

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE AND ART

REPORTS OF THE GRAND LODGES ARE PUBLISHED WITH THE SPECIAL SANCTION OF
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
RIGHT HON. LORD SALTOUN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
LEADERS—	
The Order of the Temple in the United States	73
Freemasonry in Hungary	73
Grand Lodge of Scotland	74
East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution	75
Annual Ball of the Lodge of Industry, No. 186	75
Annual Ladies' Night of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1658	75
Annual Ball of the Camden Lodge, No. 704	75
Seventeenth Annual Banquet of the Logic Club	75
First Ladies' Night of the Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65	76
Presentation to Bro. Milton Smith, Past Secretary of the Bishopsgate Lodge, No. 2396	76
Craft Masonry	76
MASONIC NOTES—	
Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	79
Annual Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	79
Provincial Grand Lodge of Durham	79
Provincial Grand Chapter of Durham	79
Bro. Klein's Demonstration	79
Correspondence	80
Masonic Notes and Queries	80
Craft Masonry	80
Royal Arch	82
Knights Templar	83
The Craft Abroad	83
Mark Masonry	83
Lodges and Chapter of Instruction	83
Masonic and General Tidings	84

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the United Kingdom the Masonic Order of Knights Templar, though it includes in its ranks a considerable number of the most distinguished Masons of our time, is by no means numerically strong. In all probability the members holding under the Great Priorities of England and Ireland and the Chapter General of Scotland do not, in the aggregate, greatly exceed 3000; the meetings of the preceptories, as far as we are in a position to judge from the paucity of the reports which are sent to us for publication, are infrequent and the attendance limited, and it is only when the Supreme Bodies hold their annual or semi-annual meetings that we obtain anything like a fair insight into the proceedings of the Organisation. In the United States matters are on a far different footing. There is, to begin with, a Grand Encampment which presides over the Order throughout the whole country, and meets triennially. Under this are some 40 Grand Commanderies, one in each of those States and Territories in which the Knight Templar body has established for itself a home of sufficient strength to require some such superior authority, while the knights enrolled in the private commanderies which are thus regulated and directed considerably exceed 100,000. Those who desire to learn how this immense force is distributed throughout the States and Territories of the Union will do well to consult the Tables annually compiled by the eminent Masonic statistician to whom we are all so greatly indebted for our familiarity with the statistics of Masonry and its branches in America. But those Tables will only enlighten them numerically, and if they desire further information as to the origin and development of the Order of the Temple, we cannot do better than refer them to an article entitled the "Evolution and Growth of American Templary," which appeared in the pages of the *Freemason's Repository* for December, 1897, and which was read by Sir Knight GEORGE H. BURNHAM, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, at a meeting of the "Massachusetts Union of Knight Templar Commanders" at the Parker House, Boston, on the 18th November last. From this it appears that the earliest known instance in the United States of the conferring of the Templar Degree is contained in the records of the "Royal Arch Lodge,

which was set up by the side of the old Lodge of St. Andrew, and worked by virtue of the charter of that Lodge, which was loaned to the Royal Arch brethren for the purpose, until the adoption of the present, or American, system of Royal Arch Masonry, about 1793." The actual date is the 28th August, 1769, and Sir Knight BURNHAM remarks, on the authority of "that eminent Masonic historian, Bro. JAMES HUGHAN, of England," that "it is the oldest record in the world of the conferring of the Order of Knights Templar under Masonic auspices." From that date forward until 1802, the Degree was, as Sir Knight BURNHAM suggests, no doubt conferred many times at occasional encampments opened under the authority of Lodge charters, issued by competent Masonic power. The diplomas or certificates that have been handed down, and furnish evidence of the Degree having been worked, all bear date, we are told, "from 1750 or thereabouts, to 1796," and purport to have been issued by Encampments, one such certificate of the year 1793 being in the possession of the St. John's Commandery, though no evidence has thus far been obtained as to the existence of the body which granted it, or of the identity of the officers whose names appear thereon. It belonged to one of the knights which opened the aforesaid St. John's Encampment or, as it is now called, commandery, who had been a Mason in 1787, and whom it recommends as having been "Knighted at the General Assembly held on the field at Concordia," to the kindly consideration of all Knights Templar throughout the world. However, in 1802, the owner of this certificate, with five other knights, founded the St. John's Encampment, or Commandery—now No. 1 on the roll of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In 1805 this encampment, in conjunction with others which had previously constituted themselves by inherent right, took steps for the formation of a Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and in 1816 the Grand Encampment of the United States was founded by four delegates from the Grand Commanderies of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and New York. The progress of the Order at first was slow, the three encampments under the former Commandery having been augmented to five in the first 20 years, and to no more than six in the next 20 years. However, by the end of 1865 the number had been increased to 22, and by 1885, to 40, there being at the present time 46 commanderies under the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, with an aggregate subscribing membership of 12,313. In other jurisdictions almost equally marvellous progress has been made, and at the present time the Grand Encampment of the United States is the supreme authority of the Order, having, as has been said, as constituent members no less than 40 Grand Commanderies, while the subscribing Sir Knights throughout the Union muster in all 106,552. Such progress is, to say the least, astounding.

FREEMASONRY IN HUNGARY.

The Grand Lodge of England is in friendly communication with the Grand Lodge of Hungary, and, as will be seen from the Grand Lodge Calendar, our esteemed Grand Registrar is the representative of the latter at our Grand Lodge, while Bro. GEORGE VON JOANNOVICS, M.W.G.M., represents England at the Grand Lodge over which he presides. This was founded as recently as the year 1886, and has some 40 lodges on its roll, about one half of which work in the German language, and the rest in the Hungarian, the number of subscribing members

being slightly over 2800. But the glimpses which we in England obtain into the work done by our Hungarian brethren are so few and far between that it is with very great pleasure we give some account of the description of the opening of a new Masonic Temple in Buda-Pesth, in 1896, which is to be found in the report on Foreign Correspondence appended to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio at its annual communication in October, 1897. According to this report, which is taken from the "Orient," the official organ of the Grand Lodge of Hungary, the interior of the Temple was in a state of darkness, the altar unfurnished and the floor bare, the occupants of the hall being the President of the Building Committee, the architect, and the builder, the key of the door reclining on a cushion. As soon as the presiding Grand Master appeared on the scene with the gavel in his right hand and the sacred fire in his left, preceded by the G. Master of Ceremonies, the Grand Standard Bearer, and the Grand Tyler, and followed by the Grand Wardens carrying the symbols to be placed on the altar, as well as their gavels, the Grand Orator with the Book of Constitutions, and the rest of the Grand Officers, the proceedings commenced by the Grand Master knocking with his gavel and demanding admittance. In due course this is granted, and the brethren having entered, to the accompaniment of solemn music, the principal personages take their appointed places as follows: "The Standard Bearer and the Sword Bearer take their stand at the steps of the East; the Grand Master of Ceremonies stops at the column of the Junior Grand Warden; the Grand Master ascends to the altar; a step lower stand the Grand Wardens; and a step still lower the Grand Secretary and the Grand Orator. The other Grand Officers assemble around the Standard Bearer and the Sword Bearer; the Members of the Council take their position on the right and left of the place assigned for the floorcloth or carpet. The ceremony then begins, the G. Master placing the sacred fire on the altar, and addressing the Builder as follows: "You have finished your work with wisdom; strength and beauty praise it. But let the Operative Masons now give way to the Free Masons that henceforth the spirit may complete its work in wisdom, with the strength of truth and the beauty of virtue." Then, lifting up and addressing the sacred fire, he continues: "Incomprehensible celestial light, blessed holy fire, from eternity, origin and soul of the great Universe, G.A.O.T.U., enlighten our understanding and our soul. The warmth and splendour of Thy holy fire fill our hearts, that we may serve Freemasonry in a worthy manner." The G.M. then lights the candle on the altar and says, "Let these flames illumine those who are to be initiated in the lodges working under the Symbolic Grand Lodge, that they may be enabled to comprehend the sanctity of our labours." The Senior Grand Warden then takes the sacred fire from the G.M., and going to his place, accompanied by the J.G.W., lights the candle on his table, saying, "This sacred fire warm and purify our hearts; the heavenly splendour illuminate our paths and guide our labours, that the activity of our Grand Lodge may prove a blessing to mankind." The J.G. Warden then goes to his place, and having lighted his candle, says, "This sacred fire kindle in our hearts the love of labour, enlighten our reason in its judgments, and warm our soul in our undertakings." The G.M. then, after invoking the G.A.O.T.U., addresses some appropriate words to the assembled brethren, and on the third stroke of his gavel the Temple became ablaze with light, when the Grand Master again briefly addresses them, and having asked the Senior G. Warden what is still wanting to complete the furnishing of the Temple, is told "The emblems of the Altar and the floorcloth." At the Grand Master's command the former is at once furnished with the Book of Constitutions, the sword, and the square and compasses, two G. Stewards spread the carpet, the ceremony concluding with the following from the Grand Master: "After the Temple has been lit, the altar adorned, and the floorcloth spread, I declare by virtue of my power as Grand Master this Temple consecrated to the glory of the G.A.O.T.U. for the performance of Masonic labour. May order, diligence, and harmony ever be at home within its walls! Bros. Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, announce under the columns that the consecration of the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary has been

completed;" and this having been done, the ceremony is brought to a close and the brethren adjourn to refreshment in the First Degree.

Of the beneficent work done by our Hungarian brethren, ample evidence is to be found in the work entitled "Freemasonry in our Country," which was published on the occasion of the Millennial Festival of the Kingdom, but, as the Ohio reviewer, to whom we are indebted for the foregoing particulars, very justly points out, it is strange that while the protection of the G.A.O.T.U. was invoked on the proceedings, the Volume of the Sacred Law should not have been included amongst the emblems with which the altar was furnished.

GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND.

The quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge of Scotland was held on Thursday, the 3rd inst., at the permanently altered hour of three o'clock. The throne was occupied by the Bro. Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, M.W. Grand Master, who was supported by Bros. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., R.W. Past G. Master; the Most Hon. the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G., R.W. Grand Master Depute; Major F. W. Allan, S.G.W.; Sir John Stirling Maxwell, Bart., Junior Grand Warden; D. Murray Lyon, Grand Sec.; David Reid, Grand Treas.; and about 450 brethren.

The business was kept well in hand by the firm but courteous ruling of the M.W. Grand Master, and included the granting of charters to six new lodges; the appointment of Bro. W. J. Sandford Thomson, as Prov. Grand Master of Kincardineshire; the re-appointment of Bro. R. King Stewart of Murdostoun, as Prov. Grand Master of the Middle Ward of Lanarkshire; and ex-Provost George Christie, as Prov. Grand Master of Stirlingshire.

The office of Senior Grand Deacon being vacant through the lamented death of our highly esteemed Bro. Sir James R. Gibson Maitland, Bart., it fell to the members of Grand Lodge at this meeting to elect a successor. Two names were put forward as candidates, viz., Bro. Alexander A. Speirs, of Elderslie, and Bro. W. Ivison Macadam, V.D., who so admirably discharges the duties of Grand Director of Ceremonies, and the vote was declared in favour of the former. The installation of those office-bearers who were absent at the annual meeting in November and of Bro. A. A. Speirs was performed by the M.G. Grand Master.

The complete list of Grand Office Bearers now is as follows:

Bro. The Right Hon. Lord Saltoun	...	...	G.M.
" Sir Charles Dalrymple, of Newhailes, Bart., M.P.	...	...	Past G.M.
" The Most Hon. the Marquis of Breadalbane, K.G.	...	...	G.M. Depute.
" James Hozier, younger, of Mauldslee, M.P.	...	...	Sub. G.M.
" Major F. W. Allan	...	...	S.G.W.
" Sir John Maxwell Stirling-Maxwell, of Pollok, Bart., M.P.	...	...	J.G.W.
" D. Murray Lyon	...	...	G. Secretary.
" David Reid	...	...	G. Treasurer.
" Rev. J. King Hewison, M.A.	...	...	} G. Chaplains.
" Rev. Archibald Fleming, M.A.	...	...
" Alexander A. Speirs, of Elderslie	...	...	S.G.D.
" William Munro Denholm	...	...	J.G.D.
" W. W. Robertson	...	...	G. Architect.
" Councillor Robert Sorley	...	...	G. Jeweller.
" John Carruthers	...	...	G. Bible Bearer.
" Col. W. Ivison Macadam, V.D.	...	...	G.D.C.
" James Drummond, W.S.	...	...	G. Bard.
" James Gunn	...	...	G.S.B.
" J. Kenyon Lees	...	...	G. Dir. of Music.
" Robert Davidson	...	...	G. Org.
" William Phillips	...	...	G. Marshal.
" Matthew Richmond	...	...	G.I.G.
" George Hay	...	...	G. Tyler.

Through a recent ruling of Grand Lodge the members of Grand Committee were to be increased at this meeting from 36 to 48. This additional number of 12, together with the 12 whose term of office had expired, and two vacancies caused by death, made up the total number of members to be elected at this meeting to 26, for which 31 names were submitted, and the following were elected: Bros. James Caldwell, W. Ivison Macadam, Lieut.-Col. John Campbell, William Officer, S.S.C.; Robert Bathgate, Alexander Bruce, Capt. George Wishart, George Crawford, James Smith, James A. S. Kerr, W. S. Nisbett, W.S., C.C.; Robert Kennedy, William Phillips, William Falconer, James Jack, John Walker, D. C. A. McAllum, James Orr Sinclair, Dugald McInnes, George Liddell, D. Speirs Fraser, W. W. Robertson, James Taylor, jun., William Scott, James Thomson, and Alexand Neil.

Grand Lodge decided that the ordinary meetings of Grand Committee preceding the Quarterly Communications of Grand Lodge shall be held on the second last Thursday of the month.

From the state of the accounts of Grand Lodge from 26th November, 1896, to 25th November, 1897, the sum of the charge appears as £43,025 15. 9d. and the surplus income amounts to £3138 15. 7d.

The increase in the fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence for the year is £155 14s. 7d.

There are at present on the roll of the Annuity Fund 102 annuitants.

The business of Grand Lodge being completed, votes of thanks were given to vote tellers, and Grand Lodge closed in full form and with solemn prayer.

BRO. LORD NORTON arrived in Eaton-place on Monday last from Hams Hall, Birmingham.

**EAST LANCASHIRE SYSTEMATIC MASONIC
EDUCATIONAL AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.**

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the above Institution was held in Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Friday, the 28th ult., Bro. Col. Starkie, Prov. G.M., President of the Institution, presided, and amongst others present were Bros. C. R. N. Beswicke Roysds, Dep. Prov. G.M.; C. D. Cheetham, Chairman of General Committee; T. J. Hooper, Vice-Chairman, Wm. Jaffrey, Treas.; Jas. Andrew, J. B. Goulburn, E. G. Harwood, H. L. Hollingworth, Jas. Kershaw, J. T. Newbold, S. Porritt, Col. Rocca, Jos. Snape, A. H. Jefferis, Hy. Thomas, Wm. Brookes, G. L. Vaughan, W. H. Cunliffe, F. W. Lean, Hy. Heys, Jas. Walker, and Jas. Newton (Secretary).

The reports of the Finance and Audit Committee, and of the Almoners' Committee were presented and adopted, and also the Treasurer's accounts and balance sheet. (An epitome of the accounts appeared in the *Freemason* of the 29th ult.)

The following 15 donors, or subscribers, were elected upon the General Committee: Bros. John Barker, J. Butterworth, C. D. Cheetham, E. Halliwell, E. G. Harwood, F. Hilton, H. L. Hollingworth, T. J. Hooper, W. Jaffrey, J. Kershaw, J. T. Newbold, N. Nicholson, S. Porritt, H. L. Rocca, and Jos. Snape.

The Prov. Grand Master, under Rule 28, appointed the following on the General Committee: Bros. Fritz Reiss, A. H. Jefferis, Hy. Thomas, W. H. Cunliffe, and F. W. Lean.

Bros. Wm. Jaffrey and Jas. Heelis were unanimously re-elected Treasurer and Honorary Secretary respectively, and votes of thanks accorded to them for their past services, and similar votes were given to Bros. C. D. Cheetham, Chairman, and T. J. Hooper, Vice-Chairman of General Committee.

Alterations were made in the rules of the Institution to the following effect: Maximum for an educational grant increased to £18 per year; maximum sum for a relief grant increased to £26; annuity to aged Freemasons, increased to £32 per year.

The thanks of the meeting were given to the Manchester Masonic Hall, Co., Limited, and the Freemasons' Club for their kindness in granting use of rooms for general meetings.

A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Col. Starkie for his services in the chair, and for his continued liberal support, was adopted, and the proceedings terminated.

**ANNUAL BALL OF THE LODGE OF INDUSTRY,
No. 186.**

The annual ball of the above lodge took place at Freemasons' Tavern, on Monday, the 31st ult., and the Crown Rooms, together with several others, were reserved for the occasion. The guests arrived at about 9.30 p.m., when dancing was at once commenced to most delightful music provided by Mr. Farban's Orchestral Band.

Bro. George Smith, W.M., and the following Stewards: Bros. A. J. Newton, I.P.M.; T. M. Wood, P.M.; W. Stewart, S.W.; C. Smith, J.W.; H. C. J. Edwards, J.D.; F. J. Sparke, I.G.; and G. H. Menhinick, were most assiduous in their efforts to promote the enjoyment and comfort of the numerous ladies, gentlemen, and brethren present.

Dancing was carried on merrily until midnight, when the company adjourned to a most *recherché* repast.

There were only three toasts—"The Queen," "The W.M.," and "The Ladies."

"The Queen" was proposed by the W.M., and duly honoured.

The toast of "The W.M." was proposed in most kindly terms by Bro. ARTHUR J. NEWTON, I.P.M.

Bro. W. S. PAGE, Sec., proposed "The Health of the Ladies" most happily, and requested, on behalf of the W.M., their kind acceptance of caskets containing bottles of scent, as a souvenir of a happy evening and of the efforts of the Master and brethren to contribute to their enjoyment and happiness.

Bro. G. H. MENHINICK replied on behalf of the ladies in a most ladylike manner.

Dancing was then resumed till about 4 a.m., when the company broke up after a most delightful dance. Bro. W. S. Page, jun., ably officiated as M.C.

Among those present were Bro. George Smith, W.M., and Mrs. Smith; Bro. A. J. Newton, I.P.M., Mrs. Newton, and party; Mr. and Mrs. Dowding and Miss Walters; Bro. W. S. Page and Mrs. Page; Mr. and Mrs. Vawser; Miss Roper, and party; Bro. W. Stewart, Misses Stewart, and party; Bro. C. Smith, Mrs. Smith, and party; Bro. H. C. J. Edwards, Mrs. Edwards, and party; Miss Edwards, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Westley, Bro. F. J. Sparke, Mrs. Sparke, and party; Bros. H. Burton and G. H. Menhinick, Miss Messenger and party; and others.

**ANNUAL LADIES' NIGHT OF THE SKELMERSDALE
LODGE, No. 1658.**

The annual ladies' evening of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 27th ult., The lodge met at six o'clock and was opened. The SECRETARY read the minutes of the last regular lodge meeting, besides the dispensation granted by the M.W. Grand Master for the brethren to wear Masonic clothing and jewels during the evening, after which the lodge was closed.

There were present Bros. H. B. Buckeridge, W.M.; E. D. Side, S.W.; W. S. Croxson, J.W.; Jas. Hill, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Boys, P.M., Sec.; Gabell, S.D.; and many other brethren, with the Past Masters, Bros. R. Rowland, H. Cohen, and J. Letchford.

The lodge being closed, the reception of the ladies and visitors commenced at 6.45.

The banquet, which had been prepared by Mrs. Venables, began at seven o'clock, and 156 sat down. The seats were taken in beautiful order, as the arrangements made by Bros. Hill, Boys, and Buckeridge were most perfect.

After the banquet the toast of "The Queen" was given and honoured most loyally.

Madame Thatcher sang "God Save the Queen."

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was given by Bro. R. ROWLANDS,

I.P.M., who spoke of the prosperity of the lodge under Bro. Buckeridge, who had occupied the chair for two years, assisted by the Treasurer and Secretary.

Monsieur Adolph sang "Come into the garden, Maud," most splendidly.

The song was encored, but the W.M. said that encores could not be allowed.

The toast of "The Ladies" was given by the W.M. He was very pleased to see so many and such pleasant faces. He spoke in flattering terms of them, and hoped that he should see them again in years to come.

Bro. H. COHEN gave a good short humorous recitation, which was highly appreciated. He then responded in very choice terms for the ladies, expressing their entire satisfaction with all the arrangements that had been made for them, and they hoped they might all be able to come again.

Miss Lily Thatcher sang another song in good style.

Ten o'clock had arrived and the company wended their way to the ball room, where dancing was the great feature. The dances were admirably carried out under the very able direction of Bro. E. D. Side as M.C. He has fulfilled this post for nine years to the entire satisfaction of every one.

The band played splendidly and kept up until four o'clock on the Friday morning when all retired, pleased and satisfied with everything.

**ANNUAL BALL OF THE CAMDEN LODGE,
No. 704.**

The fourth annual ball of the above lodge was held at the King's Hall Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, the 28th ult., and was in every way a great success. Amongst the members of the lodge present were: Bros. John Simpson, W.M.; F. V. Mackenzie, J.W. and W.M. elect; Chas. Gammon, G. Cartwright, W. T. Hawkin, F. A. Bint, J. Henschell, A. T. Evers, Edwin Styles, S. F. Atkinson, W. J. Davies, J. Dean, W. L. Fraser, J. J. Franco, N. John Goodchild, J. R. Glanville, F. H. Haas, R. Hicks, W. Hudson, A. Hughes, A. Mills, T. E. Pond, J. Stockton, F. Hildyard, and Charles Taylor.

The ball was supported by the ladies and visitors, amongst whom were Bro. A. T. Hawtrey and Miss Day; Bro. G. Dale and Mrs. Dale; Bro. H. Von Joel, Mrs. Von Joel, and the Misses Von Joel; Bro. G. F. Edwards and Miss Edwards; Bro. Shepherd and Mrs. Shepherd; Bro. Joseph Gammon; Mr. H. M. Perkins, Mrs. Taylor and Miss Taylor; Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Pond, Miss Scott, Miss Zoe Styles, Miss Amy Brookes, Miss Ratcliffe, Mrs. J. Henschell, Miss Hawkin, Mrs. Charles Gammon, Bro. Bilby and Mrs. Bilby; Bro. John Joel and Mrs. John Joel; Bro. Harry Gordon-Smith, Bro. Thomas Beach, Bro. Otto Cavendish and Miss Cavendish; Bro. Williams and Mrs. Williams; Bro. J. S. Green, Mrs. Green, and the Misses Florence, Gertrude, and Gussie Green; Mr. Herbert Forty and Miss Forty; Miss Chloe Foote, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Rice; Bro. C. B. Todd and Mrs. Todd; Miss Pring, Miss Evers, Mrs. Glanville, Mrs. Davies, Miss Mayer, Mrs. N. John Goodchild, and numerous others.

A special word of praise is due to Bro. A. Crudge, whose imperial orchestra delighted everyone during the evening, by the splendid selection of dance music which they played and for the faultless time which they kept throughout. The Holborn Restaurant must not be forgotten either, for the very able way in which they carried out the arrangements of the evening, and for the splendid supper which they provided.

A feature amongst the dances was the Polonaise, for which every lady and gentleman was supplied with fancy costume, the gentlemen wearing fool's caps and the ladies fool's collars, the march round being accompanied by the gentlemen with auto-trumpets and the ladies doing the duties of the drum with rattles.

It is anticipated that, as a result of the endeavours of the Ball Committee, a nice little surplus will be handed over as proceeds of the ball to the Masonic Charities.

**SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE
LOGIC CLUB.**

The members of the Logic Club and friends held the 17th annual banquet at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., on the 30th ult. The Logic Club—which meets every Sunday morning at the Cavendish Rooms—was started as a private club of instruction, and during its career it has become well known and made its influence felt throughout the metropolis. Of the three original founders, two have departed—Bros. John Maclean and George Buckland—and that they are still held in fond remembrance was evidenced by their portraits being hung behind the Chairman's seat. The remaining founder—Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald—was present, and occupies the onerous post of Secretary.

The chair was taken by Bro. Robert Manuel, the genial Preceptor, who was supported by many well-known brethren, including Bros. J. P. Fitzgerald, R. D. Cummings, J. J. Thomas, H. J. Thomas, J. M. McLeod (Sec. R.M.I.B.), Henry Neville, Sam. Johnson, H. Manfield, W. Thomas, and others.

After a well-served repast,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

The CHAIRMAN, in giving the principal toast of the evening, said that if they wanted to maintain the standard of work, it was absolutely essential that those who aspired to office in Freemasonry should devote themselves with intensity and assiduity to the studies before them. That fact was discovered some long time ago, and there were many opportunities in this great city and in the wide world of Masonry for students of the ritual and ceremonies to attend certain institutions which were known as lodges of instruction, and which met under the sanction of a regular Masonic lodge. He believed their little Society to be unique, as it did not meet under such sanction. It was claimed for it, with justice, that in its inception it was a private Society, and its vast influence had been, and was increasingly felt in the higher circles of Freemasonry in London. By higher circles, he meant no invidious distinction of social rank, but higher circles where the ritual was reverently and seriously studied. That was what this Society claimed to do and claimed to be, and going from this standpoint, they had to consider to whom they owed its existence. Who were the brethren who conceived the idea which had been so conspicuously successful, and to whom great credit was due for the energy, and zeal, and perseverance with which they elaborated it? There were three, all distinguished in Masonry and outside. Two of those worthy brethren had left the scene, but there were excellent portraits of them in the room—Bros. John McLean and George Buckland—but they rejoiced in the presence of the third founder. It was a very honourable record, not only to have been one of the founders, but for many years its Honorary Secretary—a post which to most

men was an unenviable one—and the brethren did not always quite appreciate what it meant. There was nothing but gratitude in their hearts to that distinguished brother—Bro. J. Percy Fitzgerald. Before he concluded, the members of their Society would sympathise with the view he held, that it should be the earnest wish of every Freemason to discharge his duties with efficiency and thoroughness, and to the utmost of his ability, and it would be a desirable reform in their great Institution if some who went into office with somewhat light hearts were checked at the threshold, and this lesson brought to their comprehension more forcibly than in some cases it was. The Logic Club aimed at trying to qualify any earnest student as far as they could. There were some distinguished exponents of Masonic ritual amongst them, and they tried to place their knowledge at the disposal of junior brethren coming on for office. He gave the toast of "The Logic Club," coupled with the name of one of the founders, Bro. Fitzgerald, Hon. Sec.

Bro. J. P. FITZGERALD, who met with a very cordial reception, thanked them for their kindness, which after 12 months hard work might be said to wipe off the score. So far as the club was concerned he was delighted to say it was still progressing after 17 years. They were deeply indebted to several members for introducing new blood. It must be fairly understood that the members of the Committee, the Preceptor, and himself, were not actuated by greed in connection with the offices they held. It was only their proud boast that it was for the proper rendering of the Masonic ritual, for that was the fundamental principle upon which the club was founded. They liked men to be able to do their work and not ask some one else to do it for them. The number of members was not quite as large as last year. They mustered between 300 and 400—a falling off of about 150. This was due in most cases to good men finding slight differences in the working. So far as he was personally concerned, he hoped to go on for some years to come to render the same services in the future as he had in the past.

Bro. BARNES gave "The Chairman" in appropriate terms, and Bro. R. MANUEL, in reply, said he felt his responsibility that evening, this being the first occasion in which he had presided at such a function since holding the position of Preceptor. He had tried to do his best, and he hoped the club would increase in prosperity in the future.

Bro. W. THOMAS submitted "The Masonic Charities," and referred to the Benevolent Association in connection with the club, which proved that they had not been unmindful of charity. The Benevolent Association, formed some 15 years ago, had paid over £2000 to the Masonic Charities which was a marvellous result.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD, Sec. R.M.I.B., responded in an eloquent speech, and expressed his gratitude to the Logic Club, which had sent the Board of Management of the Boys' School many good men and true, who gave up their time to help to bring that Institution to its present position. Having made suitable reference to the good work done by the Benevolent Institution and the Girls' School, Bro. McLeod urged the claims of the Boys' School, and said he was sure that all present would do their best at the Centenary Festival.

In response to Bro. McLeod's appeal, it was announced by Bro. W. THOMAS that a brother who desired to be anonymous, had decided to give 100 guineas to the Boys' School.

"The Visitors" was given by the CHAIRMAN, who warmly welcomed Bros. H. Neville, W.M. 2127, and H. Manfield, who was a distinguished Mason in the provinces and in connection with the Boys' School. Bro. Manfield's Masonic ambition was not yet, however, satisfied, for he was likely to be honoured in the one office elected by the brethren in Grand Lodge.

Bros. HENRY NEVILLE and H. MANFIELD returned thanks, and the proceedings afterwards closed.

During the evening the following brethren materially contributed to a most enjoyable evening by recitations or musical selections: Bros. Llewellyn, Henry Neville, McCall Chambers, Vivian Bennetts, Arthur Hilton, Reynolds, J. H. Barnes, and Hambleton.

FIRST LADIES' NIGHT OF THE LODGE OF PROSPERITY, No. 65.

The old-established Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65, has at last fallen into line with those lodges who cater, once or twice each year, for the enjoyment of the fair sex, and, like other lodges, having once made the experiment, is not likely to depart from the rule in future. The first ladies' night was held at the Holborn Restaurant on the 3rd inst., and resulted in a complete success. The innovation was probably due to the fact that the lodge this year possesses an energetic and popular Worshipful Master—Bro. G. T. Kinipple—to whose organisation and the assistance of the Stewards and M.Cs. the result is mainly due.

The gathering numbered about 180, and the ladies and brethren were received and courteously welcomed by Bro. and Mrs. Kinipple.

An adjournment was made to the Throne Room, where a well-served banquet was served.

At its conclusion the brilliant scene was photographed by flash-light by Messrs. Fradelle and Young, and each lady was presented with a cut glass bottle of choice scent.

A brief toast list followed, the speeches being equally brief, as all were anxious to get to the ball room.

Bro. W. GREIG, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said that to members of the lodge the attributes and merits of the W.M. were well-known, for he excelled in his work and showed the love he bore to the honourable fraternity of which he was a shining light. They could see by the manner in which the W.M. had entertained them that night what sort of man he was, and the visitors would appreciate him as the members did.

Bro. G. T. KINIPPLE, W.M., in response, said that although his remarks would be brief he heartily thanked them for the cheerfulness with which they had received the toast and the I.P.M. for his kind proposition of it. He could assure them he had done his level best, with the valuable assistance of the indefatigable Secretary and the Stewards, to make the evening a successful one. It was very gratifying to him to know and to see that they had been rewarded with success. It had given him great pleasure to preside once more, and he again offered them his sincere thanks for the support given him, and wished them all a most enjoyable evening.

Bro. W. J. DOWNES proposed "The Ladies," and said the members were extremely proud to see such a bevy of beauty. That was the second occasion that year on which they had been graced with the presence of ladies, as they had had a pleasant summer outing. There were no greater admirers of ladies than Freemasons, as the Entered Apprentice's song showed.

Bro. HIDE having replied, Bro. J. HUCKELL, J.D., submitted "The Visitors." Bro. MEADOWS, P.M., returned thanks for the cordiality of their welcome and hospitality with which they had been entertained. He thought that everybody ought to be satisfied with the excellent arrangements made.

The company then proceeded to the ball room where dance and song were alternately enjoyed until midnight.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. T. F. Noakes, Org., assisted by Miss Florence Venning, Miss A. Hunt Smith, and Bro. A. H. Sarjeant, Ager Grover, and Fred Stephens, and J. H. Regier's quadrille band.

The company present included Bro. Geo. T. Kinipple, W.M., Mrs. Kinipple, Miss Violet Kinipple, and Miss Edith Kinipple; Bro. W. J. Greig, I.P.M., and Mrs. Greig; Bro. S. E. Spencer, S.W., and party; Bro. J. Roberts, P.M., P.G.S.W. Cornwall, Mrs. Roberts and party; Bro. Schadler, P.M., and party; Bro. Ruse, P.M., Mrs. Ruse and party; Bro. Talbot, P.M., P.G.D.C. Middx., Mrs. Talbot and party; Bro. H. J. Harriss, P.M., Sec., Mrs. Harriss and son; Bro. J. Huckell, J.D., Mrs. Huckell and party; Bro. J. Dobbs, I.G., Mrs. Dobbs and party; Bro. W. J. Downes, A.D.C., Mrs. Downes and party; Bro. H. T. Brooks, Bro. C. Fuller and party; Bro. A. H. Sarjeant, Bro. W. H. Montagu, Stwd., and Mrs. Montagu; Bro. Geo. R. Matland, Mrs. Matland and party; Bro. W. J. Reade, Bro. W. Huckell, Mrs. Huckell and party; Bro. Goodrich, Mrs. Goodrich and party; Bro. Kirk and Mrs. Kirk; Bro. Evans, Mrs. Evans and daughters; Bro. Biss, Mrs. Biss and party; Bro. Geo. Brown, Mrs. Brown and party; Bro. H. Newman and party; Bro. H. T. Meadows, P.M. 1571, and party; Bro. R. Thompson, P.M.; Bro. C. Mackrow [and Mrs. Mackrow; Bro. Paul Howard and Mrs. Howard; Bro. High and party; Bro. D. L. Thomas and party; Bro. T. F. Noakes, Org., and Miss Smith; Bro. D. Jenkins and party; Bro. Jackson and party; and several others.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. MILTON SMITH, PAST SECRETARY OF THE BISHOPSGATE LODGE, No. 2396.

Bro. Wm. Newman, the W.M. of this lodge, entertained the brethren with their wives and families, at a dance on Friday, the 28th ult., at Seyd's Hotel. A very pleasant evening was spent, the dancing being thoroughly enjoyed, and the music excellent.

Amongst the company were recognised the following: The W.M., Bro. Wm. Newman and Miss Newman; Bro. and Mrs. S. Jacobs; Bro. and Mrs. Milton Smith; Bro., Mrs., and the Misses Robinson; Bro. and Mrs. Percy Clarke; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander; Mr. and Mrs. Howard; Mr. and Miss Tremlett; Bro. and Mrs. Jarrett; Bro. Mead, and many others.

The new Secretary, Bro. A. E. Pridmore, C.C., was prevented from being present on account of illness.

During the interval, a choice supper was served, after which the company drank to the toast of "The Queen."

Advantage was then taken of the opportunity to publicly recognise the services of the late Secretary of the lodge during the first six years of its existence. This took the form of a presentation to Bro. Milton Smith of a handsome gold chronometer subscribed for by the lodge and its individual members.

The Bishopsgate Lodge is probably one of the most successful of City lodges and was founded in 1891 by several of the leading men in the ward, including the Lord Mayor, Bros. Henry Clarke, C.C., L.C.C.; Deputy Geo. Noah Johnson, P.G.S.; H. J. Tibbatts, Deputy Dadswell, A. J. Hollington, P.G.S., C.C.; Milton Smith, P.M. 19; and the late Deputy Mead, and has rapidly grown to its present strength.

The work of a new lodge necessarily falls heavy on its first Secretary, and the W. Master, who was one of its first initiates, in making the presentation alluded to this fact and to the painstaking and energetic manner in which every detail connected with work and economy of the lodge had been carried out by Bro. Milton Smith, whose experience as a Past Master of the Royal Athelstan Lodge and long connection with other Masonic institutions had no doubt stood him in good stead in behalf of the lodge.

Bro. Henry Clarke, C.C., L.C.C., the I.P.M. at the consecration of the lodge, who had hoped to be present and take part in the ceremony, sent a letter to the W.M. in testimony of the founders' fraternal regard for Bro. Milton Smith, and referring to the duties so admirably discharged by him.

Bro. MILTON SMITH, in returning thanks, said that Masons were generally distinguished for rendering honour to whom honour was due, but he thought in that instance they had exceeded that distinction. He had only done his duty, and in the performance of that duty there was bounteous reward in the knowledge that a good work was being carried out in the pleasant surroundings of geniality and good fellowship. He recognised the value the lodge had been to the Ward of Bishopsgate by binding in brotherly love and unity the active powers in so useful a work. He did not know how to adequately express the appreciation he felt for the kindness the members of the lodge extended to him, but thought no form of present could have been more acceptable than a watch, the constant ticking of which near to his heart would beat in unison with the pulsations of the hearts of his many kind-hearted brothers and ever remind him of their good wishes, besides which it might become a useful heirloom, conveying to the future generation a recognition of the lodge's good feeling.

Craft Masonry.

Stability Lodge, No. 217.

The installation meeting of this centenary lodge was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on the 1st inst. There were present Bros. J. H. Edwards, W.M.; Geo. Say, S.W., W.M. elect; J. E. Ayris, J.W.; Sam. P. Fisher, Treas.; J. Nixon, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Smith, S.D.; H. B. Handcock, J.D.; C. Phillips, I.G.; Hy. Edwards, D.C.; Stuart Leaman, Org.; T. Bowler, Tyler; P. H. Garner, P.M.; Wm. Eckersall, P.M.; W. R. Smith, P.M.; H. Marslett, P.M.; Jas. Addington, P.M.; W. M. Corrie, P.M.; A. Taylor, L. Vague, A. T. Furnell, R. Fisher, G. Tennant, M. Codd, E. F. Giraud, C. E. Dodwell, H. T. Walker, T. Landecker, R. W. Palmer, G. Kirk, E. T. Baker, J. Itter, A. Botterill, H. C. Cuttriss, J. Woolfe, J. Wheeler, W. C. Wratten, H. H. Ellis, W. Cosham, A. E. Tuperell, J. W. Elam, and A. C. Bradley. The visitors were Bros. R. W. Dobing, S.W. 901; C. J. F. Trew, 55; R. W. Huntley, P.M. 1489; A. Harris, 188; Hy. Hardman, P.M. 1641, P.P. A.G. Sec. North Wales; J. P. Warwick, J.W. 145; G. Chamberlain, 188; J. F. Doughty, 1728; W. Freeman, 201; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; S. Birkin, 1599; T. Grumant, P.M. 1559; G. F. Roberts, 1327; W. Lowe, 2264; C. W. Jordan, 144; A. E. Broadberry, 1719; E. A. Rice, W.M. 1320; P. H. Horley, P.M. 1139; Valentine Hill, 1641; and Chas. H. Stone, P.M. 507 and J.W. 1641.

The minutes of the previous election meeting were read and confirmed, and previous to the presentation of the W.M. elect—Bro. G. Say, the oldest Past Master and father of the lodge—Bro. H. Marslett addressed the W.M., and said, the present being the centenary year of the lodge, he desired to present the lodge with a gift which would be enduring. He had well considered the matter, and had come to the conclusion that an album in which year by year the photos of the various Masons could be inserted would be the most fitting memento. It was not possible that the album could contain all the Past Masters of the lodge, so he would propose that the array should commence with the photograph of Bro. Taylor, P.M., and that all the Past Masters in the lodge, of whom there was a large number, would subscribe theirs, and thus form an excellent record of the lodge. Personally, he had taken the deepest interest in the lodge from

his initiation, and had made lasting friends, and he hoped to continue a member for years to come. It was with the greatest pleasure he made the presentation during the current centenary year, one memorable under the exemplary Mastership of Bro. James H. Edwards—the record year of Stability Lodge. Bro. J. H. Edwards, W.M., in acknowledging the gift, said he accepted it on behalf of the lodge with the greatest possible pleasure. It was a beautiful present, and every brother in the lodge fully appreciated it. Such a present showed the best of feelings, and it would remain in their minds as a memorial of the excellent Mason, the donor. Further, its value would be enhanced as perpetuating the likenesses of those worthy Masters who had at various times presided over such a lodge as Stability, and had done their very best to raise it to such a state of efficiency. Bro. P. H. Garner, I.P.M., in appreciative terms, proposed that the best thanks of the lodge be tendered to Bro. H. Marfleet, P.M., for his handsome gift. This was seconded by Bro. Jas. Addington, P.M., and ably supported by Bro. Wm. Eckersall, P.M., who said that he had always thought they should have some means of marking the progress of the lodge and registering it. Many lodges had the photographs of their members, and Bro. H. Marfleet had conceived the excellent idea, for perpetuating the memory of those who had done their duty to the lodge and had raised it to such proficiency. Bro. Marfleet had considered the best interests of the lodge, and the brethren could not do better than vote him their heartfelt thanks. This being carried with acclamation, Bro. H. Marfleet very suitably acknowledged the compliment. Bro. Jas. Addington, P.M., D.C., next presented Bro. G. Say, W.M. elect, to Bro. J. H. Edwards, W.M., to receive from him the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in a Board of 19 Installed Masters, in an exemplary manner. Bro. Geo. Say, W.M., invested Bro. J. H. Edwards as I.P.M., and the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. J. R. Ayris, S.W.; W. H. Smith, J.W.; Sam. P. Fisher, Treas.; J. Nixon, P.M., Sec.; H. B. Handcock, S.D.; S. C. Phillips, J.D.; W. H. Edwards, I.G.; W. Gorrie, P.M., and J. E. Cosham, Stwds.; Jas. Addington, P.M., D.C.; H. Walter, A.D.C.; S. Leaman, Organist; and Thomas Bowler, Tyler, W.M. 1861, Tyler. The three addresses were most impressively rehearsed by the Installing Master, Bro. J. H. Edwards, for which he received the best of thanks. Bro. Geo. Say, W.M., in high eulogiums, next presented the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel, so unanimously voted by the brethren for able services rendered during the past year, and thereby showing the love and affection he was held in by all the brethren. In reply, Bro. J. H. Edwards said he received the handsome jewel with the greatest possible pleasure; whatever he had done for the lodge had been a labour of love, and he should continue, he hoped, so long as he lived, to take the same interest in the lodge as hitherto.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, ably presided over by the W.M.

The W.M., in presenting the loyal and Masonic toasts, remarked that her Majesty was a model Queen, a model wife, and a model mother; that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was a most worthy G.M., whom all Masons loved; and that the Pro G.M., the Deputy G.M., and all the Grand Officers were excellent Masons.

Bro. J. H. Edwards, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," remarked it was a pleasurable duty. They had all watched his zealous work in the lodge for years past, which had led up to the present position of W.M. The W.M. had invariably been most punctual in his attendance, and had given the brethren entire satisfaction. He had a glorious year before him—the commencement of another centenary. He had begun the year well in his able working, and all wished him a happy and successful year of office.

In reply, Bro. G. Say, W.M., said he rose with great diffidence to reply to the toast, so very kindly submitted by Bro. Edwards, I.P.M. He could not have at that, the beginning of things, so flattering a reception as had been accorded to the esteemed I.P.M., Bro. Edwards, who really had excelled himself; but his endeavour would be to uphold the prestige and dignity of Stability Lodge. He should be pleased to have plenty of work, with the infusion of good new blood into the lodge, so that his year would be marked with success, and at its close he should receive the approbation of all the brethren.

The W.M. next presented the toast of "The Visitors," which, he said, was always accorded a cordial reception, it being one of the specialties in Stability Lodge. There was a goodly array of worthy and distinguished Masons present.

Bros. Rice, Grummant, Hardman, P.P.A.G. Sec. North Wales; Massey, and Dobing most ably responded, all congratulating the lodge upon its excellent working, and especially on the installation, so ably performed by the Installing Master, Bro. Edwards, I.P.M.

Bro. G. Say, W.M., presented the toast of "Bro. J. H. Edwards, the Installing Master," who had performed his duties in a magnificent manner, thus adding force, vigour, and much earnestness in his work. The one regret was the absence of Bro. David Rose, P.M., who had taken such a deep interest in the I.P.M., that he did not hear the splendid way he had worked the ceremony, and what a worthy pupil he had proved himself of that veteran Preceptor.

In reply, Bro. Edwards thanked the W.M. for such flattering remarks and for such a hearty reception from the brethren. Such remarks had taken the wind entirely out of his sails, he had done his level best to perform his duties and he thanked the officers of the lodge for their ungrudging support so cheerfully given him during the year. Twelve months ago those duties seemed almost insurmountable, but loyal assistance had been rendered him by Bro. P. H. Garner, P.M., which had enabled him to perform the duties of the chair, and he was grateful to the G.A.O.T.U. for being blessed with health. His position as W.M. of the lodge was unique, firstly, it being during the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, and secondly, the centenary year of the lodge. He most heartily thanked the brethren for the jewel, which was rendered more beautiful by the addition of a splendid diamond, a new departure in the Past Master's jewel, which was to his mind to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen. From the bottom of his heart he thanked the brethren for their cordial greeting.

The toast of "The Past Masters of dear old Stability" was given by the W.M., who said it was always received with acclamation. They were a large and splendid array, always attending regularly and giving every assistance to the younger brethren, commending where it was due and reproving where they were to blame.

Bro. H. Marfleet, P.M., replied, and said there was a marked improvement in the lodge than when he joined some 30 years ago, when it was at a very low ebb. He had been a great means in resuscitating the lodge and it did him the honour of electing him a W.M. for two years in succession. Now the lodge was a strong band of worthy brethren, all jolly good fellows, and the lodge was on a thoroughly sound basis.

Bro. P. H. Garner, P.M., stated that he was one of the youngest Past Masters in the lodge, but still he must congratulate the Installing Master on the efficiency of his working. Bro. Edwards had been most assiduous in his duties and had advanced slowly but surely. They had worked together in acquiring the ritual and he hoped that that fellowship would always exist in the lodge. He deeply regretted the absence of Bro. Rose who had also been assisting the I.P.M. for some time and he was sure he would have been delighted to have heard such proficient working.

Bro. Wm. Eckersall, P.M., said nine years ago he had been installed into the Master's chair and on that evening he had the privilege of initiating the W.M., the S.W., and S.D., and during the year the J.W. He had always a deep interest in the lodge and its officers, but never a deeper than at the present time.

The Worshipful Master next proposed the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge" in terms of approbation, and was most appropriately replied to by Bros. Nixon, P.M., as Sec., and Ayris, S.W.

The Tyler's toast closed a very happy and eventful meeting. A very capital programme of music under the direction of Bro. Stuart Leaman, ably assisted by Miss Isabella Wallace, Mr. Percy Evans, and Bros. Valentine Hill (reciter), and Harry Greene. Bro. Leaman presided at the piano.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 20th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. Hopkins, W.M.; P. Cronin, S.W., Master elect; C. Wheatley, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; H. Gale, S.D.; C. F. Davis, J.D.; W. Hill, acting I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., C. H. Boyce, A. Macchi, P.M., 1503, and A. Z. Schulze, jun., Stwds.; T. W. Ockenden, P.M., P.P.G.D.; W. Spearing, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Fisher, P.M., P.P.G. Treas.; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx.; E. H. Trotter, P.M., P.A.G.P. Middx.; and G. J. Yagg, P.M. Among the visitors present were Bros. H. J. Brook, W.M. 2540; W. Downing, P.M. 20, P.P.G.D.C.

Kent; Arthur Williams, P.M. 834; S. Fisk, P.M. 1733; J. Birks, S.W. 95; A. Harmon, J.W. 1044; E. J. New, J.W. 1115; and W. Lucas, S.D. 1733.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. A. O. Hemming was raised to the Third Degree by Bro. T. W. Ockenden, P.M., in a most impressive manner. The W.M. passed Bros. Massey, Wells, and Beltramo to the Second Degree. Bro. Patrick Cronin, S.W., Master elect, having been presented by the D.C., was installed into the chair of King Solomon by the Secretary. The W.M. invested and appointed his officers in a manner that left but little to be desired. Among them were Bros. C. Wheatley, S.W.; H. Gale, J.W.; C. F. Davis, S.D.; H. Webster, J.D.; W. Hill, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M., C. H. H. Boyce, A. Macchi, P.M., A. Z. Schulze, F. Whicher, and J. P. Clark, Stwds.; and John Gilbert, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel and collar were presented to the I.P.M. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Officer. The resignation of Bro. H. Bright was received with regret. Several brethren were excluded for being some years in arrears. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The Treasurer gave a notice of motion—"That the sum of 10 guineas be voted to the R.M.I. for Boys, per W. Bro. G. J. Tagg, P.M., as a Steward to the Centenary Festival." Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. H. H. Room, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.P.G.S., hon. member; H. Webster, W. G. Carrington, F. Farrant, and others. A petition to the Board of Benevolence from a distressed old member of the lodge having been signed, lodge was closed.

Bro. and host Beltramo furnished an excellent banquet. Bro. T. W. Ockenden responded on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers," and took the occasion to thank the W.M. for having given him the opportunity of raising the grandson of the distinguished brother after whom the lodge was named.

The I.P.M. proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and congratulated him upon having commenced his year of office so well.

The W.M., having replied, gave "The Visitors," coupled with the names of Bros. Brook, W. Downing, and A. Williams, the last named brother making an excellent and very humorous response.

Bro. W. Hopkins responded for "The Past Masters." Bros. J. C. Jessett, C. Wheatley, and H. Gale responded for "The Officers."

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Louis Lee, of 2309, and gave every satisfaction.

Chine Lodge, No. 1884.

The annual meeting for the installation of the W.M. took place at the Masonic Hall, Shanklin, on Thursday, the 27th ult., when there were present Bros. G. H. Matthews, W.M.; H. W. Daws, S.W., W.M. elect; R. J. Russell, J.W.; F. Newman, P.M., P.G.S.B. England, P.P.S.G.W.; Durrant, P.P.J.G.W.; W. H. Long, P.M.; W. Taylor, W.M. 551; A. T. Richardson, W.M. 693; W. B. Firth, P.P.G.O.; C. Langdon, P.M.; F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C.; A. Greenham, P.M.; H. A. Matthews, P.M.; R. Young, P.M.; W. H. Willis, P.M.; J. Marsh, P.M.; W. Judd, P.M.; H. Sheppard, P.M.; T. E. Porter, P.M.; Prickett, P.M.; J. Collinson, P.M.; J. B. Seely, J. Ellis, W. Knight, H. G. Field, Wavell Knight, Guy, J. G. Jolliffe, Moxey, J. Hansford, A. G. Matthews, F. Rayner, B. Grant, Sergeant, Tarrant, Coomes, Barton, and A. Kent. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. H. Matthews, I.P.M.; R. Russell, S.W.; W. B. J. Bailey, P.M., P.P. A.G.D.C., J.W.; W. B. F. Cooper, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., Treas.; R. Young, P.M., Sec.; J. Carter, S.D.; E. D. Jefford, J.D.; A. H. Brown, D.C.; A. Cooper, Org.; F. Taylor, I.G.; and W. Mew, Tyler.

The usual business having been transacted and Bro. Alfred Kent raised to the Third Degree, Bro. Daws was installed by Bro. Francis, P.M., P.G.S.B. England in his usual efficient and able manner.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been disposed of, the I.P.M., Bro. Matthews, proposed "The W.M.," and spoke in eulogistic terms of Bro. Daws's qualifications for the office, and remarked upon the excellent way in which he had invested his officers, which gave evidence of future able work at his hands.

In responding, the W.M. thanked the I.P.M. for the kindly reference to himself, and, although he trembled at what he had seen before, he hoped he should be able to maintain the prestige of Chine Lodge.

The W.M. next gave "The I.P.M.," and spoke of the good work he had done during the past year.

The I.P.M., in responding, thanked the W.M. for his kindly remarks, and the brethren for the enthusiastic way in which they had received the toast. It was impossible to pass through the chair without being impressed with the grand and ennobling principles underlying the Masonic ritual, and it was the aim of every true Mason to render the ceremonies as correctly and impressively as possible; but after all it was the teaching that was the most important. They had heard the circular read that afternoon referring to the contemplated Masonic visit to Solomon's Quarry and the Holy Land. If they visited that scene they would first stand upon the top of a pile formed of the minute particles from the final dressings of the blocks of stone with which the Temple at Jerusalem was built, evidences of the earnest work of the Operative Masons of past ages, so by gradual descent they would enter another and another of these vaults, each giving evidence of the earnest work of preparation by our ancient brethren. In some the blocks of stone which had been quarried out lay partly dressed; in others the blocks were still attached to the rock; in other parts the architect's line is still visible on the smooth face of the quarry. The blocks were cut square from the mass of stone, each being finished to take its proper place in Solomon's Temple. The volume of the sacred law gave them a picture of the grand building into which these stones were converted, and which stood on the top of the rocky hill in the centre of the Holy City—with all the strength of a fortress and the beauty of a sacred edifice. No wonder the Grand Master and his officers contemplated it with pride—no wonder the latter exclaimed "Master, look at these stones and this building," but what was the reply, "Not one stone shall be left on another that shall not be thrown down." This seemed to be the initial stages of the Free and Accepted or speculative Masonry—the sacred symbols in the operative structure had been neglected—the spirit of "caste" had come in and destroyed the teaching of the level—the old system had to go. He remembered reading a short time ago of a town where there was an ancient well—which was the lion of the place, and the attention of every visitor was called to it, but unfortunately, for the belief in the ancient Masonry, a specialist came along and proclaimed the structure to be of recent date; "What shall we do?" said the inhabitants, "fill in the well," said many voices. "No," said one old sage, "you must not fill it in you forget the sweet and pure waters at the bottom." Brethren, it is the sweet waters of brotherly fellowship we want to preserve in our lodges, however much we may venerate the ancient superstructure. Turning to the W.M., the speaker remarked, Bro. Daws, I hand on to you the Ancient Charges, and trust that the true spirit and teaching of Masonry may be paramount in the work which lies before you. (Cheers.)

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. Francis Newman, P.M., &c." He felt it an honour to be installed by such an old and worthy Mason—especially as he occupied the position of P.G.S.B. Eng. They must all have been impressed by the able way in which the ceremony had been rendered.

Bro. Newman, in his reply, expressed the pleasure it always gave him in rendering any service for Chine Lodge, and it had given him especial pleasure in installing so promising a Mason as Bro. Daws, and he felt sure he would do good work for the lodge. He had been much impressed by the observations that had been addressed to them by the I.P.M., and for his own part, it had given him food for thought for many a day to come, and no doubt it would have its due effect on the brethren. He thanked them very much for their kind remarks and the hearty way in which the toast was drunk.

"The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. Judd, P.M., and ably responded to by Bro. W. H. Willis, and on the bag being handed round, met with a good response.

"The Visitors" and "Past Masters" followed, and were heartily responded to.

"The Officers" and Tyler's toast completed the list.

At the close the brethren formed a ring and sang "Should auld acquaintance be forgot."

Bro. Arthur Cooper, Org., contributed the part to an excellent programme.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BEDFORD have come to town for a few days from Woburn Abbey, before going to Scotland to pass the early spring at Ballathie House, Perthshire.

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Extracted from the Authorised Reports of the Grand Lodge of England, during the past 25 years.

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

WOR. BRO. REV. J. T. LAWRENCE, M.A.

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The Very Worshipful Brother

R. D. M. LITTLER, C.B., Q.C.,

Past Deputy Grand Registrar,

has kindly consented to preside.

Lodge will be opened at 6 p.m. precisely.

The work will be the Second Lecture.

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Bro. Aldm. Thomas M. Barron, P.P.G. Reg. Durham.

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15 years a Subscribing Member of his Lodge, and is now
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Edwin's, 125, 10s.; A Member of Shaldon, 2016, 2s. 6d.;
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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1898.

We have great pleasure in announcing that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, M.W. Grand Master, who has graciously consented to preside at the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, has decided that it shall be held at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on Monday, the 20th June.

We are glad to find that Bro. Terry, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has been so far successful in his endeavours to strengthen the Board of Stewards for the approaching Festival, which, as our readers have already been informed, will be celebrated at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, G.C.M.G., Prov. G. Master of Oxfordshire. The Board at length musters upwards of 200 ladies and brethren, and doubtless between now and the appointed day this number will be still further increased, so that our forecast of about a week or two since will be realised—that the number of Stewards on this

occasion will not greatly exceed the half of what it was in 1897, when the Board mustered in all 432 members. However, if the members exert themselves, as we have reason to believe they will, to raise big lists as some compensation for the paucity of their numbers, there are grounds for hoping that the comparatively small total of 1893—when the reaction that followed the brilliant success of the Jubilee the year previously was necessarily at its highest point—will be exceeded. It is, of course, impossible to foresee what will be the measure of success attending the the present Board of Stewards. We have known strong Boards that raised comparatively moderate totals, and weak Boards whose efforts were successful beyond expectation. Of one thing only can we speak with any degree of certainty—that those who have volunteered their services in support of the Festival on the 22nd inst. will do what they can to promote the well being of the Old People's Institution during the present eventful year.

* * *

That it sorely needs all the support which can be enlisted in its behalf will be apparent from the business that was transacted at the monthly meeting of the Committee of Management on Wednesday, when the vacancies declared on the two Funds for the annual election in May next were as follows: On the Male Fund 14 vacancies, including the three deferred; on the Widows' Fund 8 vacancies, including also the three deferred. On the other hand, it was announced that there were 57 approved candidates on the list for the Male Fund, and 62 on that for the Widows' Fund. Thus, even with the vacancies which may fall due between now and the third Friday in May, and which will, no doubt, be filled up, in accordance with the practice of late years, it will hardly be possible to satisfy the claims of more than one-fourth of the total number of applicants, while the remaining three-fourths will be under the necessity of biding their time for the annuities they are so sorely in need of, and of which they have been adjudged to be qualified as recipients. This is not a very pleasant prospect to look forward to; but we do not see that anything can be done towards augmenting the number of annuitants until the resources of the Institution have been increased; and that will not happen—if our forecast is right—during the present year.

* * *

The record of the proceedings of the Prov. Grand Lodge and Prov. Grand Chapter of Durham, is, as we indicated last week, very pleasant reading. The several reports that were presented at the annual meeting at Stockton on the 28th September, are exceptionally satisfactory. On the recommendation of the Fund Committee Charitable donations amounting to 255 guineas (£267 15s) were voted, namely 25 guineas to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; 50 guineas to the Boys' School; 100 guineas to the Durham Masonic Benevolent Fund; and 80 guineas to the Masonic Education and Maintenance Fund; while grants in relief amounting together to £70 were made to the widows of four brethren, the total thus disbursed during the year being £337 15s. From the report of the Charities Committee it appears that during 1897 21 children were on the Education and Maintenance Fund, the sum expended on them being £167 14s. The statement of account disclosed receipts in donations and subscriptions amounting to £161 5s., and expenses of management £23 15s., while the investments represent a total value of close upon £2167. But the great event of the year was the establishment of the Hudson Benevolent Fund so named to commemorate the valuable services rendered by Bro. Robert Hudson as Prov. G. Secretary during a long term of years, the sum raised being 1000 guineas, while Bro. Hudson himself was presented with a service of plate.

* * *

As regards the strength of the Province in respect of lodges and members, we gather from the Table at page 27 of the Report that the 36 lodges on the 31st December, 1896, could boast of a membership of 2947, the amount paid in lodge dues being upwards of £378. As many as nine of these, or exactly one-fourth, have upwards of 100 subscribing members, the St. Hilda, No. 240, with 189, being the largest, while of the rest there is not one that does not muster upwards of 30 members. In 1884 there were 30 lodges with an aggregate membership of 2258, the increase in the dozen years that have since elapsed being six lodges and as nearly as possible 700 members. One lodge was consecrated last year, so that at the present moment, there may be possibly 3000 members in this flourishing Province.

In addition to the annual communication held, as above stated, on the 28th September, three other meetings were held, the earliest taking place at Durham, on the 30th June, when nearly 700 brethren under their respected chief, Bro. Sir Hedworth, Williamson, Bart., Prov. G. Master, and his Deputy Bro. the Rev. Canon Tristram, Past G. Chaplain of England, assembled in the Castle, and having heard an address by the Prov. G. Master, marched in procession to the Cathedral, where divine service was held to commemorate the completion of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of York, Past G. Chaplain of England, while the offertory was devoted to the Durham Masonic Charities. On the second occasion—at Gateshead, on the 30th October—Prov. Grand Lodge, headed by the Prov. G. Master and his Deputy, met for the purpose of consecrating the Ravensworth Lodge, No. 2674; the third and last of the special meetings taking place in the Masonic Hall, Sunderland, on the 4th December, when an address was adopted expressing the sympathy felt by the brethren of the Province with Bro. the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master, in the bereavement he had just then suffered through the tragic death of his wife, the Countess of Lathom. On this occasion the Dep. Prov. G. Master, in the unavoidable absence of the Prov. G. Master at Bournemouth, presided.

* * *

The annual convocation of the Prov. Grand Chapter was held at Darlington 10 days prior to the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge. Comp. Sir H. Williamson, G. Superintendent, occupied the chair, and there appears to have been a tolerably full attendance of Present and Past Prov. Officers and members of the private chapters. According to the returns presented, there are 13 chapters in the Province, with an aggregate membership of 495, of whom 437 are described as paying members, there being an excess of 36 over the previous year's total. The Grand Superintendent, in his address, appeared to be of the opinion, which we certainly share, that the number of Royal Arch Masons in his Province is, in proportion, small, when compared with the 3000 members of the Craft Lodges, and he expressed a hope that if the slow, but steady increase of the past year were continued the disproportion would come to an end. He deprecated anything in the way of "undue pressing," or "coaxing of people in;" on the contrary, he believed that "admission into the chapter should be the result of conscientious feelings and convictions on the part of the candidates." He believed that Royal Arch Masonry, "if not going very rapidly ahead," was "slowly and surely progressing." We may add, that in the course of the proceedings Prov. Grand Chapter voted 10 guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution; 10 guineas to the Durham Benevolent Fund; and five guineas to the Durham Educational Fund—in all, 25 guineas, the balance in hand at the close of the Treasurer's account being £31.

* * *

We heartily congratulate Bro. Baddley on the manner in which he is fulfilling his duties as Worshipful Master of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25. It was only on Monday, the 3rd ult., that he was installed in office, yet on Monday, when the lodge met for the first time under his auspices, the occasion was made memorable by the reading of a most interesting paper by Bro. Henry Sadler, Grand Tyler, and Sub-Librarian of Grand Lodge, in which that able brother described the career of the lodge. We regret that we are under the necessity, through the other heavy demands upon our space, of holding the report of the meeting over till next week, but it will then appear and will include in full Bro. Sadler's history.

* * *

It must have been somewhat disconcerting to Bro. Klein to find that after his learned and elaborate dissertation on the "Great Symbol" before the meeting which was held in Freemasons' Hall on the 25th ult., about the only question asked him was, as our correspondent "Past Master" put it in his letter of last week, as to whether "the adoption of Bro. Klein's views would bring any material gain to the Order; would it, he asked, enlarge its borders, or bring more money to the Charities?" We have heard that the querist is a member of the Board of General Purposes, at the instance of which the meeting was held. If this is true, it is clear that the brother in question must be in the position of the round man who is thrust into a square hole. Such a man is out of place on a Board, which, according to the Book of Constitutions, has authority "generally to take cognisance of all matters relating to the Craft."

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

PRESENTATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In my calculation referred to in your leaders in your issue of the 5th inst., I confined myself to a life insurance "without profits," because I wished to exclude the speculative element as much as possible, and, in addition, because the insurance premium is smaller, therefore, the capital invested would be smaller. I did not foresee that you and your readers would take so great an interest in this matter or I should have objected to the word "annually" in your report of the Girls' Court in your issue of the 15th January, but as what I said was substantially correct, for which I thank your reporter, I let the slip pass uncorrected—Believe me, fraternally yours,

W. RUSSELL.

Gravesend,
February 7th.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1118]

BRO. KLEIN'S DISCOVERY.

We are all eager to hear particulars of Bro. Klein's Discovery, but we possess our souls in patience, and cannot imagine that he, or our able editor, will commit the ghastly indiscretion of publishing the results in the *Freemason* or anywhere else. There is far too little reticence, not to say "secrecy," as to esoteric knowledge at the present time.

C. H. W.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Industry, No. 186.

This old lodge held its installation meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Tuesday, the 25th ult. After the usual preliminary business and the presentation of the report of the Audit Committee which showed a satisfactory balance both to the credit of the lodge, and also to the credit of the lodge Benevolent Fund, the W.M., Bro. Arthur J. Newton, vacated the chair, and his place was occupied by Bro. William Wotton Westley, P.M., D.C., who, in his usual able and impressive manner, installed Bro. George Smith, S.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year. Bro. Arthur John Newton having been invested with the collar of I.P.M., the following officers were invested: Bros. William Stewart, S.W.; Charles Smith, J.W.; William H. Hook, P.M., Treas.; William S. Page, P.M., Sec.; William W. Westley, P.M., D.C.; William S. Page, jun., S.D.; Henry C. J. Edwards, J.D.; Frederick J. Sparke, I.G.; Charles H. Enness, Stwd.; and C. Sheppard, Tyler. After the usual addresses had been given, the W.M. initiated into Freemasonry Mr. Ferdinand John Penney, Mr. Charles Daniels, Mr. Charles Henry Bowker, and Mr. Charles Withers, the ceremonies being worked in the most perfect manner. A most pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation to the lodge of a charity box, unique in design, being in the form of a bee hive, the emblem of the lodge, by Bro. William Henry Hook, P.M., Treas. It may be of interest to mention that the design and the beautiful execution of the same were the work, or rather labour of love, of Bro. W. H. Hook, who some years ago passed the allotted span of three score years and ten. The I.P.M. was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and the lodge adjourned to the Holborn Restaurant where the banquet was served.

The usual toasts followed.

The W.M., in giving the first, stated that as the programme of music and elocution was of a very long and choice description, he intended to make his remarks very brief.

Bro. C. J. R. Tjhou, P.A.G.P., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

The toast of "The W.M." was proposed in a most genial manner by the I.P.M. and duly honoured.

The toast of "The Visitors" was replied to by several of those present, among whom were Bros. R. A. Daniell, 357; F. A. Cox, I.P.M. 453; Wal. Latter, P.P.G. Org. Essex; H. Budd, I.P.M. 1815; Wm. Lipscomb, I.P.M. 507; C. J. R. Tjhou, P.A.G.P. England; R. Robinson, I.G. 1333; T. J. Sheppard, W.M. elect 3; J. J. Patrick, 1716; Dr. Dring, W.M. 453, P.S.G.W. Essex; F. B. Baxter, W.M. 1997; H. Carter Pegg, 1908; G. A. McDowall, 2291; W. Haynes Dunn, 1298, P.P.G.S. of Works Herts; C. Webster, P.M. 1804; and H. W. Schartau, 1549, P.P.G. Org. Middlesex.

The programme of music, &c., which had been arranged by Bro. F. J. Sparke, was under the direction of Bro. Herbert Schartau, P.P.G. Org. Middx., and was given by the following artistes: Mlle. Amie Florenza, Miss Edith Serpell, the Schartau Part-Singers, Bros. Herbert Schartau, Frank Tebbutt, William Fell, and Wingrove Ives. Bro. Walter Churcher gave some of his most humorous sketches in his most humorous manner.

Earl of Mornington Lodge, No. 2000.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 28th ultimo, at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., when there was a large attendance of members and visitors.

The Master elect, Bro. Wilfred A. Bowser, S.W., was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by the outgoing Master, Bro. Richard Lake. The ceremony was very efficiently performed. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows, and addressed them as to their respective duties: Bros. R. S. Fairbank, S.W.; Wm. Turner, J.W.; H. R. Rose, P.M., P.G.O., Treas.; J. H. Lavies, P.M., Sec.; H. T. Taylor, S.D.; A. Dawson Jones, J.D.; J. Pollard, P.M., D.C.; J. Davidson, I.G.; W. J. Hart, Org.; E. Dickenson and E. H. Taylor, Stwds.; and T. Bowler, Tyler. Bro. H. R. Rose, P.M., P.G.O., gave the usual address to the W.M.; Bro. J. H. Lavies, P.M., gave that to the Wardens; and Bro. Lake, I.P.M., that to the brethren.

After the lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to a splendid banquet, presided over by the W.M., Bro. Bowser, who proposed the customary loyal and Masonic toasts.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was responded to by Bros. Richard Eve, P.G.T., and Dr. A. W. Orwin, A.G.D.C.

The W.M., on rising to respond to the toast of his health, received quite an ovation, and afterwards proposed "The Health of the I.P.M., Bro. Lake," to whom the handsome Past Master's jewel of the lodge had been previously presented.

An excellent selection of instrumental music and part songs was given by members of the lodge—Bros. H. R. Rose, P.G.O., W. L. Barrett, E. H. Taylor, G. May, H. T. Taylor, W. C. Acfield, and W. J. Hart.

Cordwainer Ward Lodge, No. 2241.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Cannon-street Hotel, on Wednesday, the 17th ult., Bro. Alderman W. V. Morgan, G. Treas., W.M., in the chair, supported by Bros. C. J. Wilkinson-Pimbury, I.P.M.; F. W. Potter, P.M., as S.W.; W. Bauer, J.W.; H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. Dangerfield, S.D.; P. Beaby, C. Beaby, and R. E. Ferry, Stwds.; Buck, P.M.; C. Johnson, R. A. Love, H. G. Longden, E. Loxley, G. J. Johnson, and A. Rawles, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. S. Hooper, E. Sudlow, and H. W. Butler. A gentleman was proposed for initiation. A banquet followed.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

A regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Rawson-square, Bradford, on Thursday, the 6th ultimo. Bro. John Morton, J.P., W.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. S. A. Bailey, I.P.M.; John W. Bland, S.W.; J. A. Drake, J.W.; F. Betteridge, Chap.; Chas. H. Ellis, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Last, P.M., P.P.G.R., Sec.; Jas. R. Peat, as S.D.; Wm. Docksey, J.D.; J. S. Hedley, I.G.; J. Cooper, Tyler; John Niven, P.M.; W. H. Townsend; W. Durrance, Asst. Sec.; J. B. Fearnley, and J. S. Marsland. Visitors: Bros. H. S. Holdsworth, P.M. 408, P.P.G.D.C.; A. Robertshaw, P.M. 448, P.P.G.D.; T. C. Hope, P.M. 302, P.P.G.S. of W.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 1019, P.P.A.G. Sec.; J. Wilson, P.M. 1034, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Robt. Town, 61; G. Greenwood, I.P.M. 264; F. W. Reuss, P.M. 208; Wm. Parker, P.M. 387; S. Key, W.M. 408; Geo. Whittaker, S.W. 408; H. B. Ratcliffe, 600; Wm. Armitage, S.W., W.M. elect 603; Henry Ellison, 750; J. W. Crowther, 829; W. H. Barton, 872; J. H. Lee, I.P.M. 1019; R. Sheard, P.M. 1019; H. Lea, 1541; S. H. Petty, J.W. 1736; J. J. Lumb, 1736; W. D. Taylor, 1736; J. Clough, 1545; H. Steel, W.M. 1545; W. H. F. Schutte, I.P.M. 2330; James Tilley, J.W. 2669; J. A. Taylor, Org. 2669; and C. W. Wood, 2669.

After the lodge had been opened and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed, the tracing board in the First Degree was ably demonstrated by Bros. Holdsworth, P.P.G.D. of C.; Robertshaw, P.P.G.D.; and Greenwood, P.M., to the gratification of the numerous brethren who had assembled, a very cordial vote of thanks, to be entered on the minutes, was accorded to the three brethren referred to, which was suitably acknowledged. Two brethren were proposed as joining members and a gentleman for initiation at a future meeting. After "Hearty good wishes" from the many visitors, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. J. T. Last, P.P.G. Reg., responded for "The Prov. Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire."

The toast of "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Bailey, I.P.M., who congratulated him on such a large attendance.

Bro. J. Morton, J.P., W.M., in responding, thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which the toast of his health had been received. He was exceedingly gratified to see so many brethren of his own and other lodges present, and hoped all would enjoy themselves.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. Last, P.M., Sec., who heartily welcomed such a large gathering of visiting brethren, numbering 28, and hailing from 17 different lodges. That had been a red-letter meeting of the lodge, inasmuch as he believed that not only the members of the lodge, but the visitors also had been deeply interested in the exposition of the tracing board, which had been well demonstrated in the lodge, and for which they were so much indebted to some of the visiting brethren.

In responding, Bro. Hope, P.M. 302, P.P.G.S. of W., expressed the pleasure it had given him to be present that evening at the lodge. He remembered a few years ago, when he was the Master of the Hope Lodge, signing the recommendation of the petition for a warrant to be granted, and he was privileged to assist also at the consecration of the lodge, which he was pleased to find was in a flourishing condition.

Bro. W. H. F. Schutte, P.M. 2330, also responded, and thanked the W.M. for the privilege of being present that evening. He had for some time taken much interest in the tracing boards, so that the proceedings in the lodge had to him been a Masonic treat.

Other toasts followed.

Songs and recitations were rendered during the evening by Bros. Tilley, Taylor, Reuss, Wilson, Docksey, Townsend, and Whittaker.

Hiram Lodge, No. 2416.

The installation meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 24th ult. The W.M., Bro. A. F. Wrightson, presided, and initiated Mr. W. A. Haskins. Bro. H. Lovegrove presented Bro. Walter West, the W.M. elect, and he was installed in the chair of K.S. in a very able manner by the W.M., who was assisted by Bro. F. A. Powell, P.M. (member of the Board of General Purposes). The officers were invested as follows: Bros. A. F. Wrightson, I.P.M.; S. Jackson, S.W.; H. J. Pain, J.W.; F. R. Farrow, P.M., Treas.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., Sec.; W. Henry White, S.D.; E. O. Sachs, J.D.; M. Garbutt, I.G.; W. Heelis, D.C.; E. Vickers, Org.; J. Merrett, A.D.C.; F. W. Pearce and F. Tupper White, Stewards; and G. Austin, Tyler.

There were also present, besides the above, Bros. W. T. Bonner, P.M.; Geo. Elkington, P.M.; R. G. Young, W. Lawrence, C. J. W. Simpson, Major F. S. Leslie, C. A. Bassett-Smith, Gordon Hills, W. Herring, A. G. H. Coyle, J. Rush Dixon, and H. W. Collins. Visitors: Bros. C. C. Powell, W. A. Wilson; W. B. Whittingham, E. Chase Carr, W. B. Gregar, R. Leighton, A. E. Mullins, W. Atkinson, F. Burman, H. Hill, R. W. Henry, and H. Horsecroft.

A banquet followed, and some excellent songs by the last-named brethren.

Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge took place at the Criterion, Piccadilly-circus, on the 24th ult. There was a goodly number of visitors to honour the installation of Bro. George Thompson, a very popular member of the lodge, as W.M. The members present were Bros. John Pratt, W.M.; George Thompson, S.W.; A. B. Fox, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; Major C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; A. George, S.D.; E. P. Waymouth, J.D.; J. H. Adcock, I.G.; W. A. Scurrah, P.G. Std. Br., D.C.; W. Sparks, Org.; T. Jefferies, I.P.M.; A. H. Cole, P.M.; R. Ross, P.M.; John Bishop, W. Bowen, C. P. Coles, J. Fletcher, H. E. W. Poole, A. J. Taping, A. C. Norman, R. J. T. Ward, T. J. Ash, H. Fuller, H. S. Scott, and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. Walter Martin, Asst. G.P.; J. Irvine, P.M., 862; W. Hillier, P.M.; P. Cronin, W.M. 1512; Wm. Bradford, P.M. 862; J. Wheatley, W.M. 1423; J. T. Rowe, P.M. 167; C. Genese, P.M. 2265; W. Dawson, W.M. 1622; John Loader, P.M. 1622; Henry Pickett, I.P.M. 1602; W. Cruige, John French, W.M. 1642; F. E. Forster, I.P.M. 1608; T. H. T. Jarvis, I.P.M. 862; G. H. Paine, 2048; Rev. J. H. Watts, 2166; E. Telling, J.W. 847; G. T. Tegetmeier, 1929; R. T. West, and many others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, the W.M., Bro. J. Pratt passed Bro. H. S. Scott to the Second Degree, and the Auditors' report was received and adopted. Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., then occupied the chair, and Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., D.C., presented Bro. George Thompson, the W.M. elect, and he was installed in a masterly manner. The newly-installed W.M. then appointed and invested the following as his officers for the ensuing 12 months: Bro. J. Pratt, I.P.M.; A. B. Fox, S.W.; A. George, J.W.; W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; Major C. J. Knightley, P.M., Sec.; E. P. Waymouth, S.D.; J. H. Adcock, J.D.; W. Sparks, I.G.; W. A. Scurrah, G. Std. Br., D.C.; H. E. W. Poole, Seward; H. S. Scott, Org.; and R. Whiting, P.M., Tyler. The delivery of the usual addresses was rendered by Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., in a manner that it was impossible to excel. The W.M. then rose and stated that it was his pleasing duty, on behalf of the lodge, to present the outgoing Master, Bro. John Pratt, with a Past Master's jewel, as a small token of their great regard for him, and the many things he had done for the lodge, which had prospered so well during his reign, and in wishing him long life to wear it on all suitable occasions, he felt he was expressing the sentiments of them all. Might he be spared to see his son, whom he had initiated 12 months ago that night, installed into the chair he had just vacated!

The inscription on the jewel was—"Presented to Bro. John Pratt, P.M., by the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, as a mark of esteem and in recognition of his valuable services as W.M. 1897-98."

In acknowledging the jewel, Bro. John Pratt, I.P.M., said that he had only done his duty as a Mason, and if he had given satisfaction, and had added to the happiness and harmony of the members, he was gratified, and the beautiful jewel he should ever prize. In eloquent terms, the Secretary, Bro. Major Knightley, P.M., advocated the case of Bro. J. W. Smith—an old P.M. of the lodge—a candidate at the next election of the Old People, and he urged the brethren to support it. The W.M. announced his intention of representing the lodge at the forthcoming Centenary Festival of the Boys' School, and he asked the members for their hearty financial support. A proposition was received for an initiate, and letters were read from Bros. E. Terry, P.G. Treas., and J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., regretting their inability to attend.

The lodge was then closed, and a superb banquet followed.

The W.M. gave the usual loyal and Masonic toasts in brief terms, which were duly honoured.

Bro. Walter Martin, Asst. G.P., whose name was associated with the toast of "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," stated that they had an excellent programme and he was sure they did not want long speeches, but he felt he must refer to his very old friends, Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., and W. A. Scurrah, P.G. Std. Br., whose great services to the Craft were honoured and appreciated. All the Grand Officers were not mere ornaments as some thought they were, but many of them were excellent workers.

Bro. J. Pratt, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Geo. Thompson," and said that their new W.M. had carried out his duties that evening to the satisfaction of all, and he had no doubt that he would be able to do everything asked of him and keep their good old lodge well to the front.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and

Bro. George Thompson, W.M., on rising to respond, was received with much warmth. He thanked Bro. Pratt for his kind words and the brethren for the hearty reception they had given him. The toast deserved a good speech in reply, but his heart was too full to adequately express in words what he then felt, but he was honoured to have been installed Master of that, his mother, lodge.

In giving "The Installing Master and Past Masters," the W.M. stated that he wished he could say something fresh about the Installing Master, Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., but it was difficult, as he was so well known in the north, east, south, and west, as a good friend, a true Mason, and one of the best workers in the ritual. He well remembered that when he was a candidate for the purple he stated that if elected he would still be the same W. M. Stiles as of old, and that was so. The next on the list was the I.P.M., Bro. J. Pratt, who had had a happy year of office, and his services were appreciated by the members. Then there was Bro. W. A. Scurrah, G.S.B., one of the best. Then came Bro. Major Knightley, P.M., who took him (the W.M.) by the hand as an initiate and gave him his first collar in the lodge, which he should never forget, nor could he thank him too much for what he had done for him, and to the comfort of all that evening. The W.M. also made special reference to the other Past Masters, mentioning each by name, and, in conclusion, coupled with the toast the names of Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; J. Pratt, I.P.M.; W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B.; and Maj. Knightley, P.M.

In response, Bro. W. M. Stiles, Past G. Treas., said that it afforded him much pleasure to have been of some use that day as Installing Master, but they all owed an allegiance to the old Royal Savoy Lodge, and he had only done his duty as a P.M. of the lodge.

Bro. J. Pratt, I.P.M., acknowledged the toast in a very humorous speech, which elicited roars of laughter.

Bro. W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B., said the previous speakers had taken the wind out of his sails, but he was delighted to be a P.M. of the Royal Savoy, which was his mother lodge, and that was the happiest meeting they had ever had.

Bro. Maj. Knightley, P.M., also responded, remarking that he was delighted to see Bro. Thompson in the chair, and it would be a pleasure to him to assist in every way during his year of office.

At the request of the W.M.,

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., submitted the toast of "The Visitors." He said they were honoured with the attendance of 42 visitors, and the members were always pleased and proud to have a large number of guests. They did their best for them both in the lodge and at the banqueting table, and he hoped that those who were present would keep on coming as long as they had the opportunity. He would like all to respond, but time would not permit, and he would have to be content by joining with the toast the names of Bros. P. Cronin, W.M. 1512; J. Wheatley, W.M. 1423; J. French, W.M. 1642; J. Irvine, P.M. 862; J. Loader, P.M. 1622; and W. Hillier, P.M.

In response, Bro. P. Cronin thanked them for the hearty welcome they had given the visitors, and said that was his first visit, and as he came without Bro. John Bishop, who invited him, and who was detained on a mission of charity, he felt somewhat nervous on entering the lodge room, but when he saw Bro. J. Pratt, whom he had known upwards of 20 years, and after him their esteemed member, Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas., whom he had also known for a great many years, he felt quite at home. With reference to Bro. John Bishop, he thought it was only right that the members should know why he was not in attendance at the opening of the lodge. It was because he had that morning been endeavouring to obtain admission for a poor homeless young woman, who had met with an accident, and that afternoon he had succeeded in getting her admitted into the West London Hospital.

Bro. J. Wheatley, W.M. 1423, observed that after the eloquent remarks of the previous speaker, there was nothing left for him to say except to bear testimony to the good working of the lodge, which was very instructive to him, and he predicted for the W.M. a splendid year of office.

Bro. J. French, W.M. 1642, also acknowledged the toast, remarking that he had never seen better working than that of the Installing Master, Bro. Stiles, P.G. Treas.

Bro. James Irvine, P.M. 862, said that he had been a visitor there for many years. If he intended to compliment the Installing Master, Bro. Stiles, P.G. Treas., it would be like painting the lily, as he always did his work in the ritual in a most exemplary manner, and might he say as an old Mason of long standing, that it was gratifying to have had the privilege of being present at such a pleasant meeting.

Bro. J. Loader, P.M. 1622, stated that he must add his tribute to the excellent working. He congratulated the W.M., Bro. George Thompson, on the exalted position he had attained, as there was, he felt, no one more desirable or esteemed as a Mason in the West and South of London. He was an honoured member in the Rose Lodge, and he had no doubt would give the members every satisfaction during his year of office.

Bro. W. Hillier, P.M., who was accorded a very hearty reception, also responded. He said he was delighted to be there to meet the W.M., who had a happy knack of well conducting the business at the banqueting table. Bro. Stiles, P.G.T., working was superb, and could not be excelled, and the officers had carried out their duties in an able manner. He was proud to be the Preceptor of the lodge of instruction connected with the lodge, and he invited all to join.

After repeated calls, Bro. W. Dawson, W.M. 1622, also acknowledged the toast of "The Visitors." He said that he was sorry he had been called upon, as he had been very ill, and he did not feel able to respond to the toast in an adequate manner. He claimed to be the oldest friend present of the W.M., as he knew him long before he was a Mason, and he was delighted to see him installed W.M.

In giving "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stated that he was greatly honoured to have a Past Grand Officer as Treasurer, and he and all the members were delighted to have the continued service of Major Knightley as Secretary, and it would be impossible to find a better one.

Bro. W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., Treas., responded, and said that all the compliments that were passed upon him were due to the Secretary, Major Knightley, who did all the work, and he was one of the best of fellows. He was glad to see Bro. Thompson in the chair, and he would support him to the utmost of his ability.

Bro. Major Knightley, P.M., Sec., on rising to respond was received with much enthusiasm. He said the lodge was in a flourishing condition, and it had been backed up by the Past Masters and the I.P.M., Bro. Pratt. He had no doubt that the W.M. would do everything to further the interests of the lodge.

The toast of "The Officers" was next given and heartily received, and was replied to in happy terms by Bros. A. B. Fox, S.W.; A. George, J.W.; and W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B., D.C.

The Tyler's toast brought the very successful and happy gathering to an end, the enjoyment of which had been greatly enhanced by some good songs from Bros. Wills Page—who received a well-deserved encore—W. E. Watson, W. H. Webb, and Wilfred Stracey. Bro. Wilfred Davies was an able accompanist.

The W.M., Bro. George Thompson, was initiated in the Royal Savoy Lodge in April, 1889; joined the Rose Lodge, No. 1622, in April, 1891, in which he is S.D.; and was exalted into Royal Arch in the Metropolitan Chapter in 1891, of which he is 1st A.S. He was one of the founders of the Rose Chapter, No. 1622, of which he is now S.E., and he is a Life Governor of the three Institutions. We have had the pleasure of knowing Bro. George Thompson, who is an enthusiastic Mason, for many years, and we have no doubt that under his reign, with the assistance of Bro. Major C. J. Knightley, the genial and indefatigable Secretary, the Royal Savoy Lodge will still go forward, and we beg to tender our hearty congratulations to Bro. Thompson on the high position he holds in the lodge.

Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127.

The installation meeting of this professional lodge was held on Tuesday afternoon at Mark Masons' Hall, by dispensation, Drury Lane Theatre being engaged for a matinee of the Christmas production. Bro. Henry Neville, W.M. for the second year, presided. Amongst other brethren present were Bros. James Fernandez, P.M.; Fred. Mead, P.G.S.B.; Oscar Barrett, P.M.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; Richard Clowes, P.G. Std. Br.; Dr. Clement Godson, P.G.D.; A. Cooper, P.G.D.; Viscount Mountmorris; Chas. Martin, P.A.G.D.C.; Charles Belton, P.D.G.D.C.; Edward Terry, P.G. Treas.; Sir Reginald Macdonald, K.C.B., K.C.G.T.; Sir Albert Altman; H. Sadler, G. Tyler; Lionel Rignold; Imre Kiralfy; Colonel F. Egerton-Bennett; Harry Nicholls, P.M.; Lionel Brough; H. Passmore Edwards; H. J. Treadwell, P.M. 91, P.G. Stwd.; W. J. Fisher, P.M. 2190; Harold Burke, W.M. 2190; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O.; Charles Garthorne; J. H. Barnes, J.D.; Guy Repton; G. R. Dunlop, P.G.S.; Walter Ramsey; Prior, P.M. 90; Dr. Tatham Armitage, P.P.G. Std. Br. N. and E. Yorks; J. S. Fleming; and others.

The W.M. initiated in splendid style Sir Bryan Leighton, Messrs. Lewis Walker, Frank Atherley, and Alfred Armitage, and afterwards faultlessly installed Bro. Gerald Maxwell as W.M. for the year ensuing. Bro. Neville was invested as I.P.M. The other brethren invested were Bros. Guy Repton, S.W.; Lionel Rignold, J.W.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C., Chap.; J. S. Fleming, Treas.; Harry Nicholls, P.M., Sec.; Col. F. Egerton Bennett, S.D.; J. H. Barnes, J.D.; Luigi Lablache, D. of C.; E. Cotterill, I.G.; Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org., Org.; John Crook, T. H. Bolton, and A. G. Nevill, Stewards; and Goddard, P.M., Tyler.

After some other business had been conducted, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to a choice banquet.

The usual toasts followed.

The entertainment provided between the speeches consisted of performances by Bros. John Le Hay, Avon Saxon, Laurence Kellie, Lionel Brough, Templer Saxe, Charles Towley, and Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org., Organist, who played some beautiful symphonies.

Bro. Edward Terry, P.G.T., responded to the toast of "The M.W. Pro G. Master, Dep. G. Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. Henry Neville, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said the toast appealed to the brethren in every sympathetic way; it was a toast which was most worthy, not only on account of the worthy man, but on account of that worthy man's worthy work. He knew that Bro. Maxwell was an acceptable W.M. and that he had justified all the hopes of the brethren. He remembered when he (Bro. Neville) was in the chair, Bro. Harry Nicholls once said to him, any compliments, any honour, or any consideration that is shown to a nominee of his in Masonry he feels as deeply as any honour or consideration that could possibly be shown to himself, if even a little more. He said that of his own generous nature, and he (Bro. Neville) shared that noble sentiment; he felt the same pride Bro. Nicholls felt in coming forward to the proud position of their W.M. that day. He had watched Bro. Maxwell from the very beginning of his career and he had never known him to fail. The brethren of the lodge knew perfectly well what the man was and what his worth was; and it was for that that he was loved among the brethren of the lodge. He might tell the Grand Officers and the visitors that Bro. Maxwell had never missed a lodge meeting in the whole time; he had always fulfilled a duty; he had never disappointed a single promise that he had made in Masonry. That was the highest record—the very highest record that any Master could acquire, and that was the one that belonged to their W.M. of to-day.

Bro. Gerald Maxwell, W.M., in reply, said: Brethren, the great honour you have done me in installing me in this chair to-night is greatly enhanced by the very cordial way in which you have all welcomed the far too flattering remarks of our Bro. Past Master Neville, and it is an added pleasure to me to be installed in this exalted chair by a man and a brother whom I admire as long as it has been in me to admire what is great and good in men and in brother Masons. I am sorry to say, because there is always something sad in the flight of time, however short that flight may be—that my earliest recollections of the drama are bound up with my memory of our Brother, Henry Neville. It was his knightly figure first burst upon me and showed me my ideal cavalier; he was my cavalier *sans peur et sans reproche*, the Bayard of my boyhood; and in these days, when so many books are made from various quarters on the stage, I think, without egotism, that the humble banner-bearer of the stage may claim something for the victories of the world; although they are only after-dinner victories they are still victories of priests in the realms of art. It is mine, like our Brother Henry Neville's, to show the heroes of the greater stage of life how to live, and sometimes how to die; and if he will permit me, I should like to instance the exquisite creation of his in a drama which cannot be too highly praised—I allude to "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," because it embodies the spirit and the grit of our little great nation. (Cheers.) He then showed us the ideal English gentleman, the soldier ready to face any odds at a moment's notice, to face death calmly, and to make those around him face it calmly, and in our last little difficulty, out of which we have not yet got, the difficulty on the north-west frontier of India, which I am told by visitors, is a considerable territory inhabited by hordes of tribesmen whom we have trained in the use of that highly-prized weapon, the Lee-Netford, there seems to have been among the officers who commanded the force of Dargai Heights and the troops that would not desert their comrades—there seemed to have been the spirit of the true Drury Lane drama—they seemed to have borrowed their light and their lines of action from the magnificent example of our I.P.M. (Loud applause.) I need not say that although I technically replace our P.M. in this chair, it is quite impossible to replace him anywhere on the stage. (Cheers.) In our lodge happily it is not necessary to replace him, for he not only adorns the stage but he adorns the lodge, and I am certain whoever deserts us he will never do so; he will always remain among us a tower of manly strength and manly dignity. (Hear, hear.) Some years ago—not many years—when my dear old friend, Lionel Brough, offered kindly to propose me for this lodge, and my dear friend, Harry Nicholls, seconded me, I had a misgiving as to whether I should not ask them to withdraw my name; and it was a proud moment in my life when I heard the brethren had unanimously elected me to be one of their members; but if I really ever aspired to occupy this chair, I certainly did not dare to lift my eyes to that exalted position. Still, I suppose, in a manner I must have looked upwards, for Alpine climbers have told me it is fatal, even if you never reach the summit, to look down. Well, brethren, owing to the great kindness and good nature of all our brethren, and especially of our Bro. Catling, P.M., who, I am sorry to say, is not present, who made me I.G., after having proved myself most inefficiently his deputy, I have arrived in a short time at the goal of my Masonic ambition, and I appreciate fully the honour you have done me. (Hear, hear.) I am not an old man—I hardly like to say young—but I am a respectably aged Mason—more than 15 years. I entered a small lodge at Cambridge, dedicated to the memory of Isaac Newton, that great master who initiated the science of motion, and for a time I tried to emulate his example; but I flatter myself I have conquered the problem he tried to solve by dynamics by showing the motion of a heavy body through space to an exalted position and in a short space of time—(laughter)—but I do not claim the slightest credit to myself for this, because it has been due to the efforts of the brethren who by using that force which tends to motion have driven me along their good will to the exalted position which I now occupy. (Cheers.) I am sure you must be quite tired of my voice. (No, no.) I have raised it on several occasions already; I am conscious that it has none of the melodious qualities of that of our P.M., who is a Past Master in the art of elocution, as he is a Past Master of all the arts; I feel like the historical beggar on horseback (and you all know where he rides to), but I trust that I may curb my steed and make him suit his pace to the proportions of the rider and to the community generally, and of this I am sure I shall be ably supported by our Secretary, because if our Pegasus showed signs of shying as well as rearing he would be checked immediately. The ambition of our Secretary is boundless as regards the Drury Lane Lodge. To alter Shakespeare's words slightly, I shall say, "Beggars on horseback although I am, I am poorer in thanks, but I thank you." (Appause.)

After the initiates had responded to the toast which was drunk in their honour, Bro. Maxwell, W.M., gave "The Visitors," to which Bro. Viscount Mountmorris replied.

Bro. Gerald Maxwell, W.M., next proposed "The Past Masters," and said the toast needed no words of his to recommend it to the brethren. The Past Masters were those of necessity of the lodge who had adorned it most, and it was to them the lodge was most indebted. Brevity, they had heard, was the soul of wit: he hid no pretence to be witty; still, he would claim that on his behalf, merely on that ground and coupling this with the name of the I.P.M., Bro. Neville, to whom he had hoped to have the privilege of giving a memorial jewel on his second year of office—for the brethren must remember Bro. Neville had not only consented to be Master one year, but in their necessity he had come forward and held that chair again—still they were none

the less indebted to him; and knowing the great punctuality of makers of jewels and artificers of gems of all kinds, he had not that jewel in his possession, although he would have it in a few days—Bro. Neville wore that jewel which the brethren kept in their own hearts—the jewel of his great Masonic fame. (Cheers.)

Bro. Henry Neville, I.P.M., in acknowledging the toast, said it always affected him when he heard anything said about himself, and strange to say it always clogged the brain and the little memory he happened to possess. The Drury Lane Lodge was to him a child which was growing up into splendid, magnificent manhood, and the honour that had been bestowed upon him by the brethren retaining him for their Master two years was one he should never, never forget. He could not expect it or anticipate it, and when one had one jewel he did not expect to have another attached to it for a second year. It was an enormous pride to him to know that he had performed the duties of this lodge to the satisfaction of the brethren; that had been his one great object; his object was not to work up to a Past Master, because, strange to say, he practically objected to everything that had passed; that was in all their bosoms; they did not like past—past glory, past honour, a woman who was past; it did not sound quite nice; but, thank God! there was a consolation in being a Past Master because a P.M. retained an honour and a privilege which was enjoyed by their worthy Past Grand Treasurer, Edward Terry, and the rest of the Grand Officers in England of visiting as a P.M. the Grand Lodge and taking part in those exquisite, magnificent, services which were scattered over the country on behalf of the poor and the old, men and women, and the orphan children, boys and girls. (Hear, hear.) That seemed to him a sort of sweet bosom on which every Past Master might repose—the bosom of Charity—Charity that was past, to put a crown upon one's life, and give the crown of glory, and of joy, and rejoicing, which he spoke of in the installation ceremony, which should continue when time with him should be no more. (Cheers.) Until that time he should be at the service of the brethren, and from his heart of hearts he thanked them all for the kindness and honour he had received for any service he had rendered. No Master was ever better served by his officers, and he expressed his gratitude for that service. It gave him the extreme pride to see them come up to the chair, and to see Bro. Maxwell there that night. (Applause.)

Bros. James Fernandez, P.M., and Bro. Oscar Barrett, P.M., also replied. After the toast of "The Officers" had been honoured and replied to, the Tyler's toast was given, and the brethren separated.

Royal Arch.

Union Waterloo Chapter, No. 13.

The installation meeting of the above chapter took place on Wednesday, the 26th ult., at Freemasons' Hall, Plumstead, when Comps. W. H. Keeble was installed as M.E.Z.; G. Porter, as H.; and H. Crowdy, as J. Comp. A. Penfold, P.Z. 913 and 1472, P.P.G. 1st Asst. Soj. Kent, was the installing officer, and did his work splendidly. The M.E.Z. invested his officers as follows: Comp. G. Kennedy, P.Z., S.E.; W. J. Crowdy, S.N.; Capt. G. Spinks, P.Z., Treas.; A. McQueen, P.S.; J. T. Taylor, 1st Asst. Soj.; and G. Gable, 2nd Asst. Soj. Comp. J. Matthey, I.P.Z., was presented with a handsome and valuable P.Z.'s jewel on retiring from the first chair. Comp. Penfold was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his services as installing officer that day, and then the chapter was closed.

The banquet was partaken of at the Earl of Chatham Arms, Woolwich, and Bro. G. Cashfield, the host, was complimented on its excellence. Among the other companions present were Comps. R. J. Warren, P.Z., P.Z. 1472, P.P. Asst. G. Soj. Essex; W. Tailbey, P.Z.; H. S. Syer, P.Z.; and D. Jenkins, of the chapter; C. Jolly, P.Z. 1472, P.Z. and Scribe E. 2184, P.P.G. Std. Br. Essex; Capt. W. Weston, P.Z. 1789; and J. D. Brooks, 913.

The usual loyal and Grand Chapter toasts having been honoured, Comp. Matthey proposed the toast of "The M.E.Z.," who, he said, was well known to them and well known as an excellent worker, both in the Craft and Royal Arch Degrees. He trusted they would rally round their M.E.Z., and give him that support by their presence that was so necessary to the success of his year of office. He had asked several of the brethren of the good old mother lodge—the Union Waterloo—to join them, and hoped to be able to give their esteemed M.E.Z. an opportunity of showing what he could do at their next meeting. He asked them to drink their M.E.Z.'s health in bumpers.

The M.E.Z., in response, said he rose with feelings of pleasure to know that he had been installed by so splendid a worker and esteemed Mason as Comp. Penfold, and also that there were present so many with whom he had been associated in the town of Woolwich. Although at present not residing in the town or district, yet he could assure them that, though absent in body, in spirit he was with them. That night was one of the most pleasant in the recollections of his life, and would be a pleasant memory for many years to come. With regard to the chapter, he must take exception to the too flattering remarks of their Comp. Matthey that he (the M.E.Z.) "was perfect in his working of the ritual of the chapter," but he would say that no effort on his side should be wanting to make himself as perfect as it was possible, so that the impression made by the work upon the mind of an exalte might thereby be of a more lasting nature than a mere perfunctory rendering would be. In conclusion, he heartily thanked them for their cordial reception of the toast.

The toast of "The Second and Third Principals" was duly honoured.

In responding to an enthusiastic reception of his name as "Installing Officer," Comp. Penfold said he felt somewhat flattered at the special toast just proposed by their First Principal, and as he had referred to his long connection with the people of Woolwich, he (Comp. Penfold) would say that during a residence there of some 37 years he had become acquainted with most of them, either in Masonic, parochial, or social life. He then referred to his long connection with the grand old chapter, which was founded in 1827, and also with the Pattison Chapter, of which he was a founder, and of his desire and determination to keep up that connection as long as he lived. He trusted they would have some good live members introduced, as Comp. Porter had said, during their M.E.Z.'s year of office. It afforded him the greatest pleasure to come down and install the Principals. Every one did his best, and if his best pleased them, he was pleased also. He trusted that many of them might live to see that chapter a centenary one and wear the centenary jewel, and, above all, to kindly remember those who had borne the "heat and labour of the day" in the "long before."

Comp. Weston, in responding for "The Visitors," said he had been deeply impressed by the splendid working of Comp. Penfold as installing officer. He, himself, was installed by Comp. Penfold in the Ubique Chapter, and he was proud to say that Comp. Penfold was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Ubique Chapter for the many valuable services rendered it by him. He was an old member of the Union Waterloo Chapter, and hoped, in the near future, to renew his membership with it.

Comp. Hastings, as a companion of the High Cross Chapter, at Dartford, thanked the companions for their hearty welcome, and promised one and all a pleasant evening should they ever visit the High Cross.

Comp. C. Jolly also briefly responded, and "The P.Zs.," "Officers," and Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings, which were enlivened by some excellent singing by Comps. Matthey, Crowdy, McQueen, Brooks, and Jolly.

Sincerity Chapter, No. 189.

The installation meeting took place at the Town Hall, East Stonehouse, on the 24th ult., when a large number of companions were present, including many P.Zs., as well as several visitors. The minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, the M.E.Z. exalted a candidate to the Degree of H.R.A., and then proceeded to install the Principals for the ensuing year, performing the whole of the ceremonies in an excellent and impressive manner, worthy of all praise. The officers for the ensuing year are—Comps. J. Parker, M.E.Z.; F. E. Sach, H.; J. Pilluck, J.; C. Dunsterville, Treas.; G. Dunsterville, S.E.; L. Hicks, S.N.; W. Harvey, P.S.; G. Chamberlain, 1st A.S.; Major Edyvean, 2nd A.S.; G. Gould, D.C.; and J. Gidley, Janitor. This chapter has considerably increased its strength during the past year, and its finances are in a flourishing condition.

Unity Chapter, No. 1151.

A meeting of this chapter was held at Tywardreath, Cornwall, on Tuesday the 25th ult., for the purpose of installing the Principals and other officers for the current year. Comp. Major Shanks remains in office as M.E.Z., having been for the third time re-elected to that distinguished post; consequently, there were only the Second and Third Principals for installation. Comps. W. J. Samble and F. J. Denison were duly installed into the chairs of H. and J. respectively, by Comp. Shanks, who did the work in his usual and faultless style, and was warmly thanked by the companions for the zeal he has displayed in the interests of the chapter and the impressive manner in which he always performs the ceremonies. The other officers inducted were Comps. Perry, Treas.; Couch, Scribe E.; Jewell, Scribe N.; Symons, P.S.; Toyne, 1st Asst. Soj.; R. H. Denison, 2nd Asst. Soj.; and Elliott, Janitor.

Star Chapter, No. 1275.

The installation meeting of this very flourishing chapter was held at the Guildhall Tavern, E.C., on Tuesday, the 25th ult. Present: Comps. Wm. Eckersall, M.E.Z.; W. R. Barr, H., M.E.Z. elect; Hy. Hardman, J., H. elect; Charles Woolmer Williams, P.Z., Treas.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Witty, P.S.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.Z., D.C.; C. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor; H. W. Makeham, P.Z.; Jas. Addington, P.Z.; Wm. Cowley, P.Z.; G. G. Benedetti, P.Z.; Chas. Henry Stone, P.Z.; J. S. Targett, J. elect; W. H. Smith, and P. H. Garner. Visitors: Comps. R. J. Wishart, P.Z. 407, Dist. G.H. Malta; W. H. C. Crump, 58; G. H. Lewis, M.E.Z. 2048; Thos. Fullilove, 73; J. Hooper, 1022; J. Hallows, 141; J. Graham, 1614; and R. W. Bennis, J. 507.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. A conclave of First Principals was formed, and Comp. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z. elect, was installed into the first chair by Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z. A conclave of Second Principals was formed, and Comp. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z., installed Comp. Henry Hardman into the second chair. A conclave of Third Principals was formed, and Comp. Hy. Hardman, H., installed Comp. J. S. Targett, J. elect, into the third chair. The installations were rehearsed in a perfect and very impressive manner. Comp. W. Eckersall, I.P.Z., resumed the chair, and a ballot was taken for Bro. P. H. Garner, P.M. 217, and, proving unanimous, he was exalted into Royal Arch Masonry by the I.P.Z. in an excellent manner, Comps. Barr and Hardman giving the symbolical and historical lectures respectively very commendably. Comp. Barr, M.E.Z., resumed the chair, and appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. Chas. W. Williams, P.Z., Treas.; T. Grummant, P.Z., S.E.; J. H. Witty, S.N.; Geo. Wyatt, P.S.; H. Lindsay, 1st A.S.; A. Cogliati, 2nd A.S.; C. N. McIntyre North, P.Z., D.C.; and Chas. Patrick, P.Z., Janitor. The M.E.Z. rose, and, in very appropriate terms, pre-



THE M.E.Z.

sented a Past Principal's jewel to Comp. Wm. Eckersall, I.P.Z., for the able manner he had performed the duties for the past year. Comp. Eckersall acknowledged the kind remarks of the M.E.Z. and also the kindness of the companions in voting him the handsome jewel, which he should greatly prize. A candidate for exaltation was proposed for the next convocation, which augurs well. A letter of apology was received from Comp. C. Meierhoff, P.Z., for inability to attend, and acknowledging with gratitude the deep sympathy of the companions in his severe bereavement. The Auditors presented their report, which showed the chapter to be in a most flourishing and sound financial position.

The convocation ended, chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was justly appreciated.

Banquet ended, the M.E.Z. presented the customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts in befitting terms, which were cordially received.

That of "The Pro G.Z., G.H., and G.J.," with the rest of the Grand Officers, received its measure of praise at the hands of the M.E.Z., who stated that they were most able, and always willing to do their utmost for the good of Royal Arch Masonry. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast a very old and dear companion, Comp. J. Wishart, Dist. G.H. of Malta.

Comp. Wishart, in reply, stated that he was rather taken back at being called upon to respond, not being a Grand Officer of England, but of Malta, where he had performed the different ceremonies upon the same evening, although he was G.H. The population of Malta was of such a migratory kind that it necessitated a companion being up to, and ready to perform, any duty he might be required to do. The Grand Officers of England were companions of such calibre, and always were most capable to perform their various duties. In the Star Chapter, where he had visited for many years, he met many dear brethren, and he hoped that his visits would continue for many years. He congratulated the M.E.Z. upon attaining the exalted position in his mother chapter.

Comp. Wm. Eckersall, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The M.E.Z.," Comp. W. R. Barr, said it was a most pleasing duty which had fallen to his lot for the first time. The eyes of all the companions in the chapter had been fixed upon the M.E.Z. for some long time as one eminently fitted for the position, he having filled the subordinate offices in such an efficient manner. The M.E.Z. was a constant attendant of the Star Chapter of Instruction, under so able a Preceptor as Comp. T. Grummant, P.Z., and no wonder of his capable working. He hoped that Comp. Barr would have several exaltees, and he was confident that the exaltation ceremony would be worked with distinguished credit to the M.E.Z. One other cause for congratulation was the prosperity of the chapter, and he felt confident at the close of the year the balance would be still larger to the credit of the Star Chapter. He would ask the companions to drink to the toast in bumpers, which was most cordially replied to.

In reply, the M.E.Z. said he was deeply sensible of the very kind remarks of the

I.P.Z., and he certainly had endeavoured to perform whatever duties had devolved upon him to the utmost of his power. It would be his aim to emulate the worthy companion who had preceded him, and he promised that, having the work, it would be performed to the best of his ability, and he was sure he would be assisted ably by the H. and J., thereby showing their knowledge of the splendid ritual.

The M.E.Z. gave "The H. and J.," and said in them he had two worthy co-Principals. Already the H. had displayed his ability in the chapter—in installing the J.—Comp. Targett—and rehearsing the historical lecture. He, too, was a regular attendant at the chapter of instruction. Comp. Targett, J., he was sure, would carry out the ceremonies to the best of his ability, and redound to the credit of the chapter.

In reply, Comp. Hardman, H., said he was somewhat diffident in responding to the toast of H. He was pleased at the remarks of the M.E.Z. upon his working, but it was the duty of every officer to do everything in his power for the good of his chapter. The chapter had completed the 20th year of its existence a few days ago, and if he might take upon himself the gift of prophecy, he would say the chapter would become a star of the first magnitude so long as the work was conducted in so admirable a manner and the companions were so united.

Comp. Targett, J., also promised his hearty support, and thanked the companions for electing him to fill the honourable position of J. of his mother chapter.

Comp. Barr, M.E.Z., next presented the toast of the evening—that of "Comp. P. H. Garner, the Exalte." He was not a stranger, but known to all as a worthy P.M. of Stability Lodge, No. 217, and for the exemplary manner he had performed his duties while in the chair. He had every confidence that Comp. Garner would carry out the duties of a R.A. Mason in the same efficient manner.

The companions gave Comp. Garner a most hearty reception.

Comp. P. H. Garner, in reply, thanked the companions for so cordial a greeting, which he could hardly find words to thoroughly convey. He hoped that he should prove a worthy member of the chapter, in which he found such a number of old friends, and would endeavour to carry out the duties as earnestly as he did in the Stability Lodge as W.M. He had been pleased and yet surprised to witness the splendid working of the ceremonies, and he would try and emulate such excellent workers.

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The Visitors," giving them a most hearty welcome.

Comps. G. H. Lewis, M.E.Z. 2048; Hallows, and Graham responded, and congratulated the chapter upon its excellent working and in having so worthy a First Principal at its head.

The toast of "The Past Principals" was given by the M.E.Z. in eulogistic terms, who remarked there were nine present, thereby showing their interest in the chapter, and the companions need be proud of such an array. He coupled with the toast the names of Comps. W. Williams, P.Z., Treas., and T. Grummant, P.Z., S.E.

In reply, Comp. T. Grummant apologised for the Treasurer, as he was obliged to fulfil a very pressing engagement. On behalf of himself, it was a most pleasing duty to respond as S.E. of such a chapter. The chapter had had a good name for the last 20 years and it was still gaining strength. He trusted that the Great I Am would allow him to witness the installation of Comp. Garner, the worthy exalte, into the First Principal's chair. The chapter had commenced a new era, and he hoped that the coming year would see the chapter sending up a Steward to support one of the noble Charities which by so doing would enable the chapter to become possessed of votes and would greatly benefit Royal Arch Masonry.

Comps. Eckersall, Cowley, Addington, Benedetti, North, Stone, and Dr. Makeham, also responded.

The M.E.Z. next gave the toast of "The Officers" in eloquent terms, which was ably responded to by Comp. Witty, S.N.

The Janitor's toast closed a happy meeting which marked an epoch in the history of the chapter.

An excellent programme of music was arranged under the able direction of Bro. Arthur Court, effectively assisted by Miss Masie Riversdale, Miss Dora Barnard, and Bro. Arthur Court and Roland Henry. Bro. Roland Henry ably presided at the piano.

Comp. W. R. Barr has had a more successful, yet short, Masonic career when compared with many others, which is due to his indomitable perseverance and has led to his rapid advancement. He was initiated in the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge, 1539, in March, 1891. In March, 1892, he joined the Stuart Lodge, 1032, was appointed J.D. in 1893, and in March, 1896, was installed W.M., the duties of which were ably carried out to the advantage of the lodge, and in 1897, he installed his successor in a commendable manner. He is also a joining member of the Greenwood Lodge, 1982. In April, 1893, he was exalted in the Star Chapter, 1275, since which time he has worthily filled the various offices, and on the 25th ult. was installed its First Principal. In January, 1895, he was elected a joining member of the Addiscombe Chapter, 1556, and in 1896, was installed its Third Principal, and at the present time is M.E.Z. elect of the same chapter. Our esteemed brother is carrying out the true spirit of Masonry—Benevolence, being a Life Governor of each Masonic Institution, having served as Steward to the boys' and girls', and twice to the Benevolent Institution.

Moira Chapter, No. 92.

A meeting of this chapter was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C., on Tuesday, the 1st inst., when there were present Comps. Wickham Noakes, P.Z., as M.E.Z.; E. D. Oppert, H.; J. M. Mitchell, J.; T. L. Wilkinson, P.Z., Treas.; and R. F. Gould, P.Z. Visitors: Comps. T. Holman, late 92; F. Nash, 1118; and W. G. Poole, 1347.

A ballot was taken for Bro. Wickham F. Noakes, W.M. 92, which proving unanimous in his favour, and the candidate being in attendance, he was duly exalted to the Supreme Degree of a Royal Arch Mason. In the absence of the M.E.Z., Comp. G. Greiner, through indisposition, Comp. Wickham Noakes, P.Z., occupied the chair of First Principal throughout the evening, and afterwards presided at the banquet. Comps. Gould, Oppert, and Mitchell, acted as H., J., and P.S., respectively, during the ceremony of exaltation. Comp. Gould was elected Scribe E. in succession to the late Sir Norman Pringle, Bart., I.P.Z., deceased, after which, there being no further business, the chapter was closed.

Knights Templar.

Mount Calvary Preceptory (D).

A meeting of this preceptory was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on the 14th ult. Among those present were Sir Knights H. Hills, J.P., E.P.; B. Stewart, E.P. elect; Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, P.E.P., P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.E.P., P.G.C. of Gds.; the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., J.P., E.P.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.P.; H. J. Lardner, P.E.P.; Egbert Roberts, Org.; A. R. Carter, and F. F. Bonney.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Comp. Geo. Haysom, 174 (R.A.), who had been previously balloted for, was duly installed by the E.P. Sir Knight B. Stewart having been duly presented, was inducted as E.P. by Sir Knight H. J. Lardner. Among those appointed and invested as officers for the year ensuing were Sir Knights Carter, 1st Constable; Ubsdell, 2nd Constable; Lieut.-Col. Stohwasser, Treas.; Major Walls, Reg.; Horst, Marshal; Owen, C. of G.; F. F. Bonney, Herald; Haysom, 1st Std. Br.; E. Roberts, Org.; and H. Schartau, Asst. Org. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. A Past Preceptor's jewel was presented to Sir Knight Harris Hills, P.E.P. A vote of thanks having been passed to the Installing Preceptor, apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights G. Graveley, P.E.P.; T. Wood, P.E.P.; H. Lardner, O. Berry, J. Owen, H. Schartau, and others.

The preceptory was then closed. An excellent banquet followed. Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts were tersely, but effectively, proposed by the E.P.

Sir Knight Lieut.-Col. Stohwasser responded on behalf of "The Officers of Great Priory."

The I.P.E.P., in submitting the toast of "The E.P.," said that Sir Knight B. Stewart was well known in Masonic circles. He had well carried out the duties of the minor offices in the preceptory, and no doubt would discharge the responsibilities of his present position most satisfactorily.

The E.P., in reply, said that he appreciated the kind sentiments of Sir Knight Harris Hills very much, and he would endeavour to deserve them. He had the pleasure of introducing an old friend into the preceptory that night, and he hoped to bring others before his year of office expired.

"The Health of the Installing Preceptor" followed, and was given in very eulogistic terms.

Sir Knight Lardner, in reply, expressed his acknowledgment. He said that there were others in the preceptory who were capable of discharging any duty that the E.P. for the time being desired. For his own part it was always a pleasure to attend the meetings of the old Mount Calvary, which he considered to be one of the most enjoyable Masonic bodies that he had the honour of belonging to.

The toast of "The Newly-Installed Knight" followed, and was duly responded to.

Sir Knight H. Hills replied on behalf of "The Past Preceptors" in a neat speech, and Sir Knights Lieut.-Col. Stohwasser, A. R. Carter, and Egbert Roberts for "The Officers." The last named was in excellent voice and delighted his hearers by his vocalisation.

Sir Knight F. W. Driver recited his well-known poem on the Order, and Sir Knights Rev. R. C. Fillingham and H. Hills also entertained the sir knights with humorous selections.

The Craft Abroad.

**ANNUAL BALL OF LODGE SALEM,
No. 563 (S.O.).**

The annual ball under the banner of the above lodge and in honour of the installation of R.W. Bro. H. N. Wadia, P.M., Grand Architect, as R.W. Master, came off on Friday, the 14th ult., at Sett Hathising's Bungalow, City of Ahmedabad.

A large number of European, Parsee, and Hindoo ladies and gentlemen attended in response to the invitation of Bro. Surgeon-Major J. R. Yourdi, the outgoing R.W. Master.

A capital floor had been laid down, and the programme of music, which was played by the fine band of the 4th Bombay Rifles, was excellent.

The rooms were well lighted, the light of beauty's eyes lending its share, which was not a small one, to the brilliancy of the illuminations.

The dancing hall was artistically and tastefully decorated, conspicuous among which were beautiful designs with the inscriptions "God bless her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, Empress of India," and "May the new year bring you happiness and peace."

The general arrangements and the refreshments and drinks were excellent.

Mark Masonry.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 4.

The election meeting of this lodge was held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Monday, the 24th ult. The W.M., Bro. Sir Thomas Carmichael, Bart., M.P., was detained in Scotland, and the chair was taken by Bro. F. A. Powell, P.M., with Bros. J. R. Reep, S.W.; Henry Lovegrove, P.G. Supt. of Wks., as J.W.; J. Campbell Johnstone, M.O.; Charles Pulman, P.G.I.G., Sec.; and others. Bro. Reep, S.W., having been elected W.M. of the Brixton Lodge, the J.W., Bro. A. Love, was elected W.M.; Bro. H. Lovegrove was re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. E. J. Mills, Tyler.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 1st inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. V. J. R. Longman, W.M.; J. C. Denmead, S.W.; A. F. Hardymont, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. Isler, S.D.; S. Cload, J.D.; C. Nicole, I.G.; A. Oliver, P.M.; C. Smith, J. W. Parkinson, A. L. Langton, C. T. Rayner, C. Bone, W. Rapley, E. J. Harrison, F. H. Johnson, L. Danielsson, H. R. Bower, and R. P. Upton, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Rayner being the candidate. The investiture of officers was then rehearsed. The next Tuesday evening being allotted to the officers of the mother lodge Bro. Denmead was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

SCOTS LODGE, No. 2319.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday evening, the 7th instant, when there were present Bros. C. Thwaites, W.M.; W. Craig, S.W.; J. Imray, J.W.; C. F. Ward, S.D.; D. K. Duncan, J.D.; D. A. Ross, Sec., I.G.; F. Gellion, P.M.; J. J. Whitehead, W. McKean, P. S. Millory, J. Bennett, and J. F. Young.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Bro. P. S. Millory, as candidate, was initiated, the W.M. delivering the charge, and the candidate, having answered the questions, was duly passed to the Degree of F.C. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 4th inst. Present: Comps. Wm. Wills, M.E.Z.; H. Hardman, H.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., J.; Thos. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor, C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E.; W. R. Barr, M.E.Z., S.N.; Stone, P.S.; Frampton, 1st A.S.; Cass, Targett, and Lightfoot.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Targett personating the candidate. Comp. J. S. Targett, J. 1275, was elected a joining member. The chapter was placed at the disposal of the M.E.Z. of the Sterndale Bennett Chapter, No. 2182, to-day (Friday). Comp. Wm. Wills, the M.E.Z. of the Selwyn Chapter, No. 1901, thanked the companions for placing the chapter at his disposal. Comps. Barr, Hardman, and Frampton were elected Auditors for the 18th inst. The chapter was closed.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES visited on Saturday last the Graves Gallery in Pall-mall, where are on exhibition many water-colour drawings by Miss Ella du Cane, and a collection of pictures of "Australian Scenery" by Messrs. W. J. Wadham and A. Sinclair, and also paid a visit to the Continental Gallery. In the evening his Royal Highness went to Sandringham, attended by Bro. Major-General Sir S. Clarke and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys. On Sunday morning the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Victoria, and the Duke and Duchess of York, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household, were present at St. Mary Magdalene's, where the Sub-Dean of the Chapel, the Rev. Edgar Sheppard, preached.

Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. THE MARQUIS OF BREADALBANE has come to town for a few days from Taymouth Castle.

BRO. THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF TWEEDDALE have arrived at 6, Hill-street, Berkeley-square, from Yester House, N.B.

BRO. THE DUKE OF FIFE and **Lord Farquhar** have resigned their seats on the Board of Directors of the British South Africa Company.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has become Patroness of the Young Helpers' League, founded by Dr. Barnardo in connection with his Homes.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF BUCCLEUCH have arrived at Montagu House from Dalkeith, for a short stay, after which they will return to Scotland until the end of April.

THE EARL OF ROSEBERY, who is staying at his house in Berkeley-square, and attended the debate at the House of Lords on Tuesday, is expected to leave town shortly for Naples.

THE QUEEN has sent a present of 20 pheasants for the use of the patients in the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, E., of which her Majesty is Patron.

THE AFRICAN LEAGUE CONGRESS has unanimously passed a resolution declaring that a gift worthy of the Jubilee should be made by Cape Colony, and that it should take the form of a contribution to the Navy.

THE BULUWAYO CHAMBERS OF Mines and Commerce and the **Landowners' Association** telegraphed to Mr. Chamberlain on Monday urging the reinstatement of Bro. Cecil Rhodes and Mr. Beit in the best interests of Rhodesia.

THE SPEAKER, Bro. the Right Hon. W. H. Gully, will give his usual full-dress Parliamentary dinner to members of the Government, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., and of the Opposition, on March the 2nd. After each dinner Mrs. Gully will hold a reception.

THE DUKE OF YORK has been asked by the unanimous vote of the Corporation of Reading, the chief borough in the Royal county of Berks, to accept the position of High Steward, which became vacant a few months since by the death of Mr. Richard Benyon, of Englefield House.

WE ARE GLAD to learn that Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe has sufficiently recovered from his illness to be able to preside at the Cornwall County Council. Lord Vailort, his son, is not, on account of his delicate health, seeking re-election as a representative of Stonehouse on the Devon Municipality.

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF UXBRIDGE won the first prize at the Monte Carlo Battle of Flowers, held in lovely weather, on Tuesday. Their carriage represented a windmill, made of violets, with sails of white camellias. Prince Lubomirsky was a good second, in a beautiful victoria, decked with Marguerites, and drawn by a pair of handsome black horses.

THE QUEEN has again granted her patronage to the St. Patrick's Day Exhibition of the Irish Industries Association, which is to be held on March 17th and 18th, at Lansdowne House, Berkeley-square, by permission of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne. Her Majesty has intimated her intention of making purchases of Irish cottage-made work.

THE BRINTON LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1949, held its annual festival on the 25th ult. at the Holborn Restaurant. Bro. George Langley, P.P.G.D. Middlesex, presided. The dinner was well attended, and Bro. H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., was present to show his appreciation of the great assistance rendered to the Masonic Charities by the society.

A CABINET COUNCIL was held on Saturday last at the Foreign Office. Among the Ministers present were Bros. the Right Hon. A. Akers-Douglas, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Lord Ashbourne (Lord Chancellor of Ireland), Sir M. Hicks-Beach (Chancellor of the Exchequer), the Duke of Devonshire, Lord George Hamilton, the Right Hon. W. H. Long, and Sir M. White-Ridley.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has accepted from the Leeds Industrial Co-operative Society a handsomely-bound copy of their "Jubilee History," written by Mr. G. J. Holyoake, presented in the name of its 37,000 members, whose business amounts to £1,000,000 a year, and the profits annually distributed among working-class families amount to £150,000. In extent and in revenues it exceeds all other co-operative societies.

UNDER THE patronage of Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire the Eastbourne Amateur Operatic Society will give a performance of "Princess Ida" at Devonshire Park, in aid of the Terriss Memorial Fund, on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The cast includes Mr. Richard Temple, jun., as Hilarion, and Miss Nora Maguire (late of the Savoy and Prince of Wales' Theatres), as Princess Ida. An augmented orchestra has been engaged for the occasion.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY, the Commander-in-Chief, will hold a levee at one o'clock on Tuesday, 22nd inst., at the Horse Guards, Whitehall, the number of officers to be received being limited to 100. Officers on full pay will attend in uniform (levee dress). Ribbons of the Grand Cross of any Order will not be worn. Officers on the retired list and officers on half-pay to be in morning dress. Applications to attend the levee should be addressed to the Military Secretary.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG, the Governor of the Isle of Wight, paid a visit on Monday to the Home of Rest, Shanklin, an institution for the benefit of women who are broken down in health and need change and repose. It was built and furnished at a cost of £12,000 by the late Mrs. Harvey, and presented to the Hampshire Girls' Friendly Society. Her Royal Highness, who was attended by the Hon. Mary Hughes and Lord William Cecil, afterwards took tea with Lady Isabel Atherley at Landguard.

AMONG THE ladies who occupied seats in the gallery during the debate on the Address in the House of Peers were the Dowager Duchess of Bedford, the Duchess of Portland, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Marchioness of Headfort, Georgina Countess of Dudley, Isabella Countess of Wilton, the Countesses of Arran, Loudoun, Halsbury, Wicklow, Lucan, Essex, Mar and Kellie, Leitrim, Spencer, Chesterfield, and Portsmouth, Viscountess Falmouth, and Ladies Colville and Culross, Wantage, Henley, Mostyn, Hothfield, Tweedmouth, and Tenterden.

BRO. SIR EVELYN WOOD, V.C., completed his 60th year on Wednesday. He has seen a vast amount of active service, and from every campaign in which he has taken part has emerged with distinction. His Victoria Cross was won during the Indian campaign of 1858-59, receiving at the same time the thanks of the Indian Government. The gallant officer accompanied the Empress Eugénie to Zululand in 1833, and was Sirdar of the Egyptian Army from 1883 to 1885. He has filled many important home appointments, and is at present on the Headquarters Staff.

LAST FRIDAY NIGHT'S "Gazette" contains the official list of the Commissioners appointed by the Queen for the Paris Exhibition in 1900. Among them includes H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, Bro. the Duke of Fife, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Lorne, Bro. the Earl of Derby, Bro. the Earl of Jersey, Earl Cadogan, Lord Kelvin, Lord Rothschild, Sir William Harcourt, Sir John Lubbock, Mr. Asquith, Bro. Sir Edmund Monson (British Ambassador in Paris), Bro. Col. Davies (the Lord Mayor of London), Sir Edward Grey, Bro. Sir Thomas Sutherland, Bro. W. H. Preece, Mr. J. L. Kipling, Mr. J. S. Forbes, and Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild.

BY DESIRE of the Prince of Wales, the sermon preached in Sandringham Church by the Bishop of Ripon on Sunday morning, the 23rd ult., in commemoration of the death of General Gordon, has been published by Messrs. Skeffington and Son, and the proceeds of the sale are to be given to the Gordon Boys' Home. The discourse, called "The Venture of Faith," is founded on the words of St. Paul—"He went out, not knowing whither he went"—and is a lofty panegyric of national virtue, of which General Gordon was a conspicuous example. Those who purchase the sixpenny book will have the satisfaction not only of possessing an admirable specimen of modern pulpit eloquence, but also of aiding an institution which is doing good work among poor boys.

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF FIFE have returned to 15, Portman-square from Brighton.

MRS. GULLY has issued invitations for a reception at the Speaker's House on Wednesday next.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT are expected home early next week from the Riviera.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ARRAN have arrived at their residence in Hertford-street from Windsor.

BRO. LORD CLAUD HAMILTON has left town for Marseilles, en route for Egypt, where he will spend the next few weeks.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WHARNCLIFFE have come to Wharncliffe House, Curzon-street, from Wortley Hall, Sheffield.

EARL DE LA WARR will preside at the Anniversary Festival in aid of the funds of the Royal Blind Pension Society on Friday, May 13th, at the Hôtel Métropole.

AMONG THE visitors to Wulff's Circus at the Crystal Palace on the 4th inst. were the 200 cripples on the register of the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN has changed the date of her forthcoming visit to the Hampstead Hospital, for the purpose of unveiling two Diamond Jubilee beds, from March 5th to Saturday the 26th instant.

BRO. THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN has returned to town from Adare Manor, Limerick. The Countess is slowly recovering from an attack of inflammation of the lungs, supervening upon influenza.

THE SERVICE members of the House of Commons met on Wednesday, and re-appointed Bro. Sir James Fergusson as their Chairman, with Colonel Brookfield as Secretary. Bro. Lord Charles Beresford attended the proceedings.

BRO. SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, by the reading he gave on the evening of the 4th instant in the Inner Temple Hall, completed the sum of £7,000 as gifts to hospitals and similar institutions by his rendering of Dickens's "Christmas Carol."

THURSDAY was the 58th anniversary of the marriage of her Majesty the Queen with the Prince Consort, that event having taken place at the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, on February 10th, 1840. The Prince Consort died at Windsor Castle on December 14th, 1861.

THE CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRA, of which the Queen is patron, has received the gracious consent of Princess Henry of Battenberg to become President of the orchestra, a position filled for many years by the late Duchess of Teck. The first concert of the season will be given at the Westminster Town Hall on Tuesday, March 1st.

THE QUEEN has decided to leave Osborne next Wednesday morning, on her return to Windsor Castle. Her Majesty and suite cross the Solent in the Royal yacht to Gosport, and travel by special train over the London and South-Western and Great Western Railways to Windsor, where they are timed to arrive early in the afternoon.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Bros. Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke and Sir Francis Knollys, arrived in London on Monday, and was in attendance at the House of Lords the following afternoon. The Duke and Duchess of York also came to town from Sandringham. In the evening H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was present at the performance of "Julius Cæsar" in her Majesty's Theatre.

A REQUIEM was celebrated at St. Mary's Church, Cadogan-street, for the late Marquesa di Santurce, and was attended by members of the family and a large number of friends, including the Marquis di Santurce and Messrs. Cristobal and Adrian de Murieta (chief mourners), Bro. the Earl and Countess of Kilmorey; Bro. Lord and Lady Charles Beresford; Hon. Helen Henniker; and Bro. Sir Francis Knollys.

A LETTER from General Sir Dighton Probyn, on behalf of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, has been received by the Restoration Committee at Stratford-on-Avon, stating that his Royal Highness recollects with much pleasure the visit he paid to the church there, and trusts that the effort now being made to obtain the funds requisite to complete the restoration of the edifice, wherein lie the remains of our national poet, William Shakespeare, may be successful. His Royal Highness enclosed a cheque for 20 guineas.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—"Our Boys" have again scored well in the Preliminary Local Examination conducted by the Cambridge University Syndicate in December last. The Class List has just been issued, from which we find the Masonic boys have gained two second class, one third class, and 30 passes with "Distinctions." The average age of the successful candidates was 13 years, only five of the boys being over the age of 14 years. The results of the "Junior" and "Senior" examinations are not yet published.

THE PANTOMIME OF "Cinderella" will be played for the last time at the Garrick Theatre, on the evening of Saturday, the 19th inst., and the new play "22a Curzon Street," by Messrs. Brandon Thomas and John Edwards, will be presented during the following week. The names of the ladies and gentlemen engaged include the following: Messrs. Arthur Bourchier, Martin Harvey, Herbert Sparling, Cairns James, Eugene Mayeur, Holmes Anton, Fitzroy Morgan, Littledale Power, and H. Thomas; Mesdames Lottie Venne, Fanny Coleman, Grace Dudley, Alice Beet, Birdie Sutherland, and Fanny Brough.

IT IS EVER known that the Jews invariably listen to grace with covered heads. It occurred to Mr. Thos. J. Hamp, managing director of the Holborn Restaurant, that the spectacle at Jewish gatherings, Masonic and other, of gentlemen wearing hats of all descriptions, and some even using the humble but necessary serviette for temporary headgear, was incongruous to say at least. Consequently, after submitting to the Chief Rabbi a specimen of black paper cap which has now been adopted for the use of our Jewish brethren at the Holborn Restaurant and receiving an intimation of approval, all members of the ancient race will find themselves provided with the covering referred to. It has been remarked by Jewish brethren that the idea is a kindly and considerate one.

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, Sloane-street, took place the marriage of Mr. Ernald Richardson and Miss Irene Caroline Burges, youngest daughter of Colonel Burges and the late Hon. Mrs. Burges (sister of Bro. the Earl of Lathom), of Parkanaur, County Tyrone. The Archdeacon of Bristol (uncle of the bridegroom) officiated, assisted by the Rev. Forde Tichborne. The reception, given by Colonel Burges at 4, Hans-crescent, was largely attended, amongst those invited being Bro. Lord Halsbury (Lord Chancellor) and Countess Halsbury, Countess of Leitrim, Lord and Lady Mostyn, Lady Louisa Hamilton, Countess of Crawford, Lady Dynevor, the Ladies Knox, Lady Juliana Walker, the Hon. Dudley and Mrs. Ryder, Countess of Belmore, Viscount and Viscountess Cross, and Bro. Lord and Lady Llangattock.

THE ANNIVERSARY of the funeral of Prince Henry of Battenberg was marked by a special service, privately held in Whippingham Church on Saturday morning last. Her Majesty was present, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg, Princess Ena, and Princes Maurice and Leopold of Battenberg. The ladies and gentlemen of the Court in attendance included Viscountess Downe, the Hon. Harriet L. Phipps, the Hon. Mary F. Hughes, the Hon. Evelyn Moore, Bro. Sir Henry Byng, Lord William Cecil, and Major Legge. The service was conducted by the Rev. Clement Smith, rector of Whippingham and Chaplain to the Queen. In the afternoon the Bishop of Winchester consecrated an extension of the Whippingham churchyard. This additional piece of land has been given by her Majesty, who has also borne the cost of laying it out and building a substantial wall around it.

THE BEAUTIFUL model of H.M.S. Minerva, which was built specially for the Lord Mayor's Show at a cost of 200 guineas, has been purchased by the management of the Alexandra Palace, and will be on view throughout the coming season. The Minerva is the latest type of war vessel in the British Navy, and as such the model (which was constructed according to scale by the Government officials at Chatham) will be a most interesting exhibit. It is nearly 40 feet long and 10 feet across the beam. Rumours are afloat that two very handsome loan-collections of pictures have been offered to the lessee for exhibition purposes during the opening season of the Palace. Everyone who knew the Palace in the old days marvels at the wonderful state of preservation in which all the buildings have kept. Practically no work beyond touching-up is required to put the entire buildings in first-class condition. It is interesting to note that many of the stall-holders this year were at the Palace when it was first opened.