

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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APPROACHING ELECTION OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Annual General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, the 21st instant, when, as soon as the ordinary business has been transacted, the poll will be opened for the election of candidates to fill the vacancies that have occurred since the meeting of last year. As usual, the lists of applicants are formidable by comparison with the number that can be elected on the two Funds, there being as many as 65 candidates for the 13 vacancies—including the three deferred—on the Male Fund, which were declared at the meeting of the Committee of Management in February, and 52 candidates for the 18 vacancies—including the three deferred—on the Widows' Fund which were declared at the same Committee meeting. Any other annuities which may have fallen vacant on either Fund between the date of the said meeting and the 21st instant will, doubtless, if the practice in recent years is followed, be also filled up.

For the MALE FUND,

there are, as we have said, 65 candidates for the 13 vacancies—10 immediate, and three deferred—and of these 27 remain on the list from last year's election, and 38 are new candidates. London furnishes 26 candidates, and the Provinces and Abroad 39, the former being placed on the list as follows: No. 5, who brings forward 1632 votes from five previous elections, and No. 6, who starts with 2936 to his credit, of which all but 20 votes were recorded in his favour at the last four elections. No. 8 was a candidate for the first time in 1894, and since then has accumulated 248 votes, and receives 40 additional; No. 11 brings forward 1403 votes from 1895 and 1896, and Nos. 15 and 16 have in hand 2094 and 1466 votes respectively from the same years. No. 20 polled 3325 votes last year, and will receive a further 20; No. 21, 2456 votes, with 20 added, and No. 25, 258 votes, with 20 added. The other 17 are new candidates, viz: Nos. 31 and 32; 34; 36 and 37; 41, 42, and 43; 47; 49, 50, and 51; 55 and 56; 59 and 60; and 64. Of the 39 applicants from the Provinces and Abroad, the following five hail from Devonshire, namely; No. 3, whose name has been before the Governors for 13 years, though he has obtained only 267 votes at the 12 previous ballots; No. 4, who has 43 votes from seven previous attempts; No. 9, who has received no votes whatever from her past

attempts; and Nos. 14 and 19, the former of whom brings forward 21 votes from 1895 and 1896, and the latter 63 from last year. Kent furnishes the following five candidates: No. 12, who has 568 votes and No. 13 with 530 votes from the 1895 and 1896 elections; No. 26, who polled 410 votes last year; and Nos. 35 and 52—new cases. Cheshire also sends up five, viz., No. 10 with nine votes in hand from the last two elections: Nos. 24 and 27 with 4 and 3 votes respectively from 1896; and two new candidates at Nos. 46 and 58 respectively. West Yorkshire is responsible for Nos. 28, 30, 44, and 53, who are all applicants for the first time. North and East Yorkshire furnishes No. 1, whose name has been on the list for 15 years and who will start for his 15th ballot with 796 votes to her credit, and No. 33, a first case. Suffolk is entered for two, of whom No. 17 brings forward 3308 from 1895 and 1896, and No. 23, one vote from last year. Lincolnshire and Norfolk also furnish two each, but all of them are new cases, Nos. 38 and 61 being from the former Province and Nos. 54 and 57 from the latter. No. 2 hails from Northumberland and commences her 14th ballot with 393 votes in hand, and No. 7, from Nottinghamshire, brings forward 53 votes from the last four years. A Dorset brother at No. 18 polled 63 votes in 1896 and a Shropshire brother five votes at the same election, while the remaining eight are all new cases with claims respectively on Berkshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Victoria, South Wales (Western Division), Hertfordshire, Warwickshire, Bristol, and Cornwall. Only a small proportion of these poor old brethren were subscribing members of lodges for less than the prescribed number of years, their candidature being justified by their permanent disablement through blindness, paralysis, or other sufficient cause, while about one-third are returned as having subscribed for 25 years and upwards. Several of them have also done good service to Masonry in the days of their prosperity, while the mere fact of their names being on the list is proof direct that their claims to be admitted to the benefits of the Institution are in all respects satisfactory.

For the

WIDOWS' FUND

there are 52 candidates, of whom 26 are old and 26 new applicants, the number of vacancies, so far as we know up to the present time, to be filled being 18, namely, 15 immediate and three deferred. London is responsible for 10 of the number and is partly interested in two others. Of the former only the widow at No. 24 was on last year's list, and she brings forward 130 votes, the other nine being new cases and returned at Nos. 27 and 28; 30; 33 and 34; 38; 40 and 41; and 44. The other two—No. 39 (London and Kent), and No. 47 (London and Suffolk)—are also new cases. Of the 40 from the Provinces and Abroad there are five from Devonshire, No. 3, with 271 votes and No. 5, with 294 votes from 11 previous elections, No. 7, with 226 votes from 10 previous years; No. 9, who has obtained 81 votes at the last eight elections; and No. 26, who brings forward 519 votes from last year. Warwickshire sends four candidates, namely, No. 15, who starts with 393 votes from the last three elections; No. 19, who scored seven votes in 1895 and 1896; No. 20, who obtained 315 votes last year; and No. 23, who starts with seven votes. Sussex and Somersetshire each furnish three—those from the former being No. 18, who polled 20 votes in 1895 and 1896; No. 25, with 940 votes from last year; and No. 52. The Somersetshire are all new cases, and appear as Nos. 32, 56, and 43. There are eight Provinces with two candidates apiece—Cumberland and Westmorland sending up No. 1, who has 297 votes from her

13 previous attempts, and No. 11, with 19 votes from five years; Bristol, No. 8, with 20 votes from nine ballots, and a new case at No. 48; Staffordshire, No. 10, with 98 votes in hand from the last eight, and No. 14, with 40 votes from the last three years; East Lancashire, No. 2, with 333 votes obtained at 13 elections, and No. 13, with 32 votes from four; West Lancashire, No. 16, with 13 votes from the last three years, and No. 29, a new case; Middlesex, Nos. 35 and 42; Kent, Nos. 45 and 51; and Bedfordshire, Nos. 49 and 50. The Durham widow at No. 4 starts with 271 votes from 11 years; the Cornish widow at No. 6 with 114 votes from the last 10 years; the Lincolnshire widow at No. 12 has 42 votes in hand; the North Wales at No. 17, 21 votes, and those from Oxfordshire and Cheshire, at Nos. 21 and 22, 439 and 7 votes respectively. No. 31, from Bengal, No. 38, from West Yorkshire, and No. 46, from Leicestershire and Rutland, are new cases. As regards matters relating to their late husbands' membership and services, the remarks we have made in respect of the male applicants will hold good here likewise, the claims of all having been deemed worthy of acceptance.

"THE FINEST HOAX OF THE CENTURY."

Now that M. LEO TAXIL, the convert from Atheism to Roman Catholicism, has unblushingly avowed that he is the originator of the DIANA VAUGHAN story, and has publicly thanked the Romish priesthood for the very valuable assistance they rendered him in perpetrating "the finest hoax of the century," it will be interesting to know if the priests are prepared not only to acknowledge that they have been outrageously gulled, but also to offer some kind of apology to a reputable Society, at which, for reasons of their own, they have always been ready to throw mud. There is no doubt that in other European countries the Freemasons, as there established, have allowed themselves so far to deviate from the original scheme of Freemasonry as to take part in the political and religious controversies of their fellow-countrymen. But even ASMODEUS himself, the alleged husband of the mythical DIANA VAUGHAN, would have some difficulty in associating Freemasonry, as it is professed and practised in the United Kingdom and the United States of North America, as well as in Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and other European States, with any of the passing political and religious movements of the day. Indeed, in English-speaking communities all the different parties into which the political world is divided include in their ranks an almost unlimited number of members who are Freemasons. Hence these men, when they enter the lodge, leave their politics outside, and have but one desire in common—how best they can show respect for constituted authority, and the religious opinions of their fellow men. Some few among the Roman Catholic laity, and it may be also among their priests, have grudgingly given us credit for possessing these attributes; but the Roman Catholic priesthood, as a whole, are our bitterest enemies, and never miss an opportunity of doing us all the injury in their power. Even the grotesque absurdities of the DIANA VAUGHAN story appear to have strengthened all but the few amongst those who had not taken leave of their senses in their hostility to the Craft. Some of them, no doubt, may even have gone so far as to chuckle over the monstrous immoralities ascribed to us by DIANA VAUGHAN, "Palladian Grand Mistress of the Supreme and Mysterious Lodge of Universal Freemasonry," not because they were in love with immoralities, but because the possession of these immoralities by the Freemasons furnished them with some sort of justification for their undying hatred of Freemasonry. But the whole thing has now, according to the statements contained in one of the most influential organs of the English press, proved to be a hoax. M. LEO TAXIL has avowed himself the author of it, and the Romish priests, as a body, have received his thanks for enabling him to carry out his hoax successfully. As they are now shown to have been in the wrong and to have had no foundation for their most recent calumnies at the expense of Masonry, it is manifestly their duty to make us the *amende honorable* and acknowledge that the charges they have made against us on the faith of the DIANA VAUGHAN story are baseless. The doctrine of Papal infallibility has not had the effect of preventing the Romish

Church from being gulled by M. LEO TAXIL in this matter and it ought not in reason to keep them from publicly retracting their error and avowing that, on the faith of statements which have since been proved to be false, they have unwittingly slandered a body of reputable men whose watchwords are Loyalty and Charity. They can easily do this in a dignified manner and sincerely. We have no desire that they should humble themselves before the world, but only that they should cease their enmity towards a Society which has done them no harm, has always shown them, as it has shown to every other religious organisation, the utmost respect, and has no other object in view than to live in Charity with all men, whether they be Masons or non-Masons. Perhaps, too, if they realise that they are in error in their more recent charges, they may bethink themselves of looking more closely into previous charges they have recklessly made against us; if so, we imagine they will have but little difficulty in discovering that they, too, are baseless, and that Freemasonry, after all, is not and never has been anything but the sincerest friend of religion and good government. We must not, however, be too sanguine. To acknowledge they have been misled in this particular case will be a bitter pill to swallow, and we must leave it to time to correct the other errors respecting Freemasonry into which they have fallen.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall. Earl Amherst, Grand H., presided as M.E.G.Z.; His Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Superintendent of Essex, as G.H.; and Comp. Lieut.-Col. R. Townley Caldwell, M.A., Grand Superintendent of Cambridge, as G.J. Comp. E. Letchworth, Grand Scribe E., occupied his usual seat, and Comp. Sir John B. Monckton, acted as G. Scribe N.; Comp. W. B. Coltman acted as G.P.S.; Comp. W. Smithett as 1st Asst. G. Soj.; and Comp. Ralph Clutton as 2nd Asst. G. Soj.

There were also present amongst a large number of companions of the Order Comps. Robert Grey, W. W. B. Beach, G.J., W. M. Bywater, Thomas Fenn, Sir G. D. Harris, Frank Richardson, Major T. C. Walls, A. C. Spaul, Dr. Clement Godson, L. G. Gordon Robbins, R. Horton Smith, Q.C., General Randolph, W. Lake, Henry Lovegrove, T. W. Whitmarsh, John Newton, J. J. Thomas, W. A. Scurrah, George Graveley, S. V. Abraham, J. E. Le Feuvre, George Read, Col. Gordon, and James Stephens.

After the Grand Chapter had been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, the appointment and investiture of Grand Officers took place.

Earl AMHERST announced that the Prince of Wales was again M.E.G.Z. and that his Royal Highness had appointed the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., as Pro M.E.G.Z.; himself (Earl Amherst) as G.H.; and Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., as G.J.

The other appointments were:

Comp. Edward Letchworth ...	...	...	G.S.E.
" Thomas Fenn ...	...	...	G.S.N.
" Sir George David Harris ...	...	...	Pres. Com. of G.P.
" Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan ...	...	...	G. Treasurer.
" Judge Philbrick, Q.C. ...	...	...	G. Registrar.
" R. Horton Smith, Q.C. ...	...	...	Dep. G. Registrar.
" Sir Francis Boileau, Bart. ...	...	...	G.P.S.
" Malcolm A. Morris, F.R.C.S. ...	...	...	1st A.G.S.
" Richard Wilson ...	...	...	2nd A.G.S.
" W. Russell ...	...	...	G.S.B.
" Deputy-Surgeon General Ringer... ..	...	...	Dep. G.S.B.
" Geo. C. Kent ...	...	...	1st G. Std. Br.
" A. Stubbs ...	...	...	2nd G. Std. Br.
" H. W. Kiallmark ...	...	...	3rd G. Std. Br.
" Walter Ebbetts, F.R.I.B.A. ...	...	...	4th G. Std. Br.
" Pierrepoint Harris ...	...	...	5th G. Std. Br.
" Major G. H. N. Bridges ...	...	...	6th G. Std. Br.
" Frank Richardson ...	...	...	G.D.C.
" Stanley Attenborough... ..	...	...	Dep. G.D.C.
" T. A. Bullock ...	...	...	1st A.G.D.C.
" J. Stocker ...	...	...	2nd A.G.D.C.
" E. C. Mulvey ...	...	...	3rd A.G.D.C.
" Walter Martin ...	...	...	4th A.G.D.C.
" Geo. F. Smith ...	...	...	G. Organist.
" W. Lake ...	...	...	A.G.S.E.
" H. Sadler ...	...	...	G. Janitor.

On the motion of Comp. Sir GEO. D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. F. RICHARDSON, the report of the Committee of General Purposes—as published in the *Freemason* last week—was taken as read, and ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Also on the motion of Comp. Sir J. D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, the different recommendations contained in that report were confirmed, and charters were granted for chapters to be attached to Lodge No. 1100, Bombay; No. 1645, Slaithwaite, West Yorks; No. 2030, London; No. 1708, North Finchley, Middlesex; No. 2385, Oldbury, Worcestershire; and No. 2034, Moseley, Worcestershire, and an unconditional grant of a chapter to be attached to Lodge No. 1662, London, was also made. Chapter No. 1839, London, was authorised to change its place of meeting to the Holborn Restaurant; and further time was allowed to Chapter No. 405, Port of Spain, to reply to the summons sent to it.

Comp. R. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., brought up the appeal by Comp. G. C. Coates, Past District Grand Registrar Punjab, against a decision of the Grand Superintendent of the Punjab, revoking Comp. Coates' appointment as District Grand Registrar. He said the appeal was entirely misconceived. It arose thus: The days for appointing Grand Officers in the Punjab were in March each year, and in March, 1895, the appointment of G. Officers was made, both in the lodge and in the chapter, and on that occasion in 1895 Comp. Coates was appointed to the office of Dist. G. Reg., in the Craft and consequently he was under Sections 30 and 43 of the Royal Arch Regulations entitled to be, and was Grand Registrar in the Royal Arch. He was not, however, invested, because by a sort of vicious practise that had grown up in the Punjab—by inadvertance, no doubt, in the first instance—it had become the habit to appoint different persons as Grand Registrar in the Craft and in the Arch, and Bro. Coates was appointed Provincial Grand Registrar in the Craft and another companion named Jackson was appointed District Grand Registrar in the Arch. Bro. Jackson was invested and paid his fees and did the work of Grand Registrar for 1895 and 1896. None the less his being that, Comp. Coates wanted to be Registrar in the Craft and in the Arch also. What happened was simply this, that the wrong man took upon himself the obligations of Grand Registrar in the Arch, while the real Grand Registrar in the Arch was Comp. Coates. Things went on in this way until the next year, when it became necessary to appoint new Grand Officers. In March, 1896, in the circumstances that happened, Comp. Coates was, in fact, Past District Grand Registrar, both in the Craft and in the Arch. In the year 1896 Comp. Gray was appointed Grand Registrar in the Craft, and he, of course, under the same Sections of the Regulations, was entitled to be, as he was, Grand Registrar in the Arch, and in due course applied to be invested, and he was invested; and it was in consequence of his investiture as Grand Registrar in the Arch that this appeal arose, because at the time that Bro. Gray was appointed Grand Registrar in the Craft Bro. Coates, the appellant in this particular case, was appointed Grand Registrar in the Arch. Well, it is the same thing over again as in the previous year—Comp. Coates was not the Grand Registrar in the Arch and Comp. Gray was; and Comp. Coates, taking upon himself to pay the fees, he got himself invested and did the work of the Grand Registrar in the Arch. That did not make him any more Grand Registrar. He was fulfilling this office in the Arch when this took place. Bro. Gray being appointed District Grand Registrar in the Craft, he caused the point to be mooted whether he was not, in fact, Grand Registrar in the Arch. He wrote home—a reference was made to the home authorities, and a communication was made to the authorities in the Punjab by the Grand Scribe E., and the consequence was that a letter was sent by the Grand Scribe E. to Comp. Coates. The gist of the communication was—he did not profess to give the words—communications had been received by the Grand Scribe E. from the Grand Superintendent that he desired at once to rectify the inadvertance committed—that Comp Gray was the Registrar, in fact, and that Comp. Coates was the Past Grand Registrar. That communication was perfectly right. Comp. Gray was the Registrar in the Arch, and Comp. Coates having been the Registrar in the Craft before he was Registrar in the Arch, and, therefore, was Grand Registrar in the Arch. Comp. Coates did not like the communications made to him, and he wrote back saying he had not seen the correspondence. The correspondence was between other people than himself; it was brought about by the Grand Scribe E. He said his opinion ought to have been taken before the communication was made. That was wrong; he was not Grand Registrar then; he thought he was but he was not. The inadvertance had grown up; then Comp. Coates said the District Grand Superintendent had no power to deprive him and had no power to give him past rank. The answer to that was twofold. In the first place the District Grand Superintendent did not deprive him of anything because he had no office to be deprived of, and as to conferring past rank the Grand Superintendent did not confer it because Comp. Coates had it already, and he said inasmuch, as he was virtually superseded he would not go to the District Grand Lodge or to District Grand Chapter. It was not a very nice thing to do. Another communication was made by the District Grand Scribe; the District Grand Superintendent had no option in the matter. No aspersion was intended or meant. The District Grand Superintendent said he regretted Comp. Coates's absence from the lodge and chapter, and the reason he gave for it was that he thought it was unmasonic. He (Comp. Horton Smith) agreed with that. Comp. Coates was still a member of Grand Chapter, but he was an actual Past Grand Officer of Grand Chapter, and, whether or not, he ought to have gone. He fired up on that, and wrote—he said it was unsatisfactory, and said he should appeal against the expressions used by the Grand Master. He stated the case just mentioned. In the appeal he asked this—first of all he said he appealed against the removal of his office in 1896-97, and he asked that this matter should be referred; that the Grand Superintendent should withdraw the words which he considered reflected upon him. On these two grounds he (Comp. Horton Smith) thought Grand Chapter would see Comp. Coates was not removed from the office, because he had no office to be removed from; he could not be removed. Then, as to the Grand Superintendent's remarks with respect to his conduct, Grand Chapter would no doubt agree that these remarks were perfectly justified and there was no reason why they should be withdrawn. The whole thing came to this that the appeal must be dismissed, but on the other hand Comp. Coates must have the rank of Past Grand Registrar by virtue of his holding the office in 1895-96. He therefore moved that the appeal be dismissed.

Comp. PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg., agreed with the Deputy Grand Registrar, and for the same reasons. It was most unfortunate there should have been this lax practice in that district, but he hoped now it would be different.

The appeal was dismissed.

Comp. E. LETCHWORTH, G.S.E., said the M.E.G.Z. had been pleased to appoint Sir J. D. Harris, President of the Committee of General Purposes, and Comps. Robert Grey and Richard Horton Smith, Q.C., members of the Committee.

The following companions were elected—Comps. L. G. Gordon Robbins, Major T. C. Walls, Edwin W. Lewcock, Mihill Slaughter, Henry Garrod, and George Graveley.

Grand Chapter was then closed in ancient and solemn form.

EARL FITZWILLIAM has contributed £1000 to the National Hospital for Consumption for Ireland in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

GRAND CHAPTER OFFICERS.

GRAND STANDARD BEARERS.

Comp. ARTHUR STUBBS was initiated in St. Oswald Lodge, No. 850, Derby, in 1873, and had the honour of being installed W.M. in 1877. Two years later his services were recognised by his appointment as Grand A.D.C. of the Prov. G. Lodge of Derbyshire, while in 1880 he secured the collar of the more important post of Prov. G. Registrar. But his best work has been done in behalf of the Province of Nottinghamshire, in the Prov. G. Lodge of which he was appointed Prov. J.G. Warden, as far back as 1884, while in 1885 he took upon himself the duties of Prov. Asst. G. Secretary. In 1888 he presided as W.M. over the Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 402, Nottingham, while in 1888 he was elected to the office of Prov. G. Secretary, and has held it uninterruptedly ever since, so much to the satisfaction of the Prov. G.M. (Bro. the Duke of St. Albans), that last year his Grace selected him to receive the brevet rank of Past Prov. S.G. Warden, in commemoration of the 21st installation of the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G. Master. Comp. Stubbs was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in the Abbey Chapter, No. 47, Nottingham, in 1879, and in 1881 assisted in founding the Royal Sussex Chapter, No. 402, of which the year following he was installed in the chair of First Principal. In 1882 he took a prominent part in promoting the establishment of a Prov. G. Chapter for Nottinghamshire, and the late Comp. Sir Henry Bromley, Bart., who was installed as G. Superintendent, singled him for the office of Prov. G. Scribe E., in which he has continued his labours to the present time, while in 1892 he served as Prov. G.H. His services to R.A. Masonry in this province have, indeed, been of great value, as he has helped in the formation of nearly all the chapters on the roll of Prov. G. Chapter, and it is mainly through his exertions that the number of R.A. Masons in Notts has been more than trebled during the last 15 years, having in that time been augmented from 74 to 252. Thus, his appointment as 2nd G. Standard Bearer in Supreme G. Chapter, is richly deserved, and will be made the subject of hearty congratulations among his Notts companions. Be it added, that Comp. Stubbs is a Life Governor of our three Institutions, and has served three Stewardships in their behalf.

Comp. H. W. KJALLMARK has taken a prominent part in Freemasonry during the 40 years that have elapsed since he joined the ranks of our Society. He was initiated in September, 1856, in the Rural Philanthropic Lodge, now No. 291, Highbridge, Somersetshire, and at the present time is a P.M. of the Kilburn Lodge, No. 1608, J.W. of Æsculapius Lodge, No. 2410, and S.D. of the University of London Lodge, No. 2033. In Royal Arch Masonry he is P.Z. of the St. James's Union Chapter, No. 180, having thrice occupied the chair of First Principal, and a founder and present M.E.Z. of Æsculapius Chapter, No. 2410. In the Mark Degree he is a P.M. of the Egerton of Tatton Lodge, No. 400; P.M., Treasurer Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 211; a Past G. Steward and P.P.S.G.W. of the late Province of Middlesex and Surrey. He is in addition a Royal Ark Mariner, being P.C.N. of Lodge, No. 400; Past E.P. of the Holy Sanctuary Preceptory in the Order of the Temple; Past M.W.S. of the Belgrave Chapter of Rose Croix, 18°, under the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite; a P.S.R. in the Order of the Secret Monitor, and was G.V. in 1895; and a member of the Constantine Council Royal and Select Masters and Rose and Lily Council of the Allied Degrees. He has done good service to our Institutions, for which he has served in all nine Stewardships, and of each of which he is a Life Governor.

Comp. WALTER J. EBBETTS, F.R.I.B.A., was initiated in the Tuscan Lodge, No. 14, in 1881, and has since presided over it as W.M., and represented it on the Board of Stewards in 1890. He is also a P.M. of the Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190, a founder and P.M. of the Runnymede Lodge, No. 2430, Wraybury, and a founder of the Hiram Lodge, No. 2416. In Royal Arch Masonry, he is P.Z. of Asaph Chapter, No. 1319, and founder, P.Z., and Treasurer of the Savage Club Chapter, No. 2190. He is a Grand Steward in the Mark Degree, S.D. of the Ruspini Lodge, No. 363, and founder, P.M., and Secretary of the Tuscan and Savage Club Lodges, Nos. 454 and 469 respectively, besides being a member of the Croydon Lodge, No. 198, of Royal Ark Mariners. He has taken the 30° in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, having been perfected Rose Croix, 18°, in the Metropolitan Chapter, No. 1, and being a founder, P.M.W.S., and Recorder of the Tuscan Chapter. He is likewise a Knight Templar—officer of the Bard of Avon Preceptory—has taken all the Allied Degrees, and is a Past G. Marshal of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters. As regards our Institutions, he is a Life Governor of each, and has served in all three Stewardships.

Comp. PIERREPONT HARRIS was initiated in the Royal Sussex Lodge of Hospitality, No. 187, Bristol, was installed its W. Master, in 1883, and on vacating the chair was elected and ever since has been annually re-elected its Treasurer. He joined the Vale of Brislington, No. 1296, meeting at Brislington, in the adjoining Province of Somerset, in 1880, and was installed its W.M. two years later. In 1888, he was a founder and first W.M. of the Powell Lodge, No. 2257, and the following year was re-elected for a second term. He has been Prov. G. Secretary of Bristol since 1883, and in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee in 1887, had the rank of Past Prov. S.G. Warden conferred upon him. He was exalted a Royal Arch in Charity Chapter, No. 187, in 1881, and was installed in the chair of Z. in 1887, and since 1884, has served as Prov. G. Scribe E. In the Mark Degree, to which he was advanced in the Baldwyn Lodge, No. 183, in 1880, he served as W.M. of that lodge in 1883-4-5-6, was Prov. S.G.W. Bristol, in 1886, and is the present Prov. G. Secretary, and in Grand Lodge was G. Steward in 1886, and S.G. Deacon in 1887. He is also a Royal Ark Mariner, a K. Templar, and Knight of Malta, having been installed as K.T. in the famous T.I. Baldwyn Preceptory, of which he was E.P. in 1885, was Prov. Treasurer in the Prov. Priory of Bristol and Gloucestershire in 1887, and Prov. Chancellor in 1894. He was perfected Rose Croix in the Baldwyn Chapter T.I. in 1881, and installed M.W.S. in 1889, having in the interim taken the 30° in 1886, and the 31° in 1888, in the A. and A. Rite. He is a Life Governor of our three central Institutions and the Mark Benevolent Fund, and has served twice as Steward for the Girls' School and Benevolent Institution, once for the Boys' School, and once for the Mark Benevolent Fund.

Comp. Major G. H. NEWINGTON BRIDGES's appointment as Grand Standard Bearer, will give wide-spread satisfaction to a large number of Royal Arch Masons not only in his mother Province of Somersetshire but also in South London, where he is well known and esteemed as an excellent worker of the ceremonies, and a brother and companion of extended influence and great ability and experience. He was initiated 3rd July, 1868, in the Rural Philanthropic Lodge, Highbridge, by his uncle, Bro. Capt. Henry Bridges, P.G.S.B., then Deputy Prov. G.M. of Somersetshire, and the same year joined the Macdonald Lodge, No. 1216 (First Surrey Rifles), of which he was W.M. in 1873, after serving all the lower offices, and has been its D.C. ever since. He joined the Pilgrims' Lodge, No. 772, Glastonbury, in 1869, was appointed S.W. in the same year, and was installed as Master the year following. He was founder and first W.M. of the Royal Leopold Lodge, No. 1669 (now an honorary member), and founder and First Secretary of the Military Lodge, No. 2621, in 1896. In 1878 he was made Prov. G.D. of Somerset. As a Royal Arch Mason he is a P.Z. of the Panmure

Chapter, No. 720, in which he was exalted in November, 1869; has been a member of the Vale of Jehoshaphat Chapter, No. 291, Highbridge, from 1870; and was a founder of the Macdonald Chapter, No. 1216, of which he was M.E.Z. in 1880, and of which he has been Scribe E. from its foundation to the present time, except during the three years of passing the chairs. As a Mark Mason, he has done good service. He was advanced in the Southwark Mark Lodge, No. 22, in 1884, and was W.M. in 1889. He founded the Kintore Mark Lodge, No. 333, and was its first W.M., and was also a founder of the United Service Lodge, No. 489. He served as Prov. J.G.W. of Middlesex and Surrey in 1885, and, after the division of the Province in 1893, was appointed Prov. S.G.W. of Surrey; he is also a P.G. Steward of the Mark Grand Lodge. As a Royal Ark Mariner, he was elevated in the Southwark Lodge, No. 22, in 1884, is a P.W.C.N. of that lodge, and now holds the position of Scribe in the Kintore Lodge, No. 333. He received the Cryptic Degrees in the Matier Council, No. 3, in 1894; and in the Ancient and Accepted Rite was perfected in the Victory Chapter, No. 126, in May, 1894, and was a founder and first M.W.S. of the Earl of Lathom Chapter, No. 137, in 1896. He is still a subscribing member to both. In short, he has had 29 years of Masonic life, and has shown his love of the Order from the very outset of his Masonic career by hard and persistent work, while, as regards our Institutions, he is a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and a Life Governor of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and has served in all eight Stewardships in their behalf.

DEPUTY GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

Comp. STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH was initiated in the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 34, on the 24th January, 1884, and the following year joined the Dorking Lodge, No. 1149—over which he subsequently presided as W.M.—and the Stuart Lodge, No. 540, Bedford. In 1890 he became a founder and first W.M. of the Lombardian Lodge, No. 2348, of which he is now Treasurer; and in 1895 was elected a member of the Watford Lodge, No. 404. He also in the latter year helped to found the Fulham Lodge, No. 2512, and was invested as its acting P.M. For his services in the Province of Surrey he was honoured with the appointment of Prov. Grand Registrar. He was exalted a Royal Arch Mason in the United Pilgrims Chapter, No. 507; is a P.Z. of the St. Ambrose Chapter, No. 1891; and was a founder and is present M.E.Z. of the Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 34. In the Mark Degree, to which he was advanced in the Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 251, he is a P.M., having presided over his mother lodge as W.M. He has done splendid service for our Institutions, being a Vice-Patron of the Girls' School and Patron of the Benevolent Institution, for each of which he has served 10 Stewardships, and a Patron of, and 10 times Steward for, the Boys' School, of which he is honorary solicitor and one of the elected representatives of London on its Board of Management.

ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTOR OF CEREMONIES.

Comp. JOHN STOCKER was initiated in St. John the Baptist Lodge, No. 39, Exeter, on the 28th March, 1872, and was installed W.M. in 1877, while from 1878 to 1896 he held the office of Preceptor to the lodge of instruction. He sat as representative of the lodge on the Committee of Petitions for the Province for a period of 20 years. He was unanimously elected Prov. Grand Treasurer for Devonshire in 1881, and was appointed by the then Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Viscount Ebrington, as Prov. Junior Grand Warden, in 1890. At the installation of Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., as Prov. Grand Master, he was appointed Prov. Grand Secretary, and still holds that office. He was exalted in St. George Chapter, No. 112, in 1873, installed as First Principal in 1880, and appointed Prov. Grand Sojourner in 1881; he now holds the office of Prov. Grand Scribe E. He was advanced to the Mark Degree in St. George Lodge, No. 15, in 1872, installed W.M. in 1878, was one of the founders and first W.M. of De la Pole Lodge, No. 372, has held the offices of Prov. Grand Steward, Prov. Grand Inspector of Works, Prov. Grand Treasurer, and was appointed Prov. Senior Grand Warden in 1887. He was installed a Knight Templar in the Union, or Rougemont, Preceptory, in 1882, served as E. Preceptor in 1887, and has held the offices of Prov. Great Treasurer and Prov. Great Marshal. He was perfected in the Coryton and Rougemont Chapter, Rose Croix, in 1882, and elected M.W.S. in 1886. He is a Life Subscriber to the R.M. Institution for Girls, a Governor and one of the Trustees of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund, a Governor of the Fortescue Annuity Fund, and an annual subscriber to the Mark Benevolent Fund.

NOTE.—The Masonic services of the rest of the Grand Officers were described last week in connection with their appointments in Grand Lodge, and in the case of Comp. T. A. Bullock, last year, when he received the brevet rank of Past G.S.B. of G. Lodge.

CONSECRATION OF THE DART LODGE, No. 2641.

A special Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Dartmouth, on Wednesday, the 21st ult., for the purpose of constituting and consecrating a new lodge under the style and title of the Dart Lodge, No. 2641. The ceremony took place at the Subscription Rooms. The Prov. Grand Master, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., presided, and was supported by Bros. Col. J. Elliott, P. Dist. Grand Master of Barbadoes, acting as P.S.G.W.; F. B. Westlake, P.J.G.W.; Rev. T. C. Lewis and Rev. E. Sullivan, P.G. Chaps.; John Stocker, P.G. Sec.; and J. R. Lord, P.G.D.C.

Among others present were:

Bros. E. Roseveare, P.G.T.; J. Taylor, P.G. Reg.; W. Allsford, P.P.G.T.; T. J. Mitchell, P.P.G.D. Guernsey and Alderney; T. W. Atherton, P.P.A. G.D.C.; M. Whittle, P.P.J.G.D.; W. H. Goodridge, P.P.G.D.; W. E. Warren, P.P.G. Org.; G. Soudon Bridgman, P.P.G. Supt. of Wks.; J. Olver, P.P.G.S.B.; F. Luget, P.P.G. Org.; W. Gregory, P.P.G.T.; A. J. Truscott, P.P.G. Reg.; W. Mountjoy, P.G.S.; R. Besley, P.P.S.G.D.; P. J. Dunn, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Bovey, P.P.G.P.; H. L. Friend, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Wallis, P.G.S.B.; H. Shooter, P.G. Tyler; P. Pinhey, W.M.; R. T. Pillar, Sec.; J. C. Oldrieve, P.M.; W. Pitt, W. Braithwaite, H. S. Murley, W. H. Taylor, A. R. Coppleson, W. J. Grant, G. E. Bates, R. C. Cranford, C. Mitchelmore, J. F. L. Elliott, E. H. Back, J. Bovey, jun., and A. Grant, all of 797; W. J. Braddon, P.M.; J. T. James, P.M.; H. May, P.M.; J. G. Scevill, J. Williams, J. Hosford, J. Mardon, W. J. Ash, M. Burgoyne, and R. H. Brewer, all of 248; H. P. Rabbich, P.M.; W. P. Roberts, S.W.; R. E. Drew, P.M.; J. F. Watt, W. C. Rossiter, J. W. Daw, and W. C. Bartlett, all of 1358; A. Westley, W.M.; G. H. Halls, I.P.M.; H. R. Beer, P.M., Sec.; R. D. Renwick, P.M.; and H. Grindel, all of 328; T. J. Crossman, W.M.; T. H. Wills, P.M.; G. West, I.P.M.; C. Hill, J.W.; J. D. Beer, S.W.; F. C. Sanford, R. Compton Bishop, and W. E. Thomas,

all of 1402; F. R. Pasfield, F. Newcombe, and R. S. Furnell, all of 39; S. E. Marsh, Sec.; A. J. Warren, F. J. Shapcott, I.P.M.; C. Warren, E. Sawdye, S.W., and R. Addiscott, all of 1254; J. F. Ralling, P.M. 1332; J. Pearse, P.M. 1255; R. Coombe, I.P.M. 112; W. Bedford, W.M. 1181; C. Maunder, W.M., and R. Stoneman, J.W. 1205; W. A. Staton, P.M., Sec. 1099; Capt. R. O. Orme-Webb, R.N., 33 (Mayor of Dartmouth); H. P. Cove, 1486; and a large number of other brethren.

The consecration ceremony was most impressively performed by the Prov. G.M. and his officers.

Bro. the Rev. T. C. LEWIS, P.G. Chap., gave a most eloquent oration on the principles and duties of Freemasonry, which will long be remembered by those who were privileged to hear it.

The P.G.O., Bro. F. Lugit, assisted by a very excellent choir from the Cathedral city, rendered a musical service, specially prepared for the occasion, which materially added to the solemnity and success of the ceremony.

After the consecration, the P.G.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. J. R. Lord, P.G.D.C., to whom Bro. F. Adams Davson presented the W.M. designate, Bro. T. J. Mitchell, P.M. 89, P.P.G.D. Guernsey and Alderney, for installation.

The installation ceremony was most ably carried out by Bro. Lord, and the brethren having saluted the new W.M., he proceeded to appoint and invest his officers as follows: Bros. F. Adams Davson, P.M. 797, acting I.P.M.; H. Square, S.W.; W. H. Goodridge, P.M. 797, P.P.G.D., J.W.; Thomas Wilton, 797, Treas.; J. Carnochan, Sec.; J. R. Parsons, S.D.; Philip R. Hockin, J.D.; J. Chapman, P.M. 1402, &c., P.P.G.D., D.C.; F. Pollett, I.G.; and J. Fabian, Tyler.

The lodge having been closed, about 60 of the brethren adjourned to the Raleigh Hotel, where the banquet was held.

A most enjoyable evening was spent, the W.M. being supported by the Prov. G.M., Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P.; the Past Dist. Grand Master of Barbadoes, Bro. Col. J. Elliott; and the P.G. Officers.

The usual Masonic toasts were drunk.

The toast of "The Prov. Grand Master" was proposed by Bro. Dr. F. ADAMS DAVSON, I.P.M.

In response, the PROV. GRAND MASTER wished every success to the Dart Lodge and expressed his appreciation of the hearty welcome he had received.

Bro. CARNOCHAN proposed "The Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. G. C. Davie, P.A.G.D.C., and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past."

Bros. STOCKER, Prov. Grand Sec., and LUGIT, Prov. Grand Org., replied.

Bro. P. R. HOCKIN proposed "The W.M."

Bro. MITCHELL, replying, expressed the hope that the new lodge would have a prosperous career.

"The Health of the Visitors" fell to the lot of Bro. T. WILTON to propose.

The toast was acknowledged by Bros. Capt. ORME-WEBB, R.N. (Mayor of Dartmouth), and M. WHITTLE.

The W.M. proposed "The Officers of the Lodge."

Bros. CARNOCHAN, Sec., and J. R. PARSONS, S.D., responded.

The Tyler's toast by Bro. Fabian closed the list.

CONSECRATION OF QUEEN VICTORIA LODGE, No. 2655.

The flourishing Province of Devonshire, which has lately been increasing the number of its lodges, added yet another to its roll last week by the consecration of the above lodge on St. George's Day, at St. George's Hall, Stonehouse, so that there are now 56 lodges in Devon, of which 20 meet in the Three Towns. The Queen Victoria Lodge is to be located at St. Budeaux, a very picturesque and improving suburb of Devonport, on the banks of the Tamar; but the consecration took place at Stonehouse, for the convenience of the Prov. G.M.

There was a very large attendance, about 200 brethren being present, and punctually at three o'clock the Consecrating Officer, Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., Prov. Grand Master, took the chair.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been duly opened, and a hymn sung,

The PROV. GRAND MASTER addressed the meeting, reminding the brethren that they had assembled for the purpose of performing a very solemn ceremony, viz., that of establishing a new lodge, and consecrating it to the service of the G.A.O.T.U., adding that he had no doubt the founders would do their utmost (in accordance with their expressed intention) to promote the best interests of the Craft, and to make the lodge worthy of the name it was to bear.

The PROV. GRAND CHAPLAIN then offered prayer, and the founders (having been arranged in order by the W.M. designate) expressed their approval of the officers named in the warrant.

Bro. the Rev. E. SULLIVAN then delivered a brief, but very eloquent, oration, which we regret being unable to give in print.

Following this a beautiful hymn was sung, then the benediction prayer, and the invocation, after which certain passages of Scripture were read. Then came the sublime ceremony of consecration, with the sacred elements, solemn music being played at proper intervals. The interesting and instructive ceremonies, which were most impressively performed by the Prov. Grand Master and his assistants, concluded with the Patriarchal Benediction and the 133rd Psalm sung as an anthem.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been closed, the Prov. Grand Master vacated the chair, which was then taken by Bro. J. Stocker, P.M. 39, Prov. G. Sec., as Installing Officer, who, after opening the Queen Victoria Lodge, proceeded to install Bro. Major J. G. Shanks, K.M., F.R.G.S., 30, in the chair of K.S.

The W.M. having been duly proclaimed and saluted, invested the following brethren as his officers for the year; Bros. G. Perring, as I.P.M.; E.

Fage, S.W.; Major F. G. Edyvean, J.W.; C. Smale, Chap.; J. Bowen, Treas.; W. J. Pearce, P.M., Sec.; E. Treays, S.D.; J. Wilson, J.D.; Occleshaw, I.G.; W. Roberts, D.C.; W. Brown, A.D.C.; Boulden, Org.; Heard, Ball, and Glanville, Stewards; and W. T. K. Tozer, Tyler. Besides the officers, there were six other brethren who were founders, namely: Bros. J. M. Smith, H. Moon, J. R. Bennett, S. Brooming, J. S. Sherrill, and F. Pine.

Bro. Willoughby kindly undertook the musical portion of the ceremony at very short notice, and presided at the organ with such marked ability that the beauty and solemnity of the service was much enhanced; in the singing he was ably assisted by the excellent choir of Lodge Metham, No. 1205, all of whom volunteered their help in the most fraternal spirit.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, followed by nearly all the brethren present, then expressed the heartiest good wishes for the success and prosperity of the new lodge.

The names of several brethren proposed as joining members were then announced, and as many as five candidates for initiation were duly proposed and seconded.

The business being concluded, the lodge was closed in due form with solemn prayer.

The W.M. is certainly to be congratulated on commencing his year of office under such favourable circumstances, and the founders have made a very happy selection in naming the lodge, for although this is the 60th year of her Majesty's reign, no other lodge has chosen such an appropriate designation.

At the conclusion of the work a very *recherché* banquet was provided, and was much enjoyed by the large number of brethren who partook of it.

In proposing the first toast, that of "The Queen-Empress," Bro. SHANKS said: "Whatever other privileges may fall to my lot in the post of honour I now hold, I do think the right of proposing the first toast on our list to-night is one of the greatest, if not the chief, for it is none other than that of the health of our Gracious Queen and Empress. For the first time in the history of this lodge, which bears the revered name of her Majesty, we are to drink to the health of the wisest and, in every sense, the best Sovereign who has ever ruled over this or any nation. During the 60 years of her memorable and happy reign her dominions have extended their borders in every quarter of the globe; we have enjoyed a freedom and many advantages quite unknown to our ancestors and a national prosperity without parallel in history. The feeling of devoted loyalty which animates the people in every part of her Empire has never been surpassed, and no monarch has ever enjoyed so continuously, so increasingly, and so deservedly the respect and the love of her subjects. Her Majesty has everything in the shape of wealth and power that this world can give—she holds the ruling trident of the ocean wave and the sovereignty of a vast portion of the earth's surface, while her glory and her renown are of world wide extent; in all this she must, she does take a proper pride; but the welfare and the happiness of her people is at all times a source of far greater satisfaction to our good Queen than anything beside. We Masons are, more deeply than others, imbued with a spirit of true devotion to our noble Queen, and from the bottom of our hearts we pray that the richest benisons may descend upon her, that the powers of heaven and earth may combine to bless Victoria the Good."

The WORSHIPFUL MASTER next proposed "The Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the Grand Officers," in a brief but very appropriate speech.

In giving the toast of "The Provincial Grand Master of Devon, the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P.," the W. MASTER said: "It is my duty, my privilege, and my great pleasure to give you this toast, but the difficulty is how to do it! One of our poets, speaking of the soldier, has said: 'Place him in danger's front—he reckns not where—you may be sure he'll do his duty there!' Now that poet could never have been a soldier put up to make a speech or he would certainly have modified his opinion, and would have had to admit that there is one duty before which even a British soldier quails, 'for deeds, not words,' is our motto. If our Provincial Grand Master were not here my task would be a comparatively easy one, for you would willingly lend me your ears and I should carry you all with me while sounding his praises even if I spoke for an hour; but to speak of him, as he deserves to be spoken of, in his presence would seem like vulgar flattery. This I may say though, that it is a real pleasure to us, as well as a great honour, to have the P.G. Master in our midst, it must be, it is a source of unbounded satisfaction to each one of us (turning to the P.G. Master)

To spend an hour thus pleasantly with you—

So bright a link in our Masonic chain—

Oh, may we very soon this joy renew,

And meet our worthy chieftain once again!

In responding the P.G. MASTER said he was very glad indeed to have been able to consecrate the Queen Victoria Lodge, and it gave him very great pleasure to be with the brethren who received him so cordially. He hoped it would not be long before he might be in their midst, but at the same time he trusted the W. Master's threat of sounding his (Sir Stafford's) praises by the hour would not be carried out. He added that he was very greatly pleased with all the arrangements made for the consecration, and with all he had seen and heard of the new lodge, he had listened with great interest to the names of those proposed as joining members and as candidates for initiation, and was very glad to see the Queen Victoria was not going to be a "class" lodge, but that the members meant to illustrate and uphold the teaching that noble thoughts and charitable hearts are not the exclusive property of any one class or sect.

Bro. FAGE, S.W., in proposing "The Health of the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past," said the province had always been fortunate in the officers chosen, they being brethren who were actuated by pure Masonic principles, and he thought they did deserve (in the words of the quotation from Shakespeare attached to the toast on the menu card) "high commendation, true applause, and love."

Bros. S. JEW, W. POWELL, and P. DUNN, all Prov. Grand Officers, responded to the toast in very suitable terms.

Bro. Major EDYVEAN, J.W., gave the next toast, "The Installing Officer," and said the quotation attached to the toast on the card was in this case also most appropriate, for by the beautiful and impressive manner in which Bro. J. Stocker had done the installation ceremony he had taken all ears captive; no one who had the good fortune to be present could have failed to be deeply impressed with the solemnity and dignity of Bro. Stocker's work.

Bro. STOCKER, P.G. Sec., in reply, said it gave him great pleasure to instal the W.M. of No. 2055, as he was quite sure Bro. Shanks was the right man in the right place, and was one whom the authorities could thoroughly rely upon to carry out all his duties and to perform the ceremonies correctly. He did not know that he ever installed a Master with more pleasure. He (Bro. Stocker) did not consider he deserved the credit the brethren had given him for doing the installation well because he did it so often that it was quite second nature to him. He felt quite sure the members of the new lodge would carry out the true principles of Freemasonry, and he wished them every success and prosperity.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master of Queen Victoria Lodge," proposed by the PROV. GRAND MASTER, was most enthusiastically received. Sir Stafford Northcote said that although there was some misgiving and hesitation when the authorities first heard that another new lodge was talked of, yet when the application was received and it was seen that Bro. Shanks was to be the first Master all doubt vanished and the petition was readily acceded to, for Bro. Shanks' work on behalf of the Masonic Charities, and in other directions, as well as his reputation for ability in performing the ceremonies of all Degrees was well known not only in Devonshire but in London also; and he felt that a lodge started under such leadership was bound to do well. He remembered an occasion (some 20 years ago) when Bro. Shanks, in his military capacity, had charge of the present Prime Minister and himself, in somewhat difficult circumstances, and how well his duties were then performed, and he felt certain that his Masonic duties as W. Master of the new lodge would be carried out with equal zeal and ability. The Prov. Grand Master concluded by wishing Bro. Shanks and the lodge every prosperity and success.

Bro. SHANKS, on rising to respond, had a very warm fraternal reception. He said to reply in suitable terms to the toast which has just been proposed in such an eulogistic manner, and received with such cordiality, is an utter impossibility. I can only, but truly say, I thank you all most heartily. Believe me, I am fully alive to the duties and the responsibilities, as well as to the honour and the pleasure of the proud position in which you have placed me, and most sincerely do I trust that I may be able to carry out my duties with satisfaction to every brother, to the advantage of the lodge, and with credit to myself. I hope I may be able to fulfil, even partially, those high expectations you have formed of me; to do so shall certainly be my constant endeavour. I shall aim high, even if I never succeed in hitting the mark. With regard to the success of the lodge, it is practically in our own hands, but to ensure it we must at all times take care that only such material is brought in for building up our sacred temple as is (in every sense) thoroughly suitable. The success of a lodge, remember, does not depend upon numbers merely, far from it; we want—we must have—only perfect ashlar, not rubble-work for our walls. Again, we must do our utmost to preserve that unanimity which has so far happily marked our proceedings. It is essential also that the ceremonies in our lodge should be worked with perfect accuracy. I do not mean merely that the words of our ritual should be repeated without mistake (a child of ten might do that, but I mean that we must each and all study Freemasonry deeply and earnestly, then it will be evident to all that we understand and really feel the solemn meaning of the words we utter and of the symbolism we use. The working of any Degree in Freemasonry is, if rightly understood, one of the most solemn things man can well engage in, and should be so performed as to leave that impression on the candidate. Above all, we must take care to practice in our daily life those sublime precepts we are taught in our ritual. The Queen Victoria Lodge is now started on what will, I trust, prove to be a prosperous career; and although we are just now the youngest offspring of the United Grand Lodge of England, I do hope and believe that we shall uphold the banner of pure Masonic principles just as fearlessly, just as sturdily as the older members of the family, and as our lodge bears the name of the noblest and grandest example of public and domestic virtue that the world has ever seen, so may it ever prove itself worthy of such a distinguished title.

Bro. PERRING, in suitable terms, then gave "The Health of the Visiting Brethren and Sister Lodges," and said that visitors would always be very welcome to No. 2055.

This was briefly responded to by Bros. DUNN and POWELL, both of 1205.

Bro. POWELL then proceeded to propose the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," and pointed out how necessary good officers were, adding that he believed those appointed in the Queen Victoria were good and true Masons and might be relied on to do their duties well.

Bros. BOWEN, Treas., and TREAYS, S.D., responded.

The Tyler's toast, admirably proposed by Bro. GIDLEY, concluded the proceedings.

Several capital songs by Bros. Dunn, Law, Treays, Maddock, and others, together with recitations by Bros. Pearce, Shanks, and Pearce, were given during the evening and added much to the pleasure of the entertainment.

The menu card was quite a feature of the banquet, being beautifully got up and appropriately embellished with a photograph of the Queen; its attractiveness was also increased by apt quotations from different portions of the Masonic ritual. The toast list was likewise enlivened with extracts from Shakespeare's works, which were very suitable and well chosen.

The lodge has received the following presents:

	Given by—
Large bible and cushion with silver ornaments; collar, gauntlets, and silver jewel for the W.M.; handsome sword with silver mountings and scabbard for the I.G.; and Chinese sword for the Tyler	Bro. Major Shanks.
Tesselated floorcloth	Mrs. Shanks.
Velvet cushion for kneeling-stool	Miss Shanks.
Collar, gauntlets, and silver jewel for the S.W.	Bro. Fage.
Collar, gauntlets, and silver jewel for the J.W.	Bro. Major Edyvean.
Silver compasses and square for the pedestal	Bro. Fage and Bro. Major Edyvean.
Collar and silver jewel for the Chaplain	Bro. Smale.
Collar and silver jewel for the S.D.	Bro. Treays.
Handsome chair for the W.M.	Lodge Metham.
Emblems of mortality	Bro. Pearce.
Set of three candlesticks	Bro. S. H. Hare.
Set of books for Treasurer, Secretary, and Tyler	Bro. Pearce and Bro. Bowen.
Six gavels, ballot-box, and three sets of working tools	Bro. Ball.

CONSECRATION OF THE CRUSADERS CHAPTER, No. 1677.

The Crusaders Lodge, No. 1677, which was consecrated about 20 years ago, and has since done excellent work in the Craft, has now the advantage of a Royal Arch chapter attached to it, which was consecrated at the Holborn Restaurant, on Tuesday, the 27th ult., under very favourable auspices. The Consecrating Officer, Comp. E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Scribe E., was assisted by Comps. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., as H.; Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, G. Supt. Bucks, as J.; and Frank Richardson, G.D.C., as D.C.

The Principals designate and founders of the new chapter are Comps. James Speller, P.P.A.G. Soj. Essex, P.Z. 1471, M.E.Z. designate; W. E. Sutton, P.Z. 1471, H. designate; Reuben Loomes, M.E.Z. 1471, J. designate; J. H. Collingridge, Fredk. Hughes, Wm. Shurmur, P.P.G.J. Essex; G. Glover, P.S.; J. S. Collins, B. M. Moss, A. Haynes, A. D. Jones, Dr. W. J. Hunter, Walter Tyler, A. W. Humphries, S. J. Fletcher, H. A. Sheppard, and J. Mansell.

The visitors present included Comps. John Ramsay, P.Z. 214; Orton Cooper, P.S. 1928; Capt. E. M. Money, Prov. G.H. Camb., P.Z. 28; J. Osborn, P.Z. 1632; J. Blaker, 1068; J. H. Crichton, 1489; R. W. Huntley, 1489; H. Kemp, 862; R. Eddie, P.S. 25; C. Garton, P.S. 1657; Ven. Rev. Archdeacon C. G. Dunbar, 2374; H. Sadler, G. Janitor; G. F. Saunders, H. 1567; J. A. Laing, 379; J. Mansell, P.S.; S. C. Kaufman, M.E.Z. 1766; Egbert Roberts, P.Z. 1623; Selwyn Davies, 1623; A. F. Lay, M.E.Z. 1364; W. W. Lee, I.P.Z. 1524; and others.

After the opening of the chapter, a hymn was sung.

The CONSECRATING PRINCIPAL then addressing the companions on the nature of the meeting, said: It is unnecessary for me to take up your time with many words of my own on the present occasion. We are met for the purpose of constituting a new chapter, and of dedicating it to the service of the Most High. The chapter will be attached to a lodge—the Crusaders—which has been in existence about 20 years, and which was consecrated by Comp. James Terry, who at the present moment fills the chair of H. I can only express a hope that the chapter will be in every way worthy of the lodge with which it is connected, and that under the able rule of the Three Principals, who will guide it, it may have the greatest possible prosperity.

The consecration ceremony—which included an excellent oration by Comp. Rev. J. STUDHOLME BROWNRIGG—was then proceeded with; and the new chapter was solemnly dedicated and constituted.

The Principals designate were next inducted into their respective chairs, viz., Comps. James Speller, P.Z., M.E.Z.; W. E. Sutton, P.Z., H.; and R. Loomes, M.E.Z. 1471, J.

The usual elections having taken place, the following officers were invested, with the exception of Comps. Glover and Moss, who were unavoidably absent: Comps. J. H. Collingridge, S.E.; F. Hughes, S.N.; W. Shurmur, acting I.P.Z., Treas.; G. Glover, P.S.; G. S. Collins, 1st A.S.; B. M. Moss, 2nd A.S.; A. Haynes, D.C.; A. D. Jones, Stwd.; and Ellis, Janitor.

On the proposition of Comp. W. SHURMUR, Treas., the sum of 10 guineas was voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of the M.E.Z. The companions already having subscribed 90 guineas, this further donation will complete the sum of 100 guineas.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Consecrating Principals, on the motion of the M.E.Z., and they were unanimously elected honorary members.

The M.E.Z. also presented each with a founder's jewel, of handsome design, as a souvenir of the occasion.

Comp. E. LETCHWORTH, G.S.E., on behalf of the companions associated with him, expressed their warmest thanks for the compliment paid them. It was an honour they highly prized to be elected honorary members, and they accepted it with a great deal of pleasure. They had also to return thanks for the jewel, which would be a charming souvenir of the interesting occasion.

Numerous propositions were received for exaltation, and letters of regret for non-attendance were announced from Comps. C. E. Keyser, C. Hudson, J. Willing, jun., H. Sprake, and others.

The chapter was then closed.

A choice banquet was served in the Queen's Salon, which reflected the highest credit on the establishment, and Messrs. Fradelle and Young, the eminent photographers of Regent-street, took a very successful photograph of the companions at the banquet table.

The usual toast list was next proceeded with, "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry" being first given, "The Prince of Wales First Grand Principal" was next proposed by the M.E.Z., who said they rejoiced in having so popular a Mason at their head. During the 22 years of his Royal Highness's rule Masonry had made rapid strides. His Royal Highness also took great interest in other movements for the benefit of the community at large, as evinced by his appeal for the hospitals, which proved him to possess the characteristic of a Freemason's heart—Charity.

The M.E.Z. then incorporated the next two toasts and proposed "The Grand Officers and the Consecrating Principals," and said he should couple with it the names of Comps. J. S. Brownrigg and James Terry. They were all impressed in the chapter with the splendid rendering of the ritual by Comp. Letchworth, the Grand Scribe E., who must have made a deep impression upon them all by the solemnity of the proceedings. They had also been delighted to listen to the oration delivered by Comp. Rev. Brownrigg, who had had very short notice but who had gratified them by his interesting allusions to the Crusaders. They were pleased to welcome Comp. Terry, as he consecrated the Crusaders Lodge about 20 years ago, and was the originator of its name. It had been a very prosperous lodge and he hoped they should have an equally successful chapter.

Comp. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIGG, G. Supt. Bucks, said it was always a great pleasure to members of Grand Chapter to assist in consecrating a new Royal Arch chapter. There was a time he could remember when, to all appearances, the Degree was languishing, and the reason was not far to seek. The young Mason had so many other Orders competing for his favour, that at the end of the year—or rather 14 months—he found himself exhausted in energy and cash. He was, therefore, glad to know that the shortening of the time at which brethren were eligible for Royal Arch Masonry had been an improvement. As Grand Superintendent of a province, he found they now got more recruits, and just those they wanted to see. It had been a great pleasure to see that new chapter started with such excellent promise for the future.

Comp. JAMES TERRY, P.G.S.B., said it had given him great pleasure to be present and take part in bringing this chapter into existence. He could remember before the lodge was founded that some of the brethren came to him to ask him a few questions. They suggested the name of St. John's, but he informed them there were already many lodges of that name. Having been told that they would meet at St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell, he said at once there could be but one name and that the Crusaders. Coming amongst so many old friends from Clerkenwell it was a great source of pleasure to think the M.E.Z. had thought fit to ask the G.S.E. to permit him to take part in the ceremony. He had had great pleasure in inducting the H. designate into the chair of the chapter which should become one of the best in London.

Comp. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIGG, G. Supt. Bucks, said he had the privilege of proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z." He regretted that Comp. Letchworth had been obliged to leave but they all knew there was a limit to the digestion even of a Grand Scribe E. They had every confidence that under the rule of the M.E.Z. the chapter would flourish and prosper, and that in years to come when others succeeded they would look back with pride to what Comp. Speller had made the chapter, with gratification that they were succeeding so distinguished a Mason. The first year was a difficult one, for the officers had to be wheeled into line, but it would not be so difficult in that chapter, as many had filled the chair before. He gave them "Success to the Chapter," coupling with it the name of the First Principal.

Comp. JAMES SPELLER, P.P.A.G. Soj. Essex, M.E.Z., thanked the proposer of the toast for the pleasant wishes expressed. He (the M.E.Z.) was something like the excellent Chaplain, who had given the "fire" accompanying the toast with an electric stroke, for his reply would be equally short. He had taken some trouble in starting the chapter, and had not had time to prepare a suitable reply. It was now 16 years since he was initiated into the Crusaders Lodge, and having seen the light of Royal Arch Masonry, he thought it was time they had a chapter attached. He was pleased with the manner in which it had been started, and hoped it would progress in the future.

"The Second and Third Principals" was proposed by the M.E.Z., who said he had been associated with Comps. Sutton, H., and Loomes, J., in the Islington Chapter, of which the former was a P.Z. and the latter the present M.E.Z., and was sure they would all work hand in hand for the success of the Crusaders Chapter.

Comp. W. E. SUTTON, P.Z. 1471, H., said he was very proud of the position he occupied in the chapter, more especially as he was so closely connected with the M.E.Z. and J. They had occupied the same positions conjointly before, and he was sure that by their united efforts they could advance the interests of that chapter.

Comp. R. LOOMES, M.E.Z. 1471, J., said it also gave him great pleasure to be a founder of the chapter, and assist in the formation of the suggestion of the M.E.Z. He hoped to merit their confidence, and would use his best endeavours to look after the best interests and dignity of the chapter.

In giving "The Treasurer and Scribe E.," the M.E.Z. alluded to the distinguished services of Comp. Shurmur in other lodges and chapters. Comp. Collingridge, the S.E., was a Past Master of the Crusaders Lodge, and would add lustre to the new chapter.

Comp. W. SHURMUR, P.Z., Treas., expressed his pleasure at being associated with the Three Principals, as it had been his privilege to install all three into their respective chairs in another chapter. He was proud of having had something to do in making them such splendid examples of Royal Arch Masons. As Treasurer it had afforded him pleasure that his first duty was to propose that 10 guineas should be voted to the Benevolent Institution. That was a step in the right direction, and he hoped would be continued. They all knew that Comp. Speller had given the chapter great consideration, or he would not have had 90 guineas subscribed on his list. If he could be of any possible service to that chapter he was entirely theirs to command. Comp. J. H. COLLINGRIDGE, S.E., also replied.

On behalf of "The Visitors" Comp. Rev. Archdeacon DUNBAR said he was indebted on this occasion, as on many others, to the hospitality of Comp. Shurmur. It had given him great pleasure to meet so many friends. In the words of a song they had just heard he might say "I know not, I care not what lodge it may be. But I know I'm in excellent company." The name of this lodge brought out every idea of poetry and beauty. The holy city of Jerusalem had always been closely associated with the ceremonies of Freemasonry, so that they felt that the name of "Crusaders" was identified with their ideas of Jerusalem and Freemasonry.

Comps. RAMSAY, LAY, Capt. MONEY, and GARTON also responded.

Comp. HUGHES answered for "The Officers," and the Janitor's toast was afterwards given by Comp. ELLIS, Janitor.

The consecration programme, menu, and words of the various musical items were bound up in a handsome volume, which should prove a permanent record of the interesting proceedings.

Comp. Egbert Roberts, P.Z., was assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Amy Fletcher, Miss Helen Saunders, Mr. Fletcher, and Comps. Selwyn Davies and Sidwell Jones.

Craft Masonry.

Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 13th ultimo. Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. E. Newland, I.P.M.; R. Phillips, S.W.; M.M. elect; J. Banks, J.W.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M., Sec.; J. Worth, S.D.; E. D. Richards, J.D.; H. Stokes, D.C.; E. Lucas, I.G.; H. J. Inderwick and G. E. White, Stwds.; F. Craggs, P.M.; A. Williams, P.M.; F. J. Oliver, P.M.; H. Purdue, P.M.; C. Barker, P.M.; J. G. Doncaster, P.M.; H. F. Williams, P.M.; W. W. Williams, P.M.; A. J. Dalton, T. H. King, A. King, H. W. Dyne, W. J. Bennett, W. G. Brown, C. Hucker, M. F. Wilkins, G. F. Palmer, F. C. Webb, J. Secker, F. Newman, G. N. Scott, F. J. Green, C. J. Chambers, S. Segar, P. M. Roberts, R. S. Cartwright, F. G. Cantrell, R. Gerbert, W. P. Williams, E. H. Grant, G. Leys, E. W. Stringer, R. B. Allen, H. A. Redhouse, W. Iredale, and G. Mallett, P.M. The visitors were Bros. W. Hide, W.M. 1275; R. Reid, J.W. 1275; R. Kilsy, W.M. 1261; T. T. Ponting, S.W. 2032; W. J. Porter, P.M. 1793; A. Ingleton, 1625; H. Cammell, P.M. 1999; A. E. Hugh, P.M. 179; W. Denshaw, P.M. 957; F. Clay, 1381; J. W. Spedding, 739; J. S. Cooper, 144; G. C. Hughes, P.M. 957; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the formal opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, the W.M., Bro. Hans Scharien, raised Bros. Hucker and W. P. Williams to the Third Degree, and afterwards passed Bros. Scott, King, Cantrell, Green, and Brown to the Second Degree. On the motion of the W.M., a substantial sum was

voted from the lodge funds to purchase a piece of plate to be presented to Bro. G. F. Butt, P.M., for his 16 years' service as Treasurer of the lodge. The Auditors having given their report, which was adopted, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to them for their efficient services. The next important business was the installation of Bro. Robert Phillips, as W.M. for the ensuing year, and this duty was performed by Bro. Arthur Williams, P.M., in a manner that made it impossible to have been better carried out. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers: Bros. Hans Scharien, I.P.M.; J. Banks, S.W.; J. Worth, J.W.; G. F. Butt, P.M., Treas.; W. J. Coplestone, P.M., Sec.; F. J. Oliver, P.M., Org.; E. D. Richards, S.D.; Edwd. Lucas, J.D.; H. Stokes, I.G.; F. Craggs, P.M., D.C.; H. J. Inderwick, A.D.C.; G. E. White and M. F. Wilkins, Stwds.; and G. Mallett, P.M., Tyler. Bro. C. Barker, P.M., the father of the lodge, gave the customary addresses. The W.M., Bro. R. Phillips, then initiated Messrs. H. A. Redhouse and R. B. Allen.

The lodge was afterwards closed, and the brethren partook of a sumptuous banquet.

At the conclusion of the repast, the toasts of "The Queen and the Craft" and of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," were proposed in brief, but very eloquent, terms by the W.M.

The W.M. gave "The Grand Officers, Present and Past." He stated that all Masons were indebted to the Grand Officers for the way they carried out their high duties.

Bro. Hans Scharien, I.P.M., on rising to propose "The Health of the W.M.," was accorded a hearty welcome. He stated that it fell to his honour and pleasure to submit the toast, and he was certain that it would be received with every enthusiasm, as it deserved to be. Bro. Phillips was well known to them all, and they had had plenty of opportunities to judge what he would be able to do during his reign. They were all proud of him, and he had no doubt that he would make a record for himself in the annals of the Ranelagh Lodge.

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and Bro. R. Phillips, W.M., on rising was received with acclamation. He said that he was deeply sensible of the very kind words of Bro. Hans Scharien in proposing the toast in his honour, and for their great reception. He was proud that he was Master, and he earnestly hoped to do his very best to carry out the duties of his office, in order to merit their esteem and kind wishes.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. Hans Scharien," and said that Bro. Scharien had had a very happy and successful year of office and he had endeared himself to them all, and he had a very difficult task to follow such a good man. The W.M. then presented Bro. Hans Scharien with a Past Master's jewel as a small return for his great services to the lodge, and he hoped they would see it on his breast for many years to come.

Bro. Hans Scharien, I.P.M., replied. He said that it was with great gratitude that he rose to respond to the toast and to acknowledge the flattering remarks of the W.M. Before he took the chair of Master he well considered if he would be able to carry out the duties appertaining to that high office and he plucked up courage to take that honourable position, and if he had given satisfaction he was more than glad. He hoped the Great Architect would grant him many years to wear the handsome jewel they had presented to him and to do in the future as he trusted he had done in the past, everything to promote the interests of their good old lodge.

In giving "The Installing Masters, Bros. A. Williams and C. Barker," the W.M. stated that they were both the best of Masons and he was honoured by their good services that evening, and they deserved their hearty thanks.

Bro. A. Williams, P.M., responded in brief terms, remarking that it was always a great pleasure to him to do anything in the lodge.

Bro. C. Barker, P.M., said that when he came to the lodge that evening he had no idea that he would be called upon to give the addresses, and he was pleased to render that service.

In presenting the toast of "The Initiates," the W.M. stated that he had begun his year of office by having two initiates, which made him a proud man. He thought they would make good members, and he urged them to study well what they had gone through in the ceremony of their initiation and they would never regret having joined the ranks of Freemasonry.

In response, Bro. H. A. Redhouse thanked them heartily for receiving him as a Mason, and stated that he was most anxious to go on with the other Degrees, which he understood would follow his initiation.

Bro. R. B. Allen also expressed his best thanks for the kind way the toast of the initiates had been received, and said he hoped the trust they had reposed in him would not be misplaced, and his earnest wish was to do everything a good Mason should do to promote the interests of the lodge and Freemasonry in general.

At the request of the W.M., and in eloquent terms, Bro. Hans Scharien, I.P.M., gave "The Masonic Charities," making special mention of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, which he said should commend itself to the Masonic world. In the name of Charity, and in commemoration of her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, he urged the members to give freely—they would never miss it—and thus show that the Ranelagh Lodge was not forgetful of Charities outside Masonry.

It was subsequently announced that the sum of £2 14s. 3d. had been subscribed to be sent to the Hospital Fund.

"The Visitors" was next given by the W.M., who stated that it was a very important toast. They were honoured with the presence of a good number, and, on behalf of the members, he tendered them a very hearty welcome, with the hope that what they had seen that evening would induce them to come again and again. The hour being then late, would not permit him to call upon them all to respond; but he joined the names of Bros. J. W. Spedding and G. C. Hughes with the toast.

Bro. Spedding responded, and said he was proud to have had the privilege of being present. He was a Mason of 14 years' standing, but that was the pleasantest evening of his Masonic experience; never had seen better working of the ritual, or had been better entertained. They had had a lot of work, perhaps too much for an installation meeting, but what had been done was perfect. Immediately after a W.M. was installed it was a difficult task to have initiates, and their W.M. deserved the highest praise for his excellent work.

Bro. G. C. Hughes also acknowledged the toast. The remaining toasts of "The Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were given by the W.M. in a few well-chosen words, to which suitable responses were made.

The Tyler's toast, at a very late hour, brought to a close a most enjoyable evening.

The whole of the proceedings were enlivened with a vocal entertainment of a high order, and was much appreciated by the members and visitors. The following were the artistes: Miss Ida Hedges, Miss J. Rankin, and Bros. Jno. Bartlett and Bob Rae.

St. Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305.

The installation meeting of this lodge took place at the Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, on the 12th ult., when there were present Bros. A. C. Bonham, W.M.; W. Humfrey, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. Chaplain, Treas.; J. J. Pope, P.M., Sec.; J. G. Head, S.D.; R. H. Head, J.D.; J. Syme, I.G.; J. Hume, Stwd.; J. Kist, Org.; R. Wright, P.M.; H. Ansell, P.M.; F. Spurgin, P.M.; E. White, P.M.; R. Raymond, P.M.; W. D. Schwarz, P.M.; S. R. J. Chapman, W. A. Shaw, H. T. Adams, C. J. Webb, A. Orram, G. Cook, W. Dimond, H. Parfett, E. C. Lane, W. E. Colleson, A. Wheeler, J. Ellis, H. W. Williams, D. F. Tuffill, Thos. Durrans, J. P. Ealey, J. H. Birch, G. S. Beeching, W. C. Henderson, A. G. Rennison, J. J. Gomm, W. G. Seymour, W. F. Hill Phelps, and G. Couchman, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. S. B. Colwill, P.M. 1791; H. T. Weston, W.M. 1310; J. Mason, W.M. 2206; Julius Williams, W.M. 1310; R. Corderoy Sexton, Org. 2361; C. Crowther, I.P.M. 2308; A. H. Marks, I.P.M. 1563; R. Baker, W.M. 1624; Wm. Wilkinson, P.M. 2409; R. C. Best, W.M. 91; F. H. Vant, W.M. 1681; J. G. Doncaster, P.M. 834; J. Nielson, 1891; J. Welford, P.M. 733; Jas. Thorn, P.M. 2331; H. W. Douglas, 2535; J. M. Klempner, S.W. 1632; Wm. Chapple, P.M. 1425; H. F. Roberts, 1425; A. H. P. Snow, J.D. 2191; A. C. Kaufman, W.M. 174; J. B. Bishop, 172; Victor E. Gammon, 177; D. Kogminski, P.M. 188; Alfred Ellis; C. Campbell Johnston, S.W. 1791; C. Newman, 1791; H. S. Braman, W.M. 227; Thos. Adams, S.W. 227; Alex. Pope, 1638; F. A. Zeppenfeld, 1287; Alfred Jeffreys, S.D. 1598; Isidore Marchand, I.P.M. 1572; G. Wily, S.D. 1909; Fred. W. Stephens, P.M. 1348; H. Fincham, P.M. and Sec. 1348; Ernest Webster, 957; Thomas Moreton, P.M. 410; G. E. Crook, 1541; John Nanson, 1349; Vealbord, P.M. 1681; G. S. Recknell, Sec. 2466 and 1728; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last lodge meeting having been read and confirmed, the W.M. elect, Bro. W. Humfrey, was presented and installed into the chair by the outgoing Master, Bro. A. C. Bonham, in a manner that it would be difficult to excel. The following brethren were appointed and invested officers by the new W.M. for the ensuing year: Bros. A. C. Bonham, I.P.M.; W. Brett, S.W.; J. G. Head, J.W.; J. Chaplain, Treas.; J. J. Pope, P.M., Sec.; R. H. Head, S.D.; J. L. Syme, J.D.; E. C. Lane, I.G.; J. Hume, D.C.; A. Wheeler and C. J. Webb, Stwds.; J. Kist, Org.; and G. Couchman, Tyler. The installation ceremony was most ably performed by Bro. A. C. Bonham, who gave the usual addresses in a most impressive and praiseworthy manner. The W.M. initiated Messrs. W. C. Seymour and T. F. H. Phelps in splendid form. The Auditors' report, showing a substantial amount in hand, was received and adopted. Letters regretting their inability to attend were read from Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., and Bailey, G. Treas. A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and after other business the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to a *recherché* banquet, which was well served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Oscar Sonderbye.

After the banquet, the W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and in eloquent terms referred to her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

"The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," having been duly honoured,

Bro. A. C. Bonham, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Humfrey." He said it was with very great pleasure he rose to submit the toast of one who was such an efficient Master, but it was with some regret that he had then passed that enviable position, and he was on the shelf, as now there would not be anything for him to do. They had seen that evening how perfect Bro. Humfrey was in the First Degree, and the lodge should be proud of one so able in the ritual. He could speak at length of his many virtues and abilities, but it was not necessary, as he was so well known to them, and, in wishing him a very happy and prosperous year of office, he felt he was expressing the sentiments of all the members.

Bro. W. Humfrey, W.M., on rising to respond, received quite an ovation. He said the kind words of the I.P.M. and the hearty reception the members had given the toast was a great encouragement to him. He would do his utmost to be a good Master—no one could do more—and he hoped his year of office would add prosperity to the lodge. He thanked them for the honour they had paid him in electing him Master of that important lodge, and hoped they would never have occasion to regret their choice in placing him in that high position. In conclusion, he made special reference to the Hospital Fund of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and urged the members to give liberally to such a deserving object.

In submitting the toast of "The Immediate Past and Installing Master, Bro. A. C. Bonham," the W.M. stated that it was certainly the one of the evening. (Great applause.) His invariable courtesy to all, his grand working of the ritual and the way he had presided at the banquet table, could not be surpassed. He had been told by many that evening that the installation ceremony was performed in a manner that was perfect and he was of the same opinion. In presenting Bro. Bonham with a Past Master's jewel the W.M. observed that it was a small memento of his great services as Master of the St. Marylebone Lodge, and he hoped he might be long spared to wear it and be among them. He took that opportunity of thanking him sincerely for his great assistance to him that night and he wished the chair could always be occupied by one so good as Bro. Bonham, but that was impossible.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented by the St. Marylebone Lodge, No. 1305, to Bro. A. C. Bonham, P.M., for his valuable services as W.M. for the year 1896-7."

The toast was enthusiastically received, as was Bro. A. C. Bonham, I.P.M., on rising to respond. He thanked the W.M. for the kind things he had said of him, but he wished they were deserved. He little thought that when he and the W.M. entered the lodge as initiates some years ago that they would ever be sitting side by side as W.M. and I.P.M. He loved the Craft, and if he had done the work as Master to their satisfaction he had done it to the best of his ability. He felt he had the good feeling of every member of the lodge and he hoped he should always be able to retain it. The handsome jewel which he had received he looked upon as evidence that he had not been quite a failure, and it would always remind him of his very happy term of office and it would always be a pleasure to him to do anything to promote the interests of the lodge.

The toasts of "The Initiates" was next given by the W.M., who stated that he was honoured to have two on his first night of office. They were both good men and well worthy to join the lodge; he had known them both for 13 years, and he felt certain that they would be an acquisition to the lodge and the Craft.

Bro. W. C. Seymour said that it was a difficult matter for him to find words to adequately respond, but he would content himself by thanking them from the bottom of his heart for making him a Mason, and he was proud that his name was then enrolled as a member. He had many dear friends who were Freemasons, and he could see there was a lot to learn, but he hoped they would never regret having received him into their lodge.

Bro. T. F. H. Phelps also responded. He remarked that he was a bad speaker, but he hoped always to be able to follow his co-initiate, and he agreed with him that they had only seen a little, and had a lot to learn in the Craft.

The W.M. here announced that the members had well responded to his appeal by subscribing 320 shillings to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, for which he thanked them.

The W.M. gave "The Visitors," and said they were only too glad to have plenty of guests to criticise their work and to remind them of their faults. They had a goodly array of visitors—49; many of them were eminent in the Craft, but they were all welcome. He coupled with the toast the names of Bros. J. Welford, P.M.; J. G. Doncaster, P.M.; S. B. Colwill, P.M.; and J. Nanson.

Bro. J. Welford, P.M., responded, and said he was exceedingly gratified to be there; the splendid working had given him the greatest satisfaction, and he had had a Masonic treat. The W.M. had started well, and if he followed in the footsteps of the I.P.M., he thought there was no doubt he would make one of the best of Masters.

Bro. J. G. Doncaster, P.M., stated that he was pleased to be present to see the excellent working of the I.P.M., which excelled everything he had ever seen in the Craft. Bros. S. B. Colwill, P.M., and J. Nanson also acknowledged the toast, bearing testimony to the grand working of the W.M. and the I.P.M. and the way the visitors had been received and entertained.

In giving the toast of "The Past Masters," the W.M. observed that they were the pilots who kept the W.M. out of all dangers, and their great services to the lodge were much appreciated by the members.

In replying, Bro. A. C. Bonham, I.P.M., said he had already spoken, and he left it to the other Past Masters, who he knew were bursting with eloquence to do the needful. He took that opportunity of thanking the Sec., Bro. Pope, and the members for their great assistance in the election of a girl at the recent election.

Bro. W. D. Schwarz, P.M., also responded. He said that he was proud to be a Past Master of such a distinguished lodge, and it was very gratifying to hear from the visitors that their working was the best in London.

Bros. R. Wright, P.M.; R. Raymond, P.M.; and H. Ansell, P.M., also acknowledged the toast in happy terms and to the point.

The W.M. proposed "The Treasurer and Secretary," and said they were both very old and respected friends, and they deserved their highest thanks for the great things they did for the lodge.

In response, Bro. J. Chaplain, Treas., said that he was one of the founders of the lodge, and he would continue to do in the future what he hoped he had done in the past for the lodge, and he was honoured by being again elected to his office.

Bro. J. J. Pope, P.M., Sec., also acknowledged the toast. He did not deserve the kind things said of him, but he was grateful for their assurance that he was giving satisfaction.

The Worshipful Master gave "The Officers of the Lodge," and said he was proud of them and was sure they would in the future excel their excellent work that evening. He looked to them to make his duties lighter and he felt confident they would do so.

Some good speeches were made in response by Bros. J. G. Head, J.W.; J. L. Syme, J.D.; E. C. Lane, I.G.; A. Wheeler and C. J. Webb, Stwds.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a most happy and enjoyable gathering, on which the W.M. is to be congratulated, and there is no doubt that the St. Marylebone Lodge will be quite safe in his hands.

An excellent musical entertainment was provided under the able direction of Bro. James Kift, in which the following artistes also took part: Miss Gertrude Snow, Miss Florence Venning, Bros. Fred. Stephens, P.M., and Wills-Page, who received a well-deserved encore.

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**ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
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THIRD APPLICATION.

To the Patrons, Presidents, Life Governors, and
Subscribers.

MAY ELECTION, 1897.

The favour of your Votes and Interest are again respectfully and earnestly solicited on behalf of

BRO. ALFRED RANSOM,

of 129, Glengall-road, Kilburn, N.W. (late of 45, Walm-lane, Willesden Green, London, N.W.), who was initiated in the Royal Kent Lodge of Antiquity, No. 20, Chatham; a Founder and Member of Gundulph Lodge, No. 1050, Rochester, of which lodge he is a P.M.; and P.P.G. Org. of Kent; a Subscribing Member 8 years to Lodge 20, and 19 years to Lodge 1050, or 27 years in all. He was a companion in the R.A., and also a Mark M.M. He is 68 years of age and incapacitated from earning his living through chronic illness, and is entirely dependent upon a son and daughter with but very limited means.

Bro. RANSOM gratefully thanks those Subscribers who have kindly favoured him with their 568 votes, and sincerely hopes for a continuance of their interest and support.

The case is strongly recommended by—

W. Bro. F. G. HOMAN, Esq., J.P., Ex-Mayor of Rochester; P.M., B.Z., Gundulph Lodge, 1050, Rochester.

W. Bro. Ald. H. D. DAVIES, Esq., M.P., P.M. Bishops-gate Lodge, 2396.

W. Bro. J. D. COLLIER, P.M. Highgate Lodge, 1366, Montague Guest Lodge, 1900, P.Z. 1366, 749, Life-Governor, High-street, Chatham.

W. Bro. REI FRY, P.M. 1650, P.P.J.G.D. Kent, Strood, Kent.

W. Bro. J. NICHOLLS, P.M. 1050, P.P.G. Supt. Wks. Kent, Belgrave-terrace, Strood.

W. Bro. W. WOOD, P.M. 1050, P.P.J.G.W. Kent, Snodland, Rochester.

W. Bro. S. VARREN, P.M. 184, 1967, P.Z. 20, P.P.G.A.P. Kent, New Brompton, Kent.

W. Bro. T. J. NYE, P.M. 1967, P.P.G.A.P. Kent, and Wanderers Lodge, 1604, London, New Brompton, Kent.

W. Bro. S. FULLER, P.M. 1967, P.P.G.A.P. Kent.

W. Bro. L. SALT, P.M. 1424, Old Brompton, Kent.

The W.M., P.Ms., Officers and Brethren of Gundulph Lodge, No. 1050, Rochester.

Proxies will be thankfully received by Bro. A. RANSOM, P.M. 1050, P.P.G. Org., 129, Glengall-road, Kilburn, N.W.; Bro. EDWARD BARRELL, P.M., C.R., Sec., P.Z. 1050, P.P.G. Std. Br., 378, High-street, Rochester; and Bro. T. J. NYE, P.M. 1967, &c., Gardiner-street, New Brompton, Kent.

Votes for either of the other Masonic Institutions will be equally appreciated, as they are valuable for exchange, but they should be forwarded as early as possible, so that this may be done with advantage.

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. CAYMAN, Bunswick, 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. DUFEY, 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.

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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,

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London, W.C. Secretary.

**ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT
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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.

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SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday was fairly well attended, as is usually the case when the new Grand Officers for the ensuing year are appointed and invested. But beyond this function, which always causes a certain amount of pleasurable excitement, especially among those who are fortunate enough to be appointed to office, there was little business to be done. It will be noticed that in the list of new Grand Officers are included the names of several who were not honoured with the purple of Grand Lodge. This happens by no means infrequently, as there are generally some brethren appointed to office in Grand Lodge who are not qualified to receive it in Grand Chapter, and to fill the appointments, which would otherwise be left vacant, companions of eminence in the Royal Arch are selected. Among those who have been thus fortunate are the Provincial Grand Scribes E. of Bristol, Devonshire, and Nottinghamshire, a companion (Comp. Bullock) on whom brevet rank in Grand Lodge was conferred last year, and Comps. Kiallmark, Ebbetts, Major Bridges, and Stanley Attenborough, whose names are familiar enough to our readers.

We take this last opportunity of calling attention to the important event which will be celebrated at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday next, under the presidency of Bro. Lord Llangatock, Prov. G. Master of South Wales, Eastern Division. We have already expressed our regret that the Board of Stewards who will support his lordship is considerably less numerous than was last year's Board, and we must repeat the hope we have already expressed on several occasions that a strong effort will be made by the Stewards to obtain big lists and thus make amends for the falling off in their numbers.

We realise that the task of obtaining subscriptions is very difficult at a time when every institution in the country is appealing for a full measure of public support. Even the wealthiest people will be unable to countenance all the worthy schemes which may be brought to their notice. We must, confess, however, to being selfish enough to wish that whatever Charitable Institutions may obtain only a moderate amount of contributions, those maintained by the English brethren will not be amongst them. We trust the Returns will reach such a total as will enable the authorities to defray the year's expenditure and still leave over enough to make a further addition to the slender stock of invested capital. This is not asking too much in the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

One important function connected with the Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will take place at the School, Battersea Rise, on Monday afternoon, namely, the distribution of prizes and the customary musical and calisthenic exercises by the pupils. The distribution will be made by Lady Llangatock, wife of the year's Festival Chairman, while the calisthenics and marchings, which are always so splendidly carried out and form one of the chief attractions of the day, will take place at the commencement, instead of at the end, of the proceedings. Given fine weather, and we doubt not there will be a large gathering of visitors, while those who may wish to inspect the premises will have the opportunity of doing so under the guidance of sundry of the prefects, and are requested to assemble in the Alexandra Hall at 6 p.m. A well-chosen programme of vocal and instrumental music will be carried out during the afternoon.

The spring half-yearly meeting of the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple, will be at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Friday, the 14th instant, at 5.45 for 6 p.m. precisely, when the regular business, including the appointment and investiture of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, will be transacted. The banquet will be held at Freemasons' Tavern, at 7 p.m. Tickets, price one guinea, to be had of the Great Vice-Chancellor, V.E. Knight C. Fitzgerald Matier, Mark Masons' Hall, W.C., on or before Monday, the 10th instant.

Among the matters contained in the Report of the Council is a recommendation "that a loyal and respectful address should be presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Royal Patron of the Order of the Temple and Hospital in England, to congratulate her on arriving at the sixtieth year of her glorious and benignant reign." There is also an announcement to the effect that "V.E. Knight the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, G. Prelate, has offered to complete the official regalia of the office of Great Prelate by presenting a violet cassock," and that the "Council have gratefully accepted" the gift. It may also be mentioned that the audited statement of the Great Treasurer's account to the 28th February of the current year shows balances on the General and Benevolent Funds amounting together to not far short of £700; that the funds of Great Priory are now, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee, invested in Trustees' Securities; and that the current account has been transferred to the London and Westminster Bank, Limited, Bloomsbury Branch.

We have very great pleasure in announcing that the Empire Lodge, No. 2108, which was founded in 1885 as a kind of Masonic Home where brethren from the Colonies would be most heartily welcomed in London, proposes, under the auspices of several distinguished officers of Grand Lodge, to entertain those among our Colonial and Indian guests who are members of the Craft, on the occasion of their visit to this country for the Diamond Jubilee festivities, and that the entertainment will take the form of a banquet, which will be

held at the Hotel Cecil, on Monday, the 14th June, after the great Masonic meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington.

We are also pleased to be in a position to state that the authorities at the Colonial and India Offices, as well as the various Agents-General of the Colonies in England, are affording every assistance in their power, and to add that communications from Colonial and Indian visitors are invited by the Treasurer of the Empire Lodge, Bro. Lennox Browne, Past Dep. G. Director of Ceremonies, 15, Mansfield-street, Portland-place, W.

It seems that we were misinformed as to the circumstances attending the death of our late lamented Bro. T. R. Arter, Prov. S.G.W. Worcestershire. He did not succumb to an operation performed under the influence of chloroform. On the contrary, the operation was successful, and no anæsthetic was administered. But the shock to a system already weakened by the disease from which he had long suffered was too great, and he was never able to recover his strength. It is at the particular request of one of the family of our deceased brother that we make this correction.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held at Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 6th instant, when, in accordance with a recommendation of the Grand Committee at its meeting on the 25th March, it was unanimously resolved to present an address of congratulation to her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. Among the other recommendations of the Grand Committee were the following: For the appointment of Bro. the Earl of Rosslyn as Prov. G.M. of Fife and Kinross, *vice* Bro. J. H. Balfour Melville resigned; and of his Excellency Bro. Lord Sandhurst, Governor of Bombay, as Grand Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, *vice* Bro. James W. Smith resigned.

We have received a copy of a small but—so far as we have been able to judge from a hasty perusal of its contents, a very valuable—pamphlet, entitled "Grand Lodge Decisions," as "extracted from the authorised reports of the Grand Lodge of England during the past 25 years." It has been edited, arranged, and annotated by Bro. the Rev. J. T. Lawrence, M.A., P.M. 273, Dist. J.G. Warden of Madras, and is dedicated to the R.W. Bro. G. M. J. Moore, R.A., C.I.E., District G. Master. Its title indicates clearly enough that it is likely to prove useful as a work of reference, and if our Rev. Bro. Lawrence has done his work of compilation with the ability which characterises his editorship of the *Indian Masonic Review*, we feel sure it will prove a welcome addition to our slender stock of works of this class. But for the demands upon our time and space, we should have reviewed it in the present issue. As it is, we must be content for the present with this brief introduction of "Grand Lodge Decisions" to the notice of our readers and hold over our review till the Girls' School Festival has been held and reported.

The annual festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Master Masons will be held at Mark Masons' Hall on Thursday, the 20th instant. The ceremony of advancement will be rehearsed, with Bro. W. Vincent in the chair as W.M., and Bro. H. R. Rose, P.G. Org., at the organ. Bro. Viscount Dunganvan, D.G.M., will occupy the chair at the banquet at Freemasons' Tavern, which will follow the work in lodge, and tickets for which, price 6s. each—not 21s., as stated in error last week—must be obtained on or before Tuesday, the 18th instant, either of Bro. John Smith, 4, The Crescent, Bedford, or at Mark Masons' Hall.

THE GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS' COMPANY gave a ball on Thursday evening at the Holborn Restaurant, a large number of guests assembled and were received by the Master, Colonel P. Cowan. The band of the Royal Artillery provided the music for the evening.

BRO. THE EARL OF LATHOM (Lord Chamberlain) and the Countess of Lathom entertained the Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and their daughter, Princess Victoria, at dinner at their residence, 41, Portland-place, on Wednesday evening, a select party of guests being invited to meet their Royal Highnesses.

MR. BAYARD, the retiring Ambassador for the United States of America, performed what must prove his last public appearance on Thursday afternoon. Accompanied by Mrs. Bayard and some 300 guests, he travelled down to Chorley Wood to lay the foundation-stone of a new home for men in the colony for the employment of epileptics at Chalfont St. Peter's, of which Bro. Passmore Edwards is the donor.

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.

NEW BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

My letter is quite clear, each of six competitors will receive £100 making £600 in all, and 2½ per cent for the successful one on £100,000 is £2500, total £3100.

Should the School be erected the commission would be five per cent., say £5000, and in addition there would be £600 besides sundries, fees for arbitrator, &c., making a total of about £6000.

Would it not be well to delay the selection of plans until at least a sum of £50,000 can be secured?—Yours fraternally,

LIFE GOVERNOR.

[There is no justification for "Life Governor's" statements. We can insert no further letters on the subject.—ED. FM.]

DIAMOND JUBILEE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Among the many suggestions from public bodies and private persons to celebrate the Queen's jubilee day, from the building of town clocks to feeding little children, the most charitable of all, yet we see nothing for the old and infirm, not yet in the workhouse, but very near it. May I suggest that Grand Lodge should stir in the matter of the old and crippled members of the Craft—being indigent not in receipt of pensions or annuities—of same age as our beloved Queen. For myself it would be acceptable, being one of those I would propose that some form be sent to the mother lodge and lodges of instruction, that they may choose those they think the most worthy of relief.—I am dear Sir and Brother, yours fraternally,

B.

51, Rosemary-road, Peckham.
May 4th.

Reviews.

"MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT, 1897-8."—This is one of the largest and best of these exceedingly useful Calendars published, and is edited by Bro. Edgar Goble, the esteemed Prov. Grand Secretary, and Bro. G. F. Lancaster (P. Prov. G. Reg.), the zealous Asst. Prov. G. Secretary, the Printers and Publishers being the firm of Holbrook and Son, of Portsmouth. The Calendar portion runs from April, 1897, to March, 1898, and contains well-arranged notices of all the lodges, chapters, and Mark lodges held in the Province, which must have been no little labour to compile. It is a large Province, there being 48 lodges, with 3609 members, 24 R.A. chapters, having 896 companions, 13 Mark lodges, with 343 members, besides numerous other Masonic Bodies, particulars about all of which are both ample and well arranged. The information, in fact, is much more than any anyone could reasonably expect, so it is very welcome, doubtless, to all concerned; and it also proves that the Province is ably managed, for it is not many that could boast of such a general response to the enquiries of the Editors from all these Masonic Organisations. The number of meetings, number of initiates, and joining members, and total number of members to 31st December, 1896, are all duly detailed under each lodge, chapter, &c., and besides all these, there are most interesting tables as to extinct lodges, &c., Roll of Past Provincial Grand Officers from earliest dates, and many historical items of value. One would like to know the voting strength of the Province in the Central Masonic Charities, but, really, there is so much else, and the accounts as to the several Institutions are so well condensed, that it would be ungracious to press for more. Any way, the Editors may be assured that they have earned the warm gratitude of the Province for providing such a valuable Annual.

"THE INDIAN FREEMASONS' ALMANAC AND DIARY, 1897."—This remarkable publication is edited by Bro. P. C. Dutt, P. Dep. D.G.M. Bengal, and is the largest of the kind issued by any Masonic body authorised by the Grand Lodge of England. It is in the 29th year of publication, and is valuable and interesting as ever, the details being so ample, that the work is brimful of information, as well as complete as a calendar for the Calcutta lodges. There are over 160 lodges attended to for India and Burma, and all the other Masonic bodies, Royal Arch chapters, Mark lodges, K.T. preceptories, Rose Croix chapters, &c., are also carefully noted and described. The historical data is most interesting, and useful withal, as the "Masonic Notabilia" begin from 1723, and are brought down to date, based upon the accepted authorities, only condensed as much as possible. The book is an extraordinary production, and only needs the statistical information to make it complete. Bro. Dutt has earned and should receive the best thanks of his large constituency.

Craft Masonry.

Indefatigable Lodge, No. 237.

WELCOME TO THE MASONIC MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS.

With characteristic hospitality, the Indefatigable Lodge, No. 237, Swansea, tendered a most warm and fraternal greeting on Wednesday, the 21st ult., to the brethren of the Craft visiting the town in connection with the National Union of Teachers Conference. This interesting function was performed by Bro. Herbert George Davies, W.M., who was cordially supported by the Worshipful Masters of the other local lodges—the Talbot and Caradoc—whilst among those who had accepted invitations to pay an official visit were the Worshipful Masters of the Bute, Glamorgan, Tennant, Duke of York, and Llangatock Lodges.

Amongst other distinguished brethren who had been invited by the Worshipful Master to meet the guests of the evening were Bros. Marmaduke Tennant, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., D.P.G.M.; the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, P.G.W. Eng., P.G.M. Oxfordshire; Sir John Jones Jenkins, M.P., P.M. 1323, P.P.J.G.W.; Sir J. T. Dillwyn Llewelyn, Bart., M.P.; Walter Whittington, P.M., P.G. Sec.; D. Brynmor Jones, Q.C., M.P., 1724; and Ernest Gray, M.P. for West Ham, all of whom were present.

The lodge having been opened, Bros. L. Collwyn Lewis, Sydney W. Harris, and H. J. Nott, were passed to the Second Degree, the ceremony being admirably performed by the W.M., whilst the lecture on the tracing board was given by Bro. H. J. Thomas, P.M., P.P.S.G.D. Then followed an interesting event, the presentation of a very handsome P.P.G. Treasurer's jewel to Bro. J. Lindley Smith, I.P.M., P.G. Treas., on the occasion of his leaving Swansea to take up the important position of Governor of H.M. Gaol at Devizes. The W.M. in requesting Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey to invest Bro. Smith with the jewel on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, said that the jewel was simply a small token of the very high estimation in which the I.P.M. is held by the brethren of the Indefatigable. His lordship, in pinning the jewel on Bro. J. Lindley Smith's breast, took the occasion of congratulating him upon the important appointment which had been given him, and expressed the hope that he would live long to serve his country and to wear the jewel which he now presented him with. Bro. Smith suitably thanked the brethren and

his lordship for his kind wishes, and in the course of his remarks said that he should ever remember the kindness that he had received at the hands of the Indefatigable Lodge. The hearty good wishes were then tendered to the Worshipful Master by the many representatives of lodges throughout the kingdom. The W.M. extended a most warm and cordial invitation to all present to accompany him to the Grand Hotel, where supper would be served.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren sat down to supper. The W.M., Bro. Herbert Geo. Davies, presided, and was supported on his right by Bros. Marmaduke Tennant, P.A.G.D.C., D.P.G.M.; Sir John Jones Jenkins, M.P., P.M., P.P.J.G.W.; and R. D. Brynmor Jones, Q.C., M.P.; and on his left by the R.W. and Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, P.S.G.W., P.G.M. Oxon; Bros. Sir John T. Dillwyn Llewelyn, Bart., M.P., and Ernest Gray, M.A., M.P.

The W.M. submitted the toasts of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and the Craft" and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," both being drunk with musical honours.

Bro. Sir John Jones Jenkins, M.P., who was most heartily received, submitted "The M.W. the Pro Grand Master and Grand Lodge of England." It afforded him, he said, much pleasure to propose that toast. The Grand Lodge of England stood high in the estimation of all of them, perhaps not so much for its name as for those eminent men who composed it. They had at its head the Prince of Wales, and it was astonishing how far-reaching Freemasonry was. There they had the Prince of Wales at the head of the greatest Order in the world, closely connected with a very large number of other Orders, whilst he was also Chancellor of the Welsh University. The Pro Grand Master, the M.W. Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, was well known to a great many of them. They had seen him at Swansea on several occasions, and hoped to see him before long once again. He had also great pleasure to mention the name of the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Jersey, Prov. Grand Master Oxfordshire. In him they had a nobleman who not only made himself useful in many spheres of life, but whatever he did he did thoroughly. He (Sir John) had heard some rumours that there was a probability of the Earl of Jersey, in the near future, living and spending more time amongst them in South Wales. He (Sir John) was sure that he was only echoing the sentiments of all the members of the Indefatigable Lodge when he said that he hoped to see more of his lordship in the future than they had in the past. Sir John then submitted the toast, coupling with it the name of the Earl of Jersey.

Bro. the Earl of Jersey, in responding, thanked the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received the toast, and also Bro. Davies, their W.M., for having kindly invited him to be present to meet the distinguished brethren whom he had the pleasure of seeing around him. With regard to the Grand Lodge of England, everybody would agree with what Bro. Sir John Jones Jenkins had said that their Pro G.M. was certainly the right man in the right place, and he thought that the men who belonged to the Order were men who studied the interests of Masonry in every part of their territory, and who exercised a far-reaching public influence. He thought also that nothing could please the Grand Lodge of England more than to know that upon this occasion the brethren of the Indefatigable Lodge had used the advantages of Masonry to extend their hospitality to those who came to Swansea. In conclusion, the Earl of Jersey expressed the hope that the brethren who came from other parts of the country would go away impressed with the enthusiastic manner in which Masonry was conducted in Swansea, and also with the hospitality of the lodge, of which he felt proud that he himself was a member.

Bro. Henry Simons, P.M., submitted "The R.W. Prov. Grand Master and the W. Dep. Prov. Grand Master." In the course of a few remarks, he said it was with great regret that they had to account for the absence of the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Llangatock, who had intended to be present. They were fortunate in having two such good officers at the head of their province. Since the Right Hon. Prov. Grand Master had been at the head he had made it a point to be with them at least once a year, whilst he had also made several special visits to lodges in the province. Referring to the Deputy G.M., Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, who unfortunately had to leave early to catch his train, he was one whom every Mason in South Wales revered and loved. In submitting the toast, Bro. Simons coupled with it the name of Bro. Grose, Prov. S.G.W.

Bro. Grose, in responding, said that, as Senior Warden of the Province, he was proud of the opportunity given him of returning thanks for the enthusiastic manner in which they had drunk the health of the Prov. Grand Master and the Deputy Prov. Grand Master.

Bro. Herbert G. Davies, W.M., then felicitously submitted the toast of the evening, that of "The Visitors." He said they were honoured by having around them visiting brethren representing nearly every class of life and from all quarters of the Empire. He could see amongst them members of the House of Peers, House of Commons, and, as they still had their I.P.M. amongst them, he must include the House of Correction—(laughter)—Council of Education, and also brethren whom, except upon an occasion such as that, they did not particularly desire to meet, viz., barristers and lawyers—(renewed laughter)—met in the common bond of brotherhood. On behalf of his lodge, he tendered to the visitors a most hearty welcome to Swansea, and he felt proud that he had the honour to preside over such an important and unique gathering of Masons in that ancient borough of Swansea. He could assure the visitors that he was delighted to see them, glad to welcome them, and to extend the right hand of fellowship to brethren who were engaged in the responsible task of training the future generation. He had much pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of Bros. C. James, W.M. 1963; Councillor J. Welch, W.M. 1110; A. W. Pillinger, W.M. 902; Ernest Gray, M.A., M.P., 2291, who was closely connected with the Educational Scheme of the country, he having been a couple of years back President of the N.U.T.; Sir J. T. Dillwyn Llewelyn, Bart., M.P., whom, whatever might be their political opinions, he felt sure every Swansea brother highly esteemed and revered, and who had requested him (the speaker) to propose him as a re-joining member of the Indefatigable; D. Brynmor Jones, Q.C., M.P., who was a member of the Kaisar-i-Hind Lodge; and last, but not least, G. M. E. Hamilton, P.M. 1641, also P.M. and Sec. of 1446, whose name he had at his own request reserved until the end. Before submitting the toast, he could not refrain from acknowledging the courtesy and kindness he had received from Bro. Hamilton in conjunction with Bro. John Williams, P.M., and the valuable assistance he had rendered him in getting the members of his Union there that evening in such goodly numbers, and thus making the gathering such a grand success.

Bro. James, W.M. 1963, one of the brethren of the N.U.T., responded in a few happy remarks, in which he expressed, on behalf of the other N.U.T. brethren present, the pleasure it gave him to thank the Swansea lodge for the very cordial way in which the toast had been received, and also the felicitous way in which it had been moved. He was glad the N.U.T. had been able to furnish 45 brethren for the occasion, amongst that number being several Past Presidents of the Union, several present and past members of the Executive, and five out of the six present principal officials of the Union.

Bro. Councillor Welch, W.M. 1110, also responded, remarking that he had been struck with the work of the lodge and the way it had been carried out. He congratulated the lodge upon the admirable way this was done, and said the day would be a red-letter one to them. He might say for his own part that when he came to Swansea he was not particularly attracted by the town. On his way to the town last week it was raining cats and dogs—(laughter)—and when he entered it the same process was in progress. (Renewed laughter.) He had learnt that it was the habit of Swansea to have rain some 13 months out of the 12. (Loud laughter.) The climate, he must say, was moist. It had improved during the conference week, and he hoped the conference would be finished with that *délat* which had attended its meetings in all other towns. The gathering that evening was, he thought, unique.

Bro. Pillinger, W.M. 902, also responded.

Bro. Ernest Gray, M.P., said he was only a young member of the Craft, but he had learnt that one of the great fundamental truths of Freemasonry was that of Charity, and the Swansea brethren had that evening given a vivid interpretation of it in its widest sense. The N.U.T. would regard that gathering as one of the most agreeable held in connection with the conference, and no memory would be dearer to them than that which they would hold of the great kindness shown to them that evening.

Bro. Sir J. T. D. Llewelyn, Bart., M.P., said it was with mixed feelings of regret that he addressed them. He felt that he had been a very bad Mason—"no, no"—but he was there that evening because he desired to support the Worshipful Master and brethren in Swansea in the very cordial reception they had given to the brethren of the Craft who came from outside Swansea, and who were paying a visit on this most interesting occasion. He himself was, many years ago, a member of the Indefatigable Lodge, but had had to leave it because the great distance between his home and the lodge's place of meeting prevented him carrying out the duties of the Craft as he should have liked to. He deeply regretted not having been an active member of the Indefatigable

Lodge, but he should be only too glad to do what he could to promote the best interests of the Craft in Swansea. (Loud applause.)

Bro. D. Brynmor Jones, Q.C., M.P., said the lodge was not only indefatigable but efficient. (Applause.) He was pleased that they had been able to get together in Swansea that week so many worthy Masons, and as a visitor to the lodge he most cordially thanked the W.M. for the kind and enthusiastic reception that had been extended to him.

Bro. G. M. E. Hamilton, in thanking the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they had received his name, also expressed his gratitude to the W.M. and Bro. John Williams, P.M., for having so kindly arranged to hold an emergency meeting for the benefit of the members of his Union. The same thing had been attempted in other towns where the N.U.T. had held their annual conferences, but upon a much smaller scale owing to the matter not having been taken in hand until close upon the date of their visits. Never had they received such a grand and brilliant reception, and it was a red-letter day in the history of the Masonic brethren connected with the Union. On behalf of the N.U.T. brethren, he had very great pleasure in asking the W.M. to accept a cheque for £10 10s. towards his list as Festival Steward to the 109th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, at which Bro. Lord Llangattock, his P.G.M., would preside. (Prolonged cheers.)

The W. Master feelingly thanked Bro. Hamilton for the gift, and then submitted the toast of "The Lodges of the Province." He said they had been honoured with the presence that evening of the W.Ms. of the Glamorgan, Bute, Tennant, Duke of York, and Llangattock Lodges, all of Cardiff; also the W.M. of the Loyal Cambrian, Merthyr, but unfortunately, owing to their having had to leave early to catch their trains, he regretted being unable to couple their names with this toast, and he called upon their esteemed Bros. J. R. Leaver, P.M., Treas. of 1323, and Owen Owen, of 1573, to respond.

Bro. J. R. Leaver, P.M. 1323, returned thanks in a telling speech, and said how pleased he felt at being able to welcome so many distinguished visitors to Swansea.

Bro. Owen Owen also suitably responded, and in the course of his speech, said that the remarks of Bro. Councillor Welsh as to Swansea weather, reminded him of a rhyme reflecting the opinion prevailing outside Swansea with regard to Landore. It ran as follows:

"A devil once riding through Landore
Was asked what he thought of that fine old place of yore;
Quoth Satan: 'By the smell and the stink
I am not very far from home, I should think!'"

(Loud laughter.)

On the motion of Bro. S. Meech, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Worshipful Master.

The Worshipful Master, in responding, expressed the hope that his successor in office would be Bro. J. T. Davies, their esteemed Assistant Director of Ceremonies.

The Tyler, Bro. G. Bullerwell, having given the Tyler's toast, and the company having drunk "The Health of Host Fitt," the proceedings were brought to a close.

During the evening a musical programme, with string band accompaniment, arranged by Bro. C. M. Bill, F.R.C.O., was gone through. The Misses Fitt, the daughters of Host Bro. Fitt, gave selections on the mandolin, songs being rendered by Bros. Howarth, T. P. Sykes, J. Welsh, D. C. Jones, and W. Lloyd, and recitations by Bros. C. Castell and T. A. Organ.

The arrangements were throughout perfect, and the excellent supper was admirably served, and gave the greatest satisfaction.

Wycombe Lodge, No. 1501.

The last ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the Lodge Rooms, Amersham Hill, High Wycombe, on Thursday, the 22nd ult., when there were present Bro. J. J. Simcox, W.M., a full complement of Past Masters and officers, and a large number of brethren and visitors.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed. Mr. T. Hull was then duly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. Bliss, P.M., then proposed and the I.P.M. seconded that a sum of five guineas be voted from the funds of the lodge to purchase a Past Master's jewel for the W.M. as a mark of esteem from the lodge, Bro. Bliss remarking that he was sure all the brethren concurred with him that the lodge never had a brother or W.M. who took a greater interest in the lodge and its working; they had only to look round and see how the working of the lodge had been improved by the addition of needful furniture and ornaments, and not only so, but Bro. Simcox had also tried to instil into their minds the value of Freemasonry by his constant attendance and earnest works. The resolution was carried unanimously, and the W.M. having responded, Bro. C. Batting, the S.W., was then unanimously elected to fill the chair for the ensuing year. The lodge was then closed.

Sir Francis Burdett Lodge, No. 1503.

The last meeting for the season of this highly prosperous lodge was held on the 21st ult. at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, when there were present, among others, Bros. E. W. Davis, I.P.M., as W.M., in the absence abroad of Bro. A. Macchi; A. Brown, S.W.; J. W. Hinton, Mus. Doc., M.A., P.M. 54, P.P.G.O., J.W.; J. T. Briggs, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; H. Bright, S.D.; Thompson, J.D.; and G. Harrison, Tyler.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. T. Briggs then presented his annual financial statement, which was of a highly successful character. A resolution was unanimously passed congratulating him upon the result of his year's labours. Communications, regretting inability to attend, were received from Bros. A. Macchi, W.M.; W. Fisher, P.P.G. Treas., I.P.M.; and the Rev. S. T. H. Saunders, P.M., P.P.G.C., Chap.; A. Toulmin, jun., P.M.; and others.

The name of a candidate for joining having been duly proposed and seconded, the lodge was closed. Refreshment followed labour.

Bro. J. T. Briggs responded at length on behalf of "The Prov. Grand Officers" and Bros. Brown and Dr. Hinton for "The Officers."

The proceedings then terminated.

Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656.

A meeting of this lodge was held on the 10th ult. at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court. Among those present were Bros. R. W. Rice, W.M.; R. W. Simpson, S.W.; H. Bond, P.M., as J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; W. R. Flack, S.D.; J. Gaunt, J.D.; C. H. Sapsworth, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br., Stwd.; J. Spooner, P.M.; W. T. Peat, I.P.M.; and H. H. Room, P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S. Bro. L. Boelm, 2021, was a visitor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. It being election night, Bros. R. W. Simpson was unanimously elected W.M.; J. Featherstone, P.M., Treas.; H. Bond, P.M., Charity Representative, *vice* Bro. Chandler, P.M., resigned; and G. Harrison, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was voted with acclamation to the W.M. The notice of motion by Bro. Featherstone, P.M., "That to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee a summer outing be arranged by the Permanent Committee, to which ladies may be invited. Tickets for members and male guests, £1 1s.; ladies ditto, 10s. 6d.," was duly seconded. A resolution was then passed *non con* that the matter be referred to the Permanent Committee to decide as to its advisability. The request of Bro. Chandler, P.M., to be placed on the non-dining list was granted. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Gentle, J.W.; Crozier, J.D.; Figg, Org.; Chandler, P.M.; T. Grant, P.M.; Miles, and others. Two names having been proposed and seconded for initiation at the next meeting, the lodge was closed. A banquet followed.

The customary toasts received full justice.

Bro. H. H. Room, in responding for "The Grand Officers," made a most telling and effective speech.

Bro. David Jones, in his clever dramatic recitals, greatly enhanced the pleasures of the evening.

Agricola Lodge, No. 1991.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Castlegate, York, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors, presided over by the W.M., Bro. R. Spence. In addition to the officers of the lodge, there were present Bros. Dr. F. Sidney Gramshaw, W.M. 236; E. W. Purnell, P.M. 236; M. Bryson, P.M. 236; M. Rooke, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. Blenkin, P.M. 1611; F. Vaughan, P.M. 1611; J. L. Spetch, P.M. 1611; A. Proctor, S.W. 236;

F. W. Laughton, J.W. 236; W. S. Child, P.P.G.O. N. and E. Yorks, 1611; W. N. Stimpson, 236; M. Bilton, 1611; J. H. Wray, 236; H. L. Challenger, 1611; R. Jones, 1341; C. Fisher, 1068; J. E. Matthews, 697; W. Hochitt, 200; W. Bean, 1611; B. Kilvington, 1611; F. W. Cull, 236; J. F. Buckley, 1346; and amongst other members of the lodge Bros. J. E. Wilkinson, P.P.G.P. N. and E. Yorks; H. Tomes, R. B. Gray, A. Cowper, S. Shaw, G. H. Cutforth, T. Harding, N. R. Barber, J. Challis, T. Bouttell, S. P. Hipperson, and others. The Secretary read letters of apology for absence from Bros. Lord Bolton, D.P.G.M.; M. C. Peck, P.G. Sec.; The Dean of York, P.M. 236; J. G. Butcher, 236; Sir F. Lockwood, T. B. Whytehead, 236 and 1611; J. Sykes Rymer, P.M. 236; G. Lamb, P.M. 1611; J. Melrose, 236; J. Kay, 1611; and others.

The lodge having been opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Geo. H. Stott, was proceeded with, the ceremony being ably conducted by Bro. R. Spence, I.P.M., assisted by Bro. D. Young, P.M., P.P.G.P. N. and E. Yorks; and Bro. J. W. Daw, P.M. The W.M. then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. R. Spence, I.P.M.; G. Woolford, S.W.; J. H. Hill, J.W.; J. Press, Chap.; J. Booth, Treas. and Almoner; E. A. Robinson, Sec.; J. P. Gill, S.D.; W. Wild, J.D.; D. Young, P.M., P.P.G.P., D.C., and Charity Rep.; R. Rook, Asst. D.C.; T. F. Walton, Org.; T. Leatham, I.G.; R. Woodall, Tyler; H. Masser, W. Seymour, and H. Pratt, Stwds. After some other business the lodge was closed.

Subsequently a banquet was held at the Coach and Horses, Low Ousegate, the W.M. elect presiding over about 50 guests.

After a dinner which did credit to the host, Bro. F. Bucktin, a toast list was proceeded with.

The W.M. proposed "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. of England, and the Grand Lodge." In doing so, he said her Majesty had been a good supporter of the Masonic Institutions, and especially of the Boys' School, since 1852. As to the Prince of Wales, their M.W.G.M. did all he could for the Craft, and the present flourishing condition of the Charities was a proof of the way in which he took up that cause for good. (Applause.)

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The R.W.P.G.M. of North and East Yorkshire, Bro. the Marquis of Zetland, and the Prov. Grand Lodge," speaking in eulogistic terms of Lord Zetland and his provincial supporters, in proof of whose work and interest they might look at the good results in connection with the Educational Fund.

Bro. M. Rooke, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., responding to the toast, said, whilst claiming very small honours for the junior members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, he assured them of their sincerity in their work, and their confidence in the influential help given by the Marquis of Zetland and Lord Bolton. (Applause.)

Bro. R. Spence, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M. of the Agricola Lodge," and said that he had the greatest pleasure in placing the W.M. in the chair of K.S., and he felt they had a man whose work would redound to the credit of the lodge, having worked heart and soul for it for a number of years past. (Applause.)

The toast was received with the utmost enthusiasm, and the York Minster chief bass, Bro. W. H. Dawson, sang appropriately "Stand fast," with excellent expression and finish.

The W.M., who had a very hearty reception on rising to respond, said that he owed his "first steps" to the Installing Master, and since that brother's initial kindly advice, he had endeavoured to do his best for the Agricola Lodge and Freemasonry in general. What he had done, he had done with his whole heart. (Applause.) He felt that their confidence would not be misplaced. (Applause.)

The W.M. proposed "The Installing Master and Past Masters of the Lodge" in suitable terms, and the toast was honoured with "three fives."

The Installing Master, in responding, said that they had one second to none in the brother they had placed in the chair.

Bro. J. E. Wilkinson, P.M., P.P.G.P., also responded.

Bro. J. H. Hill proposed "The Visitors," which was responded to by Bros. Dr. M. Bryson, P.M. 236; Halliwell, P.M. 1611; Vaughan, P.M. 1611; and Procter, 236.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was proposed by the W.M. and responded to by the S.W., the Secretary, and the S.D.

The Tyler's toast concluded the list.

In the course of the evening some excellent vocal and instrumental music was rendered by Bros. J. E. Wilkinson, B. Kilvington, W. Bean, W. H. Dawson, Halliwell, Stott, Woolford, Dow, Welburn, and others, whilst the office of director of music and pianoforte accompanist was in the able hands of Bro. T. F. Walton.

The meeting was of the most successful character.

Ascot Lodge, No. 2460.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Royal Ascot Hotel, Ascot, on the 1st instant, when there was a good attendance of members and visitors. After a successful year of office, Bro. C. O. Burgess, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey, installed Bro. H. Luff, a popular and energetic member of the lodge, as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The brethren present included Bros. C. O. Burgess, P.P.S.G.D. Surrey, W.M.; H. Luff, S.W., W.M. elect; J. B. Evans, J.W.; A. G. Lacy, Treas.; W. H. Gardener, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec.; W. Truman, S.D.; W. B. Fendick, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; F. Kedge, P.M., Prov. G. Reg.; F. Buxton, P.M.; F. Douglas Norman, J.D.; W. W. Floyer, I.G.; E. Jukes, S. W. Clarke, T. W. Walford, P.P.G. Organist; J. J. Robertson, and others. Visitors: Bros. J. T. Morland, P.G.D., Deputy Prov. G.M. in charge; J. W. Martin, P.M. 2414, Prov. G. Sec.; H. E. Daniell, I.G. 370; E. Margrett, P.P.S.G.W.; A. J. Dalton, 945; T. Whitford, W.M. 1321; A. Cocks, I.G. 174; J. Hopps, S.D. 1900; W. J. Hill, 2536; W. H. Mills, P.P.G. Chap.; J. H. Price, P.P.G. Treas. Surrey; C. F. Dyson, P.P.G. Org.; N. Sherwood, P.M. 231; G. Gray, W.M. 1900; E. R. Painter, 766; W. Chilcott, 1624; A. W. P. Snow, J.D. 2191; and G. Gardener, 2120.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes were confirmed. Bro. H. Luff was then presented and duly installed as W.M. by Bro. Burgess, who rendered the ceremony with his well-known ability. The following officers were invested: Bros. J. B. Evans, S.W.; W. Truman, J.W.; A. G. Lacy, Treas.; W. H. Gardener, P.M., Sec.; F. Douglas Norman, S.D.; W. W. Floyer, J.D.; E. Jukes, I.G.; S. W. Clarke, D.C.; T. W. Walford, Org.; J. J. Robertson, Stwd.; and G. Mason, Tyler. Bro. F. Kedge, P.M., Prov. G. Reg., was re-elected as representative of the lodge on the Prov. Charity Committee. The W.M. presented a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Burgess, I.P.M., as a small token of esteem and regard, and said it would be impossible to repay the I.P.M. for the splendid work he had done in the lodge and for Masonry generally. Bro. Burgess, I.P.M., briefly returned thanks, and said that although his words were few his gratitude was great.

Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The Dep. Prov. G.M. was unfortunately compelled to leave before the usual toast list was proceeded with, and the W. Master in the name of the brethren, thanked him for his kindness in attending. The lodge was consecrated four years ago and the Dep. Prov. G.M. had visited them three times. The members appreciated the honour and would heartily drink his health.

Bro. J. T. Morland, Dep. Prov. G.M., in reply, said that far from deserving thanks he thought he was deserving great blame for being obliged to leave them before the banquet was over. He thanked them for the compliment paid him. It had given him great pleasure to visit them, having taken part in the consecration, and witnessed the admirable manner in which the I.P.M. performed the installation ceremony. He wished the W.M. a year of prosperity.

After dessert, the usual toasts were heartily honoured.

Bro. J. W. Martin, Prov. G. Sec., replied for "The Prov. Grand Officers," and thanked the W.M. for the kind proposition of the toast. It was a great pleasure to him to visit the lodge and see that all the W.M.'s predecessors in the chair were present. He well remembered the consecration of the Ascot Lodge four years ago, the first W.M. being Bro. Fendick, who was succeeded by Bros. Kedge, Buxton, and Burgess. The W.M. would ably follow the excellent example of those good men and true, for whilst the lodge was supported by good Masters it must succeed. The numbers in the lodge had been maintained without sacrificing quality for quantity. This year their interest in Masonry would centre in London rather than the province. In 1887, those who had the privilege of attending the Albert Hall under the presidency of H.R.H. the M.W.G.M., would remember the eloquent speech of the Pro G.M., the Earl of Carnarvon, in proposing a vote of congratulation to her Majesty. That meeting would be repeated on the 14th June and he hoped that many in that room would be present. He was sure the brethren of England would then re-echo the sentiments which were expressed in such eloquent terms at the previous meeting by the Earl of Carnarvon. Speaking of the province he might say that it was proposed to

hold the annual meeting at Wokingham on the 29th June, when he hoped to see a member of that lodge receive provincial honours. The province was flourishing, and the sum of £1054 sent up to the Charities during the year was a record amount for Berks. A new Masonic lodge was about to be added to the province, and that lodge did a Masonic action in recommending the petition. He wished the W.M. a most successful year of office, and trusted the officers would rally round him and support him.

Bro. E. Margrett, P.P.S.G.W., in responding, referred to the work of the Provincial Charity Committee, of which he is Secretary, and said that since his appointment every case at the elections had been carried first time. That year they started with three cases, and having secured the election of a boy and a girl, they hoped to also be successful in reference to an aged brother seeking election to the Benevolent Institution. He impressed upon all the brethren that they should not only be "in" the province, but "of" the province, for they could only be successful by placing all their votes in a common fund. That lodge was well represented by Bro. Kedge, who gave him all the support he could.

Bro. C. O. Burgess, I.P.M., then said that when a Master left the chair there was one privilege left to him for the next year, and that was to propose "The Health of the Worshipful Master." It was his privilege on that occasion to propose that toast, which he was sure would be well received. Bro. Luff, their newly-installed W.M., was a personal friend to most of them, and those who were not so well acquainted with him as the P.Ms., would find that the longer they knew him the more they would esteem him. Bro. Luff tried to hide his merits, and was modest in the assertion of his claims, but it would be their province to find out that they had a jewel in their W.M., and all would acknowledge that fact at the end of the year. The W.M. expressed a certain amount of modesty with regard to the performance of his duties, but the older brethren would support the statement that those who modestly depreciated their own merits were a few yards found to be the best of Masters. Bro. Luff must feel proud of the personal influence which had brought together such an influential assembly, including the Deputy Prov. G.M. He hoped the W.M. would feel that they had done him good in that lodge by rescuing him from the influence of that quality of diffidence. They regarded Bro. Luff as the head of their illustrious lodge, and hoped to have occasion to congratulate him—as he would congratulate them all—on accepting the high office. Business had been too much his master, and they hoped that Masonry should be the antidote. They drank with all sincerity, heartiness, and energetic encouragement to the health of their W.M.

Bro. H. Luff, W.M., in responding, said that if ever anyone was in a fix it was "theirs truly." To attempt to reply to all the eulogistic remarks of the I.P.M. would be out of his province. If the I.P.M. had criticised him severely he should not have been surprised, for during the past few months, when the Past Masters had spoken to him on matters connected with Masonry, he was afraid they might consider he had treated them discourteously, but that was not so, as his attention had probably been attracted to something else at the same time. He was sure they would sympathise with him as a keen business worker. He did not think he deserved all that had been said of him by the I.P.M., but as the members had placed him in the position he held he would do his best. He should not attempt to equal the work of the I.P.M., but would carry out his duties as well as possible, and he hoped to their satisfaction. He thanked all the brethren for the way in which they had received the toast and for the honour done him.

The Charity-box was passed round, and, on being sold by auction, was purchased by the Secretary on behalf of Bro. G. Mason, Tyler, for five guineas, as a thank-offering for recovery from a recent illness.

For "The Visitors," Bros. Dyson, Gray, Whitford, Chilcott, and Mills responded.

"The Past Masters, Treasurer and Secretary, and Officers" concluded a very enjoyable and successful evening.

Bro. Walford, Org., was assisted in the musical programme by Miss Gertrude Snow, Mr. Walter Dodds, and Bro. Geo. Robins.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. JAMES STEPHENS, DEP. G.D.C.

The history of this phenomenal lodge during its short but eventful career furnishes a series of records of which the members are justly proud. Large sums have been voted from the lodge to the Charitable Institutions, leaving a balance in hand of several hundred pounds to the credit of the lodge, whilst the contributions of the members for the same object which have been handsome in the past bid fair to be far exceeded under the Mastership of Bro. Valeriani, a veteran in the cause of Masonic charity. The lodge had the distinguished honour of having its first W.M., Bro. Bailey, elected as Grand Treasurer of England, and showed their appreciation of that honour by presenting him with the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter clothing. At a meeting held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 3rd inst., the members had yet another opportunity of participating in an equally pleasant and agreeable presentation. The M.W.G.M. having appointed Bro. James Stephens to the high office of Deputy G.D.C., in consideration of his distinguished services to Masonry, the members of the Fellowship Lodge, of which Bro. Stephens was the originator and Secretary, claimed the privilege of presenting him with the regalia of his rank, although, each of the many lodges to which the Deputy G.D.C. belongs were equally desirous of showing their esteem and regard. The members in attendance included Bros. E. L. P. Valeriani, P.M., W.M.; J. R. Roberts, P.M., I.P.M.; Sir John Monckton, P.G.W.; W. H. Bailey, P.M., P.G. Treas.; W. Thomas, P.M., S.W.; E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; J. Stephens, Dep. G.D.C., Sec.; Major E. J. Reed, S.D.; B. Carter, J.D.; W. H. Making, P.M., I.G.; J. H. Haylor and W. H. G. Rudderforth, P.M., D.Cs.; S. Hussey, P.M., and W. J. Baths, Stwds.; M. S. Rubinstein, Org.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. Martin, A.G. Purst.; C. Hunt, 801; T. Renwick, 861; T. Cole, 2398; A. V. Marshall, 1539; A. Rostrom, 191; G. E. Smith, J.D. 2503; W. C. Berry, 861; B. Harker Amtd, 1328; W. Craddock, J.W. 2150; A. W. Ashplant, 179; A. E. Herbert, P.M. 173; A. C. Grosutt, S.D. 2158; E. George, P.M. 1489; J. Burrows, 72; G. J. Garland, P.M. 1728; R. Cope, 2361; S. T. Lucas, P.M. 192; E. M. Lander, P.M. 1642; J. W. Cuff, P.M. 511; H. H. Whale, 172; G. Gill, P.M. 1963; T. Smith, 1708; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed, after which Bro. G. R. Jenner was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. P. J. Daniels passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Messrs. J. W. Ward, W. A. Grosutt, and J. Stevens were initiated into Freemasonry and the ancient charge given. The W.M. was unfortunately too unwell to perform the ceremonies, the work being kindly undertaken by Bro. Bailey, P.G. Treas. Bro. Bailey, P.G. Treas., in order to put himself formally in order, proposed that the lodge should present Bro. Stephens with the grand clothing of the office of Dep. G.D.C. to which he had been appointed. As a matter of fact the order was given directly the appointment was made, as he relied upon the generous nature of all the members to express the pride and pleasure with which they regarded the appointment. Bro. E. L. Valeriani, W.M., seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation, and said that on Bro. Bailey mentioning the matter to him, he had said that there was nothing to do but to order the clothing at once. Bro. W. H. Bailey, P.G. Treas., then said that by the W.M.'s command, and because he happened to be the first W.M. of that not insignificant lodge, he had to ask Bro. Stephens's acceptance of the Grand Lodge clothing. The lodge was so proud of its principal inceptor, that they wished to express their great pleasure at the honour conferred in Grand Lodge. What Bro. Stephens's record in Masonry was they all knew, and particularly in the Fellowship Lodge. They had taken the matter of that presentation into their own hands, because none should share with them the unspeakable pleasure of asking one who was the father of the lodge to let them be singled out as the one lodge to give him his clothing upon the occasion of his highly merited honour. There was no member who did not feel proud at the honour conferred, feeling certain that the honour had been justly and magnificently won. They rejoiced that it had been conferred, and he spoke as the mouthpiece of the members of that lodge, which had flourished beyond all expectations, and which had done such wonders, mainly because of the wise counsels and energetic efforts put forth by the Secretary. He spoke as one who ought to know, having had more to do with Bro. Stephens in connection with that lodge than any other member, and he should always look back with pleasure to the time when they hatched the project which had borne such good fruit. That its success was due to its Secretary was patent, and in asking Bro. Stephens's acceptance of their gift, he could only say that it was given with the greatest pleasure on the part of every individual member. They hoped he would continue to prosper and remain always the same energetic friend of the lodge, for there was no brighter record than that of the first Secretary of their lodge. Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., then said while his well-worn armour is being buckled on him, I wish to say a word or two. I came here to-night expressly to assist you in doing honour where honour was distinctly due. Bro. Bailey has spoken

well and eloquently for the members of the Fellowship Lodge, and for the honorary members I should like to say how much we think of what this lodge is doing. This lodge has done well in every capacity, and is now covering itself with honour in honouring one who so well deserves it. For the Grand Officers, of whom he was a humble representative, I can only say we feel that we are honoured by the accession to our ranks of Bro. Stephens, quite as much as he is honoured by receiving this mark of favour from the M.W.G.M.

The presentation was then made, the Grand Lodge jewel bearing the following inscription: "Presented to W. Bro. James Stephens on his appointment as Dep. Grand D.C. in the Grand Lodge of England, together with the regalia of his office, by the brethren of the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, as a mark of their affection and esteem for him as the originator of the lodge, and in recognition of those invaluable services which have largely contributed to the remarkable success the lodge has achieved. May 3, 1897."

Bro. James Stephens, Dep. G.D. of C., who spoke with emotion, said he found it difficult to control himself in order that he might utter the few words his heart would dictate. He had ever received nothing but kindness from every member of that lodge. He may perhaps have been considered somewhat of a martinet because he held to the opinion that no lodge could be successful unless it was financially as well as Masonically so, and he had striven to keep the finances in a high position, and to do that he might have been worrying to some members. In return he had received nothing but kindness. The members had learnt, when he had placed it before them, that it was his ambition to keep that lodge in its high position and had acquiesced. They were proud to be in a position that few lodges could boast of, for they had not a dozen members owing a farthing, and had something like £500 in hand. He had been a Mason for nearly 20 years. It was in 1874 that he first started as a humble tradesman, and was initiated in 1878. He stuck to his business and took no active part in Masonry until he had established himself, and in 1885 he occupied the chair in his mother lodge and sought to discharge his Masonic duties in a manner he hoped creditable to all with whom he had been associated. He had ever since tried and whether he had succeeded was not for him to say, but he could naturally assume this to be the case from the respect he had received in this lodge since its foundation. He always held, and still held the opinion that to a brother starting in life, business should be first and Masonry second. Since he had attained a position he had not forgotten the watchword of Freemasonry as taught by the M.W.G.M. when he said "charity" was their watchword. His dear wife, who was one of the best souls that God had ever put breath into, had spared him many nights week after week, and was ever ready to assist him for she had done much and took a keen interest in Freemasonry and its precepts, and he had been fortunate in that direction that he could devote time to Freemasonry in recent years. He thanked this lodge most earnestly for their kind recognition. As Bro. Bailey had said this lodge would not be interfered with in presenting the clothing. Other lodges approached him on the subject and he told them of the kindness of the Fellowship Lodge in recognising the high position it had attained and he felt he could not refuse their request. He should like to say he considered that Freemasonry was like the two Houses of Parliament and rightly so. At the head of their distinguished Order they had the Heir Apparent to that vast empire, and it was obvious to any sane man that the higher positions should be held by men of high social standing and undoubted respectability. He did not claim to be of high social standing, but, as a commoner, he rejoiced that he had given to him the highest office next to those whom he might call the House of Lords. Above him came professional brethren and peers, and he claimed that he had conferred upon him the highest honour Grand Lodge could have possibly bestowed upon him. Freemasonry was like their vast empire on which the sun never sets, and when they remembered the thousands of brethren scattered over the possessions of the British crown, and the thousands deserving and worthy of receiving Grand Lodge honours, and the few collars to be annually distributed, it was indeed a great and high honour. He appreciated it as such that he should have been selected, and could not but feel that the very dear brother who assisted in the consecration—Bro. Sir John Monckton—had had a finger in that pie. To him he tendered his sincere thanks, and hoped that what Bro. Bailey had wished him might be realised, and that he might be spared many years to be with them. He had many good friends in Masonry, but none better than the members of that lodge, and he thanked them from the innermost recesses of his heart.

A vote of sympathy was next passed to Bro. Dickinson on the loss of his wife, and other business having been transacted, the lodge was closed.

The brethren adjourned to banquet, which was followed by the customary toasts.

In giving "The Grand Officers" the W.M. alluded to the presence of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton earlier in the evening. He (the W.M.) was not the man to flatter but he was certain that no brother deserved Grand Lodge honours more than Bro. Stephens. He congratulated Bro. W. Martin on his appointment as Assistant Grand Pursuivant, and said that whilst Grand Lodge appointed such brethren, Freemasonry would continue to prosper.

Bro. J. Stephens, Dep. G.D.C., in response, said he must tell them again how much he appreciated from the bottom of his heart, the kind things said of him. They were delighted to see Bro. W. Martin invested as a Grand Officer, for he had proved himself a dear friend and was ever ready to render assistance. It was pleasant to find that the Grand Officers, after appointment, did not desert the old Ship of Freemasonry, for they were on the Board of Management of the Boys' School and the Committee of the Old People's Institution and the Girls' School. He was delighted to have been honoured in an extreme manner that evening, and could only thank them again.

Bro. W. Martin, A.G. Purst., said he was the junior Grand Officer, but he held the office with great pleasure and very many thanks to the powers that be. He was not a young Mason, and had endeavoured to do his best for the Craft. He had worked hand in hand and heart in heart with Bro. Stephens in various causes of Freemasonry, and they had never had a wry word and never should. Highly appreciating the honour conferred upon him, it would be an incentive to do more, if possible, in the interests of the Craft, of the Institutions, and for the benefit of all those whom he had the honour and pleasure of knowing.

Bro. J. R. Roberts, I.P.M., said he had the honour of proposing the toast of the evening, "The Worshipful Master," and all the members and visitors knew what a splendid Master they had. Unfortunately, that evening Bro. Valeriani, W.M., was not in good health, but at the next meeting they were in hopes of seeing him restored to the good health he generally enjoyed. Their W.M. was of no mean order, and could render his duties in a manner suitable to their lodge, and if he did that it was second to no other lodge. All their hearts and sympathies were with their W.M. in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Bro. E. L. Valeriani, W.M., in responding, said he had been confined to the house for the past six weeks. He had, however, worked hard, and when they knew the result they would say he had done well. Last meeting they did him the honour of naming him as their representative for the next Festival of the Boys' School, which he accepted, and promised to do his best. He received a challenge from the I.P.M., which he accepted, as he wished to show he still had some pluck left in him for Masonic work. He was challenged to break the record of festival lists for that lodge. The I.P.M.'s total last year was £259; but he (the W.M.) had left that very much behind. If, however, he "topped" the I.P.M.'s total, he also wanted to "top" the lists of London lodges at the next festival. He thanked them for their support, and also thanked a good many of the Rothesay Lodge. He wished for another 25 guineas, and then he hoped to be first on the lists announced.

"The Initiates" was heartily honoured and suitably responded to, Bro. Grosutt kindly placing five guineas on the W.M.'s Stewardship list.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Masonic Charities," and said that with 10 guineas kindly promised by the I.P.M., his list now reached 330 guineas. He had been told he should have kept his total a secret, but if others were anxious to beat him, so much the better for the Institution.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., said it was a great delight to witness the presentation to Bro. Stephens who so thoroughly deserved the honour. No one rejoiced more than he did at the honour conferred knowing as he did the immense amount of work and labour he had put into Masonry, and especially how much the Institutions owe to Bro. Stephens. By the W.M.'s command he (Bro. McLeod) was not to appeal to the brethren on behalf of the Institutions. He had, therefore, simply to thank them for responding so liberally to the appeal he made at the previous meeting, and especially the W.M. for the energetic manner in which he had worked. He thought there could be no question that the W.M.'s list was the highest it would be his privilege to announce, and he only hoped that others would try to emulate him. Many lodges this year were giving to other causes and this must affect the totals of the

Boys' and Girls' Schools Festivals. He received a letter last week from the Pro G. Master giving permission for the publication of the fact that H.R.H. the M.V.G.M. would preside at the Boys' School Festival next year. Knowing the many calls upon his time they would say His Royal Highness had shown a keen interest in Freemasonry and in the Boys' School in so readily and so early making that announcement. It was a proud moment for him as Secretary to receive that announcement and the Craft would rejoice.

For "The Visitors," thanks were rendered to the lodge and congratulations offered to Bro. Stephens by Bros. Hubert, P.M.; Lucas, P.M.; George, P.M.; and others.

Other toasts were given before Bro. Edmonds, P.M., concluded the proceedings with the Tyler's toast.

Bro. Rubinstein, Org., efficiently presided at the pianoforte, and was assisted in the musical arrangements by Miss Ethel Winn, Miss Lillian Close, Mrs. Edith Copping, and Bros. W. J. Batho, Hutton Haylor, A. J. Herschel, and J. Stephens.

Royal Arch.

Zetland Chapter, No. 236.

The annual installation meeting of the above chapter, attached to the York Lodge, No. 236, was held on the 28th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe-place, York, when there was a numerous gathering of companions, presided over by Comp. C. M. Forbes, M.E.Z. Amongst those present were Comps. Thompson, Furnish, Shannon, Waistell, Bartram, J. Ward, Dow, J. Biscoombe, Askew, Raper, Wray, J. B. Sampson, Laughton, Stimpson, Barlow, H. 1611; Spetch, H., 1611; J. Melrose, and others. The installation of Comp. the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, M.A., as M.E.Z., was ably conducted by Comp. Mark Rooke, P.Z. The M.E.Z. with due dignity installed the Second and Third Principals and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. H. L. Swift, H.; C. Tweedy, J.; George Potter-Kirby, P.Z., P.P.G. Reg., Treas.; E. W. Purnell, P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; Major Barstow, S.N.; A. Proctor, P.S.; G. Chalmers, 1st A.S.; O. G. Taylor, 2nd A.S.; G. H. Osborn, D.C.; William Hepper, Org.; F. W. Cull and A. G. Rayner, Stwds.; and J. Hall, Janitor. Two exaltations having taken place, the Auditors' report was received and adopted, and a sum of 10 guineas, on the motion of Bro. Potter-Kirby, P.Z., Treas., was voted to the Educational Fund of North and East Yorkshire.

The chapter was then closed.

Subsequently the companions dined together and the following toasts were duly honoured: "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry;" "The First Grand Principal, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.;" "The Pro Grand First Principal, the Right Hon. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past;" "The M.E.Z., Comp. Rev. Charles Edward Leigh Wright, M.A.;" "The P.Zs.;" "The H. and J., Comps. H. L. Swift and Chas. Tweedy;" "The Visitors;" "The Exaltees, Comps. G. C. M. Rouse, Lieut. H.M.K.O.L.I., and George Sykes;" and "The Officers." The Janitor's toast closed the list.

Instrumental and vocal music added to the pleasure of the evening.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

The ordinary convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on the 30th ult. Present: Comps. J. Constable, acting M.E.Z.; A. F. Fretwell, H.; J. Fitzgerald, J.; R. Brew, acting S.E.; S. Pegler, acting S.N.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; C. E. Boomer, acting 1st A.S.; J. Mason and C. Richardson, Janitors; F. Rand; F. J. Forth, Treas.; and F. H. Buckland. Bro. J. W. Chapman was duly exalted by the acting Z., Comp. Fitzgerald giving the first lecture, and Comp. Pegler explaining the signs.

After chapter the companions partook of light refreshment in the ante-room.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Mount Calvary Chapter, No. 3.

A meeting of this chapter was held on the 23rd ult., at the Masonic Hall, Golden-square. Among those in attendance were Bro. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.W.S., as M.W.S., in the unavoidable absence of Ill. Bro. L. Steele, 30°; Bros. W. Maple, Prelate; Dr. V. Jagielski, 1st General; H. J. Lardner, 30°, P.M.W.S., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.W.S., Recorder; H. J. Adams; F. E. Roberts, Asst. Org.; G. Grimwood, J.P., P.M.W.S.; G. Pigache, P.M.W.S.; T. Biddlecombe, and G. Biggs.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, E. Bro. W. Maple was unanimously elected M.W.S., and Ill. Bro. H. Lardner, P.M.W.S., Treas. A Past Sovereign's jewel was unanimously voted to Ill. Bro. L. Steele, in recognition of his valuable services during the past year as M.W.S. In consequence of the recent death of Ill. Bro. D. Nicols, 30°, P.M.W.S., the members appeared in Masonic mourning and the chapter was draped in black. A resolution of condolence to the widow and family was proposed by E. Bro. Major Walls, seconded by Ill. Bro. H. J. Lardner, and carried with every mark of deep respect. The late Ill. Bro. D. Nicols was perfected in the chapter 23 years ago and to the last had manifested the keenest interest in its welfare. The chapter was then closed.

Among those who sent apologies for non-attendance were Bros. L. Steele, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Major J. E. Anderson, 31°, P.M.W.S.; Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, 30°, P.M.W.S.; Major Baldwin, Dr. E. M. Lott, 31°; G. A. Berkeley, P.M.W.S.; G. Graveley, 30°, P.M.W.S.; and many others.

The banquet was held at the Café Royal, and gave unqualified satisfaction. The Recorder presided. A few toasts were given and the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

The Craft Abroad.

MARK MASONRY.

St. George's Lodge, No. 492.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held on the 10th ultimo, at the Masonic Hall, Larnaca, Cyprus. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. F. O. Harvey, assisted by Bros. Major Kenny, W.M. 455; Morton, S.W., W.M. elect; Turner, J.W.; and other members of the lodge. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the audited balance-sheet from the foundation to March 31st last was presented. This showed a rather large balance due by the lodge to the Treasurer, which was not so satisfactory as if it had been the other way about, but the W.M. thought that before the coming year was finished the deficit would be worked off. The first year of a new lodge, particularly one at a distance from England, was always very expensive, as everything has to be purchased, and, considering the small number of members at present, affairs were not bad, as there were a number of the brethren in the Craft lodge who, he had every reason to believe, would be coming forward in the new year. Bro. Morton, the W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. Kenny for installation, and Bro. F. O. Harvey duly placed him in the chair of A., Bro. Turner being invested as S.W.; and Bros. Parker, J. W.; Blattner, M.O.; Kenny, S.O.; Longcroft, J.O.; F. O. Harvey, Treas.; and Linyides, Sec. The brethren appointed to the other offices not being present, their investiture was left over until the May meeting.

A brother of 2:02 was proposed for advancement at the next meeting, and, there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined with the brethren of St. George's Lodge, No. 2402, whose meetings are held on the same evening as this lodge.

CONSECRATION OF THE RICHARD NEWHOUSE CHAPTER, No. 2433.

Much Masonic interest was shown in connection with the consecration of the Richard Newhouse Chapter, No. 2433, which took place on Saturday, the 24th ult., at the Masonic Rooms, Hamilton-street, Birkenhead, the chiefs announced as taking part in the proceedings comprising Comp. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Grand Superintendent of the Province of Cheshire, assisted by Comps. J. Armstrong, P.G.H.; J. Cookson, P.G.J.; F. Broadsmith, P.P.G.H.; J. Fraser, P.G.S.N.; and A. H. Baird, P.P.G.D.C.

Amongst the companions represented in a large attendance were Comps. T. Forrester, P.D.G.D.C.; T. Drinkwater, P.P.G.R.; S. Jones, P.P.G.H.; W. Booth, P.P.G.D.C.; T. H. Arnott, P.P.G.T.; T. M. Lockwood, P.P.G.S.N.; J. H. Jackson, P.P.G.O.; W. Dale, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Hocken, P.P.A.G.S.E. West Lancashire; J. C. Robinson, P.P.A.G.S.E. West Lancashire; W. Arnott, P.P.G.J. West Lancashire; J. J. Tickle, P.P.G.S.B.; G. F. Bird, P.P.A.G.D.C.; G. Sherwood, P.P.G. Soj.; A. Hanley, P.P.G. Treas.; G. H. Browne, P.P.G.D.C.; and J. Lewis, P.P.G.S.

There were upwards of 30 founders of the chapter on the list.

After the new chapter had been consecrated in accordance with the time-honoured ritual, Comp. Broadsmith installed the Three Principals—Comps. Richard Newhouse, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G.S.E., M.E.Z.; W. F. Robinson, P.Z., H.; and A. H. Baird, P.G.D.C.

The officers appointed and invested were Comps. S. Jones, S.E.; Rev. G. R. Johnson, S.N.; Squire Chapman, Treas.; Dr. Brewer, P.S.; E. Marston, A.S.; A. J. Newton, A.S.; J. H. Jackson, Org.; J. Armstrong, D.C.; A. J. Thompson and E. W. Armstrong, Stewards; and Holloway, Janitor.

There were numerous propositions for exaltation and joining, and subsequently the companions sat down to banquet in the dining room.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 28th ult., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. H. E. Mullins, W.M.; C. Pinnell, S.W.; J. L. Goldstein, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; W. E. Willby, P.M., and T. Smale, P.M., Secs.; H. Raphael, S.D.; F. A. Zeppenfeld, J.D.; J. Leather, I.G.; Harri Cross, M. Beedle, L. S. Genese, and G. A. Sturgess.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. H. Cross being the candidate. Bro. Beedle, candidate for passing, was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Beedle being the candidate. The lodge was resumed in the First Degree, and at the first rising, Bro. Winn, 2509, was elected a joining member. Bro. C. Pinnell, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. After the third rising, all Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

A meeting was also held on Wednesday, the 5th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. H. Pinnell, W.M.; M. Beedle, S.W.; J. Butcher, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; J. Thom, P.M., Asst. Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; H. Raphael, S.D.; T. Bowden, J.D.; H. Mullins, I.G.; and W. Proctor, Tyler.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes read and confirmed. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sections of the Lecture were worked by the Preceptor. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Raphael being the candidate. Bro. Beedle, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The lodge was then closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 4th inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present: Bros. C. Smith, W.M.; F. H. Johnson, 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.; W. F. Roberts, J.D.; C. Nicole, I.G.; J. Berks, A. L. Langton, G. Yexley, L. Danielsson, W. Rapley, and A. W. Fenner, P.M.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Langton being the candidate. The lodge was called off and on. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Rapley, and the ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Danielsson being the candidate. Bro. Johnson was elected W.M. for the ensuing week and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

The usual weekly meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 30th ult. Present: Comps. W. R. Smith, M.E.Z.; S. J. Derham, H.; H. Hardman, J.; R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas.; T. Grunmunt, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., S.N.; G. H. Lewis, P.S.; Telling, Dunn, Dawson, Blum, Lundie, Walker, Remington, and Sobel.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Remington personating the candidate. Comps. Blum, 1153, and Remington, 720, were elected members. Comp. Wm. Dawson was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. The chapter will be placed at the disposal of Comp. Telling, M.E.Z. 2182, on Friday, the 14th inst. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. W. R. Smith, M.E.Z., for so ably rehearsing the ceremony for the first time. The chapter was then closed.

Obituary.

BRO. JOHN FIRTH WATSON.

Bro. John Firth Watson died at his residence, Spen Lea, Crowle (Lincs), on the 23rd ult., aged 73 years. He was initiated in the De la Pole Lodge, No. 1605, Hull, about 16 years ago, and joined the Isle of Axholme Lodge, No. 1482, in 1882, then held at Epworth. He held the office of Treasurer for 11 years. He was of a quiet, unobtrusive character, and was greatly respected and highly esteemed among his brethren and the whole neighbourhood. He was a Justice of the Peace for the county. He was buried in Crowle Cemetery on Monday, and was followed to the grave by members of his lodge, townspeople, and friends. He leaves a widow, but no children. His trustees are Bros. Ashlin, Drury, and Staniforth.

DEATH.

MAGEE.—On the 2nd instant, at 44, Mount-pleasant, Norwich, John Herbert Magee, Surveyor of Taxes, Norwich First District; aged 41.

Masonic and General Tidings.

DOWN TO THURSDAY night the Lord Mayor's Indian Famine Fund amounted to £516,400.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES AND THE LONDON POOR.—The following lodges have contributed to the above fund: Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 72, £2 7s., and at the banquet table of the Molesey Lodge, No. 2473, £2.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire will be held in the Baths Assembly Rooms, Lower Bridgman-street, Bolton, on the 19th instant.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE visited the Queen at Windsor Castle on Monday, and had the honour of being included in the Royal dinner party, remaining for the night at the Castle.

THE KING OF SIAM arrived at Aden on Saturday morning last on his way to Europe, and was honoured with the customary salutes. His Majesty subsequently landed, and was received by a guard of honour of the 1st Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT, accompanied by the Princess Charlotta of Oldenburg, and attended by Bro. Col. and the Hon. Mrs. Egerton and Mr. Phipps, visited Her Majesty's Theatre on Monday evening, and witnessed the performance of "The Seats of the Mighty."

THE ARRANGEMENTS which are being made for the festivities at Brighton in connection with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee include a parade of Volunteers, a regatta, a cycling and foot-racing meeting in the Preston Park Cricket Ground, the illumination of the Royal Pavilion, and a display of fireworks on the water.

THE ANNUAL MEETING in connection with the Brixton Orphanage, where close on 300 fatherless girls are trained and educated, was held at the Brixton Hall on Saturday last. Lord Mayor Phillips, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Mr. Lionel Phillips, presided, and was well supported by the friends of the institution.

THE PRINCESS MARY DUCHESS OF TECK was taken unwell last week and some London physicians were called in, but an improvement set in on Saturday, last and Sunday's and more recent bulletins have been favourable. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince and Princess Adolphus of Teck called and made inquiries at White Lodge.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES will visit the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, at Eaton Hall, to-morrow (Saturday), and will remain till Monday when they will pay a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, at Hawarden, leaving for town immediately after luncheon. On Friday, the 28th instant, the Prince will preside at the Bengal Cavalry Dinner, at Whitehall Rooms of the Hôtel Métropole.

THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN has bestowed on Alderman Sir Walter Wilkin the decoration of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, in token of his Majesty's appreciation of the important part taken by him while Lord Mayor last year in connection with the raising of the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the terrible seismic waves which devastated the north-east coast of Japan in June last.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT completed his 47th year on Saturday last, having been born on the 1st May, 1850. His Royal Highness, accompanied by the Duchess of Connaught and their children, visited the Queen at Windsor Castle the same day, with Bro. Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Egerton in attendance. The Windsor bells were rung and a Royal salute fired in the Long Walk in honour of the event.

THE HOUSE PARTY which the Duke and Duchess of Westminster have invited to Eaton Hall to meet T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales to-morrow (Saturday), includes Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn, the Marquis and Marchioness of Ormonde and Lady Beatrice Butler, Bro. Earl and Countess Carrington, the Earl of Crewe, the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, M.P., and Bro. and Mrs. Grenfell.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has made known his intention of inspecting the old soldiers and sailors who have taken part in the battles fought during the Queen's reign, while H.R.H. the Princess of Wales will receive purses at the Garden Fête, which will be held in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on the 5th July, in aid of the "Houses" for Nurses of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by her daughter, the Princess Victoria, left Marlborough House for Sandringham on Saturday last, Miss Knollys and General Sir Dighton Probyn being in attendance. Her Royal Highness visited York Cottage and found both the Duchess of York and her infant daughter making satisfactory progress. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales joined her Royal Highness in the course of Monday.

THE DUKE OF YORK opened the New Centenary Hall and also the two wings which have been added to the Jews' Hospital and Orphan Asylum, at West Norwood, on Monday. His Royal Highness was assisted by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and the Chief Rabbi took part in the ceremony. Purses containing sums amounting to £650 in aid of the building fund were received by the Lady Mayoress, the proceedings from first to last being most successful.

THE TOTAL SUM collected in behalf of the sufferers by the wreck of the Drummond Castle is announced as £25,408, the cases relieved comprising 61 widows, 83 children, and 69 other relatives, about £9000 being devoted to temporary relief. As to the manner in which the other relief has been provided, annuities, costing £12,336, have been purchased for 62 persons, and £2997 spent in buying annuities of £5 each for 80 boys and girls, terminable in the case of boys at 14 and in that of girls at 16 years of age.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S scheme to raise a fund for the provision of a substantial dinner for the extreme poor and the outcast during Jubilee week has been received with a considerable amount of favour. Her Royal Highness herself headed the list with a donation of £100, and the Lord Mayor has given a like sum. Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright contribute £100, and Col. Waldo-Silthorp 50 guineas, the amount received up to Wednesday evening, being about £2000.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Fellows of the Imperial Institute, was held on Saturday last, under the presidency of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who moved that the report be received. Bro. Lord Herschell seconded the motion at the request of his Royal Highness, and after a long explanatory speech from his lordship, the motion was accepted. The Executive Council and Committees were chosen for the ensuing year, and on the motion of the Prince, Bro. Lord Herschell was re-appointed Chairman of the Governing Body.

THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, one of the most venerable members of the House of Peers, completed his 87th year on Sunday last, having been born on the 2nd May, 1810, Bro. the Earl of Mansfield being his senior in point of years. His grace was a member of the Unreformed House of Commons in 1831, and has served with success as a Lord of the Admiralty, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and Lord Privy Seal. On the 1st inst. he was re-elected President of the Royal Institution. His son, Bro. Earl Percy, was Provincial Grand Master of Northumberland for many years.

THE NAVAL REVIEW off Spithead will take place on Saturday, the 26th June, and the arrangements for mooring the immense fleet—which will be supplemented by a number of foreign war vessels—are already engaging the attention of the authorities. Members of the two Houses of Parliament will be conveyed by train to Portsmouth on the morning of the review, and will be accommodated on vessels prepared for their reception. Admiral Sir N. Salmon, Commander-in-Chief, will be in supreme command, and the fleet will include the Channel Squadron and as many as possible of the recently built battleships and cruisers. The programme will be submitted, as soon as it has been arranged, for her Majesty's approval.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, Colonel John Hay, the new American Ambassador, and Mrs. Hay, M. de Soveral, the new Portuguese Minister, and Lo Heng Fuh, the Chinese Ambassador, travelled by special train to Windsor on Monday, when his lordship had audience of the Queen, and presented Colonel Hay, who handed his credentials to her Majesty, Mrs. Hay being presented by the Countess of Erroll, Lady-in-Waiting. The Portuguese and Chinese Ministers were also introduced, and presented their respective credentials. Subsequently the Queen held a Council, at which there were present Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, the Lord President; Viscount Cross, Lord Privy Seal; and Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., Comptroller of the Household.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 12th instant, at 4 p.m.

LADY SUFFIELD, in the unavoidable absence through illness of the Princess Mary Duchess of Teck, presided at the 20th anniversary of the Association of German Governesses on Wednesday.

BRO. THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH and Bro. Viscount Wolsley, attended by his aide-de-camp, dined with Lord Belper and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms at their mess in St. James's Palace.

IN OUR recent report of the meeting, on the 10th ult, of the Lewisham Lodge, No. 2519, Bro. P. G. Hartley, who was present as a visitor, is only a member, not W.M., as was stated, of the Whittington Lodge, No. 862.

THE NUMBER of troops who will be required in London on Jubilee Day, and will either form the bulk of the procession or line the streets, will be about 42,000, exclusive of sailors, marines, &c. The troops in the procession will be cavalry and horse artillery.

BRO. THE EARL OF WARWICK has been salmon-fishing in Ireland, but has now returned to Warwick Castle. During the next few weeks his lordship will be engaged in making the necessary arrangements for the Jubilee celebration in Warwick, of which he is the Mayor.

BRO. LORD AND LADY LLANGATTOCK gave a dinner-party on Wednesday night, at South Lodge, Rutland-gate, and afterwards held a reception, at which 600 guests, including several Ministers and a number of Metropolitan Unionist Members of Parliament, were present.

BROS. SIR THOS. SUTHERLAND, M.P., Lord Claud Hamilton, Lord Roberts, and M. Biddulph, M.P., and Sir Donald Currie, the Earl Kerry, and Sir Havelock-Allan, M.P., were among the guests at the dinner given by the Marquis of Lansdowne at Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square, on Wednesday evening.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL Lord Roberts was the principal speaker of a deputation from the National Artillery Association that waited upon the Marquis of Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, to urge upon his lordship the desirability of dealing more liberally with the Volunteer Artillery in the matter of allowances.

BRO. THE DUKE OF FIFE presided at the annual meeting of the Church Army, which was held in St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon. According to the statement made by Mr. Edward Clifford, the Hon. Secretary, there are nearly 100 more workers now than formerly, while the income has increased to £77,200, and the society is free of debt.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, attended by Bro. Sir Robert and Lady Collins, dined with Sir Charles Scotter at Surbiton Hill on Tuesday evening and afterwards attended an amateur performance of "The Gondoliers," which was held at the Assembly Rooms in aid of the London and South-Western Railway Servants Orphanage and Widows' and Orphans' Society.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE will attend the Crystal Palace Fête of the Church of England Temperance Society and witness the march past of 15,000 children, while the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Temple will present the prizes. A guard of honour of 600 boys of the Church Lads' Brigade will be present at the reception of his Royal Highness by the Committee.

BRO. EDWARD TERRY, Past G. Treas., who lives at Barnes, has suggested to his fellow parishioners that by way of commemorating the Queen's Jubilee five bells should be purchased, which, with the three already existing, will provide a complete peal of bells for Barnes Parish Church. Bro. Terry has further promised to give one bell and three others have been promised.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will visit Canterbury on Saturday, the 29th inst., for the purpose of re-opening the Chapter-House, which has recently been restored. The Mayor and Corporation will receive his Royal Highness at the railway station and present an address. Luncheon will be served at the Deanery, after which it is expected that the Prince will make a private inspection of the Cathedral.

A MEETING of the Royal Commission of the Patriotic Fund was held in the Levee Room of the Horse Guards on Tuesday, among the members present being the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Nelson, Earl of Clanwilliam, Earl of Cranbrook, Bro. Lord Wantage and Lord Herschell, the Right Hon. William Lidderdale, Bro. the Hon. E. F. Leveson Gower, and Sir W. Dowell.

CAPTAIN PRINCE LOUIS OF BATTENBERG has been appointed to the command of her Majesty's ship *Majestic*, flagship of Vice-Admiral Lord Walter Kerr, commanding the Channel Squadron. The *Majestic* is a first class twin-screw armoured battleship of 14,900 tons and 12,000 horse power, and was commissioned at Portsmouth on 12th December, 1895. Prince Louis served as lieutenant on the *Inconstant* in the Egyptian war of 1882, was promoted captain in 1892, and early in the present year was appointed an honorary Naval Aide-de-Camp to her Majesty.

THE ASTOR ESTATES OFFICES recently erected on the Thames Embankment were inaugurated on Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. Astor entertained a number of friends at tea, among them being the Duchess of Albany, the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos, and Bro. Lord Egerton of Tatton, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Jersey, and Lady Margaret Villiers, the Countess of Yarborough, Lord Ernest Hamilton, Viscountess and the Hon. Frances Wolsley, Bro. the Earl of Wharnclyffe, and the Earl of Cork, Viscount Peel and the Hon. Agnes Peel, Bro. and Mrs. W. H. Grenfell, Bro. Sir Douglas Straight, Lord Iveagh, and Colonel Sanderson.

THE DEATH was announced in Leicester on Monday of Bro. J. Vaughan, the editor of the *Leicester Advertiser*, at the age of 63. He had been associated with newspaper work for 50 years, and had been engaged on the *Liverpool Mercury*, the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*, the *Liverpool Leader*, and the *Birmingham Gazette*. In 1877 he went to Leicester as editor of the *Conservative* organ. He was one of the founders and vice-presidents of the Institute of Journalists, and twice chairman of the East Midlands District. He was also a Past Master of the oldest lodge in W. Lancashire, *Loyalty*, No. 86, held at Prescot. For some time he had been in failing health.

A TERRIBLE catastrophe occurred in Paris on Tuesday afternoon, when the building in which a fancy bazaar, attended by the leading ladies of the French aristocracy, caught fire, and in about a quarter of an hour the whole structure, which was composed of the lightest materials, was consumed, while the number of ladies and others who perished in the conflagration has been estimated at over 100, to say nothing of the number of those who were more or less seriously injured. The most gallant efforts were made by the police and others to rescue the people in the bazaar and many were extricated, but the scenes described in the telegrams from Paris were most heartrending, and all Paris is in mourning. The Queen at once telegraphed her sympathy, and so did the *Empress* of Germany, and the King of the Belgians.

THE ARRANGEMENTS for the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales on Saturday, the 22nd instant, on the occasion of their visit to the east of London to open, as the representative of the Queen, the Blackwall Tunnel, are virtually settled. The Royal procession will consist of five semi-State carriages, accompanied by a field officer's travelling escort of Life Guards, and will leave Marlborough House at 2.15 p.m. The route will be *via* Pall Mall, the Embankment, Queen Victoria-st., Leadenhall-street, Whitechapel, Commercial-road, East India Dock-road, through tunnel to Blackwall-lane, and back by the Greenwich and New Cross-roads, Old and New Kent-roads, Westminster Bridge, Whitehall, &c. A guard of honour will be furnished by the Honourable Artillery Company.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET of the Royal Academy, with which the year's Exhibition is inaugurated, was held at Burlington House on Saturday last. The chair was occupied by Sir E. J. Poynter, the President, among the most notable guests being H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Russian, French, and Spanish Ambassadors, the Belgian Minister, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Halsbury), the Marquis of Salisbury, Bro. Lord Ashbourne and Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., Bro. the Earl of Derby, Bro. Sir M. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Bro. Earl Cowper, the Lord Mayor, Bro. Lord Methuen, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., Bro. Lord Wolsley, Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, Bro. Sir Henry Irving, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Bro. Viscount Powerscourt, Bro. the Earl of Durham, Bro. John Aird, M.P., the Bishop of London, Bro. Sir Redvers Buller, the Earl of Cranbrook, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General, and Bro. Lord Glenesk.

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GEORGE KENNING, 16 & 16a, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.

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Dr. Spark's Liber Musicus.

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, May 15th, 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, MAY 10.**CRAFT LODGES.**

5, St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
58, Felicity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
957, Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
1306, Highgate, Midland Grand Hotel.
1670, Adelphi, Freemasons' Hall.
1789, Ubiqne, Criterion.
1922, Earl of Lathom, Surrey Masonic Hall.
2030, The Abbey, Town Hall, Westminster.
2426, Wood Green, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green.
2454, Guildhall School of Music, Holborn Restaurant.
2612, Navy, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

720, Panmure, Horns Tavern.
862, Whittington, Anderson's Hotel.

MARK LODGE.

410, Eclectic, Mark Masons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

53, Holy Sanctuary, 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, Mildmay Tavern, Ball's Pond-road, N., 7.30.
Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
Perseverance, Ridler'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, MAY 11.**CRAFT LODGES.**

167, St. John's, Jack Straw's Castle, Hampstead Heath.
235, Nine Muses, Grand Hotel.
781, Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse.
1196, Urban, Freemasons' Hall.
1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1664, Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.
1668, Samson, Cafe Royal.
1769, Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.
2400, Brentford, Castle Assembly Rooms.
2546, Rahere, Frascati Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderson's Hotel.
2395, Avondale, Anderson's Hotel.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8
Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High-street, at 8.
Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Daiston-lane, at 8.
Domatic, 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, 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, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway, S.E., at 7.30.
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, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30.
Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
Kintore Mark Lodge, Stirling Castle Hotel, Camberwell Green, S.E., at 8.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.

FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

CRAFT LODGES.

3, Fidelity, Freemasons' Hall.
13, Union Waterloo, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
15, Kent, Freemasons' Hall.
820, Lily Lodge of Richmond, Inns of Court Hotel.
1629, United, Freemasons' Hall.
1827, Alliance, Guildhall Tavern.
1956, Honor Oak, White Swan Hotel.
2347, Grafton, Blanchard's Restaurant.
2470, Telegraph Cable, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
2599, Engineer, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

205, Israel, Cannon-street Hotel.
857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1158, Southern Star, Holborn Restaurant.
1260, John Hervey, Holborn Restaurant.

MARK LODGE.

350, Temperance-in-the-East, Vestry Hall, Bow.

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 Rites, 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, 204, 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, 17, 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.
Domatic 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, MAY 13.**CRAFT LODGES.**

19, Royal Athelstan, Cannon-street Hotel.
91, Regularity, Freemasons' Hall.
206, Friendship, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
238, Pilgrim, Freemasons' Hall.
534, Polish National, Freemasons' Hall.
879, Southwark, Bridge House Hotel.
1076, Capper, Guildhall Tavern.
1155, Excelsior, Bridge House Hotel.
1558, Duke of Connaught, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1642, Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hill, Notting-hill.
2033, University of London, Freemasons' Hall.
2168, Derby Allcroft, Midland Grand Hotel.
2417, Bolingbroke, Municipal Buildings, Ealing.
2509, Barnet, Assembly Rooms.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

860, Dalhousie, Anderson's Hotel.
1381, Kennington, Horns Tavern.
2272, Rye, Public Hall, Peckham.

MARK LODGE.

331, Davison, Mark Masons' Hall.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8
Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
Crescent, King's Head Hotel, Twickenham, at 8.30.
Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30.
Elliott, 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.
Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
Ivy, Railway Tavern, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.
Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.
Langton, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 5.30.
Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.
Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 7.
Perfect Ashlar, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, at 8.
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, MAY 14.**CRAFT LODGES.**

33, Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
1602, Sir Hugh Myddelton, Agricultural Hall.
1997, John Carpenter, Albion Tavern.
2399, Ordnance, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

569, Fitz Roy, Head-quarters, Honourable Artillery Company, City-road.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Albion, The Moorgate, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., at 7.
All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N., 8.
Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill, 8
Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
Euphrates, Green Man, Mansell-street, Whitechapel, E., at 8.
Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
Lewis, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
Loyalty, Private Rooms, 91, Church-st., Stoke Newington, at 8.
Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8
Rose, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.

St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
Selwyn, Montpellier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.

Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, 2nd and 4th Friday, at 7.
Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pikes," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8.
Lily of Richmond Chapter, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8
Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8

SATURDAY, MAY 15.**CRAFT LODGES.**

1329, Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall.
1707, Kensington, Royal Palace Hotel.
2041, West Kent Volunteer, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.
2308, Viator, Anderson's Hotel.
2466, Cheerybles, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

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

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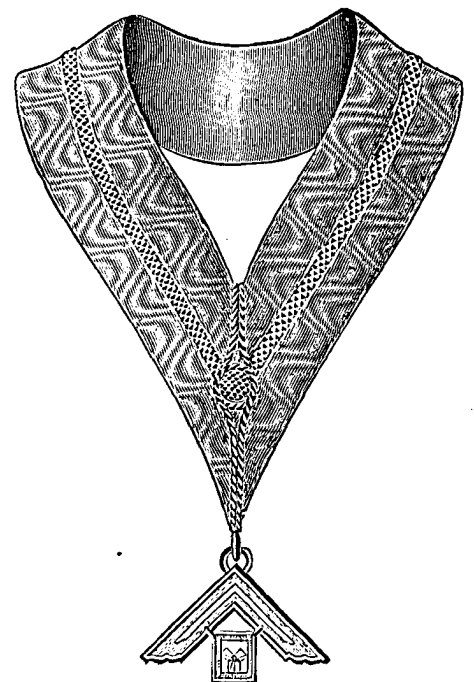
MASONIC LODGES,

AND

BANQUETS,

MEETINGS, AUCTIONS, BALLS, CONCERTS, ARBITRA-
TIONS, CINDERELLAS, ETC.

W. G. FENELEY, MANAGER.

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