, and the gift was briefly acknowledged. The W.M. then observed that he thought the first duty of the occupant of the chair was to represent his lodge at one of the Festivals of the Institutions, and as the I.P.M. had just completed a Stewardship for the Benevolent Institution, and Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., was acting in a similar capacity for the Girls' School, he had no choice but to serve as Steward for the Boys' School. Bro. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas., proposed that 25 guineas should be placed on the list of Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., and a similar sum on the W.M.'s list for the Girls' and Boys' Schools respectively. Bro. James Stephens, P.M., Sec., seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation. Bro. Sir John Monckton said he should be very proud to represent the lodge for the Girls' School.

Several letters of regret for non-attendance were announced, and the lodge was closed.

A choice banquet was served in first-class style, and the usual toast list was then proceeded with.

"The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were heartily honoured.

In giving "The Grand Officers," the W.M. said the lodge should be proud of the quality and quantity of the Grand Officers present. The brethren admired their work, and would try to imitate them, and he hoped they would succeed in their endeavour, and that some would attain the same high rank.

Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., thanked them for the very kindly manner in which the toast had been received. As an Honorary member, he should be proud to represent the lodge as Steward, and should be in good company, as the W.M. would support

the Boys'. At the Benevolent Festival a good sum was received, which showed that there was life in the old Masonic dog yet. The results of the Cambridge Examinations in the Girls' School had been very successful, as only two or three had failed out of 41 sent in. If the 25 guineas voted by the lodge for his list was increased to 50 by the brethren he would guarantee that the lodge should be represented by a three-figure list.

Bro. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas., said that by special favour of the I.P.M. he had the honour to propose "The Health of the Worshipful Master," and did so with sincere pleasure. The W.M. bore a name that was a synonym for all that is good in Freemasonry, and the friendly art beamed upon his countenance, as it was engraven upon his heart. When the Fellowship Lodge was founded, amongst its most devoted adherents was their dear friend, Bro. Valeriani, who had been a most energetic worker. Bro. Valeriani was their first J.W., and they all knew how well he did his work, whilst as S.W. he had won all their hearts, and as W.M. they wished him every happiness during his tenure of office. He hoped the W.M. would raise the banner of their lodge higher than it had been before. They would all support their W.M., who was the best of Masons and good fellows, and one whom they respected and esteemed. No matter whether in the Rothesay or that lodge, the W.M.'s kindness of heart was pre-eminent, and the brethren would drink his health with the fullest cordiality and sincere desire for his success.

Bro. E. L. Valeriani, P.M., W.M., who met with an enthusiastic reception, said he thanked them from his heart for the way they had received the toast, and for the kindness and friendship he had always received, not only in that lodge, but also in the Rothesay. He might have many faults, but one he did not possess, and that was ingratitude. He had done them the greatest injustice by accepting the honour of being their W.M. The brethren said "No, no," but he must be the judge. He was increasing in years and his faculties diminished, and although he would do his best, he did not think he should be equal to the position. They might be sure that his love for Freemasonry would not diminish, and they would doubtless be indulgent if he did not meet their expectations. Bro. Bailey had complimented him more than he deserved, and he would return that by asking the Grand Treasurer to accept a mark of their gratitude and affection in the form of a Grand Treasurer's jewel of office. They hoped Bro. Bailey would live long to wear it, for although they admired the Grand Officers generally, they loved their own Grand Officer.

Bro. W. H. Bailey, G. Treas., said they had loaded him with favours and then they crushed him, but he accepted the crushing and was grateful.

Bro. Henri Gros, P.M. 1687, said that at the request of the W.M. he rose to propose "The Initiate." It was not for him to lecture any newly-made Mason, but he would say that if the principles of Masonry could be adhered to by men at large in their daily walks of life, the world would leave nothing to be desired, war would be at a stand still, and men would recognise their fellow men of whatever nation or creed. Masonry taught them that greater Charity which did not end by placing five guineas on a list, but which carried it to the daily walks of life, did not leave it behind them in the banquet-room.

The initiate having replied, "The Masonic Charities" was proposed by the W.M., who coupled with it the name of the hard working Secretary of the Boys' School, Bro. McLeod.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Boys, said that when he reflected what that lodge had done for the Charities, he could only say they had done exceedingly well. In its first year, the good wife of the Secretary, Mrs. Stephens, took up a really good list for the Girls' School, and last year the W.M. stood on one side to allow Bro. Sir J. Monckton to again take up a good sum, so that for two years in one Institution the lodge did remarkable work. He had a distinct remembrance that Bro. Bailey took up a handsome list for the Boys'. His task was easy in thanking them from the bottom of his heart on behalf of himself and colleagues for all they had done in the past. This was a trying year for the Boys' School; his list of Stewards was a small one, and his prospects were very poor. He hoped that, under the peculiar circumstances, the lodge would do all it could to support the Boys' School. The Institution lived from hand to mouth, and relied upon the voluntary contributions of the Craft, which had been so generous in the past. Some 84 boys were sent in for the Cambridge Examinations and two were entered for the London Matriculation, and both passed in the first division, and only 12 beat them. There were 60 candidates seeking election to the School and only 20 vacancies, and, as the brethren were aware, a great demand would be made to meet the cost of the scheme of extension.

The toast of "The Visitors" was next given.

Bros. Samuel, W.M. 1708; Turner, W.M. 1767; Dutton, W.M. 2410; and Bolton, W.M. 1687, replied for the visiting brethren, a large number of whom hailed from the Rothesay Lodge, the W.M.'s mother lodge.

"The Past Masters" and "The Officers" were honoured, after which Bro. T. C. Edmonds, P.M., gave the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Tito Mattei delighted the brethren with a couple of choice pianoforte solos of his own composition, and amongst others who assisted were Miss Blinkhorn, Miss Saffrey, and Bros. G. Maggi, J. H. Haylor, W. J. Batho, and J. Stephens.

The Auditors' report, which was unanimously adopted, contained phenomenal figures, which are worthy of special mention. A cash balance of £472 at the beginning of the year was increased by receipts to £1257. The expenditure included a payment of 50 guineas, divided between the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls and Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, making the grand total of 200 guineas contributed to the Charities during the short career of the lodge. The Treasurer starts the new year with a balance of £543—surely a record in the finances of the numerous modern lodges!

Royal Arch.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

The installation convocation of the above chapter was held in the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 26th ultimo. Present: Comps. J. Constable, M.E.Z.; C. Goldthorpe, H.; A. W. Fretwell, J.; F. Webb, I.P.Z.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; R. Brew, 1st A.S.; J. Fitzgerald, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; W. Mason and W. Richardson, Janitors; F. Rand; S. Pegler; and E. Drury, P.G.S.N. England.

The installation ceremony was most beautifully rendered by Comp. Ensor Drury, and the following officers were duly invested: Comps. C. Goldthorpe, M.E.Z.; W. A. Fretwell, H.; J. Fitzgerald, J.; J. Constable, S.E. and I.P.Z.; H. Foster, S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; R. Brew, 1st A.S.; F. J. Forth, Treas.; and Richardson, Janitor. Comp. J. H. Pawson announced that over £10 had resulted from the late Masonic ball, of which one-third was the share of the Royal Arch, to be devoted to the Masonic Charities.

After chapter, a banquet was held in the ante-room, when the usual toasts were given, including that of "The two Distinguished Visitors, Comps. E. Billington, P.P. G.S.N., and J. H. Gratton, P.G. Treas."

Zetland Chapter, No. 603.

A regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Tofts, in Cleckheaton, on Friday, the 19th ult., and was well attended. Comp. S. H. Stocks, P.Z., M.E.Z., presided, the other officials present being Comps. William Sharp, H.; J. T. Lasr, J.; H. E. Hodgson, Treas., as S.E.; S. Mortimer, S.N.; J. Clough, P.S.; F. Newsome, Janitor; and Thos. J. Pickles, P.Z. Visitors: Comps. W. Dyson, P.Z. 289; H. Shaw, S.E. 289; Wm. Ash, P.Z. 1019; and John H. Lee, S.E. 1019.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes of the installation meeting were confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bros. G. H. Niven, P.M. 750; Robt. F. Rogerson, 1301; and C. Forshaw, 295; as candidates for exaltation at a future meeting and they were duly elected. The following candidates were then exalted—Bro. J. E. Helmsley, 603, by Comps. T. J. Pickles, P.Z.; Bro. John L. Parke, M.D., S.W. 2261, by Comp. W. Dyson, P.Z. 289; and Bro. R. J. Bateman, 603, by Comp. Wm. Ash, P.Z. 1019. Several accounts were passed for payment, and apologies tendered for the unavoidable absence of several companions, after which the chapter was closed.

At refreshment Comp. Sharp, H., presided, and after the loyal and Masonic toasts had been duly disposed of, he submitted "The Visitors," and expressed the pleasure it had afforded the members of the chapter to have been honoured with a visit from com-

panions from the Huddersfield and Wakefield chapters, and as the ceremonial in the chapter had been distributed an opportunity had been afforded of seeing a variety of working which was both interesting and instructive to the members, who would be glad to welcome them on future occasions.

The toast was received with acclamation.

Comp. W. Dyson, P.Z. 289, in acknowledging the toast, thanked the M.E.Z. for having given him an opportunity of taking part in the ceremony of exalting his friend, Bro. Dr. Parke. His visit to the chapter had afforded much pleasure to himself and Comp. Shaw, and if they were invited on a future occasion to visit the chapter they would certainly come.

Comp. Wm. Ash, P.Z. 1019, also responded. He thanked the members for the hospitable manner in which the visitors had been received, and personally he felt it an honour to have been invited to assist in the duties of the chapter. He concluded by cordially inviting the members to visit the Sincerity Chapter, No. 1019, at Wakefield.

Comp. H. S. Stocks, in responding to the toast of his health, took the opportunity of thanking the visitors for the assistance they had rendered that evening. It was many years since he had had practical experience with the actual work of the chapter, and, owing to his increasing age, the members must not expect much in the way of ceremonial from him; at the same time, he would do his utmost to make the chapter a success.

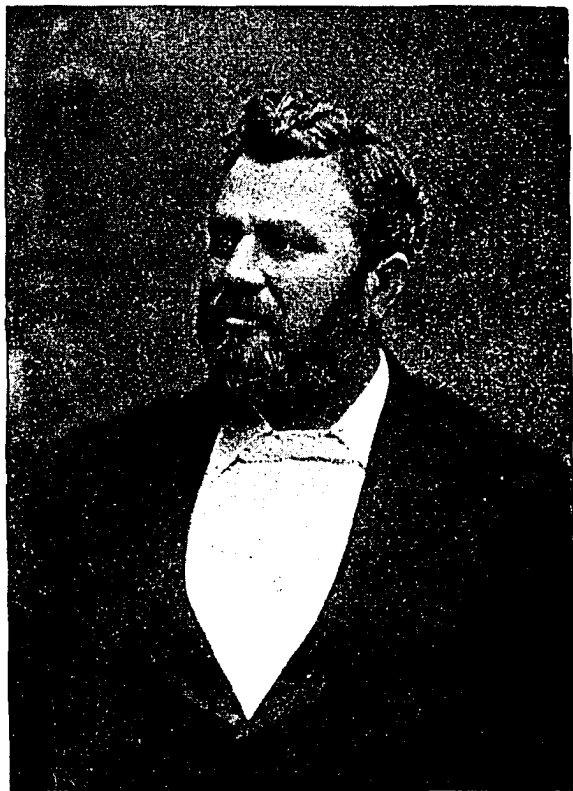
Other toasts followed, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Our Portrait Gallery.

BRO. E. L. P. VALERIANI,

W.M. of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

Bro. E. L. P. Valeriani is a native of France, but born of Italian parents, and on taking up his residence in this country, in 1851, became naturalised as an Englishman, and may, therefore, be truly considered a cosmopolitan Freemason. He was initiated in the Rothesay Lodge, No. 1687, five months after its consecration, in 1877, and can boast of a unique record in having attended every meeting of that lodge to the present time. Having passed through the various offices, he became W.M. in 1885, and has held the office of Secretary since 1887. Founder and first J.W. of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, Bro. Valeriani is now the



W.M. of the most successful of the modern lodges in the Metropolis. He was exalted in the St. James' Union Chapter, No. 180, of Royal Arch Masons, in 1885, and joined the Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73, in 1890, and became its M.E.Z. in 1893. He was advanced, in 1881, in the Thistle Mark Lodge, No. 8, and became W.M. in 1888, and was a founder and first Secretary of La France Mark Lodge, No. 450, in 1893. Bro. Valeriani is a great lover of, and a good friend to, each of our Masonic Institutions, for which he has served 14 Stewardships. He is a Vice-President of the Boys' School and Benevolent Institution and Life Governor of the Girls' School. The splendid record of his mother lodge in the cause of Charity is mainly due to the example and precept of Bro. Valeriani, and the character of the Fellowship Lodge in this respect will be fully maintained by its present Worshipful Master.

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.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Committee of Management of this Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday last. Bro. George E. Fairchild, Patron, P.A.G.D.C., occupied the chair, and there was a full attendance of members, together with the Secretary, Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B.

The minutes of the previous Committee having been read and verified, the SECRETARY reported the deaths of two annuitants (one male and one widow).

The SECRETARY reported that the Anniversary Festival was held on Wednesday, the 24th ult., under the presidency of the Duke of Connaught and Stratharn, K.G., Past Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master Sussex, and District Grand Master Bombay; that the amount announced was £18,197 19s. 3d., with 16 lists outstanding, and that this sum had since been increased to £18,616 6s. 9d., with only five lists outstanding.

It was resolved that a vote of thanks to his Royal Highness, the Chairman, for presiding, and to the Board of Stewards for their successful exertions, was passed by acclamation, and it was further resolved that the vote to the Chairman should be engrossed on vellum and presented to his Royal Highness.

A vote of thanks was also passed to the Secretary, Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., and his staff for their indefatigable labours in connection with the Festival.

The following notice of motion was given by Bro. CHARLES KEMPTON, namely, "That in order to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, a 'Five Pound Note' be presented to each of the non-successful candidates after the election in May next."

The meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

THE RECENT FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The following lists and additions to lists have been received since our report of last week:—

LONDON.

Lodge		£	s.	d.
4	Bro. W. Crewdson, additional ... (raising his list to £26 5s.)	...	5	5 0
157	„ L. A. Richardson, further additional ... (raising his list to £52 10s.)	...	1	2 0
231	„ John A. Laing, new list ...	...	15	4 6
259	„ Louis Miéville, new list ...	...	10	10 0
813	„ H. D. Blake, additional ... (raising his list to £77 12s. 6d.)	...	1	11 6
957	„ W. Truman, additional ... (raising his list to £58 16s.)	...	5	5 0
Lodge and Chapter				
1216	Bro. A. C. Bradley, additional ... (raising his list to £53 11s.)	...	11	11 0
1288	„ Richard Parish, additional ... (raising his list to £142 4s. 6d.)	...	11	10 0
1563	„ H. M. Taylor, additional ... (raising his list to £77 19s.)	...	1	10 0
1706	„ E. C. Lewis, additional ... (raising his list to £21.)	...	10	10 0
1805	„ Charles James, additional ... (raising his list to £70)	...	0	16 0
1922	„ Harry Cornford, additional ... (raising his list to £84)	...	5	5 0
1963	„ Charles James, additional ... (raising his list to £21)	...	5	5 0
2512	„ Tom Green, additional ... (raising his list to £63 16s.)	...	5	0 0
2581	„ Imre Kiralfy, additional ... (raising his list to £65)	...	1	0 0

PROVINCES.

BERKSHIRE.

1566	„ J. F. Simpson, additional ... (raising his list to £36 4s.)	...	11	0 0
2437	„ Henry Creed, additional ... (raising his list to £36 15s.)	...	6	15 0

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

1501	„ B. R. Wright, new list ...	...	10	10 0
2262	„ W. Pottinger, additional ... (raising his list to £66 13s. 6d.)	...	3	13 6

CHESHIRE.

830	„ W. Newton, additional ... (raising his list to £36 8s. 6d.)	...	1	6 0
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ESSEX.

2256	„ Richard Kershaw, additional ... (raising his list to £43 1s.)	...	6	0 0
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HERTFORDSHIRE.

2218	„ H. C. Barrett, additional ... (raising his list to £29 8s.)	...	2	2 0
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LANCASHIRE (E.D.)

Unattached	Bro. C. D. Cheetham, additional ... (raising his list to £31 10s.)	...	21	0 0
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MIDDLESEX.

1567	„ W. T. Dillon and others, additional ... (raising his list to £144 6s.)	...	1	11 6
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OXFORDSHIRE.

340	„ C. M. Taphouse, additional ... (raising his list to £63)	...	1	0 0
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478	„ R. H. A. Whitelock, additional ... (raising his list to £48 6s.)	...	4	4 0
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SUFFOLK.

1061	„ D. W. Carter, additional ... (raising his list to £54 1s.)	...	11	11 0
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WORCESTERSHIRE.

The Province	Bro. Abraham Green, additional ... (raising his list to £330)	...	5	5 0
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Lodge	2385 Bro. Geo. B. Buttery, additional ... (raising his list to £42)	...	5	5 0
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DORSETSHIRE.

In our remarks on the contributions from this Province, we regret to say that we, quite unintentionally, omitted to notice that Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, who represented the Lodge of Amity, and returned a list of £22 1s., has acted as Steward on many previous occasions and has contributed of his own means between £900 and £1000 to this and our other Institutions. But his name has always previously appeared in the London section of the Board, and if our memory serves us right, mostly in connection with Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19. Hence the omission, which, however, will be made good in the reprint.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE, No. 65.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Weavers' Arms, 17, London Wall, when there were present Bros. William Baker, W.M.; Spencer, S.W.; John C. Robeson, J.W.; Jas. Smith, P.M. 192, Assist. Sec.; E. Croft Wise, S.D.; A. J. Rippin, I.D.; Dobbs, I.G.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; Haller, P.M.; W. J. Greig, W.M. 65, Asst. Preceptor; Collins, Levy, and Knight.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. Bro. William Baker opened the lodge in the Second and Third Degrees, and closed in the Third Degree, when he vacated the chair in favour of Bro. W. J. Greig, who rehearsed the ceremony of installation. A board of Installed Masters was then formed, after which Bro. William Baker resumed the chair, and Bro. Greig concluded the ceremony. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. Levy being the candidate, and rising the usual times, the lodge was closed.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. M. Beedle, W.M.; J. Goldstein, S.W.; A. Tidy, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; W. Bowden, S.D.; C. Pinnell, J.D.; J. Lush, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; L. Genese, P.M.; and C. Holmes.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Holmes being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Genese, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Beedle acting as candidate. Bro. Goldstein, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the lodge was then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 23rd inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. A. F. Hardymont, W.M.; B. J. R. Longman, S.W.; S. Cload, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. C. Renaud, S.D.; L. Danielsson, J.D.; G. Yexley, I.G.; W. T. Roberts, J. Birks, C. W. Rayner, Campbell, P.M.; H. Yeomans, C. Smith, C. Bone, H. B. Harding, P.M.; R. Philip Upton, P.M.; and F. H. Johnson.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Roberts being the candidate. The ceremony of raising, including the traditional history, was then rehearsed, Bro. Yeomans being the candidate. Bro. Longman was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. Bros. Campbell, P.M., and Yeomans, were elected members of the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

A meeting of this lodge was held on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at the Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, when there were present Bros. W. Hillier, P.M., W.M.; Thomas Jobson, S.W.; R. H. Williams, P.M., &c., J.W.; A. Williams, P.M., Preceptor; W. B. Neville, P.M., Treas.; F. Craggs, P.M., Sec.; H. J. Danby, P.M., S.D.; W. H. Marler, J.D.; Maurice Moss, I.G.; J. H. King, Stwd.; W. H. Dresden, P.M.; M. Spiegel, P.M.; A. Carlstrom, P.M.; Joseph Cox, W.M. 1585; Barton Jones, W.M. 452; William Hide, W.M. 1275; J. A. Battersby, J. H. Catten, J. T. Davies, Walter Wesché, Thomas Leete, H. Robinson, Robert Reid, J. R. Francis, A. W. Lancaster, F. M. Ridley, W. C. Lightfoot, Norman Rodd, F. O. Harke, J. Farndell, R. Cawley, Richard Baker, and Pettit.

The lodge was opened in the usual form, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the Sections of the Lecture in that Degree were worked by Bros. A. Williams, A. J. Clayton, R. H. Williams, Robert Reid, and F. Craggs. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the Sections of the Third Lecture were worked by Bros. W. H. Dresden, Barton Jones, and R. H. Williams. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree. Bros. Baker, Carlstrom, and Spiegel were elected joining members. Votes of thanks were passed to the officers and Section workers. Bro. Catten was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 5th inst. Present: Comps. W. Dawson, M.E.Z.; S. J. Derham, H.; G. H. Lewis, J.; Thos. Grumant, P.Z., Preceptor; R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; W. R. Barr, S.N.; Stone, P.S.; Adding-ton, Longhurst, W. R. Smith, F. W. Robinson, and Cureton.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. W. R. Smith personating the candidate. Comp. F. W. Robinson, Z. 1423, and J. Longhurst, 2nd A.S. 1216, were each elected a joining member. Comp. G. H. Lewis, J., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting, and the chapter closed.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Mount Calvary Chapter, No. 3.

This chapter met for the dispatch of business at the Masonic Hall, 33, Golden-square, on the 12th ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. L. Steele, C.E., 30°, M.W.S.; W. Maple, Prelate; Dr. N. Jagielski, 1st General; H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; Major Baldwin, Herald; Egbert Roberts, Asst. Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S.; Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, P.M.W.S.; G. Grimwood, J.P., P.M.W.S.; H. J. Adams, C. Slater, T. Carrick, and Capt. G. Carpenter. Comp. J. H. Hawkins was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. Major J. E. Anderson, P.M.W.S., 31°; Dr. E. M. Lott, 31°, Org.; G. A. Berkeley, P.M.W.S.; Nelson Prower, M.A., 30°, P.M.W.S.; George Graveley, C.E., 30°, P.M.W.S.; T. E. Biddlecombe, T. Murray, and others. The resignation of Bro. B. Johnson was received with regret. The chapter was then closed.

The banquet, as usual, was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street. The usual toasts followed.

"The Health of the Most Wise," was cordially received. The proposer of the toast called attention to the circumstance that Ill. Bro. Laurence Steele had come! many miles that day to carry out his duties and would be returning to his distant Hampshire home whilst they were still enjoying the pleasant amenities of the festive board. Their Most Wise, was an able worker in all the principal Degrees of Freemasonry, and in addition was one of the most kind hearted and benevolent brethren in the broad arena of Masonry. This pledge was warmly received, but the recipient of the compliment had left.

Other toasts followed and were suitably acknowledged.

The Mount Calvary Chapter is noted not only for "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," but for its love of instrumental and vocal harmony. If, instead of postprandial Masonic oratory, which, at the best of times, has but little to recommend it, the lodges, chapters, and other kindred Masonic bodies, were to entertain their visitors and themselves with an abundance of music there would be fewer empty seats to be seen at the after-dinner proceedings of the majority of them. On this occasion the brethren were greatly entertained by the instrumental, vocal, and dramatic abilities of Bros. Dr. Hinton, Egbert Roberts; and J. H. Hawkins. Bro. Professor Driver also contributed a poetical effort of his own.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, March 20th, 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, MARCH 15.**CRAFT LODGES.**

1, Grand Masters, Freemasons' Tavern.
8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
21, Emulation, Albion Tavern.
185, Tranquillity, Frascati Restaurant.
720, Panmure, Balham Hotel.
862, Whittington, Freemasons' Hall.
901, City of London, Guildhall Tavern.
1537, St. Peter Westminster, Criterion.
1657, Aldersgate, Albion Tavern.
1694, Imperial, Cloat's Restaurant.
1728, Temple Bar, Anderton's Hotel.
2060, La France, Cafe Royal.
2265, Barnato, Cafe Monico.
2489, Willesden, St. Andrew's School.
2545, Iris, Rainbow Tavern.
2563, Justice, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

217, Stability, Anderton's Hotel.
1593, Trafalgar, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

MARK LODGE.

333, Kintore, Surrey Masonic Hall.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

128, Oxford and Cambridge University, 33, Golden-square.

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, Midway Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Rider'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, MARCH 16.

Board of General Purposes, at 5.

CRAFT LODGES.

30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern.
73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel.
95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
162, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
194, St. Paul's, Cannon-street Hotel.
435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
704, Camden, Anderton's Hotel.
857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1635, Canterbury, 33, Golden-square.
1805, Bromley St. Leonard, Vestry Hall, Bow-road.
2021, Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant.
2022, Haven, Public Buildings, Felling.
2045, Wharton, White Hart Hotel, Willesden.
2408, Hampstead, Vestry Hall.
2500, Old Boys', Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

26, Castle of Harmony, Cafe Royal.
46, Old Union, Albion Tavern.
933, Doric, Anderton's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17.**CRAFT LODGES.**

Grand Stewards', Freemasons' Hall.
Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Albion Tavern.

140, St. George's, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern.
190, Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
700, Nelson, Freemasons' Hall, Plumstead.
909, Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel.
1044, Wandsworth, Municipal Buildings.
1150, Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
1278, Burdett-Coutts, London Tavern.
1349, Friars, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
1382, Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town.
1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel.
1530, Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1571, Leopold, Bridge House Hotel.
1624, Eccleston, Criterion.
1673, Welcome, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
1677, Crusaders, Cock Tavern.
2241, Cordwainer Ward, Cannon-street Hotel.
2272, Rye, Peckham Public Hall.
2361, Cricklewood, Frascati Restaurant.
2409, Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate.
2456, Chancery Bar, The Hall of Lincoln's Inn.
2589, Borough, Bridge House Hotel.
2601, Holloway, Beale's Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

141, Faith, Anderton's Hotel.

MARK LODGES.

144, Grosvenor, Cafe Royal.
181, Sir Francis Burdett, Albany Hotel, Twickenham.
198, Croydon, Greyhound Hotel.

ROSE CROIX.

79, Orpheus, 33, Golden-square.
121, Belgrave, 33, Golden-square.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Beaconsfield, Chequers Hotel, High-street, Walthamstow, at 8.
Belgrave, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
Creaton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Crusaders, The St. John's Gate Tavern, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, at 8.30.
Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, 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.
New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., 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.
Zodiac, Denmark Hotel, East Ham, 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, 8.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18.

House Committee Girls' School, at 4.30.

CRAFT LODGES.

6, Friendship, Criterion.
23, Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
49, Gihon, Guildhall Tavern.
55, Constitutional, Cannon-street Hotel.
63, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
109, Temperance, White Swan, Deptford.
179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel.
181, Universal, Albion Tavern.
657, Canonbury, Holborn Restaurant.
733, Westbourne, Holborn Restaurant.
813, New Concord, Guildhall Tavern.
1227, Upton, Great Eastern Hotel.
1287, Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall.
1305, Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel.
1420, Earl Spencer, Stanley Restaurant, Lavender-hill.
1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1598, Ley Spring, Anderton's Hotel.
1613, Cripplegate, Albion Tavern.
1623, West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall.
1901, Selwyn, Montpelier Hotel, Peckham.
2310, London Scottish Rifles, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

834, Andrew, Windsor Castle Hotel, Hammersmith.

MARK LODGE.

361, Onslow, Cafe Royal.

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.
Great City, Red Cross, Paternoster-square, at 7.
High Cross, Coach and Horses, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.
Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
H. J. J. White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Jest, 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, Sterling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.45.
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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19.

Board of Management Boys' School, at 2.30.

CRAFT LODGES.

143, Middlesex, Albion Tavern.
1118, Oxford and Cambridge University, Freemasons' Hall.
1962, London Rifle Brigade, Anderton's Hotel.
2157, St. Mark's College, Holborn Restaurant.
2346, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

651, St. George's, Mark Masons' Hall.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20.**CRAFT LODGES.**

715, Panmure, Cannon-street Hotel.
1139, South Norwood, The Pavilion.
1320, Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1364, Earl of Zetland, Guildhall Tavern.
1732, King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel.
1761, Kensington, Royal Palace Hotel.
2308, Viator, Anderton's Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

FOR

AGED FREEMASONS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

MAY ELECTION, 1897.

The favour of your Votes and Interest is earnestly solicited on behalf of

MARY ANN BURFIELD,

Widow of the late EBENEZER BURFIELD, 21 years member of the Leamington, 395, Warwick, 567, Lodges, P.P.G.J.D. Warwickshire, and Life Governor of the Aged Masons' Institution.

Mrs. Burfield at the present time is existing on a grant from the Board of Benevolence.

Votes for either of the Institutions will be thankfully received by Bro. W. HOPKIRK, P.G.F., P.Z., Crystal Palace, Upper Norwood.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Re ARNOLD BEVERLY MINERS.

Bro. W. C. PARSONS, P.M. and Sec. 180, takes the earliest opportunity of informing the Life Governors and Subscribers, who so kindly supported the above case at the last two elections, that, owing to an extraordinary vacancy having occurred since the October election, the Board of Management has been good enough to exercise their power, by admitting young MINERS into the Institution, without further voting, he being the highest unsuccessful candidate at the last election. Bro. PARSONS takes this opportunity of expressing his very sincere thanks to all his Masonic friends who so kindly assisted him at the last two elections.

4, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square,
February 22nd, 1897.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

APRIL ELECTION.

Will brethren having interest in the Charities notice case of

RUTH SEWART,

one of the 10 children left dependent on the widow of our late W. Bro. Dr. JOHN HUNTER SEWART.

Mrs. SEWART has opened a Typewriting Office at Riverside, Lostwithiel, thereby endeavouring to keep the wolf from the door.

Votes for either of the Charities thankfully received by W. Bro. T. W. PERRY, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Lostwithiel. All offers of assistance gladly accepted.

NEXT ELECTION.

INFANT ORPHAN ASYLUM, WANSTEAD.

Your votes and interest are earnestly solicited on behalf of

HILDA FLORENCE GRANT,

Aged 4 years,

Daughter of Bro. THOMAS BARNET GRANT, of the Prudent Brethren Lodge, No. 145.

Bro. GRANT, an Electrical Engineer of George-street, Mansion House, died in January, 1895, at the age of 33, leaving a widow and seven young children very inadequately provided for.

The case is strongly recommended by—

Bro. the Rev. J. H. ROSE, M.A., Vicar of Clerkenwell.
Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, 55, Parliament-street, S.W.
Bro. H. CARMAN, Brunswick, South-road, Forest Hill, S.E.
Bro. GEORGE KENNING, Upper Sydenham, S.E.
W. T. ANSELL, Esq., Eastern Telegraph Co., Ltd., 50, Old Broad-street.

J. T. HOARE, Esq., Talbot House, 393, Holloway-Rd., N.
Bro. J. R. DUFF, 14, Burlington-road, Tottenham, N.

Proxies will be thankfully received by the above gentlemen, and also by the widow, Mrs. GRANT, 355, Green Lanes, Harringay, N.

TO THE BENEVOLENT.

An Elderly English Brother Mason (of literary and linguistic acquirements) now in great distress, earnestly appeals for some occupation, &c., being in quite reduced and sad circumstances. Address—Bro. FAIRMAN, 30, Calthorpe-street, Gray's-Inn-road, London, W.C.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE LORD MAYOR'S Indian Famine Fund down to Thursday night amounted to £416,000, including £1000 from York.

THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPANY have given a further donation of £250 towards the Re-endowment Fund of Guy's Hospital.

INTERNATIONAL yacht racing took place at Hyères, when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Britannia beat the Ailsa in the 24 miles race.

THE FOOTBALL contest, Ireland v. Wales, played at Belfast on Saturday last, resulted in favour of the Green Isle by four goals to three.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT will shortly visit Berlin, in order to be present at the unveiling of the Emperor William I. monument on Monday, the 23rd instant.

WE REGRET to hear that the condition of the Earl of Hardwicke, Past Prov. G. Master of Cambridgeshire, is again the cause of very serious anxiety to his numerous friends and relations.

CHANG-YIN-HOON has been appointed Special Ambassador to the Queen to convey to her Majesty the congratulations of the Emperor of China on the occasion of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

WE ARE GLAD to hear that the Countess of Warwick, who quite recently met with an accident in the hunting field, by which she dislocated one of her elbows, is progressing very favourably towards recovery.

THE QUEEN has conferred the Honorary Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order upon his Excellency Count G. Seckendorff, Comptroller of the Household of her Imperial Majesty the Empress Frederick of Germany.

HER MAJESTY'S guests at Windsor Castle on Saturday last included the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, while the Duke d'Alençon arrived on Sunday evening and had the honour of being included in the Royal dinner party.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, Princess Victoria of Wales, and the Duke and Duchess of York visited the Clifford Galleries, 21, Haymarket, on Tuesday afternoon, in order to view Miss F. C. Fairman's Dog Show on canvas and paper.

HER MAJESTY has consented to give her patronage to the Duchess of Albany's bazaar in aid of the fund for the relief of the distressed and poor in the parishes of Deptford, which will be held at the Imperial Institute on the 1st and 2nd June.

BRO. LORD AND LADY PIRBRIGHT, who have been wintering at Cimiez, are not expected to return to their house in Grosvenor-place, until after Easter. Bro. Lord and Lady Wantage have left town for Lockinge, and purpose going abroad shortly until after Easter.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES arrived off Cannes on board his yacht Britannia on Monday and lunched with the Grand Duke Mecklenburgh Schwerin on board the White Ladye. Subsequently the Prince visited the Archduke Rainer and Prince Philip of Saxe-Coburg.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES arrived at Mentone from Cannes shortly before noon on Wednesday, and lunched with the Emperor of Austria, at Cape St. Martin, subsequently visiting the Empress Eugenie at the Villa Cyprus, and returning thence in the course of the afternoon.

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK OF GERMANY, who left Windsor Castle, on Tuesday, for Buckingham Palace, where she will remain till Monday next, dined with the Duke and Duchess of York, at York House, St. James's, the same evening, the Princess of Wales and her daughter Princess Victoria being of the party.

BARON DE COURCEL, the French Ambassador, was to have visited Windsor Castle on Monday morning for the purpose of delivering his letters of recall to her Majesty, but it has been arranged that his Excellency shall continue at his post a little longer, and he will probably not leave until after the Queen's return from the Continent.

A LETTER was received at the Mansion House on Wednesday from the Queen, who, "having reason to believe that the distress attending the present famine in India, is likely to be more widespread than was at first anticipated," sent a further donation of £500 to the Relief Fund. Other sums contributed during the day raised the total to £411,000.

IN PREPARATION.—The Royal Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Number of the *Freemason*. Price 1s.; illustrated. "Royalty and Freemasonry," and other interesting matter by eminent writers. Presentation plate of Grand Officers. Orders now booked for the above at the offices—16 and 16A, Great Queen-street, London; Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow.

ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN made by the Duke of Connaught in an Army Order, that the sum subscribed by the troops under his Royal Highness's command at Aldershot, towards the Indian Famine Relief Fund, is £512 11s. The Duke is of opinion that this evidence of the sympathy with India among the home forces will be highly appreciated in that country.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, Bros. the Earl of Onslow, Lord Glenesk, and the Hon. Ivor Guest, Sir A. Scoble, M.P., Bros. Sir Douglas Straight, Colonel Lockwood, M.P., and Captain Chaloner, M.P., and Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., were among the guests at the dinner party given by the Home Secretary, Bro. Sir M. Ridley White, at his house in Carlton House-terrace on Wednesday.

AT A SALE of pictures which was held at Christie's, on Saturday last, a very fine portrait of Miss Farren, afterwards Countess of Derby, by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A., which in 1863 only fetched 79 guineas, realised 2300 guineas. A domestic scene by Palasquez entitled "The Back Door of a House," from the collection of Cardinal Fisch, was knocked down for 1340 guineas.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN has telegraphed to Colonel Forestier-Walker, of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, her admiration of the discipline and general conduct of the troops under his command at the time of the wreck of the troopship Warren Hastings. This evidence of the deep interest her Majesty takes in the welfare of her subjects has been greatly appreciated, and Colonel Walker has acknowledged with gratitude the gracious message.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by her daughter, the Princess Victoria, and attended by General Sir Dighton Probyn, returned to Marlborough House on Saturday last from visiting the Queen at Windsor Castle. In the afternoon, attended by Miss Knollys, their Royal Highnesses visited the Alexandra Hospital for Children suffering with Hip Diseases, situated in Queen-square, Bloomsbury, and in the evening they were present at the Princess's Theatre, and witnessed the performance of "Two Little Vagabonds."

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK were present on Saturday afternoon last at the opening of the new and handsome baths and washhouses which have been erected in the Marylebone-road for the use of the parish, and dedicated them to the public use. Their Royal Highnesses were attended by General Sir F. de Winton, Captain the Hon. Derek Keppel, and Lady Mary Lygon, and were received by a Committee which included Sir Horace Farquhar, M.P., Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., Bro. Boulnois, M.P., Viscount Royston, and the Parish Commissioners. Their Royal Highnesses were received with hearty cheers both on entering and quitting the building.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Princes Leopold and Maurice of Battenberg, and the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of her Court left Windsor Castle for the South-Western Railway Station, whence they were received by Bro. Wyndham Portal, Chairman of the Company, and other officials, by whom they were conducted to the train which was to convey them to Portsmouth. Shortly before 1 p.m. her Majesty left Portsmouth Dockyard on board the Royal yacht Victoria and Albert, which was attended by the Trinity yacht Irene, escorted by the cruisers Australia and Galatea to Cherbourg, which was reached, after a favourable passage, about 6.30 p.m. The Queen remained on board for the night and on Thursday left by train for Paris, in the neighbourhood of which the French President, M. Faure, had a short interview with her in her saloon carriage, the train being stopped at Noisy-le-Sec for about a quarter of an hour to allow of this being done. She then continued her journey to Cimiez, where she will spend the next few weeks.

BRO. THE DUKE OF ABERCORN has returned to town from visiting the Dowager Duchess of Abercorn at Coates Castle, Pulborough.

THE WILL of Bro. George Lilley, of Balham, who died on January 24th, was proved on February 24th by the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to £33,973 12s. 5d.

THE BELLS of Windsor were rung on Wednesday, and a Royal Salute fired in the Long Walk, in celebration of the thirty-fourth anniversary of the Prince and Princess of Wales's wedding.

A BODY OF ZAPTICHS or Gendarmes, with their horses and equipment, will be sent from Cyprus to London to take part in the festivities connected with the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June.

THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR entertained at dinner, at 83, Eaton-square, a number of guests, among them being the Lord Mayor, Bro. Lord Methuen, Lord James of Hereford, and Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., M.P.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR (Bro. Lord Halsbury), with Lady Halsbury, and the Hon. Evelyn Giffard left town on Tuesday evening, for Dublin, on a visit to their Excellencies the Lord-Lieutenant and Countess Cadogan.

THE ADVANCE bookings for "My Friend the Prince," at the Garick Theatre, are so heavy that notwithstanding there are 15 rows of stalls in this pretty theatre, the box office staff are quite unable to cope with the demand.

BROS. VISCOUNT VALENTIA, Baron F. de Rothschild, Col. Waring, Orr-Ewing, and Abel H. Smith were among the guests at the fifth full dress Parliamentary dinner given by the Speaker (Bro. J. C. Gully, Q.C.), on Wednesday.

A GRAND COMPLIMENTARY CONCERT will be given at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Tuesday next, the 16th inst., to Bro. Frank Swinford, Prov. G. Org. Middx., on his recovery from a prolonged and serious illness. The patrons include the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, and a very large number of eminent artistes have kindly promised their assistance.

THE DIRECTORS of Spiers and Pond, Limited, announce that the Share Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st instant, both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing dividend warrants for the third instalment of four shillings per share, less income tax, payable on the 1st April next, making 12s. per share paid on account of the dividend for the year ending 31st March, 1897.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the great number of troops that will be brought into London to line the streets and take part in the Royal procession to St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, the 22nd June, it has been decided to pitch camps at Hounslow and on Wimbledon Common, the former being intended for regiments of artillery and battalions of Royal Horse and Field Artillery and the latter for battalions of infantry.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY had an audience, which lasted an hour, with the Queen, at Windsor Castle, on Monday, and returned to town in the afternoon, and was afterwards visited at the Foreign Office by the Russian and French Ambassadors. The German and Italian Ambassadors also called at the Foreign Office before his lordship's return from Windsor, and the former made a second call later in the day in order that he might see his lordship in person.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS, 1897.—The Great Northern Railway Company have issued their annual list of the principal Agricultural Shows to be held throughout the country during the year 1897, and copies may be had free on application to the Company's agents, or to Mr. L. Brightman, King's Cross Station, London, N. Representative of the Company will, as usual, attend on the show grounds, and be prepared to give free particulars of rates, times of transit, &c.

SIR WALTER GILBEY entertained the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society, and the members of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding at dinner at his residence Cambridge House, Regent's Park, on Tuesday evening, among those present being Bro. W. H. Long, M.P. (President of the Board of Agriculture), Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, the Earl of Coventry, Earl Spencer, Bro. Viscount Valentia, M.P., Col. E. Nigel Kingscote, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Capt. Fife, and others.

AS THE TROOPS which will form part of the Queen's procession on the 22nd June will consist of cavalry and other mounted corps, including the Indian and Colonial contingents, the command of the procession will be in the hands of Major-General the Hon. Reginald Talbot, C.B., Commander of the Aldershot Cavalry Brigade, while the command of the troops in London for the occasion will be given to the Duke of Connaught, who will be in the procession, as also will the Commander-in-Chief, Bro. Lord Wolseley, and his staff.

AMONG THE GUESTS at the first evening party given during the season by the Countess Stanhope were the Austrian Ambassador, the Danish Ambassador and Madame Anthopoulos, the Netherlands Minister, Bro. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor) and Lady Halsbury, the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Wharfedale, Earl Waldegrave, Viscount and Viscountess Knutsford, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Ebrington, Bro. Lord Glenesk, Bro. Lord and Lady Skelmersdale, Lord Greenock, Lord James of Hereford, Lord and Lady Morris, and many others.

LORD MAYOR FAUDEL PHILLIPS entertained the Master (H.R.H. the Duke of York) and Elder Brethren of Trinity House at a luncheon at the Mansion House, on Tuesday, among the principal guests being Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P.; Cardinal Vaughan, Lord Rayleigh, the Bishop of Stepney, the Governor of the Bank of England, Capt. Sir J. Sidney Webb (Deputy Master of the Trinity House); Bros. Sir T. Sutherland, M.P., and Alderman Sir J. Savory, Bart., M.P.; Sir Donald Currie, Bro. Sir Edward Lawson, Bro. H. McCalmont, M.P.; Capt. Vyvyan, and others.

BRO. W. H. RICE, P.M. 1755, has been the recipient of some handsome testimonials on the severing of his connection with the Bristol Training Ship, Formidable (where he held the position of Head Master), after 27 years' service. On Saturday he was surprised by being asked to accept a handsome silver inkstand and beautiful oak smoking cabinet, both suitably inscribed, given by the past and present officers of the ship, which gifts were suitably and feelingly acknowledged. Bro. Rice is well-known in Freemasonry, not only in Somerset, but in London, where he has taken great interest in the Central Charities and in the high grades of our Order, and we trust he may long be spared to enjoy his well-earned retirement and to continue his valuable and valued services to the Craft.

NEW INFIRMARY BUILDINGS FOR THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, ISLINGTON.—Communications were considered from the undermentioned selected as eligible for the appointment of quantity surveyor: John Andrews, 13, Basinghall-street, E.C.; Harry E. Pollard, 6, York-buildings, Adelphi; G. H. Lutchford, 26, Kelly-street, N.W.; Bro. H. Dow White, W.M. 1601, 52, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.; T. Wilson, 34, New Bridge-street; Alan Paul, 6, Quality-court, Chancery-lane, W.C.; J. Leaning and Sons, 23, John-street, Bedford-row, W.C.; W. H. Barber and Son, 22, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C.; Walter I. Farthing, 46, Strand, W.C.; and Fowler and Hugman, 9, Craig-court, Charing Cross, S.W. Bro. Dow White was appointed.

NEWSVENDORS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this society was held on Tuesday at the Memorial Hall, Bro. Lord Glenesk, President, in the chair. The report stated that a substantial addition had been made during last year to the invested funds, which now amount to £15,000. The annual subscriptions have increased, showing, in the opinion of the Committee, that members of the news trade are at last beginning to appreciate the benefits offered by the society. The total receipts for the year were £1266 5s. 3d., and the expenditure £853 0s. 9d., leaving a balance of over £400. In moving its adoption, the Chairman called attention to its satisfactory nature, and thanked Bro. Alderman Treloar for presiding at their last annual dinner, and the Stationers' Company for lending their hall, and predicted that the next festival, at which the Earl of Crewe had consented to preside on April 28th, would also prove a great success. He found in his experience that those who helped themselves generally got helped by their neighbours, and he believed the public would always be ready to assist members of such a trade as theirs, involving exposure and long hours for their customers' convenience. He hoped the Victoria Pensions for poor widows would be increased this year, and that the society would long continue to carry on its noble work. Mr. T. Miles supported the resolution, which was adopted. Four candidates—J. Clarke, Hannah C. Nash, Mary Ann Nelson, and G. A. Wright—were then elected to the benefits of the institution, and received their first cheques from the hands of the Chairman, after which a resolution was adopted directing the Committee to devote this year's donations to the increase of the Royal Victoria Pension Fund.