

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

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Freemasonry in 1897.

By G. BLIZARD ABBOTT, P.P.G.D. Herts.

SINCE the memorable day in April, 1875, when the Prince of Wales was installed as M.W.G. Master, the English Craft has known a succession of prosperous years which is quite unprecedented in its own history, and which we venture to think is equally unprecedented in that of Masonry under the jurisdiction of any other Grand Lodge. Not only have our lodges increased and multiplied amazingly and many new centres of the Craft been established in previously unoccupied districts in the British Empire, but the Order itself has grown in popular estimation, and though there are still people who smile at our secrecy and alleged fondness for display, there are few who do not respect us, more especially for the splendid charitable work we are perpetually engaged upon. But of all the prosperous years we have known since the Prince of Wales became the head of our Society, there is, in our opinion, none that will be considered more memorable in our annals than the year which a short time hence will have run its course. It may not be in a position to point to an exceptionally long roll of newly-warranted lodges and few, if any, new Provincial District organisations may have been established, while the aggregate of the sums contributed by voluntary subscriptions by the lodges and brethren and their friends in behalf of our Institutions has been again and again exceeded. But for all this the year which has witnessed the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee also stands out pre-eminent for the importance and variety, if not for the number, of its Masonic functions. The meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, if not the only one of its kind, is the most important, having regard to the event which it was held to commemorate, while the gathering in St. Paul's Cathedral on the 2nd instant in commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the opening of the sacred edifice for divine service is also both unique of its kind and vastly more imposing than any of which we read in Masonic history. In short, 1897 may justly claim to be *annus mirabilissimus* among the years that have elapsed since our Grand Lodge was founded, and our pleasure is proportionately greater in recording the principal events that have occurred during its progress.

CRAFT MASONRY.

By itself—the creation of new lodges is not necessarily a criterion of progress, but it has become so of late years to a greater extent than previously owing to the greater stringency which is observed by the authorities in recommending the issue of warrants. Moreover, as new homes for Masonry have been established, the space Masonically unoccupied has become gradually more and more restricted. Judged by this standard, the present year will be found to compare favourably with its more immediate predecessors, there having been granted 37 new warrants in 1893; 46 in 1894; 52 in 1895; 44 in 1896; and 51 in 1897, the latest number in the Grand Lodge Agenda paper for the December communication of last year being 2634, and in that for the current month 2685. Of these 51 lodges 10 have been added to the London district, 22 to sundry Provinces and 19 in foreign parts as compared with 14 London, 14 Provincial, and 16 Colonial in 1896; 13 London, 24 Provincial, and 15 Colonial in 1895; eight London, 21 Provincial, and 17 Colonial in 1894; and nine London, 17 Provincial, and 11 Colonial in 1893. The following in the ten new London Lodges, the majority of them having as usual, been consecrated by the Grand Secretary. Firstly, we have the Alleyn Lodge, No. 2647, so named after the beneficent founder of Dulwich College, in the vicinity of which it holds its meetings. The St. Marcians Lodge, No. 2648, started under the auspices of Bro. J. R. Cleave as its first W. Master and is intended for past pupils and those otherwise associated with St. Mark's College, while the Christ's Hospital Lodge, No. 2650, came into existence towards the close of February and is intended as the Masonic home for "Old Blues," the distinguished brother who took the lead in founding, and was installed in the chair as its first W. Master, being none other than Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, the present Grand Treasurer, who is the Treasurer of the Institution, and half a century ago was one of its Deputy Grecians. The next in order of priority on the register are the Mendelssohn Lodge, No. 2661; the Ealing Lodge, No. 2662; and Commemoration Lodge, No. 2663; while immediately

following the last named is the Hygeia, No. 2664; the membership of which is intended to be connected with officers of health, and experts in the science of sanitation, the first W. Master being Bro. C. W. Raymond. The remaining Lodges are the Past and Present, No. 2665, which was started on its career early in October, with Bro. C. W. Hudson, a highly esteemed and popular brother who is well known both in the metropolis and in the Province of Sussex. This, too, though its name does not afford any clue to the brethren for whose benefit it has been founded, is one of what are known as "Class" lodges, its membership being restricted to those who have been educated in and connected with Brighton College. The "Victoria Diamond Jubilee," which is numbered 2675, and meets at Woodford, Essex, but just within the limits of the Metropolitan district, was consecrated by the G. Secretary on the 10th November, in the presence of the exceptionally large number of 225 brethren, the first W.M. being Bro. C. J. Smith, and the number of founders about 60. Last, but by no means least in importance, we have the Sancta Maria Lodge, No. 2682, which had the honour of being consecrated by the Pro G. Master, Bro. the Right Honourable the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., and has the still greater honour of being presided over by his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master as its first Master, the Deputy Master being Bro. Edmund Owen, who was installed in office by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of Northants and Hunts. The founders numbered about 50, and those only will be accepted as members who are in any way connected with St. Mary's Hospital. The consecration ceremony was performed in the great Hall at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 15th November, and may be said to have been the most brilliant among the ceremonies of this kind during the present year. As regards the 22 Provincial Lodges, one located in the Royal borough of Windsor—numbered 2671, and from the circumstance of its meetings being held under the shadow of Windsor Castle, appropriately named "Victoria"—has been added to the roll of Berkshire. It was consecrated by the Acting Prov. Grand Master, who has been in charge of the Province since the lamented death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, Bro. J. T. Morland, P.G.D., Deputy P.G.M. It is an offshoot of the Etonian Lodge, No. 209, which meets in Windsor, and started on its career under Bro. Prince as first W.M. The Addington Lodge, No. 2683, named after the Prov. G.M., Lord Addington, has been placed on the roll of Buckinghamshire. Cheshire can boast of two additional lodges, the Liscard, No. 2657, meeting in the town of the same name, and the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, No. 2667, at Rockferry, both of which were consecrated by Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master. Devonshire has been still more fortunate, the number of lodges on its roll having been augmented from 53 to 57, the four thus added being the Dart, No. 2641, located in Dartmouth; the Sir Francis Drake, No. 2649, so named after one of the greatest and worthiest of Devonians, and meeting at Plymouth; the Queen Victoria Lodge, No. 2655, meeting in Stonehouse; and the Northcote, No. 2659, worthily named after Bro. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master, and meeting at Exeter. All these lodges were consecrated by Sir Stafford, and bid fair to become prosperous centres of Masonic light. Durham has a new lodge in the Ravensworth, No. 2674, Gateshead, which was consecrated on the 30th October, and Kent one in the Crane Lodge, No. 2660, Cranbrook, while as many as three new lodges have been warranted for West Lancashire, namely, the Lodge of Charity, No. 2657, Warrington; the Lodge of Hope, No. 2679, Palmercroft; and the Queen's Lodge, No. 2681, Liverpool; thus raising the total number of lodges on the register of this large and influential Province to 118. The St. Ivo Lodge, No. 2684, St. Ives, has been added to the roll of Northants and Hunts. Northumberland can boast of two additions to its roll in the Victoria Commemoration Lodge, No. 2666, and the Swinburne No. 2680, both of which are located in Newcastle-on-Tyne, while the former was consecrated by the Prov. G. Master in person, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir M. White-Ridley, Bart., M.P. Surrey and Sussex have each of them become during the present year the stronger by a single lodge, the Albany, No. 2652, having been consecrated by Bro. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G. Master of the former, at Kingston-on-Thames, and the Royal Connaught, No. 2676, Eastbourne, which is named, by permission, after the Duke of Connaught, and was consecrated, in his Royal Highness's unavoidable absence, by his respected Deputy, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., P.G.D. The Chaloner Lodge, No. 2644, Melksham, was consecrated by Bro. the Earl of Radnor, Prov. G.M. of Wiltshire, and has for its first W.M. Bro. Capt. Chaloner, after whom it is named, while Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire, consecrated the Arter Lodge, No. 2654, meeting at Moseley and bearing the honoured name of the worthy and much lamented Bro. T. R. Arter, who was present at the ceremony and personally installed the first W. Master, but died a few days later, to the grief of his

numerous friends and especially of the founders. The remaining lodges, the Victoria, No. 2699 Bradford, and the Calcaria, No. 2677, Tadcaster, are located in West Yorkshire, and will, we are persuaded, prove an additional source of strength to that important Province. Of the 19 new lodges abroad one-third are located in Western Australia, the Beaconsfield, No. 2635, and the Loyal Westralia, No. 2658, meeting in Fremantle; the Military, No. 2636 in Perth, and the Norseman, No. 2637, the Esperance, No. 2638, and the Menzies, No. 2639, in the towns which bear respectively these names. By these additions the roll of lodges in the District has been augmented from 16 to 22. Queensland has a new lodge in the Sandgate, No. 2670, meeting at the place of the same name, and there are two new lodges in the East Indies, of which the Yeatman-Biggs—so-called after Bro. Brigadier Yeatman-Biggs, Dist. G. Master—No. 2672, is placed in Calcutta (District of Bengal), and the other in the District of Burma—the Palm, No. 2645, Bassein—while a third, known as Adam's Peak, No. 2656, meets at Hatton, in the island of Ceylon. The Northern Star of China, No. 2673, has been constituted at Newchang, in the District of Northern China, and the Ituni, No. 2642, at New Amsterdam in British Guiana. The remaining half-dozen lodges are located in Africa, the District of the Transvaal, which had 15 lodges at the close of 1896, now mustering 19, the four that have been added to the register being the Star of the North, No. 2640, Pietersburg; the St. George's, No. 2643, Krugersdorp, the Coalfields Lodge, No. 2653, at a place called Springs, and the Concordia, No. 2685, Ermels. The Stellenbosch Lodge, No. 2646, has been constituted at the town of the same name in Cape Colony, and a St. John's Lodge, No. 2668, at Lagos, while Rhodesia rejoices in an additional Lodge in the shape of the Manica, No. 2678, which meets at Umtali. The general result is that Masonry has been strengthened by the creation of seven new lodges in Australasia, seven in Africa, four in India and China, and one in South America.

On turning to the proceedings of United Grand Lodge we find much to interest us, and still more that has tended to strengthen our position in the public favour. At the March Communication, on the recommendation of his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, a grant of £1050 was made from the funds of Grand Lodge, and Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan unanimously elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year. A series of resolutions was then submitted, the first, which required that a brother on joining an English lodge from one under another Constitution should make a declaration in open lodge of allegiance to the Grand Master and of his readiness to obey the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge, being adopted without a dissentient voice. The other resolutions, which contained certain additions to and amendments of articles in the Book of Constitutions concerning the Craft in the Colonies were discussed at length; the G. Registrar, who moved them, and other speakers being in their favour, while Bro. Richard Eve, Past G. Treasurer, spoke in opposition, and moved that the resolutions be referred for further consideration to the Board of General Purposes. This amendment was lost by 118 to 148 votes, but another, suggested by Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson, Past G. Chaplain, to the effect that the whole question should be referred to a Special Committee composed of Bros. Philbrick, General Laurie, Thomas Fenn, Richard Eve, and the Colonial Committee of the Board of General Purposes to report at the next Quarterly Communication, was unanimously adopted. On the 28th April Grand Festival was celebrated, the Pro G. Master occupying the chair both in Grand Lodge and at the banquet which followed, the principal business being, of course, the appointment and investiture of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, among the brethren thus honoured being Bro. the Earl of Portarlington and Lord Stanley, M.P., who were chosen to fill the Wardens' chairs, and Bro. the Dean of Rochester and the Rev. C. W. Childe, who were invested as Grand Chaplains. In June the Special Committee referred to above as having been appointed to consider certain additions to and changes in the Book of Constitutions affecting lodges and brethren in the Colonies, reported and recommended that the proposals should be adopted, and after a lengthy discussion this was agreed to, the effect being that under certain provisions as laid down in the new Articles, it is now permitted to the members of lodges in a District or Districts in which it is proposed to found a new Grand Lodge to discuss the question in open lodge, while Article 219, by which the rights of minorities were safeguarded, has been amended in such a manner that while these rights are still protected, it now rests with the M.W.G. Master whether the minority of five—instead of three as heretofore—shall be permitted or not to carry on the lodge. On this occasion also, on the motion of Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.M., seconded by Bro. Richard Eve, Past G. Treasurer, it was resolved by acclamation that in commemoration of the auspicious event of the Diamond Jubilee on completion of 60

years of her Most Gracious Majesty's glorious reign, the following grants should be made from the funds of Grand Lodge namely, £2000 to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund; £2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; £2000 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys; and £2000 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. In September an attempt was made by a young and inexperienced Mason in the person of Bro. Thomson Lyon to have non-confirmed that portion of the minutes of the June Communication in which the additions and amendments introduced into the Book of Constitutions were embodied, but Grand Lodge does not appear to have gathered from the speech of that brother that any good would result from the adoption of his proposal and it was rejected, the minutes being confirmed *en bloc*. Votes of thanks were then passed by acclamation to Bros. Sir Albert W. Woods, P.G.W., G.D.C., and Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., for the very valuable services they had rendered in connection with the great meeting held in the Royal Albert Hall in June in commemoration of the completion of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign. Subsequently, on the suggestion of his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, it was agreed that Article 87 of the Book of Constitutions should be suspended with a view to enabling Provincial and District G. Masters to confer Past Provincial and District rank upon distinguished Masons in their respective Provinces and Districts—in the proportion of one for every 12 lodges with one for a fraction of 12 in excess of six in Provinces and Districts in which the number on the roll does not exceed 30 lodges; and in the case of those in which the number exceeds 30, of one for every eight lodges with one additional for any fraction in excess of four. In December the usual nominations were made for the offices of G. Master and G. Treasurer for the ensuing year, Bro. Lt.-Col. Clifford Probyn being the only nominee for the latter. A vote of condolence with the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., on the tragic death of the Countess of Lathom, was passed *nem con*; and the stipend of the G. Secretary increased to £1250 at once, and thence by £50 a year to £1500.

Of the great Masonic functions of the year three stand out prominently above the rest by reason of his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Grand Master having taken, on each occasion, the leading part in the proceedings, the first in importance, though not in the order of their occurrence, being, of necessity, the Grand Assembly of the brethren in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday, the 14th of June, under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G. Master, for the purpose of voting an address of congratulation to the Queen on the completion of the 60th year of her Most Gracious Majesty's reign. At this memorable gathering there were present some 7000 members of the Order, among the most distinguished being H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., Past G. Master; the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Pro G. Master; Earl Amherst, Dep. G. Master; the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G. Master of Ireland—who, in 1875, when Marquis of Hamilton, was appointed S.G. Warden of England—Lord Saltoun, M.W.G. Master of Scotland; Lord Suffield (Norfolk), the Earl of Warwick (Essex), the Marquis of Zetland (N. and E. Yorkshire), Sir Hedworth Williamson (Durham) and other Provincial G. Masters, Earl Carrington, P. Prov. G. Master Buckinghamshire; Lord Amherst of Hackney, Past G. Warden; the Right Hon. Chief Justice Way, M.W.G. Master, South Australia, and the Rajah of Kapurthala. When the Grand Master had explained briefly the purpose of the meeting, the address, after having been read by the Grand Secretary, was moved by the Duke of Connaught, Past G. Master, seconded by Earl Amherst, Dep. G. Master, adopted amid the heartiest demonstrations of enthusiasm, and finally signed by his Royal Highness in his capacity of G. Master. The National Anthem having been sung, the Prince of Wales conferred Past Grand Rank first upon H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Denmark, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Denmark, as Past Grand Master: his Highness the Rajah of Kapurthala and the Right Hon. Chief Justice Way, M.W.G. Master of South Australia, as Past G. Wardens; and the Bishop of Bath and Wells as Past G. Chaplain; and then upon 60 brethren selected for the services they had rendered to the Craft, there being 25 of them chosen from the Metropolitan district, 25 from the Provinces and 10 from the Colonies; among them being Mr. Justice Kennedy of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and Maj.-Gen. Sir H. H. Kitchener, Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, each of whom was made a Past G. Warden; and the Bishop of Perth (Western Australia), who received the rank of Past G. Chaplain. The M.W.G. Master then announced that he had given his sanction for a special jewel to be worn by all who should be subscribing members of an English lodge or lodges on the 20th June, 1897, a bar to be attached in the case of those present at the meeting that day; and that the sum received as fees of admission amounted to upwards of £7000, of which one-half would be presented to his Royal Highness's Hospital Fund and the other

apportioned equally among the three Masonic Institutions. The Pro G. Master then rose and in the name and on behalf of Grand Lodge requested the G. Master's acceptance of one of the jewels specially designed to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee and his Royal Highness having graciously accepted it and expressed the pleasure it had afforded him to preside on the occasion, the procession of Present and Past G. Officers left the Hall in the order in which it had entered, the brethren dispersed, and one of the grandest meetings of the Craft ever held in this or any country was brought to a close. It may not be out of place to mention here that the address voted on this occasion was in due course presented to the Queen, by whom it was graciously received, and that at the Quarterly Communication in September a letter announcing this fact and her Majesty's most graceful thanks in reply was read from the Right Hon. the Home Secretary (Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P.), and, on the motion of the Grand Master in the chair, duly seconded, and ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

The other occasions on which the M.W.G. Master took the chief part, were on Thursday, the 7th January, and Saturday, the 23rd October. On the former day his Royal Highness, who was accompanied to the scene of the proceedings by the Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, visited Longton in North Staffordshire, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a proposed "Sutherland" Institute, to be used as a Free Library and Technical Schools, and erected on a site presented by the Duke of Sutherland. At this gathering there was a large and imposing body of brethren present, headed by the Prov. G. Lodge of Staffordshire—which had met under the presidency of Bro. the Earl of Dartmouth, P.G.M., some time prior to the ceremony and voted an address of welcome to his Royal Highness, while the Prince as M.W.G. Master, was attended by his Grand Officers and very gracefully and with the accustomed formalities performed the duty he had undertaken. On Saturday, the 23rd October his Royal Highness visited Horsham in order to fulfil a like duty by laying the foundation stone of the new buildings about to be erected on the estate of Stammerham—which had been purchased for the purpose—for the accommodation of the pupils of Christ's Hospital. On this occasion, his Royal Highness who acted as the representative of the Queen, was attended by Bros. the Earl of Portarlington and Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Grand Wardens; the Very Rev. the Dean of Rochester (Rev. S. Reynolds Hole), G. Chaplain; the G. Treasurer (Alderman Vaughan Morgan, who is also Treasurer of the School); the Grand Registrar, the President of the Board of General Purposes, Sir John B. Monckton, as G. Secretary, Sir A. Webster, Sir F. Boileau, and Sir S. B. Bancroft, G. Deacons; Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., as G.D.C.; F. Richardson, P.G.D., as Dep. G.D.C.; G. L. Eyles, G.S.B., and the G. Tyler. Among the others present were the Duke of Cambridge, President of Christ's Hospital, Sir Joseph Savory, Bart., M.P., Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Almoners, the Lord Mayor (as a Governor of the Institution) and the Lady Mayoress, Sir J. Whitaker Ellis, Bart. and Lady Ellis, and many others, together with the boys from the London and Hereford Schools with Bro. the Rev. Richard Lee, the headmaster, and the other masters. The ceremony was performed in the usual manner, the trowel used by his Royal Highness being the same as was used by his grand-uncle the Duke of York when laying the foundation stone of the Great Hall facing Newgate-street on the 28th April, 1825.

Another memorable meeting of the year and one which for years and years to come will occupy a position by itself in the annals of Masonry is the great gathering which was held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, the 2nd December, to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the opening of that sacred edifice and out of respect for the tradition that its great architect, Sir Christopher Wren, was a Mason and Master of the Lodge of Antiquity and that the workmen who carried his designs into execution were also members of our Society. On this occasion the Cathedral was reserved for the use of the brethren, the available space in the vicinity of the choir being, however, occupied by ladies, of whom each Grand Officer had the privilege of inviting two. The M.W.G. Master was himself unable to be present, but Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M., Hants and Isle of Wight, acted as his representative, and the assemblage both as regards numbers and from its including all greater lights of the Fraternity who were able to attend, was in all respects worthy the great anniversary which had brought it together. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of London, and the offertory, which amounted to the sum of £809 will be devoted to the decoration of a bay or panel with mosaics in conformity with the plans now in progress under the direction of Sir F. Richmond, R.A., a suitable inscription being placed at foot or near the panel to indicate the body by which the cost of the decoration was defrayed. Be it added that the arrangements made by the Dean

and Chapter of the Cathedral were carried out under the direction of a Committee of which the Archdeacon of London was the president. It should also be stated that among those who were present were the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs of the City of London, who are all of them members of our Society and attended in State with the Officers of the Corporation. Of other meetings and functions which have marked the progress of 1897 and of which the number is well nigh legion, there is, firstly, the attendance at divine service in the collegiate church of St. Saviour's, Southwark, of a very numerous gathering of the brethren headed by the Earl of Lathom, Pro G. Master, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The arrangements had been entrusted to Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., and, it is almost needless to say, were most successfully carried out. There was an exceptionally large congregation, who were attracted by so unusual and so brilliant a spectacle as that of the Freemasons in all their splendid regalia, and a most eloquent sermon was preached by Bro. the Very Rev. Dean Hole, of Rochester, G. Chaplain, the offertory, which amounted to £2340, being subsequently devoted to the Church Restoration Fund, as a mark of respect to the Prince of Wales, who had evinced a deep interest in the restoration of this venerable edifice, and some while ago laid the first stone of the new nave. There have been many other services similarly attended by Masons and in celebration of the great imperial event of the year in cathedral and other churches throughout the country, and in every case the offertory has been devoted to purposes of Charity either local or Masonic. Another important event in connection with the Diamond Jubilee which deserves an honoured place in this record was the banquet given by the Empire Lodge, No. 2108, which was founded in 1885 for the express purpose of affording a Masonic home to brethren visiting this country from the Colonies and British possessions abroad, and the membership of which is restricted to Masons more immediately connected with or interested in those Colonies and possessions—to the many distinguished brethren at the time in London in connection with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne. The Hotel Cecil was the scene of the gathering and the number present at the splendid function was not far short of 250, the most distinguished among them being Bros. the Earl of Lathom and Earl Amherst, Pro G.M. and Dep. G.M. of England respectively; the Duke of Abercorn and Lord Saltoun, G. Masters of Ireland and Scotland; the Earl of Jersey, Prov. G. Master of Oxfordshire and Past G. Master of New South Wales; Lieut.-Gen. J. Wimburn Laurie, M.P., Prov. G.M. South Wales (W.D.) and Past G. Master of Nova Scotia; the Right Hon. Chief Justice Way, M.W.G. Master of South Australia; C. J. Egan, M.D., Dist. G. Master of South Africa (E.D.); George Richards, D.G.M. Transvaal; the Bishop of Perth, Past G. Chaplain (Western Australia); Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham, Past Dist. G.M. (Malta); G. Owen Dunn, Dep. Dist. G.M. (Bombay); the Rajah of Kapurthala, Past G.W.; with several Colonial Premiers and leading officials. The presiding officer was Bro. A. Davidson Kemp, W.M. of the Empire Lodge, and the credit of the highly successful arrangements belongs to a Committee of the members, with Bro. Lennox Browne, D.G.D. of C. at its head. There was also another banquet in honour of the same event held in the banqueting hall of Earl's Court, at which Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G. Master of Northants and Hants, presided, the guests, of whom the number was 120, being all of them W. Masters of London lodges. In this case, also a great success, due principally to the excellence of the arrangements made by Bros. Imre Kiralfy and Thomson Lyon, was achieved. Among other events of the same or a similar character which it is proper to refer to are the celebration of the Jubilee by the Constitutional Lodge, No. 294, Beverley, on which occasion a present from American brethren was handed to Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough, a P.M. of the lodge; the Masonic services held in the churches of St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, in the cathedral at Shanghai, when the Dist. G. Lodge of Northern China attended; at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, and Hereford Cathedral in November, when the Prov. G. Lodge of Herefordshire attended, and a most eloquent sermon was preached by the Hon. and Very Rev. Dean Leigh, of Hereford. Nor must we pass unnoticed that addresses of congratulation from all parts of the Empire were voted to the Queen, and to these must be added three from the United States of America, to be forwarded through H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, one from the Grand Lodge of New York at its annual Communication in June, one from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at its Quarterly Communication in September, and the third from the Masonic Veterans' Association of Illinois, of which his Royal Highness is a member.

Among other events which may fitly be included in this review of the year's proceedings will be found the opening of two Masonic Halls, one belonging to the St. Eleth Lodge, No. 1488, Ambleby by Bro. Col. H. Platt, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. of North Wales, and the other at Lyme Regis in January, while during the latter half of the same month the Studholme Lodge, No. 1591, celebrated the 21st anniversary of its constitution, on which occasion Bro. the Right Hon. W. Hume Long, M.P., P.G.D., President of the Board of Agriculture, was installed W.M. In February, as usual, the annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, was held under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Laurie, M.P., Past G.W., Past G. Master of Nova Scotia, and there were also two Masonic Conversaciones, one at Bournemouth under the auspices of the Horsa Lodge, No. 2208, and the other at Plumstead under those of Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13. In March the Pilgrim Lodge, No. 238, celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the late Emperor William I. of Germany, who for many years was Protector of Masonry under the three Grand Lodges in Berlin. In April two events of interest occurred, one being the visit of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, to St. Paul's Cathedral, and the other the reception and the banquet to the Masonic members of the National Union of Teachers by the Indefatigable Lodge, No. 237, Swansea. On the 29th June a special meeting of the Empire Lodge, No. 2108, was held, at which two Indian Princes were initiated into Freemasonry, while on the 13th July, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hertfordshire, attended with the officers of his Prov. G. Lodge at Berkhamstead and laid the foundation stone of certain new schools about to be erected in that town. On the 30th of the latter month a similar function was performed at Ashby-de-la-Zouche, when Bro. Earl Ferrers Prov. G. Master of Leicestershire and Rutland, laid the foundation stone of a new Cottage Hospital. In August, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G. Master of East Lancashire, laid the first stone of the Radeliffe Hall National Schools, and Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Lord President of the Council, Prov. G. Master of Derbyshire, attended by invitation and performed the same function in the case of the Bradford Royal Infirmary, there being present a very numerous gathering of Masons, including most of the officers and members of the Bradford lodges, and likewise Bro. the Right Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., Prov. G. Master of West Yorkshire, and his Prov. G. Officers. Early in September, Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire, opened a new Masonic Hall at Worcester, and still more recently there was at Warwick a muster in force of the brethren on the occasion of Bro. the Earl of Warwick, Prov. G. Master of Essex, at the request of Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G. Master, and the brethren of Warwickshire, unveiling a new pulpit recently placed in St. Mary's Church, Warwick. There have also been sundry lodges high up on the register of the Grand Lodge of England, to which his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master has been pleased to grant Centenary Warrants in consideration of their having been able to prove to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge authorities that they have been in continuous working for 100 years. These lodges include the Lodge of Stability, No. 217, and that of Charity, No. 223, Plymouth, which were both founded by the "Ancients" in 1797; the Lion Lodge, No. 312, Whitby, which was held under the auspices of the Prov. G. Lodge of Yorkshire; and the Lodge of Peace and Unity, No. 314, Preston. The Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45, also celebrated its centenary. There have also been the usual number—or it may be more than the usual number—of presentations made to brethren who have had office and other distinctions conferred upon them for their services to Freemasonry, or who have retired from office at the close of long and arduous services; among the brethren thus honoured being Bro. Joseph Robinson, P.M., P. Prov. G. Warden, Dorsetshire, by the Lodge of Faith and Unanimity, No. 417, Dorchester; Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M. of the Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834; David Rose, P.M., Preceptor to the Rose Lodge of Instruction; Bro. C. J. Woodford, P.M., Secretary, P. Prov. G.P. Dorsetshire, by the Lodge of Amity, No. 137, Poole; Bro. J. Whitehead Smith, P.M., P.Z., No. 622, P. Prov. G.W. Dorsetshire; James Stephens, Dep. G. D.C., who was presented with his G. Lodge Clothing by the Lodge of Fellowship, No. 2535; Bro. G. H. Hutchinson, I.P.M., by the Furnival Lodge, No. 2558, Sheffield, on his leaving England for British Columbia; Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br., who presented with the G. Lodge Clothing of his rank. Bro. Franklin Thomas, P. Prov. G.W. East Lancashire; Bro. Richard Luck, by Restoration Lodge, No. 111, Darlington, on the occasion of his appointment to the rank of Past G. Deacon of England; Bro. W. Vincent, by Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, Hampton Court, on his appointment as G. Std. Br.; Bro. W. H. Cowper, on his becoming G. Std. Br., by Lodges

Nos. 602, 1818 and 2391, Middlesborough; Bro. the Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G.M. Cheshire, on his advancement to the dignity of an Earl; and Bro. the Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A., on his appointment as Past G. Chaplain by the brethren of Leicestershire and Rutland, the presentation being made in open Prov. G. Lodge on the 28th October. Nor must we omit to refer to the very interesting event which occurred at Poole on the 26th August, when the City Masonic Club Lifeboat, presented by the London City Masonic Club, was launched amid public demonstrations of pleasure and satisfaction. There have been likewise numerous entertainments in different parts of the country by lodges and brethren to the poor, both young and aged, who, we may be assured, have not been overlooked in this year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

ROYAL ARCH MASONRY.

The Royal Arch Chapters, for which warrants have been granted during the present year may not be more numerous—as a matter of fact they are less numerous by one—than in 1896, but on the whole we are inclined to think that Royal Arch Masonry has well maintained its position, while undoubtedly the proceedings in Supreme G. Chapter have created a higher interest than usual. One thing we have noticed that in the great majority of the petitions for warrants which have been submitted to the authorities, the number of companions signing them has been considerable, the inference being that there are more who take an interest in this branch of constitutional Masonry than formerly. Be this as it may, there have been warranted this year 15 Chapters, of which seven are in London, seven in the Provinces, and one abroad; as compared with the 16 of last year, of which six were London, eight Provincial, and two Colonial; with 17 in 1895, of which two were London, eleven Provincial, and four Colonial; and with 22 in 1894, of which six were London, nine Provincial, and seven Colonial. From these figures it is clear that while at home, the Royal Arch has held its own, there has been a dearth of new Chapters in the Colonies, while one South African Chapter, which is reported as never having been consecrated, has been erased from the list, and a few others which have made no returns for years have been called upon to show cause why they should not be similarly dealt with. The seven new London Chapters are the Philbrick Chapter, No. 1662, attached to the lodge which bears the same honoured name, and meeting at Walthamstow in Essex, but within the limits of the Metropolitan District, which was started on its career by the G. Scribe E, under Comp. William Shurmur, as its first M.E.Z.; the Skelmersdale, No. 1658, with Comp. Hall as the premier First Principal; the Crusaders, No. 1677, which has started under a very worthy Companion, James Speller, as its first M.E.Z., and the Abbey Chapter, No. 2030, with Bro. Hardwicke, M.E.Z. The Plucknett, No. 1708, has Comp. G. J. Austin to preside over it during the first year of its existence, while the Columbia Chapter, No. 2397; attached to the Columbia, a lodge which is modelled on the lines of the Anglo-American, can hardly fail to be a success, seeing the first M.E.Z. is Comp. R. C. Sudlow, one of the most capable exponents of Masonic Ritual of the present day. The remaining Chapter is the Papyrus, No. 2562, attached to the lodge of the same name which has entered upon its career under Comp. G. F. Burbridge as its First Principal. Of the seven new Provincial Chapters, one, the Grenville, No. 1787, Buckingham, under Comp. Lord Addington as M.E.Z., has been placed on the roll of Buckinghamshire, a second is located at Birkenhead in the Province of Cheshire, attached to the Minerva Lodge, No. 2433, and was consecrated by Comp. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, G. Superintendent, as the Newhouse Chapter, out of compliment to Comp. Richard Newhouse, Prov. G.S.E., who, on the constitution of the chapter, was installed as M.E.Z.; while a third—the Radnor, No. 2587, attached to the lodge of the same name, at Folkestone—was consecrated by Comp. Earl Amberst, G.H., G. Supt. of Kent, and has Comp. Lieut.-Col. James Hamilton for its first M.E.Z. The remaining four are distributed equally between the Provinces of Worcestershire and West Yorkshire, the two in the former being the Godson, No. 2385, Oldbury, with Comp. Enoch Wood as M.E.Z.; and the Masefield, No. 2034, Moseley, with Comp. H. Clark in a like capacity. The West Yorkshire two are the Colne Valley, No. 1645, Slaithwaite, under Comp. Walter Dyson First Principal Z.; and the Milton, No. 1239, attached to the Wentworth Lodge, Sheffield, with Comp. H. J. E. Holmes as its M.E.Z. The solitary chapter in Foreign Parts for which a warrant has been granted is the Emulation, No. 1100, meeting in the city of Bombay, which enters upon its career under the auspices of Comp. his Excellency Lord Sandhurst, Governor of the Presidency, as its M.E.Z. As regards the proceedings in Supreme Grand Chapter, nothing occurred at the February Convocation which is worth calling attention to. In May the Grand Officers

for the ensuing year were appointed, the offices which, in the ordinary course of things, would have been occupied by the Craft Grand Officers had they possessed the necessary qualifications in Supreme Grand Chapter, being conferred on other companions of merit; while in August 60 companions received brevet rank as Past G. Officers, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the majority of the 60 being the same as had received brevet rank in Grand Lodge, while others were substituted for such of the Past Grand Officers in the Craft as had not the prescribed rank in the Royal Arch. One other circumstance occurred in May, which—as it gave rise to a considerable amount of discussion both in Grand Chapter and the Masonic press—cannot be passed by unnoticed. At that convocation an appeal was presented by a Comp. Coates, Past Dist. G. Reg. of the Punjab, against a decision of the G. Superintendent of that District, and on the advice of the Dep. G. Reg. (Comp. Horton Smith, Q.C.) was dismissed on its merits. But in describing the circumstances of the case, Comp. Horton Smith mentioned that Comp. Coates was Past Dist. G. Registrar in the Royal Arch because he happened to be Past Dist. G. Registrar in the Craft, and when at the August Convocation the motion for the confirmation of the minutes was made, Comp. Le Feuvre pointed out that it was very desirable it should be clearly understood what the law on the subject was, as in the Provinces at home it was almost universally the custom for G. Superintendents to appoint companions to office in their Prov. G. Chapters irrespective of their rank in the Prov. G. Lodges, and cases were cited in evidence of this statement. The minutes were confirmed, but the discussion bore fruit, and in November, as soon as the ordinary business had been transacted, all doubt as to the meaning and intent of the law was set at rest by the adoption of the following resolution, as amended, on the proposition of Comp. Thomas Fenn, from one proposed by Comp. Strachan, Q.C., P.D.G. Reg.: "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." In this way a recognised difficulty was overcome, and there seems to be little doubt now as to the interpretation which the law is intended to bear.

MARK MASONRY.

This popular branch of Masonry has well maintained its position during the year which is now about to close, while in one particular the efforts made in its behalf have been more successful than in any previous year of its organisation under a Grand Lodge. According to the returns set forth in the report of the General Board and laid before Grand Lodge in December, 1896, there were then 36,018 brethren who had been registered as having taken the Mark Degree, while in the report of the same Board which was submitted at the Quarterly Communication held on the 30th November, the number was 37,363. Hence there have been issued in the interval of 12 months between the two reports 1345 Mark certificates, while in the Royal Ark Mariners Degree, which is connected with the Mark as the Royal Arch is with the Craft, the number of certificates is 295. During the same period there have been issued six warrants for new Mark lodges, and six for Royal Ark Mariner lodges, the number of the former being smaller than for some years past. Of these, the Woodiwiss, No. 503, named after the Prov. G. Master of Derbyshire, is held in Derby, and was consecrated in February by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro G. Mark Master, its first W.M. being Bro. W. H. Marsden. In May, on the same day as the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Middlesex was held, his lordship consecrated the Oxford and Cambridge University Mark Lodge, No. 504, and launched it into existence under Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook as its first presiding officer. The other lodges are the Noel—named, presumably, after the late-lamented Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., Prov. G. Mark Master of Surrey—No. 505, and located at Kingston-upon-Thames; the Mizpah, No. 506, at Woodstock, Cape Colony; two other lodges in S. Africa and one in the Argentine Republic. The Royal Ark Mariners lodges include the King Solomon, No. 385, and the Royal Oak, No. 416, respectively attached to the Mark lodges bearing the same names and numbers; the Gordon, which is named after the Gordon Mark Lodge, No. 364, and meets at Gravesend; the Sarnia, No. 425, Guernsey, which was consecrated by Bro. Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn on the 31st May; the Ark in Oudh, attached to the Headstone of the Corner Mark Lodge, No. 233, in the District of Bengal; the Maxtaban, attached to the Mark Lodge of Philanthropy, No. 79, Maulmain, in the District of Burmah; R. A. M. Lodge, No.

422, Sierra Leone; and No. 307, in Bengal. Not many changes would appear to have occurred among the leading local dignitaries of the Order, the principal being the appointment of Bro. Major-General Fletcher Owen as Dist. G. Mark Master of Malta, in succession to Bro. Rear-Admiral A. H. Markham, resigned; of Bro. William Andrews, as Dist. Grand Master of Jamaica, *vice* Bro. Macglashan, resigned; and of Bro. Idris Bey Raghet as Dist. G. Master of North Africa; while Bros. R. V. Vassar-Smith and the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg have been continued in office as Prov. Grand Masters of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire and Buckinghamshire respectively.

As regards the proceedings of Grand Lodge, we remark that in March, Bro. Major T. C. Walls having gracefully withdrawn his candidature for the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, Bro. George H. Parke was unanimously elected. In June an address of congratulation to her Majesty on the completion of the 60th year of her reign was proposed by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M., seconded by Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Dep. G.M., and carried by acclamation and ordered to be engrossed on vellum and presented to the Queen. An addition was also made to the Book of Constitutions providing that Mark brethren who join English lodges from lodges under other Constitutions shall make a declaration of allegiance to the Mark G. Master and of obedience to the Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge. Subsequently the new Grand Officers were appointed and invested and Grand Festival was held under the presidency of Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Dep. G. Master. At the communication held on the 31st August, a letter was read from the Home Secretary (Bro. the Right Hon. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P.), announcing that the address voted by Grand Lodge at its June meeting had been presented to the Queen and most graciously accepted by her Majesty and it was accordingly ordered that this letter should be entered upon the minutes. The rank of Past G. Warden was conferred, at the instance of his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, on Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, President of the General Board, and a portrait of Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Past G. Master, presented by Bro. Stevenson on behalf of the Cheshire brethren, and gracefully accepted on behalf of Grand Lodge by Bro. C. L. Mason, Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, who, in the absence of the Pro and Deputy Grand Masters, occupied the chair as Grand Master. At the meeting on the 30th November, after the usual nominations had been made for the offices of Grand Master and Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, Bro. W. M. Stiles being the only nominee for the latter, a vote of sympathy with Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Past G.M., on the death of Lady Lathom, was passed in silence, and a portrait of Bro. Earl Amherst, Past Grand Master, presented by the Province of Kent, accepted.

In the Provinces and Districts Abroad there has been great activity among the lodges and members, the several Provincial and District Grand Lodges having held their accustomed meetings, while in the case of sundry of the former they have been honoured by visits from the Earl of Euston, Pro G. Master, who exhibits the same interest as ever in the proceedings of Mark Masonry. Two other events require to be noted. On the 20th May the annual Festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Masons was held under the presidency of Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, Dep. G. Master, and proved, as usual a great success, while on the 7th July, the anniversary Festival on behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund was held under the presidency of Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Cook, Prov. G. Mark Master of Middlesex, the amount announced in donations and subscriptions reaching £3100 13s., or considerably more than has been raised at any previous Festival. Bro. Col. Cook was warmly supported by Bros. the Earl of Euston, Viscount Dungarvan, the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, Major Woodall, Sir J. C. Dimsdale, the Earl of Portarlington, Dr. Balfour Cockburn, Sir L. E. Darell, the Earl of Yarborough, and C. F. Matier, who is Secretary of the Fund as well as Grand Secretary, while the Province of Middlesex loyally sustained its chief by raising over £250 out of the £2408 contributed by the Provinces, West Yorkshire returning £141 15s. and London £692.

CHIVALRIC AND HIGH GRADE MASONRY.

Under this head we include the Masonic Orders of the Temple and of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, the Ancient and Accepted Rite, the Royal Order of Scotland, the Grand Councils of Royal and Select Masters and of the Allied Degrees, the Rosicrucian Society, and the Order of the Secret Monitor, and on the whole, we feel justified in saying they have done their work satisfactorily. As regards Masonic Knight Templary, it is early days yet to judge of the effect of the change of

organisation which was inaugurated in 1896. The abolition of Convent General has greatly simplified matters, and the Great Priors which held under it have in the main fared prosperously. On the 8th April a special meeting of the Great Priory of England was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, under the presidency of the Earl of Euston, G. Master, when deputations from the Great Priory of Ireland and the Chapter General of Scotland were received with a most cordial welcome, the knights composing the former being Sir Charles A. Cameron, G.C.T., Great Chancellor; A. V. Davoren, G.C.T., Great Constable; J. Creed Meredith; Colonel T. C. McCammon, Great Treasurer; and R. N. Walker, Great Vice-Chancellor; while the Scottish delegates were the Earl of Kintore, G.C.T., Great Seneschal; Sir James Buchanan, K.C.T.; Lindsay Mackersey, G.C.T., Treasurer and Registrar; G. M. Allan, Lord Saltoun, Grand Prior; and Robert Inches. A most fraternal greeting was extended to the visitors by the Earl of Euston on behalf of Great Priory, and after E. Knights the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., and Col. Harvey Byrde had been introduced and done homage as Provincial Priors respectively, of Cheshire and Ceylon, and E. Knights the Hon. A. de Tatton Egerton and the Earl of Onslow had been invested, the former with the insignia of his new office, and the latter with those of Provincial Prior of Kent and Surrey, a candidate was installed as Knight Templar for the edification of the visitors, and Great Priory was closed, a Special Priory of the Order of Malta being subsequently opened, and a number of Knights Templar admitted to the Order. The delegates were afterwards entertained at a grand banquet by the English Templars. At the half-yearly meeting of Great Priory, on the 14th May, the minutes of the annual conference which had been held by the representatives of the Templars of England, Ireland, and Scotland, on the 7th April, were read, and the resolutions which it had seen fit to recommend on the subject of corresponding rank and other matters were adopted. An address of congratulation to the Queen on the completion of the 60th year of her reign was adopted by acclamation, and E. Knights the Earl of Yarborough and Maj. G. C. Davie having been introduced and invested with their insignia as K.C.T., and the officers for the ensuing year appointed, the proceedings closed, with the usual banquet. There have likewise been the usual meetings of Provincial Priors, and all things considered, we think the Order has fully maintained its position, if, indeed, it has not materially strengthened it. We regret we cannot say the same of the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine. The Premier Conclave appears to have done its work admirably, and the Grand Imperial Council presides over the affairs of the Order, but that is about all we feel justified in saying of the Order. The Royal and Select Masters, and the Allied Degrees likewise exist, but the evidences of a flourishing existence do not present themselves frequently, and we judge of them rather by what we read in calendars than by the records of their doings which come under our notice. The Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite has fully maintained its position. Its popularity is as deservedly great as ever and it is not therefore surprising that it should continue to be one of the strongest and most influential and at the same time, one of the wealthiest, Masonic organisations in the country. The Royal Order of Scotland remains in about the same position as last year. The Metropolitan and Yorkshire Colleges of the Rosicrucian Society still meet and discuss the more abstruse questions which find favour with its members, and the Order of the Secret Monitor, under the Earl of Warwick, as Supreme Grand Ruler, flourishes, though we do not gather that it is any nearer a settlement of its little differences with the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees than it was 12 months since.

OUR INSTITUTIONS.

We now pass on to a consideration of what has happened in connection with our central Masonic Institutions. Thus we have certainly no reason to complain of any shortcomings on the part of the Craft either as regards the contributions they have raised towards their maintenance and support or in the interest which has been exhibited in their work. It is true that the aggregate of the Returns at the Festivals held in their behalf during the year has been substantially less than it was in 1896, the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution having obtained subscriptions and donations amounting to £19,083; the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls to £16,026; and the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys to £15,031; giving a total of £50,140, as compared with a total for 1896 ranging from £54,000 to £54,500. But for this diminution there was ample compensation in the grants of £2000 made by Grand Lodge to each Institution, and the £1166 which each received as its allotted portion of the sum paid for admission to the memorable Diamond Jubilee meeting in the Royal Albert Hall

on the 14th June. These gifts amount to over £9500 and raise the total of the aggregate distributed among the three Charities to not far short of £60,000. Thus, their receipts from this the most important source of income on which they have to rely has been in all respects satisfactory, while as regards the beneficent work they have done during the year there has never been, nor never could be, the slightest question. This, however, will be more apparent from the particulars we are able to furnish in respect of each Institution, taking them, as usual, in the order in which their respective Festivals were held.

The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution celebrated its anniversary at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, the 24th February, under the presidency of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, K.G., Past G. Master, Prov. G. Master of Sussex, and District G. Master of Bombay, and when in the course of the evening, the duty of announcing the Returns devolved on the Secretary, that brother had the pleasure of declaring that the total contributed reached £18,197 which was subsequently augmented by the receipt of outstanding lists and donations, &c., to £19,083. Towards this handsome total London, by the medium of 198 Stewards, gave £10,405, the highest individual Stewards' lists being those of Bro. John R. Roberts, Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, for £259; Bro. Charles Spencer, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1306, for £215; and of Bro. James Terry himself, unattached, for £187. The Provinces, of which 35 were represented by 234 Stewards contributed £8607, towards which Sussex, as the Chairman's Province, gave £1263, Hertfordshire £857, West Yorkshire £609, Worcestershire £504, East Lancashire £464, Berkshire £455, Essex £415, Middlesex £352, Suffolk £325, and Cambridgeshire £302. It was a grand result worthy of his Royal Highness the Chairman, of the Institution, and especially of the auspicious year in which the Festival was held, and most cordial were the thanks which the Committee of Management returned to the Royal Chairman, and the Board of 432 Stewards which had so energetically and so successfully supported his Royal Highness. At the annual meeting of the Governors and Subscribers, which was held on the 21st May, the Report of the Committee embodying their thanks was accepted with acclamation; but no increase in the number of annuitants was made on either Fund, and only the vacancies which had occurred up to that day were filled up, the numbers remaining as at the previous annual meeting, that is to say, at 200 annuitants on the Male Fund, and 242 on the Widows' Fund, there being at the same time 28 widows of more or less recently deceased male annuitants in receipt of half of their late husbands' annuities. The Committee—in our opinion very wisely—considered that the raising of £15,744 for annuities, and £560 for the half annuities, or together £16,204 was a sufficiently heavy responsibility for the Institution to bear, but they were by no means oblivious of the generous support which they had received at the Festival, or of the national rejoicing over the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and by way of celebrating the latter event they presented each of the unsuccessful candidates with £5 as a *solatium* for their unsuccess; the numbers elected being in the case of the Male Fund 23—inclusive of the three deferred annuitants—from a list of 65 candidates, and in that of the Widows' Fund, and also inclusive of the three deferred annuitants, 21 from a list of 52 candidates. There thus remained 42 men and 31 widows, and to 39 of the former and 28 of the latter, this most acceptable gift of the Committee was presented a few days after the meeting, the remaining three candidates for each Fund having apportioned amongst them the interest on the "Hervey Memorial Fund," and the annual grant by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. There is but one other matter of importance to record, the alteration in the law defining the qualifications of widows which had been amended a few years previously, and was held to be too stringent in requiring that the husbands should have been subscribing members to a lodge or lodges for 15 years. Hence a Special General Meeting was called for the 10th February, at which it was resolved that while the minimum age of a widow candidate should remain at 60 years, her husband must have been a subscribing member for only 10 years, and the amended law was sanctioned and approved by United Grand Lodge at its Quarterly Communication on the 3rd March. It only remains for us to add that the Festival Stewards of the year paid their customary visit to the Asylum at Croydon, and found everything to their satisfaction; that the New Year's Day and Midsummer Entertainments were given, as usual, to the inmates of the aforesaid Asylum and that other arrangements were made on occasions for affording them pleasure; and when the year closes, as it will do in the course of two or three weeks, we doubt not that, thanks to the generosity of the Craft and the special grants of Grand Lodge, it will be found to have been financially and in all other respects one of the most successful known for some time past.

The Royal Masonic Institution for Girls may also be congra-

tulated on the events of the year. On the 12th May it celebrated its 109th Anniversary Festival, under the presidency of Bro. Lord Llangattock, Prov. G.M. of South Wales (E.D.), when the Secretary (Bro. Hedges) had the pleasure of announcing a total of Donations and Subscriptions amounting to £16,026, the number of ladies and brethren who succeeded as Stewards in raising this sum being 395. London, represented by 182 members of the Board, contributed £8083, the most important lists being those of Bro. G. Pidduck, W.M. of the Woodgrange Lodge, No. 2409, who compiled £233, while Bro. Sir John B. Monckton, representing the Lodge of Fellowship, No. 2535, and Bro. Frank Richardson, of the House Committee, were entered in the Returns for £210 each. Of the Provinces, 35, represented by 213 Stewards, returned £7943, the Chairman's Province of South Wales (E.D.) very fitly taking the lead with £1050, Surrey returning £629; West Yorkshire, £420; Hertfordshire, £412; Derbyshire, £335; Leicestershire and Rutland and Monmouthshire each £320; and Essex, £303. The result was the third highest ever obtained at an ordinary Festival, and it is needless to say that the noble Chairman, whose first experience it was in that capacity in connection with Freemasonry, was delighted with the liberal measure of support which the Institution had received under his auspices. The distribution of prizes took place, as usual, at the Institution on the Monday preceding the Festival, at which Lord Llangattock had the pleasure of being present, while the agreeable duty of handing the awards to the successful children was gracefully undertaken by Lady Llangattock, to whom a most cordial vote of thanks for her services was passed. On this occasion a change in the order of the programme was made, and the calisthenic display, in which the girls acquit themselves so brilliantly, and which usually takes place at the close of the day's proceedings, was included in the first Part, a special figure being introduced, in which the girls formed themselves so as to represent the figure 1837, the date of the Queen's accession to the throne—and then into 1897—the year of her Diamond Jubilee. As regards the efficiency of the School as an educational institution, its reputation stands as high as ever, as shown by the result of the different public examinations at which girls have been entered as candidates, the most important being the Cambridge Local Examinations for which, taking the Senior and Junior Divisions and the Preliminary together, 41 entered and 38 passed, honours and distinctions being awarded to several of the latter, while for the College of Preceptors' Examination 25 out of 31 were successful in satisfying the examiners. The elections were held, as usual, at the Quarterly General Courts in the spring and autumn respectively, there being elected on Thursday, the 8th April, 20 from an approved list of 28 candidates, and on Thursday, the 7th October, 15 from an approved list of 26. It further devolves upon us to record that at the April Court, Bro. Henry Smith, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M., who had filled the office of Treasurer for some years past, expressed a wish not to re-elected, and a successor to him was accordingly found in Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P. But the valuable services which Bro. Smith and the interest he had taken in its welfare during the whole of his long career were not allowed to pass unrecognised, and a vote of thanks was passed to him unanimously, the vote being accompanied by the wish that Bro. Smith might be spared for many years to exhibit his sympathy with the beneficent work of the Institution. At the October Court, a motion was made by Bro. Sir John B. Monckton that an offer of £1155 made by Bro. George Heaton, of the Province of West Yorkshire, for the purchase of a Perpetual Presentation, be accepted, but the motion was strongly opposed, and an amendment referring the question of Perpetual Presentations to a special Committee, which should consult with similar Committees appointed by the other Institutions and report at the earliest possible opportunity, was ultimately adopted. It only remains for us to add that expupils day was as happy and successful a gathering as in any year since the institution of the fixture, while the children paid their annual visit to the Crystal Palace, the expenses of the entertainment being defrayed by the Festival Stewards.

There remains the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which has been less favoured by fortune than usual. In fact, since the new *régime* came into force in August, 1890, there has been only one year in which the Festival has been less productive and that was the year 1892, when the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution celebrated its Jubilee and very properly claimed and received the lion's share of the brethren's subscriptions. Moreover, the endless number of claims that were made by all kinds of Charitable and other Institutions for support during this special year of years, very materially enhanced the difficulties which our Festival Stewards ordinarily experience in obtaining contributions, and this must have been most seriously felt by the Boys' School, which was the last of the three to celebrate its anniversary, and celebrated it in the very thick of the Diamond Jubilee Festivities.

Still, when the appointed day—the 30th June—came round, and the brethren, with a number of ladies, met at the Hotel Cecil, under the presidency of Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Cumberland and Westmorland, the Secretary had the pleasure of announcing that the donations and subscriptions raised by a Board of 388 Stewards amounted to £15,031, towards which London, represented by 192 Stewards, returned £8425, and the Provinces, with 196 representatives, £6606. The principal London lists were those of Bros. E. L. P. Valeriani, W.M. of the Lodge of Fellowship, No. 2535—which also stood first at the Benevolent Festival and second at the Girls' in this section of the Board—who raised £415; Bro. Belrouth, of the Clarence and Avondale Lodge, No. 2411, being next, with £410; while Bros. J. W. Westmoreland, W.M. of the Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259, and R. N. Lister, Creton Lodge, No. 1791, returned respectively £238 and £202. As for the Provinces, of which only 32 sent up Stewards, Cumberland and Westmorland very loyally supported its chief as the Chairman of the day, and raised £1260, while Northants and Hunts gave £593, Middlesex, £493; Kent, £419; Dorsetshire, £375; West Yorkshire, £350; Surrey, £325; and Gloucestershire, £304. The distribution of prizes by Lady Henry Cavendish Bentinck—to whom a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded for her kindness in attending and undertaking the pleasant duty—took place at the Institution, Wood Green, the day immediately preceding the Festival, and afforded the Head Master—Bro. the Rev. H. Hebb, M.A.—the opportunity of recounting the successes which had been achieved by the pupils of the School at the public examinations for which they had been entered, the most important being, as in the case of the Girls' School, the Cambridge Local Examinations for the Senior, Junior, and Preliminary, of which about one-third out of the 258 boys in training had gone in, with the result that all but 13 satisfied the Examiners. Moreover, as Bro. Hebb was careful to point out, while the age of candidates for the Seniors ranges from over 16 to 19, the age of the 14 from our Boys' School averaged 16; for the Juniors, the maximum limit of which is 16, it averaged 14.2, and in the Preliminary, the maximum limit of which is 14 years, it averaged 13.2. At the Examinations by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, the Head Master remarked that the results were meagre, which he accounted for by the lack of room at Wood Green for the necessary appliances for Technical Instruction. For the London Matriculation, three boys had been awarded places in the Senior Division, and that without their having undergone any special preparation for the ordeal. It should be added that Mr. A. Coupland, the holder of the first of the recently-established School Scholarships, has since been awarded an exhibition, or scholarship, at one of our Medical Colleges, and will thus, by his own ability and the help he has received from the Scholarship just referred to, be enabled to prosecute his studies for the profession he has elected to follow. We may further mention that the independent Examiners invited to test the acquirements of the boys reported very favourably of their progress during the year, while the Head Master added his personal testimony to the tone and character of the School generally. In respect of the physical training of the boys, that was fully and satisfactorily exemplified at the Athletic Sports, held at Wood Green on the 29th May, when the boys showed a keen sense of honourable rivalry, many of the events being very closely contested. The elections were held at the Quarterly Courts in April and October respectively, there being 22 elected at the former out of an approved list of 54 candidates, and at the latter 16 from a list of 49, reduced by withdrawals to 47. With regard to the administration of the School, we note, in the first place, that Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., P.D.G. Reg., was elected by the Council to fill a London vacancy that had occurred on the Board of Management by a substantial majority over Bro. Thomson Lyon. Later in the year the latter brought forward a motion providing that the election to fill a vacancy on the said Board should devolve upon the Board itself, instead of upon the Council; but the Court of Governors did not see their way to adopting the proposal, and it was rejected. At the July Court it was resolved, on the recommendation of the Board of Management, that Law 85, which relates to "Boys Maintained and Educated out of the Institution," should be altered in such a manner as to allow of the Board, with the approval of the Council, "making a yearly grant, not exceeding £30, to each boy up to the age of 15 years, sons of Jewish parents being eligible for out-education in the event of their guardians desiring it." A scheme for granting additional premium votes to those who serve the office of Steward at the approaching Centenary Festival has likewise been adopted, it being felt that as extra votes had been granted at the Girls' School Centenary in 1888, and the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, the interests of the Boys' School might suffer unless in its case also a similar course were adopted. With

reference to the removal of the Institution to the new site at Bushey, near Watford, there is little more to record than that Bro. Rowland Plumbe has been appointed Consulting Architect, and that plans for the new buildings are being prepared by certain eminent Architects. It is, however, with feelings of the utmost satisfaction that we record a munificent gift of 5000 guineas by Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., towards the erection of a school chapel on the site, Bro. Keyser's object in presenting this gift being to keep down as much as possible the cost of erecting the new premises. The announcement, when the Chairman of the day made it at the April Court, was received with loud and continued applause, and we doubt not that a suitable mode will ere long be found of recognising such generosity. Let us hope that the example thus set by the Treasurer of the Institution will be followed by others of its many friends and well-wishers.

PROVINCIAL AND OTHER CHARITABLE ASSOCIATIONS.

These Institutions are of two kinds. There are those which have been founded with a view to relieving the necessities of the local poor brother, his widow, and his orphans, and those which undertake the task of raising funds for the Central Charities, enabling brethren of moderate means to qualify as Life Governors or Life Subscribers by the payment of small periodical instalments. Both these classes of association have done, and are doing, excellent work, the former by relieving the Central Charities of some of the heavy pressure which falls upon them, and the latter by supplying them liberally with some of the funds they stand so greatly in need of. Among the best-known and most successful of the local Charitable Institutions are those of West Lancashire, which have been this year increased to four in number, namely, the Educational, Hamer, and Alpass Institutions, and the Victoria Jubilee Benevolent Institution, which has been founded to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and towards the maintenance and support of which there has already been subscribed over £1100. East Lancashire has one such prosperous Institution which serves both for Educational and Benevolent Purposes. Then there are the Cheshire Educational and Benevolent Funds, the former of which has been in existence for upwards of 30 years, while the latter has been founded during the Prov. Grand Mastership of Earl Egerton of Tatton, whose appointment to that office dates from the year 1886. Other funds of a similar character have from time to time been established by Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, Durham—which has an Educational Institution of some years' standing and a "Hudson Benevolent Fund," founded during the present year in recognition of the great services rendered to the Province by Bro. R. Hudson as Prov. G. Secretary—the Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Educational Fund, the North and East Yorkshire Educational Institute, which celebrated its fifth Annual Festival at York in May under the presidency of Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of York, when the sum of £1000 was raised in donations and subscriptions; and last, but not least, the newly-founded West Yorkshire Fund, towards which a large sum has already been subscribed, but which is not yet in full working order. Among the Associations which assist in obtaining subscriptions for the Central Masonic Institution by means of small periodical payments, are those established by Stafford, Cambridgeshire, Herefordshire, and other Provinces, as well as by many of the London Lodges of Instruction, and by lodges both in town and country. But to whichever of these classes the Associations belong, there is no doubt they do a vast amount of good, the one-class, as we have said, by relieving the Central Charities of some of the pressure upon their resources, and the other by raising funds for them under easy conditions of payment. We are glad to be able to record that both classes have prospered during the year 1897, and we hope to find their prosperity continued in future years.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

Bro. J. H. Matthews, as President of the Board of Benevolence, has proved himself a worthy successor of Bro. Robert Grey in the administration of the Fund at the disposal of this Board, the same desire to alleviate the temporary distresses of brethren and their widows and families, and the same regard for economy having been exhibited. During the year from 1st December, 1895, to the 30th November, 1896, the number of cases relieved was 372, and the amount distributed amongst them £8502, while from the 1st December, 1894, to 30th November, 1895, the figures were 370 cases, and the amount £8800. The record for the period from 1st December, 1896, to the 30th November, 1897, is as follows: In December, 1896, there were 46 cases relieved with £1145; in January, 1897, 17 cases with £480; in February, 33 cases with £1000; in March, 40 cases

with £1135; in April, 25 cases with £560; in May, 23 cases with £655; in June, 27 cases with £665; in July, 17 cases with £465; in August, 19 cases with £535; in September, 20 cases with £685; in October, 25 cases with £595; and in November, 42 cases with £1080; total for the 12 months, 334 cases relieved with £9000.

MASONIC LITERATURE.

Our record for last year under this head was a brief one, the works that were published in 1896, though reflecting great credit upon their respective authors, being few in number and almost entirely confined to one class of publication, that of lodge and Provincial histories. This year we can point, not only to several histories of local Masonry of a similar character, but likewise to the appearance of Part II. of Bro. Dr. Chetwode Crawley's "Cæmentaria Hibernica," and a Reprint of "Cole's Constitutions" with an introductory sketch by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. Bro. Dr. Crawley's Second Fasciculus, which was reviewed at considerable length in these columns at the date of its publication, in every way confirms the high opinion we formed on the publication of the opening part, and strengthens the belief we then expressed that, when complete, the work will constitute one of the most valuable of the additions to the history of our Order which have been published. He has succeeded in throwing much new light on the early history of the Craft in Ireland, and has shown that the Grand Lodge was in existence some few years previous to the date ordinarily set down for its foundation. As for "Cole's Constitutions," which have been reproduced in exact facsimile by Bro. William Jackson, of Leeds, with a preface by Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., our remarks are of so recent a date that we need not say more than that the work of reproduction has been admirably done by Bro. Jackson; that the Explanatory Preface by Bro. Hughan contains all the information we need as to the original version, and that generally, the publication will be greatly valued by all students of our Old Charges and Constitutions. Among Lodge Histories the most notable are those of All Souls Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth, by Bro. Zillwood Milledge, J.P., P.M., &c., with a Preface and Introduction by Bro. W. J. Hughan, which appeared towards the close of 1896, and was reviewed at length in these columns; of the Lodge of Amity, No. 137, Poole, by Bro. Alexander C. Chapin, I.P.M., both lodges being located in Dorsetshire; that of the Lodge of Hengist, No. 195, Bournemouth; and that of the Lion Lodge, No. 312, Whitby, which was compiled by Bro. the Rev. Fox-Thomas, for the centenary celebration in the earlier part of the year. All these as they refer to old lodges, and have been exceedingly well put together, deserve a place in this record, while in the case of brethren who may desire to become more intimately acquainted with the principal events and personages that are referred to in their respective volumes, they will do well to consult the reviews which have appeared in these columns; or better still the Histories themselves. There is also another work to which reference should be made, that compiled by Bro. the Rev. William Lee Ker, M.A., with a view to vindicating the claims of "Mother Lodge Kilwinning"—"the Ancient Lodge of Scotland"—to "occupy the exalted position assigned to it by the Grand Lodge of Scotland since the year 1807." In this volume Bro. Ker has discussed what he very justly describes as an "old Historical Question." Those who desire to learn our opinions of the book will find them expressed at considerable length in the columns of this journal, and all we need say here is that we do not think that Bro. Ker has succeeded in throwing any additional light upon the subject. "Grand Lodge Decisions," by our Rev. Bro. Lawrence, editor of the *Indian Masonic Review*, is an excellent pamphlet in which the author has brought together the most important decisions that have been made during the last 25 years. This, too, will be found exceedingly useful for purposes of reference. Then there are the Transactions of the Quatour Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, and of the Lodge of Research, No. 2429, Leicester. These, but more especially those of the former lodge, cannot be too highly spoken of, and the work of editing them has been performed by Bro. G. W. Speth, the Secretary of the Lodge, with the ability and pains he has always exhibited. This year there are papers that have been read before this lodge and are republished in the Transactions, of greater interest than usual, notably Bro. Hughan's on the Degree Question and Bro. Klein's on the Great Symbol, while Bro. Gould has written a memoir of another Masonic celebrity—the seventh of his series—in the person of Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, Past G. Master of Maine. These papers and Bro. Gould's Memoir of Bro. Drummond are in every way creditable to their respective authors. For ourselves we have pursued our way steadily and to judge by what we hear, the *Freemason*—and especially the Royal Diamond Jubilee number—has proved as attractive and trustworthy a compilation of news and opinions as in the past. For this appreciation of our efforts we are glad of the opportunity of expressing ourselves as grateful.

OBITUARY.

We cannot say that the tale of the losses we have suffered by death during the year is more formidable or contains the names of more honoured brethren than in past years, but it is quite formidable enough and several brethren of distinction have passed away, the memory of whose services will be always respected. Among the most noteworthy may be mentioned Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke, who held the office of Prov. G. Master of Cambridgeshire from 1872 to 1891, and then retired from any active part in Masonry; Lord Monk Bretton, who was J.G. Warden in 1869, and the Hon. Mr. Justice Cave, P.G.W.; Bros. the Rev. Joseph Senior, LL.D., a prominent Durham brother, and the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, both Past G. Chaplains; Bros. Lt.-Col. H. Somerville Burney and C. F. Marshall, Past G. Deacons; R. G. Glover, Past Dep. G.D.C.; W. G. Lemon, Past A.G.D.C.; Col. James Ward, C.B., P.G.S.B.; J. H. Sillitoe, and C. F. Hogard, Past G. Std. Bearers; and T. W. Whitmarsh, and Walter Hopekirk, Past G. Pursuivants. Among Provincial or Past Provincial celebrities will be found Bros. Sir H. St. John Halford, Past Dep. P.G.M. Leicestershire; T. R. Arter, Prov. S.G.W. Worcestershire, only a few days after the consecration at Moseley of the Lodge which bears his name; Thomas Holland, P.M., P.Z., P. Prov. G.D.C. Suffolk; and W. Watkins, P.M., P.Z.; P. Prov. G.W. Monmouthshire; while among other brethren we include Bros. Deputy Salmon, John Larkin, P.M., P.Z.; Stephen Barton Wilson, P.M., P.Z., No. 53, son of the famous Preceptor of the same name; John Clark, Reuben Ward, Benj. Fullwood, P.M., P.Z.; Thomas Bull, P.M., P.Z.; E. Spooner, J. Vaughan, P.M., P.Z.; Sir Norman Pringle, P.M., P.Z. No. 92; Dr. W. Sparks, of Leeds, author of our Masonic "Liber Musicus," J. Firth Watson, J. McDougall, P.M., P.Z. No. 913; T. D. Humphreys, P.M., P.Z.; M. Rosenberg, P.M. No. 1245; W. E. Willby, P.M., P.Z. No. 538; Major E. H. Peacock, J.W. No. 488, St. Helens; G. Houldsworth, P.M. No. 1327; W. R. Felton, A. F. Lamette, P.M. No. 271, M.E.Z. No. 271; Thos. W. Gay, P.M. No. 1901; Thomas Mayler, P.M. No. 267; James S. Naish, P.M. No. 1833; J. Lund Simmonds, P.M., P.Z., and author of the History of Mark Lodge, St. Mark's, No. 1, and Bro. William Paas, together with many other worthy brethren, whose services to Freemasonry were known and appreciated more especially in the circles in which they moved.

SCOTLAND.

Under the government of Bro. Lord Saltoun, who has just entered upon the second year of his G. Mastership, the Craft has fared most prosperously. There have been no occurrences of exceptional interest during the year now about to close, but steady progress and consolidation have been the order of the day. At the Quarterly Communication in February, Grand Lodge voted the sum of £100 to the Indian Famine Relief Fund, while two days later the foundation stone of the new Hall of the St. John's Lodge, No. 175, Greenock, was laid with Masonic ceremonial by Bro. James Reid, the R.W.M., Dep. P.G.M. of Renfrewshire West. Still later in the same month the new Masonic premises in Glasgow were consecrated by Bro. Lord Saltoun, M.W.G. Master. On the 19th April, the Dennistoun Chapter (R.A.) was consecrated by Comp. Major F. W. Allan, G. Superintendent of the Lower Ward of Lanarkshire, and Comp. Capt. A. H. Dennistoun installed in office as its first M.E.Z. In May, at the Quarterly Communication on the 6th, current Grand Lodge voted with loyal acclamation an address of congratulation to her Majesty the Queen on the completion of the 60th year of her reign. In August, Bro. F. C. Buchanan was installed in office as Prov. G. Master of Dumbartonshire, there being a strong muster of brethren present on the occasion, while the ceremony itself was performed by the G. Master Mason of Scotland. There has likewise been a considerable amount of activity shown by the brethren of the Scottish Constitution in India. In June, Bro. Lord Sandhurst, Governor of the Presidency of Bombay, who is Pro. District G. Master under the English Constitution, was solemnly installed as M.W.G. Master of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, and the day following this interesting ceremony his lordship, in his dual capacity of head of the two Constitutions, laid the foundation stone of a new Masonic Hall which is about to be erected in Bombay for the accommodation of our Anglo-Scottish brethren. Later in the year, too, a similar ceremony was performed by Bro. Capt. C. F. Wise, Acting G. Master, in respect of the new Anglo-Scottish Masonic Hall in Calcutta, Bro. Capt. Wise taking the opportunity afforded by his visit to the capital of the Bengal Presidency to inspire some of the lodges and chapters located there with an increase of enthusiasm for the work of Masonry. On the whole, though our record of occurrences may be somewhat briefer than in past years, there is every reason to be gratified with the work accomplished during the past year.

IRELAND.

In respect of Masonry in the sister isle, we have the satisfaction of being spared the necessity of reiterating our complaint of recent years that we have little, if anything, to record about the Irish Craft. Thanks to the kindness of a distinguished Irish brother, we have at all events several items of interest to include in our annual survey, not the least important being the installation at the regular Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge in June of Bro. J. Creed Meredith, LL.D., as Dep. G. Master in succession to the veteran Bro. R. W. Shekleton, Q.C., who had held the office for many years, and had won the respect and regard of our Irish brethren during his term of service. There was, as may be imagined, a large number of Grand Officers and brethren present, and both the G. Master and Grand Lodge are to be congratulated on having enlisted the services of so distinguished a Mason as Bro. Dr. Meredith for so important a post, and as the successor of so strong a Deputy as Bro. Shekleton. At this meeting Grand Lodge passed a resolution of congratulation to the Queen on completing the 60th year of her reign. A few days subsequently a numerous body of ladies and brethren from Belfast, to the number of 400, paid a visit to the Masonic Orphan Schools in Dublin, where they were most kindly and cordially received by the leading friends and supporters of those Charities—prominent amongst these being Bro. Lord Justice Fitzgibbon—and had every opportunity afforded them of inspecting the Institutions and learning all about the manner in which they were conducted and the success which had attended the efforts of the executive and the educational staff. Later in the year, the Duke of Abercorn, M.W.G. Master, presided at the distribution of prizes at the Masonic Female Orphan School, the prizes being given away by the Duchess of Abercorn, who was most heartily thanked for her kindness. There have also been sundry meetings of Provincial G. Lodges, both for the despatch of regular business and on special occasions, so that though the events we have been privileged to report are comparatively few in number, we have been able to communicate information of an important character, and shall be only too glad if in future years, our opportunities of publishing particulars respecting the doings of our Irish brethren are considerably augmented in number. We must not, however, lose sight of the fact that it is to an Irish brother—Dr. Chetwoode Crawley—that we are indebted for the chief addition during the year to our store of Masonic literature in the shape of the second Fasciculus of his "Cimentaria Hibernica" to which we have referred under the head of "Masonic Literature." Nor must we omit to mention that by the death of Bro. the Rev. Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin, who had been G. Chaplain for a quarter of a century, the Craft in Ireland has sustained a very serious loss.

THE COLONIES, &c.

In the Colonies and Possessions of the British Crown, Freemasonry, whether existing under separate and independent organisations or holding under the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom, has had its full share of the prosperity which has attended the Craft. At the annual meetings of the independent Grand Lodges, whether in British North America or in Australasia, the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen has been made the subject of congratulation, and addresses have been voted with the most enthusiastic loyalty. So, too, has it been the case with the District Grand Lodges, and even many private lodges have acted similarly, the most conspicuous case of all being the Grand Lodge of South Australia, whose M.W.G.M., Bro. the Right Hon. Chief Justice Way, took the opportunity afforded him when he was made Past Grand Warden of England in the Albert Hall by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, of presenting personally the address which his Grand Lodge had voted. The Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario) held its annual meeting at Brantford on the 21st July, and exhibited its loyalty by voting a congratulatory address, while the District Grand Lodges of Bengal, Bombay, and others acted similarly, the District Grand Lodge of Northern China marking the auspicious event by attending divine service at the Cathedral, Shanghai. Other modes of celebrating the same anniversary have been adopted, the most remarkable case being that of the brethren in the Transvaal which now musters some 18 lodges. These started an Educational Fund and inaugurated its establishment by subscribing towards its support and maintenance the very large sum of £15,000. In India the various District Grand Lodges have done some good work, the installation of Lord Sandhurst as M.W.G.M. of all Scottish Freemasonry in India and the laying of foundation-stones of new Masonic Halls in Bombay and Calcutta being the most noteworthy events. In New Zealand Bro. R. Dunn Thomas has been installed District Grand Master of Canterbury, *vice* Bro. Peter Cunningham deceased, but the question of recognising the Grand Lodge of

New Zealand does not appear to have made progress. The Grand Lodge of Victoria has sustained a heavy loss by the death of Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., Past and Pro G. Master, than whom it will be difficult to mention one who has rendered more signal service to Freemasonry. He was at the head of the three Constitutions in Victoria before the foundation of its United Grand Lodge, and when that body was formed he naturally was elected its first M.W.G.M., foregoing the office in favour of Bro. Lord Brassey on his lordship's appointment as Governor, and accepting the post of Pro Grand Master. In Queensland great progress has been made under Bro. Aug. C. Gregory, C.M.G., who is still, after 35 years' service, the District Grand Master, while in Western Australia there has been a large increase in the number of lodges, of which there are now 22 on the roll. In short, to whatever quarter we turn, we find the Craft increasing and multiplying, and becoming stronger than ever by the influence it exercises, and we can do no more than congratulate the brethren in the Colonies, &c., &c., on the increase of prosperity they have enjoyed during the year 1897. May our reports for future years be as gratifying!

The Craft and its Orphans in the Eighteenth Century.

By W. J. CHETWODE CRAWLEY, LL.D., D.C.L.,
P.G.D., and G. Sec. Inst. Ireland.



THE Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry, like all other landmarks, material or symbolical, can only preserve their stability, when they reach down to sure foundations. When the philosophic student unearths the underlying rock on which our Ancient Landmarks rest, he finds our sure foundations in the triple dogma of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man, and the Life to come. All laws, customs and methods that obtain amongst us and ultimately do not find foothold on this basis, are thereby earmarked as conventions and conveniences, no way partaking of the nature of Ancient Landmarks.

Many corollaries flow from these twin fundamental propositions, "and the greatest of these is Charity." What more logical or more obvious deduction can be conceived than the care of the Fatherless children of our Brethren?

THE ENGLISH GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Our good Brethren of the last century were thus inevitably led to the foundation of schools for the orphan children of their less fortunate Fellows of the Craft. First of these schemes to come to maturity in the British Isles was the Girls' School, projected in 1788 by Bro. the Chevalier Ruspini, an Italian by birth, an Englishman by choice, and a Freemason by heart. He was fortunate enough to secure for the School, almost from the very beginning, the patronage of the Duke of Cumberland, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Moderns, the more aristocratic of the two Grand Lodges that then divided the allegiance of the Brotherhood in England.

At the Quarterly Communication held in February, 1790, the Grand Lodge of the Moderns extended formal recognition to the School, which had already testified its grateful sense of the patronage of their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, by adopting the somewhat clumsy title of "The Royal Cumberland Free Masons' School."

THE IRISH GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Incited by the success, and convinced of the merits of the charitable organisation thus incorporated by the Grand Lodge of the Moderns, the Freemasons who held with Grand Lodges of the Antients started similar organisations on both sides of the Channel. In Dublin, "Sundry Brethren" were emboldened by the success of the London School to form themselves into a modest "Society for the Schooling of the Orphan Children of Distressed Masons." By 1795 their scheme had so grown upon their hands that they felt justified in presenting a petition to the Grand Lodge of Ireland for its approbation. They were received with open arms. The sanction was at once granted, and at the next Stated Communication, February, 1796, a vote of thanks was passed to "the worthy Brethren with whom the idea originated." We can thankfully thank from that day to this the prosperity of the Masonic Female Orphan School of Ireland has kept pace with that of its English sister Institution.

The Irish chronicle would be incomplete without a mention of the Masonic Female Orphan Asylum of Munster. Foremost of all provincial cities in the British Isles to recognise the claims of the Orphan, Cork was only a few years behind Dublin in establishing an asylum, which ultimately merged, about 60 years ago, into the Metropolitan School.

THE ENGLISH BOYS' SCHOOL.

Lastly, in 1798, certain of the English Brethren, who held under the Grand Lodge of the Antients, devised a plan "for clothing and educating the Sons of indigent Free Masons." This plan, cordially adopted by the Grand Lodge of the Antients, has developed into the "Royal Masonic Institution for Boys," the inevitable complement and fair rival in good works of the Girls' School, which had the advantage of 10 years' start.

Here ends the catalogue of the Orphan Charities founded by the Freemasons of the United Kingdom during the eighteenth century. The story of the English foundations has been excellently told by the facile pen of Bro. G. Blizard Abbott in the admirable series of Handbooks he has devoted to our Charities.

The story of the Irish Charities still awaits a competent chronicler.

EARLY TENTATIVE EFFORTS.

Admittedly, this catalogue sounds meagre, and comes very late in the century. The Grand Lodges of England and Ireland had been in full swing for nearly two-thirds of a century before they took charge of the Orphans of Distressed Brethren. The duty so to do follows so naturally from the principles of Freemasonry that the most superficial observer must confess to a feeling of surprise at the late origin of these Charitable Institutions. The success that attended them, when once started, must beget a suspicion that they were but the conversion into conscious deed of what had long been familiar to the Craft in unconscious thought.

BRO. JOHN BOAMAN'S PLAN.

Accordingly, we find that, both in England and in Ireland, there had been mooted schemes that, for one reason or another, failed to recommend themselves to the favourable consideration of the Brethren. The earlier and the more important of these schemes was that of Bro. John Boaman, 1738-9.

This undertaking has never had justice done to it, and we trust our readers will bear with us while we endeavour to give a sketch of the kindly-meant plan that failed, more than a 150 years ago, to win the support of the Grand Lodge of England.

Every student of the early annals of Grand Lodge is familiar with the brief paragraph in the *Book of Constitutions*, edited by John Entick, M.A., 1756, which announces under date 31st January, 1738-9, the rejection of "a scheme for the placing out *Mason's Sons* Apprentices." The paragraph is not such as would draw special attention, and our Historians, even those dealing with the History of the Educational Charities, have naturally passed it over, for the most part, without comment.

The scheme, however, is not fairly described in the paragraph, and was set out with a thoroughness and simplicity that deserved a better fate.

The original schedule presented to Grand Lodge is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and forms a part of the famous collection bequeathed to the University by Dr. Richard Rawlinson, P.M. of the Lodge once held at the Bricklayers' Arms, Barbican. The document will be found in the folio volume catalogued as Rawlinson MS., C., 136.

THE GRAND LODGE, 31ST JANUARY, 1738-9.

The foregoing schedule was evidently prepared for circulation at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge held at the "Devil's Tavern within Temple Bar" on Wednesday, 31st January, 1738-9. The meeting was truly representative of the London Brethren. The attendance was the largest recorded up to that time in the annals of Grand Lodge. The Masters and Wardens of 92 Lodges were present, a number exceeding by one half the number of Lodges represented at the preceding or at the subsequent Communication. The Marquis of Carnarvon was in the chair, attended by Dr. William Graeme, as his Deputy. The Grand Wardens of the year, Lord George Graham, and Captain Andrew Robinson were in their places; supporting them were no less than four Past Grand Masters, George Payne, Esq., Dr. Desgouliers, the Earl of London, and Earl of Darnley; three Past Grand Wardens, Mr. Jacob Lamball, carpenter, the relie of the operative days, Martin O'Connor, Esq., the friend of the International Grand Master, Lord Kingston, and Martin Clare, the author of the weightiest *Defence* of Masonry ever published, together with the late Deputy Grand Master, Thomas Batson, Esq. Above all there were rulers of the Craft that worked beyond the seas, representative Brethren from the great Western Continent, Robert Tomlinson, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of New England, and John Hammerton, Esq., Provincial Grand Master of Carolina.

In this assemblage, Brother John Boaman brought forward his plan to provide for the children of destitute Freemasons. The *Book of Constitutions* curtly describes the result:—

"A Scheme was proposed for the placing out *Mason's Sons* Apprentices, but after long Debate the Proposal was rejected, as it would too much affect the Fund of Charity."

The truth is, the plan came before its time. The popular mind in England was not prepared for organized beneficence towards children. Good people there were, and kind people within and without the Fraternity, who busied themselves about the welfare of children. But these were individuals, working at the close of an age of tumultuous reaction, which had discarded the old methods, and

A P R O P O S A L.

(Printed by the Consent of the Committee of Charity.)

To raise yearly 310*l.* for the carrying on, and providing for Twenty Children of MASONS, and binding Four to Trades every Year: Design'd for the Relief of our indigent Brethren, their Offspring, and the Honour of the Craft; most humbly submitted to the pious and serious Consideration of the GRAND MASTER, and Grand Officers, the Masters, Wardens, and Brethren, of all the regular Lodges in and about London. By JOHN BOAMAN, a Member of that Right Worshipful and Honourable SOCIETY, viz.

To One Hundred Lodges, computing Fifteen Members, at 6 <i>d.</i> per Quarter every Member	...	...	...	150	0	0
To the Mason's Play, by order of the Grand Master, to be apply'd to this Charity	...	...	...	160	0	0
Sum Total annually				310	0	0

1740, March 25, Cash in Hand.	...	...	310	6	0
1741, March 25, Interest at 3 per cent	...	...	9	0	0
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	629	6	0
Deduct for Charges	...	...	67	10	0
Cash remaining	...	...	561	16	0
1742, March 25, Interest at ditto	...	...	16	17	0½
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	888	13	0½
Deduct for Charges	...	...	120	0	0
Cash remaining	...	...	768	13	0½
1743, March 25, Interest at ditto	...	...	23	1	2
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	1101	14	2½
Deduct for Charges	...	...	205	10	0
Cash remaining	...	...	896	4	2½
1744, March 25, Interest at ditto	...	...	26	17	8½
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	1233	1	11
Deduct for Charges	...	...	265	0	0
Cash remaining	...	...	968	1	11
1745, March 25, Interest at ditto	...	...	29	0	10½
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	1307	2	9½
Deduct for Charges	...	...	265	0	0
Cash remaining	...	...	1042	2	9½
1746, March 25, Interest at ditto	...	...	31	5	3½
Annual Cash	...	...	310	0	0
Total	...	...	1383	8	0½
Deduct for Charges	...	...	341	0	0
Cash remaining	...	...	1042	8	0½

1740, March 25, No Expenses this Year.	...	...	...	...	...
1741, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Five Board and Cloaths, at 8 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> each	...	...	...	42	10 0
Rent	...	...	...	10	0 0
Schooling	...	...	...	5	0 0
Washing, &c.	...	...	...	5	0 0
Coals	...	...	...	5	0 0
Total	...	...	...	67	10 0
1742, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Ten Board and Cloaths	...	...	...	85	0 0
Rent	...	...	...	10	0 0
Schooling	...	...	...	10	0 0
Servant	...	...	...	5	0 0
Coals, &c.	...	...	...	10	0 0
Total	...	...	...	120	0 0
1743, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Fifteen Board and Cloaths	...	...	...	127	10 0
Rent	...	...	...	20	0 0
Schooling	...	...	...	15	0 0
Coals, &c.	...	...	...	15	0 0
Servant	...	...	...	5	0 0
Books	...	...	...	3	0 0
Nurse's Board and Wages	...	...	...	20	0 0
Total	...	...	...	205	10 0
1744, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Twenty Board and Cloaths	...	...	...	170	0 0
Rent	...	...	...	20	0 0
Schooling	...	...	...	20	0 0
Nurse and Board	...	...	...	20	0 0
Coals, Candles, &c.	...	...	...	20	0 0
Servant and Helper	...	...	...	10	0 0
Books	...	...	...	5	0 0
Total	...	...	...	265	0 0
1745, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Twenty Board, &c.	...	...	...	265	0 0
1746, March 25, Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...
Twenty Board, &c.	...	...	...	265	0 0
Binding Four at 15 <i>l.</i> each	...	...	...	60	0 0
Contingencies	...	...	...	16	0 0
Annual Expenses	...	...	...	341	0 0

In Seven Years you will have 1042*l.* 8*s.* 0½*d.* remain: which if you apply to build a House, you will save Twenty Pounds a Year.

In Twelve Years you will have out of their Times	4	} Cash in Hand 1042 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 0½ <i>d.</i>
Apprentices	...	...	...	...	28
In the House	...	...	...	...	20
Children in all	...	...	...	...	52

N.B.—The Brethren that are willing to encourage this laudable Undertaking, are desired to send in their Names in Writing, and their Lodges, by the Masters or Wardens, to the next Quarterly Communication; where all reasonable objections will be clear'd; and Security given for the Performance, if the Brethren cheerfully agree to pay only One Half-penny a Week each.

did not yet understand the new duties. No concerted action recommended itself as specially needed for orphans till the last quarter of the century. Then the great wave of philanthropy, of which we are proud to discern the early symptoms in the benevolence of Freemasonry, burst over the British Isles, and brought home to the people a priceless argosy of universal tolerance and mutual goodwill that had till then sailed under the ensign of the Craft alone.

AN IRISH FAILURE.

Unsuccessful as Bro. John Boaman's scheme was, it came much nearer success than the Irish scheme of 1777.

The Grand Lodge of Ireland at its communication on St. John's Day in Harvest of that year, resolved to patronise a lottery in order to raise funds, of which a part should be devoted to an orphanage. The "Mason's Lottery" was to consist of 25 major prizes ranging from £3000 to £100, and of 15,900 minor prizes of half-a-guinea each. This scheme was to be grafted on the State Lottery of the year, and was estimated to leave a balance for the Charity, if all the tickets were sold, of £1767 5s. 10d. All the tickets were sold, but not paid for. Consequently, when the prizes were drawn they more than swallowed up all the profits, actual or prospective. The amount realised fell so far short of expectation that the prizes could only be paid *pro rata*. Possibly if all the tickets had been confined to members of the Fraternity, this might have been got over. But the outside public who got only £200 for a nominal prize of £300 could hardly be expected to be satisfied. There was in particular one querulous ticket-holder who, not content with receiving two-thirds of one of the larger prizes in return for his half-guinea ticket, kept advertising in the public journals his loss, if we may so call it.

Nor did the ill-luck of the Mason's Lottery end here. The legal agent, whom the Grand Lodge employed to collect outstanding arrears, proved unworthy of his trust. No accounts could be got from him. The matter dragged on for years. Finally Grand Lodge had to employ another legal agent to bring the first to account. Nothing, save bills of costs, resulted from the legal proceedings, and the Orphans' Relief Fund never came into existence.

In estimating this scheme, readers must take into consideration the difference between this century and the last; just as had to be done in the case of Bro. Boaman's scheme. A lottery was then an orthodox means of raising money. The State itself held great periodical lotteries, to one of which the Masons' Lottery was to be affiliated. We have got far beyond that point to-day. We see clearly the immorality of a lottery. We do our gambling by the *Pari mutuel*, and on the Stock Exchange; vastly superior methods.

The Government lottery is so thoroughly dead that one can hardly realise how easily the lottery agent slid into the stockbroker. Here is an example. In 1788 Mr. Benjamin Disraeli opened an office for the sale of lottery tickets, in Grafton-street, Dublin. At first, Mr. Disraeli was styled lottery ticket seller; next he becomes lottery ticket seller and stockbroker; then stockbroker and lottery agent; and finally stockbroker *tout court*. This Mr. Disraeli, whose degree of relationship to the Earl of Beaconsfield is not clear, became a prominent member of the Dublin Stock Exchange, and acquired an ample fortune. In 1810, the former lottery-agent served as High Sheriff of co. Carlow, and in 1814 he died at the comparatively early age of 48.

With the judicious munificence that so often marks the Jewish character he utilised a part of his wealth in endowing educational institutions at Rathvilly, co. Carlow, in the land of his adoption. We are ever so much more moral than people who had to do with lotteries, but Mr. Disraeli, the lottery agent, made a use of his money which Stock Exchange speculators would do well to emulate.

THE SWEDISH ORPHANAGE.

The story of these Charities would be incomplete without a reference to the earliest orphan asylum established by the Craft. This honour belongs to the Grand Lodge of Sweden. Freemasonry was introduced into Sweden from England about 1735, and seems to have taken great hold of the wealthy classes. In 1753, the Swedish Lodges were anxious to commemorate the birth of a princess to the Royal House that sheltered them. They hit upon the plan of establishing an orphan asylum at Stockholm. An annual concert was organised for the benefit of this institution, and proved not less successful than the great festivals of the English schools, as a source of revenue. In 1767, a great accession to the resources of the Swedish institution took place. In that year a wealthy merchant of Stockholm, Johann Bohmann, a member of the Grand Lodge of Sweden, endowed it with 200,000 copper dollars. This sum is not quite so formidable as it seems; for Thory, from whom we borrow the account, is careful to indicate that it represents only 130,000 francs, that is, about £5200 sterling. There is an odd similarity between the names of the English Bro. Boaman and the Swedish Bro. Bohmann, or Bohan. The one sounds like an attempt to reproduce the other. In 1778, the Queen of Sweden gave the Asylum an endowment of sixty dollars a year, and the Burgomaster of Stockholm presented a like sum.

The news of this patronage incited the Brethren of Gottenberg to emulate the beneficence of their Brethren at Stockholm, and they, too, founded an Orphan Asylum.

In the Diamond Jubilee commemoration number, Bro. G. Blizard Abbott told the story of our Grand Master's initiation under the auspices and within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Sweden.

It is pleasant to recall that our Grand Master His Royal Highness was brought to the Light of Masonry in the Jurisdiction that was the first to use that light in brightening the gloom of the orphan and dissipating the shadows that beset the path of the fatherless.

L'EXVOI.

The omen was good, and the event has more than justified the omen. For every shilling contemplated by Bro. John Boaman's forgotten plan, thousands upon thousands have been poured, since the Prince of Wales became head of the Craft, into the coffers of the four great Orphan Institutions maintained by the Freemasons of England and Ireland. Yet the need is none the less to-day than in the days of our fathers. The orphan can never cease from the land. The wistful gaze of childish eyes is ever strained in desperate hope to catch the sheltering gates ajar. The tramp of weary little feet throngs endless round our walls. The touch of timid little hands is ever instant on our doors. The bitter cry of our dead brother's child burdens the air by day and night. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

The Object of Freemasonry.

BY THE REV. T. SELBY HENREY,
*J.W. of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, Vicar of St. George,
Brentford.*



THE object of Freemasonry is the education of man. Step by step she conducts her children through the tortuous windings of this life, and then finally she instructs them how to face eternity. Man is a subject created for an object, and without knowing the object it is impossible to understand the subject; without detecting the divine aim for man we shall possess no key to his existence. What should we have known of the magnanimous heart of Dante had it not been for its object—the reverential love for Beatrice? To be in darkness of the relations established between any subject and its aim and object is to live in ignorance both of the first and of the ultimate cause of its existence. How much can the callous one learn from the truth-seeking Cicero living in darkness when he exclaims: "How many excellencies has God bestowed on mankind?" He has raised him from the ground, and made him lofty and erect, that with an eye directed to heaven he might aspire to the knowledge of the Divine character. Listen to a modern: he says that man is born with some resemblance to his parents, and though this parental likeness may not be discernible during the years of health, yet, often when he is laid low on the bed of death, those dear and near have recognised for the first time that family likeness embossed and chiselled upon his countenance, and thus the late Poet Laureate wrote:

"As sometimes in a dead man's face,
To those who watch it more and more,
A likeness hardly seen before
Comes out to someone of his race."

Man is also told, but by a far greater authority, on the first page of the Sacred Volume, that he is created after the image of his Father in heaven—God. And, though this Divine parental image may have been obliterated in the present life by trouble and inconsistencies, when our eyes have closed upon this earthly scene, and these wrinkles that channel the human brow and scar and plough the cheek, are softened and mellowed down; then, grant that the angelic hosts of heaven may perceive chiselled upon our calm, serene, and placid faces, illuminated in death by the reflection from the open flood-gates of the transcendent glory of the Great Lodge above, the image and likeness of Him after whose likeness we were created.

But there is something far nobler than the outer resemblance. When we are asked our opinion of a person, we hardly for a moment consider the outer man, our thoughts are instantaneously centred on the "Ego" or "I" of the individual; in other words, the *character*, which we credit with either piety, honesty of purpose, stability, sympathy, or perchance some opposite quality. There is no exaggeration in the assertion that man's first and last experience of life is that everything presents a hostile attitude towards him; that his environment is continually militating against him; life must be, therefore, boldly faced, and these hostilities recognised and confronted. The question that presents itself is—What is man's action to be? and the reply is discovered in the truth enshrined in the lines:

"Unless above himself he can erect himself
How small a thing is man."

Man is called upon so to discipline his real self as to prove superior to temptation, pain, disabilities, bereavements, death: the powers within to be stronger than the foes warring from without. Opposition can be seen in most walks of life to be, contrary to expectation, a boon, and not a hindrance. Obstruction creates a healthy condition of affairs, and so this all-important and immortal essence, the character, is developed and matured in what might be designated mental struggling. This implies soldiership and active military service, but it is no new doctrine. Look at the earthly soldier! Engaged in deadly combat, putting into operation every energy, his hearing deafened by the bullets whistling past his ears, and the fearful groans of the wounded and dying, enveloped with the smoke of the cannon, straining every nerve, forgetful of self, he fights for Queen and country. All the noble traits of his nature find expression; he is awarded the Victoria Cross, and we clap our hands with delight that the ancient courage and pluck and heroism have descended to the British warrior from a lion-hearted ancestry. But these have found expression under adverse conditions, for is our admiration so evoked when our typical soldier is on furlough under favourable circumstances? Man's primary object here is to glorify God, and, for this end, to make the best use of everything at his disposal, thus serving his Creator truly in that station of life into which He has been pleased to call him; if position be humble and means scanty, yet the truth remains that the measure of a man's responsibility will be gauged by the measure of his ability. Man finds himself in a world bristling with difficulties, but whether these hostilities will increase or crumble at his feet will depend very largely upon the way they are manipulated; the stone that will trip up one person may prove a stepping-stone across a river of difficulties to another. Instead of saying that a man is a creature of circumstances, it would be nearer the mark to say that he is the architect of circumstances. Do we not recognise the truth in the following: Soon after the illustrious Edmund Burke had been making one of his most brilliant orations in the House of Commons, his brother Richard, who was always considered to be superior in natural talent, was found sitting in silent reverie, and when asked by a friend what he was thinking about, replied: "I have been wondering how Ned has contrived to monopolise all the talents of our family; but I remember that when we were doing nothing, or were at play, he was always at work." Here we have an instance of a man who, though intellectually handicapped, by discipline and self-mastery, superseded those whom nature had more richly endowed.

The building up of man's character is pursued in comparative silence, being made up of the tiniest details of daily life. I emphasise the daily details, for the morrow of every man is moulded by the yesterday, and one day, nay, any one minute, leaves its inheritance for ever. Recognising the importance of life, may man live, as Apelles painted—for eternity. The greatest nobility lies in having led your own captivity captive, and in being Cæsar over the empire God has given you—the kingdom of yourself. This rule of conduct need not necessarily militate against that pregnant little story of the Englishman and Irishman desirous of extricating themselves out of a certain trouble, the latter crying, "Who will *help me* out of the difficulty?" while the former said, "How can *I* get out of the difficulty?" We may consider with profit the device found on an ancient medal representing a bullock standing between a plough and an altar, with the inscription: "Ready for either—for toil or for sacrifice." Man, if he is to succeed, has to toil in the spirit of Michael Angelo, working for a week without taking off his clothes, and like Handel whose harpsichord is to be seen in the private apartments of Windsor Castle with every note hollowed out like a spoon, by incessant practice. The law given to Adam that he should eat bread by the sweat of his brow was a most beneficent one, and showed us that toil is the salt of life, preserving the body from effeminate languor, and the soul from unhealthy broodings. True is the adage that a man will rust out sooner than he will wear out. Success will tend to create a selfishness within if it be not counterbalanced with the spirit of sacrifice; man should only regard "the law of accumulation in proportion to the law of distribution," a man is at his best when he begins to transmit his good influence to others. Once more let us consider what may be styled the disabilities of life, and we ask what would the world have known of the gigantic intellects of such engineers as Brunel and George Stephenson had there been no such things as impediments. Physical obstacles have ever evoked man's highest faculties, either to lay them at his feet, or turn them to good account. So also it may be admitted that man has to combat spiritual disabilities, and either to vanquish or convert them to his spiritual advantage. When William the Conqueror landed on our native shores previous to the battle of Hastings, as he was in the act

of disembarking, his foot gave way on the shingly beach causing him to fall forward on his hands, at which misadventure his soldiers raised the cry of distress. "An evil omen!" they sighed "is here." "See, my lords, replied William, "by the splendour of God I have taken possession of England with both my hands; it is now mine, and what is mine is yours." The inference is patent.

In reading the biographies of notable people, nothing is more discernible than how men have had their particular disabilities to teach them—may we say humility or some other virtue? Milton, in a noble passage of "Paradise Lost," rejoices at what is left to him, when he sings—"Does God exact day labour, light denied?" And in another passage he tells his friends that his eyes—

"Their seeing have forgot;
Not to their idle orbs doth sight appear,
Of sun, or moon, or stars throughout the year,
Or man or woman. Yet I argue not
Against heaven's hand or will; nor bate a jot
Of heart or hope; but still bear up, and steer
Right onward.
Content, though Blind."

We recollect Handel, in his age and blindness, full of cheerful dignity; or Beethoven, who, in the prime of life, lost his hearing; though we love to think of the resignation which illuminated anguish; hope which triumphed over death—the last earthly words of the deaf musician being, "I shall hear in heaven." And we recall the awe-inspiring music which was the outcome of Bach's poverty-stricken youth.

The divine Creator will clothe the disabilities of the sons of men, if animated by the spirit of truth, with heavenly significance, bestowing a pleasant savour on unsweet duties, and redeeming life by dispersing its mysterious fogs, and kindling an auroral glow of hope athwart its horizon.

An Old Masters' Lodge.



THROUGH the valued medium of my esteemed friend and Brother, Robert Hudson, of Tyne-mouth, the original minutes of an old lodge that assembled in London early last century, were lent me for perusal and reproduction, by the kindness of the "Freemasons' Hall Co.," Stockton-on-Tees (in whose possession this important volume is); and at a meeting of the "Quatuor Coronati" Lodge, No. 2076, London, held on 24th June, 1897, I read a Paper on "The Three Degrees of Freemasonry: Especially in relation to the oldest known records of the Master Mason's Ceremony," duly printed in "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum" for that year (and also as a separate pamphlet). These precious records are referred to therein at length, several of the most valuable pages being reproduced in slightly reduced facsimile.

This is the oldest minute book of any regular lodge known constituted by the Grand Lodge of England, and has been quite overlooked until recently, possibly owing to its preservation in the Province of Durham, through the lodge formed at Stockton-on-Tees on 2nd December, 1756, and which took the number and precedence of the original on its collapse in London during that decade; but was itself finally erased 3rd September, 1838, as No. 28, by the name of "Philanthropy."

Seven brethren, on January 31st, 1725 [O.S.], petitioned the Right Hon. the Lord Paisley, "Right Worshipful Grand Master," to be "form'd into a Lodge at the *Swan and Rummer*, or elsewhere in Finch Lane" [London], and humbly requested his lordship to constitute them "in due form or direct his Deputy so to do." Also, if his lordship pleased, "to have Mr. Martin O'Connor for our Master."

A copy of this, the oldest document of its kind extant, commences the minute book, with the consent of the Grand Master appended, stating that these brethren may be constituted into a *regular lodge*, and authorising his Deputy to discharge that duty.

Then follows a copy of the notice by Dr. J. T. Desaguliers, Deputy G.M., fixing the 3rd day of February next for the ceremony, after which, in the writing of the period, the page ends with the certificate.

"The Deputy Grand Master met accordingly and constituted the Lodge, and Mr. Timothy O'Connor and Mr. John Vernon were admitted Brothers, and Joseph Atherton, a Drawer, was admitted a Member to attend this Lodge."

No authority but this was needful during that period to provide for the regularity of the meetings, and, though all the other lodges in the Metropolis at that time were, doubtless, constituted in a similar manner, and possessed a like certificate of Constitution, the oldest of the existing lodges which has preserved its original authority is the "Felicity," No. 58, of A.D. 1737, a facsimile of which is given in its excellent History by Bro. W. Smithett (1887-91), and is still doing duty as its only "warrant." No. 60, "Peace and Harmony," of A.D. 1738, has also its original Certificate of Constitution intact; but, unfortunately, petitioned for a "Warrant of Confirmation" in 1884, which was needless. So that now No. 58 is the sole lodge that meets in the Metropolis by virtue of its original Certificate of Constitution, from No. 6, of A.D. 1721, onward, for many years, the others having "Warrants of Confirmation" only. Brethren interested in this curious subject should consult Bro. John Lane's invaluable "Masonic Records, 1717-1894" (1895), and "Handy Book to the List of Lodges," &c. (1889).

The second page of the old Minute Book of 1725-6 is dated "London, Feb. 16" of that year (i.e. 1726, N.S.), and contains the signatures of the members to an agreement to assemble, as aforesaid, on the second and last Wednesdays in every month, and to pay the sum of 12s. each every six months, to meet the incidental expenses, the first three who signed being "Martin O'Connor, Mr.; Richard Shergold, S.W.; and Samuel Berington, J.W."

The pagination is consecutive, the last page written on being numbered 175, and the entries range from A.D. 1726 to 1734. In 1728-9 the number 39 was assigned to the lodge, which was altered to 35 in 1740, and to 23 in 1755; but it had apparently lapsed before then. The third number was held by its successor at Stockton-on-Tees, until 1770, and subsequently changed, as the numeration was altered from time to time. Its several places of meeting are to be found in Bro. Lane's colossal volume previously noted. The Secretaries of the old lodge never once alluded to either of the numbers that distinguished it, and rarely referred to the place of meeting.

The by-laws immediately follow the signatures aforesaid, and commence at page "(3)," the next two pages being also devoted to that purpose. Unfortunately, the first of the trio does not lend itself to being facsimiled, but the remaining two have been reproduced, with an ordinary copy of the first page that begins the code. They are the oldest of the kind ever published of Regulations agreed to by a regularly constituted lodge on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England.

[COPY]

(3)

Rules, Orders, and By-Laws for the good government of the Lodge at the Swan & Rummer in Finch Lane ["in Exchange Alley" added above the line.]

1. ORDER'D That the Second & Fourth Wednesday in Every month be appointed & are hereby appointed our Lodge Nights for receiving visits &c. *Approved.*

2. THAT at the Expiration of 6 months a New Master & Wardens be chosen. *Approved.*

3. THAT the succession be Regular according to due Qualification, without regard to Seniority of Entrance into the Society, w^{ch} is to be done by ballot.

4. THAT no Person be made a Member of this Lodge without the unanimous Consent & Approbation of the Brothers present at the time of Recommendation and that to be done by Ballotting. *Approved.*

5. THAT the Lodge be open'd at 7 o'Clock in the Winter & closed at 10, & during the Summer open'd at 8 and Closed at Eleven. *Approved.*

6. THAT Every Brother of this Lodge pay twelve shillings p^r half year; the said twelve shillings to be collected at the Beginning of Every half year. *Approved.*

7. THAT All visiting Brothers pay one shilling each & no more, within y^r Lodge hours, their names to be enter'd in the Lodge Book & from what Lodges, the Better to give us an Opportunity of Returning their visits. *Approved.*

8. THAT the Master have Liberty to Invite 2 Brothers, and the Wardens one each, at the making of New Brothers & that they be intitled to Cloathing & that no other

Strange

At a Lodge convened on May 11th, 1726, six members attended and three visitors, the latter including Sir Thomas Mackworth. Five candidates were recommended, and "Upon a ballot it was agreed to admitt the above Gentlemen Brethren of this Lodge," due notice of "the making" to be given. On the 19th, three of the candidates were admitted "Mason's of this Lodge," and also "Abell Wood, the Drawer." This is the second serving

brother noted in the Minutes, to whom a fee of one shilling was generally paid for each meeting. In 1729 "Mills, the Drawer, having been recommended by the Sen^r Wardⁿ, was admitted accordingly," and on 30th Mar., 1730-31, the following entry occurs:

"The Question being put that Bro. Johnson be desired to attend to Gard the Lodge every Lodge night and that he be allow'd Two shillings *Eatch* night for his attendance, it past in the affirmative *nem. con.*"

The Tyler (and "Drawer" apparently) seems to have been a sensible man, for the words "Eighteen pence and one pint of wine" have a pen put through them, and the sum of *two shillings* entered instead, showing he preferred the money to the drink.

The next Minute reads as follows, and is of special interest and importance.

"June 8th, 1726.

Present:

J. T. Desaguliers, Deputy G.M.

Mr. Martin O'Connor, Mastr.

8 That no Brother be admitted upon any Account
At a General Assembly

9 That the Master for the time being and or
more to be sent Circular Letters to all the Brothers
of the Lodge to give them proportionally Notice
of every Making of new Brethren or of any other
Constitution, That the Master & Wardens shall take
it to be approved

10 That no Brother be admitted without a
making be intitled to Cloathing per approved

11 That the Charges & Expenses at the making
of new Brethren be *settled* according to the
direction of the Master & Wardens & Expenses shall
be *settled* by an Officer approved

12 That if any Brother proposes to be admitted
a New Member he be made on this Lodge upon this
Persons being elected that Brother shall pay down
3 Guineas for his friend to prevent the disappointment
which 3 Guineas shall be put into the Box for the
publick Good. approved

13 That no person who is not a Brother be
admitted into the Lodge without a *making* & that the
Lodge be *settled* approved

14 That the making of new Brethren be
done by the Master & Wardens & by day in approved
that left the *discretion* of the Master approved

15 That no party disputed Disputations or *debates*
with *debates* be allowed to hold in the Lodge &
that no *debates* be *debated* but the usual *debates*
be *debated* approved

That

Mr. Richd. Shergold, Sen^r Warden.Mrs. Saml. Berington, Jun^r Warden.

Mr. Broughton Wright.

Mr. Chas. Waller.

Mr. Nath. Cureton.

Capt. Wm. Hambly.

Mr. Richd. Murphy.

Mr. Jos. Hare.

Mr. John Vernon.

Mr. Robt. Stogden.

Mr. Edwd. Norris.

The Rt. Honable, the Earl of Inchiquin } Invited by the Master.
Mr. Nic^s. Bennett.

Mr. Jams. Oates. Invited by Mr. Berington, Wardⁿ.

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Kinsale }
The Honble. Jams. King, Esq^r. } Were admitted into the Society
St. Winwood Mowat, Barr^r. } of Free Masonry & made by
Micht. O'Bryan, Esq^r. } the Depty Grand Master."

In the discussion which followed the reading of my paper at the meeting in June, Bro. Dr. W. J. Chetwode Crawley communicated some interesting particulars respecting the foregoing

distinguished initiates. He drew attention to the fact that Gerald de Courcy, 24th Baron Kingsale, inherited the oldest existing substantive title in the Peerage, together with the singular honorary distinction known as the "De Courcy privilege." The Hon. James King, "heir to one of the Restoration Peerages conferred by Charles II, succeeded to the title of Lord Kingston, just a year after his introduction into Masonry. His career into Freemasonry is without parallel." Lord Kingston was Grand Master of Ireland in 1730, and re-elected in the following year, also in 1735 and 1745. His Lordship was also "the third and last Grand Master of the decaying Grand Lodge of Munster." Sir Winwood Mowat was a Scottish Baronet, and Sir Thomas Mackworth hailed from Rutland. Capt. Molloy "came of a Roman Catholic Stock," and the Family lost their estates, so he and his brother took service abroad. Michael O'Brien probably was connected with the legal profession, and resided in Gray's Inn. The special value, however, of this minute is that it records where and when Lord Kingston was initiated, a fact hitherto unknown. The Irish Masonic Historian also notes that "The prominence of Irish names in the Minutes of the Lodge at the Swan and Rummer is remarkable, but not altogether unprecedented."

(5)
16. That the Expenses, that the Master Wardens of the said attending the Livery, ^{by making in other Lodges} being defrayed by the Brothers of the Lodge out of the Public Fund, & that the Master make a perfect & true Report of the same to the Brethren, as far as is necessary & convenient for the Public Good of the Lodge. approved

17. That the Master Wardens have each a Key to the Pursebox & that the Money arising from the Jewels, & the Hire of the Lodges in the hands of our Brothers ^{by the Master Wardens} be accounted for to the same. approved

18. That whatever charges the Master shall be at in providing necessaries for the Lodge be defrayed either by the Public Fund or by the Brethren. approved

19. That if contrary to expectation any Dispute or Difference should arise between any of the Brethren of the Lodge or Masters, that they should in that case upon hearing 3 knocks of the Maltese given by the Master all Disputes of that kind should immediately cease & be referred to the more effectually to preserve for perpetual Friendship & brotherly Love among us, unless such Dispute be tending to the General Good of the Lodge which always is to be decided by a Majority of Votes, & that in the most harmonious & best called for Friendly Manner. approved

20. Lastly That the Master Wardens ^{with the} Majority of this Lodge may & shall have when they think proper Liberty & Power to alter or ^{change} ~~amend~~ any or all of the Laws aforementioned.

A joining member on January 31st, 1727-8, described as "Springett Penn, Esq," calls for a few words by way of introduction to my readers. This gentleman belonged to a lodge that assembled at "the Ship, below the Royal Exchange," on 1723-4, and "was admitted a Brother of this Lodge" on the day noted, having then attended as a visitor. Bro. Springett Penn was appointed Deputy Grand Master by the Hon. James O'Brien, on St. John's Day, in winter, 1726, of "the Grand Lodge for the Province of Munster." For additional particulars, Dr. Crawley's invaluable "Camentaria Hibernica" (1895), should be consulted.

Many visitors attended from time to time, some holding very high rank in the Craft. The Grand Master was again present on the 26th March following, with the noblemen lately initiated, and Dr. Desaguliers (P.G.M., &c.), who often attended and presided. Others also might be mentioned, such as Bro. John Pine,

Engraver of the curious Lists of Lodges, &c., from the "Horn, Westminster" (now No. 4); Bro. W. Burdon (J.G.W. 1726); Bro. Alex. Choke (D.G.M. 1727); Bro. George Payne (P.G.M. 1727-30); Bro. Thos. Batson (D.G.M. 1731-3); Bro. Wm. Read (G. Sec. 1727-33); Bro. Jno. Revis (G. Sec. 1734-56); "Capt. James Comerford, Prov. G.M. of Andalusia" (from 1731); all of considerable interest, because of the period, and one in particular will be recognised for his un-Masonic character, viz., "Mr. Saml. Pritchard, Harry ye 8th head, of 7 Dyalls (Sep. 25th 1728)."

Having Lord Kingston Grand Master, as a member, doubtless led to so many distinguished visitors being present. While his lordship was the actual Ruler of the English Craft, Bro. Martin O'Connor, the first W.M., was appointed Junior Grand Warden, which was a compliment to the "Lodge. It never seems to have selected a name, many others being in a like position.

At one of the assemblies, when the Earl of Inchiquin, Grand Master, was present, eight gentlemen "were admitted," or initiated; the meeting having been fixed for the purpose "and the Rt. Worshipfull the Grand Master was pleased to declare Doctr Desaguliers, Deputy Grand Master for the night."

A silver jewel, costing £1 16s. 6d., was ordered to be paid for on July 12th, 1727, but it is not stated for what purpose the decoration was intended, save that "it was for the use of the Lodge." Particulars, and especially sketches, of early Lodge Jewels are very welcome, and if the originals can be seen so much the better. The small number and simple character of these decorations early last century, offer a striking contrast to the plentiful and elaborate decorations of the present time. Then, to wear a Masonic Jewel must have been a distinction, but now one is better distinguished by wearing none or only those absolutely necessary. To show how memoranda of accounts were sandwiched in between the minutes, the following facsimile of p. 62 will suffice. It will be observed that Lord Kingston's name heads the List, March 26th, 1729, followed by the oldest P.M. of the Lodge, who was J.G.W. I have not traced any payments by his Lordship, but there is no Treasurers' Book preserved (if there were any), and the financial entries are not complete.

(62)

That the Rev. James King, Grand Master, 26th March 1729, to the Brethren of the Lodge, St. John's, Dublin, for his services as Grand Master, 1729, 1730, 1731, 1732, 1733, 1734, 1735, 1736, 1737, 1738, 1739, 1740, 1741, 1742, 1743, 1744, 1745, 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1752, 1753, 1754, 1755, 1756, 1757, 1758, 1759, 1760, 1761, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 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occurs in the Records to indicate visits from brethren not subscribers to any Lodge, and probably some who had been initiated prior to the formation of Grand Lodge, under the old regime.

The sum of one shilling per night was granted on January 26th, 1732, "to illuminate ye Lodge in a manner agreeable." Dr. Schomberg, who was the "Right Worshipful Master" in 1732, was one of the Grand Stewards in 1735. On April 26th, 1732, it was agreed "that a copper plate be cut, that circular letters be for the future sent to all the members." Dr. Crawley tells me that a copy of one of these engraved blank forms is preserved amongst the "Rawlinson MSS." at Oxford.

The most valuable feature of the records, however, is the references to the Third Degree and the minutes of the ceremony when worked. These are the earliest of the kind so far traced, for those of the "Philo Musicæ Lodge" contained in the fine old manuscript volume in the British Museum (*Add MSS.* 23,202), concern a Masonic organisation that was never acknowledged by the Grand Lodge. The latter are of considerable importance, notwithstanding their lack of "regularity," dating as they do from 1725, and prove that the Degree was conferred in regular lodges at that period, instances of which are duly recorded.

There are several minutes of the Master Mason's Degree being worked in the regular lodge originally assembling at the "Swan and Rummer," from 1726, as follows:

April 27, 1727.

"Order'd That a Lodge of *Masters* be summoned for Fryday next at 6 o'clock on special Affairs."

April 29, 1727.

"Jno. Dixon Hammond Esqr.
Edwd. Burton Esq. *paid*
Mr. John Vernon
Capt. Ignatius Molloy

} Were admitted Masters."

March 31, 1729.

"At a particular lodge for passing of Masters.

* * * * *

"The Masters Lodge was formed, and the following Brethren were admitted Masters, vizt.—

Brother Nelthorp
Brother Aynsworth
Brother Quam
Brother Commerford
Brother Tomkinson
Brother Hare

"Brother John Emslie having been Recommended as a worthy and good Mason he was *passed Master* at the same time.

"A Debate arising concerning the Charge to be paid by every Brother upon his being admitted a Master Mason in this Lodge. It was Resolved *nemine contradicente*, that no Brother for the future be so admitted for a less expense than Ten Shillings and Sixpence."

14 April, 1731.

"Bro. Roul and Bro. Shipton having a desire to be passed Masters, the Masters' Lodge was formed and they were past accordingly." Three days later, in the "Master's Lodge form'd," they "*were past accordingly*."

25 Feb. 1731-2.

"The Masters' Lodge was formed and Mr. Delane, Mr. Adolphus, junr., & Mr. Wentworth were passed Masters."

Nov. 8th, 1732.

"Resolv'd & Order'd that Circular Letters be sent to all the *Master Masons* of this Lodge [*sic*] be summon'd to meet next Lodge night at 6 of the Clock precisely, in order to admit Bro. Adolphus, &c. [two others] Master Masons."

On the 22nd of the same month the three brethren "were admitted Masters agreeable to a former resolution." The 7th of February, 1732-3 (*i.e.*, 1733 N.S.) was "appointed for ye passing of *Mastrs*. The Lodge was conven'd accordingly, and Bro. Nimes and Bro. Heaton were *passed Masters*." The first-mentioned was also chosen as one of the Wardens. The last minute relating to the Master Masons is dated 10th April, 1734, in which it is stated—

"This night Mr. Jams Styles was *passed a Master Mason*."

The half-a-guinea charged for raising was additional to the fee for "making and membership," the former sums being kept distinct from the ordinary receipts of the lodge, that of the Master Masons being a separate organisation. Of these Masters' Lodges there are several accounts preserved, and in the Transactions of the "Quatuor Coronati Lodge," as well as

in published histories of lodges, many interesting facts have been made known, but the oldest of these date from the decade following the one I have herein described.

As with some other old lodges, there is no mention of the *Fellow Craft's Degree* from first to last; the "making" apparently including virtually, if not actually, that ceremony, for it can scarcely be supposed that Apprentices were raised to the Third Degree without the intermediate qualification or prerequisite. In By-laws extant of 1732 "the Degrees of F.C. and M." are provided for (*Freemason*, April, 1872), and the former was worked in No. 41, Bath, from 1733; though not in a still older lodge at Lincoln, from 1732 (Bro. W. Dixon's valuable "*History of Freemasonry in Lincolnshire*," 1894). It is important to note that the two Wardens who were "raised" as Master Masons in this old London lodge aforesaid in 1729 had been elected as *Wardens* at a previous meeting, thus proving that the Third Degree was not a prerequisite for office in that year, neither was it at a still later period.

My opinion is that *distinct and separate* Degrees in Freemasonry were unknown prior to the second decade of last century, the esoteric ceremony before then being communicated to Apprentices, and there was no higher Degree, *i.e.*, secret work before the Grand Lodge era. This, I consider, has been proved by me in my "*Origin of the English Rite of Freemasonry*" (1884) and other publications.

W. J. HUGHAN.

An Old Patent.

BY FRED J. W. CROWE,
P. Prov. G.O. Devon.

A short time ago, I received from a gentleman at Exeter a very interesting old document, of which the following is a copy:—

Manchester, G.M.

SEAL.

To all and every our Right
Worshipful, Worshipful, & loving Brethren,
We

GEORGE Duke of MANCHESTER, &c.,
GRAND MASTER of the Most Ancient and
Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons
send Greeting.

Know ye That We of the great Trust and Confidence reposed in our Right Trusty and welbeloved Brother Charles March of the War Office London Esquire Do hereby Constitute and appoint him the said Charles Marsh Provincial Grand Master of and for the County of Radnor with full power and authority in due form to make Masons and Constitute and Regulate Lodges as occasion may require and also to do and execute all and every such other Acts and things appertaining to the said Office as usually have been or ought to be done and executed by other Provincial Grand Masters be the said Charles Marsh taking special Care that all and every the Members of every Lodge he shall Constitute have be regularly made Masons and that they do observe perform and keep all and every the Rules Orders and Regulations contained in the Book of Constitutions (except such as have been or may be repeated at any Quarterly Communication or other general Meeting) together also with all such other Rules Orders Regulations and Instructions as shall from time to time be transmitted by Us or by Rowland Holt Esquire Our Deputy or by any of Our Successors Grand Masters or their Deputies for the time being And we hereby will and require you our said Provincial Grand Master to cause four Quarterly Communications to be held yearly, one whereof to be upon or as near the Feast Day of Saint John the Baptist as conveniently may be and that you promote on those and all other occasions whatever may be for the honour and advantage of Masonry and the benefit of the Grand Charity and that you Yearly send to Us or our Successors Grand Masters an account in Writing of the proceedings therein and also of what Lodges you Constitute and when and where held with a List of the Members of the said several Lodges and Copies of all such Rules Orders and Regulations as shall be made for the good government of the same with whatever else you shall do by virtue of these Presents and that you at the same time remit to the Treasurer of the Society

for the time being at London Three Pounds three shillings Sterling for every Lodge you shall Constitute for the use of the Grand Charity and other necessary purposes.

Given at London under Our Hand & Seal of
Masonry this 26th day of June AL 5777 AD 1777

BY THE GRAND MASTERS COMMAND

Witness

Jas. Hesliline G.S.

R. Holt D.G.M.

The document is entirely in manuscript on a piece of parchment measuring 24 inches by 16 inches, and is in excellent preservation. The wording varies from the form at present used, in that the words "*subject nevertheless, to our approval*" are now inserted, after power is given to constitute Lodges, and that *one* meeting at least is now to be held in the year instead of *four*, whilst the clause "*one whereof to be upon or as near the First Day of Saint John the Baptist as conveniently may be*" are entirely omitted—Provincial Grand Lodges meeting at all times of the year as thought proper. The sum contributed for each new Lodge constituted is now Five Guineas instead of Three.

The seal is that of the Regular, or "Moderns"—Grand Lodge and is very clear and well defined.

The peculiarity of the appointment is that the "Province of Radnorshire" evidently only existed *on paper*, for, on the authority of Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records," there is not, and *never has been* a Masonic lodge in the County of Radnorshire, whilst the official duties of Bro. Marsh were of such a nature that he was obliged to spend all his time in London, and therefore would be unable to exert any influence as a Provincial Grand Master at such a distance from home. I should imagine that the appointment must have been purely complimentary, and it reminds me of what happened at one of our cathedrals some years ago. An universally-beloved and revered divine was head of the Theological College, and the Dean and Chapter were anxious to bestow upon him some rank in the Cathedral Body, but, unfortunately, all the Prebendal and other stalls were filled. Someone, however, discovered that there was no one holding the office of Precentor at the time, so, in spite of the fact that the reverend gentleman was *almost stone deaf*, he was appointed Precentor, with authority to control the musical services! Probably Bro. Marsh was highly esteemed by the brethren, and they marked that esteem by erecting an imaginary province and installing him as its Provincial Grand Master, well knowing that there would be no duties attached to the office. In the Book of Constitutions, 1784 edition, there is a list of Provincial Grand Masters which includes "Radnor, Charles Marsh, Esq., of the War Office, London," but in the present "Grand Lodge Calendar" lists of "Provinces and Provincial Grand Masters, from 1717 to the present time," no mention is made of Radnor nor of Bro. Marsh.

I have been trying to find out some particulars of his career, but all I have gleaned is the following, which has been sent to me by the courtesy of the Under Secretary of State for War.

"(Copy) Letter from Mr. Lewis respecting certain retired clerks at the War Office.

"War Office,
"6th July, 1797.

"SIR,—

"In compliance with the request of the Select Committee for Finance, &c., conveyed to me in your letter received this day, I have the honour to state that Mr. Harman Leece, a retired clerk of the War Office, belonged to it fifty years, and for thirty-six years of that period was one of the Principal Clerks. Mr. Charles Marsh, another retired clerk, was the other Principal Clerk for about thirty-five years. Both these gentlemen being nearly worn out, and having ever conducted themselves with the strictest attention to their duty, were permitted to retire at Midsummer, 1795, retaining each a moiety of the fees and salary belonging to their respective situations.

* * * * *

"I have the honour to be,

"Sir,

"Your most obedient humble servant,

"(Sd.) M. Lewis."

This Mr. Lewis was the then "Deputy Secretary at War," and after reading his complimentary opinion, we are gratified to learn that Bro. Charles Marsh retired on the very handsome pension of £1000 per annum.

If in the process of time, a lodge should ever be formed within the boundaries of the county of Radnor, it will be interesting to the members to recollect that they are the first to take advantage of a privilege which might have been their ancestors, in the year of Grace, 1777.

Sir Henry Harben, P.M., No. 92.

By Bro. R. F. GOULD.

"Relations of matter of fact have a value from their substance, as much as from their form, and the variety of events is seldom without entertainment or instruction, how indifferently soever the tale is told."

—SIR WILLIAM TEMPLE.



THE subject of the present sketch was born in 1823, and in January, 1870, being then in his forty-seventh year, was received into Masonry in the Moira Lodge, No. 92. The Third Degree was conferred upon him in the following March, and the office of S.W. on December 7th, 1872. A year later he was installed as Master by the present Father of the Lodge, Bro. Cornelius Thorne, Past District Grand Master, Northern China, and has remained a subscribing member down to the present date.

The Earl of Moira, afterwards Marquess of Hastings, as many readers of the *Freemason* are aware, became the patron of this Lodge during his Acting Grand Mastership, and one of the features by which its proceedings have since been distinguished, is the holding of its Annual Festival on the birthday of that noble Lord.

Many of the Initiates and Past Masters of the Moira Lodge—as it became in 1804, on shedding its previous title of this Lodge of Freedom and Ease—have been "famous in story," but a few examples must suffice, and the dates in every instance shall be kept within the first half of the present century.

One of the earliest initiates of the "Moira" Lodge was Mr. (afterwards Sir) Moses Montefiore, the eminent Jewish philanthropist, whose centenary of years was celebrated with much rejoicing



SIR HENRY HARBEN.

in 1883—from the report of which in the *Times* newspaper of October 25th, I extract the following:—

"Sir Moses spoke of the gratification he had received from an Address being sent to him by his Brother Freemasons of his Mother Lodge, the 'Moira.' He 'tried and proved' a couple of visitors who were of the Universal Brotherhood."

Of the Past Masters who materially contributed to the prosperity of the Moira Lodge was Samuel Cardozo, whose labours as one of the Committee of the Girls School will bear a lasting testimony to his exertions on behalf of that most interesting Charity. This worthy was succeeded as Father of the Lodge by Henry Phillips, "one of the Nine Principals, or Past Principals of the Chair Z, not being Grand Officers," who were appointed by the Duke of Sussex—February 4th, 1835—members of a Committee to revise the ceremonies of the Royal Arch Degree. The same brother published in 1836, the Harleian MS. 1942—a remarkable version of the Manuscript Constitutions of the Society. Then came Isaac Walton, founder of the Masonic Benevolent Annuity Fund, which has now merged into the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons, and the Widows of Freemasons. The next was John Bigg, P.M., and P.Z., whose career in Freemasonry advanced with the Moira Lodge and Chapter, to the highest estimation among the metropolitan bodies of Craft and Arch Masonry. As remarked by a contemporary in 1849, "It is his vocation to satirise gracefully, yet keenly, classical Grand Deacons, and learned Grand Registrars; to expound the truth to the Grand Master; and to delight, instruct, and benefit, by his brilliant example, the members of Grand Lodge."

In the same year (1849), Bro. G. W. K. Potter was re-elected to the chair, and in presenting him—March 26th, 1850—with a splendid token of their regard, the Brethren of the Lodge placed on record,

"That in giving this jewel to our W.M., we do so in the belief that the diamonds which sparkle therein are not more pure in their nature than in the true Masonic heart over which they are destined to be suspended."

Bro. Potter, who was the first initiate of the Moira Lodge that attained the rank of a Grand Officer (J.G.D., 1850), passed away in 1871, and of the Past Masters who followed him in the chair during the present half of the century now expiring, space forbids my adducing more than a solitary example, Sir Henry Harben, whose biography I now resume.

Our brother was exalted in the Moira Chapter in 1881, and retired from it in 1886. To the Charitable Institutions of the Craft he has been a liberal benefactor, and is a Life Governor of the Boys' and Girls' Schools. It also deserves mention that he assisted in founding the Hampstead Lodge, No. 2408, established in 1891.

But it is as a successful "man of affairs," as a public character, as a philanthropist, and, above all, as the "Napoleon of Insurance," that Sir Henry Harben will be best known to posterity.

The growth of the system of Life Insurance forms one of the most striking characteristics of the current century, and it may be well doubted whether any other living man can point to a gigantic concern like the Prudential Assurance Company as the fruit of his life's work.

At an early age our Brother developed great commercial instincts, which attracted the attention of his uncle, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, father of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. After completing his education, and in order to train him for a mercantile career, the next seven years of his life were passed in the wholesale provision stores of another uncle in Whitechapel. He was then articled to a surveyor, and in 1851 applied for the vacant secretaryship of what was at that time the "Prudential Mutual." This he did not at once succeed in obtaining, and was obliged to content himself with the position of accountant, in which, however, he displayed such ability as to secure for himself, four years later, the appointment of Secretary of the Company, then called the "British Prudential," an alteration followed in turn by the more simple designation of "Prudential."

"When I first joined the Prudential," observed the subject of these remarks, "the British public were not at all favourably inclined towards life assurance. The country was flooded with rotten friendly societies, which were established in all the large towns. They were nearly all absolutely insolvent, and were really promoted for the sole benefit of the secretaries and other officials."

"The members used to pay their premiums, and awoke one morning to find the society unable to meet its obligations. They understood that nothing was to be paid to them for six months, when they would be entitled to half benefit, and full benefit at the expiration of twelve months. It was at this period, when the claims began to fall due, that the societies went bankrupt, the inevitable solution being that the premiums had been pocketed by the officials. This happened everywhere, and can you wonder," continued Sir Henry, "that the public looked askance at us?"

It is scarcely necessary to remark that the preceding strictures were only meant to apply to the host of mushroom societies which were rife at that time, and not in the slightest degree to such thoroughly reputable and well-managed industrial associations as the Oddfellows, Old Foresters, and other similar organisations.

The most curious part of the story has next to be related. Some of the officials who controlled these mushroom societies, in their search for a *locus poenitentiae*, approached Mr. Harben, as Secretary of the Prudential, and asked him to take them over—which was done wherever possible. This was a stroke of genius on the part of the Secretary, and laid the foundation of the Company's popularity in the large manufacturing towns.

Little boats must keep the shore,
Larger ships may venture more,

as the old proverb tells us—or perhaps the following, from the *Jacula Prudentum* of George Herbert, may be still more in point,

A great ship asks deeper waters.

At the first blush, it appeared, indeed, a very risky step to incorporate these insolvent clubs with the Prudential. But the end has more than justified the means, for whereas in 1875 the income was only £4,000, eleven years later it was £180,000, since which time it has increased by leaps and bounds, until it reached at the end of 1895, and beyond this date my information does not extend, the enormous figure of £4,352,625.

Statistics, as a rule, do not form very interesting reading, but those furnished by Sir Henry Harben certainly constitute a striking exception. At the close of 1895 his company had no less than 12,096,885 policies in force. "This means that nearly one-third of the whole population of the United Kingdom is insured with us, and it will surprise most people to learn that we employ 1,178 clerks at the head office, receive 6,000 letters every morning, and despatch 17,000 letters every evening. But this is not all. We have about 14,000 agents and 3,400 medical referees, while our assets amount now to £24,000,000, and there is no insurance company in the country that can produce anything like such figures."

Like his distinguished relative, the Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry is an ardent believer in old-age pensions, and has recently instituted a system of his own which is answering so well that no less than 10,000 policies of this character are being issued every week.

The subject of this sketch served for nine years on the old Metropolitan Board of Works as the representative for Hampstead, and

was one of two members of the old Board who were subsequently elected to the London County Council, in which he served for six years. He was Chairman of the Finance Committee of the old Board of Works, and also a member of the Parks Committee. To his exertions is largely due the securing of the fields at Parliament Hill for the public use. He also took an active part in bringing to a successful issue the scheme for a transfer of Hampstead Heath to the control of the central authorities, and subscribed very handsomely to the funds which were required to secure this great public boon.

Sir Henry Harben was a member of the old Hampstead Vestry, and when the Parish Councils Act came into force he became the chairman of the Vestry under the new régime. He has provided a Free Library for Hampstead at a cost of £5,000, without any charge to the ratepayers. He has also supplied a mission-room for St. Saviour's, Hampstead, at a cost to himself of £1,000. He has built and endowed a Convalescent Home at Littlehampton for the benefit of working men, at an expense of upwards of £50,000. He has also built and endowed a club for working men at Warnham, near Horsham, where he has a country residence.

The portrait of Sir Henry was painted by Norman Macbeth in 1875, and the picture, after exhibition at the Royal Academy of that year, was transferred to the Board Room of the Prudential Assurance Company. For many years he has been connected with the Carpenters' Company of London, of which he is a Past Master, and has given handsome prizes for wood carving in connection with the classes of King's College. He is a Governor of Christ's Hospital, and also of the Dental Hospital, to the building fund of which he has given a donation of £1,000.

Sir Henry has more than once been a candidate for Parliamentary honours, contesting, though unsuccessfully, in the Conservative interest the boroughs of Norwich and Cardiff in the years 1880 and 1885 respectively. It is, however, an open secret that if he had been willing to stand at the last General Election the party would have provided him with a safe seat.

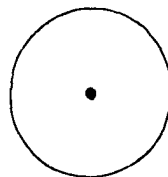
He is a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy-Lieutenant for Sussex, and his name has been picked for the office of High Sheriff of that county.

The dignity of knighthood was conferred upon him in Junelast, and seldom or ever has that distinction been more worthily bestowed. Among the congratulations that showered upon him were those of the brethren of his Mother Lodge, and that he may long live to enjoy the mark of favour conferred upon him by the Queen, and to exercise—*more suo*—that virtue which may justly be dominated the distinguishing characteristic of a Freemason's heart, will be the wish of the whole Craft.

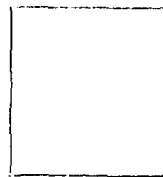
Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

Inaugural Address, delivered November 8, 1897, at Installation Meeting.

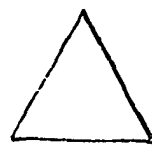
By Bro. SYDNEY T. KLEIN, F.L.S., F.R.A.S., Worshipful
Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.



WISDOM.



STRENGTH.



BEAUTY.



BRETHREN: Once more the Sun, our source of Light, Life and Energy, is found in the constellation of Libra and the Festival of the *Quatuor Coronati Martyres* is with us, finding me, this time, placed by your kindness in the exalted position of Master of the greatest Cosmopolitan Lodge of Freemasons in the world. I assure you that I fully appreciate the high honour you have done me, and it will be my earnest endeavour to fulfil the great trust you have placed in my hands. The position now held by the Quatuor Coronati Lodge with its representatives spread over the whole habitable globe, is one that we must all be proud of. In its ranks are to be found 280 Lodges and upwards of 2150 individual Masons; but even this great number is not final, for every year brings the addition of many Lodges and several hundreds of fresh Members to our outer circle. The reason for this great power of attraction for Masons is not far to seek. When that small but energetic body of Masons, with General Sir Charles Warren at their head, first inaugurated the movement in 1886, they were convinced that hidden behind the symbols and traditions of Masonry were great Truths which, by diligent and energetic work, could be brought

to light, and, looking back now upon the 11 years during which the work has been prosecuted, we can fully realise how their highest expectations have not only been fulfilled but largely exceeded. Every year has seen many original papers of great value published and distributed to the Craft, and it is the interest evoked by these which has increased so largely, and which, if maintained, will continue to augment that long roll of subscribers to our Transactions; but to do this fresh ground must be opened up almost yearly, and it is in this direction, I think, that each Master, as he is placed in the chair should not only in his Address, but throughout his year of office, endeavour to help forward our work. The high qualification we require of all those who aspire to join the Inner Circle, warrants that each integral part of the Lodge proper (numbering at present 31 brethren) is strongly attached to some particular line of thought interesting to Masonic Students, and it is natural to expect that the new W.M. should in his opening address urge the interest of those particular, we might almost say personal, subjects of research upon which his qualifications and subsequent admission to the Lodge were based. Such a course would obviate any chance of our Transactions settling down into particular grooves and thus becoming too technical for our varied readers.

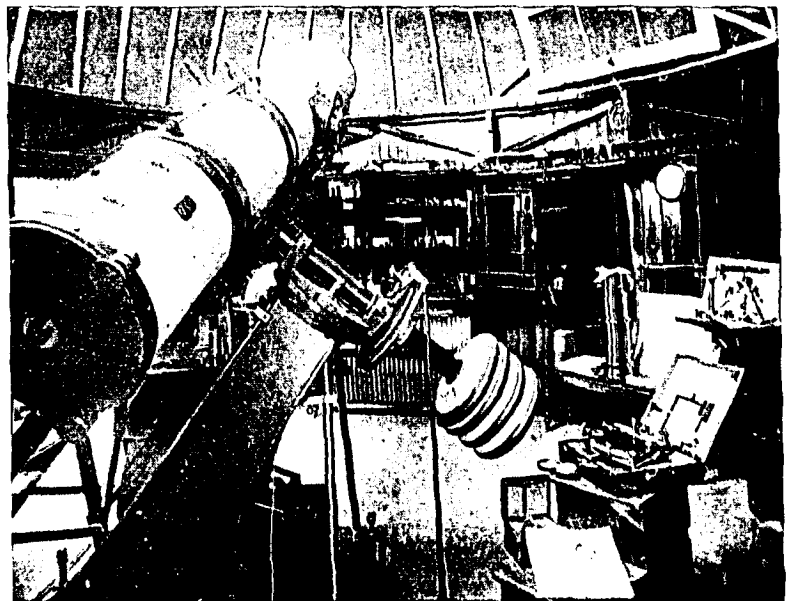
For more than a year there has been standing in my name a promise to give a paper on "Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty, a Physical and Psychological examination of Masonic Symbolism." The subject was a new one and it was not long before I found that the promise had been too rashly given—it was altogether too vast a subject to be treated for presentation as a whole in the restricted time allowed for reading at our Meetings. I ventured, therefore, to split it up and laid before you lately the first instalment of the physical or operative side of the subject in a paper called "The Great Symbol." In this I was only able to touch on certain operative aspects of Symbolism, but I indicated other lines which were to be kept for future consideration. Meanwhile, I think this a suitable opportunity to give you a glimpse of the speculative side of my subject, which will serve not only as an introduction to my year of office, but will, I trust, open up in your minds certain channels of thought by which may be obtained a grander and truer appreciation of the significance of the title T.G.A.O.T.U. The present occasion is more of a Festival than a day of labour, and I propose, therefore, to treat my subject rather in the form of a scientific romance than as one of our regular papers. The time at my disposal is, however, short, and I am obliged to confine my remarks to the subjects of *Wisdom* and *Strength* representing Omniscience and Omnipresence. Kindly, therefore, place the speculative side of your nature at my disposal, and we will attempt to understand some of those "Hidden Mysteries of Nature and Science" which it is the duty of every Mason to study. We shall find at the outset that it is only when we have fully appreciated what *Light* really is and are able to make that wonderful messenger subservient to our will that we can hope to fathom the depth of these mysteries.

The Lodge, we know, symbolises the Universe and its dimensions are within the scope of our understanding; can we in turn grasp the mighty design laid out on the Tracing Board of the great Architect, the scale on which the Universe has been built? Let us try.

We must first throw aside all preconceived ideas of magnitude and approach the subject with that true humility which is forced to exclaim *He who knows most, knows most how little he knows*. On the very threshold of our investigation sits, as in the mystical initiation of the Rosicrucians, a great, unfathomable, awe-inspiring phantom, the terror of which must be borne without flinching if we are to pass forward to higher thoughts. I speak of the Infinities of Time and Space, the "for-ever" and the "never-ending," and in order to elucidate the subject I have chosen, I shall now examine these two mysteries as far as the present state of science will allow us. I shall first take the subject of space, and I think the best method I can adopt will be to take you, in imagination, for a journey as far as is possible by means of the best instruments now in use. We will start from the Sun, and moving outwards we will rapidly mark the number and character of the worlds involved in the solar system. Let us first understand what are the dimensions of our central luminary. The distance of the Moon from the earth is 240,000 miles, but the dimensions of the Sun are so great that, were the centre of the Sun placed where the centre of the earth is, the surface of the Sun would not only extend as far as the Moon but as far again on the other side and that would give the radius only of the enormous circumference of the Sun. Let us now start outward from this vast mass. The first world we meet is the planet *Mercury*, revolving round the Sun at a distance of 36,000,000 miles. This little world is only 3000 miles in diameter, and completes its year in 88 of our days. Owing to the difficulty of observation very little is known as to its

character. We next come upon *Venus*, at a distance of 67,000,000 miles. She is only 400 miles smaller in diameter than our earth; her year is 225 of our days, and with the dense atmosphere with which she is surrounded, animal and vegetable life similar to that on our globe would be possible. Continuing our course, we arrive at the *earth*, situated 93,000,000 miles away from the Sun. Still speeding on, a further 50,000,000 miles brings us to *Mars*, with a diameter of nearly 5000 miles, and a year of 687 of our days. The conditions on this little globe are more like those of the earth than on any other planet, and its day is almost the same length, namely 24 hours, 39 minutes. The sight of this planet in a good instrument is most interesting. Oceans and Continents are plainly visible, and the telescope shows large tracks of ice surrounding its polar regions, which increase considerably during the winter, and decrease during the summer seasons on that planet. It was only in 1877 that it was discovered that Mars was attended by two moons, one of which is only seven miles, and the other six miles in diameter. The distances we now have to travel become so great that I shall not attempt to give them. You can, however, form an idea of the tremendous spaces we are traversing when you consider that each successive planet is nearly double as far from the Sun as the preceding one.

We next arrive at a group of small planets entirely different from anything else we have seen. In the last century, before any of these little worlds were known, an astronomer, Professor Bode, had discovered a law which seemed to regulate the distances of the planets from the Sun, except in one place where, according to the law, a large world should have been; but, in spite of careful observation, none was to be found. As early as 1784 astronomers began to compute the orbit and period of this mysterious world, and for 16 years every year was ex-



STANMORE OBSERVATORY: INSIDE VIEW.

pected to add a new world to the system; but the discovery was still delayed until the year 1800, when these scientific men finally resolved that this mysterious but invisible world should be made the subject of a thorough search. They therefore each took a part of the heavens to watch night after night, and at last they were successful; but instead of finding one planet, they found eight small bodies revolving in the same orbit in which they expected to find a large world, and, strange to say, once in each of their periods of revolution they passed through very nearly the same point. The idea immediately forced itself on the mind that these must be fragments of a large world disintegrated by some terrific catastrophe. We can hardly realise what a fearful explosive force must have been let loose to produce such a tremendous result. This point of intersection has been the focus of many of the largest telescopes from that time, until at the present day there have been found over 300 of these fragments whirling through space. These little worlds range in size from about 200 miles in diameter, down to only a few hundred yards.

Let us now continue our voyage over the next huge space and arrive at *Jupiter*, the largest and most magnificent of the planets. This world is more than 1000 times larger than our earth, its circumference being actually greater than the distance of the Moon from the Earth. It has five moons, and its year is about 12 times as long as ours. Pursuing our journey, we next come to *Saturn*; it is nearly as large as Jupiter, and has a huge ring of planetary matter revolving round it in addition to seven moons. Further and further we go and the planets behind us are disappearing, and even the sun is dwindling down to a mere speck; still we hurry on, and at last alight on another planet, *Uranus*, about 60 times larger than our earth. We see

moons in attendance, but they have scarcely any light to reflect. The sun is only a star now; but we must hasten on deeper and deeper into space. We shall again, as formerly, have to go as far beyond the last planet as that planet is from the sun. The mind cannot grasp these huge distances. Still we travel on to the last planet, *Neptune*, revolving on its lonely orbit, sunk so deep into space that though it rushes round the sun at the rate of 22,000 miles an hour, it takes 164 of our years to complete one revolution. Now let us look back from this remote point. What do we see? One planet only, Uranus, is visible to the unaided eye; the giant planets, Jupiter and Saturn, have disappeared, and the sun itself is no larger than a small star; no heat, no light; all is darkness in this solitary world. Thus far have we gone, and standing there at the enormous distance of 3,000,000,000 miles from our starting point, we can begin to comprehend the vast limits of the solar system; we can begin to understand the ways of this mighty family of planets and satellites. But let us not set up too small a standard whereby to measure the Infinity of Space. We shall find, as we go on, that this stupendous system is but an infinitesimal part of the whole universe.

Let us now look forward along the path we are to take. We are standing on the outermost part of our solar system, and there is no other planet towards which we can wing our flight; but all around there are multitudes of stars, some shining with a brightness almost equal to what our sun appears to give forth at that great distance, others hardly visible, but the smallest telescope increases their number enormously, and presents to our mind the appalling phantom of immensity in all its terror standing there to withstand our next great step. How are we to continue on our journey when our very senses seem paralysed by this obstruction and even imagination is powerless from utter loneliness? One guide only is there to help us, the guide so prized by every Mason, the messenger which flits from star to star, universe to universe; LIGHT it is which will help us to appreciate even these vast distances; we shall take its velocity as our foot rule to measure and sound these bottomless depths. Now, light travels 186,000 miles per second, or 12,000,000 miles every minute of time. It, therefore, takes only about four hours to traverse the huge distance between our sun and Neptune, where we are now supposed to be standing. But to leap across the interval which separates us from the nearest fixed star will require a period not to be reckoned by hours or by days or by months:—Nearly ten long years must roll away before light, travelling with its enormous velocity, can complete its journey. Now let us use this to continue our voyage. On a clear night the human eye can perceive thousands of stars in all directions, scattered without any apparent order or design; but in one locality, forming a huge ring round the heavens, there is a misty zone called the Milky Way. Let us turn a telescope with a low aperture on this, and what a sight presents itself. Instead of mist, myriads of stars are seen surrounded by nebulous haze. We put a higher aperture on, and thus pierce further and further into space; the haze is resolved into myriads more stars, and more haze comes up from the deep beyond, showing that the visual ray was not yet strong enough to fathom the mighty distance, but let the full aperture be applied and mark the result. Mist and haze have disappeared; the telescope has pierced right through the stupendous distances, and only the vast abyss of space, boundless and unfathomable, is seen beyond. Let us pause here for a moment to think what we have done. Light, travelling with its enormous velocity, requires as a minimum average, ten years to traverse the distance between our solar system and stars of the first magnitude; but the dimensions of the Milky Way are built up on such an enormous scale that to traverse the stratum would require us to pass about 500 stars, separated from each other by this same tremendous interval; 10,000 years may therefore be computed as the time which light, travelling with its enormous velocity, would take to sweep across the whole cluster, it being borne in mind that the solar system is supposed to be located not far from the centre of this great star cluster, that the cluster comprises all stars visible arrayed in a flat zone, the edges of which, where the stratum is deepest, being the locality of the Milky Way.

Let us once more continue our journey. We have traversed a distance which even on the wings of light we could only accomplish in 10,000 years, and now stand on the outskirts of a great star cluster, in the same way, and, I hope, with the same aspirations, as when we paused a short time ago on the confines of our solar system. Behind us are myriads of shining orbs, in such countless numbers that human thought cannot even suggest a limit, and yet each of these is a mighty globe like our sun, the centre of a planetary system, dispensing light and heat under conditions similar to what we are accustomed to here. Let us, however, turn our face away from these clusterings of mighty suns, and look steadfastly forward into the unbroken darkness,

and once more brace our nerves to face that terrible phantom—Immensity. We require now the most powerful instruments that science can put into our hands; and by their aid we will again essay to make another stride towards the appreciation of our subject. In what to the unaided eye was unbroken darkness, the telescope now enables us to discern a number of luminous points of haze, and towards one of these we continue our journey. The myriads of suns in our great star cluster are soon being left far behind. They shrink together, resolve themselves into haze, until the once glorious universe of countless millions of suns have dwindled down to a mere point of haze almost invisible to the naked eye. But look forward. The luminous cloud to which we were urging our flight has expanded, until what at one time was a mere patch of light, has now swelled into a mighty star cluster; myriads of suns burst into sight—we have reached the confines of another Milky Way as glorious and mighty as the one we have left, whose limits light would require 10,000 years to traverse; and yet in whatever direction the telescope is placed, star clusters are to be seen strewn over the whole surface of the heavens. Let us take now the utmost limit of the telescopic power in every direction. Where are we after all but in the centre of a sphere whose circumference is 65,000 times as far from us as the nearest fixed star, and beyond whose circuit infinity, boundless infinity, still stretches unfathomed as ever; we have made a step indeed, but, perhaps, only towards acquaintance with a new order of infinitesimals; once the distances of our solar system seemed almost infinite quantities; compare them with the intervals between the fixed stars, and they become no quantities at all. And now when the spaces between the stars are contrasted with the gulfs of dark space separating firmaments, they absolutely vanish below us. Can the whole firmamental creation in its turn be only a corner of some mightier scheme? But let us not go on to bewilderment—we have passed from planet to planet, star to star, universe to universe, and still infinite space extends for ever beyond our grasp. We have gone as far towards the infinite as our sight, aided by the most powerful telescopes, can hope to go. Is there no way then by which we can continue our journey further towards the appreciation of this infinity? A few years ago we should probably have denied that it was possible for man to go further; but quite lately a new method of observation has been developed. This I shall take for my next stepping stone, under the heading of Celestial Photography.

We will, as in the former instance, commence at the very bottom of the ladder and consider this question. Why is it that the further an object is withdrawn from the eye the fainter and smaller that object becomes, until at last it disappears altogether from sight? There are two quite distinct reasons for this. First, the rays from any shining point diverge from such point in all directions; hence the nearer the object the greater the number of rays which will enter the pupil of the eye; and, conversely, when the object is removed to a great distance, so small a quantity of light finds its way into the eye that it fails to excite the retina sufficiently to cause the impression of sight, and the object is invisible. Now, if you take a lens, or what is popularly called a burning-glass, and place it in the beams of the sun, you will see that it gathers all the rays falling on its surface into a bright point of light behind it; now place such a lens between your eye and a star, taking a star so far away that the eye unaided can only just see it as a glimmer of light, what happens? Why, instead of the eye receiving only a faint and almost imperceptible quantity of light, it appears now to take in the whole mass of rays which pass through the larger lens, for the lens has caused them to converge into a pencil of light sufficiently minute to enter the eye; thus the eye receives as much light as though the pupil had been enlarged to the dimensions of the lens. Thus armed, to what remoteness may we not now reach. The star might now be withdrawn so deep into space that the whole light concentrated by the lens is not more intense than the faint ray was from the star in its first position; and this mighty acquisition has been attained by the simple interposition of a piece of glass, and of course the larger the lens the further we can pierce into space. We now come back to the second part of our question: "Why does an object become apparently smaller and smaller as it is withdrawn from the eye, until it at last disappears from sight?" The reason is, that the eye is a very imperfect instrument for viewing objects at a great distance; the eye can only see an object when it is near enough to subtend a certain angle, or, in popular language, to shew itself a certain size—in fact, the eye cannot single out and appreciate parallel rays. Could it do this, objects would not grow smaller as they are removed. This pencil might be removed to the moon, 230,000 miles away, and would still appear to the eye the same size as it does here close to you, but the result would be inconvenient. You would never be able to see at one and the same time anything larger than the pupil of your eye. The beauties

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of the landscape would be gone, and our dearest friends would pass us unheeded and unseen, and everyday life would resolve itself into a task similar to that of attempting to read our newspaper every morning by means of a powerful microscope, we should commence by getting on to a big black blotch, and after wandering about that for half an hour, we *might* then begin to find out that we were looking at the little letter *e*, but anything like reading would be quite out of the question. We may therefore be thankful that our eyes have the imperfection of not appreciating parallel rays. But we will now consider how this imperfection may be remedied by science. There are two ways of doing this—viz., firstly, by increasing the amount of light received by means of telescopes of great aperture; and, secondly, by employing an artificial retina a thousand times more sensitive than the human. Now, the human retina receives the impression of what it looks at in a fraction of a second, provided, of course, that the eye is properly focussed, and *no further impression* will be made by keeping the eye fixed on that object; but in celestial photography, when the telescope is turned into a camera, the sensitive plate, having received the impression in the first second, may be exposed not only for many seconds or minutes or hours, but for an aggregate of even days by re-exposure, every second of which time details on that plate new objects sunk so deep in the vast depths of space as to be immeasurably beyond the power of the human eye, even through telescopes hundreds of times more powerful than the largest instruments that science has enabled us to construct, and yet here is laid before us a faithful chart, by means of which we may once more continue our journey through space. A short exposure will show us firmaments and nebulae just outside the range of our greatest telescopes, and every additional *second* extends our vision by such vast increases of distance that the brain reels at the thought; and yet, as we have seen, exposures of these sensitive plates may be made not only for seconds, but for thousands and even hundreds of thousands of seconds! And yet there is no end, no end where the weary mind can rest and contemplate; the soul of man can only cry out that there is no limit. In spite of all its strivings and groping by aid of speculative philosophy, the finite mind of man cannot attain to infinity, or get any nearer to where the mighty sea of time breaks in noiseless waves on the dim shores of eternity.

Let us now examine in a similar manner the second great mystery, the Infinity of Time.

With this object in view we will first consider the human sense of sight and hearing.

We will once more start at the beginning and take sound, or the vibrations which affect the drum of the human ear. Now sound travels in air at about 1,130 feet per second, and if the vibrating body oscillates sixteen times in one second, it follows that, spread over this 1,130 feet, there will be 16 waves, giving a length of about 70 feet to each wave. This is the lowest sound that the human ear can appreciate as a musical note. When the number of vibrations in a second sinks below 16, the ear no more appreciates them as a musical sound, but hears them in separate vibrations of beats. The best instrument for illustrating this is the "Singing Syren." This comprises a tin drum with 16 holes pierced at regular intervals round the top; underneath this top a jet of high pressure steam or air forces itself through each of the holes successively as the drum revolves. When the drum does not quite complete one revolution in a second, only 15 puffs come to the ear in a second of time, and they are heard as *puffs*; but when the rate reaches one revolution in a second, the sound, as if by magic, changes into the lowest musical sound. The octave above this is obtained by doubling the number of puffs, namely, by revolving the drum twice in one second, and the next octave by revolving four times in a second, and so on, until at about the 13th octave the sound has become so high that the majority of listeners cannot hear it, and fancy it must have stopped, whereas a few will still be saying "How shrill it is." At last, at about the 14th octave, the vibrations have passed beyond the range of the human ear, though we have every reason to believe that many insects can hear far higher sounds. We have now only to traverse about forty octaves before we arrive at those subtle vibrations which the eye appreciates as light. Beginning with red, the effect transmitted to the brain passes to orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet; only about one octave that the eye can appreciate, and all is darkness; but we can still go on a little further by the help of science. Beyond the violet we have the actinic or chemical rays, which are used in photography, and which enable us to trace the vibrations for a further half octave. Beyond this we cannot pierce with our present knowledge; but there may be, and probably are, latent in our nature, senses which, properly developed, will be able to appreciate still more subtle vibrations and organs which perhaps even now are being prepared for the reception of these subtle influences. Science steadily points to

electricity and magnetism being a form of motion, and it may be that in these invisible rays we may some day discover the nature of those mysterious forces. We want, as it were, a special "microscope" to examine these vibrations, and a similar method to that already mentioned on Space under Celestial Photography, to enable us to traverse and examine hundreds or thousands of octaves by each second of exposure; * for although the path extends to infinity, we have already arrived at the utmost limits of our finite senses, and find that after all we can only appreciate, as it were, a few inches along the huge line of infinite extent, stretching from the Creator, the *Infinite*, down to the Created or *Finite*; and bear in mind that we have only travelled in one direction; the path we have taken extends in the opposite direction also to *Infinity*. We started with 16 vibrations in a second, as the lowest number we human beings can appreciate as a musical sound; let us now descend by octaves. The octave below is 8 vibrations in a second; the next, four; then two; and then one vibration in a second. But we do not stop there. The octave below this is one vibration in two seconds, then in four seconds, eight seconds, sixteen seconds, and so on, until even the pulsation of one vibration in a million years would be appreciated as a musical sound, or even as one of the colours of the spectrum, by a Being whose senses were infinite, and to whom the lapse of ages, therefore, had no objective reality.

Bro. Klein at this stage presented a curious piece of mechanism, which he had specially devised to illustrate this part of his subject, and with the assistance of Dr. Wynn Westcott, who had been placed by him in the Senior Deacon's chair for that purpose, he exhibited to the Brethren present a piece of "pure Medieval Magic," the Lodge being filled with strange musical harmonies of great beauty, without the aid of any known musical instrument.

Once more we must call a halt. Our finite minds become bewildered in attempting to even glance at these infinities of Time. Let us change our view, and examine this subject under a different aspect.

We measure Space by miles, yards, feet and inches, and we measure Time by years, hours, minutes, seconds, and by these finite means we try to fathom these two marvellous infinities. With our greatest efforts of thought we find, however, that we can get relatively no distance whatever from the *here* of Space and the *now* of Time. It is true that the "present," as a mathematical point, appears to be hurrying and bearing us with it along the line stretching from past to future eternity, but in reality we are no further from the one or nearer to the other. Now let us start again from the beginning.

First of all, look round this Lodge and note the different objects to be seen. Even in so small a room you do not see the objects as they really *are* at this instant, but as they *were* at a certain fixed length of time ago. Those objects which are further away are further behind in point of time than those that are nearer to you—in fact, however near you are to an object, you can never see it as it *is*, but only as it *was*. We are dealing with very minute differences here, they being based on the rate at which Light travels; but they are differences which are known with a wonderful degree of accuracy, and I will now explain shortly how the rate at which light travels was first discovered.

In the year 1675, the orbit of one of the moons of Jupiter had been calculated, and a table drawn up showing the times at which the eclipses, or times of disappearance of the moon behind the body of Jupiter should take place, it was, however, found by observations that there were great discrepancies in these tables. The eclipse always took place before the calculated time when Jupiter was nearest to the earth and after the calculated time when Jupiter was furthest from the earth. The regularity of these discrepancies suggested that they were connected in some way with the variation of distance from the earth; and by a happy inspiration Romer conjectured and proved that the true cause was that light is not, as was before that time taken for granted, propagated instantaneously through space, but travels at the rate of about 186,000 miles per second.

Now let us follow our subject. The moon is 240,000 miles distant. We do not, therefore, ever see her as she *is*, but as she *was* one and a quarter seconds ago. In the same way we see the sun as he was eight minutes ago, and we see Jupiter as he was nearly an hour ago. Let us go further to one of the nearest fixed stars. We see the star as it was more than 10 years ago—that star may, therefore, have exploded or disappeared 10 long years ago, and yet we still see it shining, and shall continue to see it until the long line of light has run itself out; all round us in fact, are the appearances of blazing suns as they were thousands of years ago, and by the aid of the telescope and of our sensitive plate, we catch the light which started from clusters and firmaments probably millions of years ago. Now let us take

* The further extension of this subject comes under the heading of *Beauty*, which I must not approach.—S. T. K.

the converse of this. To anybody on the moon the earth would be seen as it was one and a quarter seconds ago, and from the sun as it was eight minutes ago; and if we were at this particular moment in Jupiter, and looking back, we should see what was happening on this earth an hour ago, namely, when we were *arriving at this house*. Now let us go in imagination, to one of the nearest fixed stars, and looking back, we should see what was happening 10 years ago; and, going still further to a far-off cluster, the light would only just now be arriving there which started from this earth at the time when man first appeared, and all the events which have taken place from that remote time to the present would, as time rolled on, reach there in exactly the same succession as they have happened on this earth.

Let us now come, in imagination, towards the earth, from some far-off cluster of stars. If we traverse the distance in one year, the whole of the events from the Creation of man would appear before us, only thousands of times quicker. Make the journey in a month, a day, an hour, a second or a moment of time, and all past events, from the grandest to the most trivial, will be acted in an infinitesimal portion of time. To an Omnipresent Being, therefore, an eternity may be at will compressed into a moment, or a moment drawn out to an eternity, and to such an one time can therefore have no objective reality, and may be said to non-exist.

In conclusion, let us see whether these thoughts will not make clear some of those metaphysical enigmas which confront us whenever we see great injustice being perpetrated on the earth. Let us but turn for a solution to any point of space, and we shall find at each point, according to its remoteness, the actual deeds being enacted, whether for good or whether for evil. In fact it may be said that throughout infinite space every event in past eternity is now and will be for ever and ever indelibly recorded. A crime committed hundreds or thousands of years ago may never have been found out; but for ever and ever there is and will be to eternity depicted in space the actual living scene from beginning to end. The criminal and his victim have alike died and turned to dust; the place and surroundings have been swept away from the present HERE; but for ever and ever the whole tragedy will be acting THERE to confront the soul of the criminal, and will to all eternity cry out for justice, unless we believe that in some after life a soul, under that beautiful attribute of Deity we call Mercy, will be given a chance of retrieving and blotting out such crimes from the future. In fact we may thus clearly understand how that, *wherever we are and whatever we do, the All-Seeing Eye* is not only upon us now but is also at this very moment looking at every event which has taken place from past eternity. Let us go to a star sufficiently distant from the earth and we find, just arriving there, the scenes which took place when Grand Lodge was first inaugurated 180 years ago; at another point still more remote is only arriving now that scene, so interesting to Masonry, which took place on this globe nearly 3000 years ago when Solomon and his master builder Hiram Abiff were laying out the foundations of that wonderful Temple on Mount Moriah, and every act with minutest detail from that time will be depicted there in true succession until the stately pile has been finished and the workmen are bid to *cease labour*. Once more let us dive into space, so far this time that we reach that point where is now arriving that wondrous scene when *Matter* was first called into existence, then indeed would be spread out before us the true Tracing Board, the *materialisation* of the *Thoughts* of T.G.A.O.T.U., the design being laid out in lines and curves of LIGHT, for Light though present, is invisible to human sight until it is impinged on Matter, even as noble designs, though present in the mind of an Architect, cannot be understood by his Master Masons until mapped out on a *material* Tracing-board.

Thus, Brethren, have I tried to give you a *glimpse* only of some of those Hidden Mysteries of Nature and Science which it is the privilege of every Master Mason to study, and although it cannot be classed as an Archaeological Essay, I trust that, in my endeavour to interest, I have succeeded in laying certain thoughts before you, which, by explaining and emphasising the great beauty of parts of our Ritual and the prominence given therein to the Supreme Being tend not only to show Masonry in its true colours, but also encourage us to be more earnest when as the *Sun sinks in the West and labour ceases we, with all reverence, and humility, express our gratitude to T.G.A.O.T.U.*

A LONG-FEELT WANT SUPPLIED AT LAST. Many cures have been tried to remedy our great national evil, the Thirst Crave, but hitherto none have met with much success, owing to the inferiority of the so-called non-alcoholic drinks. It is hoped that the Swiss Wine Company, who are introducing a really superior and genuine temperance beverage on the London market, may meet this great want, their produce being the pure, unfermented, juice of the best grapes obtainable. London Depot, 39 Eastcheap, London. That this wine is absolutely free from alcohol is proved by the fact that it is admitted duty free into this country.

Occurrences of the Year.

FROM 1ST DECEMBER, 1896, TO 30TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

DECEMBER, 1896.

- 1.—Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge; votes of thanks to the Earl of Euston and Viscount Dungarvan for their gift of a gift table; to Bro. Capt. G. H. Hearn for his trophies of Chinese spears; to Bro. R. Lovelend Loveland for his trophies of Japanese adzes, &c.; and to Bro. George H. Parke for the portrait of the Earl of Lathom, Past G. Master, Prov. G.M. Lancashire.
- 2.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; Bro. J. H. Matthews appointed President of the Board of Benevolence; the rank of Past G. Warden conferred upon Bros. Thomas Fenn and Robert Grey, Past Presidents of the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence respectively.
Consecration, by Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, D.P.G.M. Cheshire, of the New Brighton Lodge, No. 2619, New Brighton; Bro. Lieut.-Col. C. S. Dean, first W.M.
- 3.—Naphthali Lodge, No. 266, Heywood, E. Lancashire, celebrates the centenary of its constitution.
Destruction by fire of the Masonic Hall, Ottawa.
- 4.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the Earl of Zetland Chapter, No. 1364; Comp. Aug. F. Lay first M.E.Z.
Winter meeting of the Grand Council of the Order of the Secret Monitor.
- 8.—Death of Bro. H. J. Timney, P.M. No. 1319.
- 10.—Annual meeting, at Nottingham, of the Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter of Nottinghamshire; installation, by Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Grand J., of his Honour Comp. W. Masterman as Grand Superintendent.
- 11.—Half-yearly meeting of the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple; enthronement of Viscount Dungarvan as Great Seneschal.
- 14.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the St. John at Hackney Chapter, No. 2511; Comp. J. Gordon first M.E.Z.
- 15.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Leyton Lodge, No. 2626; Bro. John Dipple first W.M.
- 17.—Visit of the Prov. G. Chapter of Lanarkshire (Lower Ward) to Chapter Cathedral, No. 67, Glasgow.
- 18.—Farewell banquet to Bro. W. E. Chapman, A.G.D. of C., on his departure for South Africa; Bro. Sir J. C. Dimsdale, Past G. Treasurer, in the chair.
- 21.—Funeral of Bro. George S. Smith, P.M., P.Z., manager of the Manchester branch of Bros. G. Kenning and Son.
- 23.—Board of Benevolence: 46 cases relieved with £1145.
Annual meeting, at Mark Masons' Hall, of the Prov. Priory of Kent and Surrey.
Funeral of Bro. H. G. Giller, P.M., P.P.G.P. Herts.
- 26.—Death of Bro. W. C. Page, P.M., P.Z.
- 27.—Masonic service at St. Peter's Church, Barnsley.
- 29.—Comp. the Hon. H. J. Parsons installed Pro G. Superintendent of Bombay.
Installation of Bro. the Marquis of Tullibardine as R.W.M. of St. John's Lodge, No. 14, Dunkeld.

JANUARY, 1897.

- 4.—New Year's Entertainment at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Death of Bro. Sir Henry St. John Halford, Bart., Past D.P.G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland.
- 5.—Opening, by Bro. Col. H. Platt, P.G.D., D.P.G.M. North Wales, of the New Hall of the St. Eleth Lodge, No. 1488, Amlwch.
Funeral of Bro. Deputy Salmon.
- 6.—New Year's Entertainment to the inmates of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon.
Annual Meeting, at Salisbury, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Wiltshire.
- 7.—Foundation Stone of the Sutherland Institute, Longton, Staffordshire, laid with Masonic Ceremonial by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.
Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Death of Bro. the Rev. Joseph Senior, LL.D., Past G. Chaplain.
- 8.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
Death of Bro. S. Barton Wilson, P.M., P.Z. No. 59.
- 11.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., of the Byfield Lodge, No. 2632; Bro. James Boulton, G.P., first W.M.
Opening of a New Masonic Hall at Lyme Regis.
- 15.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec. of the Guardian Lodge, No. 2625; Bro. James Tollworthy first W.M.
- 16.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the Military Chapter, No. 2621; Comp. the Earl of Portarlington first M.E.Z.
- 17.—Death of Bro. Lieut.-Col. H. Somerville Burney, P.G.D.
- 18.—Jubilee Festival of the Cleveland Lodge, No. 543, Stokesley.
- 20.—Board of Benevolence; 17 cases relieved with £180.
Studdholme Lodge, No. 2591, celebrates its 21st Anniversary; Bro. the Right Hon. W. Hume Long, M.P., installed W.M.
Consecration, by Bro. Rob. Wyllie, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. West Lancashire, of the Commercial Travellers' Lodge, No. 2631, Liverpool; Bro. Thomas Salter first W.M.
- 21.—Presentation to Bro. the Rev. J. H. Rose, P.M., Chap. No. 1287.
- 26.—Annual Meeting of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.
- 27.—Annual Meeting, in Toronto, of the Grand Chapter of Canada (Province of Ontario).
Inauguration of the Zodiac Lodge of Instruction, No. 2615.
- 28.—Annual Meeting, at Canterbury, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Kent; Installation of Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, as Prov. G.M.

FEBRUARY.

- 3.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter.
- 4.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; £100 voted to the Indian Famine Relief Fund.
- 5.—Meeting of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.
- 6.—Foundation Stone of the New Hall of St. John's Lodge, No. 175, Greenock, laid with Masonic Ceremonial, by Bro. James Reid, R.W.M. D.P.G.M., Renfrewshire West.
Presentation by Lodge of Faith and Unity, No. 417, Dorchester, to Bro. Joseph Robinson, P.M., P. Prov. J.G.W. Dorsetshire.
- 9.—Annual Meeting, at Derby, of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Derbyshire; Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M., of the Woodliss Lodge, No. 503, Derby; Bro. W. H. Marsden first W.M.
Presentation by Ranelagh Lodge, No. 831, to Bro. Hans Scharien, W.M.

- 16.—Death of Bro. R. G. Glover, Past D.G.D.C.
Grand Banquet by the Duke of York Lodge, No. 25, Dublin.
- 17.—Board of Benevolence: 33 cases relieved with £1000.
- 22.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the St. Marcians Lodge, No. 2648; Bro. J.J.R. Cleave first W.M.
Death of Bro. J. W. Clarke, No. 192.
- 23.—Masonic Consecration at Bournemouth under the auspices of Lodge Horsa, No. 2208.
Death of Bro. Renben Ward, P.M.
- 24.—Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Past G.M., Prov. G.M. Sussex, District G.M. Bombay, in the chair; proceeds £18,197 19s. 3d., subsequently increased to £19,012 14s. 3d.
- 25.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Christ's Hospital Lodge, No. 2650; Bro. Alderman W. V. Morgan first W.M.
- 27.—Annual Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; Bro. Gen. J. W. Laurie, M.P., Past G.W., Past G.M. Nova Scotia, in the chair.
Consecration, by Bro. Lord Saltoun, M.W.G.M. Scotland, of new Masonic Premises in Glasgow.
Conversations, at Plumstead, under the auspices of Union Waterloo Lodge, No. 13.
- 27.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Radnor, Prov. G.M. Wiltshire, of the Chaloner Lodge, No. 2644, Melksham; Bro. Captain Chaloner first W.M.
Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Allyn Lodge, No. 2647; Bro. C. L. Axford first W.M.

MARCH.

- 1.—Annual Meeting of the G. Imperial Conclave of the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine.
- 2.—Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge; Bro. G. H. Parke elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.
Lodge of Stability, No. 217, celebrates the Centenary of its Constitution.
- 3.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge; Bro. Alderman W. V. Morgan elected G. Treasurer for the ensuing year; £1050 voted to the Indian Famine Fund.
- 9.—Consecration, by Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G.M. Worcestershire, of the Arter Lodge, No. 2654, Moseley; Bro. C. P. Perry first W.M.
Presentation of Jewel and G. Lodge and G. Chapter Clothing to Bro. W. A. Scumrah, G. Std. Br.
- 10.—Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Cambridgeshire.
Annual Meeting of the G. Council of Royal and Select Masters.
- 11.—Presentation, by the Rose Lodge of Instruction, No. 1622, to Bro. David Rose, P.M., Preceptor, and Mrs. Rose.
- 12.—Death of Bro. Thomas Bull, P.M., P.Z.
- 13.—Visit of Bro. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G.M. Surrey, to the Caterham Lodge, No. 2095.
- 15.—Death of Bro. Benjamin Fullwood, P.M., P.Z.
- 16.—Death of Bro. J. H. Sillitoe, Past G. Std. Br.
- 17.—Presentation by the Lodge of Unity, No. 137, Poole, to Bro. C. J. Woodford, P.M. Sec., Past Prov. G.P. Dorsetshire.
- 19.—Pilgrim Lodge, No. 238, celebrates the 100th Anniversary of the birth of the late Emperor William of Germany.
Death of Bro. Jacob Norton, Boston, Mass.; Masonic Author.
- 20.—Death of Bro. E. Spooner, P.M.
- 22.—Consecration, by Bro. W. Goodacre, Prov. G. Sec. West Lancashire, of the Lodge of Charity, No. 2651, Warrington; Bro. John Armstrong, first W.M.
Meeting of the Grand Chapter of Scotland.
- 24.—Board of Benevolence: 40 cases relieved with £1135.
Meeting, at Bradford, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire.
Annual Meeting, at Bury, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of East Lancashire.
- 25.—Presentation to Bro. W. J. Greig, I.P.M., Prosperity Lodge, No. 65.
- 29.—Presentation to Bro. J. Whitehead Smith, P.M., P.Z., No. 622, P.P.G.W. Dorsetshire.
- 31.—Presentation of Portrait to Comp. S. Gamman, P.Z. No. 435.

APRIL.

- 1.—Death of Bro. the Rev. Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin, Grand Chaplain of Ireland.
Lodge St. Matthew, No. 521, Walsall, celebrates its Jubilee.
- 2.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Onslow, Prov. G.M. of Surrey, of the Albany Lodge, No. 2652, Kingston-on-Thames; Bro. E. S. Goodman first W.M.
Death of Bro. the Rev. Ambrose W. Hall, Past G. Chaplain.
- 7.—Special Meeting of the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple: reception of delegations from the Great Priory of Iceland and the Chapter General of Scotland.
Annual Meeting, at Plymouth, of the Devon Masonic Educational Institution; election of three children upon the Fund.
Centenary Festival of the Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, No. 45.

- 8.—Quarterly Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls: 20 elected from an approved list of 28 children: Bro. Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., elected Treasurer vice Bro. Henry Smith resigned.
- 9.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys: 22 elected from an approved list of 54 boys; Address of Congratulation to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee, announcement of a gift of 5000 guineas by Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., towards the erection of Chapel for the new School.
- 9.—Funeral of Bro. S. M. Peace, P.M. No. 2078.
- 10.—Consecration, by Lord Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G.M. Cheshire, of the Liscard Lodge, No. 2657, Liscard; Bro. W. D. Collins first W.M.
- 14.—Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution resolve to give £5 to each of the unsuccessful candidates at the May election in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- 19.—Consecration, by Comp. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., G. Superintendent Cheshire, of the Newhouse Chapter, No. 2433, Birkenhead; Comp. R. Newhouse, G. Std. Br., Prov. G. Scribe E., first M.E.Z.
Consecration, by Comp. Major F. W. Allan, G. Superintendent Lanarkshire (Lower Ward), of the Dennistoun Chapter, No. 266, Glasgow; Comp. Capt. A. H. O. Dennistoun, first M.E.Z.
Board of Benevolence; 25 cases relieved with £560.
- 21.—Installation, at Christchurch, of Bro. R. Dunn Thomas as Dist. G.M. of Canterbury (N.Z.).
Consecration, by Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., of the Dart Lodge, No. 2641, Dartmouth; Bro. T. J. Mitchell, first W.M.
Consecration, by Bro. Boyes, acting Dist. G.M. Transvaal, of the St. George's Lodge, No. 2643, Krugersdorp; Bro. Wallis first W.M.
Annual Meeting of the Prov. G. Chapter of West Lancashire.
Reception, by the Indefatigable Lodge, No. 237, Swansea, of the Masonic members of the National Union of Teachers.
- 23.—Consecration, by Bro. the Hon. Sir H. Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master of Devonshire, of the Queen Victoria Lodge, No. 2635, Stonehouse; Bro. Major J. G. Shanks first W.M.
Meeting of the Committee of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.
Death of Bro. J. Firth Watson, J.P.
- 24.—Installation, of Bro. Major-Gen. Rundle, C.M.G., as W.M. Bulwer Lodge, No. 1068, Cairo.
Visit of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, to St. Paul's Cathedral.
- 27.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the Crusaders Chapter, No. 1677; Comp. James Speller first M.E.Z.
Annual Meeting, at Johannesburg, of the District Grand Lodge of the Transvaal.
- 28.—Grand Festival of United Grand Lodge.
Inaugural Festival, at Johannesburg, of the Transvaal Masonic Educational Institution; proceeds £15,000.

MAY.

- 3.—Presentation of Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter clothing by the Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535, to Bro. James Stephens, Dep. G.D.C.
Death of Bro. J. Vaughan, P.M. No. 86.
- 4.—Annual Meeting, at Sheffield, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of West Yorkshire; visit of Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro Grand Mark Master.
- 5.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter.
- 6.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Address of Congratulation to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee.
- 7.—Annual Dinner of the Old Masonians; Bro. W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treas., in the Chair.
- 10.—Annual Meeting, at York, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of N. and E. Yorkshire.
Distribution of Prizes, by Lady Langatlock, to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Fifth Annual Festival, at York, of the N. and E. Yorkshire Educational Fund; Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of York in the chair; proceeds £1000.
- 12.—The 100th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, Bro. Lord Langatlock, Prov. G. Master of South Wales (E.D.), in the chair; proceeds £16,026 6s. 6d.
- 14.—Meeting of the Great Priory of the Order of the Temple.
- 15.—Annual Meeting, at Halifax, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of West Yorkshire.
- 16.—Death of Bro. S. H. Greenstreet, P.M. No. 125.
- 19.—Board of Benevolence: 23 cases relieved with £655.
Annual Meeting, at Bolton, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of East Lancashire.
Death of Bro. Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., Past G.M. and Pro G.M. of the United Grand Lodge of Victoria.
- 20.—Annual Festival of the Grand Mark Master's Lodge of Instruction, Bro. Viscount Dungarvan, D.G.M., in the chair.
- 21.—Annual General Meeting of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; 23 men elected from a list of 65 candidates, and 21 widows from one of 52 candidates; £5 agreed to be given to each of the unsuccessful candidates.

London Orphan Asylum, Watford. Instituted 1813.

For the Maintenance & Education of respectable Fatherless Boys & Girls from all parts. Age of admission from 7 to 11.

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED.

112 Children have been received this year.
500 are now in the School. 6,012 have already been benefited.
Over £15,000 per annum is necessary.

The assured income is only £1,300.

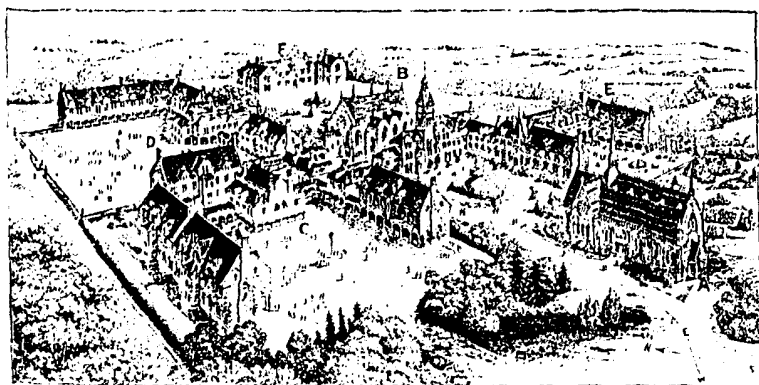
At the June Half-Yearly Election, the Managers received 60 children in commemoration of the 60th year of the Reign of the Patroness, Her Majesty the Queen, relying on the public appreciation of their effort to confer the benefits of the Institution on the greatest number of Fatherless Children. The demands made in other directions led, however, to a falling off in the income of the Charity, and they now close the year with over £3000 to the bad, and are consequently compelled at the next Half-Yearly Election in January to limit the Election to 30. They trust, however, that the generosity of the public will soon enable them to clear off their present indebtedness.

There are now vacancies for nearly 100 in the Institution, which would be filled if only funds allowed.

Annual Subscription for 1 Vote at each Election 10s. 6d. } Increasing in Life " " " " £5 5s. Od. } proportion.

Office—
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A. Chapel.
B. Dining Hall and Administrative Offices.
C. Senior Boys' Schoolrooms, Houses and Playground.

D. Junior Boys' Schoolrooms, Houses and Playground.
E. Girls' Wing and Playground.
F. Infirmary.

- 22.—Death of Bro. M. Rosenberg, P.M. No. 1425.
Funeral of Bro. the Earl of Hardwicke, P. Prov. G.M. Cambridgeshire.
- 24.—Special Meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Gloucestershire and Herefordshire; reception of the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M.
- 26.—Death of Bro. W. G. Lemon, P.A.G.D.C.
- 27.—Divine Service in St. Saviour's Church, Southwark, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers present.
Annual Meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Middlesex; Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Euston, Pro G.M., of the Oxford and Cambridge University Lodge, No. 503; Bro. Col. A. B. Cook first W.M.
- 28.—Annual Meeting, at Bath, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Somersetshire.
Council of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, Bro. John Strachan, Q.C., elected a member of the Board of Management.
- 29.—Annual Athletic Sports of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
- 30.—Death of Bro. J. MacDougall, P.M., P.Z. No. 913.
- 31.—Consecration, by Bro. Dr. J. Balfour Cockburn, of the Sarnian Royal Ark Mariners Lodge, No. 425, Guernsey.
Death of Bro. T. D. Humphreys, P.M., P.Z. (S.C.).
- JUNE.
- 1.—Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge; Address of Congratulation to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee; Mark brethren joining from other Constitutions to make declaration of obedience to the G. Master and the laws and regulations of Grand Lodge.—Grand Festival.
Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York; Address of Congratulation voted to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee, and to be presented through H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.
- 2.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge.—New laws adopted concerning the rights of minorities and the course to be taken by lodges meeting in Colonies where it is proposed to form an independent Grand Lodge.—Grants voted of £2000 to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund and of £2000 to each of the three Masonic Institutions.
- 3.—Meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ireland; Installation of Bro. J. Creed Meredith, LL.D., as Dep. G.M., *vice* Bro. Shekleton, resigned; Address voted to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee.
Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Ealing Lodge, No. 2662; Bro. F. W. Jordan first W.M.
Bro. R. H. M. Rastoujee installed first W.M. of the Yeatman Biggs Lodge, No. 2672, Calcutta, working under dispensation until warrant received.
- 4.—Installation, at Bombay, of Bro. Lord Sandhurst as M.W.G.M. of All Scottish Freemasonry in India.
- 5.—Visit of Belfast brethren and ladies to the Masonic Orphan Schools, Dublin.
Foundation-stone of the New Masonic Hall, Bombay, laid with Masonic Ceremony by Bro. Lord Sandhurst, Pro Dist. G.M. (E.C.), and M.W. G.M. of All Scottish Freemasonry in India.
- 8.—Dedication, by Bro. Dr. Clarke, D.P.G.M. North Connaught, of the Masonic Hall, Carrick-on-Shannon, as a Memorial of the late Bro. Surgeon-Major Parke.
- 10.—Complimentary Banquet to Bro. Septimus Croft, I.P.M. No. 1657, and Mrs. Croft.
- 14.—Special Meeting in Commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee held in the Royal Albert Hall under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.—Fees of admission amounting to over £7000 apportioned—one half to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund and the other equally among the three Institutions.—Address of Congratulation voted to the Queen.—Brevet rank as P.G. Officers conferred upon 60 Brethren (25 London, 25 Provincial, and 10 Colonial).—Special Jewel, with bar in the case of Brethren present at the Meeting, sanctioned by H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master.
Entertainment by the Empire Lodge, No. 2108, to distinguished Indian and Colonial Masons visiting England.
The Worshipful Masters of the London Lodges dine together in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- 15.—Stewards' Visit to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon.
Entertainment to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys by the members of the Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168, and their friends.
- 16.—Death of Bro. W. H. Farnfield, P.M., P.Z.
- 18.—Celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by Constitutional Lodge, No. 294, Beverley; American presentation to Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough.
- 19.—Annual Meeting, at Frodsham, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cheshire.
- 20.—Address of Congratulation through the Prince of Wales to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee by the Masonic Veterans' Association of Illinois.
Masonic Service, at Axminster, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
Jubilee Service at St. Luke's Church, Wallsend, attended by the Carville Lodge, No. 2497.
- 22.—Public Celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.—Special Medal commemorative of the event struck by Bros. George Kenning & Son.
District Grand Lodge of Northern China attends Divine Service in the Cathedral at Shanghai in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee.
- 23.—Board of Benevolence: 27 cases relieved with £665.
Annual Meeting, at Plumstead, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Kent.
Masonic Service at St. Mary's Church, Battle, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- 24.—Address by Bro. the Very Rev. C. W. Barnett-Clarke, Dist. G.M. South Africa (W.D.), on the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
Grand Chapter of Maryland celebrates the Centenary of its Constitution.
- 28.—Presentation of Grand Lodge Clothing to Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.
- 29.—Distribution of Prizes to the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys by Lady H. Cavendish-Bentinck.
Girls' School treat at the Crystal Palace.
Emergent Meeting of the Empire Lodge, No. 2108: two Indian Princes initiated.
- 30.—Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys: Bro. Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., Prov. G.M. Cumberland and Westmorland, in the chair: proceeds £15,031 6s. 6d.
Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham attends Divine Service in Durham Cathedral to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.
- JULY.
- 1.—Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of the Order of the Secret Monitor.
- 2.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the Philbrick Chapter, No. 1662; Comp. W. Shurmur first M.E.Z.
- 6.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Mendelssohn Lodge, No. 2661; Bro. Chas. Stevens first W.M.
Annual Meeting, at Wokingham, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Berkshire.
- 7.—Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund: Bro. Col. A. B. Cook, Prov. G.M. Middx.; proceeds £3100 13s.
- 8.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Commemoration Lodge, No. 2663; Bro. C. Hubbard first W.M.
Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls.
Annual Meeting, at High Wycombe, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Buckinghamshire.
- 9.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.
- 11.—Jubilee Masonic Service at St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington.
- 13.—Foundation-stone of new schools at Berkhamstead laid with Masonic ceremony by Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., P.G.M. Hertfordshire.
Annual Meeting, at Colchester, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Essex.
- 14.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Hygeia Lodge, No. 2664; Bro. C. W. Raymond first W.M.
Annual Meeting, at Newbury, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Berks and Oxon; visit, by invitation of Bro. C. E. Keyser, to Aldermaston Court.
- 15.—Annual Meeting, at Whitby, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire; the Lion Lodge, No. 312, celebrates its centenary.
Presentation to Bro. Franklin Thomas, P.P.S.G.W. East Lancashire.
- 16.—Death of Bro. Major F. H. Peacock, J.W. No. 488, St. Helena.
- 17.—Annual Meeting, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Middlesex.
- 18.—Jubilee Masonic Service at St. Mary's, Walthamstow.
- 19.—Consecration, by Comp. E. Letchworth, G. Scribe E., of the Abbey Chapter, No. 2030; Comp. W. Bonwick first M.E.Z.
- 20.—Annual Meeting, at High Barnet, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire.
- 21.—Board of Benevolence: 17 cases relieved with £165.
Complimentary Banquet to Bro. Sir G. M. F. Moor, Dist Grand Master Madras.
Death of Bro. Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., P.M., P.Z. No. 92.
Annual Meeting, at Brantford, of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario).
- 22.—Annual Meeting, at Redhill, of the Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter of Surrey.
Annual Meeting, at Great Yarmouth, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Norfolk.
- 24.—Summer Excursion of the Old Masonians' Cricket Club.
- 25.—Death of Bro. W. E. Wilby, P.M., P.Z. No. 538.
- 26.—Annual Meeting, at Aylesbury, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Buckinghamshire.
- 27.—Annual Meeting, at Bangor, of the Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter of North Wales.
Annual Meeting, at Poole, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Dorsetshire.
Quarterly Communication, at Alloa, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Stirlingshire.
- 28.—Annual Meeting, at Trowbridge, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Wiltshire.
Unveiling of a new Banner presented to the Crook Lodge, No. 2019, by Bro. J. H. Pollard, W.M.
- 30.—Annual Meeting, at Stowmarket, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Suffolk.
Foundation Stone of the New Cottage Hospital, at Ashby-de-la-Zouche, laid with Masonic Ceremony by Bro. Earl Ferrers, Prov. G.M. Leicestershire and Rutland.
- 31.—Annual Meeting, at Hampton Court, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Middlesex.

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AUGUST.

- 2.—Consecration, by Bro. Capt. C. D. Wise, Acting M.W.G.M. of all Scottish Freemasonry in India, of the Anglo-Scottish Masonic Hall in Calcutta.
- 4.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter: Brevet rank as Past G. Officers conferred on 60 Companions (25 London, 25 Provincial, and 10 Colonial).
- Bazaar at Carlow in aid of the Building Fund of the Masonic Hall.
- 5.—Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.
- Death of Bro. Thomas Mayler, P.M. No. 261.
- 7.—Death of Bro. Thomas Larkin, P.M., P.Z.
- Death of Bro. Thomas W. Gay, P.M. No. 1901.
- 9.—Annual Meeting, at Tiverton, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Devonshire.
- Death by drowning, near Skegness, of Bro. A. Moon, No. 1179.
- 10.—Funeral of Bro. G. Houldsworth, P.M. No. 1327.
- 14.—Foundation Stone of the New Radeliffe Hall National Schools, laid with Masonic Ceremony by Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. G.M. of East Lancashire.
- 15.—Death of Bro. Daniel Spry, Past G.M. of Canada (Province of Ontario).
- 16.—Funeral of Bro. James Very.
- 17.—Installation, at Dumbarton, by Bro. Lord Saltoun, M.W.G.M. of Scotland, of Bro. F. C. Buchanan, as P.G.M. of Dumbartonshire.
- Death of Bro. W. R. Felton.
- Address of welcome presented by a deputation from the Grand Lodge of New Zealand to Bro. the Earl of Ranfurley, Governor of the Colony.
- 18.—Board of Benevolence: 19 cases relieved with £335.
- 19.—Death of Bro. Capt. W. Shipman, No. 1739.
- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Gateshead, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Northumberland and Durham.
- 26.—Launching and christening, at Poole, of the "City Masonic Club Lifeboat" presented by the London City Masonic Club to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.
- 27.—Annual Meeting, at Whitelaven, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland.
- 30.—Consecration, by Bro. W. L. Jackson, M.P., Prov. G.M. West Yorkshire, of the Victoria Lodge, No. 2669, Bradford.
- Foundation-stone of the Bradford Royal Infirmary laid with Masonic Ceremony by Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., Prov. G.M. Derbyshire.
- 31.—Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge.
- Annual Meeting, at Liskeard, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cornwall.
- Death of Bro. James McLehouse, R.W.M. old St. John Lodge, No. 21, Lanark.

SEPTEMBER.

- 1.—Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge. Sanction given to Provincial and District Grand Masters to confer Past Provincial and District rank on distinguished members of their Provinces and Districts.
- Vote of thanks to Bros. Sir Albert W. Woods, P.G.W., G.D.C., and Thomas Penn, P.G.W., for their services at the Royal Albert Meeting.
- Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, address of congratulation to the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee, and to the King of Sweden on completing 25 years as G. Master.
- 2.—Presentation, by St. Andrew's of Glasgow Chapter, No. 69, to Comp. W. M. Denholme, P.Z.
- Death of Bro. Justice Cave, P.G.W. Eng.
- 3.—Opening, by Bro. A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Worcestershire, of the new Masonic Hall, Worcester.
- 6.—Lodge of Peace and Unity, No. 314, Preston, celebrates its centenary.
- 8.—Charity Lodge, No. 223, Plymouth, celebrates its centenary.
- 10.—Inaugural Meeting of the new West Lancashire Victoria Fund of Benevolence; Appointment of Officers and Committee.
- 11.—Meeting of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Ayrshire.
- 13.—Funeral of the late Bro. James S. Naish, P.M., P.Z.
- 14.—Death of Bro. John B. Cummings, P.M., P.Z.
- 16.—Annual Meeting, at Lyme Regis, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Norfolk.
- Death of Bro. William Paas, P.M., P.Z. No. 28.
- 17.—Annual Meeting, at Highbridge, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Somersetshire.
- Annual Meeting, at Wolverhampton, of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of Staffordshire.
- 18.—Annual Meeting, at Darlington, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Durham.
- 22.—Annual Meeting, at Moseley, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Worcestershire.
- Annual Meeting, at Plymouth, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Devonshire.
- 23.—Board of Benevolence: 20 cases relieved with £685.
- Annual Meeting, at Cardiff, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of South Wales (E.D.).
- Presentation, by Restoration Lodge, No. 111, Darlington, to Bro. Richard Luck, M.A., P.M., on his appointment as P.G.D. England.
- Death of Bro. A. F. Lamette, P.M., M.E.Z. No. 271.

- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Stockton-on-Tees, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Durham; the new Durham Fund of Benevolence to be named the "Hudson Benevolent Fund" in honour of Bro. Robert Hudson, Prov. G. Sec., to whom a testimonial was presented.
- Annual Meeting, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Northumberland.
- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Sandbach, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire: presentation of Address to Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master.

OCTOBER.

- 1.—Inauguration of a New Masonic Hall at Sutton.
- 2.—Presentation of Grand Lodge Clothing and Jewel by the Villiers Lodge, No. 1194, to Bro. W. Vincent, on his appointment as G. Std. Br.
- Death of Bro. P. Lund Simmonds, P.M., P.Z., author of the "Illustrated History of St. Mark's Mark Lodge, No. 1."
- 4.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary, of the Past and Present Lodge, No. 2665; Bro. C. W. Hudson first W.M.
- Death of Bro. C. F. Hogard, P.G. Std. Br.
- 5.—Consecration, by Bro. Sir W. T. Marriott, Q.C., P.G.D., D.P.G.M. Sussex, of the Royal Connaught Lodge, 2676, Eastbourne; Bro. Capt. C. de M. Franklyn first W.M.
- 7.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls: 15 elected from a list of 26 candidates; the question of purchase of Perpetual Presentations referred to a Special Committee to act with Committees appointed by the other Institutions.
- Annual Meeting, at Romford, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Essex.
- 8.—Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys: 16 elected from a list of 47 Candidates; scheme of premium votes in connection with the approaching Centenary adopted.
- Presentation, at Middlesbrough, by Lodges Nos. 602, 1848, and 2391, to Bro. W. H. Cowper on his appointment as G. Std. Br.
- 9.—Consecration, by Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G.M. Cheshire, of the Buckingham and Chandos Lodge, No. 2667, Rockferry; Bro. H. Baird first W.M.
- Consecration, by Bro. J. T. Morland, P.G.D., Deputy Prov. G.M. Berkshire, of the Victoria Lodge, No. 2671, Windsor; Bro. E. Prince first W.M.
- Annual Meeting, at Windsor, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Berkshire.
- Half-yearly Meeting of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- 11.—Meeting, at Derby, of the Prov. Priory of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, &c.; the Earl of Easton, G.M., present.
- 12.—Convocation of Supreme Council, 33rd, Ancient and Accepted Rite.
- Presentation, by St. Ambrose Lodge, No. 1891, to Bro. P. P. Percy, P.M., Treasurer.
- 13.—Annual Meeting, at Southport, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Lancashire.
- 14.—Annual Meeting, at Warwick, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire.
- Bro. the Earl of Warwick, P.G.M. Essex, unveils pulpit presented by Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire to St. Mary's Church, Warwick.
- 15.—Annual Meeting, at Egremont, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cumberland and Westmorland.
- Consecration, by Comp. Earl Amherst, G. Supt. Kent, of the Radnor Chapter, No. 2387, Folkestone; Comp. Lieut.-Col. Hamilton first M.E.Z.
- 20.—Board of Benevolence: 25 cases relieved with £595.
- Half-yearly Meeting, at Shipley, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire.
- Presentation, by Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, to Bro. F. J. Perks, P.M., Secretary.
- 21.—Annual Meeting, at Abergavenny, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Monmouthshire.
- Dedication, by Bro. Lord Harlech, P.G.M. North Connaught, of a new Masonic Hall at Sligo.
- 23.—Foundation-stone of the new Christ's Hospital at Horsham laid with Masonic Ceremony by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on behalf of the Queen.
- Distribution of Prizes to the pupils of the Masonic Female Orphan School, Dublin, by the Duchess of Abercorn.
- 28.—Annual Meeting, at Narborough, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Leicestershire and Rutland; presentation of Grand Lodge clothing to Bro. the Rev. C. Heaton Wood, M.A., on his appointment as Past G. Chaplain.
- 29.—Annual Meeting, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Northumberland; consecration, by Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M., of the Victoria Commemoration Lodge, No. 2666, Newcastle; Bro. J. Straker Wilson first W.M.
- 30.—Consecration, by Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., P.G.M. Durham, of the Ravensworth Lodge, No. 2674, Gateshead; Bro. M. Corbitt first W.M.
- Annual Meeting, at Gainsborough, of the Prov. Grand Chapter of Lincolnshire.
- Death of Bro. C. Briscoe, P.M., P.Z.
- 31.—Masonic Service at St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

ROYAL FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM, BEDDINGTON, NEAR CROYDON, SURREY.

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BROUGH MALTBY, *Secretary.*

NOVEMBER.

- 1.—Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees.
- 3.—Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter; Amendment to Regulations adopted.
Presentation, by the St. John's Lodge, No. 279, Leicester, to Bro. R. Michie, P.M., Treasurer.
Funeral of the Rev. S. Houghton, F.R.S., P.M. Trinity College Lodge, No. 357, Dublin.
- 6.—Memorial to Bro. W. H. Kirby in Wycombe Cemetery, unveiled by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary.
- 7.—Masonic Service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; offertory divided between the two Masonic Schools.
- 8.—Annual Meeting, at Hereford, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Herefordshire.
- 10.—Consecration, by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary of the Diamond Jubilee Lodge, No. 2665; Bro. C. J. Smith, first W.M.
- 12.—Meeting, at Brighton, of the Prov. Priory of Sussex.
- 15.—Consecration, by Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M. of the Sancta Maria Lodge, No. 2682; H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., W.M.; Bro. Edmund Owen, Deputy Master.
Opening, by Bro. T. J. Ralling, P.G. Sec. Essex, of the new Masonic Hall, Braintree.
- 16.—Death of Bro. Walter Hopekirk, P.G.P.
- 17.—Board of Benevolence: 42 cases relieved with £1080.
Consecration, by Bro. J. C. Malcolm, P.G.D., Deputy P.G.M. West Yorkshire, of the Calcaria Lodge, No. 2677, Tadcaster; Bro. W. Sykes first W.M.
- 18.—Annual Meeting, at Newmarket, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cambridgeshire.
- 22.—Funeral of Bro. C. J. Shoppee, F.R.I.B.A., P.M.
- 23.—Annual Meeting, at Bishop Stortford, of the Prov. Grand Chapter, and also of the Prov. Grand Mark Lodge, of Hertfordshire.
Death of Bro. W. Tunnicliff, P.M. 418, P.P.G.W. Staffordshire.
- 24.—Consecration, by Comp. Ensor Drury, of the Milton Chapter, No. 1239, Sheffield; Comp. H. T. E. Holmes first M.E.Z.
- 26.—Death of Bro. Alderman Sir George Tyler, Bart.
- 30.—Quarterly Communication of Mark Grand Lodge; vote of condolence with Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Past G.M.; presentation, by Province of Kent, to Grand Lodge of portrait of Bro. Earl Amherst, Past G.M.; Bro. W. M. Stiles nominated as Grand Treasurer for ensuing year.



The Sussex Calf.

A BALLAD

BY PROF. F. W. DRIVER, M.A.,

By the Author of "The Noble Soul," "Toujours Perdrix," "The Submerged City," "The Two Angels," "God's Flowers," &c.

In Lewes town a butcher dwelt,
A jovial man was he;
A thriving business brought him wealth,
His heart was light and free.

One day to market he had gone,
A good fat calf to buy,
Which had been ordered by the Squire,
Who could on him rely.

Returning home, his purchase placed
Upon the horse before,
He drew his rein and made a halt
Close by an alehouse door.

Into the house he quickly goes,
The sparkling ale is sent;
And meeting there some well-known friends,
He soon is quite content.

Among the rest a cobbler was,
Much famed for mirth and jest,
Who, though he liked his trade full well,
Yet loved good liquor best.

Hearing the butcher had to cross
A wood whilst on his road,
He laid a wager with the host
He'd steal the butcher's load.

The terms agreed, they join again
The butcher and his friends;
But soon the cobbler leaves the rest,
On business he pretends.

Forthwith unto the wood he goes,
And in a thicket hides,
Dropping two shoes along the road
He knows the butcher rides.

The landlord and his guests drink on,
Discussing Church and State,
Till length the butcher mounts his horse,
For he had stayed full late.

Away he speeds, the wood is gained,
His journey is nigh done,
When on the road a shoe he spies,
A solitary one.

The butcher thought it very strange,
The shoe seemed good and sound,
When jogging on, surprised he saw
Another on the ground.

"Oh, Ho! two shoes! no doubt a pair,
It will be worth my while
To pick them up; meanwhile, I'll tie
My horse to yonder stile."

Soon done as said, he quick dismounts,
Intent to gain his prize;
But when the butcher's out of sight,
Crispin the calf unties.

And throwing it across his back,
Conveys it to the town;
Shows it the host who laughing said
He well had won his crown.

Much pleased, the butcher with the shoes
Came back unto his horse;
But to his sorrow, soon perceived
He'd also found—a loss.

What could he do? The calf was gone,
Or in the road had strayed;
So back unto the town again
His journey quickly made.

Arriving at the inn, he told
The landlord that he'd lost
His calf, and one its place must fill,
No matter what it cost.

The publican observed that he
"Had got one, which he thought
Would suit the butcher, and he hoped
It would by him be bought."

The butcher went to see the calf,
Approved it, asked its price;
The landlord said "that, as his friend,
He'd not be over nice."

But that he'd sell it for the same
He thought it fair and just
At which the last one had been bought,
And he would give him trust.

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- 3.—The Training of Medical Pupils, Midwives, and Monthly Nurses.

Since the foundation of the Hospital 100,000 POOR WOMEN HAVE BEEN RELIEVED. Last year, 1,151 Patients were received into the Hospital, and 1,122 were attended at their own Homes.

The necessary ANNUAL EXPENDITURE EXCEEDS £4,000, while the RELIABLE INCOME is about £2,000 only.

EXTENSION OF THE HOSPITAL.

To relieve the great pressure on the Hospital, and to meet the constantly-growing demands for admission, it has been resolved to extend the building, and to proceed with several other important improvements; also to build a new Nurses' Home, rendered necessary by the compulsory acquisition by the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company of the premises lately occupied as a Nurses' Home. For these Special Works, A SUM OF UPWARDS OF £12,000 IS REQUIRED, towards which Contributions are earnestly solicited.

CONTRIBUTIONS to both the General and the Building Funds will be thankfully received by the Hospital Bankers, Messrs. COCKS, BIDDULPH & Co., Charing Cross, S.W.; or at the Hospital by

ARTHUR WATTS, Secretary.

The butcher said "It is too much,
The calf is small in size."
"I'll take six shillings off the price,"
The wily host replies.

The bargain struck, the calf again
Is put upon the horse;
And to the wood the second time
The butcher took his course.

But scarcely had he entered it,
When he began to hear
The bleating of a calf close by,
Which sounded full and clear.

"Eh! are you there?" the butcher cried,
"I'm surely not deceived!
That I should hear that voice again
I could not have believed!"

The butcher hurried through the wood,
His former calf to find,
Whilst Crispin, who close by was hid,
Stole that now left behind.

For he, too, had the wood regained,
His tricks to further play;
And bleating like a calf, again
The butcher led astray.

Then straightway hastening to the inn,
The guests and landlord told,
How he again had stolen the calf
The host so late had sold.

Meanwhile the butcher looked about
But it was all in vain
So giving up the search he went
Unto his horse again.

But when he found his second calf
Had vanished like the first,
His anger he could not restrain,
But stamped, and swore and cursed.

Again he seeks, disconsolate,
The inn—his horse dismounts,
And to the landlord and his guests
His second loss recounts.

But when they saw his doleful phiz
And long-drawn visage pale,
With laughs and shouts of merriment,
They interrupt his tale.

The waggish cobbler, laughing still,
Informs him of the jest,
Which, though the butcher little liked,
He thought to laugh was best.

So turning to the publican,
He said, "I think the calf,
Though twice bought cheap, if thus it yields
You all so good a laugh."

"Most heartily I do forgive
The trick you on me played;
The calf's last price I'll stand as treat,
Regaining him I'm paid."

The butcher then re-mounts his horse,
And this time without fail,
He and the calf arrive safe home,
Which finishes my tale.

The Order of the Secret Monitor.

The Grand Visitors of the Order, to whom the office of Inspectors General of the various conclaves is entrusted, have made a very healthy report to the Earl of Warwick, Grand Supreme Ruler, and to the Grand Council, showing a highly satisfactory amount of progress during the past year. The state of the finances, too, no bad index of progress, leaves nothing to be desired. Sir Thomas Wright, K.B., of Leicester, is the Treasurer of the year, and the Brethren have shown their appreciation of his efforts by responding to his call in the readiest manner. We have had a glimpse of the General Report of the Executive—to be submitted to Grand Council at the end of the year—and note its cheery and hopeful tone; another new and very strong Conclave is on the point of being formed near London, under the immediate patronage of a brother of high rank in the Craft, as well as in most of the other Degrees; and, quite recently, one of the regular Conclaves inducted no less than six candidates at one sitting, in order to qualify them as founders of this new Conclave, in one of the most active of our suburban centres. We also hear rumours of a peaceful settlement of the amusing warfare in which the Secret monitors have been involved in order to defend their position in England, and hope soon to be able to report the abandonment of tactics showing the sorry spectacle of one body of Englishmen "raging furiously" against another body of their countrymen and brethren, in the supposed interests of a handful of foreigners whom their own fellow citizens "let severely alone."

WHY WINTER'S WANT CALLS FOR WINTER'S WORK ON THE PART OF THE ST. GILES' CHRISTIAN MISSION

Because, for **Thirty-seven** years past, the **Sickly** and **Destitute**, the **Hungry** and **Helpless** have in **large numbers** sought and received our aid.

Because, to so many of the **Deserving Poor**, **Winter** and **Want** come hand-in-hand. During the Summer months they have worked laboriously for the barest necessities of life.

The coming of Winter finds them penniless and without work, which they seek earnestly, but fail to obtain. Unrelieved, their sufferings are piteous.

We seek to distribute **Food, Firing, Blankets, Clothing, and Christmas Dinners**. Your **Financial support** earnestly solicited.

Treasurer: F. A. BEVAN, Esq., D.L., 54, Lombard Street, E.C.

Superintendent: WILLIAM WHEATLEY, 4, Ampton Street, Regent Square, W.C.

Cheques and Postal Orders may be crossed Messrs, BARCLAY and CO.

A Visit to Burnham Thorpe, Norfolk, The Birthplace of Admiral Lord Viscount Nelson.



THE recent celebration under the auspices of the Naval League of the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar and the lamented death of England's greatest naval hero, has awakened a hitherto dormant interest in the early life of Horatio Viscount Nelson. The writer of this paper has collected a few facts which may prove interesting. A few weeks ago, on arriving at Burnham Thorpe by rail from Hunstanton, he went first as directed to the Rectory, a distance of about one mile from the village. It is a substantial house, surrounded with pleasant grounds. He sent in his card, on which was written a request that he might see the objects of interest connected with Lord Nelson. After some little delay the Rector came to the drawing-room.* He was courteous in his manner. He said H.R.H. the Prince of Wales had been the originator and prime mover of the Nelson scheme, proposed at a meeting in London, 1895, at which the Prince presided. After long conversation, it was agreed that the best method of perpetuating in a practical way the memory of Lord Nelson would be to completely restore the parish church of Burnham Thorpe, of which his father was rector, and in which village Nelson was born, 29th September, 1758. Nearly £1000 was collected at the meeting, and since then about £3000 has been collected, and an appeal is still being made for £2000, the sum required for the completion of the edifice. There was an extension of the original plan, and the Rector became security for the loan of £600, for the erection of a village Nelson Memorial Hall, where lectures, concerts, social evenings, &c., might be held, and thus his parishioners might be brought more in touch with him personally. The Hall has been erected, leaving this debt of £600 as a mortgage on the property, for which the Rector is responsible. Amounts come in occasionally, but, as is so often the case, in popular movements such as this, the enthusiasm at first displayed is on the wane. Two or three ideas, not matured, are being considered. One practical method, at the present time, is that of presenting paper knives made of the original wood of the Victory (vouched for) to collectors of the sum of £5 5s. for the large, and £3 3s. for the small size. A silver plate, with a suitable inscription, is on each. Printed leaflets have been extensively circulated, the Rector strongly urging on people, as a national duty, how incumbent it was on one and all to support his appeal by their generous contributions.

The Rector then showed the register book of the marriages celebrated during the incumbency of the Rev. Edmund Nelson, the father of our hero. In two instances young Nelson signed as a witness. On the first occasion he wrote *Horace* Nelson, by which name he was usually known at home and among his playmates and

associates. It seems his father erased the name Horace, and wrote above it *Horatio*.

The story goes that his father was so angry that he boxed his ears. Whether this be true or not, the subsequent signature is in the true name of Horatio Nelson. It appears from a further examination of the Register, that two sons of the Rector acted as curates to their father—one of them on several occasions not only performed his clerical duty, but, in addition, fixed his name as witness, showing a thing permitted then, which, at the present time, would have brought severe rebuke on the head of the clerical offender at the hands of the Archdeacon at his visitation. Another thing is worthy of notice, that, in nearly every case, the parties contracting the marriage were unable to write, and affixed their marks in lieu of signatures. Photographic fac-similes of the pages of the register have been made for sale, and can be obtained of the Rector. The writer was also shown bromide copies from photographs of the exterior and interior of the parish church since it has been restored. It is simple in style, being early English and Tudor. The structural alterations have been made, and the restoration completed, but the new requirements for public worship must continue in abeyance, until the funds requisite for their purchase have been contributed. There is no communion table, nor rails, no chancel seats, no pulpit, no cover for the font, no furniture for the vestry.

The writer was shown a large piece of the actual wood of the old Victory, before being worked up for paper knives. Having now been upwards of an hour with the Rector, the writer tendered his thanks for the very interesting facts that had been communicated, and was on the point of leaving when he was asked by the Rector to go with him to a side gate of the grounds, near which were two elm trees of great age, size and height—they mark the site of the Rectory in the time of Nelson's father. Hard by, is the old pump of iron, encased in wood of the same period, which still remains as sound as of yore. Here the writer parted from the Rector, again thanking him, and he then went to visit the church. On the way he passed the Nelson Memorial Hall. It was closed, so he continued along the gravel road, which was opened last anniversary, and leads from the village to the church. In the churchyard the tombstones are simple, the inscriptions of the usual style—"Affliction sore," &c. Two of the epitaphs are worthy of record—first, that of a shepherd in the employ of a landowner, adjoining. The words are "The Lord is my Shepherd." Second, William Dawson, aged 20 years—

"Death comes in unexpected forms
At unexpected hours,
To-morrow we may never see,
To-day, alone, is ours."

The interior of the church could not be seen, it was closed, so he went through the village, passing "The Lord Nelson" Inn, the sign a fairly painted portrait of the hero—reached railway station, and returned to Hunstanton, the writer having greatly enjoyed the excursion.

"A great man never dies, immortal Fame
Renews the lustre of his glorious name."

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

62, Lancaster Road, Notting Hill, W.
October, 1897.

* The Rector is in no way connected with the Nelson family.

THE BENEVOLENT OR STRANGERS' FRIEND SOCIETY.

NOW IN ITS 112TH YEAR.

Is the Oldest Institution in existence for relieving, at their own dwellings, the Sick Poor, irrespective of Creed or Nationality, throughout the Metropolis.

Treasurer—ALDERMAN SIR JOSEPH C. DIMSDALE.

Chairman of Committee—J. H. ANDERSON, Esq.

The Society constantly employs a Hundred and Sixty Five Agents, of both sexes, all of whom render entirely voluntary and unpaid service, in visiting the afflicted and ministering to their necessities.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS ARE EARNESTLY SOLICITED,

and will be thankfully received by SIR J. C. DIMSDALE, 50, Cornhill, E.C., or by the SECRETARY, at the Office of the Society, 52, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.

Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, CITY ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

FOUNDER—Her Majesty's Father, the Late DUKE OF KENT.

PATRON, FOR THE PAST 50 YEARS—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT—LORD ROTHSCHILD.

TREASURER—S. HOPE MORLEY, Esq.

CHAIRMAN—T. ANDROS DE LA RUE, Esq.

VICE-CHAIRMAN—The Hon. LIONEL ASHLEY.

Owing to a falling off of nearly £5,000 in the Charity's Income during the present year, Help is Urgently Needed.

This Hospital was the First of its Kind established in Europe, and has uninterruptedly since 1814 carried on its great work in the midst of the suffering poor of the Metropolis.

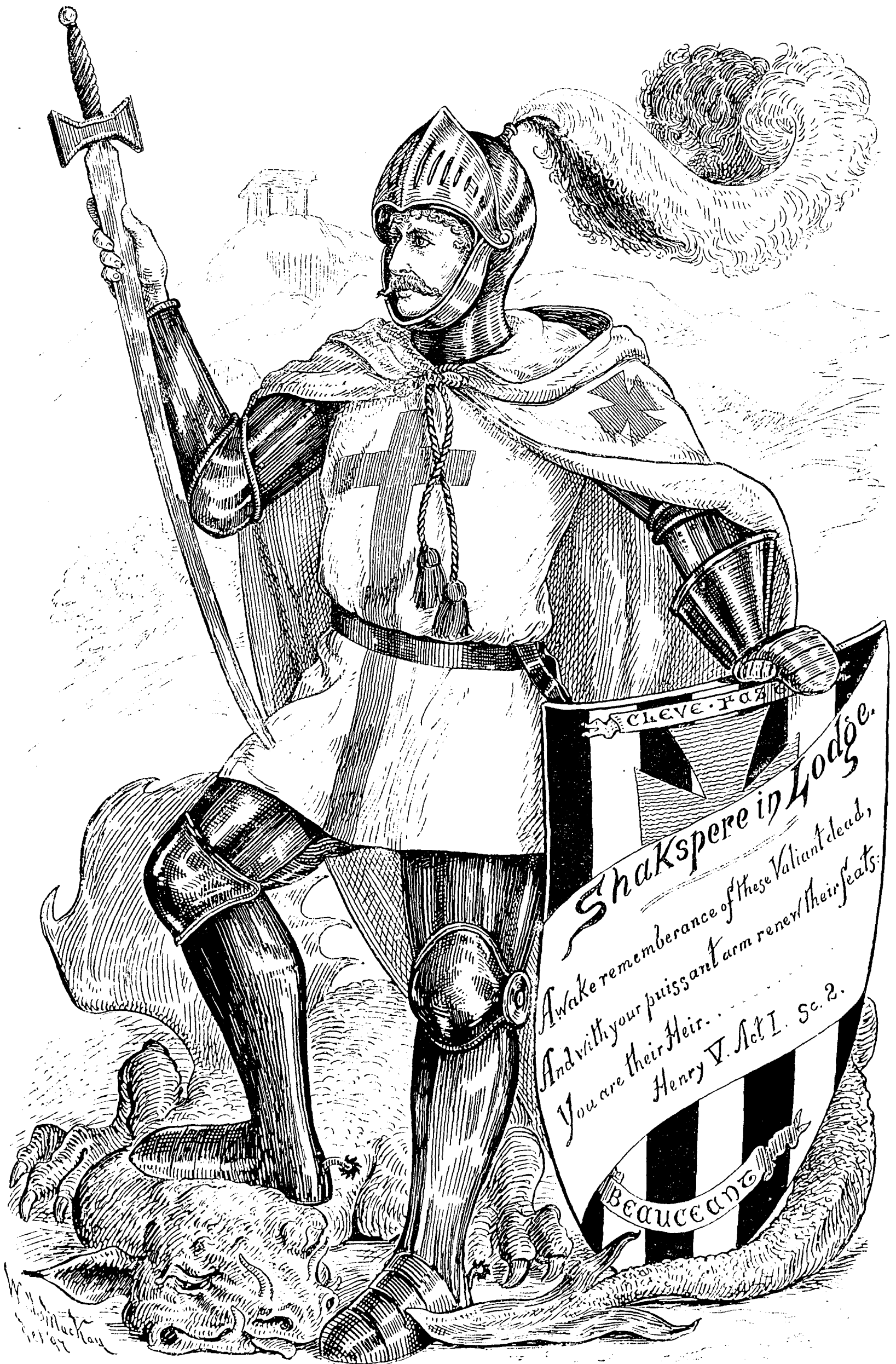
Patients come from all parts of the country, and at the present moment the Hospital is quite full.

During the past year 742 In-Patients were treated, and the attendances of Out-Patients, all of whom received Gratuitous Treatment, numbered 24,896.

Donors of Ten Guineas and upwards become Life Governors, and receive in respect of each Ten Guineas Six Out-Patient Letters. Annual Subscribers of Three Guineas and upwards have the right to recommend both In and Out-Patients.

Donations will be thankfully acknowledged by the Secretary, or they may be paid direct to Messrs. GLYN, MILLS, and Co.

JOHN HARROLD, Secretary.



KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

The Service in St. Paul's Cathedral.

It is greatly to be regretted that the arrangements made for commemorating the 200th anniversary of the opening of St. Paul's Cathedral for public worship should not have proved adequate to the occasion and it is not surprising that many letters should have been addressed to the daily press or brought to our own notice by aggrieved brethren who either endured serious inconvenience in entering the Cathedral or were unable to obtain the admission to which they were entitled. To all these, however, Bro. Archdeacon Sinclair, Past G. Chaplain, who was Chairman of the Chapter Committee entrusted with the preparations, has addressed a full and ample apology, and under these circumstances it appears to be just and proper that we should give over our grumbling and accept the apology in the same kindly spirit in which the Archdeacon has tendered it. However, if the gathering did not prove so successful as regards

Mason is unfortunately not forthcoming; the probabilities are strongly in favour of his having been one and a member of the old Time Immemorial Lodge of Antiquity. Be this as it may, the tradition is one which no brother need find serious fault with, nor do we imagine it will ever cease to be associated with the fortunes of the Craft.

We have said the spectacle which the Cathedral presented on this memorable occasion was a splendid one, and we need hardly add that the proceedings, as Bro. Archdeacon Sinclair has assured us, were conducted with all that decorum by which large Masonic gatherings are at all times distinguished. The service, too, was of a special but appropriate character, while the Bishop of London's sermon founded on the text—"The house that is to be builded for the Lord must be exceeding magnificent, of fame and of glory throughout all countries"—was in every way a masterpiece of eloquence. The offertory, however, considering the vastness of the congregation, was comparatively a small one, amounting to but little more than £800, and we must hope that this will be supplemented by such other contributions as will permit of a section of the work of decoration being



WEST FRONT OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

arrangements as those other Masonic celebrations in the Royal Albert Hall, for which the Craft itself has been responsible, there can be no doubt as to the grandeur of the spectacle which the masterwork of Sir Christopher Wren presented on Thursday the 2nd December, when between 5000 and 6000 members gathered within its portals for the purpose of offering their prayers and thanksgivings to the Most High in commemoration of the opening of the Cathedral and of showing their respect for the tradition that Sir Christopher Wren himself and those entrusted with the carrying out of his plans were members of our great Fraternity. The question whether the architect of our great Metropolitan fane was a member of our Fraternity or not in its modern "accepted" sense is not one that can properly be discussed within the narrow limits of an article. There are those who swear by the tradition and take it for gospel, and there are those who reject it on the ground that there is no direct evidence of his having been received into the Order. Our own opinion is that though it is undoubtedly true that positive and direct evidence of his having been an accepted

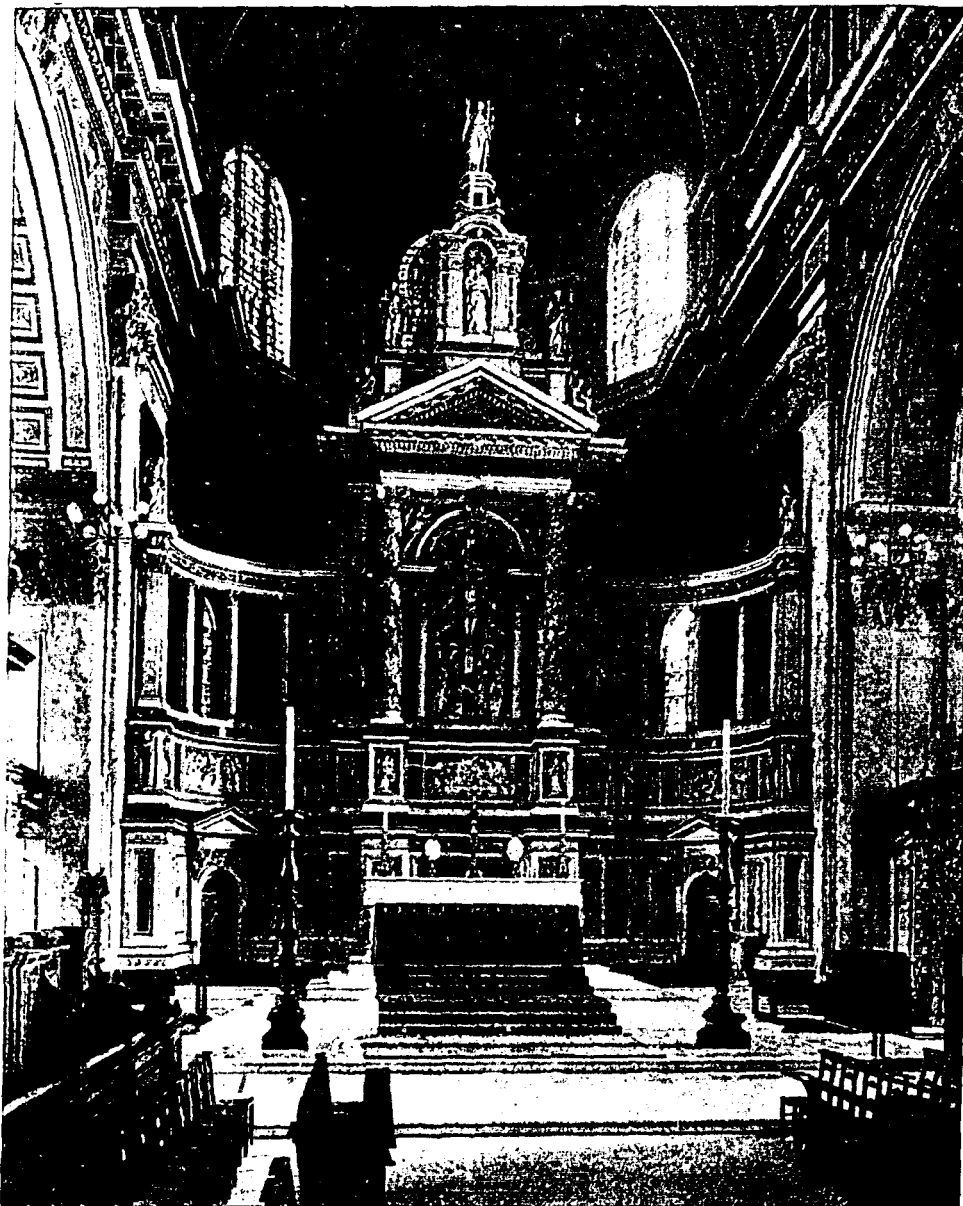
carried out under the direction of Sir William B. Richmond, K.C.B., R.A., being done which shall be worthy of our ancient and honourable Society.

Bros. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of the City of London, accompanied by the Aldermen and members of the Court of Common Council, attended by the officers of the Corporation, were present in State, entering in a procession by themselves and being conducted to the seats reserved for them, while the Masonic procession, which entered almost immediately after the civic dignitaries, was composed entirely of Present and Past Grand Officers, the following being a list of the most distinguished among the Present and Past G. Officers who attended on the occasion, namely: Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, who, in the unavoidable absence of the Pro and Deputy G. Masters, represented the Prince of Wales, M.W.G. Master; Bros. Col. Lyne, Prov. G. Master Monmouthshire; T. F. Halsey, M.P., Prov. G.M. Hertfordshire; C. J. Egan, M.D., Dist. G. Master South Africa (E.D.); Rear Admiral A. H. Markham,

Past Dist. G.M. Malta; Geo. Richards, Dist. G.M. Transvaal; W. A. F. Powell, Prov. G.M. Bristol; J. Balfour Cockburn, M.D., Prov. G.M. Guernsey and Alderney; A. F. Godson, M.P., Prov. G.M. Worcestershire; A. M. Saunders, Past Dist. G.M. Madras; Lord Ampthill, Prov. G.M. Bedfordshire; and Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G.M. Middlesex; Bro. the Earl of Portarlington, S.G.W., and Bro. Sir F. Beilby Alsten, K.C.M.G., who was S.G.W. in 1850; Bros. Bonamy Dobree, Victor Williamson, R. Cunliffe, Hon. W. Vernon, Sir J. B. Monckton, Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Viscount Valentia, M.P., Sir J. E. Gorst, Q.C., Sir Henry A. Isaacs, Thomas Fenn, Alderman Sir W. Wilkin, K.C.M.G., and Robert Grey, Past G. Wardens; Bros. the Rev. W. K. R. Bedford, M.A., the Rev. R. J. Simpson, M.A., the Rev. C. J. Martyn, M.A., the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, M.A., the Rev. H. G. Morse, M.A., the Rev. John Robbins, D.D., the Rev. J. N. Palmer, M.A., the Rev. H. A. Pickard, M.A., the Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, M.A., the Rev. R. Evans, M.A., the Rev. T. B. Spencer, M.A., the Very Rev. E. R. Currie, D.D., Dean of Battle, the Rev. O. G. Grace, M.A., the Rev. H. Lansdell, D.D., the Rev. H. R.

Sir T. O'Brien, Sir Francis Boileau, Sir W. N. Abdy, Col. Campbell, J. T. Firbank, M.P., Lt.-Col. Bindley, Gordon Miller, C. C. Cheston, E. D. Anderton, A. H. Bowles; Present and Past G. Deacons: Bro. A. R. Stenning, G. Supt. of Works; Bros. Jas. Edmeston, C. Barry, and R. St. Roumieu; Past G. S. of Works; Bros. Lennox Browne, Dr. Mickley, Stanley J. Attenborough, R. Venables, J. Lewis Thomas, Col. Bramble, Col. Davies, E. M. Money, Ernest St. Clair, W. H. Spaul, Raymond Thrupp, T. J. Ralling, J. A. Farnfield, J. D. Langton Past Dep. and Past Asst. G. D. of Ceremonies; Bros. James Terry, F. R. W. Hedges, J. M. McLeod, W. M. Bywater, C. Hammerton, H. Lovegrove, Col. Peters, Horatio Ward, Major Carrell, G. Monteuiis, Dep. Surgeon-General Ringer, Past G.S.Bs.; Bros. A. C. Spaul, W. A. Scurrah, M. C. Peck, E. P. Valeriani, W. Shurmur, John Mason, R. C. Sudlow, H. W. Cowper, Past G. Standard Bearer, together with several G. Pursuivants, Past and Present, and G. Stewards.

Among the 60 or 70 brethren who acted as Stewards were:—Bros. H. J. Richards, M.P., and Major Henry Wright, who were stationed in the Choir of the Cathedral. Curiously enough, they



PEREDOS—ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

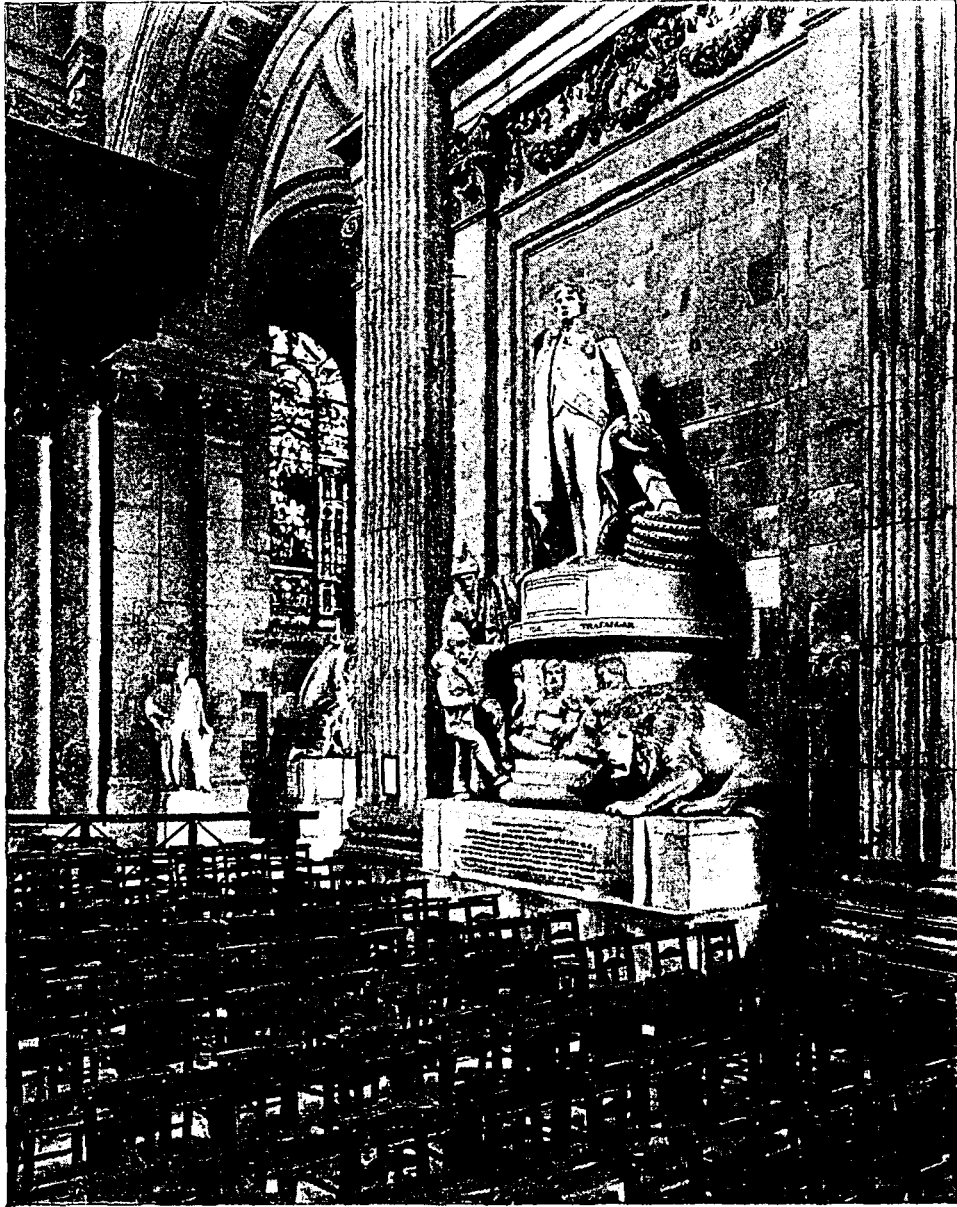
Cooper Smith, D.D., the Ven. Archdeacon W. M. Sinclair, D.D., the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, M.A., the Rev. F. W. Macdonald, M.A., the Rev. C. J. Ridgway, M.A., and Rev. C. Henton Wood, M.A.; Past G. Chaplains; Bro. Alderman W. Vaughan Morgan, G. Treasurer, and Bros. J. Woodall, Richard Eve, Edward Terry, Capt. J. D. Murray, S. Cochrane, Alderman Sir J. C. Dimsdale, W. M. Stiles, and W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treasurers; Bros. R. D. M. Littler, C.B., Q.C., T. L. Wilkinson, and John Strachan, Q.C. Past Deputy G. Registrars; Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C., President Board of General Purposes; Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Secretary; J. H. Matthews, President Board of Benevolence; Bros. C. Locock Webb, Q.C., H. Maudslay, Jabez Hogg, H. J. P. Dumas, J. C. Parkinson, P. de Lande Long, J. S. Eastes, F. H. Goldney, F. Sumner Knyvett, G. E. Lake, C. E. Keyser, J. E. Le Feuvre, C. H. Hutton, Sir G. D. Harris, Alderman and Sheriff F. Green, W. F. Smithson, V. P. Freeman, R. F. Gould, P. Nairne, C. Godson, M.D., John Aird, M.P., F. West, Lt.-Col. Newton,

are life long friends, and having for 20 years past done this work in the Cathedral, at ordinary and special services, no hitch occurred in the arrangements east of the dome, for every aisle, passage and seat are familiar to them. Bro. Richards, knowing so many of the prominent clergy, was able to pilot them through the crowds and seat them comfortably in the choir and apse, whilst Bro. Wright more especially looked after the Grand Officers' ladies and the Corporation officials. Bro. the Lord Mayor is a member of the Alliance Lodge, of which Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Frank Green, and Bro. Wright are P.Ms., so it was appropriate that the latter should have collected from the Chief Magistrate and Corporation. When the Stewards were ready to deposit their bags on the alms dish, they were marshalled in perfect order by Bro. Richards. So heavy was the dish that it was as much as the Bishop of London, his chaplain, and the Dean of St. Paul's, could do to carry it up to and lift it upon the altar.

SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

Sir Christopher Wren, the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral, was born at East Knowle, Wiltshire, on the 20th October, 1632, his father, Dr. Christopher Wren, being Chaplain-in-Ordinary to Charles the First, while his uncle, Dr. Matthew Wren, was

Oxford. He rendered valuable service to the Royal Society, which was founded shortly after the Restoration of the Stuarts, and in 1661, was appointed by Charles II. assistant to Sir John Denham, the King's Surveyor-General of Works, notwithstanding that at the time he had made for himself no reputation in the profession of architecture. In 1663, he was commissioned to



NELSON MONUMENT—ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

successively Bishop of Hereford, Norwich, and Ely. Though of delicate constitution in his early childhood, he was a boy of marvellous precocity and is credited with the invention at the early age of 13 years, of an astronomical instrument, a pneumatic engine, and an instrument of use in gnomonics. At the age of 14, he was entered as a gentleman commoner at Wadham College, Oxford, where he attracted the notice of Dr. Wilkins and Seth Wood, Savilian Professor of Astronomy. He also became the associate of Hooke and other scientific men, whose meetings ultimately led to the foundation of the Royal Society. In 1653, he was elected a Fellow of All Souls', and in 1657, was appointed Professor of Astronomy at Gresham College, London. Three years later he resigned this appointment on being selected to fill the chair of Savilian Professor at

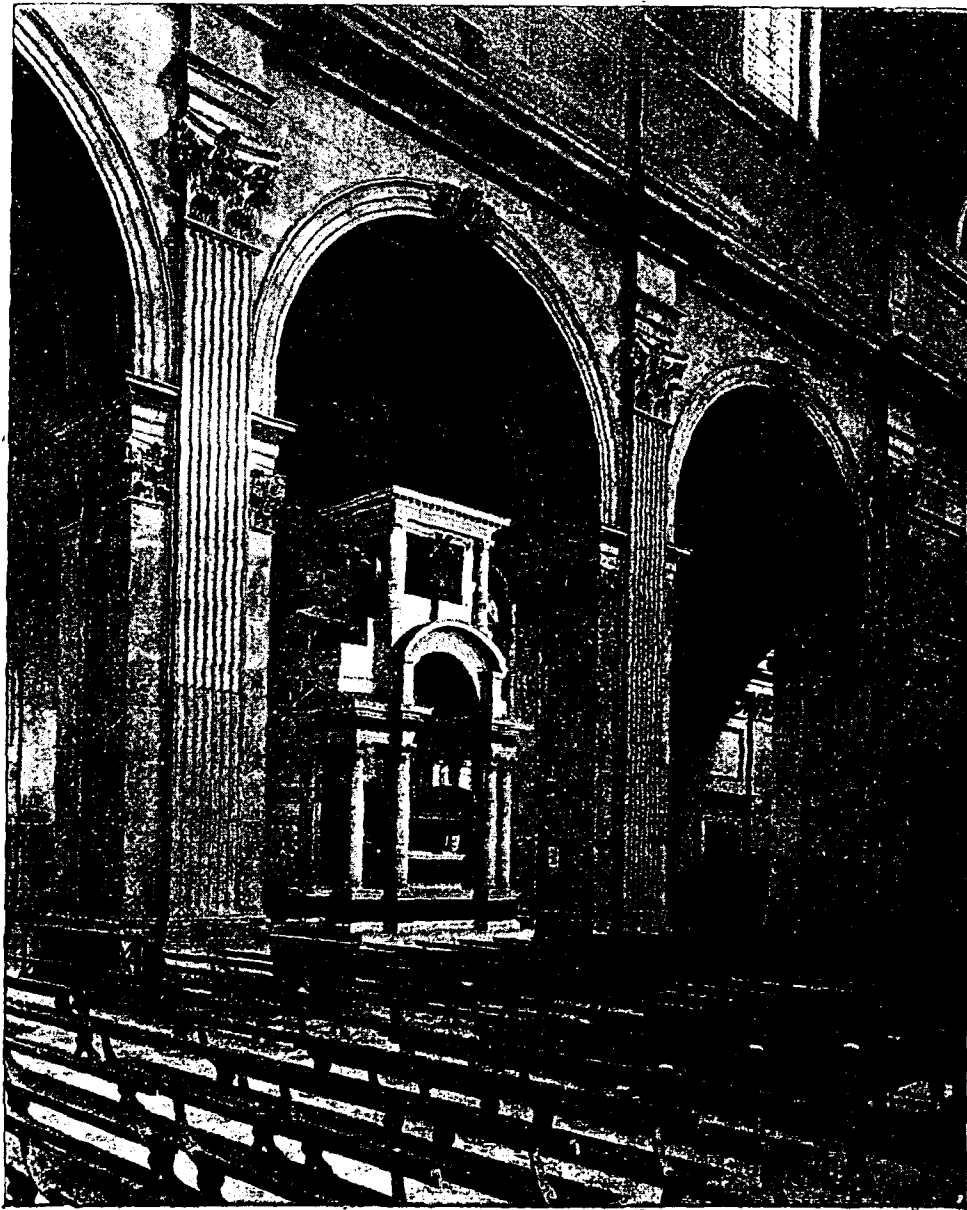


ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR.

survey and report upon St. Paul's Cathedral with a view to the rebuilding of the body of the fabric, but the scheme met with very serious opposition both from the clergy and the citizens of London, and while these dissensions were in full swing, Wren was employed upon other works, the Sheldonian Theatre at Oxford, and the Library and Neville's Court of Trinity College, Cambridge, being the chief results of his labours. In 1666, the Great Fire, which destroyed the greatest part of London, furnished Wren with a field for the exercise of his genius as an architect, and had the plans that he devised been adopted, there is little doubt that London would have been rebuilt, on a far grander scale. But he was not allowed a free hand. The rebuilding was subject to no general plan and Wren was fain to content himself with devising plans for individual

buildings, the earliest that were erected from his designs being the Royal Exchange and Custom House, the Monument, Temple Bar—which is still preserved in Theobald's Park, Hertfordshire—and several of the City Churches, including that of St. Stephen's, Walbrook. At the same time, he prepared his plans for the new St. Paul's, but here again he found himself hampered by the conflicting opinions of the different bodies and

his Savilian Professorship at Oxford in 1673, and in 1680 had been elected President of the Royal Society, was several times returned to Parliament, but his professional engagements left him little time for other pursuits, and for many years he enjoyed the favour of successive Sovereigns, by whom he was commissioned to erect, or add to, many other buildings designed for Royal use. On the death of the last of his patrons, Anne,



WELLINGTON MONUMENT—ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

persons interested in its restoration, and he found himself compelled to set aside his original scheme in favour of the one from which the Cathedral, as we know it, was rebuilt, and even this was modified in more than one important particular. At length, however, Sir Christopher—for the honour of knighthood had been conferred upon him in 1672—had the supreme satisfaction of seeing the first stone of the new edifice laid on the 21st June, 1675. On the 2nd December, 1697, the building was opened for public worship, and in 1710 the last stone was laid on the summit of the lantern by his son Christopher, the whole structure being completed under the superintendence of one and the same architect in the comparatively brief period of 35 years. But the whole of his design, and particularly that portion of it which dealt with the interior decoration of the Cathedral was not carried out, and it has been reserved for the energy and munificence of the present generation of Englishmen to do towards the completion of our grand cathedral church of St. Paul, what Wren was perforce obliged to leave undone. In the meantime, Wren, who had resigned



SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN.

and the accession of George I., the latter dismissed him from his office of Surveyor-General, and Wren spent the remaining years of his life in privacy, passing peacefully to his final rest on the 25th February, 1723, in the 91st year of his age. He was accorded the honours of a public funeral, and his body lies in the crypt of the Cathedral he had planned, the appropriate device inscribed on his tomb being "Si monumentum quæris, circumspice." His son, Christopher, who died in 1747, compiled the greater part of the well-known work, "Parentalia, or Memoirs of the Family of the Wrens," that which the younger Christopher left unfinished being carried to a conclusion by Stephen Wren, grandson of the architect, and published in 1750.

Among the numerous buildings erected from the plans of Sir Christopher, in addition to St. Paul's Cathedral, the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, the Library, &c., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and those others already enumerated in the foregoing brief memoir, may be mentioned the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, Chelsea Hospital, the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, &c., &c.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

A Life's Hatred.

By T. C. WALLS.

Author of "The Red Room Mystery," "A Night of Peril," "The Old Manor House," "Saved by a Sign," "The Secret Tribunal," "Fa'al Divination," "The Hermit of Dunstanborough," "The Vision of Evil," &c., &c.

CHAPTER I.

IT was a market morning in the unpretending but bright little historic town of Chertsey, Surrey, in the days of the Regency. The High-street was crowded with a motley assemblage of farmers, hucksters, traders, and rustics. The cries of the vendors of various articles of consumption and utility were truly deafening. In the midst of a perfect Babel of sounds there presently arose in the distance the shrill notes of a post-horn, and to increase the general excitement, the "Accommodation" coach came dashing across the bridge and pulled up at the hospitable door of the "Swan" inn with an air of importance that was delightful to behold. Throwing the reins of his panting steeds to the ostler, the rosy-cheeked driver descended from his perch and entered the tap to refresh the inner man. He was speedily followed thither by the guard, when the following conversation ensued:

"I should like to know, William," said the latter, mopping his perspiring face with a large gaudy bandana, "why the passenger who has just got off the coach was so particular in keeping the collar of his cloak up to his ears, and his travelling cap drawn so far over his face, on a warm day like this. It is queer, very queer."

"Yes, his manner struck me as being strange," assented the coachman, "I don't like his looks at all; I spoke civilly to him several times on the road down, but his answers were so short and gruff that I gave it up at last. It is my opinion, Dick, that he is after no good."

"May be you are right, William," slowly returned the other, holding up his glass of foaming ale to the light, and artistically shutting one eye in order more fully to admire the sparkling amber fluid.

"What luggage had he?" asked the driver.

"Only a small hairy trunk, with a funny-looking lock, and appearing very much the worse for wear," was the reply.

At that moment a waiter with a bustling mien entered the cosy tap where the above colloquy had taken place, and was heartily greeted by the man called William.

"How do you do, Joe?" "Who thought of seeing you here?" "Tired of dusty, noisy London, eh?" "When did you leave the 'Saracen's Head'?"

In answer to these various enquiries, the individual addressed, said: "I am pretty well, thank you, Will; I left town for a change; I thought a few weeks' rest in the country would do me good."

"Ah, just so," jerked the coachman. "I say," he suddenly remarked, "did you happen to notice a tall man who entered the house just now, wrapped up as if he were afraid of catching cold?"

"Yes," answered the waiter, "he is at the present moment in the coffee room. He has ordered dinner and intends staying here to-night. I fancy I have seen him before, but I cannot recollect where."

"I should advise you to keep your eye on the plate," was the startling observation of the guard, "I believe the fellow to be after

no good. He looks very much like the man who tried to rob the 'High Flyer,' mail, five years ago when I was a guard on the Great North Road."

The trio then indulged in a few commonplace remarks. Presently, the time being up, the driver and guard re-mounted the coach which went rattling through the town to the great delight of a number of small children of both sexes, who, cheering loudly, kept pace with it for some distance, but finding that their exertions were not financially remunerated by the passengers, they returned very tired, very thirsty, and very hot to the town.

The waiter stood at the door of the inn until the coach and his cronies were out of sight. Upon entering the coffee room, he discovered the individual who had been the interesting object of the coachman and guard's strictures, sitting with his back to the light, quietly perusing a local paper.

Joe, wishing to scrutinise the stranger, made a pretence of being particularly busy in putting in order a small collection of the dry literature that was usually to be met with in old-fashioned country inns of the period, to wit: "Cary's Itinerary," "The Travellers' Companion," several London newspapers, some weeks old, divers treatises upon the horse, the farm, the kennel and other rural pursuits, all more or less in an incomplete condition.

The guest evidently resented this unmeaning intrusion, for, with ill-concealed irritation he suddenly arose from the chair, flung down the paper he was reading, strode to the window, and for a time watched the busy scene without. In person he was tall, well made, and of gentlemanly appearance; his clean-shaven face was swarthy to a degree, and his clustering hair was intensely black. The most remarkable feature of his countenance was the prominent brow under which his dark eyes scintillated like stars.

The waiter, having finished his self-imposed task, left the apartment.

"I should like to fathom the object of that idiot's scrutiny," muttered the stranger. "The whole time he was arranging the pile of rubbish yonder, he was furtively scanning me as intently and suspiciously as if he were a Bow-street runner professionally engaged. There must be evidently something in my appearance that is different to ordinary mortals. I also noticed this morning that the driver of the coach and his colleague were regarding me curiously. Zounds, such conduct is insufferable! As I shall probably have to wait some time before dinner is served," he continued, "I will take a turn in the town."

As he walked slowly up the High-street his stately form arrested the attention of the numerous persons passing to and fro. The fact of his wearing a heavy blue cloak on so fine a day may have occasioned this scrutiny, but, from some cause or other he became the cynosure of all eyes. This did not escape the keen gaze of the pedestrian and he quickened his pace until he was free of the town and in sight of the country, when he abated his steps and again sauntered carelessly along. It was a glorious morning in the early part of leafy June, and Nature looked her best. It had been raining heavily overnight and consequently the vivid tints of the grass, the hedges, and the trees were beautifully improved thereby. The air was wonderfully clear and exhilarating, and by the incessant singing and twittering of the birds it was obvious that they too appreciated the brightness by which they were surrounded. The sun was high in the heavens, and it brought out in bold relief the neighbouring undulating pine-clad heights.

The solitary wayfarer had proceeded some distance along the high road, and was about to retrace his steps to the town, when his attention was drawn towards a picturesque building lying embowered amongst trees, about five hundred yards to the left of the turnpike. His curiosity being aroused he turned down the narrow lane that led to the mansion. Upon arriving at the entrance gates, he was somewhat surprised to find that the place was untenanted. A notice board announced that the property was to be let on lease, or the freehold sold, and could be viewed on application to "Messrs. Clarence, Estate Agents, Chertsey."

METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL, Kingsland Road, N.E.

Patron—His Royal Highness THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Chairman—CHARLES J. THOMAS, Esq.

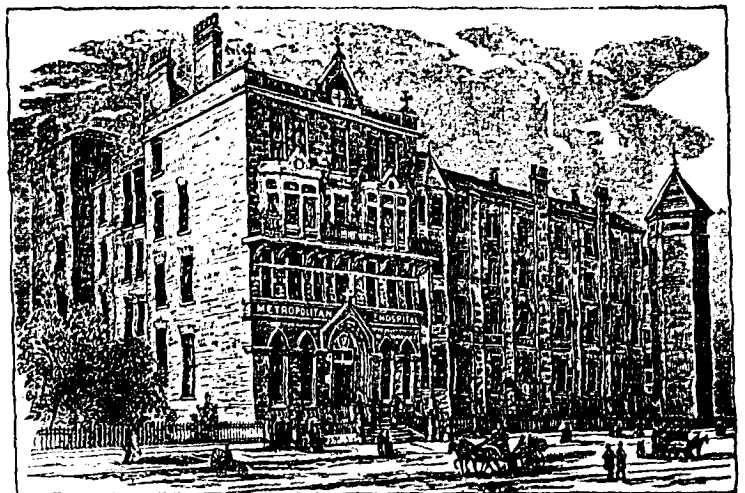
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CHARLES H. BYERS, Secretary.



The residence was built at a distance from the road, and was approached by a broad, winding path, sadly choked with weeds. A round plot of rank grass, once dignified as the lawn, was overshadowed by the luxuriant branches of two fine lime trees. The mansion was a red brick structure of the style introduced by "Dutch William." A flight of semi-circular stone steps led to the massive oak door which was surmounted by a large ornament, sculptured in the form of a conch shell. The windows were capacious and numerous, but from their blackened and otherwise neglected appearance they evidently had not been cleaned for some time.

"The very place," murmured the stranger. "Somewhat vast and pretentious, but secluded and delightfully situated. A fit dwelling for one who has always been a student and lover of Nature. I am indeed, fortunate in being able so soon to meet with a house that interests me, and is apparently well adapted for my requirements. After dinner I will interview the agents on the matter." He made a memorandum in his pocket book, and returned to the "Swan." Having partaken of a well-served repast he called upon the Messrs. Clarence. In reply to his enquiries, one of the firm informed him that the mansion had been uninhabited for a considerable period.

"Does the late tenant live in the neighbourhood?" asked the stranger.

"He is dead," was the reply. "A client of ours advanced him a large sum of money on mortgage. Being suddenly pressed for money, the mortgagee applied for re-payment of part of the principal according to the terms of the deed, but the owner of the Limes was unable to meet the demand, the furniture and effects were sold, and subsequently Mr. Percival left England for the colonies in the 'Benbow.' That unfortunate vessel was lost in the great gale of January, 1805, within sight of Falmouth, and every soul on board perished."

"Quite a romance," remarked the other.

"Yes, but one, I regret to say, of very frequent occurrence. We have had several estates lately that have come to the hammer in consequence of the improvident owners getting involved in debt. They borrowed largely, and being unable at last to pay even the interest on their mortgages our respective clients were compelled to sell them up."

"Very sad, very sad," said the stranger. "I will go over the property to-morrow," he added, "and if its interior only equals the prepossessing exterior, I think you may depend upon me as being a purchaser."

"It is a fine roomy old place, sir," remarked the agent, "and has most charming grounds. It will require a small outlay to put everything in order, and when done, I venture to say a more desirable residence for a limited family could not be found in the whole county of Surrey."

"My family is singularly limited," returned the other, smiling. "It consists merely of myself. However, I have a whim to reside in the country, in a place surrounded by extensive lands. The latter desire can only be gratified by taking a house far larger than my modest establishment requires. My name is Mordaunt—Reginald Mordaunt. I am staying at the 'Swan' yonder, and I shall feel obliged by your bringing or sending me the keys of the mansion to-morrow at noon. I wish you good day, Mr. Clarence."

The agent acknowledged the courtesy, and bowed the speaker out.

In the evening, Mr. Mordaunt, who was reading in a small private room of the inn, summoned Joe, the waiter, to his presence.

"Is your master disengaged?" he enquired.

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Will you ask him if he will join me in a bottle of wine, I have a few questions on local matters to put to him?"

"Certainly, sir," said Joe, and vanished to execute his instructions.

Shortly afterwards the host entered the apartment. He was a man in the prime of life, and evidently of superior manners and education to the majority of country innkeepers of those days.

"Pray be seated, Mister—Mister—?"

"Newbury," broke in the landlord, supplying the information to his guest. "Ralph Newbury, sir, at your service."

"Well, Mr. Newbury, I may tell you that my primary object in coming to this small town was to find, if possible, a pleasant residence wherein I might end my days. Irritated, somewhat, by the noise and bustle of the good folk attending the market to-day, I took a walk in the environs to recover my equanimity. Accidentally I came across a romantically situated house not far from here, known, I believe, as the Limes."

"Yes, sir," said the landlord, "I know it well. It is to let, and stands just off the Bagshot road."

"That is so," continued Mr. Mordaunt. "Struck by its appearance, I called this afternoon upon Mr. Clarence, the agent, to get particulars. He gave me satisfactory information, and subject to my legal adviser being satisfied as to the title being good, I shall purchase it."

"It is a fine old place," remarked Newbury, "and it is a thousand pities it has been uninhabited so long."

"How long?" queried the other.

"Nine years come Christmas, sir," was the reply.

"My purpose, Mr. Newbury, in asking you to share a bottle of wine with me this evening, is to glean any intelligence respecting the estate that may be in your power to furnish. Agents, being naturally desirous of getting rid of properties as quickly as possible, are often led away by imagination and paint everything *couleur de rose*."

"It will give me great pleasure, sir, to afford you every information I can," was the reply.

"I thank you in anticipation," said Mr. Mordaunt. "Pray tell me first, something concerning the late owner."

"About thirteen years ago," commenced the landlord, "the freehold of the Limes was for sale, and it was purchased by a gentleman named Percival. It was not known, except by the lawyers who carried out the details of the purchase, who he was or where he came from. However, I suppose no one cared to interest himself in the matter, and in a few weeks the house was thoroughly furnished, and Mr. and Mrs. Percival with their servants took possession. He was a tall, dark-looking man of a somewhat sinister aspect, and, contrary to our English fashion, had a luxuriant beard and moustache. He carried himself erect like a soldier, and when he condescended to speak to the townspeople and others, which, by the way, was not seldom, it was in a harsh commanding manner that did not invite them to persevere in making his acquaintance. His lady, on the other hand, was affable to a degree. She was a fair, frail creature, some years younger than her ungracious husband, and appeared to stand in great fear of him. Several of the neighbouring gentry and their wives, interested by the appearance of Mrs. Percival, and pitying her lonely condition, as she was left for weeks at a stretch with no other company than that of the servants, consequent upon the frequent absences of Mr. Percival, kindly sent her invitations, but their hospitality was invariably, though politely, declined. The lady was a good friend to the poor, and her greatest pleasure in life appeared to be the dispensing of charity to the necessitous. She was particularly fond of children, and her manners were so attractive that when, on the rare occasions, she walked abroad, she was received with joyful shouts by the little lads and lasses, who, not being repulsed, crowded around her and respectfully accompanied her wherever she went. There was one incident of her kindness I will detail to you, and very affecting it was."

"My father had an ostler named Vernon, who had married one of our maids. They had an only child, a pretty blue-eyed girl, whom they passionately loved. When the Percivals came to these parts, this little thing was about seven years old. I fancy I can see her now, with her bright dimpled face, lighted up with sunny smiles as in childish glee she tossed back the golden rippling curls which by their luxuriance crowded too obtrusively about her rosy cheeks and sparkling eyes. Her intelligence was also far in advance of her tender years, and altogether she was one of those winsome, fasci-

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Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

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GERALD E. MAUDE, Esq., 26, Suffolk-street, Pall Mall East, S.W.

nating beings who have the power of irresistibly attracting all those with whom they are brought in contact.

"It cannot be denied she was the pet of everyone, and deservedly so. It was not long before merry little Edie made the acquaintance of Mrs. Percival, and they became fast friends. During the absence of her husband the lady used to have the child up at the great house, as she poor creature in her loneliness apparently yearned for a companion to gladden her heart and fix her affections upon. The child was only too delighted to be with Mrs. Percival, and they were often seen hand in hand strolling through the beautiful grounds of the mansion.

"As I have before said, Edith had a good intellect, and thanks to the fostering care of the lady, she rapidly improved in her little studies, and by the time she reached her eighth year was accounted the best pupil in the old dame's school she attended in the town. The servants at the Limes used afterwards to relate how affecting it was to see the charming child sitting on a low stool at Mrs. Percival's feet in the open pavilion in the garden, softly reading aloud some old-world story, while the lady plied her needle.

"I hope I am not tiring you, sir," said the landlord, breaking off in his narrative to drink a glass of wine.

"On the contrary, Mr. Newbury, your story greatly interests me. Although an old bachelor, my heart is not yet steeled against sentiment, and I love little children. I may confess also, that at all times I mightily love to listen to the innocent prattle of the young, and yearn to share in their joys, their sorrows, and their sports, as they remind me of my own remote happy youth ere life's bright hopeful horizon was darkened by sorrow and bitter disappointment. Pray go on."

"One day, sir," resumed Newbury, "in the month of May, Mr. Percival left his house, telling his wife that he should not return for a fortnight. His departure at this time was rather cruel, as his lady was in delicate health. He had no sooner gone than she sent a message to Edith's parents informing them that she desired the company of their daughter for ten days or so. The servant returned to Mrs. Percival with the distressing news that her little *protégé* was indisposed. A doctor had been called in and he had pronounced the case to be one of fever. He had, however, re-assured the alarmed father and mother by telling them that the child's constitution was good, and that he apprehended no serious result.

"Mrs. Percival, unmindful of her own condition, at once proceeded to the pretty cottage where her young friend lived. The poor girl's face lighted up with pleasure as she held out her hand to welcome the kind lady to her humble abode. The latter was painfully struck by the altered expression of the sufferer's countenance. The cheeks were unnaturally flushed, the beautiful eyes were far too bright, her breathing was laboured, and the tiny palm she grasped was tremulous and moist. 'It is very, very good of you, dear lady, to come and see me,' murmured the child. 'Please do not cry, I shall be better soon. When I get out again the pretty May trees will be in bloom. I will weave you some garlands and bring them to you, that is if you will let me.' 'Let you, my darling, why of course I will,' replied Mrs. Percival, smiling through her tears at the earnestness of the speaker. 'But you must not talk too much just now. The Doctor says that you should be as quiet and as patient as you can, if you wish to get well.' 'To please you, lady, I will do anything. I so long again to walk with you in your beautiful garden while you tell me the stories of the good fairies, and the fables of the birds, the pretty insects and the beautiful flowers.' In such innocent childlike prattle the time passed quickly, and when Mrs. Percival arose to take her departure, she was pleased to see that little Edith was more composed than she was before her arrival and was sleeping calmly with a faint smile upon her sweet face. The next day Edith grew worse, and the medical man gravely shook his head when questioned as to her condition. On the third day he gave up the case as hopeless. Her grief-stricken father came to me with the sad news, and as I had an affection for the child and wished to see her once again, I accompanied him home.

"Upon our entry we found Mrs. Percival sitting by the bedside bathed in tears. The poor mother sat opposite rocking herself uneasily to and fro. Some distance off stood the doctor sadly regarding his young patient. Presently the stricken one moved restlessly on her pillow and opened her eyes. The delirium had evidently left her, for her face brightened with intelligence as she recognised the features of those gathered around her. 'How kind you all are to me,' she murmured in tones so low as scarcely to be heard. 'How do you do, Mr. Newbury?' she continued as she made a feeble effort to extend her poor hand. 'How good it is of you to come.'

"I took her small palm in mine, but I dared not speak, a choking sensation in the throat warned me not to attempt it; I should have lost my fortitude and broken down. There was a far-off look in the child's lustrous eyes that told me that ere the sun set their glance would be closed for ever. For her earth would possess no further joy nor sorrow, and her innocent soul would repose in a better land. After an interval, she said 'Mother dear, open the window, I feel that I am dying, and I want to hear the birds sing once more.' The doctor heard the request and opened the casement. It was a balmy evening fast drawing to a close, and in the adjoining trees and hedges the feathered songsters were gaily carolling. A party of children homeward bound, and laden with buttercups, daisies, and other floral spoils which they had gathered from the neighbouring fields passed the door of the cottage, and their sweet voices, resonant with health, as they neared the window, burst forth in song. The dying child heard them, and she tried to rise from the couch to see if she could recognise who the singers were—as the casement of her chamber faced the road—but in vain, and she fell back with a pitiful moan of disappointment. Her anxious mother, to gratify her darling's wish took her in her arms, but it was then too late, as the children were out of sight. 'Lady,' suddenly said the poor girl, after a painful pause, 'will you promise me that you will visit my grave in the churchyard yonder, and plant some flowers that will gaily bloom in the sweet summer time—you know I dearly love the flowers? I should like to lie, too, where the bright sun shines, not in the shadow of the trees. Please give me some drink. I feel faint and oh, so weary—how dark it is—oh, give me air! Kiss me, mother.'

"The doctor hastened to her side with a stimulant, but it was useless; her lips were sealed in death. He gently closed her eyes, and in a whisper told us that all was over. Such, sir, was the calm though sad end of the beautiful child, Edith Vernon."

CHAPTER II.

The landlord paused for a time as if overwhelmed by the painful reminiscences of that death-bed scene. Neither did Mr. Mordant speak, but there was a moisture in his eyes that showed that his heart had been touched by the pathetic manner in which the sad episode had been narrated.

"Well, sir," resumed Newbury, "Mrs. Percival went home greatly distressed at the loss of her little friend, was taken ill that very night, and in three days had also departed for the silent land, leaving a tiny waif in the shape of a boy-child to meet the buffets of the world. I should have told you, however, that when the condition of the lady became serious a messenger was despatched to London, whither Mr. Percival had gone, to acquaint him with the alarming news. Upon that gentleman's return home a few hours after the death, to do him justice he appeared dreadfully bereaved at the loss of his gentle wife. At the funeral it was noticed that his proud bearing had disappeared, that the tones of his voice were less harsh, and that his manner generally was more sociable. He performed one kind action, too, which gained him a number of friends, he paid all the expenses of poor Edith's interment, in addition to the doctor's fees. During the next four years, and until the final breaking up of his home his household continued to reside at the

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RICHARD C. TRESIDDER, Secretary. [132

Limes, though he himself was frequently away. His little son grew apace, but appeared to inherit Mrs. Percival's delicacy of constitution. I have nothing more to add, sir."

"Did you ever hear the causes that led to his ruin?" asked Mr. Mordaunt.

"No," was the answer, "It was surmised that he had been speculating on 'Change, but it was purely conjectural."

"Was he accompanied by his child when he left these parts?"

"Yes, but, as you have doubtless heard from Mr. Clarence, the ship they took passage in foundered with all on board."

"The agent communicated the latter fact to me," assented the gentleman. "I think," he added, "that there must have been some mystery connected with the man. After his departure were there any enquiries made as to his whereabouts, or letters left?"

"No, sir," replied the landlord. "It was thought by the town-folk at the time very singular that no one called at the Limes, or wrote."

"I will not detain you any longer from your business, Mr. Newbury," said the guest, "I am extremely obliged to you for your very interesting information. There is another question I should like to ask before you leave. Why has the house been empty so long?"

"I cannot tell you," was the reply. "A number of persons have been to view it, the terms are not unreasonable, but strange to say, no one has ventured to take it, although nearly nine years have elapsed since it was occupied by the Percivals."

"Thank you, Mr. Newbury, I wish you good night," said Mr. Mordaunt.

The guest when left alone sat musing over his wine for a considerable time. At last he rung the bell for his chamber candle, and was duly conducted to his sleeping quarters.

Next day he received the key of the Limes, and in company with an assistant of the agents proceeded on his tour of inspection. Upon the ponderous door being opened they found themselves in a large square hall, paved with mosaic tiles. On each side doors led to suites of rooms. Mr. Mordaunt's companion entered first and drew back the shutters. It was a bright day, and the sun shone brilliantly into the spacious apartment thus disclosed which was of noble proportions, handsomely wainscotted in oak, and ornamented with a broad decorated cornice. The capacious fireplace was surmounted by a mantelpiece. In the centre of the latter and embedded in the woodwork was an oval pier-glass.

"This room was formerly the library, sir," remarked the assistant. "You can see where the book-cases stood."

"A remarkably fine chamber," said the gentleman. "Whose arms are these?" continued he, pointing to some heraldic designs grouped beneath the mantel glass.

"They are generally believed to have belonged to Nicholas Wotton, an alderman of London, who built the house and laid out the grounds in the seventeenth century, sir," was the reply.

Mr. Mordaunt then inspected the dining and drawing rooms, which were of corresponding style and size. The upper rooms and lower offices were next explored and gave the visitor apparent satisfaction, but his praise of the gardens and plantations was unbounded. They were, indeed, of great extent and beauty. A long avenue of limes led to an elevation crowned by semi-circular terraces planned on the Italian mode. In one corner a capacious pavilion overlooked a fine vista of open country. This particular spot presented a melancholy interest to Mr. Mordaunt, as in reply to his query on the subject, his companion said it was the place where the hapless Mrs. Percival and her juvenile charge, Edith, were wont to sit in days gone by.

Upon leaving the terrace he was conducted to another quarter of the grounds, and there beheld branching off from a broad expanse of lawn a number of alleys which were principally formed of yew trees closely cut, and by their compact growth were well adapted to give an agreeable shade from the noonday sun. Here and there box, privet, and other trees of similar character were trained and clipped in fantastic shapes, a prim style greatly in vogue in the time of William and Mary.

As Mr. Mordaunt stood there and gazed around the silent, deserted and neglected floral courts and alleys, his mind reverted to that bygone period when they re-echoed with the merry sound of voices and laughter. He could imagine how much more picturesque the locale must have appeared in the worthy alderman's era, aye, and for some generations after; visions of beautiful women clad in the pretty fashions which prevailed at the end of the seventeenth and well into the eighteenth century, passed before him. On yonder plot of greensward many a stately minuet had been danced by them and their gaily attired attendant gallants. Within the adjoining arbours their elders of both sexes had sat and gossiped over their dishes of tea and chocolate, or bowls of bishop and punch. Many an amatory story had been poured into the pretty ears of some willing damsel, many a love-match sanctioned, and many a runaway scheme projected and carried out.

There was also a melancholy side to those mental pictures of a long-forgotten past. He knew that in the nature of all things mortal, many false vows had there been made, many a fond heart broken, and many a trusting maiden and hopeful youth prematurely cut off when life had appeared so pleasant and dissolution had seemed to them so far distant. In those gloomy plantations yonder it was probable that some valuable lives had been sacrificed in obedience to the then fashionable, yet false code of honour which insisted upon recourse being had to pistol or sword in the old duelling days.

Mr. Mordaunt was aroused from his fanciful reverie by his prosaic companion asking him whether he would like to visit the fish ponds.

"No, I am quite satisfied with what I have already seen," he replied. "The house and grounds are truly delightful. If your principals and my attorney can arrange the legal matters satisfactorily, I will purchase the property."

They then returned to the town. Mr. Mordaunt stayed at the inn until the time arrived for him to enter into possession of the Limes. In the interim the place had been handed over to the decorator, the upholsterer, and the gardener. Several large vans arrived from London laden with a valuable quantity of furniture and effects of foreign style and manufacture. The local people viewed with interest all these preliminary preparations, and discussion was rife as to the probable size of the household and its nature.

This curiosity was soon gratified, as on the day fixed by Mr. Mordaunt for assuming his tenancy, the London coach brought down an important-looking female of a dark complexion, who was accompanied by a middle-aged man, also of a swarthy aspect. It then transpired that they were to be respectively installed as housekeeper and valet of the resident of the Limes. It may also be noted that they were accompanied by some half-dozen domestics of both sexes. It was thought singular at the time why Mr. Mordaunt had not hired the subordinate members of his household in the neighbourhood. He certainly engaged a local gardener and assistants, but they were not permitted to sleep in the house. The servants, when brought into contact with the tradesmen and others were very uncommunicative, but it eventually leaked out that Mr. Mordaunt had recently arrived in England from one of the West Indian Islands, where he had resided many years, and that Mrs. Ambrose, the housekeeper, and Pierre Armand, his valet, were natives of the tropics.

This explained the behaviour of the gentleman in dressing so strangely. He appeared to be one of those eccentric individuals who never could get warm. In the hottest days of July and August when his neighbours were bathed in perspiration and otherwise distressed by the heat, he seemed quite cool, notwithstanding he was warmly clad. He discarded the thick blue *roquelaure* he wore on his first appearance among them, but in other respects he continued to be most unseasonably attired. He was exceedingly affable in his manner, and did everything he could to propitiate his equals, and gain the respect of his inferiors.

A circumstance occurred shortly after his occupancy of the mansion which won for him golden opinions, and showed unmistakably his innate goodness of heart. Mr. Mordaunt, it may be here recorded, was very fond of taking long walks in the surrounding

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50 Beds close for want of Funds, and the present Debt to Bankers and Tradesmen exceeds £13,000.

DONATIONS and SUBSCRIPTIONS will be received by the Bankers, Messrs. Coutts and Co. 59, Strand; Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co. 1, Lombard Street; by the Treasurer, Lord Monkswell; by the Chairman of Hospital Committee, Henry Lucas, Esq., and by the Secretary, Mr. NEWTON H. NIXON, at the Hospital.

country. On his way home one day, after a delightful ramble, he was passing over a lonely part of famed Bagshot Heath, when his steps were arrested by hearing a low, painful sobbing that proceeded from behind a clump of furze. His curiosity being excited he approached and examined the spot. To his surprise he discovered a boy of tender years curled up on the ground with his small hands clasped over his eyes through which the bright tears came welling.

"What is the matter, my lad?" he enquired in kindly tones.

The little fellow sat up, and stared at his interrogator with a dreamy, half-frightened gaze, but did not answer.

"Come, come, my boy, take courage. I shall not harm you," continued the gentleman, stooping down, and patting the child gently with his hand.

Thus reassured, the youngster rose to his feet, but stood trembling, with downcast eyes.

"Where do you live?" was the next question.

"Nowhere, sir," was the startling reply.

"Nowhere!" repeated Mr. Mordaunt, smiling; "that is a strange answer. You surely have not dropped from the clouds? Where did you sleep last night?"

"In a wood," tersely replied the boy.

"Why, you must be a modern Orson," remarked the gentleman.

The lad raised his large eyes enquiringly, as if puzzled by the meaning of the outlandish name.

"Are you a wild boy of the woods, then?" good-humouredly continued Mr. Mordaunt. "Do you live on berries, acorns, and the like? If so, a vegetarian diet appears to agree remarkably well with you."

A deep crimson flush overspread the sunburnt face of the urchin, but he did not attempt to speak. Interested by the mien of the boy, and determined, if possible, to solve his mystery, Mr. Mordaunt thought that the best plan to adopt to unloosen the tongue of the waif would be to excite his cupidity. Taking a coin from his pocket he held it temptingly between his finger and thumb and said:

"Would you like to earn this shilling?"

"Yes, sir," was the quick reply, and the sharp eyes glittered in anticipation.

"Well then, answer my questions without further hesitation, and above all, truthfully. As I said before, I will not harm you, but will assist you, if I find that you are deserving. You said just now that last night you slept in a wood. How far was the place from here?"

"I don't know, sir," slowly replied the lad.

"Come, come, I am getting tired of these evasions," impatiently remarked Mr. Mordaunt. "If you do not at once answer me properly, instead of giving you this money I shall convey you to the nearest watch-house where you will be kept as a strolling vagabond and taken before the justices in the morning."

"Oh! please, don't, sir," cried the lad, as he threw himself at the feet of the gentleman, and violently sobbed as if his heart would break.

This proceeding touched the feelings of Mr. Mordaunt, and his own eyes glistened with emotion as he said: "I do not wish to deal harshly with you, my poor boy, Heaven forbid! But I cannot stay here much longer. You say you slept last night in a wood, but refuse to tell me where it was."

"It was a long way from here, sir," said the lad, again standing up.

"In what direction?" was the next query.

"Over yonder," and the boy pointed towards the setting sun.

"Do you know the name of the place?"

"No," said the youngster, "but it was near a large town. I cannot think of the name."

"At what hour did you leave it?" asked Mr. Mordaunt.

"At sunrise, sir, I have been running and walking ever since," he added, "and I am very tired and hungry."

A light suddenly broke upon the gentleman, and he said, "I think I have fathomed your story. You are a runaway, and all this time

you have been cleverly fencing with my questions, as you were afraid I should take steps to send you back to your house and home in some distant village."

"I never had a house, and never lived in a village," sturdily answered the lad.

"The deuce you have not!" exclaimed his hearer. "Am I on the wrong scent once more?"

"I have always slept in a tent or van," continued the other, "sometimes in the woods, sometimes on the commons, sometimes by the roadside, but never near the house-dwellers."

The last remark excited the risibility of Mr. Mordaunt and he laughed heartily. "You must be a gipsy, then? Why did I not think of it before?"

"Yes, sir, I am a gipsy, but please do not send me back to the tents again, I would rather die," pleaded the boy, casting a shuddering look behind him.

"Have you a father and mother living?"

"My father is dead, sir, but my mother is alive."

"Why did you run away?"

"I was beat with a thick stick until the blood came because I would not rob a hen roost. The farmer's wife near our camp was kind to me yesterday, she kissed my cheeks, gave me some milk and cake, cried over me, said I was like her dead boy in heaven, and bade me for God's sake to be honest. My mother's brother had seen me speaking to the good lady and asked me if I had begged for money. I told him no. He swore at me for a lazy cur, said I was too idle to live, and gave me a box on the ear. When we reached the tents he whispered for some time to my mother, and she came over to where I was sitting."

"Would you like to have some supper to-night, Dick?" she asked.

"Yes, mother," I answered.

"Well then, you will have to earn it. You know the farm yonder?"

"Yes, mother, I do, the farmer's wife there gave me some food to-day."

"Anything else?" said she.

"No, mother, she spoke so kind to me that I did not like to ask her for money."

"Ah!" exclaimed my mother, "a pretty tale you little milk-sop. Before the moon rises you must go to the homestead and wring the necks of two plump chicks, and bring them here. Away with you."

"I cannot rob the kind lady, mother. I would rather starve."

"What does the young whelp say?" growled a voice near me, and my uncle approached the spot.

"He refuses to do my bidding," said my mother.

"He does, does he?" grinned my uncle. "I will break every bone in his lazy carcase."

"The brute caught me by the collar and struck me many times with his cudgel. I begged for mercy, but my cries were useless. At last he gave over, and dragging me across the grass, he flung me half dead into my mother's tent. There I lay till, tired out with sobbing and pain, I fell asleep. When I woke I was aching all over from the blows I had received. I crawled out of the tent just as the sun was rising, without disturbing my mother who was fast asleep in one corner. No one was about. I then made up my mind to leave the tents. I had nothing to care for. My mother had always treated me harshly, and I have heard her say, many times, she wished I would die. I took a piece of bread with me and crept away without being seen. I ran a long distance, as I was afraid of being followed and taken back. I have had nothing to eat," concluded the speaker, "but the bread, and when you found me, sir, I was crying because I was hungry and tired, and did not know where to go and beg a shelter."

"Poor boy, poor boy," murmured the benevolent Mr. Mordaunt, "your story is a very pitiful one."

"Believe me, sir, it is true," said the gipsy, looking wistfully at the gentleman, who was regarding him steadfastly, as if he would read

CITY OF LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY

35, FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C.

INSTITUTED 1807.

Patron—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G.

TREASURER—JOHN NORBURY, Esq.

BANKERS—LLOYDS' BANK, LIMITED, 72, Lombard Street.

The OBJECT OF THIS CHARITY is to relieve such poor persons throughout the Kingdom as are afflicted with rupture by providing them gratuitously with Surgical advice, with Trusses for every kind of Rupture, with bandages and other instruments for all cases of prolapsus, and by performing every necessary operation in connection with Hernia.

About 10,000 Sufferers are annually supplied with the Instruments required for their relief.

SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOCIETY OVER HALF A MILLION PATIENTS HAVE BEEN BENEFITED.

Additional Funds are greatly needed to meet the increasing demands on the Charity. Premises, recently enlarged, now provide a long-needed separate entrance and waiting-room for female patients, and there is a female attendant for them.

AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION OF ONE GUINEA entitles to Four Letters of Recommendation.

A LIFE SUBSCRIPTION OF FIVE GUINEAS entitles to Two Letters annually; and TEN GUINEAS, Four Letters.

Donations, Subscriptions and Bequests are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully received by the Bankers, LLOYDS' BANK, Limited, 72, Lombard Street; or by the Secretary, at the Offices of the Society.

JOHN WHITTINGTON, Secretary.

171/179

FORM OF BEQUEST.—I give to THE CITY OF LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY, Finsbury Square, London, the sum of _____ free of Legacy Duty, to be paid out of such part of my Estate as I may bequeath to charitable uses, as soon as may be possible after my decease.

his very soul. The boy suddenly cast off his ragged jacket, and blushing deeply, bared his shoulders to the gaze of his companion, who was greatly shocked to see cruel weals and discolouration upon the tender flesh, proving beyond a doubt that the unfortunate lad had been most inhumanly punished.

"Do you feel equal to the task of walking a few miles farther, my little man?" kindly enquired Mr. Mordaunt. I will afterwards consider what can be done for you."

"Oh! yes, sir," eagerly replied the outcast, while a bright hopeful expression stole into his face.

"Bravely answered, my boy, keep a good heart and you shall soon have food and shelter."

The young gipsy shyly placed his hand into that of his benefactor's, a liberty which was not resented, and the two journeyed onwards, chatting pleasantly together, as though they were equals and friends of long-standing. After a time, however, the lad's high spirits flagged, his speech faltered, and he dragged himself wearily along. These signs of exhaustion did not escape the attention of Mr. Mordaunt, who was inwardly grieved and concerned thereby. The shades of the evening, too, were deepening and the air was cold. Presently, upon reaching the high road he, to his great relief, heard the sound of rapidly approaching wheels.

Mr. Mordaunt and his young charge halted, and in a few moments a local tradesman's vehicle passed. Hailing the driver, the gentleman enquired,

"Are you going near the Limes?"

The man, who recognised his interrogator, touched his hat respectfully, and answered in the affirmative.

"In that case, give this poor boy a lift in your cart, he is too tired to walk. I will follow on foot. Hand him over to one of the servants, and say it is my wish that he be fed, and made clean and presentable by the time I return."

The driver assisted the weary lad to mount the vehicle, and bidding Mr. Mordaunt "good night," drove smartly off.

On his way homewards, our charitable friend mused upon the adventure he had just experienced. The boy's appearance, and the artless manner in which he had recounted his story interested and affected him very much. He firmly believed every word that the hapless lad had uttered, but he felt himself placed upon the horns of a dilemma. "What could he do with the child thus strangely thrown upon his hands?" He did not like the idea of handing him over to the tender mercies of the parochial authorities, whose duty necessarily would be to find out his unnatural mother. Of course this proceeding of the guardians would be attended with some trouble, as in the first instance the lad was unable to recollect the name of the spot where the encampment was, and secondly, as the gipsies were nomadic in their habits, it would be difficult to trace them from place to place. Assuming, however, that the mother was found, the poor boy's lot would, indeed, be a hard one. In her rage, at his running away, she might have recourse to harsh measures, and his life might eventually, by her brutality, be jeopardised.

The latter conception filled the benevolent heart of the ruminant with horror, and determined him as to the line of action to pursue. He would put the youth in charge of his gardener, with instructions to attend to his board and education, and if he proved to be deserving of his bounty, he would, when the proper time arrived, place him in a position where he might with diligence and application earn a decent livelihood.

Upon his arrival at the Limes, Mr. Mordaunt, having satisfied himself that the lad was being well cared for, sat down to his solitary dinner, which meal, however, was served with great formality, his confidential servant Armand and a female domestic being in constant attendance and anticipating his every want. The dessert having been arranged temptingly on the table, Mr. Mordaunt directed that the gipsy should be brought to his presence, saying that he wished to put some questions to him before dismissing him for the night.

CHAPTER III.

Armand, having ushered in the boy, at a sign from his master, discreetly withdrew. Mr. Mordaunt was struck with the wonderful alteration in the appearance of the gipsy. His nut-brown skin now glowed with health, his bright dark eyes shone with intelligence, and his clustering chestnut-coloured hair flowed gracefully from his broad intellectual brow. He was slightly built, but of excellent symmetry of form. The valet had procured for him a suit of clothes from the head gardener, whose eldest son was of similar height, and as the runaway boy stood cap in hand before Mr. Mordaunt, that gentleman noticed with surprise the becoming carriage and air of respectability that the change of raiment had effected.

"Take a seat, my lad, and help yourself to some fruit, I have a few more questions to ask you," said he in kind tones.

The gipsy boy took the chair indicated, and partook of the good things on the table.

"What is your name?" asked Mr. Mordaunt, after a pause.

"Dick Lee, sir," quickly answered the youth.

"How old are you?" was the next query.

"I don't know, sir, I don't indeed," was the reply spoken with some earnestness, as if the speaker were afraid his interrogator might be inclined to think he was again trifling with him.

"You speak very well, considering the rude life you have led," remarked Mr. Mordaunt. "Can you read and write?"

"Oh, yes, sir, I can," rejoined the boy, and his face lighted up with pleasure at the avowal.

"I thought your people never sent their children to school," remarked the gentleman.

"I have never been to school, sir," was the reply, and the countenance of the lad clouded, as he knew that the admission was humiliating.

"Who taught you, then?"

"An old man of our tribe, sir. In his youth he forsook the tents and turned strolling player. When he got older he grew tired of play-acting, and travelled all over the country in a caravan selling fancy articles by auction. I have heard my mother say that he was very clever and witty in his business, and sold his wares well. About four years ago he caught a severe cold which laid him up for some months. He got better, but his voice was gone. Finding himself unable to follow his calling any more, he sold his van and goods and joined us. He took a liking to me from the first, and taught me to read and write. Some times he would get me to learn a few lines out of an old play-book, and instructed me how to deliver them. I was very fond of him. When he died I felt that I had lost my best friend," and the lad's eyes filled with tears.

"When did he die?" asked the owner of the Limes.

"Last spring, sir. I was with him to the last. A little time before his death he was unconscious, and appeared to sleep. I was alone with him in the tent. My mother had gone out to gather fever herbs, and had warned me not to leave him. I had never seen anyone dying before, and as it was getting dark I felt afraid. To divert my thoughts I lighted a lantern, took up his favourite book of plays, and tried to read, but the tears came to my eyes, and almost blinded me. Presently I heard a movement, and a faint voice murmured,

"Dick, my pet, give me some drink."

"I threw down the book and went to his side. His face looked awful as the glimmer of the light fell upon it. His eyes were very bright, and wandered from side to side. I gave him a cooling draught which my mother had made for him, but he could only swallow a few drops.

"It is of no use, Dick, I cannot drink, take it away. It is all over with me. I am going fast. Give me your hand, my boy, it may be for the last time. It is very kind of you to stay here with a poor old man whose sands of life are almost run out. I have been a bad one in my day, Dick, and it grieves me to think that you may fall as

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I did. I have nothing to leave you, my dear lad, but my blessing and this advice. Do not give way to temptation, starve, rather than steal. You have natural abilities, use them properly, and you will prosper in life. You may think it strange for an old gipsy like me to speak thus, but on the first opportunity, my boy, quit the tents, shift for yourself, and it will be better for you. The woman who calls herself your mother, is—Hush! I hear someone coming."

"The poor man paused, and a few moments after my mother entered the tent. She looked at us very suspiciously, but did not speak. I had no chance of talking to him again, as my mother remained in the tent till he died. Shortly after her return he fell asleep, and just before his death his mind wandered to his past life and he raved about poaching, play-acting, and selling goods by auction. I cannot remember all he said that night, but I can recollect nearly his last words, they were:

"Hark! Can you not hear the bark of a dog? Hist, I hear footsteps. Put out the light I say. Here comes Long Tom, the keeper. Ah! you will have it then! Oh! Lord he is dead, look how he bleeds, how his eyes glare, Come, come, let us run for our lives! Here you are, here you are, my bonny lasses, a beautiful gold watch for the price of a silver one, going for a song. Be in time, be in time. I have only a few lots left, as His Blessed Majesty bought the best of my stock to present to the Queen on her birthday. "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players." Walk up, walk up, and patronise the British drama! "Richard's himself again!" Away, thy bones are marrowless! No advance, no advance. Who is the lucky man? Sound the gong, Joey, once more. Going, going, for the last time, ladies and gentlemen, gone!"

"He did not speak again, sir, but passed quietly away soon afterwards."

Mr. Mordaunt was fairly astonished to hear the graphic manner in which his *protégé* related the story of the quondam vagabond, yet kind-hearted mountebank. Dick's fresh young voice rose and fell in mingled pathos and humour, and in his excitement he stood up and "suited the action to the word, the word to the action."

"Your narrative has greatly interested me, Lee, you may now retire. I daresay you will for the first time in your life appreciate the pleasure of reposing between four walls and in a decent bed. I will see you early to-morrow, and decide what is to be done for you. Good-night."

As the benevolent gentleman extended his hand, the lad bent down and kissed it. "You are very good to me, sir," he cried, "I shall never be able to repay you for your kindness."

When Mr. Mordaunt had gently withdrawn his hand from the boy's grasp, he found it wet with tears. The spontaneous action on the part of the poor runaway and subsequent signs of genuine emotion touched the heart of the gentleman and somewhat unnerved him. He did not venture to speak, but patted Dick on the head affectionately, and motioned him to leave the apartment.

The lad having retired, Mr. Mordaunt remained for a time lost in thought. He was charmed with the gipsy's vivacious manner, there was an undefined air of refinement about him that he, Mr. Mordaunt, could not account for. Why should he not take the boy's education and future prospects into his own hands? He had the means to carry out the charitable intention, and hereafter the lad might prove a comfort to him in the declining years of life. The censorious world might think it strange for him to adopt the offspring of a wild untutored gipsy, but after all he was the best judge of his own affairs.

Suffice it to say, that, having fully weighed the *pros* and *cons* of the matter, the owner of the Limes before retiring for the night had comfortably settled the subject in his mind that he would adopt the outcast.

In the morning he again summoned Lee to his presence, and much to the astonishment of the latter, announced to him his philanthropic project. The heart of the boy bounded within him at the opportunity of becoming the adopted son of one so much above him. So dazzled was he with his good fortune that he could only stammer out a few rambling sentences of thanks.

His kind protector, however, soon put him at his ease by speaking encouragingly to him.

"I think, Richard," said he, "it will be advisable for you to confine yourself, at least for a time, to the house and grounds, otherwise you may meet some of your late associates, recognition would follow, and I should be powerless to help you. Your mother could claim you, the law would give you to her, and you would be taken back to the wretched life you justly fled from."

"Never, sir," was the firm reply of the boy, and he drew himself upright, whilst his face assumed a stern determination. "I will not return to the tents willingly. They might drag me thither, but on the first opportunity I would again run away. As I told you yesterday, sir, the poor old stroller was the only creature who ever gave me a kind word. My mother and her brother appeared to hate me. I could not please them, though I did everything they asked me, except steal, I could not do that."

"Your life has indeed been a hard one, my lad, and under the circumstances, I feel that I am justified in rescuing you from falling into still lower depths of degradation and crime. Your fine feelings do you credit, and it would be a thousand pities if they were allowed, by constant intercourse with the vile, to lose those instincts of good which appear to be naturally engrafted within you."

The conversation then turned into another channel, and eventually Mr. Mordaunt and his young charge left the house, and made a tour of the extensive and beautiful grounds.

Lee was delighted with everything, and his youthful enthusiasm communicated itself to his companion, who forthwith launched out into a long and learned dissertation upon the beauties of English scenery and the perfection of English gardening.

In the course of the day, Mr. Mordaunt unfolded his plans to the youth which were in abstract that the latter should continue to reside in seclusion at the Limes until after Christmas, when he was to be placed in a grammar school some few miles distant, where he was to remain until the time arrived for him to be sent to Eton or Harrow. In the meantime his studies were to be personally conducted by his benefactor.

The lad was gratified to hear all this, and, in the fulness of his heart, said many things which it is unnecessary to chronicle. The few intervening months passed without any untoward incident occurring to mar the peace of the household of the Limes. Lee, during that period, under the beneficial influences of good living, refined associations and careful teaching, improved wonderfully, both physically and mentally. Had his mother seen him at this time, she would scarcely have recognised him.

As the day drew near for Richard to leave the guardianship of Mr. Mordaunt and become a pupil at the grammar school, the latter, from some unaccountable reason, grew sad. He could not shake the feeling off. The boy had so entwined himself round his heart that he dreaded to lose him, although the parting was to be but temporary.

Lee was no less disturbed at the thought of quitting the house where he had spent so many happy hours. However, the separation had to be borne, and one fine frosty morning, early in January, Mr. Mordaunt and the boy stood at the end of the lane near the Limes for the arrival of the coach which was to convey Lee and his belongings to school. They had not long to wait, the vehicle came howling merrily along the hard road, and at a signal drew up. The

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lad's luggage having been secured by the guard, Mr. Mordaunt gave his *protégé* a warm parting shake of the hand and said,

"God bless you, my dear boy! Keep up your courage, write as often as you please, and so good-bye till Easter."

The youth sprang lightly besides the coachman, turned round in his seat, with a face all smiles and tears like a typical April day, raised his cap to his kind protector, and muttered some broken words of farewell.

In a few moments the coach was in full career, but the lad continued to wave his cap in adieu until a turn of the highway hid Mr. Mordaunt from sight, who then returned home in a melancholy mood. He wandered from room to room in a very restless state, as if in search of something. The fact was he missed the boy's bright and cheery conversation. He tried to occupy his mind with reading but found no solace therein.

Mrs. Ambrose noticed his disturbed manner and guessed the cause. She also was attached to young Lee, who had become a general favourite with the household. He had a winning way with him which no one appeared able to withstand. Even Armand, the stern West Indian, was not free from the influence which the youth appeared to wield over all those he associated with.

During the progress of dinner, which was served under the eye of the housekeeper, Mr. Mordaunt took an opportunity in the absence of the other domestics, to speak a few words to the old lady.

"Mrs. Ambrose," said he, "I dare say I shall startle you by telling you that I firmly believe we shall never see Richard again."

"What makes you think that, sir?" she asked in great surprise. "Surely you do not imagine that he will be so ungrateful as to run away from school and rejoin his kindred?"

"I cannot give you any explanation," was the reply. "I have a weight at my heart, a foreboding of coming evil. I reiterate, I believe a calamity is hanging over me, and that Richard is in some measure connected with it." "Pray dismiss such thoughts from your mind, Mr. Mordaunt," remarked Mrs. Ambrose, "the lad is a good one, I am sure, and you will never regret your kindness to him. Last night before he went to bed he was telling me, in his artless way, what great things he intended to do for you when he grew older. If you had been his father, sir, he could not have spoken of you in more dutiful terms."

"I do not doubt Lee's integrity or sincerity in the least, my good woman," said the gentleman, with some asperity. "Bless the boy! he is the very *beau idéal* of a fearless, truth-loving and affectionate British youth. I hope," he added, "that my misgivings after all will come to nothing, and that we shall see him at home again safe and sound in the Easter recess. You need not stay any longer, Mrs. Ambrose, if I require anything I will ring."

The housekeeper having left the room, Mr. Mordaunt lingered over his wine somewhat longer than usual, and at nine o'clock retired to his bedchamber. Having undressed, he wrapped himself in a capacious dressing gown of warm Indian silk, seated himself in a large arm chair and placed his slippered feet upon the fender. In this cosy position he remained for a considerable time with his eyes fixed on the embers that blazed brightly in the grate. His thoughts were evidently of a serious nature, for he occasionally sighed heavily and his eyes became moistened with tears. In this desponding state he remained for a considerable time, until wearied at last he sank to sleep.

The fire gradually burnt itself out, and the air of the room became colder and colder. All at once the sleeper awoke with a start, shivered violently, and started suddenly to his feet as if frightened. What is that he hears? A sound of pattering overhead like the footsteps of a child.

"How ridiculous it is of me to give way to such weakness," he muttered. "The apartment above this is unoccupied and contains nothing but lumber. Master Richard's home-leaving has given me a fit of the vapours. How stupid of me to fall asleep before the fire. It must be very late though, as the candle has nearly burnt away. By Jove! I am in darkness."

This ejaculation was caused by the fact that the remains of the taper had suddenly gone out with a splutter.

"Well, I can easily find my way to bed, that is one comfort."

He was upon the point of disrobing when his attention was further attracted by hearing the footfall of some person coming downstairs. Curious to ascertain who it could be perambulating the house at that advanced hour, he cautiously opened his door and peered forth. The staircase and passage were quite dark, consequently he could discern nothing, but as he stood on the threshold he fancied something passed with a gentle rustle, and he distinctly caught the sound of bare feet traversing the corridor. He followed, and at the head of the next flight of stairs he paused once more to listen. The footsteps went tripping lightly downstairs towards the basement. It was a well staircase, and was principally lighted by a large window on the first landing. On the night in question the moon was shining brightly through the casement and lighted up the surrounding space.

"I shall be able to see by the moonlight who the nocturnal visitor is, as she or he must presently pass the window," murmured Mr. Mordaunt. The footfalls neared the casement, but strange to say, the owner of the mansion saw naught, although he clearly heard the sounds pass the spot, and continue downstairs to the lower offices; this circumstance occasioned him some surprise. However, as he was without a light, and there being no chance of obtaining one without arousing the household, the puzzled Mr. Mordaunt philosophically went to bed.

His sleep, however, was not peaceful. He dreamt he was the horrified witness of a tragic incident, the murder of a little child. Under the influence of a species of nightmare, he thought he was compelled to gaze upon the awful consummation of the crime without being able to move hand or foot to prevent it.

The scene of the vision was a large old-fashioned room. The most important feature of the place, was a commodious four-post bedstead, which piece of antiquity was decorated with massive curtains and hangings of sombre hue. The sole occupant of the apartment was a pretty boy, whose bright cheeks, sparkling eyes, and long curling hair, presented a beautiful object. He was clad in a long white night-robe, daintily trimmed with fine lace, and was engaged in looking over a book embellished with highly-coloured engravings. Ever and anon, he smiled as if pleased with some of the fanciful things depicted therein, and an occasional rippling laugh escaped him.

It was truly a pretty picture, the fair *spirituel* child, and the quaint, richly furnished chamber, a happy combination of innocence, health and luxury. Apparently, unheard by the boy, a man of tall proportions had stolen into the apartment, and stood within the shadow of the curtains regarding the charming scene like a spirit of evil. The little fellow closed the book and rose from his seat. As he crossed the room he was confronted by the intruder. With a cry of joy he darted towards the man, and held out his tiny hands as if pleased to see him. The brute, however, pushed the child rudely aside, and it appeared to the dreamer, that the man was speaking harshly to the boy, as the latter, thus cruelly repulsed, crept disconsolately away to a distant corner, and cowered in terror to the floor. The fellow presently followed and caught the innocent in his powerful grasp; there was a brief struggle, the little mouth moved convulsively as if uttering a cry of pain, and all was over; the boy, brutally strangled by the ruffian, lay rigid and motionless.

The murderer stood looking at the inanimate form for a short time, and then stooping to the floor, raised the body in his arms and disappeared.

Mr. Mordaunt awoke, and started to a sitting position. So vivid was the dream, that in his great distress, his lips opened to call for help, but as the familiar surroundings of his own room were revealed to him by the daylight streaming in, he felt relieved to think that he had been merely the victim of a terrible incubus. The livid features of the murdered child, however, as he lay extended on the floor with the fitful light of the fire playing fantastically on the bright disordered curls, the large eyes gazing vacantly, and bearing

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the pitiful expression they wore before life had left the little frail body, were weirdly startling in their apparent reality, and made Mr. Mordaunt feel very discomposed.

He at once arose, and at breakfast asked Armand in an unconcerned manner whether he had been disturbed at all during the night.

"No, sir," answered the valet. "Have you?"

"Yes, somewhat," assented his master. "I did not retire so early as usual, but sat in the arm chair before the fire. I must have fallen asleep though, for a considerable time, as when I awoke, the candle was upon the point of expiring. I then heard a person moving about overhead, and after an interval, footsteps came downstairs. I went to the door, but it was too dark to see who it was that passed me."

"No one sleeps above your bedchamber, sir," remarked Armand. "The rooms of the servants are in the other wing of the building."

"I know that," said Mr. Mordaunt. "Will you cause careful enquiry to be made among them? If anyone had occasion to visit the room above mine, it was certainly a very curious circumstance that he or she should do so in the small hours of the morning, and without a light. Should you discover who it was, let it be clearly understood that any repetition of the annoyance will be followed by instant dismissal."

The conversation then ended. Later in the day, Mr. Mordaunt was informed by Pierre that none of the household on the previous night had been stirring after 10 o'clock. He had himself examined the unoccupied room, but nothing had been disturbed. In fact, the actual apartment from which the sounds proceeded was locked, and he had to get the key from Mrs. Ambrose.

The owner of the Limes then began to think that the whole thing must have been a dream. The departure of young Lee to school, the gloomy thoughts that followed, and his subsequent conversation with Mrs. Ambrose had acted powerfully on his nerves, and his rest and brain had become disturbed in consequence. A few uneventful weeks passed, broken only by the occasional arrival of letters from the quondam gipsy. They were of the usual schoolboy type, but filled throughout with a deep spirit of gratitude towards his benefactor, which caused Mr. Mordaunt, when he read them to his housekeeper, to cough, speak thickly, and betray other signs of ill-suppressed emotion.

About a month after the boy's departure, a missive came from the principal of the school conveying the startling information that Lee was missing. He had gone with his schoolfellows to some neighbouring fields to play football, and on the return journey, in the dusk of a February evening, had disappeared. Every enquiry had been made, but without success. Upon receipt of this ill-news, Mr. Mordaunt at once hired a postchaise, and set out for the school.

CHAPTER IV.

In the clearing of a wood, near a cross road passing through a thinly populated and pleasant part of Berkshire, a few rude tents were pitched. It was a fine autumnal evening, and the sky was resplendent with one of those vivid sunsets, but rarely seen in these northern latitudes. The trees though still in leaf had lost their vernal freshness, and now presented in their decline the warm, brilliant and varied tints of russet, yellow and red. There were five caravans drawn up near the tents, and guarding the doors were several fierce looking mongrels. The horses were unharnessed, and, under the care of a few ragged urchins, were quietly grazing. In the centre of the encampment a huge iron pot, suspended by a stout tripod, was simmering over a large fire which burnt steadily as it was sheltered from the wind by a canvas screen. Sitting in various attitudes outside the entrance of the tents were some half dozen

women whose olive complexions, dark eyes and hair were relieved by becoming though gaudy kerchiefs of green, crimson and other bright colours. Here and there several men, rudely clad, were cutting wood and performing various little domestic duties. From two of the tents came the sounds of a wild lullaby as the gipsy mothers within rocked their babes to rest. At a distance, notwithstanding the tents and vans were old and patched, and the attire of the men, women and children tattered and squalid, the encampment of the nomads presented a very picturesque appearance. This effect was doubtless to a great extent due to the charming sylvan surroundings of the spot, and the calmness of the lovely evening. The privacy of these rude children of nature was suddenly disturbed by the aforesaid dogs rising from the ground, barking furiously and darting off towards the road which could just be seen some few hundred yards away.

"I suppose it is a prying keeper from the big house yonder, who has come to pay us a visit," growled one of the woodcutters, desisting from his employment. "Madge," he continued addressing his companion, "hide the brace of birds I snared last night. It is unlucky they were not already plucked and in the pot." The young woman thus addressed took two plump looking partridges which were lying on the ground beside her, and withdrew into a tent. The yelping of the dogs still continued, although no intruder was yet in sight. The man who had spoken sauntered to the place, and bestowed sundry kicks and curses on the noisy curs. He then shaded his eyes from the rays of the sun, and beheld a horseman slowly approaching the wood from the west whom he did not recognise. This circumstance relieved the mind of the poacher as he was afraid at first that his nocturnal proceedings had been suspected, and that the keepers were coming to search the tents. As the equestrian quickly drew near, the gipsy had an opportunity of studying his appearance. He was apparently about fifty years of age, and his face which was clean shaven, was swarthy. He possessed a commanding and robust form, and sat his horse with graceful ease. He wore a tight fitting riding surtout and small cape of dark green cloth, which showed his fine figure to advantage. His nether garments were of buckskin, and his legs were encased in well fitting hunting boots of polished leather. His iron grey hair was crowned with a low conical beaver hat à la mode, ornamented with a broad band of silk clasped by a steel buckle.

"Can you direct me, my man," said the cavalier, "to the gipsy camp? I heard in the village that it was hereabout."

"It is yonder," replied the other in rude tones and pointing rearwards.

"Will you show me the way, fellow, or am I to find the path myself?" said the horseman haughtily.

The only answer to this was a growl, and the man turned on his heel and retraced his steps to the camp. The stranger dismounted, and taking the bridle in his hand he led his steed through the greenwood in the wake of the gipsy. His advent created a considerable stir in the encampment. The women gathered in groups, and began to whisper to each other, the men scowled at him, and the children gazed at him curiously. In no way daunted by this behaviour, the newcomer beckoned one of the latter to him, and putting a sixpence in the urchin's hand, said, "Is Ruth Lee here?"

The boy nodded, and pointed to one of the tents. Securing his horse to the bough of a tree the gentleman strode to the place indicated. Upon arriving at the entrance of the tent he called out the name of the woman. In a few moments the canvas was drawn aside, and a female form emerged into the open. She was of middle age, and her features still bore traces of remarkable beauty. As her glittering eyes fell on the face of the intruder, she started violently, and uttered an exclamation of surprise. The other held up his finger in a warning manner, and, in low tones, said, "Ruth, I wish to speak to you privately?"

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The woman made a movement as if about to re-enter the tent.

"Not there, we may be overheard," remarked her companion, "there are too many eavesdroppers about."

"This way then," said she, and at once plunged into the depths of the wood. The stranger followed, and after a few minutes scramble through the copse, his guide halted by the margin of a brook which ran swiftly across the plantation.

Pointing to the trunk of a fallen tree, the gipsy abruptly said, "Seated yonder, ye can talk freely. The stream is at our back, and no one can approach from the tents without being seen."

Her companion nodded in assent, and sat down. "Time has dealt kindly with you, Ruth," commenced he, smiling. "The life of a gipsy has its disadvantages, but it cannot be denied that it is characterised by two great blessings, health and longevity."

"Have ye sought me out for no other purpose than to gabble compliments?" scornfully asked the woman.

"Come, come, Ruth, speak more pleasantly. In days gone by you would have given me a better and warmer welcome. There is no necessity for you to show your still pretty teeth like a wild cat," remarked the other. "However," he added, "I will not waste time, but at once proceed to business. Where is the boy?" The gipsy became agitated, but did not answer. "Is he dead?" demanded the stranger. "I think not," was the reply.

"Has he left you?" was the next query.

"Yes, he ran away some weeks ago."

"What made him do that?" he asked.

"He was a contrary little whelp," coarsely said the woman, "and would not fall into our ways. He had been spoiled by old Mike Cooper who used to put curious notions into the lad's head about honesty. He taught him to read play books and such like trash. After that old fool's death my brother tried to beat the moral lessons out of Dick, but all to no purpose, the young cur would whimper during his thrashing, but afterwards was as obstinate as ever. One morning after his little hide had been well tamed by Hugh, he left the tents, and we have not seen him since."

"Woman!" exclaimed the stranger, rising from his seat, "what a brute you are. Neither you nor your brother had any right to torture the lad."

"Indeed, my fine gentleman," sarcastically said the gipsy also rising, and boldly confronting her companion. "Why then did ye not fetch him away years ago? We thought ye dead. I should like to know how the brat was to be fed and clothed. He would neither beg nor steal, and was opposed to us in every way."

"I was abroad," answered the other, "and had no means of communicating with you. I am terribly annoyed. The boy must be found. Did you not try to trace him?"

"To what end?" replied his hearer. "We were only too glad to get rid of an idle encumbrance. Had we heard from ye, things might have been different."

"Well, well, there is some reason in what you urge," mused the stranger, "but still I must repeat, it was brutal to beat the boy because he would not do wrong."

"Ye should have thought of that, ere ye left him with us," coolly said the gipsy. "We are brought up in a hard school," she bitterly added. "Hounded from place to place with every man's hand raised against us, it is not to be supposed that we should be overstocked with too much kindness. We love to roam the highways and byways of the land. We feel at home in the wild glades of the forest, or the wide expanse of some desolate moorland. We pitch our tents, or halt our caravans near some running stream, and with the broad expanse of the stars above us, sleep far more peacefully and contentedly than they who dwell in the stifling surroundings of a large city or town. Our wants are but few. All we ask is to be left alone, but that poor request is frequently denied us. As soon as it is known that we have pitched our tents on a piece of common land, even though it should be far removed from the homes of the house-dwellers, a keeper or a constable of the justices commands us to pack up our belongings and seek some other resting place."

"Why, then, do not your people renounce their semi-savage life,

and become peaceful citizens or busy workers in the hives of commercial industry?" remarked her companion, who had been struck by the passionate diatribe of the speaker.

"Because it is our destiny to be wanderers for ever," solemnly said Ruth. "For ages our people throughout the world have led the same restless life, aye, and for hundreds of years yet to come, we shall continue to do the same. It is our destiny, the stars tell us so. But enough of this. What is your will?"

"You must send one of the people to scour every village and town near the spot where the boy was last seen, I will reward you well, in any case, for your pains, but should you be successful in finding him, I will cheerfully give a hundred guineas," replied the gentleman.

"A hundred guineas!" repeated the woman in astonishment. "If the lad was worth so much, why did ye leave him to share my rough lot? He was not very strong, and the hard life did not seem to agree with him."

"That is my business," curtly answered the other. "Here are ten guineas as an earnest of my good intentions," and then he abruptly added. "If you hear of anything let me know at once. I am to be found at the 'King's Head,' Thatcham. It is getting late, I must be on the road." With these words he strode rapidly through the wood towards the camp, followed by the gipsy. His horse was still seen to the tree. Bidding Ruth "Good-night," and nodding carelessly to the rest of the wanderers he guided his animal through the thicket until he gained the highway, where he mounted and cantered off.

* * * * *

For the purposes of our story, we must now return to Mr. Mordaunt. That gentleman, upon reaching the school, where his *protégé* had been placed, gleaned but little more details of the boy's disappearance than had been conveyed in the principal's letter. He heard, however, with melancholy satisfaction that Richard's conduct towards his superiors and school-fellows had been most exemplary and genial. Mr. Mordaunt took up his quarters at an inn in the adjoining village, and for some time, assisted by the local officers of peace, made every enquiry, but in vain. He advertised in several of the rural papers, offering a valuable reward for the discovery of the missing youth, but nothing came of it. Upon his return home in a very dejected state he became ill, and took to his bed. A medical man was sent for, who prescribed perfect rest; he said that the indisposition of his patient was more of a mental than a physical nature. In a few weeks Mr. Mordaunt was sufficiently recovered to get up, yet he was still in a very low state of health. He became the victim of curious fancies, and his sleep was frequently disturbed by visions. For two nights in succession he dreamt that he was wandering for some unaccountable reason over the house after the servants had retired, and that the taper he carried suddenly went out. He then heard light footsteps pass him, and descend the staircase. Without hesitation he followed the unknown intruder, when all at once the footfalls appeared to cease somewhere in the basement. He found means to get a light, and discovered that he was in a large room totally unknown to him; at one end a door was slightly open; he went towards it, and saw it led to a flight of stone steps; he was about to descend, but his taper was again extinguished. He then detected the movements of some person near him, and presently the footsteps went tripping gently upstairs; he unhesitatingly followed, and upon arriving at the top of the house the sounds again mysteriously ceased. He groped his way to his own apartment, and his subsequent proceedings were a blank. On the morning following the recurrence of his strange dream, he brooded over the matter for some time. A curious idea at last took possession of him, and he paid a visit to the lower regions of his establishment, much to the surprise of his housekeeper, whom he found in the kitchen in conversation with the cook.

"Good morning, Mrs. Ambrose," said he. "I have a curiosity to inspect the offices, I have never penetrated lower than this room. I wish particularly to see the wine cellars."

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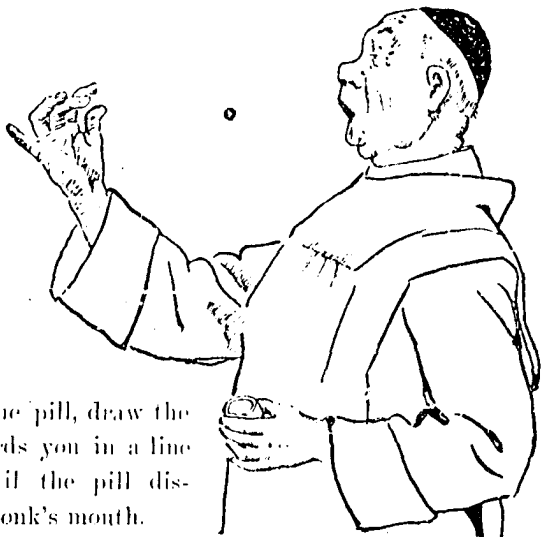
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"Certainly, sir," assented the housekeeper, "please follow me." She passed through the adjoining room which was used as a store closet, and candle in hand led the way down a small staircase to the vestibule. Taking a key from the bunch she carried, she unlocked a door leading to the wine cellars, which were of large extent and well stocked. Mr. Mordaunt narrowly inspected the vaults, but greatly to his companion's surprise took little heed of the choice vintages stored therein. Upon returning to the vestibule he pointed to a closed door.

"Mrs. Ambrose," said he, "where does that lead to?"

"To a large room we use for storing odds and ends, sir," was the reply. "It is badly lighted, and somewhat damp."

"Let me see it," said her master.

The amazed housekeeper did not answer, but at once complied with his request. She was still more mystified by hearing Mr. Mordaunt exclaim—

"How strange! The very place!" The apartment was scrupulously clean, and was lighted by a small skylight. It was nearly filled with a heterogeneous mass of comparatively useless articles that accumulate in all large households, and which by a strange inconsistency, instead of being disposed of are allowed to encumber space. The only outlet was by a door at the extreme end; Mr. Mordaunt drew back the bolts of the latter, and a dark opening was disclosed.

"You will find nothing there, sir," said the housekeeper. "It leads to an empty vault."

Without heeding this remark, the gentleman took the light from her, and descended some half dozen steps. It was a noisome place constructed of brick, and paved with rude stone flags. There was an evil odour about it, which caused Mrs. Ambrose to shudder. The next proceeding of her employer quite startled the good woman, for he went on his knees and examined the interstices of the flag stones, then he suddenly gave vent to an exclamation of surprise, and without uttering another word he led the way out of the vault. Before leaving her, however, he said, "Mrs. Ambrose, you need not mention the fact of our visiting the foul place we have just left. I have certain reasons for wishing the circumstance to be kept secret." Mr. Mordaunt then returned to his apartment, and shortly after, it being a fine day, he was tempted for the first time since his illness to take a walk. On returning he was overtaken by the host of the "Swan," who courteously saluted him, and was about to pass on, when he was detained by Mr. Mordaunt, who said, "Mr. Newbury, may I ask you to favour me with a few minutes' conversation?"

"With pleasure, sir," was the reply.

"Did Mr. Percival, who formerly resided in my house, finally leave it at night?"

"Yes."

"Was he accompanied by his child?" was the next query.

"I believe so, sir. On the evening he left, he hired a gig from a neighbouring inn. When the man arrived at the Limes with the vehicle, Mr. Percival told him that he should not require his services as he intended to drive over to Guildford himself. He also said that

he purposed to sleep at that town, and next morning should catch the early Portsmouth stage. He promised to send the gig back by one of the servants of the "White Hart," which inn was then kept by a friend of mine. This proceeding occasioned no surprise as Mr. Percival was always very singular in his habits. Next morning the vehicle was returned, and I accidentally heard from one of my ostlers, who had spoken with the driver, that Mr. Percival had informed the landlord of the "White Hart" that he had taken a berth in the "Benbow," which ship was to sail from Portsmouth on the ensuing day. If you remember, sir, I told you that that unfortunate vessel foundered shortly after sailing."

"Then you have no direct evidence that the child was actually with Mr. Percival on the night he left the Limes?"

"No, sir. But I assume that he was for this reason: Mr. Percival, two days before his departure, dismissed the last servant maid of his household, who subsequently took service with us, and the little fellow she stated was in the house at that time."

"Thank you, Mr. Newbury, for your information."

The conversation then took a general turn.

Upon his arrival home, Mr. Mordaunt directed his valet to attend him in his study.

"Armand," said he, "I have a little commission for you to execute, which is of a private nature. It is a matter, too, which must not be spoken about without my direct permission." The West Indian bowed. "When the household to-night have all retired, I want you to come to my bedroom, and to bring a lantern with you. You must also manage to secure a pickaxe and shovel from the tool house, unknown to the gardener."

"Yes, sir," assented Pierre.

"I believe it is your duty to see that the house is properly fastened before retiring for the night?" observed Mr. Mordaunt.

The valet having replied in the affirmative, his master continued.

"To-night leave the back door leading from the kitchen to the garden on the latch. I may have occasion to go forth, and I do not wish to run the risk of disturbing the servants by unbolting the door. You had better also oil the fastenings. I dare say, my instructions appear to you very mysterious, but hereafter my motives will be apparent. You may now go. I have nothing further to say."

At eleven o'clock that night, Mr. Mordaunt, who was reading in his room, heard a low tap at the door. Pierre, for he it was, then stole gently in.

"Well, Armand, have you carried out my instructions without attracting notice?" asked Mr. Mordaunt.

"I have, sir," was the reply. "I left the tools just outside the garden door, which is unfastened."

"You will have to bring those implements *within* doors," remarked his master.

The valet said nothing, but his dark eyes expressed considerable astonishment.

"You must now remove your shoes," continued the gentleman, "and put on a pair of my list slippers."

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Armand having complied with the request, Mr. Mordaunt, who was fully dressed, opened his room door and listened for some moments.

"I suppose," said he, in a whisper, "that there is no chance of our being disturbed?"

"The last of the servants, sir," replied the valet, "went to bed an hour ago."

"That is well," said his master. "Give me the lantern, and do not speak until we are in the basement."

They then quietly made their way down stairs, but with all their caution, the old stairs gave an occasional creak. Mr. Mordaunt and his companion paused more than once to listen if their movements had been heard, but all was silent as the grave. Upon arriving at the garden door, Armand, by the direction of his master, went forth, and brought in the pickaxe and spade.

"Follow me, quietly," said the latter, "we are about to visit the vault beneath the store room, and I shall soon know whether my suspicions are well grounded or not."

CHAPTER V.

The vault they were in, under the most favourable circumstances, would have excited a shudder, but imperfectly lighted as it was by the feeble rays of the lantern, and in the dead of the night its aspect was truly forbidding.

"Armand," said Mr. Mordaunt, "I will now tell you my object in bringing you here. Some time ago, I mentioned to you a curious circumstance either waking or dreaming that befell me one night."

"You allude, I presume, sir, to the footsteps which you imagined you heard descending the stairs."

"Yes," assented the other.

"For two consecutive nights I have dreamt the same thing. So vivid have the visions been, and from facts which I have recently gleaned, I have come to the conclusion that a tragedy was enacted in the room immediately over mine, and that the remains of the victim will be found beneath these stones."

The valet shivered, changed colour, and exhibited other signs of horror at this startling communication.

"In company with Mrs. Ambrose this morning I visited the store room above this vault, and strange to say it was the counterpart of the one I saw in my dream. Without confiding to her my suspicions I examined this pavement, and I found that the cement had been

removed from several of the flagstones. This circumstance does not necessarily prove anything, as the stones may have been removed for the purpose of inspecting the drain or water pipes. If my surmises prove to be unfounded, I shall have had the satisfaction of setting them at rest without exposing myself to the ridicule of the domestics. Do you comprehend me?"

"I do, sir," assented Pierre, as he proceeded to remove his coat.

"You will commence your work," said Mr. Mordaunt, "by prising with your pick yonder stone."

Thus directed the valet inserted the point of the implement between the interstices of the pavement. After a little time he succeeded in raising the stone, and with the assistance of his master placed it on one side. The adjoining piece was easily removed.

"Which stone, sir, shall I take up now?" asked he.

"I think there will be no necessity for you to remove another," was the reply.

"The opening I have made is far too small to have admitted either the body of a man or woman," remarked Pierre.

"Of course it is," rejoined Mr. Mordaunt, "but more than sufficient to have concealed the remains of a child."

Armand made no further remark, but commenced to loosen the rubble. This was a labour of some difficulty. However, the valet worked with a will, and at last reached the earth. Having removed a few shovel-fuls he uttered a startled cry which brought his master to the brink of the opening. Holding the light low down with one hand, Armand pointed with the other towards the hole. Mr. Mordaunt peered downwards, and his terror-stricken eyes beheld the almost perfect skeleton of a child which had been partially destroyed by the action of lime.

"Poor thing, poor thing," apostrophized the gentleman. "What a dreadful fate was thine! Cruelly cut off in the spring of life, when all things must have appeared to thy innocent mind, so bright, so joyous. What motive could have actuated thy murderer to have destroyed thee so foully. If I cannot avenge thy cruel death I will at least convey thy remains from this horrible vault."

"Will you not communicate the discovery to the authorities, sir," asked the valet.

"For what purpose?" questioned his master.

"Investigation might lead to the murderer being brought to justice," remarked Pierre.

(To be continued in "The Freemason" of December 18th.)

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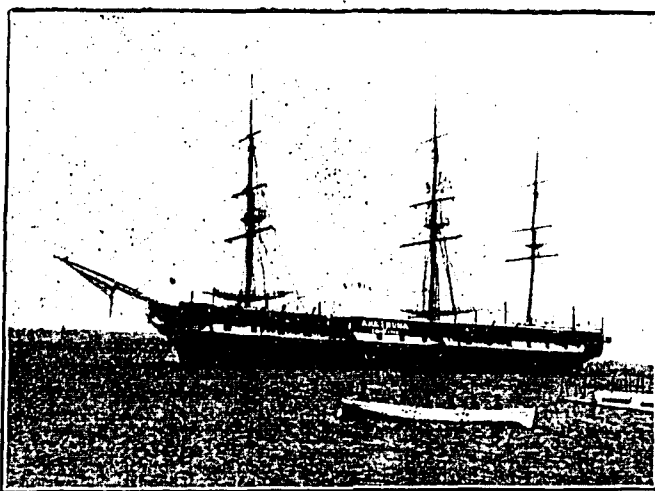
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Tylers and Tyling.

By HENRY SADLER, Grand Tyler, and Sub-Librarian of the
Grand Lodge of England.



SO much has already been written on Freemasonry in general that it is somewhat difficult to find anything fresh to say on the subject. There is, however, one topic which appears to have been severely left alone, or but lightly touched upon, by Masonic writers generally, and for that reason I have selected it as my contribution to the Christmas Number of the *Freemason*.

I have occasionally been asked for my opinion as to the origin of the name and office of Tyler in connection with Freemasonry, and my answer has been to the purport that I believe it may be traced back to the early operative Masons who were accustomed to assemble and work in buildings or lodges erected in the neighbourhood of their labours. We can easily imagine that these lodges, being of a temporary character would be of the plainest and most economical description, probably little better than huts or sheds of one storey, constructed of boards, clay, or some other material less costly than either brick or stone. Glass, being expensive, would probably be dispensed with, and apertures in the walls for the necessary light and ventilation would supply the place of ordinary windows. We will suppose that the masons or builders have finished their part in the erection or formation of their lodge, then the Tyler would come upon the scene to cover the roof with tiles, and make all secure against the weather, as well as the eyes of the idly inquisitive.

It seems but natural that a person of this description, whose work, although of an inferior order to that of the masons, was closely allied to it, whose presence, however, would not be required inside the lodge, should have been employed as a guard, or sentinel, outside of the building to keep off all intruders and cowans, or eavesdroppers. This would probably be the extent of his duties in connection with operative lodges, for whatever preparation was required for the candidate, was, no doubt, performed within the walls of the lodge by the Masons themselves. I think it probable that the Tyler of the olden time, although not a regular member of the Craft, was bound by an obligation to properly perform his duties and not to reveal the secrets of the Brotherhood, as in the case of the Tyler of the Wigan—non Operative—Lodge, hereafter mentioned. With the advent, however, of Speculative Masonry, with its ever-increasing popularity and more elaborate ceremonies, it became necessary that the Tyler, or Guarder—as he was sometimes called—should be a member of the Fraternity, and here it seems to me that, in the designation Tyler of a lodge, we have an instance of the survival of a name several centuries after its original adoption in Freemasonry.

The Guild of Operative Tylers dates back to a remote period, and is probably coeval with that of the Fraternity of Operative Masons, or, at all events, to the period when tiles and slates began to supersede reeds and straw for the roofing of houses and other large buildings. The Guild of Tylers and Bricklayers is one of the minor companies of the City of London; it has for its motto "God is our Guide"—a motto formerly used by the Masons' Company and also by the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England certainly as far back as 1730.

The earliest mention I have met with of the word Tyler is in the history of our own country, and probably the person there referred to was the most celebrated Tyler that ever lived, at any rate he created a greater stir in the world than any one of his successors. He will always be remembered for his simple, yet effective, method of settling with the tax collector. Briefly told, the story is this: In the year 1381 there lived in the town of Dartford, Kent, a man known as Wat Tyler, or, to give him his full name and title, Walter the Tyler. What is known as the Poll tax, i.e., a tax on every person upwards of 15 years of age, had just come into operation, and, like some of our taxes of the present day, it was the reverse of popular, especially with those who were called upon to pay it. A tax collector one day called at the house of Wat Tyler and demanded the tax for one of Wat's daughters, which the mother refused to pay, alleging that the girl was not of the age specified. That collector was probably paid by results, but in this case he got rather more than he had bargained for. He behaved in a most offensive manner to the mother and daughter which they naturally resented, when Wat, who was tiling a house in the neighbourhood, arrived on the scene and in a moment of passion struck the obnoxious collector on the head and killed him. The neighbours applauded the action and appointed Wat their leader in opposing payment of the tax, hence the beginning of "Wat Tyler's great rebellion."

At first sight it may appear somewhat strange that we should be unable to trace the name of Tyler in connection with speculative Masonry farther back than the year 1732, but, Masonic records prior to that period are extremely rare

and such as are now available are of the most brief and meagre character, it is not, therefore, very surprising that no earlier mention of the name has yet come under our notice.

Another probable reason may be found in the fact that the Tyler of the olden time was on quite a different footing to the Tyler of a more recent period. In the first printed Constitutions of Speculative Masonry, published in 1723, the word Tyler is not to be found, there is, however, the following reference to his office and duties on page 63: "Another Brother (who must be a Fellow Craft) should be appointed to look after the Door of the Grand Lodge; but shall be no member of it." In the next edition (1738), a similar paragraph reads thus: "Another Brother and Master Mason should be appointed the Tyler, to look after the Door; but he must be no member of the G. Lodge." In the same edition, on page 170, appears this curious paragraph—"In ancient Times the Master, Wardens and Fellows on St. John's Day met either in a Monastery, or on the Top of the highest Hill near them, by Peep of Day: and having there chosen their New G. Officers, they descended walking in due form to the Place of the Feast, either a Monastery or the House of an Eminent Mason, or some large House of Entertainment as they thought best tyled."

The nominal editor, or compiler of these Constitutions was Dr. James Anderson, a Presbyterian Minister. When he was made a Mason is unknown, but I should imagine it was not many years anterior to his entering upon the work of revising the regulations, and I am strongly of opinion that Dr. Desaguliers, who was Deputy Grand Master in 1722 and 1723, had more to do with the first book than did Dr. Anderson. Desaguliers himself dedicated it to the Duke of Montague, Grand Master, and judging from his other books, it has not the appearance of being entirely the work of Anderson. In all probability it was a conjoint production; but, however that may be, I am inclined to think that these worthy doctors learned more of the history and usages of the operative masons after the publication of their first book of the Constitutions than they knew before its compilation, hence the omission of the name of Tyler from its pages may have been purely accidental.

The early records of the regular Grand Lodge of England contain no mention of the appointment of a Grand Tyler; we learn, however, from other sources, that there was such an officer, although he may not have been always honoured by the prefix "Grand." The rival body known as the "Ancients," or "The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons according to the Old Institutions," an organisation formed in London in 1751, consisting chiefly of Irish Masons, elected a "Grand Tyler" regularly every year down to the time of the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813.

In the minutes of the proceedings of the regular Grand Lodge for 26th November, 1728, the following incident is recorded: "It being told to the Deputy Grand Master that a brother, who was a Warden of a Lodge, attended without in expectation of his Master's coming, who had the custody of the jewels belonging to their Lodge, and for want of which he could not gain admittance, and several members present vouching for him, the Deputy Grand Master ordered the officer who kept the door to admit the said brother, who accordingly took his place in the Lodge."

The earliest reference I have met with by name, to a Tyler in Speculative Masonry is in the minutes of the Grand Lodge of the 8th of June, 1732, and is as follows:—

"Several of the Stewards making complaint to the Grand Lodge that they had employed Br. Lewis as an Attendant upon them at the last Grand Feast; and more particularly had entrusted him to lock up and take care of Thirty Dishes of Meat, which were designed for the Grand Master and other persons of Quality and Distinction when the business of the Grand Lodge was over, But that the said Br. Lewis, by his carelessness and neglect, had suffered the same to be embezzled and carried away by People who had no manner of Right to the same, And when the Stewards had called him to account for such his misbehaviour, He answered insolently, and instead of extenuating his Fault, aggravated the same in a very provoking manner, and Br. Lewis now attending was called upon by the Grand Lodge to answer the said charge, who making a very frivolous and trifling Defence, the Grand Lodge in General were about to Censure the said Br. Lewis, and to deal with him in such manner as his Behaviour deserved.

"But some Brethren observing that Br. Lewis was Tyler to several Lodges, and that if the Grand Lodge should strictly pursue their Resentment it might deprive him of the best part of his Subsistence.

"The Deputy Grand Master proposed it to the Stewards

"That as we are a friendly Society and far from doing a hard thing by any Brother, but rather, always willing and ready to serve him, if Br. Lewis would publicly ask pardon of the Stewards in the Grand Lodge, that they would forgive him.

"Whereupon Br. Smyth, Junr Grand Warden, and one of the Stewards, Declared that the Stewards would be satisfied if Br. Lewis would make such acknowledgment and promise to behave in a more careful and decent manner for the future.

"Upon which Br. Lewis did publicly ask pardon of the Stewards and

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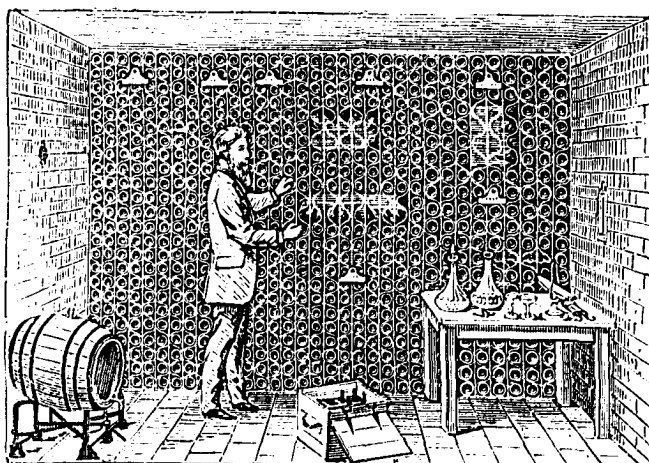
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the Grand Lodge, acknowledging his great Neglect and insolent Behaviour, and faithfully promising for the future to take more care, and to behave decently."

I have reason to believe that Grand Lodge did not "strictly pursue their resentment," for when, a few years later, Bro. Lewis presented a petition for relief, it was referred to the Committee of Charity, and, on the recommendation of that body, the Grand Lodge voted him 10 guineas for his immediate relief.

This outrageous act of spoliation "which might have been attended with serious consequences," especially to poor Bro. Lewis, was perpetrated at the Grand Feast held at the Merchant Taylors' Hall, on the 13th April, 1732.

It is not stated whether any bottles of wine were "embezzled and carried off by the people who had no manner of right to the same."

It may be that Bro. Lewis did not clearly understand his instructions, and paid more attention to the safety of the liquids than he did to the solids, hence the depredations amongst the latter. It is just possible, too, that this may in some slight degree account for the free and easy way in which he is said to have treated the complaints of his employers.

But what remarkably fine appetites the "Brethren of Quality and Distinction" must have had; I can only count 14 present at that meeting who would be likely to be so denominated, unless the Grand Stewards themselves are included. One cannot help admiring the truly Masonic spirit displayed by the Deputy Grand Master and the Stewards generally in their treatment of the culprit, for they doubtless had just cause for annoyance at the loss of their dinner.

In 1723 a Bro. Edward Lewis was a member of the old lodge held at the Goose and Gridiron in St. Paul's Churchyard—now the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2—and, as the old Tyler's name was Edward, he was doubtless the same person.

The next mention of a Tyler that has come under my notice is found in the By-laws of a private lodge, written probably late in 1732. It is the ninth in a code of 16 rules and reads thus: "That the Master or Secretary do give notice by Letter to all the members of the time of election, or of any other emergency that at any time shall happen. Also that the Tyler do require from every brother as soon as the lodge is closed, his apron, and in default of that, or appearing without his apron, or wearing another, to be euerced as the majority of the Lodge shall think fit. Also that the Tyler admit no visitor into the Lodge Room except there be some present who can vouch for his being a regular brother."

From the way the office of Tyler is mentioned in the foregoing cases it does not appear to be a new or at all an uncommon title.

The minutes of a lodge held at the Swan and Rummie in Finch Lane, on the 10th March, 1731, contain the following paragraph, apparently relating to the election of a Tyler, although he is not so named. "The question being put that Br. Johnson be desired to attend to guard the Lodge every Lodge night, and that he be allowed eighteen pence and one pint of wine for his attendance. It passed in the affirmative." The words *eighteen pence and one pint of wine* were afterwards struck out and "two shillings" substituted. The brother who sent me this extract intimated that this particular Tyler evidently preferred certain money to uncertain wine. I may mention, however, that my friend is a total abstainer from wines himself, and no doubt spoke feelingly on the subject. We learn from the history of the Lodge of Felicity, No. 58, that in 1737 the regular fee for the Tyler was one shilling for his attendance and a half-crown for "drawing the lodge," that is, when a ceremony was to be performed he was expected to draw a certain design on the floor of the room, similar in some respects to the design on our lodge boards of the present day. In September, 1737, it was agreed to pay the Tyler two shillings each night, and for many subsequent years the Tyler's fee in most lodges seldom exceeded this amount. The smallness of the fee would seemingly indicate that the earlier Tylers were not men who depended upon Tyling lodges as a means of subsistence as is the case in the present day, but were men who followed some ordinary occupation and merely tiled a lodge or two at night. - very similar, in fact, to what one might well imagine to have been the practice of the real Tylers in the days of operative lodges when, if any stated fee was paid for their services it was probably even less than a shilling.

The regular Grand Lodge of England was undoubtedly established in 1717, and it is much to be regretted that we have no written records of this important event or the subsequent transactions of that august body prior to the year 1723, when the existing minutes of the Grand Lodge begin. So far as I have been able to learn Dr. Anderson was the first to publish in the Constitutions of 1738 the history of the formation of the Grand Lodge and the names of the different Grand Officers who were appointed during the first six years of its existence. On page 110 of this book he says: "Sayer, Grand Master, commanded the Masters and Wardens of Lodges to meet the Grand officers every Quarter in Communication at the place that he should appoint in his Summons sent by the Tyler." I imagine that Anderson wrote this early portion of his history of Freemasonry from notes of the Proceedings, probably taken on loose sheets of paper which were not deemed worthy of preservation after he had utilised them. However that may be, if the Grand Master of 1717 really used the words imputed to him by Anderson, and I see no reason to doubt it, it is quite clear that he at all events must have been familiar with the title and duties of a Tyler.

We are especially fortunate in possessing the original records of the Grand Lodge of the "Ancients" almost from the beginning of its organisation as a governing body, which we have reasons for believing was in July, 1751, whereas, their first minute book, now extant, was begun on the 5th February, 1752, by the celebrated Laurence Dermott, their clever and energetic Grand Secretary.

These records contain many references to the Grand Tyler, the first being in the minutes of a Grand Committee held July 13th, 1753, when the Grand Secretary humbly begged that some certain person should be appointed to deliver the summonses for the future, that he, the said Secretary, was under the necessity of delivering or paying for the delivery of them for some months past, which servitude was exceedingly troublesome to him as he was obliged to work 12 hours in the day for the master painter who employed him. He was asked why the Grand Pursuivant or the Grand Tyler did not deliver the summonses? To which he replied that they would not deliver them until they were first paid for service done during the time Mr. John Morgan was Grand Secretary. It was therefore, ordered that the Grand Secretary shall pay the Pursuivant or Grand Tyler two shillings for each time of summoning.

We learn from this historic incident that the working man's "eight hours a day" was not then "within measurable distance," and that it was possible in those days for "a strike" to be settled without material injury to either party.

The next item gives rise to some little self-gratulation at the non-existence of "the good old times." It is found under date 6th of December, 1758. "Many complaints were heard against the Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler charging each of them with neglect of duty. Order'd. That if either the Grand Purs't or the Grand Tyler shall hereafter suffer any member of the Grand Lodge to depart without leave from the Presiding Officer, such Purs't or Tyler shall forfeit his or their night's salary or wages." This seems rather harsh treatment, although the "salary" of the Grand Pursuivant was only four shillings a meeting, and that of the Grand Tyler half that amount. I am happy to say that rule is not now in operation. The following extract from the minutes is not strictly connected with Tyling, although the defendant in the case had been Grand Tyler for several years, and had but recently been promoted to the superior office, and as the matter in question relates to hats it may not be deemed very much out of place in a paper on the subject of Tyling.

On the 22nd December, 1762, "Brother Davidson, of No. 21, made a complaint against Richd. Gough, the Pursuivant of the Grand Lodge, charging the said Gough with taking a Hat and some drinking glasses out of the Lodge No. 21 in a felonious manner," &c.

"Upon Examination it appear'd that some brother (in a jocular manner) had put the Glasses into the said Gough's pocket without his knowledge, and as to the Hat, it appear'd that some person having taken the said Gough's Hat, he (Gough) also took another Hat instead of his own."

The officers of many lodges having given Gough an excellent character, it was

"Unanimously agreed that Richd. Gough is innocent of the Charge laid against him, and that the Hat now in the possession of Mr. Davidson shall be immediately deliver'd to the said Mr. Gough, which Hat he the said Gough shall keep until his own shall be return'd to him."

This weighty matter was settled at a Grand Lodge of Emergency, probably summoned for the purpose, although there were one or two minor differences of opinion adjusted at the same time. Some, at any rate, of the brethren of the present day strictly adhere to the old customs, for several similar cases have come under my own notice, but fortunately they have always been "settled out of Court."

Here is another small item from the same source, which I write with diffidence:

On the 4th of December, 1771, it was "order'd that two blue cloth gownds be provided for the Pursuivant and Tyler and not to exceed Eight Pounds," and at a subsequent meeting of the Steward's Lodge, two gold-laced hats were ordered for the same officers at a cost of £6 7s. 6d. Whenever I contemplate on the magnificent appearance which must have been made by my venerable predecessors in those "Blue cloth gownds" and "gold-laced hats," it is not to be wondered at that I should feel something like envy and an overpowering sense of my own insignificance. On the 19th July, 1786, Great Coats for the Pursuivant and Tyler were paid for to the amount of £5 9s. 5d. Sad to relate, the Grand Pursuivant was called to account by the Deputy Grand Master on the 27th December, of the same year for having lost his gown, and he failing to give satisfaction was suspended until the next Grand Lodge.

In those days the Grand Tyler had a good deal more out of door's work to perform than he has now, such as attending the funerals of departed brethren and walking in procession to the Grand Feast and also to church on Saint John's days, on which occasions a cloak or a great coat would naturally be very acceptable.

The minutes of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship, Bath, of 13th June, 1775, contain the following curious paragraph:—

"The Master produced a summons from Robert Doyers, Master of y^e White Hart Lodge, requiring his attendance, y^e same was sent to the two Wardens, which being deem'd an insult, was order'd to be burnt by the common Tyler, and was so done." Owing to want of light on the subject I fail to see where the insult came in, but I am inclined to think that these two lodges were not on such amicable terms as is desirable in the Craft.

The members of the Lodge of Perfect Friendship evidently made no very great effort to live up to the name they had chosen, for the lodge was erased by the Grand Lodge in 1821, for "internal discord."

In the history of the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 173, Wigan, we learn that "James Rigby produced a certificate from No. 492 and took the obligation as Tyler to stand the same for two years."

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The minutes of the same lodge of February 26th, 1823, record the longest suspension of a Mason that has hitherto come under my notice. "For some unbecoming business Bro. A. was suspended from the lodge for 999 years." They might as well have made it, as our old brethren sometimes did in such cases, "for the remainder of natural life," but I suppose they wished to give him another chance.

A few words on some of the more celebrated Tylers of the past may not be unwelcome nor out of place. With regard to the Tylers of the present day,



"Montgomery"
"Gardner of y^e Grand Lodge"
1738.

many of whom are more or less celebrated, I shall say nothing about them, as I wish to spare their blushes, and they are probably as well known to the reader as they are to the writer.

During my somewhat lengthy Masonic career I have, as may readily be imagined, been personally acquainted with a considerable number of Tylers, some of them characters in *their* way, quite original. I remember one old fellow in particular who was celebrated for the quantity and variety of the liquors he could comfortably dispose of without losing his balance. Some people used to say he was always drunk, but for my own part, I must confess that I could never see much difference in him, morning, noon, or night. One of the lodges he tiled was one of those old-fashioned lodges that always had a bottle or two of sherry in the ante-room, and some of the younger members somehow acquired the idea that while they were at labour the wine disappeared from view rather quicker than it ought to have done with fair treatment. I suppose they thought the Tyler neglected his duty and allowed it to evaporate or something. At any rate they concluded to try a less celebrated Tyler, so on the election night some one proposed a comparatively unknown, but highly respectable young man as Tyler for the ensuing year. He was spoken very highly of by several of the brethren and seemed in a fair way of getting the desired post, when one of the old Past Masters got up and said if there was one thing more than another which he admired in a man it was consistency. He had known this old brother for a good many

years as Tyler of their lodge, and he was always the same—he was always consistently drunk—they had got used to it—they expected it, and they were never disappointed still they had managed to jog along fairly well together and without very serious trouble. If he did help himself to a glass or two of wine why let him have it, it didn't do *him* any harm. He had nothing to say against the brother who had been proposed, he was quite willing to believe that he was a very good young man, but he did not know him, and as likely as not he would be sometimes drunk and at other times sober, and they would never know where they were nor what to expect. For his part he should vote for keeping the old man on. So he did, and so also did a majority of the members.

I am not quite sure that poor old Lewis, who lost the "31 dishes of meat" in 1732, was the Tyler of the Grand Lodge but I think it highly probable.

The first Grand Tyler of the regular Grand Lodge of whom we have any positive knowledge, is the brother whose portrait is here reproduced. He is not mentioned in the Grand Lodge minutes during his life-time, but on the 14th February, 1758, it is recorded that "Br. Selby handed sixteen shillings to the Grand Treasurer, being cash he had not paid to Br. Montgomery before he died." Judging from his picture one would imagine him to have been a person of considerable importance in his days. His portrait is to be seen in all parts of the country and is sometimes described as a Portrait of the Marquess of Carnarvon, who was Grand Master at the time it was engraved (1738) whereas it was only dedicated to that nobleman. Montgomery describes himself as "Gardner of y^e Grand Lodge," and omits his Christian name, which I learn from the register



THOMAS JOHNSON, GRAND TYLER.

of petitioners for Charity, was Andrew, he having been relieved in 1757, with £5. I regret my inability to say what particular qualification this old brother was celebrated for, but as I believe he was a native of the Emerald Isle, it may have been for his humility.

The following verse from a doggerel rhyme, descriptive of a procession of mock masons got up in London about 1740, would seem to indicate that modesty or something else was his distinguishing characteristic:—

"Who's he with cap and sword so stern—a?

Modest Montgomery of Hibern—a

Who guard de Lodge and de key who turn—a."

The next mention of a Grand Tyler is in the minutes of a Committee of Charity, 20th October, 1769. This Committee performed functions similar to those now discharged by the Board of Benevolence, and the Board of General Purposes.

"Br. Heseltine, Grand Secretary, presented to the Committee, Br. Edward Caton, the Grand Tyler's bill upon Br. French for attendance upon the Grand Lodge and other particulars, amounting to the sum of £6 16, which had never been paid."

The Br. French mentioned was Heseltine's predecessor, and had recently become a bankrupt.

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The Out-Patients' Department is for the treatment of poor women suffering from such diseases, and all diseases of children. Admission FREE, without letters of recommendation. Poverty and Sickness the only passport required.

All applications for admission to be addressed to the Secretary; and when a Patient is unable by illness or distance to apply personally, a printed form will be furnished to the applicant, which must be returned to the Secretary duly filled up.

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GEORGE SCUDAMORE, Secretary.

I need hardly say that the Committee at once ordered that the amount be paid.

Some of my brethren in their merry moments have done me the honour of referring to me as the first literary Grand Tyler—a distinction to which I have no manner of right, as I shall now endeavour to prove. In 1784 the Grand Tyler was Thomas Johnson. I cannot find out when he was first appointed, but it is not unlikely that he succeeded Bro. Caton, just mentioned. He was Clerk of Charlotte-street Chapel, Pimlico, and was not only an author, but an artist (for he illustrated his own works) he was also a poet of no mean pretensions. In 1784 he published a second edition of "A Brief History of Freemasons," a copy of which is in the Grand Lodge Library. I have never seen a copy of the first edition, nor any mention of it, except his own reference to it in the opening pages of the book before me.

We learn from the inscription on the engraved portrait here re-produced that he was also the author of a work entitled "Masonic Miscellanies," probably published in 1794, which doubtless contained the portrait, a copy of which I have fortunately been able to secure. Of the book, I regret to say, I know nothing.

From time immemorial there have been songs for the various officers, for the Master Mason, the Fellow Craft, and the Entered Apprentice, probably the oldest of them all, but the poor old Tyler had not a respectable rhyme to his name. Bro. Johnson was the first to remedy this omission by composing "The Tyler's Song."

Now I readily admit that I am no judge of poetry—I only know when it pleases me, and the more truth there is in it the better I like it. On looking over this Tyler's song I was at once favourable impressed by its perspicuous veracity. There are some undeniable truths in it which no amount of argument or sophistry can disturb. I am sorry space will not admit of my quoting the whole of the song, but perhaps the first verse may suffice as a sample of the other six—

Our enter'd apprentices songs often sung,
Of Craft and of Masters our lodges have rung;
Say is the profession too servile or vile,
Or the muses too proud for to sing of the tyle?
A king, peer, or peasant, a brother may be,
A Tyler's the same for a brother is he;
Let the muses grow old with contention and strife,
A Tyler will live all the days of his life.

Chorus—All the days of his life, all the days of his life,
A Tyler will live all the days of his life.

He would be a bold man who would undertake the task of attempting to refute the assertion contained in that chorus.

Besides being Grand Tyler and Grand Janitor, Bro. Johnson was Tyler to the Somerset House, Friendship, Britannic, and Royal Lodges, at that time the principal lodges in London, and was doubtless an ornament to the tiling profession, he died in the year 1800, at the ripe age of 77.

Probably, the most remarkable Grand Tyler we ever had was Bro. Benjamin Aldhouse, a weaver by occupation, in Spitalfields, who was born at Norwich, in 1746, initiated there in 1763, joined St. Mary's Lodge, No. 63, London, in 1777, and continued a member of it until his death in 1813.

The historian of St. Mary's Lodge, says Aldhouse was its main stay for many years and practically kept the lodge alive. His Past Master's collar jewel is still worn by the L.P.M. of the lodge.

In 1792, he was elected Grand Tyler of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge, and in 1791 he was promoted to the office of Grand Pursuivant.

In 1798, he took an active part in establishing our Boys' School and was for many years its Collector, and one of its warmest supporters. His last public appearance in Masonry was at the Annual Festival of that Institution in 1841. At the Union of the two Grand Lodges in 1813, he headed the procession as "The Grand Usher with his staff."

He was Pursuivant of the United Grand Lodge until 1825, when, being then in his 80th year, the Grand Lodge granted him an annuity of £12, he had also a small allowance from the Boys' School. We may assume, therefore, that his closing years were passed in fairly comfortable circumstances. He was Tyler of several good old lodges, including the Grand Masters Lodge, No. 1. Bro. Charles Belton, the Secretary, was good enough to send me the following extract from the minutes of that lodge of the 18th December, 1843: "Br. Giraud (in reporting the death of our venerable Tyler, Br. Benjamin Aldhouse in the 99th year of his age) stated that he, Br. Aldhouse, had given him a masonic jug which was presented to him (Aldhouse) many years ago by his lodge, of which he was a Past Master, Br. Giraud kindly offered to give it the lodge to preserve as a memorial of the kind old man who had served them so many years, which the lodge accepted with many thanks."

It seems to have been a custom in some lodges, as well as in Grand Lodge, for the Tyler to wear a distinctive uniform in the shape of a cloak or an overcoat. I learn from the minutes of the South Saxon Lodge, No. 311, of the 29th August, 1797 (kindly copied for me by the Secretary) that the Tyler, who had been made a Mason free of expence only the year before, had persistently misconducted himself, was, by direction of the W.M., deprived of his sword, watch-coat, and other things entrusted to his care." This Tyler was evidently rather a

hard bargain, for after having apologised and been reinstated, he again misconducted himself and was dismissed from the lodge at the October meeting in the same year. In striking contrast is the conduct and career of another brother, who was initiated in the same manner, for the purpose of acting as Tyler to the lodge.

On the 4th of December, 1822, "A Dispensation having been received from the Provincial Grand Master, to make, pass, and raise Mr. George Penfold, without fee or reward, for the purpose of his becoming a serving brother to the South Saxon Lodge." Bro. Penfold was passed and raised in due course, but doubtless his worldly circumstances improved in process of time for in 1827 we find he was



THE GRAND TYLER'S BUSINESS CARD.

The Card here reproduced in facsimile is an original pen and ink drawing with an inscription on the back in Johnson's handwriting.

Lives N^o 5 Queens Gardens Brompton.
Letters or Messages left at
Mr. Brooks's Stationers
N^o 8 Coventry-street near
the Rag Market will be
Duly Answer'd.

appointed Senior Deacon, and thence step by step he reached the Master's chair.

Another instance of well-deserved promotion has recently come under my notice from across the Atlantic. Last year the Grand Secretaryship of Pennsylvania became vacant through the death of Bro. Michael Nisbet, and the person considered best qualified to succeed him was Bro. William A. Sinn, who had been Grand Tyler since 1882, and also private secretary to the Grand Master from 1887. To the best of my knowledge that is the only case on record of the promotion of a Grand Tyler to the office of Grand Secretary.

It is not often we meet with a case like the following:—At the first meeting of the Lodge of Honour, Wolverhampton, on the 17th August, 1846, "Mr. Ward was appointed Tyler subject to his being initiated." Mr. Ward was duly initiated

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on the 31st of the same month, and as he served the lodge as Tyler until 1800, he no doubt properly appreciated the honour conferred upon him.

I do not personally vouch for the truth of the following story, as I was not present at the time the incident is supposed to have taken place, either at the latter part of last century or the beginning of the present. It is taken from a history of the old Lodge at Bandon, co. Cork, by Bro. George Bennett, Barrister-at-Law, and was retold by Bro. Dr. Chetwode Crawley, Senior Grand Deacon of Ireland, in his "Notes on Irish Freemasonry," in Vol. IX., Transactions of Lodge, Quatuor Coronati.

"Some years ago, a gentleman whom we shall call Mr. B—, was balloted for and accepted as a candidate for Masonic honours. He was duly noticed to be present at the Devonshire Arms on a certain day for initiation, and he attended. As he ascended the staircase, ominous knocks and the mutterings of distant thunder caught his ear, and by no means helped to allay the fears which had possessed him during the greater part of the previous week. Arriving on the landing, he gently asked the tyler may he go in; but the redoubtable Dick Baylie would not even allow him to put his nose inside the scarlet curtain which hung some feet in front of the lodge-door. Even the dress the tyler wore appeared in harmony with the sanguinary and mysterious deeds that were said to have been perpetrated within. A huge red cloak covered him to the very toes; the large sleeves which hung below his hands terminated in cuffs of orange velvet, on each of which was a representation of a skull and cross-bones in lustrous black; the blue collar had on it moons and stars of bright yellow, and candlesticks, compasses, and other cabalistic symbols of the Craft, nearly covered it with odd-looking devices. On his head was a gigantic cocked hat, which would almost have served him for a boat, it was so large. This was surmounted with blue and red feathers, and in his hand was a flaming falchion. 'Keep off!' said the terrible Dick, as the bewildered candidate moved forward a step or two, 'or before you can say *domine saluum me fac*, I'll run you through the gullet!'

"Mr. B—, not caring to encounter so fierce-looking an opponent, went down stairs, and after strolling about for a little time, he sauntered into the kitchen. A roaring fire was down at the time, and the covers which lay on the various cooking utensils kept up a perpetual trotting match with one another, as if to see which of them would be on the floor first; but the monstrous poker—more than half of which was thrust in between the bars, and which already looked soft and white with the glow of intense heat—fixed his attention at once. 'Ah! well, Johanna,' said the victim, addressing the cook in an assumed indifferent tone, 'what do you want that big poker for?'

"'Faith, sir,' replied the latter, looking very thoughtful, 'I'm afraid I'll get into a scrape about that same poker?' 'Why so?' 'Because, by some mistake, their own was taken up to the farm, and put as a prop under the loft where the master keeps the oats for the horses, and I suspect they'll never be satisfied with this piece of wire!' looking contemptuously at the great poker. 'And who is it that that-wants such a thing at all?' falteringly inquired poor B—. 'Why, the Freemasons, sir, to be sure! The Doctor ran down to me a while ago, and told me to be quick, as they were going to make a mason immediately, and many is the one I reddened for them before; but I suppose they'll kill me entirely now!' 'And why wouldn't that poker do-do-them?' 'Yerra! is it that knitting-needle? Whist! by gor, here they are!' as a door was heard to bang upstairs.

"Pressing his hat on his forehead, the applicant for masonic honours shot out of the kitchen like a flash of lightning, and fleeing through the open door he bounded the limestone steps, and ran for his life. 'Come back!' roared the cook; 'Hould him!' cried the boots; 'Catch him!' shouted the waiter, but away he sped faster than before, when the fellows who lounged outside on the steps, and who, to do them justice, were never averse to a bit of fun, got an inkling of what occurred, they gave tongue with a vengeance, and some of them even gave chase, but they might as well try and overtake a telegraphic message on its way to its destination along the wires. The affrighted candidate was soon out of sight; and, from that day to the present, no one has ever seen him in that locality."

"[The odd costume of the Tyler, as described in the foregoing passage, requires a word of explanation, though it seems to have presented nothing unusual to Bro. Bennett, who was doubtless familiar with it from his first entry into the Lodge. The emblems on the cloak referred not only to the Craft, but to the Royal Arch and Templar Degrees, so that the one garment could be used by the Janitor, no matter which of the Degrees was being worked. The robe was a survival from the days when Craft Lodges in Ireland were accustomed to confer the Royal Arch and Templar Degrees without any authorisation other than that which they considered their Craft Warrant to bestow on them. The practice was general throughout Ireland at the close of the last century, and held its ground during the early part of the present century.]"

The old Tyler's coat, a front and back view of which is here depicted, is in possession of the Eaton Lodge, No. 533, Congleton. It is copied by permission from volume six of the Transactions of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, where it illustrates a paper on Masonic clothing by Bro. F. J. W. Crowe, P.P.G. Organist, &c., who states that the coat originally belonged to the now extinct Harmony Lodge, at Knutsford. I need hardly say that it was not made for the brother who has it on.

The History of the Lodge of Relief, No. 42, Bury, contains the following, under date June 26th, 1820: "A motion was made for new jewels for the in and out Guard; and a coat for the Tyler, which was carried unanimously," and we learn

from the History of the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 283, Leeds, that so recently as 1833 it was proposed "that the Tyler be provided with an official coat."

I hope I shall not be deemed too presumptuous if, in concluding this paper, I venture to offer a few suggestions applicable to Tyling as a profession.

As a Tyler of private lodges, my personal experience is comparatively small, but having been for upwards of 30 years constantly employed in the Grand Lodge buildings, in which about a hundred lodges and chapters hold their meetings, it may easily be understood that I have had ample opportunities for observation and for forming an opinion as to the requisite qualifications for a good Tyler and



what I consider to be the proper way of discharging the duties of that office. With the exception of that of the Master I consider there is no office, appertaining to a Freemason's lodge, of greater responsibility than that of the Tyler, hence a corresponding degree of care should be exercised in the selection of a brother to fill that post. Our Masonic ancestors recognised the importance of the office and of the mode of selection when they enacted that the appointment should not be the prerogative of the Master for the time being, but should be vested in the whole lodge, as is the case with the Master and Treasurer, who must, however, be elected by ballot, whereas the Tyler may be chosen openly by a majority of the brethren present. A probable reason for this distinction may be that should any member have aught to say against the brother nominated, he may say it openly and leave the decision to the lodge.

Amongst the large number of professional Tylers engaged in the metropolis, there are, of course, many admirably adapted for the position they fill, whilst others are sometimes met with who, in certain respects, are not so happily qualified.

When a brother in his declining years, unfortunately finds his prospects in life less bright than they had hitherto been, he generally turns his attention to Tyling as a profession, but it does not necessarily follow that he will always make a good Tyler. It is not, however, my purpose to single out instances of failure that have come under my notice, nor to direct attention to the peculiarities of certain individuals, but rather to describe, as briefly as possible, for the benefit of those who may aspire to the office, how, in my opinion, a Tyler may best fulfil his duties with satisfaction to his lodge and credit to himself. In the first place I would point out the importance of carefully guarding himself against the temptation to overstep the bounds of sobriety while on duty either at "labour" or at the subsequent "refreshment." In this respect it is but fair to say that I have observed a marked improvement in the generality of Tylers of the present day as compared with some of those I have known in the past. A Tyler should be

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Secretary—MR. H. J. TRESIDDER, at the Hospital.

industrious and diligent, and whatever he may have been formerly, he must adapt himself to his altered circumstances. He should be early at the lodge house on the day of meeting, at all events he should allow himself ample time to set out the lodge and see that every article likely to be wanted is in its proper place, and in good order. I would here point out how essential it is that the Tyler should receive the usual summons in order that he may learn the hour of meeting, and the business to be transacted. Having prepared the lodge, he should then clothe himself and take his station in the ante-room at least 10 or 15 minutes before the time of opening; meanwhile it would be as well if he were to take a last look round the lodge to make sure that nothing has been forgotten. Without being obtrusive, he should be ready to render any little service to the brethren as they arrive, and he should never forget that the youngest member is entitled to his attention equally with the highest in the lodge. He should see that every brother signs the attendance book, if possible, before entering the lodge. In his reception of candidates and visitors he cannot be too careful; he should remember that much depends upon first impressions, and carefully refrain from conduct that might possibly be construed into levity, or even familiarity. In short, by a dignified and, at the same time, courteous demeanour, he should endeavour to make the novitiate feel at home, and that he is about to be admitted to a brotherhood of gentlemen. In the event of any little display of nervousness on the part of a candidate, as is sometimes the case, a word or two of judicious and kindly encouragement may not be without good result.

During the time the lodge is at labour the Tyler should always remember that he is the *Outer Guard* or *Sentinel*, and should never permit non-Masons, on any pretext, to remain in the vicinity of the portals of the lodge.

I mention this because I have occasionally observed a certain amount of laxity in this respect, in which the Tylers of the older school were most particular.

After the lodge is closed, the Tyler should at once proceed to put away the furniture, &c., in a place of security, he may then proceed to the banquet room, where, for the present, I will leave him, as this paper has already exceeded its intended limits, and I make no doubt that he will there be able to satisfactorily discharge his duties without assistance from me.

As a final hint, however, I should suggest that he be careful not to be out of the way when the Master gives the well-known signal for the closing toast, as some of the brethren may have a journey to go and naturally object to be kept waiting for the Tyler.

District Grand Masters.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, R.W. DIST. G.M. BOMBAY.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Past G. Master of England, R.W. Prov. G. Master of Sussex, and R.W. District G. Master of Bombay, was initiated in the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 259, on the 24th March, 1874, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. the evening before the installation of his elder brother, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as M.W.G. Master. He has occupied the chair in several lodges, notably that of the Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16, while in 1877 he was appointed S.G. Warden of England, and at the meeting held on the 15th May, 1882, the Prince of Wales and their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Connaught and the late Duke of Albany occupied the principal officers' chairs when United Grand Lodge passed by acclamation an address of congratulation to her Majesty the Queen on her escape from the hands of the assassin. In 1886, on the death of R.W. Bro. Sir W. Barrall, Bart., Prov. G. Master of Sussex, his Royal Highness was appointed and installed in office by the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., as his successor, while the year



following, on the Dist. G. Mastership of Bombay becoming vacant, the Duke was elected to fill it. He is also the representative at our Grand Lodge of the three G. Lodges in Berlin that of Three Globes, the G. Countries' Lodge, and the G. Lodge Royal York of Friendship. In Royal Arch Masonry his Royal Highness was appointed G. Superintendent of Bombay, and past Grand Z. of G. Chapter in 1891; while in Mark Masonry he is a Past G. Master, dating from 1891, and at the installation of the Prince of Wales as M.W.G.M.M., the Duke was appointed and invested as S.G. Warden of the Degree. In the order of the Temple he is Great Prior of Ireland and a Knight Grand Cross, and Prov. Prior of Sussex, and in the Ancient and Accepted Rite, an honorary member of the Supreme Council, 33°, for England. His Royal Highness has taken a deep interest in our Masonic Institutions, and has presided as Chairman at the Boys' School Festival in 1878, that of the Girls' School in 1892, and the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February last.

BRO. DONALD GRANT McLEOD, DIST. G. MASTER BURMA.

His Honour Bro. Donald Grant McLeod, M.A., LL.D., was initiated as far back as the 23rd November, 1863, in the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, Cambridge; and four years later joined the Oxford and Cambridge University Lodge, No. 1118. In 1869 he affiliated to the Victoria in Burma Lodge, No. 832, Rangoon, and was installed W.M. in 1872. The following year he joined the Lodge of Philanthropy, No. 512, Maulmain, and in this also, had the honour, in 1876, of being installed in the Master's chair. Having been appointed to office time after time in the District Grand Lodge of Burma, he received his crowning honour as a Craft Mason by being appointed on the 4th May, 1895, to the post of District Grand Master. His progress in Royal Arch Masonry, to which he was exalted in the Royal Burma Chapter, No. 832, Rangoon, on the 24th November, 1871, has also been rapid, and in October, 1885, he became founder and first M.E.Z. of the Tenasserim Chapter, No. 512. In March, 1893, after having held several successive appointments in the District Grand Chapter, he was installed as Grand Superintendent, his patent dating from the 6th March of that year. He has achieved equal distinction in the Mark Degree. Having been advanced in Victoria in Burma Lodge, No. 68, in September, 1871, he played the principal part in the resuscitation of the Lodge of Philanthropy, No. 79, Maulmain, and was chosen to fill the chair of A. as W.M. of the revived lodge in July, 1879. In 1888 he was rewarded for his services with the post of Dist. G.M.O. of Burma, and on the 1st July, 1891, was granted his patent as Dist. G. Master. He is



likewise Prov. Prior of Burma, having held that position since the 16th December, 1892. In this Order, in which he was installed a knight, in the Loyal Burma Preceptory and Eumaus Priory, No. 31, Rangoon, of the Templar Order, on the 29th December, 1891, and of the Order of Malta a fortnight later, he is a Past E.P., having been inducted into that office on the 24th December, 1892, while in May, 1896, he figured as one of the founders of the St. George in Burma Preceptory and Donald McLeod Priory, No. 166. As regards the Ancient and Accepted Rite, he was perfected Rose Croix, 18, in the Leeson Chapter, No. 21, Rangoon, on the 7th November, 1871, and was installed M.W.S. in 1890, while in 1894, he became a founder of the Salween Chapter, No. 131, Rangoon. In April of the present year he was admitted 32°. He his Intendant-General for Burma in the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, in which he was installed Knight in the St. Andrew's Conclave, No. 15, and a short while since helped to found the Excelsior Conclave. In addition, he is a Royal Ark Mariner, being a P.C.N. of the Old Kent (T.L.) Lodge of that Degree and in August last, became founder of the Martaban Lodge. He is a member of the Constantine Council, No. 2, of Royal and Select Masters, was founder and first S.R. of the Maulmain Conclave, No. 28, and is a Past G. Councillor of the Order of the Secret Monitor, and has taken all the Degrees and been made a Past Master of the Stewart Council, No. 16, of the Allied Degrees. Thus his honour Bro. Judge McLeod is head in Burma of no less than five branches of our Modern system of Masonry, and has rendered most important services to well nigh all of them, and we can only express in his case as in those of his brother Dist. G. Masters that he may be spared for many years to increase, if possible, his claims upon our respect.

BRO. COLONEL SIR GEORGE M. J. MOORE, C.I.E., DIST. G.M. MADRAS.

Bro. Colonel Sir G. M. J. Moore, C.I.E., upon whom the honour of knighthood was conferred in connection with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, has also had a long and distinguished career in Masonry, having been initiated in the Mount Lodge, No. 926, Madras, on the 27th November, 1868. In December, 1882, he was installed in its chair as W.M. In January, 1885, he was elected a joining member of Perfect Unity, No. 150, Madras, and the Lodge of Faith, Hope, and Charity, No. 1285, Ootacamund, and has occupied the chairs of both, having been installed in that of the latter in the June following his election as member, and in that of the former on the 11th January, 1896. In 1891 he helped to found the Lodge of St. George, No. 2532, Madras. These services have been again and again recognised, and Bro. Sir George Moore was appointed, firstly, District J.G. Deacon of Madras in January, 1884, District J.G. Warden in January, 1885, and Deputy District G. Master in 1886, and in 1891, on Bro. Lord Commemara vacating the office of District G. Master, he was chosen and installed as his successor. That he has done good service to the Craft in Madras is thus most ably demonstrated, and that he is respected and popular is shown by the complimentary banquet at which he was quite recently entertained on the occasion of his receiving Diamond Jubilee honours from the Queen. He is also a Royal Arch Mason, having been exalted in the Chapter of St. John, No. 273, Vepery, on the 9th December, 1881, and installed M.E.Z. in September, 1885. He is also a joining member of Excelsior Chapter, No. 1285, Ootacamund, and of the School of Plato, No. 150, Madras, while in District G. Chapter he was appointed District G. Registrar, in January, 1884, and District G.H. in February, 1886. In November, 1887, he succeeded Comp. A. M. Saunders as G. Superintendent. In Mark Masonry, to

which he was advanced in St. Mark's-in-the-East Lodge, No. 61, on the 6th January, 1882, he is a P.M. of St. Thomas's Lodge, No. 306, having joined that lodge in November, 1882, and been installed in the chair of A. a twelvemonth later, while he was appointed Dist. G.S.B. in 1883, Dist. G.M.O. in 1884, and Dist. S.G.W. in January, 1886. A few months later—on the 11th May—he was chosen and installed Dist. G. Mark Master, so that he is the head and the respected head of Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark Masonry in the Presidency of Madras, and we



BRO. LT.-GEN. SIR GEORGE B. WOLSELEY, K.C.B., DIST. G.M. OF THE PUNJAB.

Bro. Lt.-Gen. Sir George B. Wolsley, K.C.B., who was appointed to his office of Dist. G. Master of the Punjab on the 31st January, of last year, in succession to Bro. Col. Charles F. Massy, resigned, was initiated under the Irish Constitution, but took the Second and Third Degrees in the Junna Lodge, No. 1394, Delhi, in 1872, and in the course of his Masonic career has presided over the following lodges as W. Master, namely, the Rock of Gwalior, No. 1066, Jhansi, in 1874, and again in 1888; Lodge of the True Brothers, No. 1210, Dinapore, in 1878; the Rohilla Star Lodge, No. 1813, Bareilly, in 1882; the Lodge of Hope and Perseverance, No. 782, Lahore, in 1884, and for the second time in 1886; and the Lodge of St. John the Evangelist, No. 1483, Mian Mir, during the present year. He is a Royal Arch Mason, ranking as a founder and P.Z. of the 88th of Gwalior Chapter No. 1066, having occupied the chair of First Principal on its constitution



trust he may long be spared to preside over these branches of Masonry as we have of the Order of the Temple of which he was installed knight and Knight of Malta in 1887 in the Preceptory of St. John, No. 73, Vepery. Having served the offices of Marshal in the Preceptory and of Lieutenant-General in the Priory, he was installed E.P. and is Prov. Prior of the Order, having been installed in the two offices the same day, the 26th April, 1890, while in 1895 he was made a Knight Commander. Bro. Moore is also a Royal Ark Mariner, having been elevated in Lodge Noble of that Degree in 1880; was perfected Rose Croix 18 in the Comandant Chapter, No. 27, on the 18th October, 1887, and was installed M.W.S. in 1891; is a Past S.R. and Past G. Guardian in the Order of the Secret Monitor, a Past T.E.M. of the Priests in India Council, No. 19, Madras, of Royal and Select Masters and a P.M. of the Moore Council, No. 22, of the Allied Degrees.

in 1878; a founder and P.M. of the Garnet Lodge of Mark Masons, and served as Dep. D.G.M. of Bengal in 1881, and as Dist. G. Master from 1885 to 1888. In the Ancient and Accepted Rite he has been perfected Rose Croix, and admitted to the 31st Degree; is a Past E.P. in the Order of the Temple and Past M.P.S. in the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine. Above all, he is the present Dist. G. Master and G. Superintendent of the Punjab, having been appointed to the former office, as already stated, and to the latter on the same date. He has proved himself a strong ruler, and is indefatigable in his efforts to strengthen and promote the interests of Masonry in the District over which he has the honour to preside.

BRO. R. MILES ROBERTS, DIST. G.M. SOUTH AFRICA (C.D.).

Bro. R. Miles Roberts, who, on the erection of Central South Africa in 1895 into a Dist. G. Lodge, had the honour of being appointed its first Dist. G. Master, was initiated in the Zeland Lodge, No. 608, Beaufort, Cape of Good Hope, on the 21st July, 1863, and served as Warden in 1867. In July, 1875, he



became founder and first W. Master of the Richard Giddy Lodge, No. 1574, and in 1880 was appointed to the chair of Dist. S.G. Warden of South Africa (W.D.). He is a Royal Arch Mason, both under the English and Scottish Constitutions, having been exalted in the Chapter of Concord, No. 608, Beaufort, on the 1st April, 1866, and became founder and first M.E.Z. of the Richard Giddy

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Chapter, No. 1574, Kimberley, in March, 1876. In Mark Masonry he is a P.M. of the Corner-stone Lodge, No. 217, Kimberley, Past W.C.N., No. 133 in the Degree of Royal Ark Maritery, a Knight Templar and Knight of Malta, and Past E.P. of the Diamond of the Desert Preceptory, No. 133, Kimberley; Past M.P.S. of the Royal Sussex Conclave of the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine, and in 1894, was appointed Intendant-General of South Africa (N.D.). In the Ancient and Accepted Rite he was perfected Rose Croix on 1st February, 1869; became a founder of the Adamanta Chapter of that Degree in May, 1874, and was installed M.W.S. in February, 1876. On the 1st October, 1894, he was admitted to the 32°. His patent of appointment as Dist. Grand Master of the Central Division of South Africa bears date the 22nd October, 1895.

BRO. C. J. EGAN, M.D., DIST. G.M. SOUTH AFRICA (E.D.).

BRO. CHARLES JAMES EGAN, M.D., who has presided over Freemasonry in the Eastern Division of South Africa ever since the District Grand Lodge was formed, is a graduate of the University of Dublin, having taken his A.B. Degree there in 1851. Six years later he became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and in 1883, a member of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland. He was initiated into Masonry in December, 1861, in the British Kaffrarian Lodge, No. 853, which had just then been constituted, at King William's Town, and bore the number 1155. As soon as he had been raised to the Sublime Degree, he was appointed to the office of Secretary, and continued to act in that capacity until the 24th June, 1863, when he was appointed to the chair of J.W. In 1865 he was installed W.M. for the first time, and has since served the office twice, namely, in 1869-70, and again in 1874-5. He was exalted as a Royal Arch Mason in December, 1875, and has successively and successfully passed through the chair of Scribe E. and those of the Principals—J., H., and Z. He is likewise a Mark Mason, having been advanced under the Scottish Con-



stitution in 1877. In 1883, however, he joined the English Constitution in the Old Kent (T.I.) Lodge, and has rendered very material service to the Degree during the years that have since elapsed. He has likewise been perfected Rose Croix, is a P.M.W.S. of the Chapter of Perseverance, No. 58, King William's Town, and took the 30° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite in 1877, in which year the District of South Africa was split into two parts, or Divisions, of which the Western Division was placed under the government of Bro. R. Southey, hitherto District Grand Master of the whole, while the Eastern Division was placed under the charge of Bro. Egan, whose administration has proved most successful, there

being at the present time as many as 31 lodges on the District roll, of which 14 have been constituted under his auspices, to say nothing of the Masonic Educational Fund, which this year has 31 children on its books, the number of those to whom it has afforded the benefits of education being 124. He is also Grand Superintendent of Royal Arch Masons and District Grand Master of the Mark Degree having been appointed to the former position in 1884, and to the latter in 1891, his authority in the latter Degree extending over the whole of South Africa, the District of Natal being alone excepted.

BRO. GEORGE RICHARDS,* DIST. G.M. TRANSVAAL.

Bro. George Richards is the first, and thus far the only brother who has presided over the Transvaal, his appointment to office dating from the 1st January, 1895. In the three years that have since elapsed, very substantial progress has been made, so that the number of lodges on the roll is now 22, of which some half dozen have been constituted since Bro. Richards's accession to office. Bro. Richards is a Past M.W.S. of the St. Croix Chapter, No. 81, Port Elizabeth, of



the Rose Croix 18° under the Supreme Council, 33° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, and has been admitted to the 32°. He is also Secretary of the Sentinel Conclave of the Order of the Secret Monitor, Johannesburg, nor is there any reason to doubt that under his auspices Freemasonry will continue to make substantial progress. During the present year a Transvaal Masonic Educational Fund has been started as a memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and at the inaugural meeting the munificent sum of £15,000 was raised. This speaks well for the Transvaal and its chief.

BRO. JOHN LOCKE, DIST. G.M. BARBADOS.

Bro. John Locke, who was appointed a Dist. G. Master of Barbados on the 7th October, 1895, in succession to Col. John Elliot, C.B., resigned, was initiated in the Union Lodge, No. 247, Georgetown, Demerara, on the 8th January, 1867, and in 1874 was elected a joining member of the Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 867, Trinidad; subsequently he was installed as W.M. in 1876, again in 1878, and again, for the third time, in 1881. In 1888 he became a founder of St. Michael's Lodge, No. 2253, Barbados, and was installed in the chair in 1882. In 1892 the Dist. G. Lodge of Barbados was constituted—there having previously been a Prov. G. Lodge—and Bro. Locke was appointed, firstly, the Dist. G. Treasurer and then, in 1891, Dep. Dist. G. Master; while in 1895, on Bro. Col. Elliot leaving the island at the conclusion of his term of office as Governor, and resign-

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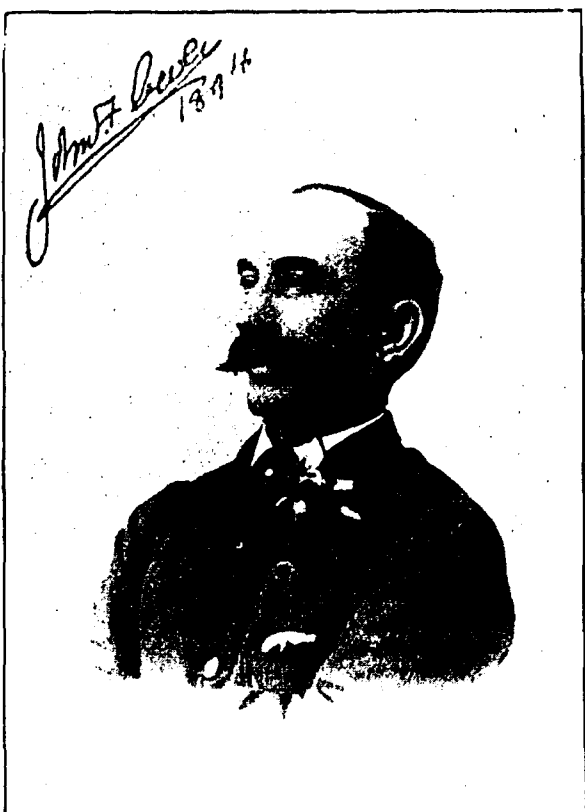
ing his Masonic appointments, he became, as already stated, his successor as Dist. G.M., and had the honour of being installed by his Excellency the Governor of the Island. He was exalted a R.A. Mason in the Union Chapter, No. 247, Georgetown, on the 6th October, 1868; became a founder of the Royal Prince of Wales Chapter, No. 867; in 1875 was installed its Second Principal H. in 1882. He was advanced to the Mark in the Trinidad Kilwinning Chapter, No. 126, under the Scottish Constitution, but in 1892 he joined the Albion Lodge, No. 212,



Barbados, on the English Mark G. Lodge and founded and was first W.M. of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 441, the same year. In June, 1892, he was appointed D.D.G. Mark Master for the West India Islands, and in October, 1895, succeeded Bro. Col. Elliot as Dist. G. Master; so that he is in charge both of Craft and Mark Masonry, and during the brief period he has held these appointments, has won the respect and esteem of the brethren over whom he presides.

BRO. MAJOR-GENERAL J. F. OWEN, R.A., DIST. G.M., MALTA.

Bro. Major-General J. F. Owen, the successor of Rear Admiral Markham as Dist. Grand Master of Malta, was initiated in the Albion Lodge, No. 196—then No. 232—Barbados, on the 11th April, 1861, but owing, no doubt, to the exigencies of military service, it was not until the 12th October, 1879, that he was raised to the Degree of M.M. in the Lodge of Harmony, No. 1535, Mauritius. Since then, however, he has taken a prominent part in Masonry, and was appointed J.W. in 1880. In 1883 he was elected a joining member of the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, and having joined the Prince of Wales Lodge on



12th July, 1891, served as W.M. in 1893-4. In May, 1895, he joined the Lodge of St. John and St. Paul, No. 319, Valetta, Malta, and since then has been elected an honorary member of the Wayfarers Lodge, No. 1926, Valetta; the Zeland Lodge, No. 515, Valetta; the Union of Malta Lodge, No. 407; and the United Brethren Lodge, No. 1923. In 1893 he received his first appointment as Dist. S.G.D. in the Dist. G. Lodge of Queensland, while in March, 1896, he was made Dist. S.G. Warden, Malta, and in the September following Dep. Dist. G.M., while on the 1st January of the current year he was appointed, and on the 13th February, installed in his present office of Dist. Grand Master in succession, as we have said, to Bro. Rear Admiral Markham. He is also a member of other Constitutions, having affiliated to the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 398, Capetown, under the Scottish Constitution on

the 1st June, 1882, to the Leinster Lodge, No. 387, Malta, under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, on 14th April, 1889; and to the United Service Lodge, No. 387, Adelaide, as founder and W. Master in 1887, under the S. Australian Constitution, for which service he was appointed S.G. Deacon of the Grand Lodge of that Colony in 1888. As regards Royal Arch Masonry, he was exalted in the Scotia Chapter, No. 65, Barbados, under the Scottish Constitution at the very outset of his career, joined the William Kingston Chapter, No. 407, Valetta (E.C.), on the 1st October, 1896, and was installed its M.E.Z. in 1897, while on the 1st January, of the same year, he was elected a joining member of the Melita Chapter, No. 349. On the 8th February, 1897, he was appointed, and on the 7th July, installed Grand Superintendent of Malta. In Mark Masonry to which he was advanced, in the Scottish R.A. Chapter Scotia, No. 65, he is a member of the Ramsay Lodge, No. 248, Valetta, under the English Mark Grand Lodge and was installed Dist. Grand Mark Master on the 24th April, 1897. He is also a Knight Templar, member of Melita Preceptory, No. 37, and a Knight of Malta—Melita Priory, No. 37; has taken the 32° of the Ancient and Accepted Rite both in England and France, and is Past M.W.S. of our English Rose of Sharon, Rose Croix Chapter, No. 35, Valetta. Lastly, he is a Knight of the Order of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine and of St. John the Evangelist and Holy Sepulchre, so that he has not only been affiliated to many Constitutions, but has likewise taken most of the Degrees which are open to the brethren.

BRO. C. C. McMILLAN, DIST. G.M. AUCKLAND (N. ZEALAND).

Bro. Charles Cookson McMillan was appointed Dist. G. Master of Auckland last year in succession to Bro. George S. Graham, J.P., resigned. The lodges under his charge are 19 in number, and there are R.A. Chapters and Mark Lodge



likewise established in the District. Bro. McMillan has been perfected Rose Croix, but does not appear to be a subscribing member at the present time to any Rose Croix Chapter.

BRO. L. MOORE, DIST. G.M. NORTHERN CHINA.

Bro. Lewis Moore, who, on the sudden death of John Irwin Miller, was appointed on the 23rd June, 1896, to succeed him as Dist. G. Master, has had a



Masonic career extending over 30 years, having been initiated in the Northern Lodge of China, No. 570, Shanghai, on the 11th August, 1867. In 1871 he joined the Tuscan Lodge, No. 1027, and has thrice presided over it as W. Master

—namely, in 1876, 1877, and 1894. He held his first appointment in Dist. G. Lodge as Dist. G.S.B. in 1877, and having been appointed to still higher offices, and served as Deputy Dist. G. Master to Bro. J. I. Miller, was chosen, as we have said, on that brother's death, to occupy the vacant office of Dist. G.M. He was exalted in the Zion Chapter, No. 570, Shanghai, in 1878, and installed its M.E.Z. in 1881; while in Mark Masonry, to which he was advanced in the Orient Lodge, No. 482, Shanghai, in 1895; he is the present occupant of the chair of A. in that lodge. We trust that Bro. Lewis Moore's career may be prolonged for many years to his own honour and the advantage of the Craft.

BRO. JOHN BEVAN,* DIST. G.M. WESTLAND (SOUTH ISLAND).

Bro. John Bevan, who was appointed to the office of Dist. G. Master of Westland (South Island) in 1880, in succession to Bro. John Lazar, has presided



for 17 years over a compact and well-ordered District of seven lodges, of which the Lodge of Advance, No. 2245, Brunnerton, has been founded since his appointment. In 1881, he was appointed G. Superintendent of Royal Arch Masonry in

the District, while in 1882, he was chosen to fill the office of Dist. G. Mark Master of Westland, there being three lodges of the Degree under his charge. He is an able Mason and well qualified to administer the affairs of Masonry, the most recent evidence of his weight and influence in the Craft being his selection to instal Bro. R. Dunn Thomas as Dist. G. Master of Canterbury (South Island), in succession to the late Bro. Peter Cunningham.

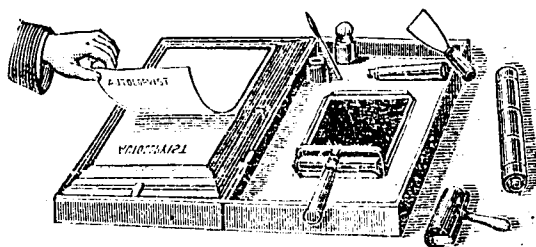
N.B. In the case of the District G. Masters marked with a *, we have not received any details of their Masonic work.

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