

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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THE FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

We understand there are those who consider that Tuesday's Festival was a great success, and have expressed surprise at the source from which the money comes. We are not of this opinion. We readily concede, that considering the limited number of brethren on the Board of Stewards—such as they have been, with a few exceptions, during the last few years—the total was a satisfactory one. But we are under the necessity of confronting the stern fact that the annual expenditure is about £19,000, of which upwards of £16,000 is distributed among the annuitants, and the result of Tuesday's meeting is a collection of about £9,500, or one half of the total sum required. The grants from Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and the Dividends on invested Capital, together furnish an additional £5,000, so that there remains a balance of from £4,500 to £5,000 to be obtained from other sources. The deficiency will be made up, but it would have been more acceptable if the Craft as a whole, having decided that the Benevolent Institution must spend a given sum annually, had relieved the governing body of the necessity of making good a large deficiency. As for those, from the Chairman downwards, who took part in the serious work of the gathering, we think their efforts cannot be too greatly commended. Theirs was no ordinary task to obtain as much as possible towards supplying the year's deficit, but they canvassed under exceptional difficulties, and under the circumstances in which they found themselves, we hold that they worked successfully. Had the fates been more propitious, the Board of Stewards might have accomplished more, but there are not many Boards who would have accomplished so much under such discouraging circumstances.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons held its festival for the year 1898 at Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday evening last, and on this occasion ladies sat down with the brethren to banquet. About 400 of the two sexes were present, and the Chairman of the day was the Earl of Jersey, Prov. G. Master for Oxfordshire. Among the brethren who supported his lordship were
Bros. the Archdeacon of London, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, P.G. Chap.; J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., Treasurer of the Institution; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; Leopold G. Gordon Robbins, P.G.D.; E. Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec.; Major J. W. Woodall, P.G.T.; W. Lake, Asst. G.S.; Col. A. Thrane Perkins, P.G.D.; W. M. Stiles, P.G.T.; Dr. H. J. Strong, J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.C.; J. Hastings Miller, C.C., P.G.S.B.; F. Parker Morrell, M.A., P.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br.; P. A. Nairne, P.G.D.; Alfred Cockerill, Prov. G. Treas. Norths and Hunts; James Speller, P.P.G.D. Essex; and C. O. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Surrey.

After the banquet, grace having been sung, the toasts were proposed. The Earl of JERSEY, in proposing "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," said: Ladies and brethren, our first toast is that of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the Patron of our Craft," and it will not be necessary for me to say many words in regard to that veneration in which we all, whether we be Masons or not, hold the name of her Gracious Majesty the Queen. (Applause.) But perhaps I may take this opportunity, as we are drinking the health of the first lady in the land, to express our grateful thanks to those ladies who have come here to-night and have shown us by their presence that not only are they willing to cheer unfortunate Masons, but that they are anxious to show them they value most highly one of our Masonic virtues—that of Charity.

The toast was duly honoured. The Earl of JERSEY next gave "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family." He said we know how devoted the Prince of Wales is to every institution which can be of benefit to the people, and we Masons are well aware that this year he is going to help forward a kindred Institution by his kindly presence and support. I do not grieve in the least at that because all that we desire is that the Institutions connected with Masons shall flourish, and we may be sure that they are well looked after when H.R.H. the Prince of Wales undertakes to take the chair for any of them, and for this simple reason that H.R.H. always makes careful investigations beforehand. Therefore, in giving this toast, you will join with me not only in drinking the health of our Grand Master, of his gracious consort, and of all those who are connected with his royal family, but you will also be drinking the health of one who has done more than any other living man for the benefit of the good institution of Masonry.

This toast was also most loyally honoured.



THE CHAIRMAN.

The Earl of JERSEY next said the brethren all sorrowed over the great loss which their Pro Grand Master, Lord Lathom, sustained a short time ago. They knew the value of the services he had rendered to the Craft for many years and on many occasions. They hoped that he would return to this country stronger in health, and that his loss might be softened as far as possible; at any rate Masons could offer him their heartfelt and deepest sympathy.

The Earl of JERSEY, in proposing "The Health of the Deputy Grand Master, Earl Amherst, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said Masons were always so obedient to the commands of authority, that they willingly obeyed any order they might receive, whether from those who held office at the present time, or those in the past. But still more ready were they to listen to the voices of those who in former years had been among the active officers of Grand Lodge. To-night he had the pleasure of asking one who in his earlier days belonged to the Province of Oxfordshire, Bro. H. R. Cooper Smith, to return thanks for this toast, and he felt very much honoured by his presence, because he (the Earl of Jersey) had a sort of feeling that Bro. Cooper Smith had come here owing to his recollections of the past, and surely we Masons were among those who valued highly not only the teaching but also the associations of the past.

Bro. Rev. H. R. COOPER SMITH, D.D., P.G.C., replying, said it gave him great pleasure to reply to the toast for this reason, that he should not have been there if he had not felt it was the duty of all Past Grand Officers of the Province of Oxfordshire to support his lordship. He could not help feeling in responding to this toast that he was speaking as one who was for many years a member of the Province of Oxfordshire and it was a pleasure to respond to-night because it brought up the fact that the Province of Oxfordshire was trying to do its duty to Masonry, but it had been rewarded for its works by the number of its members who had been appointed Grand Officers. The Prov. Grand Master would remember having said it gave him great pleasure to see so many Past Grand Officers who came from the Province of Oxfordshire. The Prov. Grand Officers could do much good and it was gratifying to him that they came forward to support such a Charity as they were supporting that night. It was not too much to say it

would be their pleasure and happiness to support the Charities of Masonry and to raise funds for the Charities of this exceptional body.

The ladies then retired to the concert in the Temple.

Bro. the Earl of JERSEY, in proposing "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Aged Widows of Freemasons," said: Ladies and Brethren,—In proposing this toast, which conveys our sympathy—and not only our sympathy this year, but our sympathy in years gone by—I am afraid it is one—perhaps the only—drawback which attends a banquet of this kind, viz., that the Chairman is called upon to make too many speeches; but yet there is no brother who would not be anxious to say a few words for the great cause of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Excellent as are all our Masonic Institutions, which have for their special objects the welfare of the young, there is something most attractive in the desire to give to those who are young and weak and without guardians, perhaps, to give them the chance of education, good food, and encouragement. But before them lives the bright side of life, and all people are anxious to give them an opportunity of enjoying that life, or rather, I should say, of showing them the way in which they may enjoy it. Surely, however, and no less strongly, must appeal to our feelings the desire to do something for those who have been tossed and buffeted by the rough waves of life. Before them, unhappily, there is not so much brightness; their brightness, maybe, lies in the past; but yet something might be done to free them from anxiety as to the future, and it is in order to do that something that this Institution exists and that we have come here to-night to support it. The paper which has been, I believe, widely distributed, will have told you the chief features of this Institution; you will gather from it the number of brothers and the number of widows who are dependent upon the kindness of the Craft, and you will notice that we require every year something between £11,000 and £12,000 over and above our regular receipts. I am not going to deal with figures; but look a little bit lower down upon that paper and you will see the number of those who are waiting for admission, and for whom there are very, very few vacancies. Think for a moment what it must be for the unfortunate brother, or those whom our brothers have left behind them, to feel that they cannot, much as they need it, gain admission to our fund, because the money is not sufficient. To wait is a small thing, perhaps, for those at a certain time of life; but to wait for those who, perhaps, may have passed the three score years and ten is a very, very sad thing, and it calls on the brethren to, as far as possible lies in their power, minimise the number of those who have to wait. It was my good fortune only last week to have the pleasure to visit our Institution at Croydon. I am not going to dwell upon the pleasant rooms of clean and bright appearance, or on their most excellent superintendent, neither indeed shall I dwell upon the happy repartees which passed between Bro. Terry and their occupants; I was delighted to find that there was not only between Bro. Terry and them, and between all the other members of the Committee of Management who were there and them, the very happiest and most pleasant relations. (Hear, hear.) Now I could imagine that from them goes up, and especially to-day, but very often, a silent prayer in the quietude of their own hearts, of grateful thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe that he has inspired the brethren to do something for them in their old age. If they feel grateful, how much more grateful ought we not to feel that under His wise guidance we have the opportunity of doing something to help our sisters and our brothers in their old age. (Applause.) Some of the occupants said to me they hoped to-night would be a success. Their thoughts, it crossed my mind, were not selfish thoughts; they were not thinking of themselves, because their future is—thanks to you—assured from anxiety; they were thinking, I am certain, of those who are left out in the cold; they knew the value of what you have done for them, and they hope that there may be fewer and fewer of those as years go by who will be left out in the cold. (Hear, hear.) Now, brethren, I am afraid I am going to say something which will shock Bro. Terry. Brethren, "one swallow does not make a summer," and one night's subscriptions do not make an Institution a success. The success of an Institution must depend upon the way in which its subscriptions are used, and the Institution is worked, and I feel that we owe more than words can express to Bro. Farnfield, the Committee of Management, and to the energetic activity of Bro. Terry. (Applause.) We believe—I believe—and I am sure all Masons believe, that the Institution is worked with that single object of using the money which is handed to them for the purpose of making the lives of the recipients happy and comfortable. (Hear, hear.) And surely this is an Institution which can appeal not to any limited class of the brethren, but to every brother who owes allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England; because when I look down the lists of the countries from which the recipients come I find they are not confined to any limited area, but that they are spread over all the land over which our Grand Lodge holds sway. Therefore, we can—those of us who are provincials, if you like, we can—with confidence support this Institution under the full belief that no candidate from our part of the country will be slighted. (Cheers.) I am very anxious upon this occasion the ladies have left, and I have expressed to them that I feel sure we thank the brethren for their presence here to-night—I am anxious now to thank the brethren who have assembled here to-night—to support, I will not say myself, but this Institution's meeting, which I had been asked to preside over to-night, I am very grateful to them because I know what a great sacrifice it is of time to come on these occasions. I am deeply grateful to my brethren of the Province of Oxford who have come here and not left their Provincial Grand Master unsupported. There is nothing that a person who holds high office in the Craft can like more than to feel that he has the support, and the confidence and the goodwill of his brother Masons. (Hear, hear.) We have, as Masons, many duties to fulfil, I do not think that if I look towards the end of this hall I should be justified in detailing every one; but this I may say, that old as Masonry is, dating as it does from time immemorial, that it has one principle which is perhaps a secret, but it is an open secret, wherever Masonry has gone, it has fertilised the minds of men; wherever it has gone, it has spread one of the finest doctrines of human nature—that of regard for those who are in distress. (Cheers.) I believe that Masonry will last through all time, because through all time its followers will be true to that great principle of fraternal love and goodwill. (Applause.) On the great Masonic edifice, not builded by hands, stand words, not written indeed in letters of gold, because letters of gold fade and perish, but emblazoned in letters of everlasting brightness, are the words—"Remember Charity all you who enter here." (Cheers.) It is in this spirit that I ask you to drink the toast of "The Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," and it is in this spirit that I believe that this Institution will go on in greater strength and greater

utility, and always with the fullest confidence and support of the brethren of the Grand Lodge of England. (Renewed applause.) Having drunk the toast of the Institution, I now wish you to drink the health of the brother whom I mentioned just now who devotes so much care and attention to the Institution—our Treasurer, Bro. Farnfield.

The toast having been most heartily drunk,

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD, Treasurer, said: R.W. Bro. Chairman, permit me, in the first place, on behalf of the executive officers of the Institution, to thank you most heartily for so kindly presiding on this occasion. We all knew when you were asked to preside this was not a festival where you could have expected a very large amount of subscriptions, because of the Centenary of the Boys' School, in which we are all so much interested, and which we trust may be a bumper. We cannot have three great successes in one year; and it is our Bro. McLeod who deserves the success; and therefore the other Institutions must take a second place. Still, sir, thanks to your advocacy, I have no doubt that the annuitants will be able to be paid. Unfortunately, as you see by the printed list we put before you, we have a very long list of candidates, and I am sorry to say the vacancies are few, because although the print says there are 14 vacancies for the men and eight for the women, there are only 11 vacancies for the men, but for the event of three others who are deferred, and are to be filled up as they occur by death. Still, we hope, when our good Bro. Terry announces the lists, we shall, with the money put by to meet a bad year, with the ordinary thought of men of business, be able to get through the year without parting with one penny of our invested capital. (Applause.) Since this Institution was established, now nearly 60 years, every penny piece that has been hoarded up to be invested has remained a sacred trust; and I trust as long as I am connected with it, that all money put by will be kept intact, and that in future years we may add to the amount. I again thank you very sincerely for the kindness with which your lordship has proposed this toast.

Bro. JAMES TERRY then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS:

Lodge	LONDON.	£	s.	d.	Lodge	£	s.	d.	
1	Bro. N. S. de Montmorency ...	15	15	0	1693	Bro. Samuel Robson ...	42	10	6
2	" W. H. C. Payne ...	28	1	0	1695	" Robert Colsell ...	63	0	0
Chapter					1708	" W. J. Batho ...	52	10	0
2	Comp. C. E. Keyser ...	21	0	0	1719	" W. D. Child... ..	39	18	0
Lodge					1732	" Albert Pettit... ..	91	7	0
4	Bro. N. Stanhope Stott ...	37	15	0	1766	" S. C. Kaufmann ...	10	10	0
5	" W. T. Playfair, M.D. ...	52	9	6	1805	" James Young ...	68	16	6
8	" Edwin Easton ...	45	3	0	1964	" James T. Hoare ...	105	0	0
10	" L. F. Everest ...	21	0	0	2021	" E. Rosenberger ...	10	10	0
14	" Rev. H. H. Lowe, M.A. ...	92	8	0	2029	" Thos. Knights ...	59	17	0
15	" R. W. Bowes ...	48	6	0	2128	" W. B. Hextall ...	13	13	0
21	" Geo. T. S. Gill ...	68	11	0	2140	" Harley M. Grellier ...	61	8	6
22	" W. C. Greaves ...	36	15	0	2202	" Alfred John Ward ...	—	—	—
23	" J. W. Matthews ...	10	10	0	2202	" James Brown ...	10	10	0
25	" W. Baddeley ...	18	18	0	2202	" *Philip Wilson ...	15	15	0
Chapter					2202	" Thos. J. Perrett ...	26	5	0
25	Comp. A. A. Frigout (see also Lodge 171) ...	17	17	0	2242	" R. S. Ellis ...	110	5	0
Lodge					2319	" Dr. D. Mackay Forbes ...	21	0	0
26	Bro. W. H. Propert ...	24	3	0	2362	" Surg. Lieut.-Col. H. N. Myers... ..	26	3	6
29	" John H. Stark ...	55	13	0	2366	" J. Leach Barrett ...	27	0	0
33	" E. P. B. Hallowes ...	53	11	0	2400	" W. J. Gomm ...	27	0	0
49	" William Bailey ...	36	15	0	2450	" Edward Beaumont... ..	110	5	0
55	" W. G. Langlands ...	10	10	0	2488	" W. S. Hooper ...	21	0	0
59	" Daniel Meyer ...	210	0	0	2511	" John J. Olley ...	31	10	0
90	" John H. Usma ...	63	5	0	2511	" J. H. Milton ...	10	10	0
95	" Rowland Hirst ...	31	10	0	2511	" I. Cato Worsfold ...	65	0	0
147	" W. Fielder ...	12	12	0	2512	" Frank Adams ...	75	1	0
162	" R. B. Shipley ...	21	0	0	2631	" Fred Varley ...	63	10	0
171	" A. A. Frigout (see also Chapter 25 and Lodge 2041 Kent) ...	182	13	0	Club				
174	" G. A. W. Griffiths... ..	10	10	0	Bro. W. G. Kentish	63	10	0	
Chapter					UNATTACHED.				
180	Comp. Dr. H. W. Kiallmark... ..	231	0	0	Bro. T. Hastings Miller	21	0	0	
Lodge					" Thomas Griffiths ...	10	10	0	
183	Bro. Lewis Lazarus ...	192	13	6	" W. H. Bailey ...	10	10	0	
192	" Charles Garton ...	42	10	0	" David M. Murrow ...	10	10	0	
193	" J. W. Simeons ...	50	8	0	" *F. Blanco White... ..	10	10	0	
197	" Ven. Archdeacon W. M. Sinclair ...	62	2	6	" James E. Terry ...	10	10	0	
228	" F. W. Moss... ..	37	16	0	" J. H. Williams ...	10	10	0	
256	" J. M. Campbell ...	21	0	0	" C. O. Burgess ...	10	10	0	
259	" E. de Q. Quincey ...	32	11	0	" H. Kemp ...	15	15	0	
538	" T. H. Clear ...	10	10	0	" John A. Farnfield ...	215	0	0	
Chapter					" James Terry ...	10	10	0	
720	Comp. J. Songhurst ...	100	0	0	" H. J. Hunter ...	57	15	0	
Lodge					" G. P. Parker ...	105	0	0	
754	Bro. Ben. Stocker ...	46	8	6	" Alderman W. V. Morgan	57	15	0	
781	" S. W. Bull ...	11	11	0	" Arthur Williams... ..	84	0	0	
834	" A. Williams ...	24	15	0	" Lieut.-Col. C. Probyn ...	10	10	0	
862	" A. J. Curtis ...	64	3	6	" Frank R. Kenning ...	10	10	0	
879	" Harold J. Harper ...	50	18	6	" William Webber... ..	10	10	0	
912	" C. Butcher ...	42	0	0	" F. G. Ivey ...	10	10	0	
967	" A. Böleker ...	45	11	0	" Walter Gladding ...	16	16	0	
1017	" Hy. Chatham ...	58	16	0	" Thomas Manley ...	10	10	0	
1118	" Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith, D.D. (see also No. 1523) ...	36	15	0	" Albert Leighton ...	21	0	0	
1139	" W. Hamsher ...	38	1	0	" Horace B. Marshall ...	63	0	0	
1158	" G. G. Cooper ...	254	2	0	" Stanley J. Attenborough	16	5	6	
1259	" *C. W. Candler ...	41	9	6	" F. N. Hardinge ...	—	—	—	
1259	" C. Wakefield ...	43	14	0	" J. S. Tamburini ...	—	—	—	
1288	" Alex. Muir ...	58	16	0	" *George Wetton ...	10	10	0	
1306	" C. J. Holmes ...	26	15	0	" H. T. Brickwell ...	—	—	—	
1328	" C. Smith ...	36	15	0	" *F. Hughes ...	57	15	0	
1366	" J. Gould ...	10	10	0	" P. A. Nairne ...	15	15	0	
1366	" T. Bishop ...	52	10	0	" Major E. Anderson ...	10	10	0	
1382	" C. H. Cooper ...	11	11	0	" J. W. Elvin ...	10	10	0	
1383	" J. T. Scriven ...	11	11	0	" John F. Haden ...	12	12	0	
1425	" W. E. Collison ...	24	15	0	" W. C. Parsons ...	10	10	0	
1527	" J. H. Moggridge ...	10	10	0	" H. C. Lonsdale ...	10	10	0	
1523	" Rev. H. R. Cooper Smith (see No. 1118) ...	64	3	6	" Thomas Lovell ...	10	10	0	
1539	" W. G. Cannon ...	50	18	6	" W. M. Stiles ...	10	10	0	
1548	" J. T. Packer ...	38	1	0	" *Herbert Riches ...	—	—	—	
1677	" S. J. Fletcher ...	254	2	0	" A. A. Butcher ...	21	0	0	
Lodge of Instruction					" J. J. Thomas ...	—	—	—	
1677	Bro. A. W. Humphreys... ..	43	14	0	LADIES.				
1687	" T. J. Bolton... ..	11	11	0	Mrs. *F. Blanco White	—	—	—	
					" *Frank Adams ...	18	18	0	
					" A. A. Frigout ...	7	7	0	
					" Henry Kemp ...	102	7	0	
					" A. N. Trew ...	21	0	0	
					" G. A. W. Griffiths ...	5	5	0	
					" William Webber... ..	5	5	0	
					" C. Milton... ..	—	—	—	
					" James Speller ...	—	—	—	
					Miss *E. S. Trew ...	—	—	—	

THE PROVINCES.		
BEDFORDSHIRE.		
Province	£	s. d.
Bro. S. L. Kilpin ...	33	13 0
BERKSHIRE.		
414 Bro. C. E. Keyser ...	120	15 0
574 " H. O. W. Astley ...	26	5 0
2228 " W. Albert Hart ...	15	15 0
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.		
1501 Bro. James Simcox ...	11	11 0
1501 " J. J. Simcox ...	13	13 6
2420 " Edward Gibbs ...	63	0 0
2430 " Thomas Jones ...	15	15 0
2492 " T. W. Allsop ...	31	10 0
Unattached		
Bro. James Stephens ...		
Chas. Copsey ...		
Mrs. H. H. Sherwin ...	10	10 0
" James Stephens ...		
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.		
Unattached		
Bro. W. Briggs ...	10	10 0
CHESHIRE.		
Lodge		
477 Bro. Robert Robinson ...	10	10 0
CORNWALL.		
Unattached		
Bro. Sholto H. Hare ...	26	5 0
CUMBERLAND & WESTMORLAND.		
Unattached		
Bro. J. Roper ...	21	0 0
DEVONSHIRE.		
Province		
Bro. F. B. Westlake ...	10	10 0
DORSETSHIRE.		
Lodge		
137 Bro. J. H. Whadcoat ...	10	10 0
DURHAM.		
The Province ...	52	10 0
ESSEX.		
Lodge		
2006 Bro. F. W. Brand ...	51	12 6
2255 " James Bell ...	33	1 0
Unattached		
Bro. James Speller ...	10	10 0
" G. W. King ...	44	0 0
GLOUCESTERSHIRE.		
Unattached		
Bro. Baron de Ferrieres ...	47	5 0
HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT.		
The Province ...	26	5 0
HERTFORDSHIRE.		
Lodge		
403 Bro. H. J. Tuck ...	46	4 6
1327 " Joseph Priddle ...	36	15 0
1385 " F. G. Mason ...	29	7 6
1479 " C. E. Keyser ...	115	10 0
2136 " John S. Brunskill ...	45	2 6
2323 " George B verley ...	30	9 0
Unattached		
Bro. J. P. Taylor ...		
" Dr. W. P. Warren ...	15	15 0
" W. J. Bishop ...	10	10 0
KENT.		
Lodge		
125 Bro. J. Kirby ...	21	10 6
784 " G. Edgar ...	36	15 0
1436 " O. H. Smith ...	31	10 0
2041 " A. A. Frigout ...	17	16 0
LANCASHIRE (E.D.).		
Unattached		
Bro. C. D. Cheetham ...	194	5 0
LANCASHIRE (W.D.).		
Lodge		
1070 Bro. J. Hesketh ...	10	10 0
1375 " A. Pickford ...	10	10 0
Unattached		
Bro. Capt. C. H. Garnett ...	10	10 0
MIDDLESEX.		
Lodge		
382 Bro. A. Foyer ...	16	16 0
1310 " H. Bown ...	42	0 0
1326 " L. C. Brooke ...	10	10 0
1507 " S. J. Mallin ...	81	12 0
1656 " R. W. Rice ...	21	0 0
2224 " F. J. Simson ...	22	1 0
2163 " A. A. Hardy ...	37	16 0
2523 " H. T. Cooper ...	41	4 0
NORTHANTS AND HUNTS.		
Lodge		
360 Bro. A. Cockerill ...	70	0 0
Unattached		
Bro. H. Manfield ...	36	10 0

NORTH WALES.		
Lodge	£	s. d.
1599 } Bro. J. G. Tuxford ...	152	5 0
2569 } Unattached		
Bro. James Porter ...	141	15 0
OXFORDSHIRE.		
Unattached		
The CHAIRMAN ...	52	10 0
Viscount Valentia, M.P. ...		
Lodge		
340 Bro. G. C. Druce ...		
340 " C. M. Taphouse ...	101	0 0
340 " Rowley ...		
357 " F. P. Morrell ...		
357 " R. C. Pavy ...		
357 " Rev. F. W. Bussell ...	82	0 0
357 " J. Linton Myres ...		
357 " R. E. Baynes ...		
478 " E. R. T. Croxall ...	53	17 6
599 " W. R. Cooper ...	10	10 0
1036 " A. E. Mace ...	22	1 0
1515 " James Hastings ...	62	5 6
1515 " A. E. Hunt ...		
1703 " H. C. Habgood ...	15	3 6
1763 " Henry Birch ...	52	10 0
1895 " C. M. Roberts ...	20	0 0
2414 " H. F. Piggott ...		
2414 " M. Wingfield ...	28	10 0
SHROPSHIRE.		
Unattached		
Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman ...	68	15 0
" Rowland G. Venables ...	21	0 0
SOMERSETSHIRE.		
Province		
Bro. Lieut.-Colonel A. T. Perkins ...	10	10 0
SOUTH WALES (W.D.)		
Province		
Bro. J. Llewellyn Thomas ...		
STAFFORDSHIRE.		
Lodge		
546 Bro. George C. Kent ...	10	10 0
SUFFOLK.		
Unattached		
Bro. George Turner ...	21	0 0
SURREY.		
Lodge		
1046 Bro. C. E. Tanner ...	26	5 0
1347 " Tom Cookes ...	165	18 0
1347 " *Hugh Taylor ...		
1616 " Thomas Hanson ...	10	10 0
2095 " J. M. Crosley ...	10	10 0
2146 " Fred Lockett ...	50	10 0
2444 " Arthur Watkin ...	23	1 0
Unattached		
Bro. W. J. Mason ...	10	10 0
" Walter Gripper ...	10	10 0
Lodge WARWICKSHIRE.		
1551 Bro. T. H. Pearce ...	5	5 0
1551 " E. Mallard ...	15	15 0
1551 " Thos. Rowbotham ...	10	10 0
WORCESTERSHIRE.		
Lodge		
564 Bro. Jabez Attwood ...	27	6 0
YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING).		
Lodge		
275 Bro. A. Armitage ...		
290 " Joe Lumb ...		
290 " James Brook ...		
495 " J. E. Hall ...		
652 " James Lancaster ...		
652 " James Graham ...		
810 " Joseph Harrison ...		
924 " Fred. Cleaves ...	350	0 0
1102 " Walter Bailey ...		
1231 " Thos. G. Howell ...		
1462 " George Haskett ...		
1513 " Charles Lingard ...		
1514 " Geo. H. Holdroyd ...		
Unattached		
Bro. Capt. H. G. E. Green ...		
GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY.		
Lodge		
168 Bro. J. P. Angelly ...	52	10 0
JERSEY.		
Province		
Bro. W. T. Pugsley ...	130	12 0
FOREIGN STATIONS.		
TRANSVAAL.		
Bro. George Richards ...	10	10 0
MADRAS.		
Bro. Surg.-Capt. W. Kiddle ...	10	10 0
MALTA.		
Bro. James R. Bell ...	10	10 0

In the case of those marked *, the amounts are included in lists either in London or in a Province.

SUMMARY OF THE PROVINCES.

	£	s.	d.
Bedfordshire ...	33	13	0
Berkshire ...	162	15	0
Buckinghamshire ...	145	19	0
Cambridgeshire ...	10	10	0
Cheshire ...	10	10	0
Cornwall ...	26	5	0
Cumberland and Westmorland ...	21	0	0
Devonshire ...	10	10	0
Dorsetshire ...	10	10	0
Durham ...	52	10	0
Essex ...	139	3	6
Gloucestershire ...	47	5	0
Hampshire and Isle of Wight ...	26	5	0
Hertfordshire ...	329	13	6
Kent ...	107	11	6
Lancashire (E.D.) ...	194	5	0
Lancashire (W.D.) ...	31	10	0
Middlesex ...	273	19	0
Northants and Hunts ...	101	10	0
North Wales ...	294	0	0
Oxfordshire ...	521	7	6
Shropshire ...	89	15	0
Somersetshire ...	31	10	0
South Wales (W.D.) ...			
Staffordshire ...	10	10	0
Suffolk ...	21	0	0
Surrey ...	299	19	0
Warwickshire ...	31	10	0
Worcestershire ...	27	6	0
Yorkshire (West Riding) ...	350	0	0
Guernsey and Alderney ...	52	10	0
Jersey ...	130	12	0
Foreign Stations ...	31	10	0
140 STEWARDS—LONDON ...	£5793	18	0
107 STEWARDS—PROVINCES ...	3649	4	0
247 GRAND TOTAL ...	£9443	2	0

Bro. L. G. GORDON ROBBINS, P.G.D., proposed "The Sister Charities," and said he was sure that everyone present that evening wished both those Institutions a brilliant success. There was no jealousy in Masonic Charity. One brother might, perhaps, feel that one particular Charity appealed especially to his sympathies and interest, but still, the feeling of Masonic Charity was within him: he looked not only to the past, as the Chairman had so eloquently dilated upon, but he also looked forward to the future, and hoped that those whose past might, or might not have been happy, but whose old age was solaced by the efforts of the brethren, or of the brethren of those who were near and dear to them, might receive with grateful thanks and prayers the efforts made on their behalf. He hoped the Girls' School would have a brilliant success, and also that the Boys' Centenary might have a bumper.

Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I. for Girls, responded for both the Girls' and the Boys' Institutions, and referred to the great success which had attended the Centenary of the Girls' School and the Jubilee of the Benevolent Institution. The Benevolent Jubilee exceeded the Girls' Centenary in pecuniary result, and he believed the announcement Bro. McLeod would be privileged to make at the Centenary of the Boys' School would far exceed anything that had gone before.

Bro. J. M. McLEOD, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., who rose in answer to special calls, said it was not customary on these occasions for two Secretaries to respond to the toast which the brethren had just so kindly received, but by command of his lordship he begged to add his congratulations to the Institution on what, under the circumstances, was a magnificent result. His excellent colleague, Bro. Hedges, had so ably appealed to the brethren on behalf of the Boys' School more than of his own that no words of his (Bro. McLeod's) were needed. But he thanked the Province of Oxfordshire for what it had done and his lordship for expressing its feeling with regard to Charity. That that province had brought up 500 guineas was a matter of great congratulation. The province had only 13 lodges. That was an encouragement to all small provinces. The small provinces were always good and generous to the Masonic Charities. They were an encouragement to the London brethren who, on this occasion, had brought up £5793. If the Girls' School could have a fuller measure of success the Boys' School would be only too happy to congratulate them; he was sure they would lose nothing by it, and that the great heart of the Craft would make up in future years to them whatever might be the result of the great special efforts made this year for the Boys' School.

Bro. Archdeacon SINCLAIR, P.G.C., proposed "The Chairman." Bro. the Earl of JERSEY responded. Apparently, he said, Masons approach banquets with rather mixed feelings. Archdeacon Sinclair came here perfectly happy because he was not going to make a speech. I suppose on that I share exactly the same feeling this evening. I came here depressed because I had to make not one speech, but many speeches. He could have added that it would have been much more conducive to the happiness of the brethren if my few remarks could have been rolled into one speech; but at the same time I should have been very sorry if I had not had the opportunity of raising my voice of thanks for the honour which has been done me in asking me to preside over this banquet and also a voice of even greater thanks for the support which has been given to the Institution upon this occasion. Bro. Sinclair dived into the past and he made me blush very much as he rather tenderly handled the names of some of my predecessors. But luckily he found also delicate and congenial ground, and therefore in mentioning individuals who perchance were not so conspicuous for their Masonry as for some other qualities, I need not defend them. (Laughter.) Let me say this, that there are honours and advantages which are bestowed upon individuals, for which they are grateful, and for which they ought also to feel deeply responsible; but there are few honours or advantages which can equal in pleasure the honour and advantage of belonging to a body of men who are anxious to promote, not only fraternal feeling, but also kindly assistance towards others, and I look upon myself as a humble brother Mason who has had the advantage of being brought up in a Masonic school, and of learning by slow degrees the valuable lessons and principles which Masonry does inculcate. After all, what was the Chairman on an occasion like this compared with the Stewards who had done so much towards the splendid total which had been collected with the goodwill of the brethren of the Craft. If it had not been for the Stewards, the large amount announced would not have been produced. I feel certain these large amounts will not diminish what Bro. McLeod will announce on a future occasion. I am very grateful to my province for the support which they have given me. I am very grateful also to the London brethren for their extraordinary total, and generally to every Steward who has undertaken the onerous duties connected with this Festival, and the only way I can show my gratitude to-night is to ask you to drink "The Health of the Stewards."

Bro. F. PARKER MORRELL, P.G.D., Vice-President of the Board of Stewards, acknowledged the compliment, and Bro. E. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., acknowledged the toast of "The Ladies," which was proposed by Major J. W. WOODALL, P.G.D., and the brethren then joined the ladies in the Temple, where the following artistes took part in a concert, under the direction of Bro. Edwin Easton: Madame Clara Leighton, Bro. William Davies, the Excelsior Operatic Quartette (Miss Rosabelle Beste, Miss Louise Jenkins, Mr. Clarke Willey, and Bro. W. H. Webb), Bro. O. T. Miles (harp), Mr. Charles Capper (whistling solos), Bro. W. R. J. McLean, Mus. Bac., Org. 818, Mr. James Stuart (sleight-of-hand), and Bro. Edward Easton (humorous recitals).

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

What few comments we have to offer on the result of the Benevolent Festival for 1898 will be found in another column. Our present concern is to deal with the Returns after the fashion we have adopted for several years. The number of Stewards whose services were enlisted by Bro. Terry for this occasion was 247, and the total which the Board succeeded in compiling was announced as £9443 2s., London, represented by 140 Stewards, contributing £5793 18s., or an average of nearly £41 per Steward, while the Provinces and Foreign Stations, represented by 107 Stewards, raised £3649 4s., or an average of upwards £34 per Steward. Last year the total was £19,083, obtained by a Board of 432 Stewards, while in 1896, 395 Stewards had the satisfaction of compiling a total of rather over £20,000. There is, therefore, a substantial falling off this year as compared with its two immediate predecessors.

LONDON,

as we have said, was represented by 140 ladies and brethren, whose lists amounted in the aggregate to £5793 18s. The number of lodges, &c., which took part in the celebration was 87, together with one lodge of instruction, four Royal Arch

chapters, and the Girls' School Committee Dinner Club. There were in addition 38 Unattached brethren and 10 ladies, many of whom seemed to have compiled lists as though they represented some lodge or chapter. The honour of leading the array of big lists was secured by Bro. John Scriven, of the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383, who handed in a list of £254 2s., while the second place fell to Bro. Lewis Lazarus, of the Joppa Lodge, No. 188, with £231. Bro. Jas. Terry, the indefatigable Secretary, who was Unattached, stood third with £215, Bro. John H. Usmar, of St. John's Lodge, No. 90, being next with £210. Bro. Chas. Garton, of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, compiled a total of £192 13s. 6d., which included £10 10s. from Bro. Frank R. Kenning, in addition to the £10 10s. which appears as his list among the Unattached, and thus secured fifth honours, while Bro. Griffiths, Sincerity Lodge, No. 174, raised £182 13s. Bro. Harper, Southwark Lodge, No. 879, is returned for £115 10s., and then we have bracketed together Bro. Myers, of the Bloomsbury Rifles Lodge, No. 2362, and Bro. Hooper, of the Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488, each being responsible for a list of £110 5s. Bro. Rosenberger, of the Queen's Westminster Lodge, No. 2021, and Bro. Ald. W. Vaughan Morgan, Grand Treasurer, Unattached, stand next with £105 each, the remaining three-figure lists being those of Bro. Bodeker, representing the Royal Albert Lodge, No. 907, for £100 10s.; Mrs. Trew, wife of the worthy P.M. of the same name, of the Woodgrange Lodge, No. 2409, for £100 5s. 6d.; and Bro. Stocker, High Cross Lodge, No. 754, for £100.

Other considerable lists that merit recognition here include those of Bro. R. W. Bower, Kent Lodge, No. 15, for £92 8s.; Bro. S. C. Kaufman, St. Leonard Lodge, No. 1766, for £91 7s.; Bro. Fred. Varley, of the Holloway Lodge, No. 2601—out of respect to Bro. Terry, who was its first W. Master—£75 1s.; and Bro. Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas. nominate, for £84. On the whole, London has furnished an excellent array of "tall" lists, and has, at the same time, acquitted itself in all respects, exceedingly well.

THE PROVINCES

next claim our attention, and on scrutinising the Returns from this section we remark that of the 46 Provinces into which the Country is parcelled out, only 32 have furnished representatives, and in the case of not a few of them the brethren acting as Stewards would appear to have contented themselves with sending up only their own personal donations. We must go back several years in order to find a similarly small representation of English Provincial Masonry at any of our Festivals, and though we were quite prepared for a substantial falling off in this portion of the Returns, we must confess to being grievously disappointed at finding it so restricted both as regards the number of Stewards and the aggregate of the Amounts they were able to collect. The Stewards mustered 147, and the sum they raised amongst them £3679 4s., as compared with the £8608 obtained by 234 Stewards in 1897, and the £10,196 by 237 Stewards in 1896.

The number of absentee Provinces is 14, of which the first in alphabetical order is BRISTOL (nine lodges). This—and we state the fact with regret—has been unrepresented at all our Festivals during the last two years; but in 1895 it gave £10 10s. to this Institution, and £107 8s. to the Boys' School, in 1894, £441 to the Girls' School, and £16 16s. to the Boys' School. In 1893 it was an absentee, but in the two preceding years it did some splendid work for the Boys' Institution, for which it raised at the two Festivals held in its behalf no less than £911, or rather more than £50 per lodge per Festival. DERBYSHIRE (27 lodges), was represented at all three Festivals last year, and raised £513 0s. 6d., of which the Girls' School was fortunate enough to secure the lion's share in the shape of £372 7s., and this, notwithstanding that his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, P.G.M., presided at the Boys' School Festival in 1896, and was loyally supported to the extent of £1642 2s., while in 1895 it subscribed in all £550 6s.; in 1894, £647 15s. 6d.; in 1893, £1025 8s. 6d.; and in 1892, £1738 14s., of which £1362 was raised at the Benevolent Jubilee. HEREFORDSHIRE (five lodges) is, as usual, comprised in this part of our Analysis; but we have reason to believe that it will be represented at the Boys' Festival, and we must hope that it will be worthily represented. LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (14 lodges) gave their accustomed support last year to the Girls' School, to which it subscribed £320 5s.; in 1896 to the Boys' School, which obtained £231; and in 1895 to this Institution, to which it gave £300 6s. In 1894 the Girls' School received £330 10s.; in 1893 the Boys' School £267 10s.; and in 1892 the Old People £388 10s., there being also sundry minor contributions during these years. Clearly, therefore, it was the turn of the Benevolent Institution this year, but we must not grumble if a Province which makes it a practice to support each Institution in turn goes out of its way in order that it may be worthily represented at the Boys' Centenary. We have no doubt the Province will not be unmindful of the claims of this Charity, either next year or in 1900, so that each Institution in turn shall receive its due measure of support. LINCOLNSHIRE (24 lodges) was not wholly unrepresented at last year's Festivals, this Institution and the Boys' School being supported on a small scale. But more could not in reason have been expected from it, seeing that when the Earl of Yarborough, Prov. G. Master, presided as Chairman at the Girls' Festival in 1896, it raised £1500 for that Institution. At the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892 it raised £660 5s.; at the Boys' Festival at Brighton in 1891 it returned £418 11s. 2d.; and at the Girls' Centenary in 1888, £202 2s. 6d. MONMOUTHSHIRE (11 lodges) supported the Girls' School last year to the extent of £346 10s., and this Institution in 1896 to that of £246 3s. In 1895 the Boys' School received £148 11s. 6d.; in 1894 the Girls' School £297 11s. 6d.; and in 1893 the Old People £272 8s. 6d. It is, therefore, the regular turn of the Boys' School to have the support of this small Province. NORFOLK (18 lodges) figured in the Girls' School Returns of last year, when it subscribed, by the hands of Bro. Capt. Mills, £110 5s. to that Institution, and in those of the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions for 1896, when it raised £35 14s. for the former and £105 for the latter. In 1895 the Girls' School was supported to the extent of £205 5s., and in 1894, the Boys' School to that of £134 13s. In 1893, £78 15s. was subscribed to the Girls' School, and in 1892, the Benevolent Institution was the recipient of £426 5s. on the occasion of its Jubilee. NORTHUMBERLAND (30 lodges) did but little in 1897, contributing only £36 15s. to the Festival of this Institution, and the year previous, two brethren from one of its lodges together raised £52 10s., but in 1895, it figured largely in the Returns of the Girls' School Festival, subscribing by the medium of Bro. Richard Holmes, P.G.D., D. Prov. G.M., no less than £2315 5s. out of a total from the Provinces of £8785 4s. 6d. A few weeks later it gave £186 18s. to the Boys' School, so that the year's total reached the sum of £2502 3s. In 1894, it helped the Boys' School on a modest scale, and in 1893 and 1892, this Institution was benefited, while in 1891, it raised £1364 4s., including £1050 paid for a Perpetual Presentation, to the Boys' School. Last year NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (18 lodges) raised £309 4s., of which £78 9s. was received by this Institution, and £230 15s. by the Boys' School. In 1896, the Schools shared between them the support of the Province, "Our Girls" being benefited to the extent of £232 4s., and "Our Boys" to that of £163 2s. In 1895, this Institution and the Boys' School were benefited, the former by subscriptions amounting to £107 12s. 6d., and the latter with £166 19s. In 1894, the Province did nothing, but in 1893, it gave the Girls' School £131 5s., and in 1892, the Schools were supported to the extent of £241 5s. 6d., of which all but £37 16s. 6d. fell to the Boys' School share. SOUTH WALES, EASTERN DIVISION, is a medium Province with 22 lodges on its roll, and every now and then it shows to considerable advantage. Thus, last year, when Bro. Lord Llangatock, its Prov. G.M., presided

as Chairman at the Girls' School Festival, it subscribed the large sum of £1050 in support of his lordship's Chairmanship, while in 1896 it gave £285 to the Old People. In 1895 and 1894 it was represented by Bro. W. G. Davies, who acted as sole Steward, and in the former year handed in a list of £300 to the Girls' School, and in the latter one of £350 to the Boys' School. In 1893 "Our Girls" received £325 10s., and in 1892, the Benevolent, at its Jubilee, and the Boys' School, £501 16s. 6d. between them, of which the former had £180 and the latter £321 15s. 6d. We cannot call to mind the Festival at which SUSSEX, with its roll of 32 lodges, was unrepresented, but this we do know, that it has been uniformly one of the most generous supporters of all our Charities. Last year, when the Duke of Connaught presided at the Festival of this Institution, the Province was returned for £1263 2s. 6d., while in May it gave £205 0s. 6d. to the Girls' School, and in June, £29 2s. 6d. to the Boys' School, the total for the year being £1498 4s. 6d. In 1895 its subscriptions and donations totalled up to £1052; in 1895, to £1254 9s. 6d.; in 1894, to £1277 10s.; in 1893, to £1234 16s.; and in 1892, to £2227 4s., of which £1155 6s. was in behalf of the Benevolent Jubilee, and £1026 5s. in that of the Girls' School, at whose Festival the Duke of Connaught presided as Chairman. WILTSHIRE (12 lodges), subscribed £205 to the Benevolent Institution last year, and £310 to that of the Girls' School in 1895, while in 1895 "Our Boys" obtained £279 6s. In 1894 the Province divided its attention between the "Old People" and the Boys' School, raising £175 14s. 6d. for the former, and £126 4s. for the latter. In 1893 the Schools were the favoured Institutions, the Girls' School receiving £185 17s., and the Boys' School, £110 5s., while in 1892 the Benevolent absorbed its attention and had the satisfaction of receiving £483 14s. NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE (34 lodges) subscribed £127 15s. last year to the Girls' School Festival, and in 1896 raised in all £1022 19s., of which this Institution received £900, and the Schools the balance between them. In 1895, the contributions were on a modest scale, but in 1894 they amounted to £441 15s., and in 1893 to £424 4s., while in 1892, including £711 9s. raised for the Benevolent Jubilee, they amounted to £733 4s. The remaining absentee is the ISLE OF MAN (nine lodges), which, however, though distant from the centre of English Masonry, is an occasional, and for its size, a liberal supporter of our Charities. The lodges in these 14 Provinces number in all 265, which must be omitted from the account in estimating the merits of the Returns by the Provincial section of the Board of Stewards.

As regards the 32 represented Provinces, we find, with one or two exceptions, the amounts subscribed by them, both severally and collectively, far below the average, but as this was to be expected from the special circumstances attending the celebration in June of the Boys' School Centenary we refrain from offering any remark.

The Province of BEDFORDSHIRE,

with its modest contingent of seven lodges was represented by Bro. S. L. Kelpin, whose list amounted to £33 13s. Last year two of the lodges were represented by Bros. the Rev. V. P. Wyatt and John Smith respectively the total of their two lists being £66 3s. In 1896 it apportioned £42 between this Institution and the Girls' School, and in 1895 the total was £148 1s., of which the Boys' School received £105 and the Old People £43 1s. In 1894 the Province figured in the Returns at all three Festivals, the total of its contributions being £238 9s.; while in 1893 the amount was £183 17s. 6d.; and in 1892, £152 5s., all three sharing in the former, while the latter was distributed between this and the Girls' Institution.

BERKSHIRE,

which now has 16 lodges on its roll, is for its size one of the most valued contributors to our Charities, nor is there a Festival celebrated at which it does not figure for a greater or less—generally a greater rather than a less—amount. Last year it raised £825 16s. 6d., of which this Institution was so fortunate as to secure £455 3s. 6d.; in 1896, £1010 19s. 6d., of which the Boys' School received the lion's share; in 1895, £939 6s. 6d.; in 1894, £583 13s. 6d.; and in 1893, £724 7s. In 1892 its total, inclusive of £661 9s. 6d. subscribed to the Jubilee of this Institution, was £954 11s. 6d.; while in 1891, when for the first time it figured as a separate Province it raised in all £385 1s. On Tuesday it subscribed £162 15s., of which Bro. Keyser's list, as Steward for the Union Lodge, No. 414, Reading, for £120 15s., was the principal item.

Its neighbour and old associate under the late Bro. Sir Daniel Gooch, Bart.—the Province of

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE—

had four of its 19 lodges represented by five Stewards, there being, in addition, Bros. Copey and James Stephens and Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Sherwin, Unattached. The total for these nine amounted to £145 19s., the largest list being that of Bro. Edward Gibbs, of the Ferdinand de Rothschild Lodge, No. 2420, for £63. Last year it subscribed altogether £489 17s. 6d., of which this Institution secured £250 8s. 6d., the balance being unequally divided between the Schools. In 1896 the total was £429 11s., of which the Old People received only £61 17s. 6d., the Girls' School being favoured to the extent of £186 11s., and the Boys' School with £181 2s. 6d. In 1895 all three shared in the £438 14s. 6d., while in the preceding year the total, including £429 15s. to the Boys' School, was £590. In 1893 the Province subscribed £479 16s.; in 1892, £705 15s., of which £290 18s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee; and in 1891, £511 1s., of which £300 was raised for the Girls' Festival, under the presidency of Bro. Earl Carrington, then Prov. Grand Master.

A single Steward, in the person of Bro. W. Briggs, whose name is tolerably familiar to those who study our Festival Returns, did duty for the Province of

CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

which, albeit there are but six lodges on its roll, is a consistent supporter of our Charities, Bro. Briggs's list being for £10 10s. Last year the Province subscribed £323 10s. 3d., of which all but £21 fell to the share of this Institution; in 1896 the total was £364 5s., of which the Boys' School obtained £189, the Old People £101 15s., and the Girls' School the balance of £73 10s. In 1895 the Schools received between them, but in unequal parts, £168; in 1894 all three participated in the total of £239; and in 1893 in that of £290 17s.; but in 1892 this Institution was the only one supported, and obtained £326 8s.

An Unattached Steward, with £10 10s. to his credit, does duty for the 50 lodges on the roll of

CHESHIRE,

which is doubtless husbanding its strength for the Boys' Centenary. Last year it raised £94 10s. for the Old People, £110 5s. for the Girls' School, and £65 12s. for the Boys' School, or together, £270 7s. In 1895 the total was £237 6s., but in 1895, when Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master, presided as Chairman at the Boys' Festival, the Province did splendid work, the sum of its donations and subscriptions being £2000. During the years 1893 and 1894, the Province contented itself with the work of establishing a Benevolent Institution of its own, for which it raised a sum of £3000, nor must we lose sight of its Educational Fund, which is supported wholly by our Cheshire brethren, and has been doing excellent service for upwards of 30 years. In 1892, however, it raised £1988 for the Jubilee of this Institution, and in 1891, £1050 for the Boys' School,

CORNWALL,

like the two preceding Provinces, and the four that follow, had only a single representative, whose list was £26 5s. In 1897 the 30 lodges on the roll of the Province were represented at all three Festivals, the total subscribed amounting to £341 19s., Bro. Major Shanks being the Steward at the Old People's Festival in February, and Bro. Anderton, Prov. G. Sec., at those of the Schools, Mrs. Anderton being his colleague at the Boys' celebration. In 1896 the total was £305 11s., of which this Institution received two-thirds and the Boys' School the other third. In 1895 Bro. the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, Prov. G.M., presided as Chairman at the Girls' School Festival, and the Province very handsomely supported his lordship to the extent of £750, the year's total being £789 18s. In 1894 £241 10s. was apportioned between the Schools, and in 1893 the Boys' School had the field to itself, and obtained support to the extent of £225 15s. In 1892 Lord Mount Edgcumbe presided at the Benevolent Jubilee, when Cornwall backed up its chief by raising £776 15s. This is an excellent record.

Seeing that it is only as recently as June of last year that

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND

with its roll of 21 lodges, raised £1260 for the Boys' School Festival, held under the presidency of its Prov. G.M., Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., it is not surprising that on Tuesday only a single Steward, with a list of £21, should have figured in the Returns. The Province is not regularly represented; but when it enters an appearance at these anniversary gatherings, it does so to very good purpose. Thus at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892 it figured as the contributor of £420; at the Boys' School Festival the preceding year it raised £265 13s.; at the Girls' Centenary in 1888 it gave £210; and at the Boys' School Festival in 1883, when a supreme effort was made on behalf of the Preparatory School, it subscribed £1050. We have no doubt, however, that, though the sum standing to its credit on this occasion is small, we shall have the privilege of recording something on a larger scale before the year 1898 has run its course.

The 56 lodges on the roll of

DEVONSHIRE

had a worthy representative in our respected Bro. F. B. Westlake, whose list of £10 10s. as no doubt the promise of those larger contributions awaiting us in connection with the remaining Festivals of the year, more especially as the Province has latterly been exhibiting a greater interest than formerly in our Charities. Last year, for instance, it distributed £248 2s. 6d. among the Institutions; in 1896, £190 10s. between the Schools; in 1895, £226 16s.; in 1894, £135 12s.; and in 1893, £181 2s.; while in 1892 it raised in all £923 8s. 6d., of which, £807 8s. 6d. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee. It has, moreover, certain Educational and Annuity Funds of its own, which, owing to the liberal support they receive, are in a position to do good service among our Devon brethren.

Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, whose name is frequently to be met with in these lists, represented the Lodge of Amity, No. 137, Poole, as the contributor of £10 10s., this being one of 14 lodges on the roll of

DORSETSHIRE.

Last year the total of its subscriptions to our three Institutions was £585, of which this Institution received £137 11s.; the Girls' School £72 9s.; and the Boys' School £375. In 1896, the Province raised £160 10s. for this Institution, and £12 12s. for the Girls' School; in 1895, the sum raised was £351 1s., of which £105 went to the Old People, and £246 1s. to "Our Boys." In 1894, the sum of £192 10s. was shared between this Institution and the Girls' School; and in 1893, the Schools were together benefited to the extent of £233; while in 1892, the donations and subscriptions in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee amounted to £521 6s. This, too, is a creditable record for so small a Province.

DURHAM,

which musters 37 lodges, is, at present, Stewardless, but has contributed 50 guineas to this Festival, and it may be that the name of some brother will be forthcoming later as Steward with this amount for his list. The same thing happened at the Girls' School in 1897, when the Province gave £52 10s., but without furnishing a Steward, while in February it contributed £253 1s. to this Institution. In 1896 the total of its contributions was £566 10s.; in 1895, £512 8s.; in 1894, £509 2s.; in 1893, £338 2s.; and in 1892, £1034 5s., of which £720 5s. was raised for the Benevolent Jubilee.

Two of the 38 lodges in

ESSEX

sent up Stewards, and two brethren did duty on their own account, the sum of their four lists amounting to £135 3s. 6d., which is not a very formidable total for this energetic Province. In 1897 it raised in all £833 18s. 6d. this Institution being supported to the extent of £414 19s. 6d., the Girls' School with £303 9s., and the Boys' School with £115 10s. in June. In 1896, the total, including £950 subscribed to the Girls' School, reached £1433 11s. 6d.; in 1895, £1272 10s.; and in 1894, £1123. In 1893, when its Prov. G. Master—then Lord Brooke—was Chairman at the Boys' School Festival, the year's subscriptions amounted to £2258 3s. 6d., of which no less than £2155 6s. 6d. found its way into the Boys' School coffers; while in 1892, when this Institution celebrated its Jubilee, the total including £2318 2s. 6d. on that occasion, stood at £2608 5s. But if the total on Tuesday was on a modest scale, we dare say the year generally will be a productive one.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

with its 16 lodges has an Unattached representative in the person of Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, who has figured many times as Steward at these gatherings now figures for apparently a personal donation of 45 guineas. The Province is both a consistent and generous supporter of our Institutions. Last year it subscribed £84 10s. to this Institution, £286 18s. to the Girls' School, and £304 10s. to the Boys' School. In 1896 the total was £544 19s.; in 1895 £598 19s.; and in 1894 and 1893 the figures were £428 6s. 6d., and £304 18s. respectively. In 1892, however, the large sum of £1729 11s. was raised, of which £1645 11s. was in support of the Boys' School, at whose Festival Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., presided as Chairman.

At the last moment it has devolved upon us to place

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

among the represented Provinces, the sum standing to its credit being £26 5s. It has 48 lodges on the roll, and its support last year to the three Institutions amounted to £423 16s. 6d. In 1896 it raised £1149 12s. 6d., of which this Institution received £193 19s. 6d.; the Girls' School, £256 12s.; and the Boys' School, £696 1s. In 1895 the total was £846 4s. 6d., of which £516 8s. was subscribed to the Boys' School; and in 1894 it amounted to £951 9s. 6d.; while in 1893 it only slightly exceeded £680, owing no doubt to the efforts of the preceding year, when it raised in all £1050 17s., of which no less than £1345 19s. 7d. was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee. In addition, it has been supporting all these years an Educational Institution of its own, which the lodges and brethren have very generously supported, and which therefore has been able to do good service to the Province.

Six of the 22 lodges

HERTFORDSHIRE,

sent up Stewards on this occasion and there were likewise three brethren unattached, raising the number of representatives to nine. These amongst them compiled

a total of £329 13s. 6d., of which £115 10s. was returned by Bro. C. E. Keyser, as Steward for the Halsey Lodge, No. 1479, St. Albans, while Bro. H. J. Tuck, of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, Hertford, is entered for £46 4s. 6d., and Bro. J. S. Brunskill, of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 2136, for £45 2s. 6d. Thus, Hertfordshire, or as it was familiarly described many years ago, "Little Herts," is one of the few Provinces that have bestirred themselves to make anything like a suitable Return on this occasion. This is not altogether surprising, firstly, because its record during the last 10 or a dozen years is, for so moderate-sized a Province, a splendid one, and then because Bro. Terry, the Secretary to the Old People, has been an officer of the Province for well nigh 30 years. Last year it raised £1431 7s., made up of £857 4s. 6d. to this Institution; £399 7s. to the Girls' School; and £174 15s. to the Boys' School. In 1896, it distributed £1538 6s. 6d. among the three Charities, the Benevolent receiving £744 8s. 6d.; the Girls' School £295 3s.; and "Our Boys" 498 15s. In 1895, the three Institutions together obtained £1120 9s. 6d., and in 1894, £958 6s. 4d.; but in 1893, when Bro. C. E. Keyser presided as Chairman at the Festival of this Institution, the Returns to the three Charities amounted to £2106 14s., and 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, to £2135 6s. 6d.

Only four out of 63 lodges on the roll of

KENT

were represented at Tuesday's gathering, the total of their lists being £107 11s. 6d. In 1897 and 1896, the Returns, though considerable in themselves, were below the average for this influential Province, the total last year reaching £852 2s., and in 1896, £798 18s. In 1895, including the sum paid for the Estates Perpetual Presentation to the Boys' School, the sum raised was £2399 9s. 6d.; in 1894, £1225 10s. 6d.; and in 1893, £2103 12s. 6d. In 1892, when this Institution held its Jubilee, the figures were £3003 13s. 6d., and in 1891, when Earl Amherst, Prov. G.M., occupied the chair at the Benevolent Festival, the year's aggregate was £4018 5s.

An Unattached Steward—Bro. C. D. Cheetham—whose name has often figured on these occasions, had the honour of representing the 111 lodges in

LANCASHIRE (E.D.)

Last year the Province gave £775 19s., made up of £464 9s. to the Old People in February; £250 15s. to the Girls' School in May; and £60 15s. to the Boys' School the following month. In 1896 the total was £912 9s., and in 1895, owing to the very successful Festival in aid of its own Educational and Benevolent Institution, only £265 15s. In 1894 the Returns totalled up to £772 7s. 6d., and in 1893 £389 18s.; but in 1892 it distributed among the Central Charities £2824 15s., and in 1891 £1278. Bro. Cheetham's list on Tuesday was £194 5s.

The representatives of two out of the 118 lodges in

LANCASHIRE (W.D.)

and an Unattached brother are entered in the lists of Tuesday, the amount they together contributed being £31 10s. Last year the Province raised £486 12s., of which £209 8s. was in respect of the Boys' School, while the balance was apportioned between the Girls' School and this Institution, but conspicuously to the advantage of the latter. In 1896, including £448 5s. to the Boys' School, the amount raised was £530 13s. 6d., and in 1895 £510 15s. 6d., but in 1894 the Earl of Lathom, Prov. G.M., presided at the Girls' School Festival, and the Province supported him to the extent of £2500, the year's total being £2768 2s. 6d., and in 1893 only £792 18s. In 1892 the year yielded a total of £1679 14s. 6d., and in 1891, when the Prov. Grand Master presided for the Boys' School, £6341 14s. 6d., of which £6126 14s. 6d. was in support of the favoured Charity.

Another of the limited number of Provinces which have contributed on their usual scale is

MIDDLESEX,

eight of its 42 lodges having together compiled the excellent total of £273 19s., the most important list being that of Bro. S. J. Mellin, of the Elliot Lodge, No. 1567, Feltham, for £81 12s. Last year the Province raised £352 11s. for this Institution; £260 8s. for the Girls' School; and £492 19s. for the Boys' School; or altogether £1105 18s. In 1896 the total was £3967 15s. 6d., but of this immense sum £3705 15s. 6d. was subscribed to this Institution in loyal support of the Chairmanship of Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G.M. In 1895 only £493 8s. was forthcoming; but then in 1894 it gave £1043 17s. 6d. In 1893 the total was £630 18s., while in 1892 it reached £1619 15s. 6d., of which £1315 9s. was in aid of the Benevolent Jubilee.

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS

sent up two representatives, of whom Bro. A. Cockerill did duty as Steward for the Pomfret Lodge, No. 360, Northampton—one of 16 lodges on the roll of the Province—and did it well, too; by compiling a list of £70, while Bro. H. Mansfield, Unattached, supplemented this with £31 10s., and so increasing the Return to £101 10s. Last year the Province distributed £763 12s. among the Charities, giving £141 15s. to this Institution, £78 10s. to the Girls' School, and £543 7s. to the Boys' School. In 1896 the total subscribed was £183 15s.; in 1895, £105; in 1894, £328 7s.; and in 1893, including £1050 for the Girls' School, when Bro. the Earl of Euston, Prov. G.M., presided as Chairman, £1107 12s. These totals are in every way creditable to a Province of such moderate size.

It is not often that

NORTH WALES

shows to such advantage as it did on Tuesday, when a brace of Stewards between them compiled the very handsome total of £294, Bro. Tuxford's list as representing the Madoc Lodge, No. 1509, Portmadoc, and the St. Trillo Lodge, No. 2560, Colwyd Bay, being responsible for £152 5s., and Bro. James Porter, Unattached, for £141 15s. Last year the Province, which musters 20 lodges, took part in all three Festivals, the sum of its contributions being £147. In 1896, the total stood at £307 15s. 6d., the Boys' School receiving as its share £178 12s. 6d.; the Girls' School £84; and this Institution £45 3s. In 1895, the Province raised £302 8s., in which was included £186 18s. to the Boys' School; in 1894, £400 17s. 6d.; in 1893, £474 18s.; and in 1892, £495 12s. These are, generally speaking, capital Returns for a province, which is by no means strong numerically.

We now come to the "Chairman's Province" of

OXFORDSHIRE,

which, though it numbers only a dozen lodges all told, has, as might have been expected from the reputation it has enjoyed for many years, acquitted itself with great credit. The total of its contributions, including a personal donation of £52 10s. from the Chairman, reached £521 7s. 6d., the principal items being £101 raised by the three Stewards of the Aired Lodge, No. 349, Oxford; £32 by the five Stewards of Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, Oxford; £53 17s. 6d., obtained by Bro. E. R. T. Croxall, representing the Churchill Lodge, No. 478, Oxford; £62 5s. 6d. being the joint list of Bros. James Hastings and A. E. Hunt, of the Bertie Lodge, No. 1515, Oxford; and £52 10s. raised by Bro. Henry Birch, of the St. Mary's Lodge, No. 1763, Thame. In 1897 the Province gave £240 15s. 6d. to this Institution, £51 7s. 6d. to "Our Girls," and £183 18s. 6d. to "Our Boys." In 1896 the total was £351 8s. 6d.; in 1895, £382 18s. 6d.; in 1894, £312 1s.; in 1893, £440 6s. 6d.; and in 1892, £601 19s. 6d., the Jubilee Festival of this Institution being supported to the extent of £428 7s. Thus the total obtained on Tuesday is the highest during the period we have traversed from 1892 inclusive

and we most heartily congratulate the noble Chairman, who is not only G. Master of the Province, but an initiate of the Apollo University Lodge, as well as a P.M. of the Churchill, No. 478, on the great success achieved by Oxfordshire, under his auspices on this occasion.

SHROPSHIRE,

in which there are a dozen lodges, was very worthily represented by Bro. Sir Offley Wakeman, Bart.—an Apollo University initiate—Prov. G. Master, and his respected Deputy, Bro. Rowland G. Venables, the former's list amounting to £68 15s. and the latter's to £21, making together £89 15s. It entered an appearance at all three Festivals in 1897, the total of its contributions being £286 13s., of which this Institution received by the hands of the same two Stewards as acted on Tuesday £31 10s., the Girls' School £176 8s., and the Boys' School £78 15s. In 1896 the Province subscribed £267 11s., and in 1895 £391 13s. In 1892, including £456 1s. in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee, it raised £615 16s. 6d. and in 1891 £455 9s. 6d. These are excellent figures for a small Province.

SOMERSETSHIRE

with a roll of 26 lodges had an Unattached representative in the person of Bro. Lieut.-Col. A. T. Perkins, whose list amounted to £31 10s. Last year it took part only in one Festival—that of the Boys' School—to which it contributed £97, while in 1896 its total was £123 18s., of which the Girls' School obtained £87 3s.; but in 1895 the year yielded subscriptions amounting in all to £1745 3s. 7d., the largeness of this total being accounted for by the fact that Bro. Viscount Duncarvan, Prov. G.M., was Chairman at the Festival of this Institution, and his Province backed him up to good purpose by compiling the sum of £1657 17s. 6d. At the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892 Somersetshire was entered for £613 10s., the remaining contributions of the year raising the total to £841 15s. In 1888 it put forth great efforts on behalf of the Girls' Centenary, in the Returns of which it figured—thanks to the energy of the late Bro. Stohert—for a total amounting to close upon £1000. Doubtless, we shall hear of it again to advantage before the present year has run its course.

Bro. J. Llewellyn Thomas is returned as representing the Province of
SOUTH WALES (W.D.)

as he has done to excellent purpose at previous gatherings, but up to the present time no list has been received from him and we are unable to say if his canvass has been a successful one or not. However, the Province, though numbering only 10 lodges, raised £210 for the Girls' School in 1896; £239 19s. 6d. for the Boys' School in 1895—both these amounts being raised by the exertions of Bro. Thomas. In 1894, this Institution benefited to the extent of £154 12s.; in 1893, the Girls' School was the recipient of £177 19s.; and in 1892, "Our Boys" were the favoured Institution, and obtained subscriptions amounting to £161 1s. 6d. As the Province was an absentee from all three Festivals in 1897, we hope to see it included in the Returns for one or other of our Schools.

The Etruscan Lodge, No. 546, Longton, alone among the 32 lodges on the roll of

STAFFORDSHIRE

will be found to have taken part in Tuesday's proceedings, and the list of its representative would appear to have been confined to his personal donation of £10 10s. Last year the Province raised £115 10s. for this Institution, £246 5s. for the Girls' School, and £278 5s. for the Boys' School, or altogether £640. In 1896 the product of the year was £604 11s.; in 1895, £692 13s. 6d.; in 1894, £428 8s.; in 1893, £424 7s. 6d.; in 1892, £762 2s.; and in 1891, £761 15s. 6d. As these Returns average close upon £600 a year during the period we have traversed, we may look to find the current year at least as productive as its predecessors.

There are 22 lodges in

SUFFOLK,

which, though an agricultural Province, has done some great things during the past years. Thus in 1892 it raised in all £1410 4s., of which £1291 14s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee; in 1893, £533 9s. 6d.; in 1894, £809 5s.; in 1895, £851 13s. 6d.; and in 1896, £647 1s., of which the Boys' School obtained £388 10s. Last year only £401 4s. was subscribed, the Old People receiving £173 14s.; the Girls' School, £227 10s.; and the Boys' School, £31 10s. On Tuesday a single Unattached Steward contributed £21.

SURREY

is one of the Provinces which are to be commended for the excellent work they did at this gathering. There were seven of its 43 lodges represented, mostly by a single Steward, and one brother Unattached, the total compiled by these eight being £200 19s., the principal list being that of Bro. Tom Cookes, representing the Lone Lodge, No. 1347, Sutton, who had the good fortune to raise £165 18s. Last year, the total was £1272 18s. 6d., made up of £325 12s. to this Institution; £622 7s. 6d. to the Girls' School; and £324 to the Boys' School. In 1896 the total was £1068 4s.; in 1895, £1043 10s.; in 1894, inclusive of £1399 2s. in support of the late Bro. Col. Money's Chairmanship for this Institution, £1673 4s. 6d.; in 1893, £913 3s. 6d.; and in 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, £2817 10s. 6d.

One of the 31 lodges on the roll of

WARWICKSHIRE

—Charity, No. 1551, Birmingham—sent up three Stewards, whose Returns amounted to £31 10s. Last year the Province raised £493, distributed thus: £235 15s. to this Institution; £219 to the Girls' School; and £47 5s. to the Boys' School. In 1896 it subscribed £981 13s., of which the Boys' Institution received close upon one half; in 1895, including £525 for a Life Presentation to the Boys' School, the Returns reached £1155; in 1894, £637 6s. 3d.; in 1893, £530 7s. 6d.; and in 1892, £2410 4s., of which £2186 was contributed to the Jubilee Festival of this Institution.

WORCESTERSHIRE

was represented by a single Steward, whose list amounted to £27 6s., the lodges represented being Stabiiity, No. 564, Stourbridge, and the Arter, No. 2654, Moseley. In 1897 the Province contributed £504 to the Old People, £199 10s. to "Our Girls," and £50 8s. to "Our Boys," or in all £753 18s. In 1896 the total was £653 2s.; in 1895, £558; in 1894, £193 0s. 6d.; in 1893, £308 7s.; and in 1892, £498 15s. We hope to hear at least as favourably as last year from this Province, even though the number of its lodges is only 14.

The contribution from

WEST YORKSHIRE

is £350, the number of lodges taking part in the subscription being 11 out of the 80 on the roll, and the number of Stewards, including one Unattached, 14. There is no need for us to dilate upon the generous support vouchsafed to all our Institutions by this large and influential Province. At the same time, we are taking the liberty of pointing out that as it receives some £1100 a year in return for the moneys it contributes to this particular Charity, a larger sum would have harmonised better with the *quid pro quo* it receives. At the last three Benevolent Festivals it has subscribed in all £1660, or on an average a little over £550 per annum. Doubtless, this is an oversight, which will be remedied in the near future.

Both sections of the

CHANNEL ISLANDS

had a share in Tuesday's proceedings, one of its six lodges—the Mariners, No. 168, Guernsey, in the Province of GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY—being represented by Bro. T. Pengelly, whose list amounted to £52 10s., while that of JERSEY, which comprises seven lodges, had Bro. M. T. Pugsley for its Provincial Steward, and he amassed a total of £130 12s. We congratulate both these Provinces, which, though remote from the centre of Masonic activity, are not infrequently participators in our Festival work, on the good they have just accomplished.

There were Stewards from three:

FOREIGN STATIONS,

among them being Bro. George Richards, Dist. G. Master of the Transvaal, the other two—Bros. Surgeon-Capt. Kiddle and James R. Bell—hailing from Madras and Malta respectively. Their lists amounted in all to 30 guineas, and we dare say Bro. Terry would have rejoiced exceedingly had he succeeded in enrolling Stewards from 30 stations instead of from three.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

We have now completed our accustomed task, and trust that in doing so we have avoided offending the susceptibilities of any Province, Lodge, or individual brother. Our sole regret is that the Returns it has been our privilege to analyse are not on a larger scale.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 2nd prox. —

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 1st December for confirmation.

2. Communications from the Most Worshipful Grand Master—

(1) The Most Worshipful Grand Master has been pleased to sanction the following addition to the Regulations respecting the Charity Jewels, at Page 143 of the Book of Constitutions, and has ordered that the same be inserted immediately after the paragraph relating to Vice-Patrons.

"A Patron of any one or more of the Masonic Institutions may have embroidered on the right and left sides of the ribbon referred to in the preceding paragraph a sprig of acacia one and a half inches long, meeting in the centre, over the colour appertaining to the Institution of which he is a Patron, and the jewel ensigned with a representation of the coronet of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master; the sprig of acacia and the coronet to be of silver for a Patron of any one of the Institutions, of gold for a Patron of two, and enamelled in their proper colours for a Patron of the three Institutions."

(2) The Grand Secretary has been commanded by the Grand Master to communicate to the Grand Lodge, that a brother has been convicted of felony, for which he is now undergoing penal servitude, and to submit to Grand Lodge the propriety under the circumstances of removing the said brother from the rank to which he had been appointed.

3. To read a communication from the Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master.

4. Election of Most Worshipful Grand Master.

5. Election of Grand Treasurer; Bro. Lieut.-Colonel Clifford Probyn, P.M. of Lodge, No. 18, London, the only nomination.

6. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants, viz.:

The widow of a brother of the Royal St. Edmunds Lodge, No. 1008, Bury St. Edmunds...	£50 0 0
A brother of the Nelson Lodge, No. 700, Plumstead...	50 0 0
A brother of the Mayo Lodge, No. 1406, Secunderabad...	75 0 0
A brother of the Derwent Lodge, No. 40, Hastings...	50 0 0
A brother of the Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, London...	100 0 0
A brother of the Southdown Lodge, No. 1797, Huisst-pierpoint...	50 0 0
A brother of the Rock Lodge, No. 1289, Birkenhead...	100 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Albert Edward Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1429, Newport, Mon.	100 0 0

7. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board have to report that the following presentations have been made to the Library and Museum since the last meeting of Grand Lodge, all of which have been accepted with thanks:

TITLE OR OBJECT.	BY WHOM PRESENTED.
An old Masonic Certificate	James Terry, P.G.S.B.
An old Silver Collar Jewel	Felix Kite, P.P.G.D.C. Kent.
Royal Arch Medal, 1825	Mrs. Horatio Nelson.
Centenary Jewel of No. 124	W. Logan, P.P.G. Reg. Durham.
Sundry Masonic Calendars and Pamphlets ...	Mrs. Gerard Ford.
Centenary Jewels of Nos. 97 and 111 ...	Robert Hudson, P.G.S.B.
Old Silver Deacon's Jewel	J. C. Main, P.M. and Sec. 157.
Programme of Consecration of Victoria Diamond Jubilee Lodge, No. 2675 Woodford	C. J. Smith, W.M. 2675.
Bible and Church Service, Black Letter, 1616	L. E. B. Halcrow, J.D. 1538.
Address to Harmony Lodge, No. 156 ...	Frank Mabin, 105.
Portrait of William Watson, P.G.S. ...	Henry L. Davis, P.M. 25.
Two old Masonic Aprons, Collars and Jewels	John S. Abbott, W.M. 2077.
Constitutions of G.L. South Carolina ...	G.L. of South Carolina.
Old Masonic Apron	A. G. Browning, P.M. 33.
History of the Oak Lodge, No. 190	The Oak Lodge, No. 190.
A Scarce Masonic Medal (French)	Wm. J. Hughan, P.G.D.
An old Master's Lodge (A Reprint)	Robert F. Gould, P.G.D.
Sir Henry Harbin (A Biographical Sketch) ...	George Graveley, A.G.D.C. R.A.
An old Mark Jewel (Silver Gilt)	A. C. Chapin, P.M. 137.
Centenary Jewel of No. 137	John G. Stevens, P.M. 933.
Engraved Portrait of the Earl of Zetland ...	William Baddeley, W.M. 25.
Large Seal of Chapter No. 313, Bengal ...	M. Carteighe, W.M. 2394.
Victoria Diamond Jubilee Medal (Silver) ...	E. L. P. Valeriani, P.G. Std. Br.
A Masonic Halfpenny Token	

The Board also submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts presented to the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of February instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts

Branch) of £9865 17s. 10d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash, £100, and for servants' wages, £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President.
Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
15th February, 1898.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W.G.M. since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:

- No. 2686, The Alfred Newton, London.
- 2687, The Italia, London.
- 2688, The Wythenshawe, Northenden, Cheshire.
- 2689, The King's Court, Gillingham, Dorset.
- 2690, The West Kirby, West Kirby, Cheshire.
- 2691, The Lodge of Israel, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2692, The Hastings, Hastings, Sussex.
- 2693, The Pellipar, London.
- 2694, The Justinian, London.
- 2695, The Doric, Harrogate, Yorkshire.
- 2696, The Arcadian, London.
- 2697, The St. Michael le Querne, London.
- 2698, The Brondesbury, London.
- 2699, The Wandle, London.
- 2700, The Old Masonians, London.
- 2701, The Radcliffe, Radcliffe, Lancashire.
- 2702, The Hollingworth, Oldham, Lancashire.
- 2703, The Wallsend, Wallsend, Northumberland.
- 2704, The True Blue, Motihari, Bengal.

GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASONS.

The following is the business to be transacted on Tuesday, the 1st prox.:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 30th November, 1897.
2. Election of M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year.
3. Election of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
4. Report of the General Board.
5. A motion will be made that the report be taken as read.
6. A motion will be made that the report be received and entered on the minutes.
7. A motion will be proposed that the report be adopted.
8. To consider the case of a brother who has been summoned to show cause why he should not be deprived by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of his rank as a Past Grand Officer, and why he should not be expelled from the Degree of Mark Master Mason.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE JERSEY LODGE, No. 2163.

The above lodge held its seventh annual ball on Monday, the 7th inst., at the Portman Rooms, Baker-street, in aid of the Masonic Charities. The W.M., Bro. Moseley, was well supported in the undertaking by his officers and the brethren of the lodge, who mustered with their friends to the number of 149; amongst them we noticed several Past Masters from other lodges.

The dancing commenced at 8.30 and was kept up merrily until 2 a.m., and we should say that those who found anything to complain of were the exception.

The supper and refreshments were supplied by the Portland Rooms Company, &c., Bro. Burgoyne, their manager, personally attended to this department in a most able and courteous manner. The music was supplied by Bro. H. R. Lancaster, D.C., and, as may be supposed, was most satisfactory.

A special train was secured to leave Paddington at 2.40 for those brethren whose homes were on the line between there and Southall, and as this could not be kept waiting a move for home was made soon after two, and although 22 dances had been got through, most of the ladies looked as fresh and smiling as at the start. To sum up we think it may be written a success and hope there will be a surplus for the Charities.

Bro. J. R. Whittle, Chap., was Honorary Treasurer and Secretary.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

Recreation at most times has its advantages; all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy—so thought the officers of the Hugh Owen Lodge when they formulated the idea of an annual ball in connection with the lodge, the first of which was held in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, on the 18th ultimo, and was a tremendous success. It proved not only the farsightedness of its initiators, but also the capacity of the Stewards, and their gigantic energy in working to a successful termination a venture fairly floated. As a form of recreation for a lodge it would scarcely be denied that a ball was one of the best; to pay court to the throne of Terpsichore is to most ladies an ideal form of recreation, and to both sexes has in most cases a healthful influence on the constitution, when opportunity is afforded.

Freemasons, like all other reasonable beings, enjoy the society of ladies, and none more so. There are many circumstances which assist in rendering a ball what could be desired—such as a suitable room, with a satisfactory floor, a good band, an accomplished M.C., a sufficient number of gentlemen to provide partners for the ladies, and one of the last, but not least, and one that cannot be controlled by mortals—a clean, dry night for going and returning—in all of which there was nothing to be desired.

The programme, which was a long one, was thoroughly appreciated, and worked through by Bro. Neville, P.M., the able M.C., without a hitch. Light refreshments were provided during the evening *ad lib.*, and duly patronised. A supper was provided in the interval, and was thoroughly enjoyed, after which the usual toasts were duly honoured.

The toast of "Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen" was received with acclaim.

Bro. RUTHERGLEN, P.M., in proposing "The Health of the President, the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. Holland, P.M.," stated it was a pleasing duty he had to perform, it was well-known the high opinion he had of the W.M.; he was a man of indomitable energy and when he put his shoulder to the wheel it was bound to move, for if it did not immediately give to his pressure he was sure to find power enough to move it. He certainly regretted leaving all the movements to be initiated by Bro. Holland; he felt sometimes that he must have been somewhat lax, still, he was more than gratified, as every brother must be, at the result of the venture. He must congratulate the W.M. in that behalf, for it augured well for future ventures.

The W.M., in responding, stated that Bro. Rutherglen, in his modest way, had put the fact of floating the annual excursion and ball to him. He could not hide the fact that the inception was his, but much was due to his officers and brethren. Still, they must not forget that there is a limit to the thinking and working capacity of all, and it must be remembered that Bro. Rutherglen was the first Master, and his year of office was fully occupied in Freemasonry, in the formation and consecration of the lodge and placing it on a sound basis, and, above all, not to lose sight of the fact that during the same period, much of his time was occupied over that grand and gigantic scheme, the Poor Law Officers Superannuation Act, which was for the benefit of members of the Poor Law Service; under those circumstances he failed to see much margin for other schemes. His motto was that if a thing was worth doing at all it should be done well, and he was sure the same motto governed Bro. P.M. Rutherglen's actions, and had been proved beyond question by the result of his undertakings. He was grateful for the kindly way in which his health had been proposed and also for the manner it had been received, and was also proud of the success of the undertaking.

The toast of "The Ladies" was received and duly honoured.
A thoroughly enjoyable meeting closed at 4 a.m.

Craft Masonry.

Scientific Lodge, No. 88.

The February meeting of this old lodge, held on St. Valentine's Day, was of a more than usually interesting character, and the proceedings were shared in by Bros. Colonel R. Townley Caldwell, Prov. G.M.; J. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br. England; J. State, P.M., W.M. 2492; B. J. Allsop, P.P.G.D.C. Warwickshire; Dr. Newton Burns, Celtic Lodge; T. Watts, P.G. Treas.; and other visiting brethren.

In the first place, Bro. T. W. Allsop, M.M. of this lodge and P.M. of Concordia, had the satisfaction of raising his son, Bro. Filmer Allsop, to the Third Degree, and his work was universally voted excellent. Then the W.M., Bro. John H. Moyes, passed Bro. J. Burrow and initiated Mr. J. W. Iliffe, M.A. This was the first time Bro. Moyes had done the work in the chair of the lodge, and all agreed that he acquitted himself right well, whilst some expressed the belief that he was destined to follow in the footsteps of his distinguished father, the late D.P.G.M. Not the least pleasing feature of the ceremony of initiation was the eloquent and impressive manner in which Bro. T. Nichols, P.M., delivered the address.

After supper, the W.M. was heartily congratulated upon his successful advent to the chair; and the members of the lodge must have been gratified by the testimony of Bro. Kentish as to the efficiency of the work done by the brethren.

St. Leonard Lodge, No. 1766.

The installation meeting of this lodge, held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, on the 9th instant, attracted a good muster of members and visitors. All present were well rewarded for their attendance by witnessing an excellent rendering of the installation ceremony by Bro. B. Jacobs, the retiring Master. The members present included Bros. B. Jacobs, W.M.; G. H. Clark, W.M. elect; A. Cunningham, J.W.; A. Kaufman, J.D.; S. C. Kaufman, P.M., Treas.; W. Shurmur, P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; F. Matthews, P.M.; J. Cox, P.M.; H. J. Thrower, P.M.; W. Beasley, P.M.; G. Bishop, P.M.; H. Prenton, Org.; and others. Visitors: Bros. Dr. A. L. Alhard, 2045; G. Bugler, 1625; F. Dunstan, P.M. 1326; J. Clark, W.M. 2472; E. A. Davis, 2182; A. N. Lachlan, J.D. 1607; W. Clark, S.D. 28; W. Brook, 2470; F. Eyre, W.M. 1445; H. C. Brown, 2024; H. Nield, 2128; C. H. Bestow, P.M. 2374; M. Sigenberg, P.M. 188; J. W. Graham, W.M. 652; Dr. D. M. Forbes, W.M. 2319; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

After the lodge opening, two raisings and one passing were effectively carried out. Bro. G. H. Clark was next presented as W.M. elect and installed by Bro. Jacobs, I.P.M., who deserved the highest credit for his really admirable performance. The following officers were invested: Bros. A. Cunningham, S.W.; A. Kaufman, J.W.; S. C. Kaufman, P.M., Treas.; W. Beasley, P.M., Sec.; A. Greenwood, S.D.; M. Shea, J.D.; D. E. Leman, I.G.; W. E. Johnson, D.C.; H. Prenton, Org.; J. Smith, A. A. Barnes, and T. L. Fearon, Stewards; and D. Legg, Tyler. Messrs W. Dunz and J. S. McVean were impressively initiated by the W.M., and Bro. C. Gammon, P.M. 704, was elected a joining member. Other items of business were transacted, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet the usual toasts were briefly but heartily given.

Bro. B. Jacobs, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M.," and said he was sure it would be received with as much pleasure as he had in proposing it. He felt he was peculiarly fitted to give that toast, as the W.M. was initiated with him in the lodge, and had consequently followed him step by step. He had had good opportunity of knowing him as an excellent Freemason, and of watching how earnestly he had worked up to his proud position. The W.M. had evinced care and attention on every question coming forward for the good of Freemasonry. They had done a good night's work in installing Bro. Clark, for they had seen his working and how well fitted he was for the position.

Bro. G. H. Clark, W.M., thanked the brethren for placing him in that position. He had had a longing for some years to fill the office of W.M., which he hoped to do with satisfaction to them and pleasure to himself. He would do the best he could to further the interest of the lodge, and hoped to go on for years to come as he had done in the past.

The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M.," and said the past year had been a successful and enjoyable one. He took that opportunity of pinning on Bro. Jacobs' breast the jewel of Past Master, which he had thoroughly deserved.

Bro. B. Jacobs, I.P.M., said that language was inadequate to express what he should like to say. He could, therefore, only thank them for their kindness and for the warmth of their reception. The past year had been one of the greatest pleasures and joys of his life, not only for the support he had received from the brethren and officers, but also for the general kindness exhibited towards him. For anything he had done they had given him more thanks than he deserved. It had been his earnest wish and hope that his year should be a success and he was pleased to think it was so. He had always been painstaking and if he had failed in any degree it was not his fault. He was too young to be thrown aside amongst the "fossils" as the Past Masters were termed, but if he should forget the dignity pertaining to that rank they would take his youth into consideration and look over it.

"The Initiates" having been honoured, Bros. Matthews, P.M.; Beasley, P.M.; Kaufman, P.M.; and others, replied for "The Past Masters."

Several visiting brethren responded for "The Visitors," and other toasts were given before the termination of a pleasant evening.

Bro. H. Prenton, Org., arranged a capital programme of music, and was assisted by Miss M. Farnham, Madame Whitfield Rose, and Messrs. A. Pearce and Mack Olive.

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*Extracted from the Authorised Reports of the
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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1898.

A regular Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 2nd prox., when the programme of business, which will be for the most part of the ordinary character, will include the election of a brother to serve the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. As, however, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, P.M. No. 18, is the only nominee, the election will be a mere matter of form.

Two communications will be submitted from his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master, as regards one of which we need not offer any remark. The other has reference to the regulations concerning the Charity Jewel at p. 143 of the Book of Constitutions. Hitherto there has been no outward and visible distinction between a Patron and a Vice-Patron of one or more of our Institutions; both have worn the same jewel suspended from a ribbon, which is worn round the neck and which is of the colour or colours distinguish-

ing the Institution or Institutions of which they are Patron or Vice-Patron. The Grand Master has now sanctioned an additional distinction in the case of Patrons, consisting of a sprig of acacia embroidered on the right and left sides of the ribbon and meeting in the centre, while the jewel itself is to be ensigned with a representation of the coronet of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. Those who are Patrons of one Institution will have the sprig of acacia and coronet of silver; those of two of the Institutions of gold; and those of the three will have them enamelled in their proper colours. The addition to the Regulations is to be commended for this, if for no other reason—that a distinguishing mark is as desirable between a Patron and a Vice-Patron, as between a Vice-Patron and a Vice-President, and a Vice-President and a Life Governor.

It appears from the paper of Agenda that his Royal Highness, the M.W. Grand Master, since the Quarterly Communication in December, has issued warrants for the constitution of 19 new lodges, of which as many as nine are located in the Metropolitan District, eight in the Provinces, and two abroad. The new Provincial lodges comprise two in Cheshire—the Wythenstawe, No. 2688, and the West Kirby, No. 2690; the King's Court Lodge, No. 2689, in Dorsetshire; the Radcliffe, No. 2701, and the Hollingworth, No. 2702, in East Lancashire; the Wallsend, No. 2703, in Northumberland; the Hastings, No. 2692, in Sussex; and the Doric, No. 2695, in West Yorkshire. The two lodges abroad are the True Blue, No. 2704, in the District of Bengal, and the Lodge of Israel, No. 2691, in South Africa (W.D.).

A regular Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., &c., will be held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Tuesday, the 1st prox., when the business to be transacted will be of the ordinary character.

From the report of the General Board it would appear that Mark Masonry has made considerable progress since the meeting of its Grand Lodge in December last, the number of Mark certificates issued during the quarter to the 31st December, 1897, being 358, while the number of new lodges for which warrants have been granted is five, of which four are located in Egypt, and one in the District of Bombay. There have also been issued 68 Royal Ark Mariner certificates and warrants for three new lodges, of which one is located in the Province of Northumberland and Durham, and two in South Africa. It is also announced that his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Mark Master has been pleased to appoint Bro. the Earl of Halsbury—Lord Chancellor of Great Britain—to be Prov. G. Master of Cornwall vice Bro. Sir C. B. Graves-Sawle, Bart., resigned, and to renew for a further period of three years the appointment of Bro. A. Woodiwiss as Prov. G. Master of Derbyshire.

A stated meeting of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, will be held on Friday, the 4th prox., when Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec., will read a paper on the "Two Degrees Theory." Subsequently, the W.M.—Bro. Sydney T. Klein—will give the second of his demonstrations of the Hidden Mysteries of Nature and Science, the subject on this occasion being "Sympathy working without contact on a higher plane than that of the material." It will also be proposed to vote a sum of 10 guineas from the funds of the lodge as a donation to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at its Centenary Festival in June next, to be placed on the list of the W. Master, who will act as Steward on the occasion. The usual dinner will follow at the Holborn Restaurant.

Among the papers which are promised are one by Bro. E. Conder, jun., on "Charles II.," which will be given at the May meeting, and another by Bro. E. Armitage, on "Robert Samber," which will be read at the lodge to be held on the 24th prox.

We have to announce that the St. Michael le Querne Lodge, No. 2697, will be consecrated at the Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, on Monday, the 28th inst., the W.M. designate being Bro. A. C. Higerty. We also have the pleasure of announcing that on Monday, the 21st prox., the Wandle Lodge, No. 2699, will be consecrated at the Wandsworth Town Hall, the W.M. designate being Bro. H. Baker, Past Prov. A.G. Sec. Berkshire. On both occasions the Grand Secretary will

fulfil the part of Consecrating Officer. We have also in hand reports of the proceedings at the consecration of the Pellipar Lodge, No. 2693, which was ushered into existence under the auspices of the Grand Secretary, at Skinners' Hall, on the 18th instant. We regret we are under the necessity, owing to the heavy demands upon our space, of holding over this very interesting report till next week.

It is to be regretted that the munificent offer made by Bro. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D., at the Benevolent Festival on Tuesday was not turned to account. When Bro. Terry announced that the total obtained was £9443, Bro. Keyser very generously proposed to contribute a further 50 guineas on condition that 13 other brethren would contribute an equal sum. We believe we are correct in stating that Bro. James E. Terry—son of the Secretary of the Institution—at once responded to the invitation, but there were no others willing to be charmed out of further moneys, and the proposal fell through. Had it been adopted, the total of the Returns would have exceeded £10,000.

We have much pleasure in announcing that Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D., will deliver a lecture at the Masonic Hall, Newton Abbot, on Tuesday, the 8th prox., the subject selected by our distinguished brother being "The Governing Masonic Bodies of England." We gather from the syllabus as published that the subject will be treated fully, and we may be sure it will be dealt with ably. At the close of the lecture there will be a collection in behalf of the Boys' Centenary Festival, and the amount will be placed on the list of Bro. R. H. Grimby as Steward.

We sincerely regret to announce that Lady Goldney, wife of Bro. Sir Gabriel Goldney, Bart., P.G.D., and mother of the City Remembrancer, died on Wednesday, at Beechfield, Corsham, Wilts. The deceased lady had attained the age of 84 years.

Bro. Joseph A. Locke, M.W.G. Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine, has issued an edict bearing date the 9th December, 1897, to the effect that, as it has come to his knowledge that the Grand Lodge of Peru, in which the Grand Lodge of Maine had been in communication, had excluded the "Book of the Law"—the "Great Light" of Freemasonry—from its altars and from those of its constituent lodges, the said G. Lodge of Peru and its constituent lodges have ceased to be Masonic bodies, and consequently that the intercourse previously existing between the lodges and members of the Grand Lodge with those of the Grand Lodge of Peru is suspended until the next annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine. This edict, however, is not intended to apply to those brethren formerly under allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Peru who may already have renounced or may hereafter renounce such allegiance to the said body in consequence of its abrogation of the fundamental law which requires of all brethren as the first article of their Masonic faith, a belief in the existence of a Supreme Being and in a future state.

We learn from the *Voice of Masonry* for last month that at the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory, which was held in the month of August last, the Grand Master had the pleasure of announcing that the Craft in the jurisdiction was in a highly prosperous condition. In the course of the proceedings, it was reported by the Committee of Education that eight lodges were caring for and educating 29 orphan children, and the said Committee made a strong appeal to all the lodges to fulfil the same duty towards all children similarly circumstanced. There are 86 lodges, with an aggregate membership of 3107, on the roll of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Master being Bro. James A. Scott, while Bro. Joseph S. Murrow still occupies the responsible position of Grand Secretary.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors of the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton, was held on Thursday afternoon, Mr. T. P. Beckwith in the chair. The report read by the Secretary, Mr. Theobald, stated that since the last court in November the committee had received a special donation of £1391 5s. from the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, and also the sum of £407 6s. from the Hospital Saturday Fund. The committee were able to report that the general work of the hospital was progressing satisfactorily, but that as a much needed home for nurses was about to be commenced on hospital property in South-parade, near the south building, the resources of the charity would be heavily taxed.

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.

IN THE MASTER'S ABSENCE—BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS 141.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Being a regular reader of the *Freemason*, perhaps you will afford me a small space in your columns to enable me to call attention to the provisions of Rule 141 Book of Constitutions (1896 ed.), as to the occupation of the W.M.'s chair in the lodge in the absence of the Master; I am aware that this subject has been ventilated in the columns of the *Freemason*, either by reports of the meetings of Grand Lodge or otherwise, during the last few years, still, the practice enjoined by Rule 141 is by no means generally known, owing to the W.Ms. of lodges not making themselves sufficiently well-acquainted with the Book of Constitutions.

In the *Freemason* of February 19th, I find on page 89 a report of a very interesting meeting of the Mirfield Lodge, No. 1102, when a highly esteemed and very worthy Mason, Bro. John Barker, P.P.G. Supt. of Works, presided, and in the presence of an influential body of Prov. G. Officers and other visitors, enjoyed the proud privilege of initiating his son into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry; all this was as it should be; the point, however, to which I call attention is the statement in the report referred to, "that as the W.M. of the lodge through the exigencies of business was absent in Russia and unable, therefore, to attend personally to his Masonic duties, he had deputed Bro. Barker—the oldest Past Master of the lodge—to act in his stead during his enforced absence." From the report I observe that the I.P.M. was present, and I have not the least doubt but the arrangement for Bro. Barker to preside had the I.P.M.'s entire concurrence, especially as the occasion was of so interesting a nature as the initiation of his son. It will be seen, however, that the report states "that the W.M. had deputed Bro. Barker to act in his stead during his enforced absence which may possibly extend over two or more meetings; this, according to my views, is unconstitutional, and, moreover, deprives the I.P.M. of his undoubted privilege of presiding in the absence of the Master as provided by Rule 141.

Doubtless there are many W.Ms. of lodges, ignorant of the Constitutions, who erroneously hold views similar to the W.M. of the Mirfield Lodge, that they can appoint any P.M. they choose to preside over the lodge in their absence. I remember a case in point which occurred two or three years since, when the W.M. of a lodge who was leaving for a continental tour extending over three or four months, deputed two of his friends amongst the Past Masters to preside at the two regular meetings of the lodge that would be held in his absence, and by letter informed the I.P.M. that he had arranged for the occupation of the chair at the first of the meetings referred to. The I.P.M., who was familiar with Rule 141, naturally felt somewhat annoyed at such an arrangement having been made without any previous communication with him, and he absented himself from the meeting in question, so as to allow of the W.M.'s wishes being carried out. On the second occasion he was present, and saw another nominee of the W.M. proceed to the chair, the I.P.M. thereupon called attention to the Rule referred to, whereupon the brother, an experienced P.M., who had been deputed by the W.M. to preside, at once recognised the position, and gave way; but the I.P.M., having so far asserted his right to preside, courteously waived it in favour of the brother whom the W.M. had appointed to preside. Had the W.M. referred to been conversant with the Constitutions, such an incident as just referred to would not have happened.—Yours fraternally,

EX-SECRETARY P.M.

FREEMASONRY AND SECRETS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The interest displayed in Bro. Klein's "Discovery" is a most significant sign of the times. It demonstrates that Masonry as a body is devoting more and more attention to occultism—understanding by that term not cut and dried ritualism and ceremonies, but investigation of the hidden forces of nature, and practical cultivation of the marvellous powers latent in man. It is useless to ignore the fact that popular opinion has hitherto regarded Freemasonry as little, if anything, more than a social institution, the predominant feature of which is the banquet. But I believe the time has come when Masonry will emphasise the other side of its character, and wield an enormous influence in the practical cultivation of the individual, as well as in the promotion of brotherly feeling and kindness of heart. Masonry as a science and an art stands on a pinnacle above all other sciences and arts, for it deals directly with self-knowledge and self-development. It must gather into the hollow of its hand all the knowledge amassed by the Psychological Research Society, Spiritualism, Theosophy, &c. It must also sift the wheat from the chaff. A new era of enlightenment is dawning on the race, and the vast organisation of Freemasonry is bound to wield an ever-increasing influence.—Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR LOVELL, 1425.

5, Portman-street, Portman-square, W.

THE NEW BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Through an unfortunate printer's blunder the word "errors" was printed as "wages."

I meant, of course, that an independent surveyor would be responsible for the accuracy of his quantities, while the architect, being the employer's agent, would not be, and any mistakes must be set right by measurement.—Yours fraternally,

FAIR PLAY.

BLACKPOOL MASONIC HALL (LIMITED).

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir,

We purpose building at Blackpool a Masonic Hall, and I shall be much obliged if any of your readers who know of any good Masonic hall, would kindly give me any hints that they may think would be of service to us in getting out our plans. Possibly some of your readers may have plans or tracings they could spare for a short time, and for the loan of which I should be extremely obliged.

If you would kindly make my wants known in your next issue I should be glad, and with thanks in anticipation.—I beg to remain, yours faithfully,

THOMAS SANKEY, Secretary.

Adelaide-street, Blackpool,
February 23rd.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

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BRO. SADLER'S LECTURE.

I have been very interested in reading the racy Address by Bro. Henry Sadler to the members of the Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, London. It is well for such an excellent authority to give an accurate account of the origin of the two Grand Lodges that so long were rivals in England, but united in December, 1813, especially as there are still brethren who speak and write about the union of the two Grand Lodges of London and York, whereas the Bodies in question were both of London. Bro. Sadler has done very good work in relation to the "Ancients," and so also as to the R.W. Bro. Thomas Dunckerley, his "Masonic Facts and Fictions," and his Life of the latter worthy having made his name respected as a writer far and wide. I wish now he would relieve me of one duty that presses, and yet it seems quite impossible for me under existing circumstances to discharge, and that is to write the History of the Royal Arch Degree in connection with the "Moderns" especially (but also with the "Ancients"), and the early transactions of the United Grand Chapter of England from 1817. He could do it well, and has peculiar facilities for such a much-needed work. I think with him that the year 1739, referred to by the Committee of Charity, meant 1730, but did they not follow the lead of the "Book of Constitutions" of 1784 and a paragraph in an earlier work (the Grand Lodge Calendar)? I think they did, and hence the original error of 1739 has been generally copied from then to now.

W. J. HUGHAN.

Reviews.

"MASONIC CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF SURREY, 1898."—(London: Printed by Jas. Truscott and Son.)—This excellent annual, very complete as to details, capably arranged and well printed, is a credit to all concerned. The province may congratulate itself on having one of the best Directories published in England, in fact one of the best possible. There are several new features in this issue: of a most useful character, and the particulars concerning the province are so numerous and some so curious that the compilation is of interest to all students of the Craft. There are two portraits in this year. One of the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Prov. G.M., and the other is a good likeness of Bro. Frederick West, P.G.D., D. Prov. G.M., the latter also having a page devoted to his Masonic career, evidently written by one who appreciates his sterling Masonic qualities. The province now numbers 42 lodges, who return 1610 members, being an average of 38 to each lodge, thus exhibiting an increase on all previous reports. The nearer the Provinces are to the Metropolis, as a rule, the less the average, and vice versa. The Royal Family and Freemasonry, Masonic Calendar, statistics of lodges in the province for the past four years, Past and Present Officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey (1772-1897), statistics of chapters in the province for the past four years (17 chapters with 315 companions), &c., are all interesting compilations, as also "Masonic Memoranda." The editors have also wisely inserted by-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge, and of the Provincial Grand Chapter, so that this calendar is a *multum in parvo* and a real handy guide for the province. There are nine Mark lodges, but only returning a total of 171 members, so that some of these should be able to offer inducements as to office for aspiring brethren, who elsewhere have no hope of reaching the chair in a score of years. The Knights Templar number one preceptory, and the Rose Croix one chapter, so that these Degrees do not at present enjoy so much prosperity, as it is anticipated they will further on. Over 200 pages makes this a record issue.

"PROVINCE OF DUMFRIESHIRE FREEMASONS' DIRECTORY."—(Dumfries: J. Maxwell and Son.)—Our good brother, James Smith, is again the efficient editor of this handy wee publication, in the fifth year of issue, and never more valuable than now. There are 11 lodges in the province, some of a most interesting character, the Records of which have been made known to us in Bro. James Smith's monographs, of which we hope there are more to follow, and that very soon. No. 53 has existing Records from 1687; No. 63, from 1753; No. 63, from 1780 (chartered in 1755); No. 107, from 1747; and No. 140, from 1776. Bro. James Smith, P.M., &c., Grand Steward of Scotland, is the Masonic Historian of this Province, and so these and other particulars are quite in his line, as also the list of dormant lodges in Dumfriesshire. It ought to take well in the county and prove a most useful companion for consultation.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE GRAND MASTER'S (MARK) LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF BRO. TAMBURINI.
PRESENTATION TO BRO. WILLIAM VINCENT.

The annual festival of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction in the Mark Degree was held on Wednesday evening, the 16th instant, at Mark Masons' Hall, Bro. J. Reynolds Green, G.D., Preceptor of the lodge, presiding. There was a large attendance of brethren. The different offices were filled as follows: Bro. J. Reynolds Green, G.D., W.M.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., I.P.M.; H. Thomson Lyon, P.M., P.G. Stwd., S.W.; E. M. Money, P.M., P.G. Stwd., J.W.; John Smith, P.M., P.G. Stwd., M.O.; J. T. Rowe, P.M., S.O.; W. Featherstonhaugh, P.M., Prov. G.D. Surrey, J.O.; Rev. V. P. Wyatt, P.M., P.G.C., Chap.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec., Treas.; G. E. Thomas, P.M., Prov. G.O. Middx. R. of M.; John Smith, P.M., P.G. Stwd., Sec.; G. E. Smith, S.W., S.D.; A. Clarke, J.D.; W. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; Henry R. Rose, F.R.A.M., P.G. Org., Org.; W. Briggs, J.W. 406, I.G.; and E. J. Mills, P.A.G.I.G., G. Tyler, Tyler.

The ceremony of advancement was admirably performed, and afterwards Bro. John Smith, P.M., P.G. Stwd., Sec., gave the Lecture of the Degree in the finest style.

From the opening of the lodge a gloom was cast over the meeting by the announcement that Bro. J. S. Tamburini, who was to have taken the office of union Overseer, was suddenly stricken down the previous Sunday with paralysis, and had remained unconscious ever since.

Before the proceedings were closed, therefore, a vote of sympathy and condolence with him and his family was, on the motion of Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G. Sec., seconded by Bro. THOMSON LYON, P.M., P.G. Stwd., unanimously passed.

In the course of the evening a handsome presentation, consisting of a silver tea and coffee service, and a silver, was presented to Bro. William Vincent, the Preceptor for 11 years of the lodge of instruction, on his retiring from that office. On each article, the set being comprised of five pieces, was engraved on the obverse a keystone with the Hebrew character, a triangle in the centre and inside this, Bro. Vincent's mark "WV."

The presentation was made by Bro. Dr. J. REYNOLDS GREEN, F.R.S., who asked the brethren to excuse him addressing a few remarks to one of their number instead of to the general body present. Occasions of retiring from office were generally associated with considerable regret. Although it was a source of very great regret in the case of Bro. Vincent, the brethren were, nevertheless, rejoiced to find that while he was leaving them officially he was doing so in the full enjoyment of mental and bodily vigour and of Masonic enthusiasm. During a career of something like 12 years he had worked well and worthily in the interests of the lodge, the present prosperity and development of which was mainly due to his exertions, courtesy, and kindness. The brethren had asked him (Bro. Green) to be their mouthpiece in expressing their feeling of regret at losing him as their Preceptor, and their happiness at retaining him still, though unofficially, among them. In their name he asked Bro. Vincent to accept the present—which he would now ask the Deacons to uncover—as an expression of their esteem and regard. They felt it would be dearer to Bro. Vincent, not so much on account of its intrinsic value, as of the expression it represented of the esteem in which his brethren had long held him.

The presentation having been uncovered, Bro. WILLIAM VINCENT, in accepting the gift, said it was an extremely difficult task that was laid before him to reply, and he had often admired and envied men who had the talents to do so. He could not claim to such talents himself. His 11 years of office as Preceptor of the lodge had been 11 years of considerable pleasure. He had met many acquaintances, and formed ties of friendship which he hoped would last as long as he lived. He was under great obligations to members of the permanent Committee for assistance and advice, and particularly also to the Grand Secretary, who proposed him for the office of Preceptor and had afterwards assisted him as much as he could. He thanked the brethren from the bottom of his heart for the presentation.

Bro. Sir J. C. DIMSDALE, J.G.W., was elected an honorary member of the lodge, and Bros. Lord Addington, William Truman, and J. A. Robinson were elected joining members.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet at the Holborn Restaurant, where they were presided over by Bro. Sir Joseph C. Dimsdale.

After the banquet the usual toasts were proposed.

Bro. Sir J. C. DIMSDALE, in proposing "The Grand Officers," said that the feeling which actuated the Grand Master permeated through Grand Lodge generally; the feeling was one of homogeneity—a desire to co-operate with the different lodges throughout the kingdom and even beyond the kingdom. This was the great secret of the expansion, development, and consolidation of Masonry. They knew for what they strove; they knew the great ends they had in view; they might rise in their ceremonies into a religious and grand ceremony; but they saw still behind that far more than what it superficially represented—its vitality and its head. It was to inculcate into their fellow men and to extend to those who did not possess the happiness and the benefits that they existed. To his mind those were the secrets of Masonry; and because every lodge had the same uniform feeling with Grand Lodge that they worked as one to extend that still further. The Board was graced that night by many Grand Officers. Lord Addington was a representative Mason, the embodiment of an excellent Mason, whom he had known in another place in the City of London, and he knew his father before him; the whole family was respected, beloved, and esteemed. That was the sort of Mason they wished to see carry the doctrines of Masonry outside the Temple of Masonry. Bro. Matier was another Grand Officer, respected, well known, and beloved by all, to whom much of the development of Mark Masonry was attributable in the last few years. Bro. Loveland Loveland was another eminent Mason. Grand Lodge desired as one man to work in unison, sympathy, and homogeneity with every lodge in the kingdom, and thus further the great objects and cause of the Order.

Bro. Lord ADDINGTON replied. They had all a supreme affection for Mark Masonry. The work they had to do was good work. In this age of competition and rivalry it was a fine thing to have an Order like Masonry to unite men in a common bond of brotherhood—all classes, rich and poor, high and low—to help one another in time of need, and do good to each other.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G. Sec., proposed "The Chairman." Ever since the inception of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction in 1884, the lodge had been honoured by many brethren of rank and of great influence presiding over these annual festivals; the Pro Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master; they had had numbers of men of the greatest eminence in the Mother Grand Lodge in the Craft, such as Bro. Thomas Fenn, to preside over them; they had had Provincial Grand Masters; and now they had the Junior Grand Warden of the year, who was alike honoured and esteemed by the City of London, where, perhaps, he was not born and nurtured, but which looked to him as one of its most distinguished citizens, who at no very distant date would be called upon to take the crown of their chief magistrate. It was not in either capacity as Alderman or as possible Lord Mayor that he desired to recommend to the brethren Sir Joseph Dimsdale; it was in his position as Junior Grand Warden of England, but above all that of their Chairman that night that he called on the brethren to drink his health. They knew with what affection Sir Joseph Dimsdale was looked upon, because when the crucial test came when they were asked to vote for him as Grand Treasurer, they returned him triumphantly at the head of the poll. He asked them now to do the same and return him at the head of the poll of their own hearts as the Chairman of the evening.

Bro. Sir JOSEPH C. DIMSDALE, in acknowledging the toast, said he was fully aware of his shortcomings. Months ago Bro. Matier asked him to preside at that meeting, and he (Sir J. Dimsdale) flippantly said he would. He could now quite realise that men did make very poor mistakes in their lives. He was but a poor Chairman; but he could assure them that he unfeignedly returned them thanks for the honour they had done him that night. He had been able to enjoy the beautiful ritual excellently rendered in all its details, and, above all, the spirit of that ceremony permeating through the whole of it. He had also to thank them for the honour they had done him by permitting him to become a member of that lodge of instruction; he should deem it a high privilege to be permitted to sit there and learn the beautiful working. He hoped he had occupied the chair in a manner which met with the brethren's approval; if he had he was more than repaid. Before he sat down he would ask the brethren to drink a toast nearer to their hearts a great deal—"Prosperity to the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction," and he asked them to drink it with enthusiasm. That lodge had done an immensity of good for Mark Masons generally. Young brethren on the threshold of Mark Masonry were advanced; but they then only feebly recognised the great tenets and privileges which they had undertaken; and if there was one thing rather weak in the organisation of their lodge and their Craft—he spoke with great diffidence; he was speaking of his own lodge, the Grand Masters' Lodge, No. 1 in the Craft—they went in and went through the important ceremonies; they merely touched the fringe, and did not go below the surface. Now, these lodges of instruction did an immensity of good in the Craft and in the Mark; that good could not be exaggerated; and, therefore, all who had the interests of Masonry at heart should desire the prosperity of lodges of instruction. It was almost presumption in him, being just elected to this position, that he should suggest any matter of this kind; but he did address the brethren on this point because it was their duty to instruct the young Masons that, whether in the Craft or in the Mark, Masonry did not exist for the Fourth Degree, but to teach a man who became a Mason that he had his duty to do—in the first place, to his

God, and then, as a natural sequence, his duty to his fellow man. He therefore gave with the greatest pleasure prosperity and perpetuity to that lodge of instruction, and might its instruction be extended until time with us should be no more. He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Green, who had shown great capacity and ability to expound the principles of the Order in a manner that redounded to the credit of himself and of the Fraternity; he required a lot of beating.

Bro. GREEN, replying, thanked the brethren for the confidence which they had shown in placing him in the post of Preceptor, but he said he could hardly respond in adequate terms on account of the kind way in which the Chairman had spoken of him. It was the desire of the workers in the lodge of instruction to interpret the ceremonies in a reverent spirit. There was a great tendency in the hurry and rush of every day business life to lose sight of this higher aim, but lodges of instruction corrected this. The ceremonies were very beautiful and he was glad that with the brethren's assistance they had been able to interpret them that evening in a way which brought no discredit to the lodge. A keen critic, however, might have found imperfections, for on one occasion he lost the thread of his own remarks, but he must plead in extenuation the shock he had suffered by the announcement of Bro. Tamburini's illness; it was a crushing blow, as Bro. Tamburini was to have taken one of the offices and he had the affection and confidence of the brethren. It was a great gratification to him (Bro. Green) to be the brethren's mouthpiece in the presentation to Bro. Vincent. He did not feel at liberty in the lodge to say how much he had gained by his association with Bro. Vincent, who had been Preceptor 11 years. Eight of those years he had been associated with Bro. Vincent. He had been trained in Bro. Vincent's footsteps, and during the last three years he had been connected with him. The assistance had been invaluable. What he had said of Bro. Vincent was from his heart. All the lodges felt indebted to him. Bro. Matier had also rendered great assistance, and at a time when his blushing honours were not so thick upon him. Although they did not see him so often now, they were extremely gratified he was with them that night with his usual geniality. The lodge was greatly indebted to Bro. Matier for his efforts on its behalf in its earlier years. They hoped to have many recruits that year. He asked the brethren to support him.

Bro. MOLSON, from Montreal, responded to the toast of "The Visitors." He said he was W.M. elect of his lodge—St. Paul's. He was an old Mason, although only lately an active Mason. Only three lodges under the Grand Lodge of England were left working there. Grand Lodge of Quebec was very prolific. But the English lodges would remain under the Grand Lodge of England as long as the Grand Lodge of England would allow them to do so; never with their own wish would there be a severance. Some brethren thought it a thorn in the side; but it was not by the wish of the English lodges there that it was so, and they hoped that that feeling would change later on if there was such a feeling.

Bro. R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, responding to the toast proposed in his honour. Until a week ago, he was ashamed to say, he did not know of the existence of this lodge, and he had to apologise for not being a member. From an experience of over a quarter of a century he must say these lodges of instruction must be of great importance in any Order. He and Bro. Beach had found that in Hampshire. Many years ago there were 40 lodges in the province and several sets of ritual. They found that in London with the Emulation Lodge of Improvement there was one recognised working, so they induced the lodges in Hants and the Isle of Wight to adopt that ritual. They established lodges of instruction with the result that now they had one working. He should be glad if the same was done with the Mark Degree. Uniformity of ritual was the proper thing; but there was another point which these lodges of instruction taught—that what was worth doing at all was worth doing well. He was exceedingly delighted at seeing that night that all the ceremony was rendered so beautifully.

The Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

Craft Masonry.

Benevolent Lodge, No. 303.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Teignmouth, on the 14th inst., when Bro. J. W. Finch was ably installed as W.M. for the ensuing year by the outgoing W.M., Bro. E. Silk. The following formed the Board of Installed Masters: Bros. F. C. Frost, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., G. N. Burnen, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C., J. U. Valentine, P.M., P.D.P.G.D.C., G. H. Johnson, E. Andrews, P.M., and R. C. Musgrave, P.M., all of the lodge: W. H. Chesterman, I.P.M. 1255; W. H. Grives, P.M. 818; Thos. Wills, P.M. 1402; Cas. Hill, W.M. 1402; G. L. Lorme, I.P.M. 740, P.P.G.O.; D. O. Powell, P.M. 1443, P.G. Stwd.; J. A. Dennis, S.D. 281; Jno. Oliver, P.M. 1138, Chap.; W. Forty, P.M. 1138, P.P.G.S. of W.; H. T. Parker, W.M. 1138; and J. C. Lugg, I.P.M. 1138. The brethren also present were Bros. R. K. Gilpin, F. Linter, H. Marks, R. J. Jones, and W. A. Onn, all of the lodge. W. G. Hole, D.C. 1107; and Geo. J. Gibson, S.W. 1753. The newly-installed Master appointed and inducted his officers as follows: Bros. E. Silk, I.P.M.; J. Wotton, S.W.; Burden, J.W.; G. J. Ford, Chap.; F. C. Hallett, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; J. U. Valentine, P.M., P.D.P.G.D.C., Sec.; S. D. Furler, S.D.; W. H. Bonner, J.D.; G. P. N. Burden, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D.C.; R. J. Jones, I.G.; W. A. Thomas, Org.; H. Marks and W. A. Onn, Stwds.; and W. Robbins, Tyler.

After the ceremony, the brethren adjourned to Bro. H. Marks' Railway Hotel, where a *recherché* banquet was served. The room was most tastefully and appropriately decorated by Miss A. Marks. Bro. H. Marks' catering reflected much credit upon the resources of the hotel, and was spoken of in terms of the highest praise.

The usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

A unique coincidence in connection with this ceremony was that the installation was held on St. Valentine's Day, the surname of the Secretary of the lodge is Valentine; the day was the anniversary of Bro. Valentine's wedding; and the newly-appointed and popular stationmaster, Bro. Hole, who was also present, and whose christian name is Valentine, was born on St. Valentine's Day.

Westbourne Lodge, No. 733.

This lodge, which has now entered upon its 41st year, held its annual installation meeting on the 17th instant, in the Masonic Hall of the Holborn Restaurant. It was presided over by Bro. Charles T. Brown, W.M., and there were also present Bros. W. M. Roberts, I.P.M.; F. Wortham, S.W.; G. Weaver, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; C. E. Lilly, S.D.; W. Busby, J.D.; H. H. Bagnall, I.G.; R. B. Hopkins and Alfred C. Hawkins, Organists; E. Thomas and F. Beesley, Stewards; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M.; Thomas W. Allen, P.M.; Charles J. Bjorn, P.M.; E. Collins, P.M.; J. W. Curtis, P.M.; R. J. Rogers, P.M.; A. Arrowsmith, P.M.; Samuel Ellis, P.M., Tyler; G. A. Butcher, J. S. Beckham, T. Gale, G. Wall, Thomas G. Matthews, F. W. Brock, W. G. Rodkien, J. Woodford, A. S. Pemberton, Thomas Stroud, C. Halstead, R. J. Gillings, N. Rolles, Ernest T. White, G. Walker, E. Stevens, P. J. Wheeler, J. Martin, A. Clare, H. C. Phipps, S. Goulding, J. Thompson, A. H. Boughton, J. Shapecobb, F. Quick, F. S. Kilvert, H. C. Carter, T. Isons, J. W. Norris, R. H. Jackson, J. J. White, G. Goddard, and C. Williams. The visitors were Bros. J. T. Baron, I.G. 1531; J. Todd, 1791; P. Truckham, 209; G. Klan Payne, 2090; G. D. Mogford, P.M. 2362; W. Middleweek, P.M. 1793, P.P.A. G.D.C. Middx.; C. F. Sanger, 1643; Wm. Bragg, 2361; R. Bramble, 2182; T. Nutten, 2362; C. Marment, 99; I. Bartlett, P.M. 1637; R. R. Thomas, J.D. 511; H. Rolles, 1581; G. Campbell, 619; T. W. Mogford, I.P.M. 2362; A. Ellenden, D.C. 1623; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; A. Alsop, 1542; H. C. Coffin, P.M. 167; W. E. Lane, 167; R. J. Hearnden, I.P.M. 1853; L. B. Griffith, 216; A.

Wheeler, 1366; J. Mayo, I.P.M. 1614; F. B. E. Ames, 1662; R. E. Blow, 1306; W. Harper, S.W. 1306; J. Barrett, Stwd. 2016; and A. H. Seal, 2032

After the customary opening formalities and the confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, Bro. Chas. T. Brown, W.M., on presentation to him by Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., P.G.P., D. of C., of Bro. F. Wortham, S.W., W.M. elect, installed the latter as W.M. of the lodge for the year ensuing, the ceremony being performed in admirable style. Bro. C. T. Brown received the collar of I.P.M., and the other brethren invested as officers of the lodge for the year were Bros. G. Weaver, S.W.; C. G. Lilly, J.W.; J. Welford, P.M., Treas.; S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec.; W. Busby, S.D.; H. H. Bagnall, J.D.; E. Thomas, I.G.; C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., P.G.P., D.C.; R. B. Hopkins, Org.; F. Beesley and C. Halston, Stwds.; and S. Ellis, Tyler. The new W.M. performed all the investitures perfectly, and showed his skill as an adherent to ritual. Bro. Brown, I.P.M., delivered the addresses most eloquently and fluently. As he is standing as the lodge's Steward for the Centenary Festival of the Boys' Institution, the lodge, on the motion of the Treasurer, seconded by Bro. Cottebrune, voted 20 guineas to his list. After this, Bro. Cottebrune proposed "That in consideration of the eminent services of Bro. J. Welford, P.M., to the lodge as Treasurer for the last 20 years, a testimonial be presented to that worthy brother." This was seconded by Bro. Brown, I.P.M., and carried unanimously. Bro. Cottebrune, with this great encouragement, then proposed, as a nucleus to the Testimonial Fund, "That 20 guineas be voted from the lodge funds in furtherance of the testimonial," and this was also seconded by the I.P.M. and carried by acclamation. The brethren were then invited to contribute individually to the fund, and it was decided that the Testimonial Committee should consist of the W.M., the S.W., the J.W., and all the Past Masters. Several sums were afterwards voted to cases of distress, and petitions to the Board of Benevolence were signed, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

The toasts which followed were relieved by some excellent musical performances by Madame Lovenez, Miss Annie Wilson, Bros. R. B. Hopkins (on the silver bells), Richard Evans, Vingrove Iles, Spencer West, and Will Preston, the accompanists being A. C. Hawkins and R. B. Hopkins.

Bro. C. A. Cottebrune, P.M., P.G.P., in reply to the toast of "The Pro G. Master, the Dep. G. Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," said he was very pleased that his name was coupled with the toast because he was aware that he was called upon to respond, more particularly for the reason that he was a founder and a P.M. of this lodge; moreover, from the fact that he was the father of the lodge. It was 40 years ago that the lodge was consecrated by the Earl of Zetland, and he (Bro. Cottebrune) was the first S.W., and he was the only one of the founders left. The brethren would understand his feelings as the survivor of the founders when they considered the very high position the lodge had attained. When the lodge started the brethren were very moderate indeed; some of the brethren used to call them a bread-and-cheese-and-onions lodge. They were satisfied with that then; but he did not think they would be satisfied with that fare now. He felt very proud of the position in which the lodge now was. He was P.M. of other lodges, but he was very proud to be a P.M. of the Westbourne Lodge. It could not be expected that he would be much longer among the brethren, but he could assure them that as long as he lived he should be only too proud to be a member of the Westbourne Lodge.

Bro. C. T. Brown, I.P.M., proposed "The W.M." Bro. Fred. Wortham had commenced his career as a W.M., and in launching him in that position all the brethren wished him a prosperous, happy, and successful voyage. Bro. Wortham was very well known to the majority of the brethren, and, therefore, words would be superfluous in describing him; he would make a good Master and would do his utmost in the interest of the lodge, and the brethren, and the Craft in general. He had told him (Bro. Brown) when he met him a day or two ago, that he was going to follow in his footsteps; he hoped Bro. Wortham would adopt a better pattern. (No, no.) They all ought to aim higher; at least so he thought, because he (Bro. Brown) felt he had not reached his own ideal, although he had done his best. He was sure Bro. Wortham would do the same.

Bro. Frederick Wortham, W.M., acknowledging the kind words in which Bro. Brown had proposed the toast, and the brethren's hearty reception of them, said as it was the first time he had occupied the Master's chair of the lodge, he could not make much of a speech, but as he had told the I.P.M. privately, he should try to follow in his footsteps. He did not think he should succeed in his attempt to keep up to him, but he was going to try and win by a lap. (Cheers.)

The next toast was that of "Bro. C. T. Brown, I.P.M., and Installing Master," and in giving it to the brethren, Bro. F. Wortham, W.M., remarked that Bro. Brown had worked very hard for the lodge, and he had succeeded in bringing forward a good balance to hand over to his successor. He hoped that he would hand over that balance increased to some one else. On behalf of the lodge, he had now to affix to Bro. Brown's breast a Past Master's jewel as a recognition of the brethren's approval of the manner in which he had performed the duties of W.M. of the Westbourne Lodge for the past year. He hoped that Bro. Brown would live many years to wear that jewel and adorn the Westbourne Lodge.

Bro. C. T. Brown, I.P.M., in reply, said he had to thank the W.M. and brethren for three things: first, for the very kind manner the brethren had received the toast; secondly, for the handsome jewel; and thirdly, for the generosity with which they had voted money to his list as Steward for the Boys' School. The last was the greatest honour of all. When he took the chair this time last year he said in effect that the principal object he had in view was Charity, and it had given him the great satisfaction to learn from Bro. Cottebrune that he (Bro. Brown) had not only finished by having a record balance, but having a record in Charity. He did not claim credit to himself for it, it was merely the turn of fortune's wheel. He did not know that he could have done anything to enhance the funds, but he had tried to keep an eye on the expenses of the lodge and to keep up the balance. He was very grateful for the brethren's kindness. Although he had entered on what was called the fossil period he trusted it would be a long time before he was a fossil. Looking round on the Past Masters he did not think there was much of a fossil to be found among them, even although one of them had belonged to the lodge for 40 years. He hoped they would all remain as hale and hearty as Bro. Cottebrune.

Bros. Mayo, Prophet, Miller, and Mogford responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

Bro. J. Welford, P.M., Treas., responding for his portion of the toast, "The Treasurer and the Secretary," said that having responded to his share of the toast for 20 years it was difficult for him to find anything new to say, especially after what the brethren had heard of the "forty years," not of "our old friend, John," but of the membership of Bro. Cottebrune. He (Bro. Welford) had been Treasurer 20 years and a member of the lodge 29 years. Bro. Martin numbered 30 years. He was rather surprised to hear the announcement that the brethren were going to present him with a testimonial. Well, every one liked to be acknowledged in his office no doubt; it would be silly to say he did not; and when the acknowledgment was made spontaneously by the brethren, as it was on that occasion, he could not but say he most heartily thanked the brethren for the compliment. (Cheers.)

Bro. S. R. Walker, P.M., Sec., responding for himself, said he thanked the W.M. for re-appointing him. He offered his sincere congratulations to Bro. Wortham and good wishes for his year of office. He also thanked the brethren for their generous reception of the toast that night. On that occasion he felt especial pride in being appointed Secretary. One and all must recognise the wonderfully good balance of the lodge. He had now been a member of the lodge not nearly so long as Bro. Welford, but he was getting a little old and grey in the service, and that was the first time they had brought out the balance so large. When Bro. Welford was Master it was very nearly as much, but not quite. If they added the 60 guineas they gave in Charity last year, he ventured to think the Westbourne Lodge could hold its own not only with any lodge in the Metropolis, but with any lodge in the country. They had voted 20 guineas more that night. These donations showed that all the income did not go to the hotel, but that the brethren tried to help those who unfortunately could not help themselves. The lodge had had a very successful year. The brethren had seen the able way in which the W.M. had performed his duties that evening; could they doubt that he also would have a very successful year? The only reply he could give was that he could not have it without the co-operation of the officers and brethren, and that he would have that co-operation was assured.

The other toasts followed, and the brethren then dispersed.

Salisbury Lodge, No. 435.

A meeting of this lodge was held on the 15th inst., at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., when there were present Bros. E. Harris, W.M.; T. Compton Stanley, S.W.; W. Curry, J.W.; G. Pratt, P.M., Treas.; W. T. Ball, P.M., Sec.; C. Loram, S.D.; T. Harris, J.D.; R. T. Cook, I.G.; S. Lehmeier, Org.; J. W. Harding, P.M.; Tyler; Wilhelm Ganz, P.M., P.G. Org.; G. Michael, P.M.; D. Belinfante, P.M.; F. B. Ninns, P.M.; A. Schwerz, P.M.; N. H. Walker, T. W. Barrett, Geo. Paxton, and J. C. Simmonds. Visitors: Bros. T. W. Wright, 1725, P.P. S.G.D. Kent; Arthur Blenkarn, 2381, P.P.G.T. Middx.; A. R. Grieve, 702, P.P. J.G.W. Gloucester; G. R. Langley, 2381, P.P.G.D. Middx.; E. S. Berry, 2473, P.G. Supt. of Works; C. J. Axford, W.M. 2647, P.P.G.D.C. Middx.; G. W. Reed, P.M. 13; Jno. Read, P.M. 720, 2105, 2647, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; Richard Cane, P.M. 1287; T. H. Clear, W.M. 538; W. J. Songhurst, P.M. 227; C. N. McL. North, P.M. 1559; W. J. Baths, W.M. 1708; Chas. Davis, P.M. 1287; B. Stockman, 2331; H. C. Simmonds, 569; F. V. Duthoit, 1692; W. H. Stone, S.D. 2647; A. F. Harris, S.D. 2148; P. Gilliard, 1602; Runchman, 18; R. T. Grisenthwaite, J.W. 857; Baron Von Reiffenstein, I.G. 2647; R. H. Head, S.D. 1305; Geo. Stubbs, 771; A. L. Fryer, 1624; and J. C. Jackson, 65.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. A ballot was taken for Mr. J. C. Simmonds and Mr. Dudley Snoad, which proved in their favour, and Mr. Simmonds, being in attendance, was regularly initiated. This being the annual period of installation of W.M., Bro. T. Compton Stanley, who had been elected at the previous meeting to fill that office was presented by the D.C. to the W.M. and was by him regularly installed into the chair of King Solomon. The W.M. invested the following officers for the ensuing year: Bros. W. Curry, S.W.; C. Loram, J.W.; W. T. Ball, Sec.; T. Harris, S.D.; T. W. Baillie, J.D.; S. Lehmeier, Org.; N. H. Walker, I.G.; and T. W. Barrett, Stwd. The W.M. invested Bros. G. Pratt, P.M., as Treasurer, and J. W. Harding, P.M., as Tyler. A very pleasing incident took place just previous to the investiture of the officers, when



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

the newly-installed Master, Bro. T. Compton Stanley, presented a handsome set of officers' collars to the lodge, which, on the motion of Bro. Ball, was received with acclamation. The lodge was then closed.

Subsequently the brethren banqueted in the Drawing Room of the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the W.M., when an orchestral band, under the direction of Bro. J. Read, proved a special and agreeable feature.

Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.M., P.G. Org., who, on account of an important professional engagement, was obliged to leave before the termination of the banquet, obtained permission from the W.M. to say a few words before leaving, viz., that he, as an old P.M., on his own account and also on behalf of the lodge, wished to thank Bro. Compton Stanley for his generous present to the lodge of a handsome set of officers' collars; and, further, adding how much he appreciated the very excellent selection of music also provided by the generosity of the W.M., the additional orchestra during dinner being as unexpected as it was gratifying and appreciated by all.

The usual loyal and official toasts were duly given and responded to, these proceedings being interspersed with a choice selection of vocal and concerted music, also under the direction of Bro. John Read, assisted by Miss Edith Sexton, Miss Crooks, Miss Annie Wilson, and Bros. Lawrence Toger, G. Stubbs (both of St. Paul's Cathedra), and J. Hamilton, R.I.O. (solo flautist).

The visitors were unanimous in their praise of the very excellent working in the lodge, and still more gratified with the artistic musical arrangements, both during and after a most *recherché* banquet.

This most successful evening was brought to a close about 11 p.m.

New Cross Lodge, No. 1559.

The installation meeting of this prosperous and highly successful lodge was held at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, W.C., on Friday, the 11th instant. Present: Bros. J. S. Targett, W.M.; W. Meninger, J.W. and W.M. elect; E. Peroni, S.W.; A. Cogliati, I.P.M.; Thos. Grummant, P.M., Sec.; T. R. Busby, S.D.; A. Bonoldi, J.D.; S. E. Firminger, I.G.; J. D. Graham, P.M., D.C.; Carlo Grassi, P.M., A. Peria, and H. G. Walden, Stwds.; J. Li Calsi, P.M., Org.; J. Whiteman, Tyler; E. H. Thielay, P.M.; H. W. P. Makeham, P.M.; Geo. Mounter, P.M.; G. P. Bertini, P.M.; T. Winsor, P.M.; A. Cariello, J. W. Wilson, W. Knill, J. J. Hobden, L. French, W. R. Gibbs, C. Allis, A. Hammond, A. Odone, L. Azario, A. Audagua, L. H. Leber, A. Bellini, B. Baglioni, C. A. Antonelli, Oscar Knopf, A. Mumford, D. Lewis, M. Erde, P. Cavalli, W. J. Ingram, M. Fiori, E. Abre, W. A. Sutch, G. Honour, A. Tinelli, A. D. Masterson, J. B. Rouard, G. Fietta, A. Crippa, Otto Wartmann, O. Davia, F. Zappelloni, G. F. Dyer, R. Livsey, A. Formaggia, J. Hansford, G. Bazzi, E. Manners, C. Norwak, E. F. Cocciolotti, and E. Carmine. The visitors were Bros. the Rev. A. Jackson, P.M. 77, P.P.G. Chap. Kent; F. Hunt, P.M. 771, Prov. A.G. D.C. Berks; H. Hardman, P.P.A. Sec. North Wales; G. S. Elliott, P.M. 749; W. R. Barr, P.M. 1632; G. G. Benedetti, P.M. 1155; J. W. Heath, P.M. 1767; J. W. Sparrow, P.M. 1489; Woolmer Williams, P.M. 1275; F. W. Stephens, P.M. 1348; Frank Swinford, J.W. 2272, P.P.G. Org. Middx.; A. H. P. Snow, S.D. 2191; Thos. Cox, J.W. 753; S. Ayling, 2128; A. C. Duval, 2060; J. Cattaneo, 1507; J. W. Murray, 1441; A. Yockelson, 2579; W. Reeve, 901; A. C. Brett, 2601; F. Elliott, 749; H. G. Burgess, 2454; W. Elliott, 749; A. Court, 1539; G. Blakesley, 177; G. Boizot, 349; J. Chousette, 2060; R. H. Booth, 2168; J. Rowe, 2191; W. C. Brownfield, 957; G. May, 2000; Chas. Gee, 1527; J. Kohl, 511; W. A. Bowman, 2427; and G. Schuman, 205.

The minutes of the regular meeting (December 10th) and emergency meeting (January 14th) were read and confirmed. The Auditors presented their report, which showed the lodge to be in a sound financial position. A ballot was taken for Messrs. E. Carmine, Oreste Davia, G. F. Dyer, and Wm. A. Sutch, and, proving unanimous, they were initiated by Bro. J. S. Targett, W.M., in an exemplary manner. Bro. J. D. Graham, P.M., D. of C., next presented Bro. W. Menninger, I.W., W.M. elect, to Bro. Thomas Grummant, P.M., to receive from him the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in an impressive and perfect manner, to the delight of all the brethren, and particularly the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and the brethren. A beautiful carved charity-box was presented to the lodge by Bro. Thos. Grummant, P.M., Sec. Bro. Wilhelm Menninger, W.M., invested the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. E. Peroni, S.W.; T. R. Busby, J.W.; J. S. Targett, I.P.M.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M., Treas.; Thos. Grummant, P.M., Sec.; A. Bonoldi, S.D.; S. E. Firminger, I.D.; A. Peria, I.G.; J. Li Calsi, P.M., Org.; Carlo Grassi, P.M., D.C.; J. D. Graham, P.M., H. G. Walden, and Otto Wartmann, Stwds.; and J. Whiteman, Tyler.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet, which was thoroughly appreciated after so much business.

The W.M. proposed the loyal and Masonic toasts in excellent style, which were loyally received.

Also that of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," which was given in terms of high commendation.

Bro. J. S. Targett, I.P.M., rose, and in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," said that he considered the present year would be second to none in prosperity. He was confident that the W.M. would do his very best for the benefit of the New Cross Lodge, and he would ask the brethren to give the toast a most cordial reception.

The W.M., Bro. Menninger, most suitably replied that it would be his utmost endeavour to promote the prosperity and uphold the prestige of the lodge. He had a most pleasing duty to perform, and that was to present to the I.P.M., Bro. J. S. Targett, the handsome Past Master's jewel which he so well deserved for his services rendered to the lodge for the past year, and the brethren had so unanimously voted him. He had the greatest pleasure in presenting it, with the hope that he would live many years to wear the same in the New Cross Lodge.

The toast of "The Initiates," presented by the W.M., received a most cordial welcome, and showed an increase of strength to the lodge.

Bros. Carmine, Davia, Dyer, and Sutch very suitably replied.

In presenting the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. said the lodge was honoured by many distinguished brethren, and they were all heartily welcomed. The long array was read out, but he would ask Bros. Hunt, Prov. A.G.D.C. Berks; Rev. A. Jackson, P. Prov. G. Chap. Kent; Heath, P.M. 1767; and G. S. Elliott, P.M. 749, to respond.

Bro. Hunt replied with thanks on behalf of himself and visitors for the very kind hospitality accorded them. It was peculiarly gratifying to him to see the W.M. in his exalted position, as they were very old friends. He was confident the W.M. would prove himself worthy and be a credit to the lodge. He congratulated the lodge upon their initial effort in the cause of charity, alluding to the Charity Box so kindly presented by the worthy Secretary, Bro. T. Grummant, P.M., and which, on being handed round the lodge, was found to contain over £2. That was extremely gratifying, and he also referred to the large accession of initiates to the lodge.

Bro. Rev. A. Jackson, P. Prov. G. Chap. Kent, said he could hardly tell them how pleased he was to be once more among the brethren of the New Cross Lodge. It was his privilege to visit many lodges throughout the Province of Kent, but that lodge was in another territory. He mentioned the great Exhibition of 1851, as being designed to bring into closer union all nationalities; but he considered the New Cross Lodge was doing and realising the ideal of Universal Brotherhood on a smaller scale which the great world's friends of '51 did not do. He also expressed the wish that he often felt he should like to visit those countries in which many of the brethren present, members of the New Cross Lodge, drew their first breath, but being unable he, however, instead of visiting the country had the pleasure of seeing many worthy brethren who were natives and that was nearly as great a pleasure. He concluded by wishing the W.M. a pleasant and prosperous year of office.

Bro. Heath, P.M. 1767, very kindly alluded to the great number of brethren of different nationalities in the lodge, all met together in perfect accord. That fact alone he said, was likely to enlarge the minds and multiply the ideas of the brethren, and he was glad to find all were sailing under the one time honoured flag—Charity. He complimented the array of musical talent, and his thanks were due to the J.W., who had so cordially invited him to the lodge.

Bro. G. S. Elliott, P.M. 749, mentioned his previous visits to the New Cross Lodge and the pleasure it always gave him to be present. He highly complimented Bro. Targett, I.P.M., in whom had been realised all that was predicted of him a year ago. He also eulogised the previous speakers upon the capable speeches.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of "The Past Masters," in terms of high praise and that they were a capable body to emulate.

Bro. Targett, I.P.M., in response, thanked the brethren for the beautiful jewel, which he said he should always wear with feelings of pride, and regard with affection. He wished the W.M. long life and happiness and a prosperous and successful year of office.

Bro. Thiellay, P.M., Treas., thanked the W.M. for the very kind manner he had proposed the toast and also for the very kind reception by the brethren. Also he stated how proud he was of the honour bestowed upon him in electing him Treasurer and he could not refrain from mentioning how faithfully the funds had been guarded for so many years by Bro. Wm. Cowley, P.M., whom all regretted that he was unable to remain the Treasurer, through indisposition. He assured the brethren that nothing should prevent him from efficiently carrying out the duties of Treasurer in the future, as they had been in the past, and he hoped the lodge would still continue to flourish.

Bro. Thos. Grummant, P.M., Sec., remarked that he was somewhat glad that he had to respond somewhat late in the evening, from the fact that he and the Treasurer were of such a retiring and modest disposition and there were not so many brethren present to listen to their humble replies. He was pleased to say it was the 10th Master he had acted as Secretary to in the New Cross Lodge, and from the first year of his duties when there were 30 members the number had now increased to over 100, therefore of necessity the Secretarial duties had also greatly increased. But so long as he was so kindly treated by the brethren and such a bond of brotherhood existed in the lodge, his best services were at their disposal. He thanked the members for their liberal support to the Charities, and spoke of the Centenary Festival of the Boys, which was likely to be the most successful and promised to produce the largest subscription list to any of the Masonic Charities. He hoped the New Cross Lodge, which was being represented at that festival, would not be very far down upon the list, and concluded his remarks by saying that Charity silently given, would one day be openly proclaimed. He most cordially thanked them.

The toast of "The Officers" was ably presented by the W.M., and duly responded to by the Senior and Junior Wardens.

The Tyler's toast terminated a most cordial and happy meeting. An excellent programme of music was arranged by Bro. F. Swinford Smith, P.P. G. Org. Middx., very ably assisted by Bros. A. Court, G. May, and Fred. Stephens. Bro. Frank S. Smith ably presided at the piano.

St. Clement's Lodge, No. 2442.

The installation meeting of this young, but flourishing, lodge was held at the Bell Hotel, Leigh-on-Sea, on Saturday, the 12th inst. There were present Bros. H. Barrow, W.M.; F. England, S.W., W.M. elect; G. Mills, J.W.; F. F. Ramuz, Treas.; A. J. Ray, Sec.; A. R. Ray, J.D.; J. A. Bundock and E. P. Ray, Stewards; A. W. Martin, P.G.T., Tyler; T. J. Kalling, P.A.G.D.C. England, P.G. Sec.; G. J. Glascock, P.P.G.S.B.; C. Floyd, P.P.A.G.P.; W. E. Bridgeland, P.P.G.S.B.; G. Thomas, P.P.G. Std. Br.; W. Beecroft, P.P.A.G.P.; A. J. Marden, P.A.G.D.C.; F. J. Cumine, P.M., P.P.G.S.; H. C. Borradaile, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Bowmaker, W.M. 1000; J. Spencer, W.M. 1437; W. H. Judd, W.M. 1734; J. Berry, W.M. 1817; R. Ayton, P.M., Treas. 931; H. B. Dickens, W.M. 2346; W. F. Cheesman, P.M., Sec. 2346; and many London brethren.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and the following candidates were balloted for and afterwards initiated: Messrs. G. Egerton W. Motion, E. G. Carmen, and W. J. Sutton. The following were balloted for and elected joining members: Bros. A. J. Arthy, P.M. 160; H. B. Dickens, W.M. 2346; and J. T. Robey,

P.M. 1804. Bro. F. England, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to Bro. H. Barrow to receive from him the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in a Board of 14 Installed Masters in an exemplary manner. Bro. F. England invested Bro. H. Barrow as I.P.M., and the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. G. Mills, S.W.; J. H. Johnson, J.W.; Rev. R. Stuart King, M.A., Chap.; F. F. Ramuz, Treas.; A. J. Ray, Sec.; A. R. Ray, S.D.; T. A. Bundock, J.D.; E. P. Ray, I.G.; C. Spence, D.C.; W. H. Stevenson, Org.; E. H. Larchin and Dr. Vernon, Stwds.; and A. W. Martin, P.G.T., Tyler.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Middleton Hotel, Southend, for the banquet, which was served in excellent style by the host, Bro. W. T. Buxton, and expressions of satisfaction were in evidence by those who partook of the same.

The W.M., in giving the loyal and Masonic toasts, said 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 Grand Master, who was beloved by all Masons; and that the Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and all the Grand Officers were excellent Masons.

Bro. H. Barrow, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said it was a most pleasurable duty. They had all watched Bro. England's zealous work in the lodge for years past, which had led up to his present position of W.M. He had been most punctual in his attendances, and had given the brethren entire satisfaction in his admirable working. He had a glorious year before him, as he had proposed five candidates for his first initiation ceremony, which augured well for St. Clement's, and when the brethren drank that toast, he was sure they all wished him a happy and successful year of office.

In reply, Bro. F. England, W.M., said he rose with great diffidence to reply to the toast, so very kindly submitted by Bro. H. Barrow, 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. H. Barrow, who really had excelled himself; but his endeavour would be to uphold the prestige and dignity of St. Clement's Lodge. He should be pleased to have plenty of work, with the infusion of good new blood into the lodge, so that his year of office would be marked with success, and at its close he hoped to receive the approbation of all the brethren.

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

Bros. Bowmaker, Spencer, and Berry, most ably responded, all congratulating the lodge on its excellent working, and especially on the installation, so ably performed by the Installing Master, Bro. H. Barrow, I.P.M.

The W.M. then proposed the toast of "Bro. H. Barrow, the Installing Master," who had performed his duties in a magnificent manner, thus adding much force, vigour, and earnestness in his work, and was an example well worthy of being copied.

In reply, Bro. H. Barrow 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. His position as W.M. of the lodge was unique, it being the Diamond Jubilee of her Majesty, and he heartily thanked the brethren for the handsome jewel the W.M. had pinned on his breast that evening.

The toasts of "The Prov. Grand Officers" and "The Past Masters" were given and responded to in a very hearty manner. They had always a deep interest in the lodge and its officers, but never a deeper than at the present time.

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

Bros. G. Mills, as S.W.; F. F. Ramuz, as Treas.; A. J. Ray, as Sec.; and A. R. Ray, as S.D., most appropriately replied.

The Tyler's toast closed a very happy and eventful meeting.

A capital programme of music, under the direction of Bro. W. H. Stevenson, was ably rendered by Miss Dickens, Bro. W. F. Cheesman, P.M., Mr. Whiteman Bros. Judd, Stevenson, Cumine, and E. H. Stevens (clarinet).

Hugh Owen Lodge, No. 2593.

A meeting of this prosperous Poor Law Service lodge was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 14th ultimo, when the W.M., Bro. H. G. Holland, P.M., presided, assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. R. H. Nicholls, S.W.; J. W. Hunt, J.W.; the Rev. F. G. Greenwood, Chap.; Dr. W. C. Griggs, P.M., Treas.; H. Roberts, Sec.; J. H. Rutherglen, I.P.M.; H. Ramsbottom, S.D.; C. J. Ridgway, J.D.; J. D. Edward A. Frith, I.G.; T. Willis, A.D.C.; J. B. Schrader, Org.; A. E. Lee, Stwd.; W. B. Neville, P.M.; T. B. Warwick, J. G. Swinton, T. Badcock, Alf. A. Burden, F. Wilmott, E. Burges, W. M. Ball, Robt. Brown, James Barnett, H. Spencer, H. T. Kobelt, Chas. Spencer, T. A. Marsh, J. Lamb, M. F. Cadman, and A. A. Hunt. Visitors: Bros. the Rev. J. F. Downes, P.P. G. Chap. Herts; and G. L. Linnell, 1531.

It being the last meeting of the season, a large amount of work had to be accomplished, which was carried through with tact and ability. The lodge having been opened and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, the W.M., in a clear and impressive manner, duly raised Bro. F. Wilmott to the Degree of a M.M. and invested him as such, and also passed Bro. W. M. Ball to the Second Degree. Bro. Edwin Candy, of the Bangaloss Lodge, was unanimously elected a joining member. The by-laws of the lodge having been read, the election of the administrative for the ensuing year was proceeded with, the proclamation of the ballot being unanimous in favour of Bro. R. H. Nicholls, who was received with very great pleasure. The much respected and highly appreciated Bro. Dr. Griggs, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer; Bro. Jno. Lee was elected Tyler, and an Audit and General Purposes Committee were elected.

All Masonic business being ended and the lodge closed, the brethren adjourned to a banquet, which was duly appreciated.

After the banquet, the usual toasts were proceeded with. "Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria and the Craft" was received and drunk with loyal and patriotic fervour, as also was that of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

The other toasts were all duly honoured.

Bro. J. H. Rutherglen, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," stated how proud he was at the able manner in which the W.M. had performed the duties devolving upon the office of Master during the year and at the manner in which he had occupied the chair; this being the last time, he was most gratified to say, he had presided at the close as he had at the start, with skill, ability, and consideration; he had been informed by the W.M. that he had had two previous experiences of leaving the Master's chair but he never left it with greater regret than he should that time; he thanked the brethren for the resolution to present their W.M. with a jewel, as it not only went to demonstrate that he had succeeded in his endeavours to discharge his duties and at the same time retained their affection; he was bound to say it was a proud decoration, and being worn, as is the rule at every Masonic meeting, proved to the brotherhood the estimation in which the owner was held.

The W.M., in responding, thanked the brethren for the kind manner in which they had received the toast of his health. It was not new, it had been the same the whole period of his Mastership, they had not only been loyal to him but he had experienced a large amount of affection, which only enhanced the regret with which he should leave the chair. He had ever endeavoured to strengthen the bond of fraternity and equality; he did not believe that any association built on the one man principle ever prospered, they were all members, and he was pleased to say that it was each one's pleasure to make each other happy, from Master to initiate, and that all joined in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness to others.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Health of Bro. R. H. Nicholls, S.W., the Master elect," he eulogised him not only as to his Masonic knowledge but also as to his generous nature, and trusted that he would have a very prosperous year of office.

Bro. Nicholls replied in a few concise and well selected remarks.

The next toast was that of "The Visitors," in reply to which Bro. Rev. J. F. Downes, P.P.G.C. Herts, stated that it gave him peculiar pleasure, inasmuch as for many years he had been associated with the W.M. in the province of which he was a past officer, and also that the Treasurer was a W.M. of his mother lodge. He was bound to admit as a poor law officer that he always apprehended that the lodge would have the taint of shop, which was one thing to be deplored, but he had learned to know, like many more, that he had reckoned without his host; what he had seen that evening had dispelled any such notion. The working and musical portions of the ceremony were

most impressive and the hospitality was grand, so far that if the Rontgen Rays were employed it would be impossible to discover a skeleton at the feast.

Bro. Linnell also suitably replied.

Bros. Rutherglen, I.P.M.; Dr. Griggs, P.M., Treas.; and Roberts, Sec.; responded as also did the other officers to their toast.

A collection on behalf of the Benevolent and Orphan Funds of the Poor Law Officers Association, was made and produced £2, which with the collection at the last lodge meeting made a total of £5.

A most satisfactory and enjoyable meeting was closed with the Tyler's toast.

Granite Lodge, No. 1328.

The installation meeting of this well-known lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, on Saturday, the 12th instant. Bros. Charles Smith, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Valentine J. R. Longman, S.W., W.M. elect; E. Faux, I.P.M.; H. F. Gidden, J.W.; Frederick West, P.G.D., Treas.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; H. Parkinson, S.D.; T. Wilson, P.M., D.C.; F. L. Day, I.G.; C. T. Rayner, A.D.C.; J. G. Wyatt and W. H. Arnold, Stewards; Major R. Payne, P.M.; R. Philip Upton, P.M.; F. Swain, P.M.; W. T. Tonkin, P.M.; F. H. Hardcastle, P.M.; R. White, P.M.; A. Keen, J. Ewings, G. B. Godson, J. B. Boyle, E. P. Woodman, G. A. Lansdown, W. H. Mundell, Percy A. Timbs, and C. Patrick, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. Stevenson Hoyte, P.G. Org.; F. H. Mitchell, P.P. S.G.D. Somerset; W. S. Hooper, W.M. 2488 and P.M. 1987; Walter Hancock, P.M. 2191; Hilton Carter, 2454; L. S. Burt, 766; C. Isler; Alfred England, 1216; W. Rapley, S.W. 1987; H. L. Sarson, 2000; W. Unwin, 1614; C. M. Coxon, P.M. 1471; R. B. Chessum, 1365; E. F. Debenham, P.M.; W. R. G. Emerson, 45; W. Physick; H. F. Roberts; F. A. Walton; H. Northcroft; J. C. Osterstock; L. A. Pearce; A. Woolsey; G. Simpson; A. V. Hubert; J. M. Bathgale; Captain J. Dundas; Edward Beard; W. G. Bond; W. G. McCombie; E. J. Chants; G. H. Jennings; Temple Brodie; E. H. M. Gunn; G. Bailey Thoms; G. W. N. Watts; S. Morley; H. Brandon White; W. Briggs; H. Nowell; T. Cornfoot; Kendal Ward; and R. T. West.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted, and the W.M., Bro. Charles Smith, passed Bro. John Ewings to the Second Degree. The working of Bro. Charles Smith was performed in a very able manner. Before vacating the chair the W.M. stated that it was the ambition of every W.M. to instal his successor, and he would have done so had not Bro. Major R. Payne, P.M., expressed a wish some months ago to have the privilege of installing the W.M. elect, Bro. V. J. Rod Longman, he having brought him into the lodge and been associated with him since he was a boy, so that he (the W.M.) readily acceded to Bro. Major Payne's request. Bro. Major Payne then occupied the chair, and, in a few chosen words, expressed his gratitude to Bro. Charles Smith for allowing him to have the great privilege and pleasure of installing his very dear friend, the W.M. elect. Bro. Valentine J. Rod Longman, W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C., and installed by Bro. Major R. Payne, P.M., in a most exemplary manner. The following brethren were appointed and invested officers for the ensuing 12 months: Bros. Charles Smith, I.P.M.; H. F. Gidden, S.W.; H. Parkinson,



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

J.W.; Fred. West, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; F. Lang Day, S.D.; C. T. Rainer, J.D.; J. G. Wyatt, I.G.; R. Philip Upton, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Arnold, A.D.C.; Arthur Keen and G. A. Lansdown, Stewards; and C. Patrick, P.M., Tyler. In appropriate terms, the W.M., Bro. Longman, presented Bro. Charles Smith, I.P.M., on behalf of the lodge, with a Past Master's jewel, remarking that his duty was a very pleasant one, as he (Bro. Smith) had worked very hard and thoroughly deserved the jewel which he asked him to accept as a small token of their great regard for him and appreciation of his efforts on behalf of the lodge, and might he have long life to wear it and have every happiness. In an earnest but very brief speech, Bro. Charles Smith, I.P.M., acknowledged the jewel. Letters were read from Bros. Howard Room, P.G.S.B.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; W. J. Mason, P.M., P.P.G.D. Surrey; and others, regretting their inability to attend. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and on the motion of Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C., the sum of 10 guineas was voted to be placed on the list of the W.M. representing the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming centenary festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

As a preface to the toasts, the W.M. stated that if brevity was the soul of wit, he would be very brief as he was not a speechmaker, and they had a long musical programme to get through.

The W.M. gave the customary loyal and Masonic toasts which were duly honoured.

In giving "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. said that they were honoured with the presence of three Grand Officers, two of whom were members of the Granite Lodge, and of whom they were very proud. The Grand Officers were always willing to do their utmost for the Craft, and he had much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Bro. W. S. Hoyte, P.G. Org.

Bro. W. S. Hoyte, P.G. Org., returned thanks on behalf of the Grand Officers for the way the toast had been received, and observed that he must obey the command of the W.M. and be brief. He had often been a visitor there, and it was a red-letter day for him to attend the installation meetings of their good lodge, and as long as his friend, Bro. Fredk. West, P.G.D., asked him, as he had hitherto always done, he would gladly come.

Bro. C. Smith, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Longman." He

said that it was the one privilege devolved upon him to propose the toast, but it was a very important one. He and the W.M. had been travelling for years in the lodge, and he left the chair with much regret, but that was somewhat lessened because he was succeeded by Bro. Longman, who was not only a thorough worker, but a most genial and very good fellow. They had done the correct thing in electing him as W.M., as it would be difficult to find a better. He would have two initiates at the next meeting, when they would see his working of the ritual, which he had no hesitation in saying would be perfect.

The W.M., Bro. Longman, on rising to respond, was enthusiastically received. He said that he very much appreciated the kind words of the I.P.M., Bro. Charles Smith, and he thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which they had received the toast, but words failed him to adequately express what he felt. For years he had aspired to the chair of W.M., and he had filled nearly all the offices in the lodge. He had a splendid pattern in the officers who had gone before him, and he hoped to follow well in their footsteps, and he would, to the best of his ability, do everything for Masonry, and for the Granite Lodge in particular.

In submitting the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. stated that it was a most important one in the lodge, as the members were always glad to have a large number of guests to see the working of the lodge, because they were proud enough to think that the working there was the best in London, and they were glad to have criticism. He need hardly say they were all specially welcome, and they would be glad to see them again and again. He associated with the toast the names of Bros. F. Harris Mitchell—who was his oldest and dearest friend—H. Brandon White, Captain J. Dundas, and Walter Hancock.

Bro. F. Harris Mitchell, P.P.S.G.D. Somerset, responded, and said that was a momentous occasion because he was the oldest personal friend of the W.M. and to see him installed was a great pleasure and he had come from the West England, but against his doctor's orders. The W.M. had given him great support in Somerset and did him the honour of attending his (Bro. Mitchell's) installation, and their W.M. was very much respected in the place that he came from. The W.M. would, he felt, go higher in the Craft and he congratulated the members on having such an excellent ruler.

Bros. H. Brandon White, Capt. J. Dundas, and Walter Hancock, P.M., also acknowledged the toast.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Installing Master, Bro. Major Payne, P.M.," and said they all knew how splendidly he always did his work and he was honoured to have been installed by his very old and dear friend, and he was certain that no one could have done it better.

Bro. Major Payne, P.M., who was accorded a very hearty reception, responded. He said it would be hypocrisy on his part if he did not express how gratified he was to have the honour of installing the W.M., whom he had introduced into the lodge. He was a good man, a true Mason, and one of the best of friends. If the Great Architect would spare him (Bro. Payne) to perform the installation ceremony once again, he hoped some day to instal his son-in-law. They were delighted to have the large number of visitors that evening, and he trusted they would never think less of the lodge.

In giving "The I.P.M. and Past Masters," the W.M. observed that they were blessed with a splendid body, and the members well knew and appreciated their great capabilities, and it was through them that he (the W.M.) took such a great interest in the lodge, and he hoped ever to do so. Bro. F. Swain, P.M., initiated him, and he had much pleasure in coupling his name and those of Bros. T. Wilson, P.M., and R. Philip Upton, P.M., with the toast.

Bro. Swain, P.M., responded. He stated that the Past Masters were always well received in the lodge. He initiated the Worshipful Master, and he was gratified to see him installed.

Bros. T. Wilson, P.M., and R. Philip Upton, P.M., also acknowledged the toast in brief, but eloquent, terms.

The W.M. gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," and said that he was very proud to have two members of the purple to hold those important offices. They could not have a better Treasurer, and as to the Secretary, he was most courteous and dear to them all. The Treasurer had had to leave, and he associated with the toast the name of the Secretary.

Bro. J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C., Secretary, stated that he had a dual office in responding, as the Treasurer, Bro. F. West, P.G.D., lived out of town, and had had to go. He was a splendid Treasurer, and much devoted to the lodge. As to his self, that was the 25th year of his being Secretary of the lodge—(great applause)—his silver wedding in the lodge—and 20 years a Grand Officer; and he had the honour of being invested personally by the M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and for 50 years he had been a member of the Craft. He had the welfare of the lodge very much at heart, and if he was spared he would be glad to do all he could to promote its interests. The lodge had always had excellent Worshipful Masters, and their newly-installed W.M., would, he was certain, be quite equal to those who had preceded him.

At this point Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., arrived, and the W.M. proposed, as an extra toast, "The Charities," remarking that it was certainly not out of place, as everything that Freemasons had greatly at heart was Charity.

Bro. J. M. McLeod responded. He said that he was sorry to have arrived so late, but he had attended three other lodges that evening, and he thought he would put in an appearance at their lodge, as he hoped to do some business there, and he thanked them for the great support they had given to the three Institutions. He was glad the W.M. had consented to go up as Steward to the Centenary Festival of the Boy's Institution, and he hoped that his list would be a record in the traditions of their excellent lodge.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was heartily proposed by the W.M., and was responded to, in happy and appropriate terms, by Bros. H. F. Gidden, S.W., and H. Parkinson, J.W., and the very pleasant and successful gathering terminated with the Tyler's toast.

The Professional Students of the Guildhall School of Music, under the able direction of Bro. Hilton Carter, were responsible for the vocal entertainments, which was one of the very best, and was much appreciated. The following were the artistes: Miss Maude Ballard, A.G.S.M., Miss Maude Clough, Miss Fanny Woolf, Mr. Douglas Boxall, and the Guildhall Glee Singers—being Mr. Arthur Burford, Mr. Frederick Williams, Bro. Herbert Simmons, and Mr. Charles Hinchliff.

Bro. Val. J. Rod Longman, the W.M., was initiated in the Granite Lodge, No. 1328, in 1885, and exalted in the Granite Chapter in 1896, and he is a Life Governor of the three Institutions. Our brother is very enthusiastic, has the highest interests of Freemasonry at heart, and under his vigorous rule the Granite Lodge will, we have no doubt, continue to prosper.

Royal Arch.

Panmure Chapter, No. 720.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 14th instant, at the Horns Hotel, Kennington. Present: Comps. W. J. Songhurst, M.E.Z.; John Read, P.Z., P.G. Org., D.C., as H.; J. W. Stevens, J.; F. A. Powell, P.Z., S.E.; A. E. Mullins, S.N.; Remington, P.S.; Parsons, 1st A.S.; H. E. Mullins, 2nd A.S.; Tofts, Steward; Gregory, Janitor; Tilling, P.Z.; and Newlands. Visitors: Comps. C. J. Axford, P.Z., P.P. G.S.B. Middx., and Jones.

The chapter was opened, and after the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, a ballot was taken for Bros. Walter James Mars and Fletcher J. Ritson, which proved in their favour, and these brethren were regularly exalted to the Degree of R.A. Masons in a most efficient manner by the M.E.Z. This being the annual period of election of Principals and officers, a ballot was taken, when Comp. J. W. Stevens, F.R.I.B.A., J., was elected as M.E.Z. for the ensuing year, and Comps. A. E. Mullins, as H.; Remington, J.; F. A. Powell, P.Z., P.G.S.N. Monmouth, S.E.; Newlands, S.N.; Parsons, P.S.; H. E. Mullins, 1st A.S.; Tofts, 2nd A.S.; and Gregory, Janitor. It was proposed by Comp. J. W. Stevens, J., seconded by Comp. Tilling, P.Z., that in consideration of the past services rendered by Comp. John Read, P.G. Org., founder and first M.E.Z. 1865 of this chapter, that he be elected a life member with all the rights and privileges of a full subscribing member. This was carried unanimously. Comp. John Read, P.Z., in a few short and suitable remarks, thanked the companions for the honour conferred upon him. A proposition by Comp. F. A. Powell, S.E., seconded by Comp. Newland, that at the next meeting of this chapter a P.Z.'s jewel be presented to the M.E.Z. W. J. Songhurst, on his retirement from the first chair, for his able

and efficient performance of his duties during the past year and previously, and also as a slight token of the high esteem and regard in which he is held by every member of the chapter. This proposition on being put by Comp. John Read, P.Z., and father of the chapter, was enthusiastically carried. An audit meeting was appointed, and nothing further offering the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to banquet, being presided over by the M.E.Z.

After banquet, a choice selection of vocal music was given under the direction of Comp. J. Read, by Miss Edith Sexton, Miss R. Crooks, Miss Annie Wilson, Bros. Fryer and George Stubbs, both of St. Paul's Cathedral, and humorous recitations of Comps. Ritsen and Jones, bringing a very successful meeting to a pleasant and delightful ending.

Gladsmuir Chapter, No. 1385.

The installation meeting was held at the Red Lion Hotel, High Barnet, on Friday, the 18th instant, when there were present Comps. M. E. W. Woodrow, R. Cranston, and G. Blizard Abbott, who occupied the chairs of M.E.Z., H., and J. respectively; Comps. W. Lewis, P.Z., P.P.A.G.S., S.E.; W. Baddeley, S.N.; John Brittain, P.Z., P.P. A.G.S., Treas.; J. G. Cobb, P.Z., Prov. G.S.B.; J. E. Overed, P.S.; W. T. Boyce, Steward; Dr. Haskins, Org.; F. G. Mason, and others. Comp. Marchant was a visitor.

The minutes of October convocation having been read and confirmed, the ceremonies of installation were proceeded with, and Comp. Lewis, P.Z., installed Comp. Cranston in the chair of First Principal, while the M.E.Z. installed Comp. Abbott as his successor in the chair of H., and Comp. Abbott his successor in the chair of J.—Comp. J. E. Overed. The following, who had been elected to office in October, were, with the exception of two or three who were unavoidably absent, invested with the insignia of their respective offices: Comps. W. Lewis, P.Z., S.E.; W. Baddeley, S.N.; J. Brittain, P.Z., Treas.; J. Gravatt, P.S.; W. T. Boyce, 1st A.S.; W. J. James, 2nd A.S.; Graddage and Batho, Stwds.; Dr. Haskins, Org.; and R. W. Goddard, Janitor. The audit report was read, adopted, and entered on the minutes, and, on the motion of Comp. J. Brittain, seconded by the M.E.Z., a sum of £5 5s. was voted from the chapter funds as a donation to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be placed on the list of Comp. F. G. Mason, as Steward representing the Gladsmuir Lodge. A sum of £5 5s. was also voted for the purchase of a P.Z.'s jewel to be presented to Comp. Woodrow, I.P.Z.

Comp. Brittain having been elected to represent the chapter on the Board of Finance of Prov. Grand Chapter and the Hertfordshire Masonic Committee, the remaining business was transacted, and the chapter closed.

The companions afterwards dined together, and honoured the usual toast list, a very hearty reception being accorded to the toasts of "The M.E.Z." and "The I.P.Z." Comp. Cranston, in proposing the latter, took the opportunity of presenting to Comp. Woodrow the jewel which had previously been voted him by the chapter in recognition of his services as First Principal during the past year, and as a mark of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the members.

United Service Chapter, No. 1428.

The installation meeting of this large and flourishing chapter took place at the Masonic Club, Commercial-road, Portsmouth, on Friday, the 18th inst. The following past and present Provincial Officers were present: Comps. C. G. Holmes, 342, P.A. G.S.; G. F. Lancaster, P.P.G.J., P.A.G. Sec.; J. Jackson, P.P.G.D.C.; W. Miller, P.P.A.G.D.C.; J. Miles, P.P.G.G. Sid. Br.; W. Stewart, P.P.G. Std. Br.; G. Williams, P.P.A.G.D.C., R. G. Pither, P.P.G.D.C., and H. S. Duke, S.E. (S.C.), P.P.G.C., Province of Bombay, all of 2063; W. Baker, H. 1776; and upwards of 40 companions. Comp. W. Stewart carried out the duties of Installing Principal in a very able manner, and proceeded to instal Comp. R. H. Plattin, H., M.E.Z. elect, J. 903, as First Principal; T. White, J., as Second Principal; R. Wyatt, P.S., as Third Principal. The First Principal, Comp. R. H. Plattin, M.E.Z., then invested the other officers as follows: Comps. W. Miller, S.E.; C. Stuart, S.N.; J. Jackson, Treas.; C. Lawrence, P.S.; R. Rennison, 1st A.S.; W. R. Pearson, 2nd A.S.; G. R. Strick, D.C.; M. Wyatt, Stwd.; and G. Carter, Janitor. The I.P.M. then gave the customary addresses to the officers and companions. The First Principal, in proposing a vote of thanks to the I.P.Z., to be recorded on the minutes, paid a high and very deserved tribute to Comp. Stewart for the excellent and efficient manner in which the installation ceremony had been carried out, and for the great interest he had always taken in the working and welfare of the chapter. Comp. Stewart, in returning thanks, said it always gave him very great pleasure to do all he possibly could for the interest of the chapter.

The companions then adjourned to the banquet room, where the usual Masonic toasts were gone through.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

A meeting of this chapter was held on the 8th inst., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, by dispensation from the Grand Chapter. Among those in attendance were Comps. Harfeld, P.Z., Treas., as First Principal in the absence of Comp. Blankley; Hill, H.; Witthaus, J.; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Johnstone, P.S.; Major T. C. Walls, P.D.G.D.C., P.S.; N. Moss, J.P., P.Z.; W. Cleghorn, P.Z.; Staley, P.Z.; Hardy, P.Z.; Eislemann, P.Z.; Huish, and Foskett.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, the S.E. read the dispensation empowering the members of the chapter to meet at Anderton's till a permanent place of meeting was agreed to. A Committee consisting of the Three Principals, S.E., Treasurer, and Comp. Cleghorn, P.Z., was appointed to consider the matter, and in due time to report to the chapter. The following elections then took place: Comps. Hill, M.E.Z.; Witthaus, H.; Johnstone, J.; G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Hanbury, S.N.; Harfeld, P.Z., Treas.; Huish, P.S.; Foskett, 1st Asst. Soj.; and Franklin, 2nd Asst. Soj. The election of a Janitor was postponed. A Past Principal's jewel was voted to the First Principal. It having been pointed out that the second Tuesday would be Easter Tuesday, it was resolved to apply for a dispensation to enable the chapter to meet on the third Tuesday instead. The M.E.Z. and S.N. sent apologies for non-attendance. The chapter was then closed.

The I.P.Z. presided over the banquet, which was well-served, and gave every satisfaction.

The toasts were not only most fluently proposed by the Chairman, but were characterised by originality of expression.

Red Cross of Rome & Constantine.

Premier Conclave, No. 1.

A meeting of this conclave was held on the 7th inst., at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Among those present were Sir Knights W. A. Scurrah, M.P.S.; L. Steele, V.E.; G. J. Phillips, J.G.; H. J. Lardner, P.G.C., P.M.P.S., Treas.; Maj. T. C. Walls, P.G.G., P.M.P.S., Recorder; J. Purrott, G.S., P.M.P.S.; G. Graveley, P.M.P.S.; E. P. Moore, R. Barnes, H. Humphries, and Major G. Cockle, and Frater L. G. Reinhardt.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read, the sum of five guineas was voted to the R.M.I. for Boys, per Sir Knight H. J. Lardner, P.M.P.S., as Steward (Centenary Festival). Apologies for non-attendance were received from Sir Knights C. E. Keyser, J.P., M.A., P.G.G., P.M.P.S.; G. Powell, P.G.G., P.M.P.S.; E. H. Thiellay, P.M.P.S.; and others. The Recorder announced that the Grand Conclave would be held at Mark Masons' Hall, on Monday, the 7th prox., when the ceremonies of K.H.S. and St. John the Evangelist would be worked.

The conclave was then closed; a banquet followed at the Freemasons' Tavern.

The M.P.S. presided, and gave the long list of toasts in an effective manner.

Sir Knight H. J. Lardner responded on behalf of "The Grand Council," and Sir Knight J. Purrott acknowledged the toast of "The Grand Senate."

Sir Knight G. Graveley, I.P.M.P.S., submitted "The Health of the M.P.S." in flattering terms. The pledge having been drunk,

Sir Knight W. A. Scurrah briefly repl.ed. In the course of his speech he expressed his regret that so old a conclave was not better supported. For many years it had held

the reputation of possessing some of the best exponents of the several Degrees of the Order, and therefore candidates for its mysteries could not be impressed. He thanked the proposer of the toast for the manner in which he had introduced it, and the members for the cordial way in which it had been received.

Sir Knight G. Graveley responded on behalf of "The Past Sovereigns;" Sir Knights G. J. Phillips, E. Moore, R. Barnes, and H. Humphries, for "The Officers;" and Sir Knight Major G. Cockle for "The Lay Members."

The proceedings then terminated.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

LA TOLERANCE LODGE, No. 538.

A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxtord-street, W., when there were present Bros. J. Goldstein, W.M.; M. Beedle, S.W.; T. Bowden, J.W.; J. Paul, P.M., Preceptor; G. Hill, P.M., Treas.; T. W. Smale, P.M., Sec.; H. Pinnell, S.D.; R. Hatfield, J.D.; C. Ornstein, I.G.; W. Proctor, Tyler; L. Genese, P.M.; A. Terry, and H. Mullins.

The lodge was opened in due form and the minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Terry being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Second and Third Degrees. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Terry being the candidate. The lodge was resumed to the First Degree. The W.M. rose for the first time. At the second rising of the W.M. Bro. Beedle, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

BLACKHEATH LODGE, No. 1320.

The weekly meeting of the above lodge was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, on Monday, the 21st inst., when there were present Bros. Cornford, W.M.; Richards, S.W.; W. Jeffery, J.W.; W. Dawson, P.M., Preceptor; T. R. Cass, P.M., Treas.; C. H. Stone, P.M., Sec.; Hurley, S.D.; Heskeli, J.D.; Tempest, I.G.; Hill, Tyler; Rice, Asst. Sec.; Taylor, Court, Plant, Hardman, Lord, and Roberts.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of raising was rehearsed, Bro. Lord being the candidate. Bro. Cornford vacated the chair in favour of Bro. E. A. Rice, W.M. of the Blackheath Lodge, who repeated the ceremony, Bro. Cornford being the candidate. Bro. Richards, S.W., was elected W.M. for the meeting on the 7th prox. The lodge was closed in due form.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 22nd inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. Isler, W.M.; V. J. R. Longman, S.W.; F. H. Johnson, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; J. Petch, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Herts, Treas.; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. Nicole, S.D.; S. Cload, J.D.; C. F. Rayner, I.G.; A. Oliver, P.M.; J. Birks, A. F. Hardyment, L. Danielsson, W. Rapley, H. R. Bower, E. J. Harrison, T. A. Spencer, A. E. Hubsch, and E. Bone.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Danielson being the candidate. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Harrison, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Bower being the candidate. Bro. Longman was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed the officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 18th inst. Present: Comps. S. J. Derham, M.E.Z.; H. Cornford, H.; T. R. Cass, J.; T. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., Scribe E.; H. Hardman, Scribe N.; G. Rankin, P.S.; Cureton, Targett, Beechcroft, F. Wm. Ward, and Dawson.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Ward personating the candidate. Comp. Frank W. Ward, 31, was elected a joining member. Comp. Hy. Cornford, H., was elected M.E.Z. for to-day (Friday). Comps. Thos. Grummant, P.Z.; R. J. Voisey, P.Z.; and Chas. Hy. Stone were unanimously re-elected Preceptor, Treasurer, and S.E. respectively. The chapter was closed.

Ancient and Accepted Rite.

Shadwell Clerke Chapter, No. 107.

A meeting was held at 33, Golden-square, on Wednesday, the 16th instant. E. and P. Bro. Arthur H. Scurrah, M.W.S., was supported by Ill. Bros. Henry Lovegrove, 31^o, Treas.; W. A. Scurrah, 30^o; J. Read, 30^o; G. W. Capel, 30^o; E. and P. Bros. W. M. Stiles, P.M.W.S.; L. M. Biden, I. Parker, J. W. Marsh, J. W. Stevens, and others.

Bro. James Irvine was duly perfected by Ill. Bro. Scurrah, P.M.W.S. A banquet at the Criterion followed.

Mark Masonry.

Brixton Lodge, No. 234.

The installation meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, on Monday, the 21st instant. Bro. J. Robertson Reep, well known in the Cordwainer Ward and John Hervey Lodges, was installed in the chair by Bro. George Clark, P.G. Steward, on behalf of his brother, Bro. J. Badger Clark, the W.M. Bro. H. Lovegrove, P.G.I. of Works, was a visitor.

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OINTMENT

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Masonic and General Tidings.

THE L.B.S.C. Railway men uniform men are to have a week of six days instead of seven days as heretofore. Sunday work will be paid for extra.

THE DUKE OF YORK, attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel, came to town for the Levee, on Monday, from Windsor Castle, and returned to the Palace in the evening.

THE QUEEN'S GUARD, with the Queen's colour and band, has been ordered to mount as a guard of honour at the Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace to-day (Friday).

THE "TALES OF THE KLONDYKE," which Messrs. Eliss, Sands & Co. have just brought out, and which are causing considerable interest in the literary world are by Mr. T. Mullett Ellis. The author is a Craft and Mark Mason.

DR. NANSEN, the Arctic explorer, paid a visit to the Lobby on Monday evening. He was introduced to a number of members of Parliament, and escorted about the House by Sir John Lubbock and Sir George Baden-Powell.

AS THE CHAIRMAN of the Cattle Markets Committee Bro. T. Briggs has issued invitations for a dinner at the Guildhall on Friday, the 11th prox. Bros. the Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Frank Green, and Sheriff Dewar will be the guests on the occasion.

ACCORDING to present arrangements, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales will inspect the Lancashire Hussars at Southport on May 17th, and the Royal Bucks Hussars, commanded by Lord Chesham, in Stowe Park, Buckingham, on May 20th.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has consented to open the International Photographic Exhibition at the Crystal Palace on Monday, April 25th, and not Wednesday, April 27th, as originally announced. The latest date for the reception of exhibits in each section will therefore be two days earlier than that first stated on the prospectus.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has written to Lady Londonderry, President of the London Council of the Irish Industries Association, expressing her warm interest in and good wishes for the success of the exhibition and sale of Irish work to take place at Lansdowne House, on Thursday (St. Patrick's Day) and Friday, March 17th and 18th, but regretting that she will not be able to perform the opening ceremony, as she cannot be in London on the day fixed.

IN A SPEECH at a meeting on Saturday last of the Clifton (Yorks) Conservative Association, Bro. Lord Charles Beresford referred to the accident on Board the Maine, and said he did not think it would be found to be anything to do with treachery. Chemical powder was always dangerous, and if they placed it under conditions of atmosphere and temperature other than those it was intended to be placed in certain changes took place which might produce explosion, and possibly something of that nature occurred on the Maine.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND and Countess Cadogan arrived in London on Tuesday morning from Dublin. As usual, during the first week of Lent there are no festivities at the Castle, and their Excellencies' guests—which included the Marquis and Marchioness of Ormonde and the Ladies Beatrice and Constance Butler, the Earl and Countess of Mayo, Lord and Lady Rossmore, Lady Lucy and Miss Hicks-Beach, and others—have taken their departure. Lord and Lady Cadogan return to Dublin to-morrow (Saturday).

THE WILL, dated July 18th, 1896, of Bro. Charles John Shoppee, F.R.I.B.A., of John-street, Bedford-row, and 41 Mecklenburgh-square, who died on November 18th, was proved on February 18th by Bro. Charles Herbert Shoppee, the son, and Mr. Robert William Dibdin, of 23, Red Lion-square, the executors, the value of the personal estate being £862 os. 5d. gross, and £683 4s. 3d. net. He gives all his architectural books to his son, and 20 guineas to Mr. Dibdin. Subject thereto he leaves all his property upon trust for his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Shoppee, for life, and then to his son absolutely.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES received at Marlborough House, on Monday, the Count de Casa Valencia, on his resignation of the post of Spanish Ambassador at the Court of St. James's, and likewise the Count de Rascon, on being appointed his successor. In the evening the Prince dined with Lord Belper and the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms at the mess of her Majesty's Bodyguard at St. James's Palace. Among the company invited to meet his Royal Highness were Bro. the Duke of Portland, the Earl of Chesterfield, the Earl of Pembroke, Bro. the Earl of Yarborough, Viscount Coke, the Hon. Sir S. Ponsoby-Fane, and Admiral Sir F. Bedford.

IN ADDITION to the sums announced at the Mansion House meeting last week in aid of the Home of Rest for Poor Women, which it is proposed to establish as a memorial of the late Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, Sir Henry Peck has now sent £500, Sir Frederick Wigan £500, Sir James Blyth £21, Mr. Joseph Lawrence £21, the Hon. William Lowther £10, Mr. E. J. Halsey £10, Mrs. Emily Clayton £10, Sir Edward Carbutt, £10 10s., and Sir Henry and Lady Fletcher £5. The Earl of Leven and Melville has increased his donation to £525. The fund amounts to £3000, but the total required is estimated at £25 000. Further donations may be sent to Bro. the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House.

THE QUEEN was visited at Windsor on Saturday last by the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and their children, the Princesses Margaret and Victoria Patricia, attended by Madame de Morinni and Bro. Colonel Egerton. The Duke and Duchess of York, with the infant Princes, also arrived, attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel. Princess Henry of Battenberg, who was unable to travel with the Queen from Osborne owing to a slight attack of rheumatism, has now quite recovered and, attended by Miss Bauer and Colonel Clerk, rejoined the royal circle at Windsor. On Sunday morning her Majesty and the Princes and Princesses, as well as the members of the household, attended divine service, when the sermon was preached by the Dean of Worcester.

PROBATE OF THE WILL of Bro. Richard William Davis Clarence Halse (usually known as Richard Clarence Halse), deceased, late Alderman for the Ward of Cheap, and dated 3rd of August, 1881, has been issued out of the Principal Registry to his son, Mr. Under-Sheriff Clarence Richard Halse, one of the surviving executors. The net value of deceased's personal estate was sworn at £42,237, and the net value of his real estate at £31,082, and estate duty to the amount of £2673 was paid thereon. The deceased bequeathed legacies to his godsons and friends named in his will, and to clerks and domestic servants in his employ. He gave his interest in the business of Halse, Trustram, and Co., solicitors, and a legacy of £1000 to his son, Mr. Clarence Halse, and the residue of the property is to be divided amongst his three younger children.

WELSHMEN will assemble in their thousands within the walls of St. Paul's Cathedral on Monday next, 28th inst., the eve of St. David's, when Dr. Owen, the Bishop of St. David's, will preach. The service is to be choral throughout, and a choir of from two to three hundred voices is being trained for the occasion, and is said to be, both in strength and quality, in advance of that of any previous year. Under the chairmanship of Bro. Sir John Puleston, the Committee has, in conjunction with the Cathedral authorities, made complete arrangements for the accommodation of about 12,000 people, under the guidance of nearly 100 Stewards. The vast gathering will be, as usual, of a truly Welsh national character, and the Commissioner of the City Police has very kindly arranged that all his men on duty within and about the Cathedral on that night shall be Welshmen.

A BRILLIANT COMPANY assembled in the Earl of Rosebery's town house on Monday night for the *debut* of his lordship's two daughters, Lady Sybil and Lady Peggy Primrose. In honour of the occasion a dance was given, and the leading members of Society at present in town thronged his lordship's salons. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales honoured the assembly with his presence. During the afternoon the *debutantes* visited Mr. Gladstone and paid him their compliments, and the venerable statesman felicitated them on their entrance into Society. Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild assisted in the hospitable duties of the evening, and will act as chaperone to the young ladies at many of the functions of the season. Another interesting *debutante* at the same dance was Lady Marjorie Carrington, the eldest daughter of Bro. Earl and Countess Carrington. Among the guests, in addition to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, were the Duchess of Devonshire, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Duchess of Montrose, the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Marquis of Lorne, the Marchioness of Blandford and Lady Norah Spencer Churchill, Countess Carrington, and Lady Marjorie Carrington, the Countess of Ellesmere and Lady Katherine Egerton, Georgiana Countess of Dudley, Lord and Lady Fairquhar, Lord and Lady Tweedmouth, Lady Wolverton, the Marchioness of Headfort and Lady Beatrice Taylour, and Mr. and Mrs. Asquith.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, attended by Miss Knollys and General Sir Dighton Probyn, arrived at Marlborough House on Thursday from Sandringham.

THE HARDWICKE SOCIETY held its annual dinner at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Monday evening, the chair being occupied by Mr. Edward Atkin, the President, while among the principal guests were Bros. the Earl of Halsbury (Lord Chancellor), Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Sir Edward Clarke, Q.C., M.P., Sir W. W. Marriott, Q.C., and Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C.

A SPECIAL MATINEE in aid of the People's Concert Society will be given at the Comedy Theatre, by permission of Mr. Hawtrey, on Tuesday, the 15th prox., at 3 p.m., under the patronage of her Royal Highness Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Julia, Marchioness of Tweeddale, the Dowager Countess of Airlie, Countess Cadogan, Countess of Lovelace, Viscount and Viscountess Duncannon, Lady Reay, Lady Dorothy Nevill, Lady Jeune, and Lady Randolph Churchill.

AT A Quarterly General Court of Governors of Middlesex Hospital, held on Thursday, the annual report of the board for 1897 was submitted and adopted. The total number of patients in all departments has risen from 48,082 in 1896 to 50,893 in 1897; but while the number of in-patients had advanced from 3598 to 3641—or but little more than one per cent.—the number of out-patients had risen from 44,484 to 47,252, an increase of six per cent. The income of the hospital showed a slight diminution in donations.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Henry of Battenberg, with Princess Victoria Eugénie, arrived at Buckingham Palace from Windsor, on Thursday, at 20 minutes past 12, in order to hold the first Drawing Room of the season to-day (Friday). A special train on the Great Western line conveyed them to Paddington Station, whence the Royal party drove to the Palace, escorted by a detachment of the 2nd Life Guards. The suite in attendance consisted of the Duchess of Roxburghe (Lady-in-Waiting), Col. the Hon. Sir Henry Byng, and Lieut.-Col. Sir Arthur Bigge (Equerries-in-Waiting). In the afternoon the Queen drove out, attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe and the Hon. Mary Hughes. The Equerries-in-Waiting were in attendance on horseback. Her Majesty will remain in town until to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon.

BY COMMAND of her Majesty the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales held a Levee at St. James's Palace on Monday afternoon, presentations to his Royal Highness being, by her Majesty's pleasure, considered equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. The Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms was on duty in the State Saloon and the Yeomen of the Guard in the interior of the Palace. Among the officers of State and of the Household, &c., in attendance on the Prince were the Earl of Pembroke (Lord Steward), Bro. the Duke of Portland (Master of the Horse), Viscount Curzon, M.P. (Treasurer of the Household), Bro. Lord Arthur Hill, M.P. (Comptroller of the Household), the Earl of Coventry (Master of the Buckhounds), Bro. the Earl of Kintore (Lord-in-Waiting), Bro. Col. the Hon. Sir Henry Byng (Equerry in Waiting), and Bro. Major-General Sir Stanley Clark (Equerry in Waiting to the Prince of Wales). The Royal Circle was attended by the Dukes of Connaught and York and Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. Among those presented to his Royal Highness were Bro. Sheriff Dewar, Bro. the Earl of Dartrey, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Green, Bro. the Earl of Halsbury (on being created an Earl), Bro. Sir Francis Knollys (on being made a K.C.B.), Bro. R. Loveland Loveland (on being made a Q.C.), Bro. Vice-Admiral A. H. Markham (on promotion), Bro. Sir John D. Maclure, M.P. (on being made a baronet), Bro. the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, M.P., Bro. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P. (on being made a baronet), and Bro. General Sir Evelyn Wood (on appointment as Adjutant-General).

BENCH, BAR, STAGE, and politicians of all shades of opinion were represented at the meeting, which was held at the House of Commons on Thursday evening, of the Provisional Committee formed for promoting a memorial to the late Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood. The Lord Chancellor had promised to attend, but was prevented by the late sitting of the House of Peers. Among those present were the Earl of Rosebery, Viscount Esher, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Herschell, Lord James, Lord Macnaghton, Bro. Lord Glenshek, Sir William Harcourt, Lord Justice A. L. Smith, Mr. Asquith, Mr. J. Lowther, the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Clarke, Sir Robert Reid, Mr. Carson, Mr. J. B. Butcher, Col. Lockwood, Mr. Alfred Pease, Mr. F. C. Burnand, Mr. John Hare, Mr. Birrell, Mr. P. H. Smith, and Mr. C. W. Mathews, acting Hon. Secretary. At the instance of Lord James, Lord Rosebery was voted to the chair. There was a strong and unanimous opinion that steps should be taken to perpetuate in some tangible manner the memory of the able lawyer and genial politician who recently passed away amid expressions of universal regret. It was decided that there should be a memorial both at York, the city which Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood represented in Parliament until his death, and in London, the scene of his labours. A sub-committee of nine was appointed to communicate with York in regard to the form which the memorial should take, consisting of Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord James, the Attorney-General, Sir Robert Reid, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Pease, Col. Lockwood, Mr. Hare, and Mr. Mathews.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—Professor Bertram favoured the Boys' School with an excellent entertainment on Friday, the 18th instant. Perhaps the most wonderful parts of the programme were the "Obedient Cards" and the "Mysterious Envelopes." The cards were passed from one person's breast pocket to another's without being touched by anyone or anything. The envelopes were mysteriously made out of a sheet of paper, and the marked coin was found sealed up in the innermost one. Then they were turned back again into the original sheet by simply stroking with a magic wand. The way in which half-crowns were caught by Professor Bertram as they wandered in the air, or were collected from the hats of ladies or the beards of members of the Board of Management, made us all feel a distinct use of the possession of an aerial mint like this. Then there was the great Indian mango tree trick, which supplied many of us our button-holes with flowers we had seen grow, and the most wonderful feats of palming, and the perfect skill displayed in the uniting an I disuniting of the mystic Zulu wedding rings. After two hours had been spent in this pleasant way, the entertainment closed with a promise from Professor Bertram to pay the Institution another visit, which will be looked forward to most anxiously by everyone. The entertainment was really brilliant in every respect, and Mr. Bertram received a hearty round of cheers for the great expense and trouble to which he had gone for the School. Amongst the visitors were Bros. Glass, Langton, Scurrah, Spaul, Pritchard, Cummings, Fitzgerald McLeod (Secretary), O. Philippe, and F. A. White; Mrs. White, Mrs. Hebb, Mrs. McLeod, Miss George, Mrs. Hassell, and Miss Franklin.

THE CANCER HOSPITAL (FREE), BROMPTON, LONDON, S.W.—The 47th annual meeting of the Governors of this Charity was held in the board-room of the hospital, Brompton, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. Sir George Samuel Meason, J.P., occupied the chair, and amongst those present were Dr. Alexander Marsden, D. J. Chattell, Esq., the Rev. W. T. Gordon, Lieut.-Col. T. R. Parr, F. R. Wegg-Prosser, Esq., A. Sturrock, Esq., Lady Meason, Lady Helel Boyle, Madame de Laza, Drs. Snow and Purcell, Messrs. Jessett, Cotterell, Richardson, and Barton, Miss Rogers (Matron), Mr. W. H. Hughes (Secretary), and others. From the report of the Committee, which was read by the Secretary, it appears that during the past year 2421 new patients were received, 832 as in-patients and 1589 as out-patients, while the total number of attendances of out-patients was 14,140; these figures being in excess of any previous year since the hospital was founded by the late Dr. Wm. Marsden in 1851. The receipt of a donation of £566 15s. was announced from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Fund in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee; also of £1000 from the Executors of the late Bro. B. I. Barnato for the endowment of a "B. I. Barnato" bed. The all-important feature in connection with this Institution is that it is absolutely free to poor persons suffering from cancerous disease, no letters of recommendation being required—the disease itself being a sufficient qualification for admission or treatment. There are also a number of beds provided for the use of patients who may remain for life. Unfortunately the continually increasing number of patients treated each year involves a large expenditure, to meet which the hospital has to rely upon the generosity of the public; its present reliable income being some £3000 a year less than its ordinary expenditure. An earnest appeal is, therefore, made by the Committee for continued support to enable them to carry on the important work of alleviating and, as far as possible, arresting, the growth of this terrible disease. The Samaritan Fund for assisting discharged patients, as heretofore, has proved very useful, some being sent to convalescent homes and others receiving pecuniary aid. The medical staff give a course of lectures in the lecture room of the hospital during the first three months of the year, which are open to all medical practitioners and students. The report and balance-sheet were adopted, and the usual vote of thanks accorded, after which the proceedings terminated.