

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 SALTOURN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

Heretofore the ceremony of distributing the prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, has taken place in the Leinster Hall in the early spring, and has proved one of the chief attractions of the Dublin season. The Grand Master or his representative has presided on the occasion; the brethren have appeared wearing their Masonic clothing and insignia; there has been a very large attendance of the leading members of Society in the Irish capital, and the prizes have been given away either by the Duchess of ABERCORN or some other lady of rank connected by blood or marriage with a high dignitary of the Craft. This year a party of some 400 ladies and brethren from the Province of Ulster visited the two Orphan Schools, and had ocular demonstration of the admirable manner in which the Institutions are conducted, while, as regards the distribution of prizes, it had, for sufficient reasons, to be postponed till the autumn, and instead of being held in the Leinster Hall, which is being reconstructed as a theatre, took place on Saturday, the 23rd ult., in the hall of the Institution for Girls at Ball's Bridge, where it was possible to find accommodation for a few hundreds instead of for the far greater assemblage which has ordinarily graced this annual function. However, as the report, which appears in another part of our columns very clearly shows, if the attendance was on a smaller scale than usual, and though there was no grand procession of the G. Officers in their full regalia, the meeting proved, as it deserved to prove, a great success. The Grand Master—his Grace the Duke of ABERCORN—who presided, was well supported by his Grand Officers and the leading members of the Irish Craft. Her Grace the Duchess of ABERCORN distributed the prizes, and the speeches that were delivered by the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master (Bro. Dr. CREED MEREDITH), and Lord Justice FITZGIBBON bore abundant and conclusive testimony to the success which has attended the administration of the Female School during the past year. It must indeed have been most gratifying to the authorities of the School and its numerous friends throughout Ireland to learn that of the 26 girls entered for the Intermediate Examination as many as 23 passed, two of them being successful in winning exhibitions of £20 a year each for three years in the junior grade and two others exhibitions of £20 a year each in the preparatory grade. When such facts as these can be recorded, there can be no doubt as to the ability with which the educational staff of the Institution has fulfilled its duties. We have used the term "educational staff," because all the members composing it are entitled to a share in the praise that is due for the successes achieved during the past

year, but there can be no doubt from the remarks made by Bro. Lord Justice FITZGIBBON that the guiding spirit in the training of the pupils has been Mrs. NEALE, who has just retired from the post of Matron after occupying it for 16 years, and to whom, in recognition of her long and valuable services, a presentation was made at this meeting. Nor was this the only incident of exceptional interest which occurred on the occasion, the Duchess of ABERCORN, at the invitation of the Deputy Grand Master, presenting to Bro. and Mrs. HOLD-BROOK, who have just resigned the offices of Head Master and Matron of the Boys' School, after holding them for 14 years, with a silver salver and a cheque for 100 guineas. These presentations show that the services rendered by those who are placed in charge of the two Schools are appreciated by the Governors and supporters, and must prove an incentive to their successors in office to emulate their good work. We congratulate our Irish brethren on the efficiency and prosperity which have characterised the labours of the past 12 months in connection with the Orphan Schools they have established, and are fostering with so much loving care and kindness, and we trust that the reports of future years will furnish as satisfactory evidence of their efficiency and prosperity as have been forthcoming in the past.

BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND.

We are not aware of any special reason why American Grand Masters and Grand Lodges, and following naturally in their wake, the American Masonic press, should, for some time past, have thought it worth their while to devote so much attention to the question whether a Grand Master possesses or does not possess the prerogative of "making Masons at sight." It is for the most part an academic question, highly interesting to the learned in Masonic usage and custom and jurisprudence, but the prerogative, if it still exists, is rarely, if ever, exercised. There are certain well-established cases in English Freemasonry in which the prerogative has undoubtedly been exercised, such as those of the Dukes of GLOUCESTER and CUMBERLAND in 1766 and 1767 respectively in the Grand Mastership of Lord BLANEY, and those of GEORGE Prince of Wales, and his brother, the Duke of YORK, in 1787, in that of the Duke of CUMBERLAND, and there are doubtless others to be met with in the records of Masonry in the jurisdictions of other Grand Lodges. But, after all, the prerogative, as we have said, is so rarely exercised nowadays in countries where Masonic laws and customs are fairly well understood, that it seems hardly necessary to expend so much time and ink in discussing its existence or non-existence. Still, if it should be thought expedient to consider it, the consideration should be undertaken by those who have some knowledge of the past history of Freemasonry. The American *Masonic Home Journal*, for instance, appears to have been expressing an opinion in respect of "the claim that a Grand Master may 'make a Mason at sight.'" It sees no good reason for such claim, and the only authority it has been able to discover for the exercise of this prerogative is "that of the schismatic Laurence Dermott," who lays it down that "It is the prerogative of the *Grand Lodge* and the Right Worshipful Grand Master has full power and authority, when the *Grand Lodge* is duly assembled, to make, or cause to be made, in his worship's presence, Free and Accepted Masons at sight." On this our worthy contemporary remarks—"That it dates back only to about 1738. 2. That Dermott was a

schismatic when this was written and his statement is not authority for regular and well-governed bodies. 3. That even by this authority the 'prerogative' resides in the Grand Lodge and not in the Grand Master. 4. That it can only be exercised when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled, which is not understood by 'making a Mason at sight' in the States, where the prerogative is claimed." To these observations it adds that "DERMOTT'S assertion never became law in England nor in this country, and there is only one right way for a man to be made a Mason, and that is, after regular petition, due inquiry, lawful ballot, etc."

It will be noticed that within the few sentences we have just quoted on the authority of the *Voice of Masonry*, to which we are indebted for the foregoing particulars, the *Masonic Home Journal* has managed to compress a mass of error, which is not very creditable to it as an organ of Masonic opinion in the sphere in which it moves and, we presume, we must add as an authority on Masonic law and custom. Firstly, as regards this 'making Masons at sight,' it is not a matter of vital importance what meaning is attached to the expression in "the States"—it would have been better if our contemporary had said "in some of the Masonic jurisdictions in the States." For aught we know to the contrary, the prevalent opinion in these jurisdictions may be that this claim put forward by certain Grand Masters is that of the right to turn non-Masons into Masons by some instantaneous method which it is not in the power of the average Masonic intellect to comprehend. The ex-Mason presents himself before the Grand Master, who, by some process of which he alone has cognisance, there and then turns him into a full-fledged Mason, much in the same way as a conjuror turns a hat into a bird cage. What we understand by "making Masons at sight" is something quite different, as may be gathered from the records of the cases we have already quoted, and we believe the expression is so understood in certain jurisdictions in the States. But the more lamentable errors of our contemporary are to be found in the statements referring to LAURENCE DERMOTT. In the first place, LAURENCE DERMOTT did not write the passage it quotes until the year 1756 at the very earliest; in the next, he was neither a schismatic nor anything else in Masonry in 1738, seeing that he was not made a Mason till some two years later in a "regular and well-governed lodge" in Dublin on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, and did not become a member of the body which is variously known as the "Ancient" or "Athol" Masons in England until early in 1752, shortly before he was elected to succeed Bro. MORGAN in the capacity of its Grand Secretary. Again, whether DERMOTT, at the outset of his Masonic career in England, was a schismatic or a clandestine, or anything else that may wound the susceptibilities of the *Masonic Home Journal*, he speedily made for himself such a power and influence in English Freemasonry, that within little more than 20 years after his death, the "Ancients," of whom he was so long the presiding genius, met their "Modern" rivals on a footing of absolute equality, and the two together formed themselves into the present "United Grand Lodge of England." Lastly, there is a very good reason why "DERMOTT'S assertion never became law in England," a prerogative is something that exists of its own inherent right, which is something different from a statute law. We trust our contemporary will show itself amenable to reason, and that the next time it undertakes to lay down the law on a question of this kind, it will inform itself of the facts, and not figure as a "blind leader of the blind."

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Comp. W. W. B. Beach, G.J., took the chair of G.M.E.Z.; Comp. Lieut.-Col. R. Townley Caldwell, M.A., G. Supt. Cambridge, acted as G.H.; and Comp. the Earl of Euston, G. Supt. Norths and Hunts, as G.J. Comps. E. Letchworth, G.S.E.; Thomas Fenn, as G.S.N.; Peter de Lande Long, as G.P.S.; Malcolm Morris, as 1st A.G.S.; and Baron de Ferrieres, as 2nd A.G.S., occupied the seats of those officers.

The other Grand and Past Grand Officers who attended were—Comps. Sir G. D. Harris, President Com. Gen. Purps.; Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, G. Treas.; Richard Clinton Smith, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg.; W. Russell,

G.S.B.; G. C. Kent, Arthur Stubbs, Major G. H. Newington Bridges, Walter J. Ebbets, and Pierrepont Harris, G. Std. Brs.; Frank Richardson, G.D.C.; T. A. Bullock, D.G.D.C.; Walter Martin, A.G.D.C.; George Smith, G. Org.; Robert Grey, Alfred Spencer, Sir Bruce M. Seton, James Stephens, Major C. W. Carrell, Henry J. P. Dumas, Alf. C. Spaull, John Strachan, Q.C., George J. Tilling, H. A. Tobias, W. J. Crump, T. Jones, J. A. Farnfield, J. W. Martin, Capt. N. G. Philips, Mihill Slaughter, J. Heelis, J. Edmeston, H. H. Room, J. Boulton, S. V. Abraham, W. H. Spaull, C. F. Matier, T. L. Wilkinson, Major John W. Woodall, William Vincent, William P. Brown, W. Campbell, E. P. Valeriani, Frederick Mead, John Williams, Charles Belton, Major T. C. Walls, J. Leach Barrett, W. M. Bywater, W. M. Stiles, J. E. Le Feuvre, Henry Lovegrove, Herbert J. Adam, Dr. George Mickley, George Cowell, W. B. Coltman, Charles E. Keyser, James Lewis Thomas, George Graveley, Frederick West, Henry Sutherland, J. R. Clipperton, Dr. Hugh Mackintosh, S. Valentine, Edmund A. Butcher, Henry W. Smallwood, Henry R. Rose, Perceval A. Nairne, J. J. Thomas, R. Clay Sudlow, J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Boys; Rev. A. W. Oxford, Charles J. Ridgeway, Richard Clowes, L. G. Gordon Robbins, F. Gordon Brown, A. J. R. Trendell, W. W. Naylor, E. M. Money, G. H. Hopkinson, W. A. Scurrah, Harry Tipper, Thos. Hy. Gardiner, Reginald St. A. Roumieu, and Henry Sadler, G. Janitor.

The other companions who attended were—

Comps. J. Austin, J. 1158; George Corble, P.Z. 453; John Glass, P.Z. 453; Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Prov. G.J. North and East Yorks; Harris Hills, 2154; J. Sparrow, J. 1489; James Speiller, J. 2108; James Watts, J. 179; W. R. Barr, 1275 and 1556; Orton Cooper, J. 403; H. Noakes, M.E.Z. 749; J. H. Curton, P.Z. 2182; George Pidduck, P.Z. 933; R. F. Potter, P.Z. 1326; M. Spiegel, P.Z. 834 and 1556; E. Walker, P.Z. 72; S. R. Baskett, P.Z. 707; J. Harrison, P.Z. 1556; Thos. Roe, M.E.Z. 1329; Alfred L. Swan, 2458; W. Johnson Songhurst, M.E.Z. 720; E. G. Field, M.E.Z. 1362; W. N. Harper, M.E.Z. 2182; G. W. Hogg, P.Z. 488; A. C. Chapin, H. 137; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 and 1928; J. Irvine, P.Z. 862; Edwin S. Lardner, P.Z. 101; J. Hardwicke Marsh, M.E.Z. 317 and 1730; J. Pickett, M.D., II. 2410; William Dodd, P.Z. 1194, P.G.D.C. Middx.; and J. II. Wheeler, II. 1125.

After the minutes of the August convocation had been read and confirmed, 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.

Charters were granted for two new chapters, one to be attached to the Grenville Lodge, No. 1787, and to meet at the Grenville Lodge Hall, High-street, Buckingham, in the county of Buckinghamshire, and the other to be attached to the Papyrus Lodge, No. 2562, to be called the Papyrus Chapter, and to meet at Freemasons' Hall, London.

Permission was granted for the removal of the Lewis Chapter, No. 1185, London, from the King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, to the Holborn Restaurant, W.C.; the Studholme Brownrigg Chapter, No. 2421, from the British Schools to the Station Hotel, Amersham; the Lorne Chapter, No. 1347, Sutton, from the Greyhound Hotel, to the Masonic Hall; and the Chapter of Felicity, No. 58, London, from the Ship and Turtle Tavern, Leadenhall-street, to the Grafton Rooms, Beak-street, W.

Permission was also given to the Joyce Chapter, No. 942, Port Chalmers, New Zealand, to change the name from the Joyce Chapter to the Port Chalmers Marine Chapter.

Comp. J. STRACHAN, Q.C., P.D.G.R., moved—

To add to Regulation 43 the following words:—"And Regulations 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32, are hereby declared not to be applicable to Provincial and District Grand Chapters."

He also had on the notice paper the following motion:

"That whereas doubts have arisen as to the right to past rank of certain Provincial and District Grand Chapter Officers who have been appointed to office while not holding corresponding rank in their respective Provincial and District Grand Lodges, it is hereby resolved that his Royal Highness, the Most Excellent First Grand Principal, be respectfully requested to confirm in the rank respectively attaching to their appointments all such present and past holders of office in Provincial and District Grand Chapters."

He said, in moving the first of these resolutions standing in his name, it might be advisable that he should recall the attention of the companions present to the circumstances under which Grand Chapter and other Grand Chapters throughout England had been placed in a somewhat difficult position. At the May convocation an appeal was dealt with by Grand Chapter from a companion in the District of the Punjab. The District Grand Superintendent had ruled that a District Grand Registrar of the Craft was, by virtue of being District Grand Registrar of the Craft, plus being a Royal Arch Mason, District Grand Registrar of the Arch—in other words, that the appointments in Provincial or District Grand Chapter were governed by Regulation 43 of the Royal Arch Regulations. That was appealed from, and it was perfectly immaterial whether the companion who appealed from that decision wished by his appeal to be confirmed in a collar or not—the decision appealed from affirmed the principle that Regulation 43 governed the appointment of officers in District or Provincial Grand Chapters. If the present convocation had been the May convocation and there had been that decision of Supreme Grand Chapter in May to come up for the first time, he should certainly have strongly opposed the suggestion that the practice which had obtained in the Punjab, and he might say in every province and every district, of making separate appointments in the Craft and Royal Arch he would have said that it was not a vicious, but a perfect, proper principle; and if the question had come up for the first time to-night he should have been prepared to support such a proposition as that which he saw had been given notice of by Comp. Baskett—that Articles 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 of the Regulations applied only to Grand Chapter itself, and never did apply, and were never meant to apply to Provincial or District Grand Chapters. But, unfortunately—and he used the term advisedly—Grand Chapters—it might be without having had a long discussion on it—it was not for him to say—but Grand Chapter dismissed the appeal—they affirmed the decision appealed against. He did not mean to say that by discouraging the appeal they endorsed everything that officers on the dais had expressed; it did not affirm opinions, but it did affirm a decision of the District Grand Superintendent and that decision of the District Grand Superintendent if it was good for the Punjab must be good for every District or Provincial Grand Chapter under the presidency of Supreme Grand Chapter. Supreme Grand Chapter by its vote made those laws applicable; and, therefore, he had now to deal in the manner in which he should have been prepared to deal on this question at the May convocation. He was now appealing for the decision of that convocation, but he brought forward his motion in order to put before Grand Chapter the best way that appeared to him—the only

logical way out of the difficulty. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he was now of the same opinion that he should have expressed if the present had been the May convocation, because he could not have Grand Chapter stultified. And that was his difficulty. He could not say to Grand Chapter "You did absolutely wrong in May, I now, in November, ask you to revoke it;" that would have the effect of getting them the character of a vacillating body; they did rightly or wrongly, that the effect of that was that the Articles 26 to 32 (except 27) as applying to every Province and District. To prevent mistakes they must at the first opportunity get rid of any doubt, and it was for that purpose he had brought before Grand Chapter a proposal that something be added to Regulation 43. In order that the companions might thoroughly understand what it was or what the effect of those words should be he would read Regulation 43 as it stood: "Provincial and District Grand Chapters are to be subject to the same laws as are laid down for the government of the Supreme Grand Chapter, so far as the same are applicable, except when a different regulation is expressly declared." He proposed to get rid of the difficulty by saying it should be declared not to be applicable to Provincial or District Grand Chapters; if they were now applicable, it should be declared that they would no longer be applicable. The Deputy Grand Master if a R.A. Mason was to be Second Grand Principal. They knew how it worked in Supreme Grand Chapter. Take a Province as Provinces and Districts were identical. The Deputy Grand Master might happen to be a R.A. Mason and yet not having R.A. Masonry at heart—for he had seen Royal Arch Masons who were rather inimical to R.A. Masonry when they were in certain positions—let them say for a moment that the Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Superintendent were two distinct persons, the Provincial Grand Master not being R.A. appointed as his Deputy a brother who was; if Regulation 26 was to be applicable, and to remain applicable, this result would follow—that a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, who was a permanent officer, would be permanent Provincial H., and the Grand Superintendent had no voice in the matter. That could not be meant, and was not meant now. Therefore, he asked Supreme Grand Chapter to put a stop to that anomalous state of things. He did not include Regulation 27, because it was already protected by Regulation 37. The G.S.E. ought to be the Grand Secretary, provided he is a Royal Arch Mason; he was a permanent officer, and if he was an Installed First Principal he became the permanent S.E. in Provincial Grand Chapter, and the Grand Superintendent could not help himself. That could not have been intended originally, and he would ask Grand Chapter to declare so. The Grand Registrar the same. Supreme G. Chapter was not a legislative body, as Grand Lodge was in the Craft. Provincial Grand Lodges and Chapters were not, and they had not the advisory officers that United Grand Lodge and Supreme Grand Chapter had, and the conditions were most different. He thought he had sufficiently explained the reasons for his motion; he had no desire to place any reflection on any officer who spoke on a former occasion, or on what Grand Chapter said upon it. He did not agree with certain views expressed; those who expressed them did so honestly believing that Article 43 did apply. He had the approval of the Grand Registrar, who did give a certain opinion on a former occasion, and he had indicated to him that he still held the same opinion. He (Comp. Strachan) took the same view as he formerly did, and he did not censure anyone who had another view. He asked Grand Chapter to take the fraternal view.

Comp. A. C. CHAPIN, Prov. G.D.C. Dorset, seconded the motion.

Comp. THOMAS FENN, G.S.N., said the principal objection he had to make to this motion was that it would be an unnecessary addition to the Regulations, which he maintained were perfectly clear and intelligible, and required no alteration or addition. If it were put in the form of a declaration of Grand Chapter, this objection would be removed. He thought the object of the mover would be equally attained by a declaratory resolution such as the following: "It is hereby declared that Regulations 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32 are not applicable to the appointment of Provincial or District Grand Officers, and that, therefore, Grand Superintendents who have appointed Provincial or District Grand Registrars, or other officers who may not have been appointed to similar offices in the Provincial or District Grand Lodge have acted strictly in accordance with the law." That would upset any supposed idea that the resolution in May confirmed in the following August endorsed at all the views which might have been expressed. He believed that if Comp. Strachan would adopt this he would be thoroughly supported. If Comp. Strachan did not accept it he (Comp. Fenn) would be prepared to move it as an amendment.

Comp. STRACHAN, after reading and considering the propositions, said it was immaterial to him which way it was. He accepted it as a declaratory resolution. It had always been his opinion that the appointments referred to had been strictly in accordance with the law.

Comp. HEELIS objected. It was a distinct violation of the law. He was a Provincial Grand Registrar himself. The resolution of Grand Chapter was correct. He was prepared to support the original motion, but not the proposition of Comp. Fenn.

Comp. LE FEUVRE asked whether the resolution was withdrawn and the amendment accepted?

Comp. BEACH, acting G.Z., said the second was agreed to. The object was to have a distinct understanding whether Article 43 applied to District or Provincial Grand Chapters or not. It might be held, and a good many might hold, that the words—"So far as applicable"—made a limit, and it was not necessary they should apply to District or Provincial Grand Chapters. But as some misunderstanding had taken place on things some of the provinces had done, although it did not appear whether according to law or not, it was thought right that some governing word should be introduced. It seemed to him that this resolution, as amended by Comp. Fenn, would carry out the wishes of Grand Chapter.

The resolution, as amended, having been read by Comp. Strachan,

Comp. LOUIS G. GORDON ROBBINS objected, and supported the decision of the Deputy Grand Registrar—May and August Grand Chapter came to a conclusion after full consideration and debate. The decision was one not to be lightly withdrawn. He therefore proposed that the original resolution stand.

Comp. HEELIS seconded.

Comp. S. R. BASKETT agreed with Comp. Fenn. He agreed, however, with Comp. Strachan that Grand Chapter was stultifying itself if it said it had made a mistake. They wanted to know what was the correct reading of the law. He hoped Grand Chapter would throw out the resolution as unanimously as possible.

Comp. R. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., Dep. G. Reg., said he had considered the subject ever since May and he was more convinced than ever that the rule he then laid down was perfectly rig't. At the same time he quite admitted that Grand Chapter in confirming the dismissal of the appeal were not bound by the reasons he had given. Comp. Fenn and he agreed that it was right the appeal should be dismissed. In August last he (Comp. Horton Smith) said "I do not admit that the law has been incorrectly laid down." "It is said that custom is against the view which I took. It is not for the Registrar or Deputy Grand Registrar, Law officers of the Craft, if I may be allowed the expression, to say what the law should be. Our business is to tell you what the law is. And if custom and law are at variance, one or the other must give way. If you think in the present matter that custom is better than the law as laid down — although the District Grand Registrar of the Punjab advances reasons for doubting whether that is altogether so—then it would be well to amend, or, at any rate, make plain the law. This can be done, if thought desirable, if some excellent companion will send under Rules 7 and 8 of the Royal Arch Regulations to the Grand Scribe E. a notice of motion for the next Grand Chapter to add to Rule 36 some such words as these: "The limitation on the power of the First Grand Principal imposed by Rules 28 and 30 shall not apply to Grand Superintendents." The result was that Comp. Strachan had brought forward his motion.

After a reply from Comp. STRACHAN, the motion, as amended, was carried, and the second motion of Comp. Strachan was, after discussion, put and lost.

Comp. J. E. LE FEUVRE, Past Grand Sword Bearer, moved—

That the following words be re-introduced in the General Regulations previous to No. 12: "Regulations for the government of the Supreme Grand Chapter during the time of public business."

Comp. THOMAS FENN seconded the resolution, which was put and carried.

Comp. SAMUEL R. BASKETT, P.P.G. Reg. Dorset, next moved—

That whereas a question has arisen as to the true construction of No. 43 of the General Regulations, it is hereby resolved and declared that Regulation 43 relates only to the government of Provincial and District Grand Chapters during the time of public business, and does not apply, and never has applied, to the appointment of Provincial and District Grand Officers.

This was seconded by Comp. THOMAS FENN, but after some discussion, in which Comps. JOHN GLASS, JOHN STRACHAN, Q.C., THOMAS FENN, and S. R. BASKETT took part, it was withdrawn, and Grand Chapter was then closed.

BI-CENTENARY OF THE OPENING OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

The following circular has been issued:

The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's have determined to celebrate the Bi-Centenary of the opening of Wren's Great Cathedral, by holding, on Thursday, December 2nd next, with the sanction and approval of the M.W.G.M., a Masonic Service there, at 3:30 p.m., in acknowledgment of the tradition that Wren was a Freemason, Master of the Lodge of Antiquity, and that most of the workmen were also members of the Craft.

The M.W. the Grand Master will be properly represented on the occasion. It is expected that most of the Grand Officers will be able to attend, accompanied by a large number of Prov. Grand Masters and Past Grand Officers.

The Lord Bishop of London will preach the sermon.

The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs will attend in State.

I have the honour to invite your lodge to attend by its representatives on this occasion, and to ask how many tickets you will require, and for whom, as it is important to know how many we may expect, and of what rank. We can seat about 5000 in the Cathedral.

It is proposed that the offertory should be for the purpose of enabling Free-masons as a body to take a distinct share in the completion of Wren's great work by decorating a panel or bay with mosaics (with an inscription to record the fact), according to the scheme now being carried out under the direction of Sir W. B. Richmond, R.A., K.C.B.

It is requested that the enclosed form may be filled up and returned to the Hon. Sec. not later than the 22nd inst.

A dispensation has been obtained for brethren to appear in Craft clothing and jewels.

Masters of lodges, Past Masters, and Wardens will wear light blue collars. Present and Past Provincial Grand Officers are at liberty to wear Provincial collars.

Full directions as to the service will be printed on the tickets.

A large number of influential brethren have been invited to form a Committee for carrying out the necessary arrangements (with power to add to their number), most of whom have already expressed their pleasure in serving.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

The half-yearly meeting of the above Prov. Grand Lodge was held at the Saltaire Institute, Shipley, on the 20th ult. There was a large attendance, the Prov. Grand Master, presiding. Past (Jubilee year) honours were conferred upon Bros. Wm. Watson, 61, and J. Harrison, 810, who received collars as Prov. G. Wardens; J. T. Last, 231, that of Prov. G. Registrar; H. Telford, 387, Charles Stokes, 1239, 2558, Wm. Flockton, 1042, and J. L. Brayshaw, 2091, those of Prov. G. Deacons; J. H. Bolton, 1736, Prov. G.S. of W.; A. Armitage, 521, Prov. G.D. of C.; and W. Isherwood, 750, that of Prov. G. Std. Br.

On the motion of Bro. the Rt. Hon. W. L. JACKSON, seconded by Bro. W. C. LURTON, 100 guineas was voted to further endow the Prov. Grand Master's chair in commemoration of the Centenary of the Foundation of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Provincial By-laws, as revised by a Committee appointed for that purpose, were approved and adopted.

Bro. LURTON next moved "That it be a recommendation to the Provincial Grand Master that the Secretarial offices of Provincial Grand Lodge be removed from Wakefield to Leeds."

This was seconded by Bro. G. H. SMITH, P.M. 61 (Mayor of Halifax), Prov. J.G.W.

A debate followed, in which Bro. Rev. BOLTON, P.M. 154, and others, took part.

The resolution was carried by a considerable majority.
The remaining proceedings were not of great interest.

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

The annual meeting of Grand Council was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 1st inst. The following brethren attended: Bros. the Earl of Euston, M.W.G.M.; Viscount Dungarvan, as Dep. G.M.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.M., G. Sec.; Wm. Vincent, G.D.C.; F. Bevan, G. Org; Harry Tipper, G.I.G.; Baron de Ferrieres, J. Smith, P.G. Stwd.; Geo. Powell, P.A.G.D.C.; A. H. Jefferies, P.G.W.; J. Balfour Cockburn, P.G.W.; Rev. V. P. Wyatt, P.G.C.; C. Belton, P.G.W.; Geo. Hearn, P.G.S.B.; F. Richardson, P.D.G.M.; Rev. C. E. Wright, P.G. Chap.; S. L. Kilpin, P.G. Stwd.; F. A. Powell, N. Heywood, J. G. Hamilton, F. Williams, T. E. Worlledge, H. Le Roy Lewis, R. Owen, Geo. Gill, and Col. Byrde.

Grand Council was opened in ample form and Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, M.W.G.M., at once rose and said that on this occasion, as loyal subjects of their Queen, they should pass a vote of condolence to the Duke of Teck on the loss of the Princess Mary of Cambridge. He did not think that amongst the whole of the Royal Family there was one who took more interest in charitable work than she did, being always ready to help the poor and distressed. This was a good reason why they should now pass a vote of condolence on her loss. In these few words he would ask them to consent that it should be left in his hands, and the Grand Secretary, to send a letter of condolence to H.S.H. the Duke of Teck, for they felt they had lost one of the Royal Family who was always so willing and anxious to do good to her fellow creatures.

Bro. Viscount DUNGARVAN, P.D.G.M., in seconding the proposition, which was unanimously carried, said that no further words were necessary or could be found to express their sympathy.

The minutes having been confirmed, the Grand Secretary, Bro. C. F. MATIER, read his annual report, which showed that 94 brethren had been received into the Allied Degrees during the past year, making a total registered number of 1195. A large number of certificates for the Degrees of "Grand Tyler of K.S." and "The Secret Monitor" had also been issued. No alteration had taken place in the lamented difference between the Sovereign Grand College of the Allied Degrees for the U.S.A. and the Body styling itself the "Grand Council or Grand Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor for Great Britain, &c." The mandate prohibiting Masonic intercourse as Secret Monitors on the part of their members with the said Body must therefore remain in force. A new council had been consecrated at Brighton by the M.W.G.M., and 17 candidates were admitted to the various Degrees, after which Bro. Richd. Clowes was installed as first Master. A new council would shortly be consecrated at Pudsey, Yorkshire. An agreement had been made and entered into between the G. Council and the G. Council of Knights Grand Cross of the Holy Temple of Jerusalem at Newcastle-on-Tyne, existing from Time Immemorial, in which the Newcastle Castle agreed to join the Allied Degrees in forming a Council of Rites to administer a number of Degrees. For that purpose it transferred and ceded its rights to the Allied Degrees. Bro. Loveland Loveland was thanked for his eminent services as D.G.M.

The report as read was received and adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The G. Treasurer's accounts, which showed an increased balance in hand of £82 2s. 3d., were also received and adopted.

The M.W.G.M. appointed Bro. Chas. Belton as D.G.M., and he was invested and saluted.

Bro. Gordon Miller was re-elected G. Treasurer, and the following G. Officers were appointed for the ensuing year:

Bro. T. G. Youll...	...	...	G.S.W.
" W. Heywood	...	...	G.J.W.
" C. F. Matier	...	...	G. Sec.
" Gordon Miller	...	...	G. Treas.
" Rev. C. C. Bluett	...	...	{ G. Chaps.
" Rev. R. Peek	...	...
" Walter Simpson	...	...	G.S.D.
" T. P. Dorman	...	...	G.J.D.
" W. Vincent...	...	...	G.D.C.
" Major C. W. Carrell	...	...	A.G.D.C.
" Col. H. Byrde	...	...	G.S.B.
" W. Hickie ...	...	...	G. Std. Br.
" F. Bevan	...	...	G. Org.
" F. H. Miller...	...	...	G.I.G.
" J. R. Ragdale	...	...	G. Stwd.
" E. J. Mills ...	...	...	G. Tyler.

The M.W.G.M. appointed Bro. Richard Owen to the rank of Past G. Deacon.

The G. SECRETARY announced the receipt of a large number of apologies, many being absent through illness, and the fact that the municipal elections were being contested that day.

Grand Council was closed, and a banquet was subsequently held at the Holborn Restaurant.

DEDICATION OF A MASONIC HALL AT SLIGO.

On Thursday, the 21st ult., the new Masonic Hall, situated on the Mall, was dedicated, according to ancient custom, to the uses of Masonry. The Prov. G.M. of North Connaught, Bro. Lord Harlech, was present, and conducted the imposing ceremonial. About 100 brethren attended the function, including Bros. the Rev. Dr. Clarke, D.P.G.M.; Rev. L. P. Ledoux, P.G.C.; B. St. G. Harrison, P.G. Sec.; Col. Campbell, George Hewson, W. C. Trimble, R. Smylie, R. St.

George Robinson, A. Sim, A. Jackson, J. F. Walker, R. B. M'Neily, F. Nelson, J. J. Nelson, R. Boyers, W. F. Gilchrist, Rev. Dr. Erdill, W. A. Shekleton, Rev. F. O. M. Watters, C. B. Jones, Rev. R. W. Landey, Rev. T. J. Bayley, Rev. W. F. Fitzgerald, Arthur Ward, R. Irvine, J. Chambers, W.M. 165; H. Loretto, H. H. Hallows, H. Boyers, and others.

At the opening of the proceedings, Bro. JACKSON read an address to the Prov. G.M., Bro. Lord Harlech, from the W.M., Wardens, and brethren of Lodge No. 20, Sligo.

At the conclusion of the dedication ceremony an interesting event took place, the brethren of Lodge No. 20 presenting Bro. Jackson with a magnificent silver punch-bowl in recognition of his valuable services in forwarding the scheme for the new hall, and also for his efforts on behalf of Masonry generally.

The bowl is a splendid specimen of the silversmith's art.

MASONIC FEMALE ORPHAN SCHOOL, DUBLIN.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

No public building of sufficient accommodation being available in Dublin, the fete which takes place annually in connection with the ceremony of the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School, and which has been regarded as one of the most interesting and fashionable gatherings of the year in the metropolis, took place at the Institution itself at Ball's Bridge, on Saturday, the 23rd ult. Additional interest was attached to the occasion as it was to be utilised for the purpose of making two presentations—one to Mrs. Neale on her retiring from the position of Matron of the Institution, and the other to Bro. and Mrs. Holdbrook on their retiring from the positions of Head Master and Matron of the Boys' School at Richview, Clonskeagh.

The proceedings were presided over by the Grand Master, the Duke of Abercorn, who was supported by the following Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ireland: Bros. Dr. J. C. Meredith, D.G.M.; Sir J. Thomas Banks, J.G.W.; Rev. B. Gibson, G. Chap.; William M. Battersby, J.P., S.G.D.; William Comyns, G.D.C.; George Drury, G. Stwd.; James W. Lowry, G.S.B.; Thomas G. R. Joze, Mus. Doc., G. Org.; Dr. Chetwode Crawley, G. Sec. of Grand Lodge of Instruction; and William M'Gee, J.P., G.I.G.

Bro. R. W. Shekleton, Q.C., Past. Dep. G.M., was present.

The following officers of the Grand Chapter of Ireland attended: Comps. John Fox Goodman, J.P., Deputy King; Dr. Hugh Auchinleck, F.R.C.S.I., High Priest; Andrew Thompson, Chief Scribe; Henry Hunt, Capt. of Host; Francis H. Wayland, Captain of B. Veil; and Dr. Robert Montgomery, Janitor. Amongst others present were Bros. Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, Sir Charles Cameron, Sir William Findlater, D.L.; Sir Henry Cochrane, D.L.; Dr. Harley, and Col. Vesey Davoren.

The proceedings commenced in the Drill Hall at half-past two o'clock, when the Grand Master and the Duchess of Abercorn were conducted to their places on the dais, on which the Grand Officers, wearing their regalia, were also seated. The Grand Master having been saluted, a musical programme was gone through by the pupils, after which the Duchess distributed the prizes as follows:

Lower Forms, I., II., and III.—Geraldine G. Martin, Gardening. Henrietta Whiteside, Tagert Prize, Needlework, Forms i. and ii. Mary Atkinson, Cooper-Noblett Prize for Calisthenics, Juniors; Tagert Prize, Darning and Mending, Forms i. and ii. Sophia W. Macleaghan, Cooper-Noblett Prize for Scripture, Forms i. and ii. Annie F. Greer, Astley Second English Prize, Forms i. and ii. Henrietta H. Cherry, Cooper-Noblett Prize for Calisthenics, Juniors; Shekleton Prize, Best in Form i. Gertrude H. Connell, Bro. Rev. Hamilton's Second Scripture Prize; Gardening; Shekleton Prize, Best in Form ii. Mandeline M. Kane, Tagert Prize, Needlework, Form iii. Louisa K. Hill, Shekleton Prize, First English Prize in Form iii. Kathleen E. Farrell, Astley Second French Prize; Shekleton Prize, Best in Form iii.

Upper Forms, IV., V., and VI.—Margaret S. M'Comb, Tagert Prize, Needlework, Form iv. Ethel L. B. Lee, Tagert Prize, Darning and Mending; Mrs. Neale's Second Prize for Domestic Duties. Ethel G. Johnston, Tagert Prize, Needlework, Form v.: Gardening First. Nora E. Stewart, Tagert Prize, Second Machine Work. Anita Wilcox, Cooper-Noblett Second Prize for Singing; Gardening. Edith Scully, Rev. Mr. Campbell's Scripture Prize. Clare A. Colclough, Cooper-Noblett Second Prize for Music. Bessie K. Shaw, Mrs. Harte's Second Prize for Singing. Florence K. Kennedy, Mrs. Neale's First Prize for Domestic Duties; Gardening, Third. Georgina J. A. Armstrong, Mr. Norton's Second Prize for Shorthand. Georgina F. Bestall, Tagert Prize, First Machine Work; Astley French Prize, Form iv. Mary M'Menemy, Second Nagle Prize for General Proficiency, Form iv. Isobel F. Hennessy, Rev. Bro. Hamilton's First Scripture Prize; Singing. Evelyn M. Nowburn, Florentine Prize, Music and Singing; Second Hime Prize. Margaret A. H. Henning, Cooper-Noblett Prize for Drawing, Form iv. Mabel W. Calcutt, Miss Woodhouse's Silver Medal for Drawing, Form vi. Millicent C. V. Ryan, Cooper-Noblett Prize for Calisthenics, Seniors; Miss Woodhouse's Bronze Medal for Drawing.

Special Distinctions—Florence A. Dimond (Intermediate Exhibition), Shekleton Prize, Best in Form v.; Cooper-Noblett Prize for German. Marion M. Vance (Intermediate Exhibition and Prize) Astley First French and English Prizes; First Nagle Prize for General Proficiency; Cooper-Noblett Prize for Mathematics. Preparatory Grade: Music, Eileen M. Cullinan (Intermediate Exhibition) Second Cooper-Noblett Prize for General Proficiency. Junior Grade: "Fair Prize" for Drawing; Cooper-Noblett Junior Shorthand Prize (Fennell Prize, 1896). Helen M. Vance (Intermediate Exhibition) First Cooper-Noblett Prize for General Proficiency, Junior Grade; First Hime Prize for Proficiency and Good Conduct, Seniors; Rev. Bro. Fuller's Prize for German; Mr. Norton's First Prize for Shorthand; Gardening, Second.

Seniors—Katherine MacDowell, the Dunboyne Bursary, "for the benefit of the most necessitous and deserving pupil leaving the School in the year." Kathleen Winifred Browning (new pupil teacher), Cooper-Noblett Prize for Shorthand, Middle Grade; Mrs. Harte's First Prize for Singing; the Fennell Prize for the best pupil of the year (not to be won twice); Miss Woodhouse's Silver Medal for Scripture; Tagert Prize, Needlework, Form vi.

It was announced also that of the 26 girls who entered for the Intermediate Examination this year 23 passed, two girls obtaining £20 exhibitions for three years in the junior grade, and two others obtaining exhibitions of £20 each in the preparatory grade.

The DEP. G. MASTER said it next became his duty on behalf of several Governors of the Boys' School, to ask her Grace the Duchess of Abercorn to be good enough to make a presentation to Bro. and Mrs. Holdbrook, the late Master and Matron of the Masonic Boys' School. (Applause.) For 14 years their esteemed brother and his wife had discharged with admirable zeal the highly onerous and responsible duties of Head Master and Matron of the Boys' School. He

thought he would not be wrong in saying that the period during which Bro. and Mrs. Holdbrook jointly discharged these duties might be contemporaneous with their wedded life, for immediately on their marriage they entered on their duties at the School. How they had discharged these duties the success of the School afforded the best evidence. (Applause.) From small beginnings the Boys' School had attained a position, having regard to the number of pupils, second to none in Ireland in the successes obtained in the public examinations in this country. In these days success was looked upon in the true measure of the work done and the success of their Institution at Clonskeagh amply demonstrated the zeal, ability, and assiduity with which its management had been carried out. (Hear, hear.) Teaching and school management meant a heavy, a hard task, but in the case of Bro. Holdbrook he appeared always fresh and bright, and always ready to do his part in the Institution over which he was for so many years the head. But teaching was not everything that was done well at the Boys' School. The Institution had been managed so economically that it would bear favourable contrast with any other Institution of the kind in the United Kingdom. For that they were greatly indebted to the admirable management of Mrs. Holdbrook. (Applause.) Not only did that lady manage the School economically and well, but the boys looked up to her as a second mother. (Hear, hear.) She took the keenest interest in the welfare of every pupil in the School during her Matronship, and the Governors deeply regretted that the time had come when she and Bro. Holdbrook felt that the time had come when they were entitled to some repose after the arduous duties they had discharged for so many years. The Governors deeply regretted their departure, and they had only to rely on the hope that they had procured the services of successors who would carry on the work with the same success. In Bro. James Moore (who had been most successful as Head Master of the Diocesan School, in Molesworth-street) and his wife they believed that the administration of the School would be carried out in the same manner in which it was carried out for 14 years by Bro. and Mrs. Holdbrook. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. Holdbrook having been saluted,

The Duchess of ABERCORN made the presentation, which consisted of a silver salver and a purse containing 100 guineas.

The salver bore the following inscription: "In token of the warm appreciation of the zeal and assiduity with which Brother John Holdbrook, B.A., P.M., and Mrs. Holdbrook discharged for a period of 14 years the important and responsible duties of Head Master and Matron of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School of Ireland. This mark of esteem was presented to them by some of their many friends amongst the Governors of the School. (Signed) Abercorn, G.M.; J. C. Meredith, D.G.M.; Oliver Fry, Hon. Sec. Dublin, 23rd October, 1897."

Bro. HOLDBROOK, who was cordially greeted, tendered on behalf of Mrs. Holdbrook and himself very sincere thanks for the handsome presentation which had been made to them after 14 years' service in the Masonic Boys' School. The Deputy Grand Master had said a great deal more of him than he deserved. (No, no.) The duties which his wife and himself had to discharge at the Boys' School had been made easy by the courtesy and kindness of the Governors. They had done their best to please the Governors, and it was a matter of great gratification that they had succeeded in that. He could not allow that occasion to pass without acknowledging the great help Mrs. Holdbrook and himself had received in the management of the School from one Governor in particular. He referred to Bro. Oliver Fry, the Hon. Secretary. (Hear, hear.) He also had to thank the Governors of both Schools for his appointment as Assistant Secretary to the two Institutions, and he trusted he would be able to give satisfaction in the way he would perform the new work which would devolve upon him. In conclusion, he thanked the Duchess of Abercorn for the part she had taken in the presentation, the value of which was enhanced by receiving it from her Grace's hands. (Applause.)

Bro. Lord Justice FITZGIBBON, who on rising was received with loud applause, said there was another presentation which they would ask her Grace to pass through her hands to the very worthy recipient. The record of the Girls' School for the past 16 years had been the history of the life of Ellen Neale for the same period. She came to the Masonic Orphan School in 1881, and at every step in the growth of the Institution, which was now practically as perfect as it could be, she was the right hand in its administration and in the great work that had been done. (Applause.) She began with 36 girls, and the roll now numbered 100. (Applause.) Sixteen years was exactly a school generation, and none of the children now in the School were born when Mrs. Neale came to the Institution. A large number of girls had passed from under her motherly care, and probably not one of them who were alive had forgotten her good counsel and loving concern. From all parts of the world had come from her former pupils words of regret at her severance from the School, and of gratitude for her goodness to them in the past. He was charged by a member of the Ladies' Committee, whose illness kept her at home, to wish her a kindly farewell; and he had also received a cordial message from her former colleague, Mrs. Lewis, who was so well known in the School as Miss F. Trigg. (Hear, hear.) The School had reason to be proud of the ex-pupils, and they had reason to be proud of the School. (Applause.) No one but a person closely connected with Mrs. Neale could know of the full value of the work she had done for that Girls' School. It was her first care in the morning, and he would not say that it was her last care at night, for it had been her care all through the night; and when a girl was leaving she was the last to bid her a kindly good-bye, and wish her God-speed. And even after that Mrs. Neale was always ready with her help and advice when those girls went out into the world. In her more practical business relations she had astounded some people, and one brother had been good enough to say that the accounts of the School must have been cooked, as it could not have been kept up on the money spent upon it. (Laughter.) It was managed so economically that the cost was the same for 80 girls as it was for 36 when Mrs. Neale came to them. She had also gone step by step until for good condition and order the School was probably unequalled. (Hear, hear.) She had left the School in that condition in the hands of Miss Grant, her successor, who had lived and worked with her for so long. (Hear, hear.) They now wished Mrs. Neale Godspeed, and they had done the best they could to make the change she brought about an easy one and to make her future home a bright and happy one. One member of the Committee had given her a presentation as her colleagues had given token of their affection and respect on her leaving; the pupils, past and present, had done the same, and now, on behalf of 150 gentlemen and ladies connected with the School, a cheque for £125 would be handed to her. (Applause.)

The presentation having been made,

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER again rose and said before he proposed a resolution which he knew they would all readily accept, he had to say a few words in the nature of an apology to the many friends who had come to take part in that afternoon's celebration. They had greatly to deplore that the hall in which they were assembled was not three or four times larger than it was in order that they might be able to accommodate all who had come to the School that afternoon. Masons could do a great deal, but they could not make a hall built to accommodate hundreds accommodate thousands. They were also sorry that they could not have the usual calisthenic display by the pupils, but visitors were welcome to the School on any Wednesday, when the girls went through these exercises. He was quite sure that everyone in that assemblage was willing and anxious to tender most hearty thanks to the Duchess of Abercorn for coming amongst them on that occasion and for the lively interest her Grace had always taken in the success of these Schools. (Hear, hear.) Her Grace in many cases had carefully watched the career of pupils after they had left the School, and, as an instance of her

practical interest in their welfare he might mention that she left Baronscourt that morning for the purpose of being present with them that afternoon, although she had pressing home duties to attend to, and these would necessitate her returning that night to Baronscourt. He proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to her Grace.

Bro. GRAVES S. EVES, Hon. Sec. of the School, seconded the proposal, which was adopted with acclamation.

The GRAND MASTER, who was warmly greeted, said, on behalf of the Duchess and himself, it was his pleasure to return their hearty thanks for the manner in which the proposal of the Dep. G. Master had been received. He had to congratulate the brethren and all connected with the establishment on the success of that, the first, meeting for the distribution of prizes held within the walls of their Institution. He was sure that all those who took a deep interest in the working of the School must have been extremely gratified at the proceedings which took place that evening. There was only one thing to regret, and it was that they were not able to see the calisthenics, which used to afford so much pleasure and admiration in the Leinster Hall at their annual gatherings. He had always taken the greatest interest in that department of their educational system, and he was glad that it was so efficiently carried out, as was everything else connected with the training of the children in that establishment. (Hear, hear.) He was also sorry that space did not permit them that evening of seeing more of the pupils of the Boys' School, who, as they passed the platform, he could not help remarking, were a fine, manly, healthy lot of youths—(hear, hear)—and reflecting much credit on Mr. and Mrs. Holdbrook, who had just severed their connection with the Boys' School as Master and Matron. The Governors and officials of the Schools were to be congratulated on the splendid manner in which their management was carried out, and the two Institutions were at the present moment in a most efficient state, the one with 100 girls and the other with 80 boys. The successes of the pupils at the intermediate and other examinations had proved that the education taught to the children of their deceased brethren was as efficient as in any other establishment in Ireland. Having referred to the pleasure it afforded him to witness the two well-deserved presentations which had been made that evening, and having spoken in eulogistic terms of Mrs. Neale and Mr. and Mrs. Holdbrook, and of the manner in which they had managed the Schools during their periods of office, his Grace concluded by expressing the hope that these annual celebrations would be carried out in the future in the same happy spirit that characterised the proceedings of that day, and that as the demands on the resources of their Schools increased the supply would be found equal to the demand. (Applause).

This concluded the business of the meeting, and the visitors then proceeded to inspect the different departments of the School. The band of the Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment performed a selection of music in the grounds during the afternoon. As the Grand Master and the Duchess of Abercorn drove away they were loudly cheered by the pupils of the Boys' School, who were in charge of Bro. Moore, the newly-appointed Head Master.

Craft Masonry.

Angel Lodge, No. 51.

The installation meeting was held on the 28th ultimo, at the Three Cups Hotel Colchester, and passed off with great *éclat*. The principal business was the installation of Bro. H. G. H. Elliott, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year, which ceremony was performed by the retiring W.M. in a manner that called forth the highest praise from all present. The officers for the year were appointed and invested as follows: Bros. Thos. Gilbert, S.W.; Willoughby J. Bean, J.W.; Rev. C. C. Natters, P.G.C.; Chap.; J. Grimes, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Treas.; Thos. J. Ralling, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. Eng., P.G. Sec.; Sec.; John E. Cheese, S.D.; F. Graham Macdonald, J.D.; E. R. Tebbitt, I.G.; R. Haward Ives, P.M., P.P.A.G. Sec., D.C.; C. Osmond, P.M., P.P. G. Org., Org.; S. E. Worts and C. T. Wright, Stewards; and Arthur Wright, Tyler.

A vote of thanks was heartily passed to Bro. C. Egerton-Green for the ability with which he had carried out the duties of Installing Master. Bro. Harry E. Baker, W.M. 697, then, on behalf of the Provincial Grand Lodge Reception Committee, presented to Bro. Egerton-Green a handsomely-illuminated address, expressive of their thanks for his kindness in giving the use of his grounds for the recent meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge. Bro. Baker said this act of kindness was highly appreciated by the Earl of Warwick and the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, but it was particularly so by the local brethren, because it enabled them to hold that pleasant garden party which they could not have done if they had met in a public building. He knew that it was highly appreciated by the ladies, and had given them a kindlier interest in Freemasonry. The Committee on whose behalf he acted trusted that Bro. Egerton-Green would accept the address, not so much on account of its intrinsic worth, but as a sincere expression of their regard and esteem. (Applause.) Bro. C. Egerton-Green, who had a very cordial reception, assured the brethren of the Colchester lodges that he most thoroughly appreciated the kindness that had prompted the presentation of that address, and particularly the kind way in which the W.M. of the United Lodge had spoken of him. It was a great pleasure to him to have been able to receive the Essex brethren at his own house, and so far from deserving any thanks he felt it his duty, as being the fortunate occupier of such grounds, to place them at their disposal for the meeting, which they were glad had proved such a great success. (Applause.) The address, which was greatly admired, was as follows:

"To W. Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, W.M. 51, P.M. 2477, Prov. S.G. Warden and
P.P.G. Treas. Essex.

"The members of the Angel Lodge, No. 51, and United Lodge, No. 697, desire to place on record their sense of the obligation they are under to you for the zel with which you endeavour to promote the best interests of Freemasonry in the District. Particularly would they express their hearty thanks for the unreserved manner in which you placed the Grounds of East Hill House at the disposal of the Brethren for the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, held at Colchester on Tuesday, the 13th July, 1897, under the presidency of the Earl of Warwick, Provincial Grand Master, and which tended in no small degree to the success of the gathering.

"Signed, on behalf of the Brethren,

"HARRY E. BAKER, W.M. 697,
"THOS. J. RALLING,
"JOHN THOS. BAYLEY,

"Joint Secs. to the Provincial Grand Lodge Reception Committee.
Colchester, August, 1897."

Bro. Joseph Grimes having been re-elected to represent the Lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee and three gentlemen proposed for initiation and two brethren as joining members, the lodge was closed.

Between 50 and 60 brethren afterwards dined at the Cups Hotel, an excellent repast being well served by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Woodward.

Between the toasts an excellent programme of music was performed by Messrs. F. V. Salmon, Peck, and J. H. Nunn, under the direction of Bro. C. Osmond, P.M., the Organist of the lodge.

THE BUSINESS PREMISES of the great carrying firm of Carter, Paterson, and Co., in Goswell-road, Clerkenwell, were burnt to the ground by a fire which broke out early on Sunday morning. At one time it seemed as if the distillery of Messrs. Gordon and Co., and the premises of Messrs. G. Farmiloe and Sons, lead and glass merchants, which are situated close by would be burnt as well, but the exertions of the Fire Brigade under Commander Wells were happily successful in preventing this. Messrs. Carter, Paterson, and Co.'s horses, to the number of nearly 500, were also rescued, but the premises themselves, with a large amount of property ready to be dispatched, were completely burnt out.

NOV. 6, 1897.

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Bro. Rev. W. D.—, aged, incurable, was admitted January, 1896. He has been an inmate for 18 months. As there is no provision in the temporary home for the reception of ladies, he is separated from his aged wife. His Brother will be an applicant for election to the Clerical Masonic Almshouses when built.

Bro. Rev. C. W.—, London Curate broken down from the effects of hard work, has had 12 months' care and nursing.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1897.

Masonic Notes.

The regular Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 3rd instant, when a long discussion took place over the motions of which notice had been given, and to which we briefly referred last week. It will be seen that Comp. Strachan carried his motion, but modified as proposed by Comp. Thomas Fenn, while Comp. Le Feuvre's motion was also adopted, and Comp. Bassett's, by leave, withdrawn, as the proposal it contained was virtually embodied in Comp. Strachan's motion. The full report we publish elsewhere will enlighten our readers as to the general tenor of the discussion that took place.

* * *

We have been requested to announce that Thursday, the 9th December, will be the latest day on which petitions for the April Election, 1898, of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls must reach the offices of the Institution, 5, Freemasons' Hall. It is hardly necessary, however, to add that it is highly desirable they should be received as much before that date as possible.

* * *

A new lodge has been added to the roll of lodges in Northumberland, the Victoria Commemoration Lodge, No. 2666, which has been established in connection with the Reserve Forces, having been consecrated by Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M., assisted by Bro. Richard H. Holmes, J.P., P.G.D. Eng., Dep. P.G.M., at the Central Masonic Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Friday, the 29th ult., at a meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge. Everything passed off most satisfactorily, and when the new lodge had been duly constituted, Bro. J. Straker Wilson, Prov. G.D.C., was installed in office as the first W.M., and afterwards invested his officers for the year. We trust that the Victoria Commemoration Lodge, which starts well

under the guidance of an able and experienced brother, may have before it a long and prosperous career.

* * *

We regret to hear that the Board of Stewards for the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which will be held in February next, is far below its usual strength at this period of the year. It is true that upwards of three months must elapse between now and the day appointed for the celebration, but in November we look forward to seeing that substantial progress has been made in the constitution of the Board, and we are sorry to say this is very far from being the case at the present date. We must remind our readers that the sum now required for annuities—to say nothing of the expenses of management and for the Asylum at Croydon—is between £16,000 and £17,000, and it will need a strong Board of Stewards to raise that sum. We, therefore, urge upon our readers the importance of sending in their names at as early a date as possible, so that the Benevolent Institution may obtain the sum required for its maintenance.

* * *

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland was held at Narborough, on Thursday, the 28th ult., when Bro. the Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., who has rendered most valuable service to the Province in several capacities, but more especially as Prov. G. Secretary for several years, was presented with his Grand Lodge clothing on his recent appointment as Past Prov. G. Chap. of England. Such a token of respect as this must be especially gratifying to our Rev. brother, and we trust he may be spared for many years to render, if possible, still more important services to his Province.

* * *

It seems that next year the Grand Chapter of Connecticut will celebrate its centenary, and in order to provide the wherewithal to defray the expenses attending the celebration, it has been resolved that "a per capita tax of 35 cents" shall be assessed upon the chapters on the roll for the ensuing year. According to the latest returns we have seen there are 38 chapters holding under the Grand Chapter with an aggregate subscribing membership of 5521, so that the proceeds of the assessment will amount to a pretty considerable sum—upwards of 1900 dollars. Comp. I. F. Stidham is the new G.H.P., under whose auspices we presume the auspicious event will be celebrated, while Comp. James McCormick retains the office of Grand Secretary, which he has held for some time past with so much advantage to the Grand Chapter. We sincerely hope that the Centenary Festival will prove a success to which future generations of Connecticut companions may be able to point with pride.

* * *

A regular convocation of the Provincial Grand Chapter of India under Scotland was held at Freemasons' Hall, Byculla, Bombay, on the 6th September, under the presidency of Comp. K. R. Cama, Grand Superintendent, when that distinguished companion, notwithstanding that he expressed a hope that a younger man would be nominated to succeed him at the close of his five years' term of office, was unanimously re-nominated for a further term, and promised to do all in his power to promote the welfare of Royal Arch Masonry in India under the Scottish Constitution. Comp. Capt. C. D. Wise, Prov. G.S.E., Past Depute G. Supt., in proposing the nomination for re-appointment, pointed out that Comp. Cama's administration had been most successful; that his jurisdiction, heretofore restricted to Western India, had been extended to the whole of India; and that the number of chapters on the roll was 15 as compared with nine in 1891. There was no gainsaying these gratifying statements, and the proposal was adopted by acclamation.

* * *

In the very interesting address which Bro. C. Letch Mason, Prov. G. Mark Master of West Yorkshire, delivered at the recent half-yearly meeting of his Prov. G. Lodge, one of the matters he referred to as having a special claim upon the attention of the brethren was the history of Freemasonry. He readily conceded that great advances had been made in this direction during the past 25 years, that much light had been thrown "upon what was obscure and difficult," and "that many fallacies" had been "exploded and fantastic theories proved groundless." The "accumulated rubbish of centuries" had been cleared away and the student was now striving "to build upon a solid basis of fact some superstructure, whose material may be sound, general outline correct, and details historically accurate."

We are informed that the attention of Bro. Henry Barnato, one of the trustees under the will of the late Bro. B. I. Barnato, having been called to the fact of there being a balance of 50 guineas still required to complete the sum of £1000 which is being raised to endow in perpetuity a bed in Guy's Hospital in the name of the Freemasons of England, that brother at once intimated his intention of consulting his co-trustee with a view to furnishing the sum required. He has done this notwithstanding that the late Bro. B. I. Barnato generously presented the Hospital in question with £1000 on the occasion when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presided at the Special Festival held last year in aid of its re-endowment.

* * *

Bro. Mason expressed his opinion that in this work there were many who might render valuable assistance and he promised that in the event of any brother conceiving the idea "that he can interest or instruct us in the history or traditions of Mark Masonry," he and the Mark brethren of West Yorkshire would not hesitate to give him every encouragement in their power. This is most encouraging and we hope that competent brethren will be induced by the prospect of such support to make researches into the "history and traditions" of the Mark Degree. A little—we are afraid it is only a very very little—has been done in respect of the history of Mark Masonry and its lodges, but it is something to know that a beginning has been made and we hope it will not be long before the good work is carried still further.

* * *

According to Bro. Geo. Ven. Saun, of Iowa, as quoted in the *Canadian Craftsman* of last month the position of a non-affiliate from the jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge is a peculiar one, if, indeed, that can be described as peculiar, which has no recognised existence. The said non-affiliate may, writes Bro. Ven. Saun, "Knock at our door for admission as a visitor, and yet the Worshipful Master is obliged to deny his request under our law—he has no right of visitation, no right of Masonic relief from the lodge, and, in case of death, no right of Masonic burial." The reason for all this is, we are told, because "he has committed the great crime (Masonic) of taking a dimity possibly to join a lodge in another State, and is accordingly denied the courtesy of visiting with his brethren in the tyed precincts of the lodge." If Bro. Ven Saun has been correctly quoted, and his statement is true, we can have no very high opinion of Freemasonry in Iowa in respect of this treatment of non-affiliates. We consider the non-affiliate outside the lodge portals in a jurisdiction which can think of acting in this fashion towards a brother.

* * *

The *Indian Masonic Review*, in its October number comments upon the very poor attendance at the meeting of the District Grand Chapter of Madras on the 4th September, and considers it was a very dismal inauguration of the new departure of having two chapter meetings annually instead of one. It does not believe that a feeling of antagonism to a September meeting had anything to do with it, but rather that it was owing partly to the absence from Madras of many of the most regular attendants at these gatherings, and possibly also to the fact that the business on the agenda was limited to the passing of the revised by-laws. The Grand Superintendent appears to have taken it somewhat more seriously to heart, and pointed out that attendance at Grand Chapter "was a duty on the part of its members, and one not to be lightly neglected. To say the least of it, it is showing a decided want of respect to the head of the District," when the members neither attend personally, nor, if that be impossible, send an apology for non-attendance.

* * *

We are afraid that Madras is not the only District in which this "decided want of respect" to its Grand Superintendent is exhibited, and indeed that there are not a few Provinces as well as Districts in which the same complaint as to the paucity of attendance might be made. Nor in this case of Madras do we think it a sufficient excuse for the smallness of the attendance that the business was restricted to the "passing of the revised by-laws." The revision of by-laws is a matter of some importance, and ought to command at least a fair attendance of those interested in the proper government of a Province or District.

* * *

THE KIRBY MEMORIAL.—The monument to the memory of our late Bro. W. H. Kirby, is now erected in High Wycombe Cemetery, and will be unveiled by the Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, to-morrow (Saturday), at four o'clock, to which ceremony the subscribers and other Masonic friends of the deceased are invited. It is proposed to leave Paddington by a special train about 2.30 p.m., and to return from High Wycombe about 5 p.m. It is anticipated that a large number of brethren will take this opportunity of paying a visit to Bro. Kirby's grave and viewing the monument, which is of a most and unique character, being distinctly Masonic. It was designed by Bro. Henry S. Wellcome.

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.

CLEARANCE CERTIFICATES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In reply to "D.C.'s" letter in your issue of the 23rd ult., I beg to say we have a form of clearance certificate which is used when occasion requires. This form is rather ancient, as the word Master is spelt thus—Master. There are not many of these forms left, but have spared one, which I enclose, and ask you to forward it to the brother's address, together with a form of summons, also enclosed, which, I think, is rather unique, and which is also regularly used, as you will see. This form we have the copper plate of.

Trusting they will be interesting to "D.C."—I remain, yours fraternally,
W. FLINT, W.M. 311.

November 3rd.

In Memoriam.

H.R.H. MARY ADELAIDE, DUCHESS OF TECK,
"THE LADY OF WHITE LODGE," Richmond,
Died 27th October, 1897.

* Pallida Mors quo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas
Regumque turres. Horace Lib. 1, Carmen 4.

"She stretcheth out her hands to the poor;
Her children arise up and call her blessed."
Prov., Chap. 31, Vs. 20 and 28.

Impartial Death again his shaft has cast
At Royal kindred—snapt the golden chain
Linking the mournful present with the past—
Another shadow o'er our Sovereign's reign.

Daughter of England, cousin of our Queen,
Together joined in pure Affection's tie,
True, loyal subject she has ever been,
Though less in rank, equal in sympathy.

Beloved by husband, to her daughter dear,
She well fulfilled her duty as a wife,
Trained up each son in holy faith and fear,
For England's service to devote his life.

Retired from the glitt'ring pomp of Court,
In sweet simplicity content to dwell,
Domestic joys and rural scenes she sought,
In beauteous Richmond, which she loved so well.

"Lady of White Lodge," known to one and all,
To rich and poor, to youth and hoary age,
Oft will fond memory her voice recall,
Her kindly sympathy sad thoughts engage.

Where suffering sorrow helplessly is laid,
There was the Royal lady constant found
Sustained by pity and of nought afraid,
The sunshine of her presence shed around.

Prompt in her counsel evil to redress,
Wise was her bounty, timely was her aid;
"Dear Princess Mary" they did ever bless,
Their grateful love the country people paid.

As a good steward of the worldly wealth
Which Providence entrusted to her care,
Oft did her generous hand do good by stealth,
Heartfelt her wishes, sanctified by prayer.
All Britain mourns thy dear familiar face—
Partaker of the harvest of the blest—
Wafted on blessings to thy heavenly place,
Oh! may thy spirit find eternal rest!

F. W. DRIVER, M.A., Prof.

62, Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, W.

* Pale Death with equal step expectant waits
At cottage door, and regal palace gates.

Craft Masonry.

Moira Lodge, No. 92.

The first meeting of this lodge after the summer recess was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Tuesday, the 26th ult., when there were present Bros. Rev. R. I. Woodhouse, W.M.; Wickham F. Noakes, S.W.; John Webb, J.W.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., P.D.G., Reg., Treas.; R. F. Gould, P.M., P.G.D., Sec.; C. E. Russell, S.D.; A. W. Smith, J.D.; Russell Ardagh, I.G.; Harold Carter, P.M.; G. Greiner, P.M.; E. Greiner, P.M.; and J. P. Murrough. Bros. T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C., and C. T. Micher, P.P.G.D. Kent, were visitors.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been confirmed, the W.M. said: Before we proceed to any further business, it is my sad duty to remind the brethren what a loss this lodge has sustained, and the Masonic Craft generally, in the death of our esteemed and distinguished brother, Sir Norman Pringle. He was born on April 17th, 1837, and passed away on July 21st, at the comparatively early age of 60 years. During over 30 years of his life he was engaged in active service in defence of his country, having entered the Army as an ensign in the 35th Foot (now the 1st Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment) on September 10th, 1858, when he was 21 years of age, and having retired as a colonel in 1888. Sir Norman served through the Egyptian War of 1882, commanding the outposts during the reconnaissance from Alexandria, and received the medal and Khedive's star. In 1885 he was with the Sudan Frontier Field Force, being commandant of the base at Wady Halfa, and in 1886 he took part in the operations on the Upper Nile, and in his bearing, punctuality, and love of order, he showed in all his undertakings the highest character of a British officer. It is not, however, in his distinguished career as one of her Majesty's Army that we feel his loss to-night; it is rather as an efficient, earnest student of the deep science of our Craft, and a brother beloved by all for his kindness, courtesy, and urbanity, that we mourn his departure from the Moira Lodge and Chapter. Sir Norman was initiated on October 18th, 1880, and passed and raised in this lodge. He took office as I.G., and went on to S.D., after

which he was ordered on foreign service; but he always remained a member of his mother lodge, and directly he returned to England to reside, he gladly re-accepted office in the Moira Lodge, and how ably he filled the post of Worshipful Master no one knows better than I do, for he occupied that important position, both at my initiation and raising, so that my grief is enhanced tonight in mourning a father in Masonry and brother in the Craft. Directly Bro. Gould acquainted me with the loss, I wrote a letter of condolence to the family, but I feel certain the brethren would like to express in lodge a vote of sympathy to Lady Pringle and her family in the irreparable sorrow they sustain. I therefore move that the Secretary of the Moira Lodge be asked to send to Lady Pringle a letter expressing the lodge's sympathy and condolence in her sad bereavement. The following resolution was then proposed from the chair, seconded by the Treasurer, and carried unanimously: "That the lodge desires to place upon record its deep sorrow for the death of Bro. Colonel Sir N. W. D. Pringle, Bart., P.M., its high appreciation of his distinguished services to his country and the Craft, and its sense of his devotion to the well-being of this lodge, and the skill, assiduity, urbanity, and brotherly kindness with which he discharged all his Masonic duties. Ballots were taken for the offices of W.M. and Treasurer, and declared to be unanimously in favour of Bros. W. F. Noakes, S.W., and T. L. Wilkinson, P.M., respectively. Bro. George Couchman was re-elected Tyler by a show of hands. Bros. J. P. Murrough, R. A. Gubbay, C. E. Russell, A. W. Smith, and Russell Ardagh were elected members of the Committee of Finance. It was moved by the Treasurer, seconded by the Secretary, and resolved "That the lodge desires to place upon record its very great gratification at her Majesty the Queen having been graciously pleased to recognise the eminent, public, and philanthropic labours of Bro. Sir Henry Harben, P.M., by conferring upon him the honour of knighthood." A former member of the lodge was proposed for re-joining, after which, there being no further business, the lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards dined together, and the usual toasts followed.

Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859.

The installation meeting of this lodge (which was established in 1861) was held on the 26th ult., when a large amount of work was got through.

The lodge having been opened, the installation ceremony was proceeded with, and Bro. W. J. Fernie, P.G.S.B., the stroke oarsman of the light blue crew, was placed in the chair of K.S. by Bro. W. H. Francis, P.P.J.G.D. The address to the brethren was delivered by Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.J.G.W. Eng. The officers for the year are as follows: Bros. W. J. Fernie, Trinity Hall, P.G.S.B., W.M.; T. B. Hope, B.A., Trinity Hall, P.J.G.D., I.P.M.; I. Bland, B.A., Caius College, P.P.G.S., S.W.; W. Pollard, M.A., Caius College, J.W.; the Rev. A. L. Brown, M.A., Selwyn College, Chap.; W. G. Bell, M.A., Trinity College, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; the Rev. Denis Hall, M.A., Non-Coll., P.M., P.P.G.C., Sec.; A. S. Bell, Trinity Hall, S.D.; S. W. Burgess, Jesus College, J.D.; G. T. Bullard, Trinity Hall, D.C.; G. A. Crane, Trinity College, I.G.; W. J. Armitage, Emanuel College, Org.; J. H. C. Dalton, M.A., M.D., Trinity College, H. G. Comber, M.A., Pembroke College, B. H. Howell, Trinity Hall, R. L. V. Foster, B.A., King's College, W. Briggs, M.A., Jesus College, C. H. Miller, Trinity College, H. H. Riddle, Peterhouse, and S. J. A. Troyte, Trinity Hall, Stwds.; and C. H. Ellis and G. Allen, Tylers.

About 50 brethren attended the banquet, and the visitors included (in addition to Bro. Sir John Monckton) Bros. the Rev. J. H. Gray, P.G. Chap. Eng., Dep. Prov. G.M.; E. M. Money, P.G. Stwd. Eng.; and others.

The newly-installed W.M., Bro. W. J. Fernie, appropriately proposed the customary toasts.

In responding for "The Grand Lodge Officers," Bro. Sir John Monckton mentioned the attendance of Grand Lodge Officers at the laying of the foundation-stone of the new Christ's Hospital building at Horsham in the previous week as an illustration of the zeal with which they performed their duties, sometimes under trying circumstances. He could not help thinking on that occasion of a similar event which occurred in connection with their Masonic Hall at Cambridge, when the laying of the foundation-stone was followed by a sort of financial crisis—the stone being removed and the coins extracted; but he trusted that a similar fate would not befall the coins placed in the foundation-stone at Horsham. He assured the Isaac Newton Lodge that he was proud to have the honour of being elected an honorary member, and he wished success to the W.M.

The W.M. of No. 10, in responding for "The Sister Lodges," spoke of the desirability of brethren of the Isaac Newton Lodge joining the London lodge; and alluding to the cheerful evening he had spent, said that it was not every day that one had one's health proposed by the stroke of the University Boat—an event which he should consider worth remembering.

Bro. W. P. Spalding, P.M. 88, speaking to the toast of "The Visitors," submitted that Masonry amongst the town lodges in Cambridge did that for the people of the borough that nothing else could do so well; and the hospitality which the town visitors received at the University Lodge prompted good feeling between town and University, which, perhaps, could not be so well effected in any other way.

Burgoyne Lodge, No. 902.

There was a large gathering at the installation meeting of this lodge, held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C., on the 25th ult. The members present included Bros. E. W. Pillinger, W.M.; C. Butcher, S.W.; W. Bean, J.W.; G. Gabb, P.M., Treas.; S. J. Byng, P.M., Sec.; C. S. White, P.M., D.C.; J. J. Fifield, S.D.; G. Brown, J.D.; C. Horton, I.G.; S. Rashleigh, P.M.; H. Norrington, P.M.; John Mason, P.G.S.B.; and others. Visitors: Bros. W. S. Dunkley, P.M. 177; R. J. Taylor, P.M. 1220; Buckingham Bird, jun., W.M. 226; D. G. George, W.M. 574; D. Harlow, P.M.; S. C. Bateman, W.M. 1707; A. Hallowes, 2581; A. G. Dodson, P.M. 177; H. J. Gabb, P.M., Treas. 813; A. Woods, 1853; T. Moore, 1541; F. J. Ruse, P.M. 65; J. Cofer; G. Smith, W.M. 554; A. Tisley, P.G. Steward; L. von Hill, J.W. 1411; D. McMasters, 2562; W. Martin, A.G. Purst.; J. A. Shelton, P.M.; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.I.; and others.

The lodge was opened at an early hour in the afternoon, and the minutes were confirmed, Bro. Mayston being afterwards passed to the Second Degree. Bro. Charles Butcher was next presented as W.M. elect, and was duly installed into the chair by Bro. Pillinger, the retiring W.M. The officers appointed and invested were Bros. W. Bean, S.W.; J. J. Fifield, J.W.; G. Gabb, P.M., Treas.; S. J. Byng, P.M., Sec.; G. J. Brown, S.D.; F. Richmond, J.D.; W. Merrett, I.G.; E. S. White, P.M., D.C.; J. Oscroft and A. V. Jenkins, Stwds.; H. R. H. Haycraft, A.D.C.; Crumbleholme, Org.; and Gilbert, Tyler. A letter was read acknowledging the receipt of a congratulatory telegram to her Majesty on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee. Messrs. H. E. Fifield, F. G. Saunders, R. Butler, and T. Turner were ably initiated into Freemasonry by the newly-installed Master. Other items of business were transacted and the lodge was closed.

The banquet was followed by the usual toast list and a lengthy programme of music, which, owing to the lateness of the hour, had to be somewhat curtailed.

Bro. John Mason, P.G.S.B., who replied for "The Grand Officers," said there were three classes of Grand Officers—those useful brethren like the Pro G.M., Dep. G.M., and others, the ornamental Grand Officers, and those like himself who were neither useful nor ornamental.

Bro. Walter Martin, A.G.P., as a present Grand Officer responded also, and expressed his pleasure at seeing his old friend, Bro. Butcher, installed in the chair of that lodge. In congratulating the W.M. he also congratulated the lodge on having such an excellent Master, who he hoped would have health, strength, and wisdom to carry out his duties.

Bro. E. W. Pillinger, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said that Bro. Butcher had started his Mastership in a very pleasant and generous way. He felt sure that in the W.M. they possessed one who would carry the Burgoyne Lodge on the road to progress. Their lodge—judging by what it was when he (the I.P.M.) began his year—was a lodge of progress, for great strides had been made in the last few years. The path of progress was safe in the Worshipful Master's hands, and at the end of his term they would heartily congratulate him and also the lodge on the successful results.

Bro. C. Butcher, W.M., briefly returned thanks. If the members would support him, and bring him good men and true to be initiated, he would endeavour to do his best to please the members.

"The Initiates" was next given, and replied to by Bros. Fifield, Saunders, Butler, and Turner.

The W.M. proposed "The I.P.M.," and said the members all felt that Bro. Pillinger, I.P.M., had done his duty. He would avail himself of this opportunity of

presenting Bro. Pillinger with a Past Master's jewel, and all the members would unite in wishing their I.P.M. every good wish. They hoped Bro. Pillinger would live for many years to wear the jewel and be with them.

Bro. E. W. Pillinger, I.P.M., in response, said the hour was too far advanced to say much. It was a very proud moment of his life, first to have merited the approbation of his fellow brethren in the lodge to which he was proud to belong. He hardly knew how to thank them for the handsome way in which his health had been proposed and received, but he thanked them sincerely from the bottom of his heart. Ever since he joined Masonry 17 years ago, he had been thankful he had done so. He considered Freemasonry one of the grandest religions that ever existed on earth, and he told this to a clergyman who asked him about it. When asked why he considered it so, he said because it taught one grand truth, which, if practised more extensively in the outside world would be better for all—and that was Charity. They were not all perfect, and Masonry taught the purest principles of piety and virtue. As far as the past year was concerned, there had been one event which had consoled many of the fair sex, and that was the ladies' banquet. He only hoped the movement would continue to grow, for it would be for the benefit of themselves and others. During the Jubilee year they had had a reply from her Majesty, which was read in the lodge. He hoped to be given health and strength to render due support to the lodge, to the present W.M., and his successors. The Burgoine Lodge, he had no doubt, would continue in the path of progress, and would be in the foremost rank of any in the kingdom. The beautiful jewel presented to him would always remind him of the true spirit of Charity of which he had spoken.

Bro. John Mason, P.G.S.B., acknowledged "The Visitors." He was pleased to visit the lodge again after some years and witness the excellent working, but the crowning point had been when the W.M. consented to kindly represent that lodge for the Old People. He had heard that a special effort was being made for the Boys' School, but trusted it would not mean that their pockets would be closed for the poor old people. Nearly £17,000 was paid in annuities, and if they should have to sell some of the funds put by in times past, it would be the first time in the history of the Institution. He hoped the members would support the Master's list by their contributions, however small, which would be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

"The Past Masters, Treasurer, and Secretary" was given, Bro. Byng, P.M., Sec., and others replying in appropriate terms.

"The Officers" was also honoured before the proceedings terminated.

Bro. Briggs presided at the pianoforte, and items on the musical programme were contributed by the Celia Quartette and Bros. W. Hills Smith, A. Pinnington, J. L. Iladdon, and Sam Wright.

Metropolitan Lodge No 1507

PRESENTATION TO BRO. F. J. PERKS, P.M., SECRETARY.

The installation meeting of this very successful lodge took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 20th ult., when nearly 140 attended to honour Bro. J. H. Moggridge the W.M. elect, a highly esteemed member of the lodge. Bro. Joseph Bate, W.M., presided, and amongst those present were Bros. J. F. Saunders, I.P.M.; J. H. Moggridge, S.W.; W. Barry, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.M., P.G.T., Treas.; F. J. Perks, P.M., Sec.; E. E. Hawkins, S.D.; E. G. Steers, J.D.; A. C. Bradley, I.G.; J. C. H. Sargent and W. R. Thompson, Stwds.; A. Jackson, Org.; C. J. Scales, P.M.; T. M. Ormiston, G. Clark, P.M.; R. Tuck, D. Hatch, J. McEwan, P.M.; W. F. Bates, P.M.; R. W. Fraser, P.M.; J. Carter, R. Alaway, P.M.; J. Sturmer, W. H. Aston, J. A. Trongi, R. C. Gleed, F. Ward, J. H. Timberlake, T. L. Eames, J. Foster, E. J. Pearson, G. C. Paine, W. Mitchell, E. P. Innocent, J. Campbell, H. W. Newman, S. Dancyger, P.M.; J. Matt, W. A. Mason, A. P. Innocent, G. J. Jones, W. Ellis, G. B. Garstin, J. Cattaneo, J. L. Tannar, H. W. King, J. Hess, A. Hess, R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; G. H. N. Bridges, P.G.S.B.; C. H. Vincent, P.M. 1823, P.P.G.R. Suffolk; W. Call, P.M. 1209, P.P.G.D.C.; J. H. Price, 1521, P.P.G.T. Surrey; D. W. Sargent, P.M. 2305; H. N. Clark, 2228; B. C. Dugger, W.M. elect 1635; J. W. Doubtfire, 1603; J. R. Hill, J.W. 157; J. Pigé, P.M. 1228; H. J. Abraham, W.M. 2580; C. Johnson, J.D. 2206; R. H. Unsworth, I.P.M. 959; J. E. Pierce; W. L. Dickson, 58; H. J. Grimwade, 2601; T. Whitford, W.M. 1321; J. Warden, 1321; W. J. Lockett, 192; E. A. Fuchsbach, 1777; S. H. Stanfield, 467; F. Walter, 1321; J. Hatch, 1538; W. Noble, W.M. 1538; J. Shapcott, 733; S. McGregor, 1321; T. Richardson, P.M. 862; E. L. Greville, 2222; F. Landeker, 217; W. Hollingsworth, P.M. 1185; C. C. Cruikshanks, P.M. 1777; W. Blackman, 1635; J. Badger Clark, P.M. 2228; H. West, 55; R. Douglas Smith, P.M. 27; J. E. Culverhouse, 536; J. Kirby, 1903; S. K. Flatman, 1227; A. Eades, W.M. elect, 2332; J. K. Ferguson, 2182; E. J. Cook, I.G. 2332; A. B. McApin, 1257; J. W. Dixon, P.M. 27; C. J. Brown, 45; J. Clarke, 1178; W. A. Weekes, 1585; A. Cash, 1348; J. F. Cliburn, 834; J. Davis, 1288; R. Batchelor, 2579; H. Pickett, 1602; M. Crafton, 30; A. C. Norman, 1744; J. Rush, 2272; G. W. Stanford, J.W. 2006; H. R. Elkin, J.D. 2157; E. G. Cherry, P.M. 861; F. A. Baldwin, 2168; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the lodge meetings of 17th March and 20th September having been read and confirmed, and the Auditors' report received and adopted, the W.M. elect, Bro. James Horatio Moggridge, was then presented by Bro. J. T. Saunders, I.P.M., and installed into the chair by the outgoing Master, Bro. J. Bate, in a most able and praiseworthy manner. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. Barry, S.W.; E. E. Hawkins, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., Treas.; F. J. Perks, P.M., Sec.; E. G. Steers, S.D.; A. C. Bradley, J.D.; R. C. Gleed, I.G.; J. C. H. Sargent, D.C.; W. R. Thompson, Org.; A. Jackson, Stwds.; and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. Bro. J. Bate gave the customary addresses with marked effect, for which he received the hearty congratulations of the brethren. The W.M. then initiated Messrs. John Gray, W. R. Churchill, H. E. Orme, W. H. Shopland, and G. W. Perry—in all five initiates—Bro. Moggridge's working of the ritual was performed in a manner that proved beyond doubt that the members had elected a most competent ruler. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting and a joining member. One guinea was voted for Guy's Hospital Masonic bed, and five guineas was awarded to the wife of an indigent brother who was very ill. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Bro. J. Bate for his splendid year of office and for his excellent services as Installing Master. The W.M. rose and presented to the I.P.M., Bro. J. Bate, a Past Master's jewel as a small token of their esteem and the regard they felt towards him, and intimated that no Master of the lodge had ever better earned a jewel.

Bro. J. Bate acknowledged the vote of thanks and the jewel in brief terms, remarking that he had done his very best while in the chair and if he had given satisfaction to all the members he was gratified. The Metropolitan was his mother lodge and he honoured the jewel and should ever prize it, as it would always remind him of his very happy year of office and he hoped he might be spared to be with them for many years to come. The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. J. Bate, P.M., by the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, as a mark of esteem and in recognition of his able and valued services as W.M. 1896-97."

The lodge was afterwards closed, and a *recherche* banquet followed, which was admirably served under the personal superintendence of Bro. A. Clemow.

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

The W.M. gave "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," observing that they all knew the deep interest his Royal Highness took in Freemasonry.

In giving "The M.W.G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that they were honoured that evening with the presence of three Grand Officers, including their dear old friend, Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., and the lodge was singularly fortunate in having him as one of its members, and, concluding, he said it was his pleasure to couple with the toast the name of Bro. G. H. N. Bridges, P.G.S.B.

In acknowledging the toast, Bro. Bridges, P.G.S.B., stated that the W.M. had taken him by surprise by calling upon him—the junior Grand Officer present—to respond, as he would rather work the Three Degrees than make a speech. The Grand Officers were honoured to wear the purple. He made special mention of Bro. Lord Lathom, who devoted much time to Masonry, including six weeks every year in his own province, and the other Grand Officers were selected for services rendered by them in the Craft. Before he sat down he stated that he must congratulate the lodge upon its great prosperity, and after making a jocular allusion to the extreme quietness of the members at that festive board, he said that he thought that Bro. Stiles, P.G. Treas., was wrongly named, as he should have been named "Smiles."

Bro. J. Bate, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Moggridge." He said that it was undoubtedly the toast of the evening, and it fell to his honour and pleasure to submit it. The members had seen him work from the lowest office in the lodge to his then high position, and they all knew how hard he had worked for Masonry. He had had five initiates that night, and it was a trying ordeal to initiate so many immediately following his installation, and he had performed the ceremony with every satisfaction to all the members.

Bro. J. H. Moggridge, W.M., on rising to respond received an ovation. He said that he was much flattered and honoured by the way the toast had been received. It was true that he commenced his career in the lodge on the bottom rung of the ladder, and he would always endeavour to do his level best to uphold the great prestige of the lodge, and when the time came for him to be relegated as an old fossil, he would still continue to do his utmost, as he hoped he had always done, for that, his mother lodge.

The toast of "The Initiates" was next given by the W.M., who remarked that they had made five that day who would, he thought, be a great acquisition to the lodge. He felt that he must dwell upon one name, because 13 years ago that evening he was initiated, and one Churchill was initiated with him. Bro. Churchill was gone to the Grand Lodge above, but he had left a son, Bro. W. R. Churchill, and he had had the very great honour of initiating that son that evening. He also referred to the other initiates, observing that he trusted they would never regret joining Masonry.

In response, Bro. W. R. Churchill thanked them one and all for the way he had been received and for making him a Mason. He appreciated the kind words of the W.M. as to his father, and he hoped to follow in the footsteps of his father. He was very much impressed with all he had seen and heard in the beautiful ceremony of his initiation.

Bro. J. Gray also responded. He said that it would be his honest endeavour to prove a good Mason and all they could desire, and he should never forget the ordeal he had passed through that evening.

Bros. H. E. Orme and W. H. Shopland also acknowledged the toast in brief but appropriate terms.

Bro. G. W. Perry stated that he trusted to turn out everything that was expected of initiates, and he hoped never to disgrace the Craft.

The W.M. stated that he had in the lodge briefly referred to the Secretary, Bro. F. J. Perks, P.M. Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treasurer, was the first Secretary, and although he was a modest man he was a very busy one, and his other duties would not permit him to continue in that office, Bro. Perks came next and he had been their honoured Secretary for 16 years. They all knew his intrinsic worth and he was without doubt the most modest member of the lodge. He was most genial and had done everything possible to make the lodge the big success it was, thanks to his great efforts. They had never had any serious trouble in the lodge and although a large one, it was one of unanimity, and he attributed that result to Bro. Perks. Those services deserved a slight return, and it was a great pleasure to present him with a handsome silver tea and coffee service. He hoped he would be spared many years to use the articles, and when he was called to the Grand Lodge above he would leave them behind to ever remind his family of the great things he had done for the Metropolitan Lodge.

Bro. F. J. Perks, P.M., on rising was enthusiastically received. He said that he was overpowered by his reception and the flattering words of the W.M. After giving at length some interesting statistics of the lodge during the time he had held the office of Secretary, he stated that the whole of the Founders had gone with the exception of Bro. J. Willing, P.M., and he regretted his absence that evening. It would have been impossible for him to have carried out his duties if he had not had the kind assistance of all the members, and in following Bro. Stiles, P.G. Treas., he had done, he thought, the correct thing, as Bro. Stiles as a Secretary could not be excelled. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart for the very handsome testimonial, and he wished his love to the whole of them.

The remarks of Bro. Perks, P.M., were received with great applause, and when he resumed his seat, he was accorded musical honours.

The teapot forming part of the set bore the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. Past Master F. J. Perks by the members of the Metropolitan Lodge, in recognition of his services as Secretary for 16 years. 20th October, 1897."

In presenting the toast of "The Masonic Charities," the W.M. stated that it was a very important task for the members of the Craft to look after the boys and girls of deceased Masons, and of those who were not, through no fault of their own, able to provide for them. The Schools were well maintained, and were everything that could be desired. He was going up as Steward at the next Festival of the Old People, and, in eloquent terms, he urged the members to give freely, to make his list a goodly one in amount for that very deserving Institution. They were honoured that evening with the genial presence of Bro. James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., and he had much pleasure in associating his name with the toast.

Bro. J. Terry, on rising to respond, was received with much enthusiasm. He said he thanked the W.M. for the forcible manner in which he advocated the three Institutions, and in each and all the W.M. had given them the result of his wisdom and great thought. After referring at length to the Institutions of the Boys and Girls, he made special mention of the Old People, remarking that girls and boys might be adopted, but did they ever hear of anyone adopting old people? In concluding a characteristic and eloquent speech, he stated that he hoped and trusted the W.M.'s list for the Old People would be a bumper, as the members should not forget that the old folk must be kept, and they could pay their esteemed W.M. a great compliment by making his list a substantial one, from the Metropolitan Lodge, which he had the honour of consecrating many years ago, and installing Bro. J. Willing, P.M., as the first W.M. of the lodge.

The W.M. gave "The Visitors." He said the Metropolitan Lodge had always been proverbial for the way they treated their guests, who were always well received. They were honoured that evening with the presence of 60 and upwards—a goodly muster—and he joined with the toast the names of Bros. H. J. Abraham, W.M. 2580; T. Whitford, W.M. 1321; W. Noble, W.M. 1538; R. H. Unsworth, I.P.M. 959; and C. C. Cruikshanks, P.M. 1777.

In response, Bro. H. J. Abraham thanked them for the way the toast had been given and received, but he was sorry it had fallen in such bad hands to respond. The working of the installation ceremony was beautifully done, and if he could do it as well when he would shortly have to install his successor, he would be gratified.

Bro. T. Whitford also responded, and said the visitors appreciated the kind words of welcome of the W.M. The W.M. had rendered excellent service to his (Bro. Whitford's) lodge, and he congratulated him on the high position he had attained in the Metropolitan Lodge. The working of the lodge was well-known, and it was next door to perfection, and the hospitality of the members was lavish.

Bro. W. Noble also acknowledged the toast, observing that he was highly gratified that his name had been associated with the toast and he endorsed everything the previous speakers had said.

Bro. R. H. Unsworth said that he came from a place in a county called Silly Suffolk, but what he had seen and heard that evening would rub away from him some of that so-called silly green of his county.

Bro. C. C. Cruikshanks stated that he was initiated in the lodge, but owing to his professional duties he was reluctantly compelled to leave it. He liked their company but his duties did not permit him to like their hours.

The other toasts were "The Installing Master and Past Masters," "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers," and at a very late hour the Tyler's toast brought the happy proceedings to an end.

Bro. C. F. Frood, Mr. Eric Farr, and Mr. Fred Cooper, vocally and otherwise entertained the brethren, but a word of praise is due to Bro. Frood for his efforts, which were much appreciated.

King Harold Lodge, No. 1327.

The regular meeting was held at the Four Swans Hotel, Waltham Cross, on the 21st ult. Present: Bros. Joseph Priddle, W.M.; G. S. Metcalfe, I.P.M.; H. Park, S.W.; W. Bangs, P.P.G.O., J.W.; W. A. Sproat, P.M., P.P.G.P., Treas.; Thomas Reilly, P.M., P.P.G.P., Sec.; Henry Trisk, P.M. 2372, P.P.G.S. of W., S.D.; E. G. Platt, J.D.; John Robinson, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C.; Lewis Cohen, A.D.C.; D. J. Shepherd, Org.; D. J. Witte, I.G.; J. W. Crockett, Steward; A. G. Young, Tyler; F. M. Bilby, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; P. L. Blackmore, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; W. H. Bickel, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; W. Metcalfe, P.M., P.P.G.P.; Herbert E. Smith, P.M.; John Mack, P.M.; W. J. Robinson, J. Sharp, W. Pasfield, F. Paul, J. S. Gregory, E. W. Newman, J.W. 2518; A. J. Maxfield, G. H. Chittenden, Joseph Brown, W. Harwood, G. Message, A. J. Williamson, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.;

Dr. F. W. Foot, W. A. Cock, S. Clifton, J. T. Simmons, J. W. Hodgson, and W. B. Rutherford. Visitors: Bros. G. Legge, 765; A. Thompson, 1586; Stuart Leaman, 217; A. Carter, 912; R. Tufts, J.D. 2372; W. Boggis, 1804; and Chas. Watson, 497.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes were read and confirmed. Three gentlemen were initiated, and Bro. Frank Paul was raised, the W.M., Bro. Priddle, being highly complimented for the excellent way in which he worked the ceremonies. The petition in favour of the boy, son of the late Bro. Walter Holdsworth, a P.M., and P.P.G. Herts, was considered and duly recommended, and signed as an applicant for admission into the R.M.I. for Boys. Ten guineas were voted from the lodge funds for the W.M.'s list to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February. A handsome cabinet writing desk and a purse of money were presented to Bro. Thomas Reilly as a testimonial in consideration of the many years he had filled the office of Secretary. Bro. Reilly returned thanks in feeling terms.

This concluded the business of the evening, and the lodge was closed, and the brethren retired for refreshment.

The usual toasts were given and heartily received, and some excellent harmony rendered.

The brethren separated after having spent a pleasant evening.

Rye Lodge, No. 2272.

The installation meeting of this increasing and popular lodge was held at the Peckham Public Hall on Wednesday, the 20th ult. Present: Bros. T. M. Wright; H. E. Reed, S.W., W.M. elect; Thos. Piper, P.M., J.W.; W. Rendell Dunn, I.P.M.; Fred. Dunn, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Dewsnap, P.M., Sec.; Frank Swinford Smith, S.D.; G. E. May, I.G.; Ed. Lawrence, Stwd.; R. B. Whitman, acting Tyler; G. P. Nightingale, P.M.; Wm. Castledine, P.M.; Dr. Wm. Cock, P.M.; George J. North, H. Line, Wm. Street, W. H. Walker, H. M. Bradford, T. Mills, P. Brabazon, H. J. Slade, R. Esler, R. Long, E. Pearce, T. J. Peake, G. H. Smith, J. T. C. Huggins, Wal. Wallis, J. Markillie, J. Parker, and R. Lyon. The visitors were Bros. J. J. Scott, 170; Benjamin Dowsett, W.M. 101; F. A. Borland, 30; Sidney Hill, 101; F. Wint, P.M. 101; J. T. Peters, J.W. 1475; A. J. L. Jones, 754; G. E. Latton, 2504; Prov. G. Org. Essex; E. Aggleton, 1001; J. Ellinger, P.M. 2222; J. T. Penney, P.M. 1679; J. S. Pointon, I.G. 1901; W. Gulliford, 975; A. Weston, 101; Rev. Aitken, P.P.G. Chap. Middx.; G. May, 2000; J. Smith, S.W. 1598; and C. H. Stone, P.M. 507, S.D. 1641.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bros. Hiram Long, Percy Brabazon, and H. M. Bradford were raised in very impressive manner by the W.M., after which Bro. R. T. Bonsall was elected a re-joining member. A ballot was next taken for Mr. J. T. C. Huggins, which proved unanimous, and he was duly initiated by the W.M. in a very perfect manner. The Auditors presented their report, which was most satisfactory. Bro. Dr. Wm. Cock, P.M., D.C., presented Bro. H. E. Reed, W.M. elect, to receive from Bro. T. M. Wright, W.M., the benefit of installation, which was performed ably and well in a full Board of Installed Masters. The new W.M., Bro. H. E. Reed, invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. M. Wright, I.P.M.; Thomas Piper, P.M., S.W.; Frank Swinford Smith, J.W.; Fred. Dunn, P.M., Treas.; J. W. Dewsnap, P.M., Sec.; J. A. Fletcher, S.D.; G. E. May, I.G.; Ed. Lawrence, I.G.; Dr. Wm. Cock, P.M., D.C.; J. A. Markillie and G. J. North, Stwds.; and J. Whiteman, Tyler. The addresses were ably rehearsed by the installing Master, Bro. Wright. Two propositions were handed in for initiation at the next meeting, which augurs well for a successful year. Bro. Dunn, P.M., Treas., gave notice of motion "That 10 guineas be taken from the Benevolent Fund and placed on the Steward's (Bro. T. M. Wright, I.P.M.) list for the Boys' Institution at the Centenary Festival."

The lodge business ended, the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet supplied by Spiers and Pond, which gave entire satisfaction. The cloth removed,

The W.M. presented the loyal toast of "The Queen and the Craft," which was one during this important year received with deep thankfulness by the whole of the English nation.

The W.M. stated that the next toast was that of "The M.W.G.M. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," who was a most ardent worker, and none could ever forget with what dignity and ability he presided over the enthusiastic gathering at the Royal Albert Hall. He hoped his Royal Highness would continue in good health to honour the Craft for years to come as the M.W.G.M.

In giving that of "The Pro. G.M., Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated they all performed their duties most nobly, and for which they commanded their greatest respect.

The toast of "The W.M." was presented by Bro. Wright, I.P.M., who said it was certainly a most pleasant and honourable duty. It was unnecessary for him to dilate on the many excellent virtues of the W.M. All had witnessed his able investing of officers, and he had not the slightest doubt the work of the year would be carried out as perfectly, and that he would install his successor in the same manner and leave the chair with *éclat* to the entire satisfaction of all the brethren.

The W.M., Bro. H. E. Reed, received an ovation, and thanked the I.P.M. for the gracious manner the toast had been given to and received by the brethren. He felt very proud indeed in having achieved the greatest honour in the Craft, that of W.M. of his mother lodge. During his year of office he hoped in addition to the dignity of the lodge being upheld, that it would be one of social enjoyment. The splendid ritual would receive at his hands his best endeavours, and he would make it his special study and try and emulate the excellent workers who had preceded him. For any shortcomings he trusted they might be overlooked, but for his part he would strive his utmost to fulfil the duties to the very best of his ability.

Bro. H. E. Reed, W.M., next proposed the toast of "Bro. Wright, the Installing Master," which he did with the greatest possible pleasure. He had endeared himself to every member of the lodge and he had carried out the duties which had devolved upon him to their entire satisfaction. The present year was no exception and the duties of the chair had been carried out with such *éclat* that the W.M. asked his kind acceptance of the splendid jewel unanimously voted him, hoping that he might wear the same for many years as a pleasant souvenir of a very happy year of office.

Bro. T. M. Wright was most cordially received, and replied that for such a reception he was grateful. He had performed the duties of W.M. to his utmost ability for the benefit of the lodge. The jewel would be a memento not only of the honoured position of W.M. but also of the many happy hours he had spent in the lodge, and for which he most heartily thanked them.

The toast of "The Initiate," was proposed by the W.M. in very welcome terms, who remarked upon its importance in infusing worthy members to the Craft. In Bro. Huggins a true and trusty friend had joined the ranks, and as time went on the W.M. felt assured he would prove himself an ornament to the lodge.

In reply, Bro. Huggins esteemed it a very great honour to be admitted a member of the honourable Brotherhood. He had often heard of its great importance in the world, and now his desire had been fulfilled, he trusted he should merit all the kind words spoken of him, and as time went on, should aspire to the office of W.M., which the present Master was so worthily filling.

The W.M., in terms of the greatest cordiality, welcomed the visitors, and said that the number of worthy and distinguished guests present showed the respect paid to those brethren who had invited them, and also to the lodge in honouring it with their presence to witness the working and receive at his hands the hospitality which the Rye Lodge was proud to bestow upon them.

The toast was most ably responded to by Bros. Dowsett, Aitken, Penney, Ellinger, and Stone, eulogising the work, hospitality, and the spirit of Charity which permeated the whole of the members of the lodge.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters of the Lodge," and said the very best thanks of the lodge were due to those worthy brethren.

The toast was received in bumper.

Bro. F. Dunn, P.M., thanked the brethren for such a cordial greeting. He had replied many times, but still, was able to announce that the funds were never better, and the lodge was in a thoroughly sound financial position, and yet had given largely to the Masonic Charities.

Bro. Dewsnap, P.M., also spoke of the pleasure and pride it gave him to respond as the Secretary, as also to the fact that Bros. W. R. Dunn, T. R. Wright, I.P.M., and H. E. Reed, W.M., were his initiates in the lodge, and had proved themselves so worthy.

Bro. Dr. Wm. Cock, P.M., thanked the brethren for so cordially receiving the toast

of the Past Masters of the lodge. His motto through life had been "business before pleasure," and he had tried to faithfully carry it out. His services had been rendered to the lodge with great readiness, and would continue to be so far as he was able.

Bros. W. Dunn and Nightingale also responded.

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," congratulating himself and the lodge upon having such an array who carried out their duties with such accuracy and precision. He also referred to the sad bereavement that Bro. T. Piper, P.M., S.W., had recently suffered, and to the letter of condolence which had been sent him, expressing the deep sympathy of the whole of the brethren.

Bros. F. S. Smith, J.W., E. Lawrence, I.G., and Street ably replied, the last-named also corroborating the words of the W.M. in extending the deepest sympathy towards Bro. Piper.

The Tyler's toast closed a happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music under the direction of Bro. F. Swinford Smith, J.W., P. Prov. G.O. Middx., was given, ably assisted by Bros. Geo. May, A. Weston, Fred H. Cozens, and F. S. Smith, all of whom received applause. Bro. Sidney Hill ably presided at the piano.

Shurmur Lodge, No. 2374.

The installation meeting of this lodge—which was, as usual, very numerously attended—afforded ample proof of the energy and enthusiasm of the founders and members, the continued prosperity of the lodge, and its popularity as one of the foremost lodges in the Province of Essex. The gathering was held at the Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, on the 21st instant, when Bro. C. H. Bestow, Prov. G. Purst., W.M., was supported by Bros. S. C. Kaufman, P.M., S.W.; J. Holland, P.M., J.W.; Wm. Shurmur, P.M., P.G.S.B., Treas.; T. Clark, W.M. 2472, Sec.; J. Speller, P.M., P.P.G.D.; H. French Bromhead, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W.; P. Trickett, S.D.; W. Fortescue, J.D.; S. Wildash, T. H. Lloyd, I.G.; J. T. Haskins, P.P.G. Org.; W. Gower, Prov. G. Treas.; J. R. Carter, G. H. Pizey, H. Siegenberg, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. C. G. Zander, I.G. 201; W. Etheridge, 933; A. S. Gardiner, 1437; J. Davis, 1662; J. H. Langdon, P.M. 1457, P.P.G.D.; E. G. Chapman, 27; A. L. London, 205; A. M. Goodrich, 205; R. Golanski, 205; J. H. Wakefield, I.P.M. 05; J. Boulton, P.G.P.; G. Brown, 65; H. Barrow, W.M. 2443; A. T. Ives, P.M. 1472; J. J. C. Turner, P.P.S.G.W.; C. J. Smith, W.M. 2504; C. J. Cutchey, 2256; W. Quennell, W.M. 214; C. Horst, S.D. 1471; F. Budd, 1472; G. H. Clark, S.W. 1766; W. W. Morgan, 177; G. R. Brown, W.M.; F. Dunstan, P.M. 1326; F. F. Nichols, 1677; G. Clark, P.M., Sec. 1679; W. H. Toye, P.M. 1228; T. Lloyd, P.P.G.C.; H. Jacobs, 1439; T. Bettsworth, 1693; A. Kaufman, 1766; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; and others.

As usual in this lodge, there was a heavy programme of work when the proceedings opened early in the afternoon. Bros. E. Temple, G. T. Bastard, and George Barker were raised to the Third Degree, and Bros. M. Croner and J. Newlands were passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft. Bros. C. Thompson, 2192, and W. H. Thrower, P.M., were elected joining members, and Messrs. W. M. Beck and H. C. Gardiner were duly initiated into Freemasonry. The audit report was adopted, and on the motion of Bro. Shurmur the sum of 10 guineas was voted to the sufferers from the recent hail storm in Essex. Bro. Jas. Speller, P.P.G.D., assumed the chair and installed Bro. S. C. Kaufman, P.M., as W.M., the following officers being invested: Bros. J. Holland, P.M., S.W.; W. Fortescue, J.W.; W. Shurmur, P.M., Treas.; J. Clark, Sec.; P. Trickett, S.D.; T. H. Lloyd, J.D.; M. Siegenberg, P.M., I.G.; J. R. Carter, D.C.; S. Wildash, A.D.C.; J. F. Haskins, Org.; Gower, Bleick, Hamilton, Pizey, and Francis, Stwds.; and Ives, Tyler.

The I.P.M. was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Charity Committee, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet the usual toasts were honoured, "The Queen and the Craft" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.," being first heartily received.

The W.M., in giving "The Grand Officers," said he hoped the lodge would not be wanting in a response to that toast for many years to come, for during the vacation the M.W.G.M. had honoured the father of the lodge—Bro. Shurmur—by conferring upon him the rank of P.G.S.B. There was also another old friend and colleague present—Bro. Boulton, P.G.P.

Bro. Wm. Shurmur, P.G.S.B., said that, as a minor representative of Grand Lodge, it was gratifying to hear the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master spoken of in such high terms. There could be no doubt that the zeal and devotion of these distinguished brethren had added to the prestige of Freemasonry, increased its prosperity, and widely extended its sphere of usefulness. On behalf of the Grand Officers, he thanked them sincerely for the most cordial way in which the toast had been proposed and received.

Bro. J. Boulton, P.G.P., expressed his pleasure at seeing an old friend installed in the chair by Bro. Speller, who always did his work well.

"The Prov. Grand Master and Prov. Grand Officers" having been submitted by Bro. Holland, P.M., S.W., Bro. J. J. C. Turner, P.P.S.G.W., in response, said all the brethren knew what a splendid head they had in the Earl of Warwick, and it was impossible to get a more excellent Deputy than Bro. Philbrick. For the Provincial Grand Officers the brethren had only to look at Bro. Shurmur, P.P.G. Treas., or Bro. Gower, the present Treasurer of the Province, as samples of their quality. There was also Bro. Ralling, the Prov. G. Secretary, who had occupied that post for 21 years. The Earl of Warwick had dropped a hint that a special effort should be made in recognition of Bro. Ralling's services. He (Bro. Turner) had been asked to act as Honorary Secretary of a fund for that purpose and the members when asked to contribute by Bro. Shurmur, Treas., would doubtless respond liberally and thus show their regard for their Prov. Grand Secretary.

Bro. W. Gower, Prov. G. Treas., expressed his gratification at holding the office he did, for it was a pleasure to work with such good executive officers. He was initiated in this lodge and should never forget the kindness of the brethren in Essex in electing him as Prov. G. Treasurer.

The I.P.M. proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and said he was very pleased to be in the position to do so for the first time. Since the consecration he had worked side by side with the W.M., and preceded him step by step through the various offices. He had found Bro. Kaufman—and the other members would bear him out—one of the most genial and kind-hearted brethren, and one of the best it was possible to find. Their W.M. had always been willing to give his experience and help in whatever he was called upon to do. They could look forward to the coming year as one of the most prosperous they had had in the lodge.

The W.M. thanked the I.P.M. and brethren, and said he felt inflated with the flattery he had received, and which he did not deserve. It was true he had worked side by side with the I.P.M., and he hoped it had been for the welfare of the lodge. He could assure them that nothing would be wanting on his part, if he could only retain their confidence, to make a successful year. He should not flinch from the work, as he had been through all that before. Being a Past Master, they would perhaps expect more from him; but a large lodge like theirs took a good deal of governing, and required power in their W.M. He would, however, do his duty, and if he could only obtain their support he hoped to vacate the chair with the same honour he had already obtained in his mother lodge—the respect and esteem of the members. He had been associated in Freemasonry with the father of that lodge for many years, and he was sure Bro. Shurmur would not further his interest in occupying that chair if he did not know he was capable of undertaking the duties. He claimed their kind support and indulgence to enable him to be successful. He would at once proceed to propose "The I.P.M., Installing Master, and Past Masters." They all knew what a successful year the I.P.M. had had, and how well he had conducted the business. On behalf of the members, he had to present the I.P.M. with a small token of their respect in the form of a Past Master's jewel, voted for the good work done in the lodge. No Past Master more worthily deserved that honour, and he hoped Bro. Bestow, I.P.M., would be with them for many years to wear that recognition of a happy year of office. Bro. Speller, P.M., the Installing Master, came forward, in his usual kind manner, to assist, knowing the W.M. had a great amount of work to do. Bro. Shurmur, P.M., the father of the lodge, performed the initiation ceremony, one of the candidates being an esteemed friend from his own district. Bro. Shurmur's interest and enthusiasm for Freemasonry was shown by his giving instruction in their immediate neighbourhood, which was of great use to the young members. Bro. Bromhead, P.M., acted as D.C., and, in conjunction with the other Past Masters, was always willing to assist.

Bro. C. H. Bestow, I.P.M., said he was deeply indebted to them all for their kindness, and thanked them for the jewel. He had done his best during his year, and was prepared to install his successor, but owing to circumstances beyond his control, and feeling somewhat doubtful, he thought it best to ask Bro. Speller to assist him.

Bro. J. Speller, P.P.G.D., said he felt it a privilege to do the work, and thanked them for the manner in which they had received the toast.

Bros. Shurmur, P.M., and Bromhead, P.M., also replied.

"The Initiates" was given by Bro. Shurmur, P.M., and responded to by Bros. Beck and Gardiner.

Bro. Bromhead, P.M., submitted "The Visitors," and referred to the pleasure it always gave them to receive visitors, and he hoped the large and distinguished gathering that day would go away feeling he had thoroughly enjoyed himself.

Bros. Dunstan, P.M., Clark, and others, replied, and other toasts having been given, the proceedings terminated.

Bro. Haskins, Org., presided at the pianoforte, and the artistes in the musical programme included Miss Jessie Browning, Miss Cecilia Haskins, Mr. Ben Johnson, jun., Mr. Herbert Stockwell, and Bro. Egbert Roberts, P.P.G. Org.

Marcians Lodge, No. 2648.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, W., on the 22nd ult., when there was a good attendance. Since its recent consecration the lodge has settled down to steady work, and now numbers 61 members, and under the able Mastership of Bro. J. R. Cleave, P. Prov. G.D. Surrey, assisted by an excellent set of officers, gives every promise of continued prosperity.

The brethren present included Bros. J. R. Cleave, P.P.G.D. Surrey, W.M.; the Rev. C. J. Smith, S.W.; J. Simpson, J.W.; J. W. Jarvis, Treas.; A. H. Wallis, Sec.; T. Gunning, S.D.; R. M. Gatliff, J.D.; J. R. D. Thomas, Org.; F. Münzer, I.G.; J. Easterbrook, acting I.P.M.; G. H. Foan, P.M.; and others. Visitors: Bros. J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D. of C.; A. W. Reid, 2137; J. H. Beauchamp, I.P.M. 144; J. Hernage, 2355; P. Schott, 1664; W. Dennis, W.M. 9; W. Watford, S.W. 2054; F. Purkiss, P.M. 742; E. Sainsbury, 2157; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D.; and others.

Lodge was opened and the minutes confirmed, after which Bros. F. J. Smith, W.R. Dear, G. A. Neilson, A. A. Cleave, W. W. F. Scott, T. Pollard, and W. G. Hodgson were passed to the Second Degree. An excellent rehearsal of the initiation ceremony completed the labours of the evening.

Lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The customary toasts followed, and were all heartily honoured.

Bro. J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C., replying for "The Grand Officers," said he felt quite at home in their lodge, having the honour to be an honorary member. He was sincerely pleased to see the lodge going on so well, and there was evidently plenty of work in store, five candidates having been proposed for initiation at the next meeting. He regretted he had not seen all the work in the lodge that evening, having been detained at a board meeting of the Boys' School at Wood Green. They would allow him to remind them that the Centenary Festival of that Institution takes place next year, when he hoped that lodge would do all in its power to assist. It would be an unique function, and he hoped the Marcians Lodge would be properly represented.

Bro. Easterbrook, acting I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." and said that in electing Bro. Cleave as their first W.M. the members did the best thing in the history of the lodge, for he was an efficient and energetic Mason. Their W.M. was the representative of another lodge on the Surrey Charity Committee, and took up more votes than any representative before. Their W.M. was undoubtedly the right man in the right place, and they hoped he would long continue so. The first year of the lodge under his management would be a particularly prosperous one.

The Worshipful Master, in response, expressed his thanks to Bro. Easterbrook, P.M., and the members. He believed that if a man undertook to do anything he should do it to the best of his power, and he had accordingly done his duty as Master to the best of his ability. Perhaps sometimes he had not performed his task as well as he ought to have done, but he had tried to do the best he could. The I.P.M. had referred to his work in the Surrey Charity Committee. That was one instance in which a great deal of good for Freemasonry could be done in a very unostentatious manner and he wished to impress upon them to support, to the utmost of their power, the Marcians Lodge Benevolent Association. There was another matter to which he wished to refer, which was the kindness of Bro. W. Dennis, W.M. of the Molesey Lodge, who passed and raised a brother in that lodge in order to allow him to go abroad as a Master Mason and he wished to tender sincere thanks to Bro. Dennis on behalf of the lodge. The next toast he would propose was "The Acting I.P.M.," who would do credit to the lodge should his services be called upon in an emergency.

Bro. J. Easterbrook, acting I.P.M., replied, and afterwards gave "The Visitors." Bros. W. Dennis, W.M. 9; Lee, P.M.; Beauchamp, I.P.M. 144; and Watford, S.W. 2054; acknowledged the toast.

The W.M. then said he desired to render an account of his Stewardship for the Girls' School last year. The lodge voted 10 guineas, and the total he took up was £183 15s., which was the fourth on the list. That was a splendid result for their young lodge, and only showed the advantage of their Benevolent Association. He hoped the members would similarly support the S.W., who proposed to go up for the Boys' School Centenary Festival.

Bros. Rev. C. J. Smith, S.W., and J. W. Jarvis, Treasurer, replied for "The Officers."

A very enjoyable evening was closed with the Tyler's toast.

Royal Arch.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

The monthly meeting was held at the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 29th ultimo. Present: Comps. C. Goldthorpe, M.E.Z.; A. W. Fretwell, H.; F. Rand, acting J.; H. A. Fenton, P.S.; J. Constable, S.E.; H. Foster, S.N.; C. Richardson and G. Mason, Janitors; A. L. Peace, W. Chapman, H. Boomer, and others.

The chapter having been opened, it was proposed to subscribe the sum of 10 guineas from the funds to one of the Masonic Charities; but which one was left till next convocation.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions adjourned to a light supper in the ante-room.

Pattison Chapter, No. 913.

The above chapter held its first meeting after its installation, in July last, at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, on the 21st ult., when there were present Comps. George R. Nicholls, M.E.Z.; S. Horton, H.; Isiah Turton, J.; A. Penfold, P.Z., P.Z. 13, 1472, P.P. 1st A.G.S., Treas.; H. J. Butter, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S., S.E.; H. Mason, P.Z., P.P.G.P.S.; W. C. Campbell, P.Z., P.P.G.S.B.; C. J. Clapham, P.Z., P.G.S.B.; G. F. Taylor, P.Z.; J. H. Roberts, P.Z., P.P.G. Org.; C. Jolly, P.Z. (Hon.), P.Z. 1472, P.Z. and S.E. 2184, P.P.G.S.B. Essex; J. O. Cook, S.N.; Dr. E. Bryceson, P.S.; G. H. Letton, P.Z. 1472, 1st A.S.; and others.

The chapter having been opened, the ballot was taken for Bros. W. Solkham, 615; C. Perry, 700; H. Vicars, 913; and F. Quick, 733; and Comp. G. Laurance as a joining member, and proved unanimous in their favour. Bros. Solkham, Vicars, and Quick, being in attendance, were duly exalted to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason.

The companions afterwards banqueted together at the Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.

The usual loyal and Royal Arch toasts were honoured, and some splendid singing enlivened the proceedings.

Covent Garden Chapter, No. 1614.

An interesting and enjoyable meeting was held in connection with this chapter at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 28th ultimo, when the Principals were installed to preside for the coming year, and one brother was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The members in attendance included Comps. G. H. Foan, M.E.Z.; A. L. Bullen, H.; C. O. Burgess, J.; J. D. Graham, S.N.; S. Hewett, P.Z.; F. Kedge, P.Z., Treas.; George Reynolds, P.Z., S.E.; W. Hancock, P.Z.; G. C. Bond, J. Rowe, W. J. Thrussell, H. G. Walker, W. M. Carter, N. Dukas, S. Blum, and several others.

Visitors: Comps. H. White, M.E.Z.; Wilson, P.Z.; Lockett, H.; J. B. Cook, P.Z.; Walter Dennis, and W. W. Lee, P.Z.

The chapter was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the audit report adopted. The following Principals were then installed into their respective chairs: Comps. A. L. Bullen, M.E.Z.; C. O. Burgess, H.; and J. D. Graham, J. The other officers invested were Comps. G. H. Foan, I.P.Z.; F. Kedge, P.Z., Treas.; Geo. Reynolds, P.Z., S.E.; H. G. Walker, S.N.; N. Dukas, P.S.; S. Blum, 1st A.S.; J. Woodward, Stwd.; W. J. Thrussell, Org.; and R. F. Potter, Janitor. Bro. J. W. Dennis, 1257, was next exalted into Royal Arch Masonry, the impressive ritual being ably carried out by all concerned. A Past Principal's jewel was presented to Comp. Foan, I.P.Z., in recognition of his eminent services during the past year, and the gift was duly acknowledged.

The chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the Prince's Room, where a banquet of a *recherché* description was excellently served under the personal superintendence of Bro. Lefevre, the courteous and obliging Manager, and items from the feast list and musical programme were alternately given.

Comp. G. H. Foan, I.P.Z., proposed "The Health of the M.E.Z." and said that between Comp. Bullen and himself there was a large amount of sympathy, and for that reason he could not do justice to the toast. They had worked harmoniously together for years in Freemasonry, having both joined the Covent Garden Lodge together and gone through the various offices. That association had been continued in the chapter and now that Comp. Bullen had attained the chair of M.E.Z., he (the I.P.Z.) would do his utmost to enable that companion to have a record year. The M.E.Z. was an excellent worker, a proof of which they had had that evening in the exaltation ceremony, which had been good evidence that he was a perfect Master of the ritual.

Comp. A. L. Bullen, M.E.Z., sincerely thanked the I.P.Z. and companions for the kind proposition and reception of the toast. He had always met with the greatest kindness in the chapter, but did not think he deserved all the kind things said of him. It, however, gave him confidence to look forward to the coming year, when he trusted they would extend the same generosity and overlook any shortcomings. In order to have a successful year, he should like to see a few exaltations in the chapter. It was but right and good for the chapter that new members should come in, although they did not wish to see a large number. He trusted they would meet next time and be able to congratulate themselves on the work done, and on an excellent addition to their numbers.

In giving "The H. and J." the M.E.Z. said that Comp. Burgess had done yeoman service in that chapter as he had done in many other lodges and chapters with which he was associated. They always looked forward to a treat when Comp. Burgess had anything to do, and were never disappointed. It was a great comfort to have on his right hand so excellent a worker as Comp. Burgess, who could be relied upon to render any assistance in a nice amiable way. In Comp. Graham, J., they had one who was striking new ground but who was making a great effort to master the ritual.

Comp. C. O. Burgess, H., in response, said he should be pleased to assist the M.E.Z. in any way he could. Their chapter was to be congratulated on having at its head one so able to take charge of the beautiful ritual of the Royal Arch and render it in the manner he did. They had also been impressed with the manner in which the M.E.Z. was installed by Comp. Walter Hancock, who performed the ceremony with his usual dignity and complete efficiency. He was sure the M.E.Z. would be admirably supported by all his officers, and that Comp. Graham—whom he had had much pleasure in installing as J.—would make a good Principal in due time. He looked forward to the coming year to be a great success, and it would be so if a few desirable candidates were forthcoming.

Comp. J. D. Graham, J., also replied.

"The Exaltee" having been honoured and replied to by Comp. J. W. Dennis, the M.E.Z. proposed "The Visitors," to which Comps. Wilson, P.Z., and Horace White made suitable response.

In proposing "The P.Zs." the M.E.Z. referred to the excellent services rendered to the chapter by Comp. Kedge, P.Z., also by Comp. Geo. Reynolds, P.Z., S.E., who had been obliged to leave. Comp. Hancock, P.Z., was a tower of strength, and could always be relied upon. Comp. Hewett, P.Z., was essentially a good worker, and Comp. Foan, I.P.Z., needed no recommendation.

Comp. F. Kedge, P.Z., returned thanks, and also apologised for Comp. Reynolds, P.Z., who had been obliged to leave.

Comp. W. Hancock, P.Z., acknowledged the toast, and "The Officers," and the Janitor's toast closed the proceedings.

Comp. Walter Thrussell, Org., directed the musical arrangements, and was assisted by Miss Susetta Fenn, Comps. Sinclair, Dunn, W. M. George, and Mr. A. Hogarth.

Lodge and Chapter of Instruction.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 2nd instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. T. Rayner, W.M.; J. Birks, S.W.; A. Oldrey, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herit., and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; W. F. Roberts, S.D.; C. Isler, J.D.; H. R. Bower, I.G.; A. Oliver, P.M.; G. T. Peall, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; R. P. Upton, P.M.; A. F. Hardymount, L. Dennett, T. A. Spencer, A. E. Hubsch, F. H. Johnson, S. Cload, D. C. Ritchie, P.M.; V. J. R. Longman, C. Bone, G. Fullbrook, and H. Edmeads.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Cload being the candidate. Bros. G. Fullbrook and H. Edmeads were elected members of the lodge. Bro. Birks was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 29th ult. Present: Comps. J. H. Cureton, M.E.Z.; C. Plant, H.; W. R. Barr, J.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; Hy. Hardman, S.N.; J. Longhurst, P.S.; J. Hill, Snelling, Sommersfield, W. Dawson, W. Wills, W. Beecroft, and J. Addington.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. W. Wills personating the candidate. Comp. C. Plant, H., was elected M.E.Z. for the next meeting. Comp. J. J. West, P.Z., was elected an honorary member. The chapter was then closed.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE COMMITTEE of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at 4 p.m.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, as President of the Middlesex Needlework Guild, has forwarded to the Mayoress of Maidstone a large quantity of clothing for the sever stricken poor of the town.

THE CAPTURE of the Sampaha Pass by the forces under Sir William Lockhart has been followed almost immediately by the capture of the Arhangha Pass, the losses sustained on both occasions being very slight.

THE SWEDISH MINISTER of the Interior telegraphed instructions on Saturday last to the Governor of Tromsö to charter a steamer at the cost of the State for the immediate despatch of an Andrée Relief Expedition to Spitzbergen.

THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT has decided that Kassala shall be occupied by Egyptian troops, and a force composed of two and a half battalions of infantry and a battery of artillery will be despatched for the purpose during the present month.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES arrived at Marlborough House from Sandringham on Saturday last, and on Monday accompanied H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the White Lodge, Richmond, in order to be present at the special memorial service that was held for the late Duchess of Teck.

THE LORD MAYOR and Sir E. Poynter, President of the Royal Academy, with Mr. Temple, director of the Guildhall Art Gallery, visited the Pantheon on Tuesday for the purpose of inspecting the pictures which Mr. D. P. Sellars has offered as the nucleus of an art collection to the Corporation.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to approve of the appointment of Mr. A. Moseley Channell, Q.C., to be a Justice of the High Court in the place of Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams, who has been appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal. The new judge is a son of the late Baron Channell, one of the judges of the old Court of Exchequer.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will complete his 56th year on Tuesday, the 9th instant, having been born on the 9th November, 1841. The festivities which usually mark this auspicious event will be shorn of much of their wonted splendour owing to the lamented death of H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Cambridge, Duchess of Teck.

BRO. H. B. MARSHALL, M.A., C.C., has retired from the chair of the Royal Hanover Lodge, No. 1777, after serving for two years. His successor is Bro. Fuchsbalg, of the firm of Messrs. Schenker and Co., 55, Bishopsgate-street Within. The brethren have presented Mrs. Marshall with a handsome bracelet as a souvenir of her husband's tenure of office.

THE EARL AND COUNTESS CADOGAN left Rutland Cottage, Newmarket, for Wynyard Park, Durham, on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry, until to-morrow (Saturday), when his lordship will return to Dublin, but the Countess intends remaining here till next month, when she will take up residence in the Irish capital for the winter.

AT THE LAST MEETING of the British Mark Lodge, No. 345, Bro. Capel J. Hogg, the I.P.M., was the recipient of a very pleasing memento of his two years' Mastership of the lodge, and in recognition of the zeal and assiduity with which he had carried out the duties appertaining to his office. The presentation was made by Bro. Wheelwright, on behalf of the brethren, and Bro. Hogg suitably responded.

NEARLY 2000 PERSONS availed themselves of the invitation of the Lord Mayor, Sir G. Faudel Phillips, Bart., to the council and members of the National Sunday League to inspect the Mansion House and its treasures. Neither his lordship nor the Lady Mayoress were able to be present, but a vote of thanks was moved to him for his kindness, in the Egyptian Hall, by Bro. Alderman Treloar, and seconded by Alderman Sir Stuart Knill.

BRO. THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF ZETLAND have arrived at Aske Hall, near Richmond, Yorkshire, and have invited a large number of guests to participate in the rejoicings in honour of the coming of age of their eldest son, the Earl of Ronaldshay, among them being the Countess of Scarborough, the Hon. Mrs. Yorke, the Hon. Mrs. John C. Dundas, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Malton, Lord Cecil Manners, Lady Alice Dundas, and others.

A MASONIC SERVICE will be held at the Church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, which has recently been re-opened after decoration, on Sunday next, the 7th instant, at 3.30 p.m., when Bro. Archdeacon Stevens, Past G. Chaplain, will preach the sermon, and the offertory will be apportioned between our Institutions for Boys and Girls. A dispensation has been obtained for brethren to wear Masonic clothing and jewels, and accommodation will be provided for changing.

THE DEATH is announced of Sir William Mackinnon, K.C.B., formerly Director-General of the Army Medical Department. The deceased joined the army in 1854, served with the Black Watch in the Crimea, for which he received the medal, with three clasps, and the Turkish medal, and was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour. He also served during the Indian Mutiny, and in the Maori War in 1863-66. He became Director-General in 1889, and retired after 43 years' service in 1896.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT at the memorial service held in the Drawing-room at the White Lodge, Richmond, where was placed the bier containing the mortal remains of the late Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck, were the Duke of Teck, the Duke and Duchess of York, Prince and Princess Adolphus of Teck, Prince Alexander of Teck, and T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duchess of Albany, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and the ladies and gentlemen of the household, who were all on one side of the bier, while the upper servants were ranged on the other.

ON TUESDAY next, the Lord Mayor elect (Bro. Alderman Davis, M.P.) will enter upon his Mayoralty, and the "Show," which is arranged to start from Guildhall at the unusually early hour of 10.30 a.m., will proceed to the Courts of Law, and thence return by way of Northumberland-avenue and the Thames Embankment to the place whence it started. In the evening there will be the usual banquet, which will be attended by the Marquis of Salisbury and other leading Ministers, as well as many other distinguished guests.

VERY GENERAL REGRET is felt at the news of the death of Captain Arthur W. Cotton, of the Grenadier Guards, third son of the late Lord Justice Cotton, who started some two months ago on a shooting expedition to South Africa and succumbed to an attack of malarial fever on Monday, the 25th ult. Captain Cotton had been Aide-de-Camp to Bro. Lord Roberts, and had also served at Suakin in the Soudan expedition of 1885. It is a sad thing that his elder brothers pre-deceased him, while his younger brother, who rowed bow for three years in the Oxford University eight, died of typhoid fever only about 12 months since.

THE DRINKING FOUNTAIN which has been erected as a memorial to the late Bro. Sir Augustus Harris, and, by the kind permission of Bro. the Duke of Bedford, placed against the wall of Drury Lane Theatre, was unveiled by the Lord Mayor on Monday. His lordship was accompanied by the Sheriffs, Bros. Alderman Green and Dewar, and among those present were Bros. the Earl of Euston and Edward Terry, Bro. E. Letchworth (G. Sec.), and Bro. Oscar Barrett. Bro. Alderman Green explained that of the Memorial Fund which had been raised and amounted to £2678, £1000 had gone to endow a bed at Charing Cross Hospital, £1000 for the drinking fountain, and £500 to the Victorian Hospital for Children.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT has issued an invitation to the surviving guests who were present at the Lord Mayor's banquet in 1897, when her Majesty was present, to attend the banquet on Tuesday next. It may be supposed that there are not many such, the Queen herself and the Duke of Cambridge being the most notable cases. A Mrs. Caroline Wheeler, widow of Mr. Wheeler, who at the time was Common Councillor for the Ward of Aldgate, has written to Bro. Alderman Davies to say that she was present, and still possesses the invitation card that was sent to her late husband, with the plan of the Guildhall, and the book containing the songs, &c., that were sung at the time. She was then 25 years of age, and is now 85. Special arrangements will accordingly be made for the comfort and convenience of the venerable lady on her journey to the Guildhall and also at the banquet.

BRO. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, on leaving Balmoral, went on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Buccleugh, and since has arrived in London.

SIR MAURICE FITZGERALD, the Knight of Kerry, is said to be the purchaser of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's yacht, the Britannia.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE completed the 60th year of his military service on Wednesday, having been gazetted Brevet Colonel on the 3rd November, 1837.

THE PRIVATE VIEWS of Mr. Herbert J. Finn's exhibition will take place to-day (Friday), at The Modern Gallery, 175, Bond-street, and will open to the public tomorrow (Saturday).

BRO. LORD ROBERTS returned to town on Monday from his visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne at Bwood, and left for Dublin to resume command of the forces in Ireland on Wednesday.

THE DEATH is announced from cancer of the tongue of Lieut.-Col. J. R. M. Chard, V.C., the hero of "Rorke's Drift," who succumbed after great suffering borne with the utmost fortitude on Tuesday.

BRO. SIR THOMAS SUTHERLAND, M.P., addressed his constituents at Greenock on Monday evening, and referred at some length to the recently issued report of the West Indian Commission on the Sugar Question.

BRO. H. T. BRICKWELL has arranged with Bro. Oscar Barrett to produce at the Garrick Theatre on Boxing Day, Monday, December 27th, a fairy pantomime founded on the evergreen and favourite story Cinderella.

AN INTERESTING ADDRESS upon "The Resources of Queensland" was given by the Hon. T. J. Byrnes, Attorney-General of Queensland, at the Cannon-street Hotel on Tuesday. Bro. the Earl of Warwick was in the chair.

THE INSTALLATION meeting of Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Monday, the 8th inst., Bro. Sydney T. Klein being the W.M. elect. The banquet will take place, as usual, at the Holborn Restaurant.

THE DEATH RATE in London last week rose from 16.8 to 17.7 per 1000, the increase being due to cases of measles, diphtheria, and whooping-cough, and diseases of the respiratory organs. The rate at Brighton for the same period was 10.7, and at Croydon 10.3.

THE VICTORIA Diamond Jubilee Lodge will be consecrated on the 10th inst., at the Castle Hotel, Woodford, when a large gathering is expected. The lodge starts under excellent auspices having a strong body of founders, a sound financial basis, and an excellent band of officers.

AN ADDRESS of sympathy to the Queen and members of the Royal Family on the death of the Princess Mary was unanimously adopted at the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, the motion being proposed by Mr. McKinnon Wood and seconded by Bro. the Earl of Onslow.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, with Maj.-Gen. Sir Stanley Clarke in attendance, visited Prince Frederick Henry of Prussia at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday. Prince Frederick represented the German Emperor at the funeral of the Princess Mary Duchess of Teck at Windsor on Wednesday.

THE CLERK of the Mercers' Company has issued notices to the effect that the latest addition to the collection of works of art in the Royal Exchange is a panel presented by Bro. Sir Samuel Montagu, Bart., M.P., and painted by Mr. J. S. Solomon, A.R.A., which will be unveiled on Monday, the 8th inst., at 12 noon.

PRINCE ALEXANDER OF TECK was to have sailed for Cape Town to-morrow (Saturday) to rejoin his regiment, the 7th Hussars, a passage having been taken for him on board the Union liner Moor, but owing to the sudden death of his mother, the Princess Mary Duchess of Teck, the arrangement has been cancelled.

BRO. COL. T. DAVIES SEWELL, the Clerk of the Shipwrights' Company, recently enjoyed the privilege of viewing the beauties of Haddon Hall under the conduct of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland. It may be remembered that during his year of office as master of the guild his grace and the duchess were the recipients of two handsome presents from the court and livery.

A FIRE broke out at 184, Aldersgate-street, on Monday evening, which, however, was soon got well in hand by the efforts of the Fire Brigade. Commander Wells, however, had a narrow escape owing to a large pane of plate glass which fell and smashed itself on his helmet, nearly cutting through the metal, but glancing off and severely gashing the hand of a man behind him.

THE EXHIBITION of clothing done for the poor by the Surrey Needlework Guild, will be held for the third time by permission of the Queen, in the State Apartments of St. James's Palace between the hours of 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, the 17th and 18th inst. Admission will be free, but by card of invitation only, which can be obtained on application to Miss Gleig, Claremont, Esher, not later than Monday, the 8th inst.

AS A MEMENTO of the late Bro. Alderman Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, a stained glass window has been placed by Lady Truscott in Truro Cathedral. The inscription it bears is as follows: "This window was erected by Lady Eliza Truscott, to the glory of God and in memory of her beloved husband, Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, born at Truro 23rd November, 1824, who, as Lord Mayor of London, assisted at the laying of the foundation-stone of the cathedral by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on the 20th May, 1880."

A FUNERAL SERVICE in memory of the late Lord Rosmead, formerly Governor and High Commissioner at the Cape, was held in the Church of All Saints, Ennismore Gardens, on Monday, when a very large number of gentlemen interested in Colonial affairs were present to do honour to the deceased. Among those who sent wreaths were the Government of Cape Colony, the Government of New Zealand, and Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright, while among those who attended the service were Bros. Viscount Valentia, M.P., Lord Bolton and Rochfort Maguire, Lady Frederick Cavendish, Bro. Admiral Sir Geo. and Lady Willes, and others. The interment afterwards took place at Brompton Cemetery.

THE FINE ART OF WASHING.—It has been left for Mr. Robert E. Phillips, of Chancery-lane, the head of the Albert Adams Steam Laundry at Tottenham, to demonstrate that the washing and cleansing of our wearing apparel and house linen has really been improved into a fine art. A party of scientists and press men were shown over the laundry, and general surprise was expressed at the perfection of the hygienic apparatus employed. One great feature is the drying of the clothes by a hot air blast which would kill any microbe lucky enough to escape the other processes which the linen passes through. Another feature is that there is no tearing or fraying, and the clothes washed by this process last twice as long as if treated in any other way.

BRO. THE REV. S. T. WOOD, W.M. Concord Lodge, No. 632, presided at a meeting held in the Town Hall, Trowbridge, on behalf of the Home of St. Barnabas. In his remarks from the chair, Bro. Wood expressed his high approval of the objects of the Home—the permanent and temporary care of poor, aged, and disabled clergymen. It was, in his opinion, disgrace to allow men of education, good birth, and refined feelings to end their days amongst the paupers of a workhouse infirmary, and he was glad indeed to find his Masonic brethren joining in a movement that will render it impossible for any clergyman who is a Mason to find his way into the workhouse. He strongly appealed to the Craft to support the proposal to build two small houses in connection with the Home of St. Barnabas for the reception of poor clergymen who are Masons.

EARL OF LATHOM LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1022.—The Fifteen Sections were worked in this lodge on Wednesday, the 27th ult., at the Station Hotel, Camberwell, under the presidency of Bro. C. L. Plant, W.M., Preceptor, a large number of brethren being present. The Sections were worked as follows: First Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Trotter; 2nd, Bro. Groom; 3rd, Bro. Hurley; 4th, Bro. McVey; 5th, Bro. Trotter; 6th, Bro. Ware; and 7th, Bro. Cornford. Second Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Cass, P.M.; 2nd, Bro. Hill; 3rd, Bro. Plant; 4th, Bro. Whitaker; and 5th, Bro. Hooper. Third Lecture—1st Section, Bro. Hill; 2nd, Bro. McVey; and 3rd, Bro. Trotter. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bros. C. L. Plant, W.M.; Whitaker, P.M., S.W.; Wm. Dawson, W.M. 1022, acting Preceptor; and the Section workers for the able manner in which they had carried out their respective duties.