

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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LARGE V. SMALL LODGES.

In an article which appeared in our columns a few weeks since entitled "An English View of Freemasonry in America," we quoted and commented upon certain opinions expressed by Bro. G. W. SPETH, Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, in a letter addressed some time previously to Bro. WILLIAM H. UPTON, the present reporter on Foreign Correspondence to the Grand Lodge of Washington. Among those opinions was one in which he took exception to the largeness of many of the lodges which are to be found in many of the American G.L. jurisdictions—"What real comfort can there be," he asked, "in a lodge of 200, 300, or 400 members? What possibility of each member knowing, as he should do, all the others? What sociability?" More especially as in America it is the exception rather than the rule for the members of a lodge to sit down and partake of refreshment when the labours of the lodge are ended. It is, as Bro. SPETH very justly remarked, this after-refreshment which affords the members "the opportunity, which is lacking during lodge hours, of becoming well acquainted with each other," so that "each lodge is a little family to itself, and the main object of the Craft—good fellowship—is promoted."

Those who read this particular article, as well as others which had appeared previously at odd times, will have discovered that in his objections to large lodges Bro. SPETH has our full sympathy, more particularly on the grounds which he has set forth with so much clearness and precision. Recently, however, we have received a letter—not intended for publication, but with permission, to make such use of it as we please—from an American brother, now resident in the North of Ireland, who, during a residence of seven years in Detroit, Mich., was made a Mason in a lodge which meets in that city, and musters 500 members. He is still a member, and naturally takes the greatest pride in the work that it does; and he is of opinion that a lodge which is numerically strong, possesses many advantages over one that musters only some 30 or 40 members. His grounds for this opinion are (1), that the members, being more numerous, have less to pay for dues; (2), that they bring in more applications for membership, and these applications necessarily bring with them more money; (3), that the more numerous applications for initiation have the effect of making the lodge more efficient in its floor-work, as meetings have to be held weekly, for the purpose of conferring the Degrees; (4), that the social features of Masonry need not suffer; (5), that it is in a position to publish a monthly bulletin of its own; that is, a record of its meetings, contributions to Charity, and for Masonic purposes generally, particulars of its social gatherings,

past and prospective, &c., &c.; and (6), that it has more money to spend in providing itself with comfortable quarters and suitably furnishing them, and for the charitable and other purposes for which our Fraternity has been established on its modern basis. In support of these contentions, he has kindly forwarded for our perusal the February and March numbers of a periodical entitled "The Palestine Bulletin," devoted to the interests of Palestine Lodge, No. 357, F. and A.M., and published in the City of Detroit, Mich. These numbers of the Bulletin confirm our brother's statements. The funds are evidently large. The Treasurer's monthly report shows a balance in hand on 3rd February of 1280 dollars, after payments amounting to 1028 dollars. From an article showing "What Palestine Lodge and its members have done for the Masonic Temple Association," we gather that it is credited in the books of the Association with contributions amounting to 12,205 dollars, or more than £2440. Then there is an announcement that on the 17th February there was to be a meeting for the purpose of conferring the Third Degree on five Fellow Crafts, and that when the ceremony was over supper would be served in the banquet hall. In another place we read that on a certain day in January, five brethren were passed Fellow Craft, and that afterwards a brother read a very interesting paper on "Astronomy and Music." From another report we gather that in 1897 the entertainment Committee provided a series of entertainments, which included, in addition to the celebration of the 16th anniversary of the lodge, a children's party, an Easter party, a bicycle fête, moonlight excursion, bicycle ride, annual picnic, and "Put-in-Bay Excursion." The March number contains several announcements of a similar character so that our brother's arguments are to this extent fully borne out. But as regards that much of what he has mentioned as to parties and entertainments, we take the liberty of pointing out that this is not the kind of sociability which Bro. SPETH and we had in view in our objections to large lodges. We laid our chief stress on the fact that in these large, and, as we consider them, unwieldy lodges—consisting, as our Correspondent's Palestine Lodge does, of 500 members—it is impossible for each member to become acquainted with all the rest. A small body of some 30 or 40 members can, as Bro. SPETH so nicely puts it, "become a little family to itself," but this cannot be the case with a lodge of 500 members. Moreover, it is not unreasonable that when a man has become a Mason and obtained some insight into the constitution of our lodges he should aspire to become W.M. In a small lodge this is possible in the case of every member; in that of a 500 lodge it is out of the question except to the very few. We thank our correspondent for his interesting letter and its accompanying Bulletins. He has shown us a good deal of the inner working of a big American lodge, but he has not convinced us of the erroneousness of our opinions.

FREEMASONRY IN HUNGARY.

There appeared in our issue of the 12th February last an article bearing the above title, in which we gave some particulars about Freemasonry in Hungary, mentioning, among other things, that the Grand Lodges of the United Kingdom were in friendly communication with the Symbolic Grand Lodge of that country; that the latter had some 40 lodges, with an aggregate member-

ship of 2800 brethren, under its banner; and that the Grand Lodge and its private lodges were heart and soul devoted to that principle of Freemasonry, which is so briefly and yet so fully expressed by the single word—Charity. Later in the same article we gave particulars of an account, taken from the Ohio Report on Foreign Correspondence for the year 1897, of the dedication of a new Masonic Hall in Buda-Pesth during the previous year. At the close of the ceremony, as described in the narrative to which we were indebted for our information, we were told that the altar was furnished, at the Grand Master's command, with the following "emblems," namely: The Book of Constitutions, the Level, and the Square and Compasses, and, in common with our Brother Reporter of Ohio, we expressed surprise at the omission from the list of the Volume of the Sacred Law, more especially as more than once in the course of the proceedings the name of the Great Architect of the Universe was invoked. Since then we have been favoured with a lengthy communication by a brother who is thoroughly well qualified to enlighten us on the subject of Hungarian Masonry, and who has very courteously left it to our discretion to make such use of his paper as we think desirable. The article, as we have said, is a long one, but the following appear to be the principal facts to which our brother is desirous that we should give publicity.

Firstly, he tells us, that in the year 1886, the present Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary was founded by the union of the St. John's Grand Lodge, with the Grand Orient. The former—whose mother lodge Concord in the Mother land was founded in 1868, by brethren of whom the majority had been made in Germany—worked the Craft Degrees only, and prominent among its Laws and Regulations were the Old Charges, a belief in the G.A.O.T.U., and the immortality of the soul being required of all who presented themselves as candidates for admission to Masonry under its auspices. The V. of the S.L. was likewise present in this Grand Lodge and its private lodges. The Grand Orient of Hungary, whose mother lodge, "Matthias Corvinus," was founded by the Grand Orient of France in 1868, and remained for some time under its banner, was deeply imbued with the spirit of French Masonry, and even after it had made itself independent of the latter, was greatly influenced by its principles. As in the case of the Grand Orient of France, in those days, that of Hungary, included in its Book of Constitutions a belief in the G.A.O.T.U. After the union of the St. John's Grand Lodge and Grand Orient of Hungary into the present Symbolic Grand Lodge, the task of framing the Constitutions of the new body was entrusted to a brother—a prominent member of the Grand Orient, who was a professed Atheist—and the Article requiring belief in the G.A.O.T.U. was omitted from the Book of Constitutions—just as in 1877 it had been expunged from the Constitutions of the Grand Orient of France—and one substituted for it enjoining "absolute freedom of conscience." The result is that Atheism is no obstacle to a man becoming a Freemason in one of the lodges of the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary, and there are many who have invariably declared themselves to be Atheists who are members of the Order. Thus, though the expression G.A.O.T.U. is in constant use in the Hungarian ritual, it is a mere formula, having no distinct meaning such as we attach to it, and according to the views of the person using it, it may be taken to apply to a material world, a Supreme Being in our Sense, or anything else. Hence the Volume of the Sacred Law has been banished from the lodges, and this explains why it was not included among the "emblems" that were placed on the altar in obedience to the Grand Master's command at the dedication ceremony quoted from the Ohio Foreign Correspondence for 1897.

There is much else of interest in our correspondent's article, but the above is the most important, and it appears to us that assuming the facts are as stated by our brother—and we have said he is a thoroughly competent informant and on one occasion was, he tells us, "deprived of the word" for venturing to assert in open lodge "that the belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. was a landmark of the Order"—it is about time some inquiry was made as to the principles laid down in the Hungarian Book of Constitutions, with a view to reconsidering, if necessary, the position we occupy towards the Symbolic Grand Lodge of Hungary.

CONSECRATION OF THE JUSTINIAN LODGE, No. 2694.

The above lodge—founded by some members of the Solicitors' Managing Clerks' Association, and having for its supporters the Chancery Bar Lodge—was consecrated at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Thursday, the 31st ult.

The Consecrating Officer, Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., was assisted by Bros. R. Horton Smith, Q.C., D.G. Reg., as S.W.; J. Strachan, Q.C., P.D.G. Reg., as J.W.; the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens, P.G.C., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; T. H. Gardiner, P.A.G.D.C., as I.G.; and H. Sadler, G. Tyler.

The founders of the new lodge are Bros. C. Swinfen Eady, Q.C., P.M. 21, S.W. 2456, P.D.G. Reg., &c.; W. W. Snelling, P.M. 1541, &c.; C. W. Scott, H. Colley, P.M. 1571, 228; T. Bishop, W.M. 1366; W. Briggs, 1366; R. Colsell, J. F. Sweet, J. C. Escott, E. J. Allen, J. Redgrove, and F. J. Street.

The visitors included—

Bros. Judge Philbrick, Q.C., G. Reg.; T. T. Bucknill, Q.C., M.P., P.D.G. Reg.; W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., P.G.D.; W. B. Coltman, P.M. 6, 2456, &c.; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; W. Martin, A.G.P.; D. Stewart Smith, 2456; A. Underhill, Q.C., J.D. 2456; G. Harris, P.M. 586; G. Fisk, P.M. 209; W. B. Girling, P.M. 108; C. Sheppard, P.M. 1366, &c.; H. T. Wright, P.M. 1538; T. H. Bolton, 2127; W. C. Canton, P.M. 1475; W. R. Barr, P.M. 1632; F. J. F. Jackson, P.M. 859; J. Goodman, I.P.M. 1366; H. E. Sanders, 917; F. J. Beck, P.M. 185; F. Franklin Clive, W.M. 1319; W. Syckle Moore, P.M. 1288; W. H. Wheeler, S.W. 2454; T. Powell, 2182; C. Townley, 2190; T. R. Cass, P.M. 1320; W. Torrence Knight, 1541; E. Bradley, 1209; G. Briggs, 1929; W. Rogers, J.W. 1339; A. C. Smith, J.W. 1366; G. Vears, W.M. 145; F. Ruthven, J.W. 754; F. Ellis, 1366; H. Steers, 1366; T. Taylor, S.W. 45; J. M. Klemperer, S.W. 1632; A. J. Cannon, J.W. 1044; W. Davies, 340; H. Grinssdall, 2549; W. J. Batho, 8, W.M. 1708; and others.

After the opening of the lodge, the CONSECRATING OFFICER addressed the brethren upon the object of the occasion, and

Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon STEVENS, P.G. Chaplain, delivered an impressive address upon the foundation of Freemasonry and the great truths taught by it.

The new lodge was solemnly dedicated with the usual formalities.

The Grand Secretary then installed Bro. C. Swinfen Eady, Q.C., P.D.G.R., as W.M., and the following officers were invested: Bros. W. W. Snelling, P.M., as S.W.; W. Briggs, as J.W.; C. W. Scott, as Treas.; Hy. Colley, P.M., as Sec.; T. Bishop, as S.D.; Robt. Colsell, as J.D.; J. T. Sweet, as I.G.; J. C. Escott, as D.C.; Arthur Briscoe, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, &c., as Org.; C. J. Allen and J. Redgrove, Stwds.; and T. J. Maidwell, Tyler.

The Consecrating Officers were accorded a hearty vote of thanks, and various propositions were received.

Letters of regret for non-attendance and good wishes for the success of the lodge were read from the following brethren: Bros. Justices Romer, Gainsford Bruce, Ridley, and Kennedy, Master, W. Brims Smith, and F. O. Crump, Q.C.

The lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to the banquet where the usual toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., &c.," "The M.W. Pro G.M., the R.W. D.G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," were given by the WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Bro. Judge PHILBRICK, Q.C., G. Reg., in replying, said that it afforded him very much pleasure to be present to see another lodge added to the roll because it proved that not only in England and in the Colonies, but in the whole world Freemasonry was holding its own. Particularly was he gratified as a lawyer to be there in the presence of so many of his learned friends. One was often asked what was Freemasonry. It was possessed of many virtues, but in any case it was a bond of sympathy, and this could not have been better demonstrated than when last year the M.W. Pro G.M., Lord Lathom, met with that severe trial which was so well remembered. As to the other Grand Officers they had numerous duties to perform and, as shown during the evening, they were always prepared to do them. The impressive address given by Bro. the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens was one not likely to be forgotten, and if taken to heart would prove that Freemasonry was founded upon something which was always welcome, viz., a feeling of sympathy and unselfishness coupled with the desire to help others. As Grand Officers they were all pleased to be present on the memorable occasion of the launching of the Justinian Lodge to which he and they wished every success.

The W. MASTER proposed "The V.W. Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec. and the Consecrating Officers," speaking in terms of high praise of the impressive manner in which the ceremony had been carried out.

Bro. LETCHWORTH, G. Sec., in responding, said that he felt unable to reply to the high praise bestowed upon him by the W.M. At the same time he thanked him and wished that on an occasion such as the present he (the W.M.) had associated with the toast the name of one more competent to deal with it. They were all members of the same profession and he wished the lodge every success. It had given him and the other Consecrating Officers the greatest possible pleasure to be present and assist at its birth and he hoped that it would go on and prosper. On behalf of the Consecrating Officers he tendered the warmest thanks for the toast.

Bro. R. HORTON SMITH, Q.C., D.G.R., in proposing "The Health of the Worshipful Master," said that it was only a few minutes ago that he had been informed of the duty he had to perform. Although very short notice was given it was not an unpleasant operation to propose the health of the Worshipful Master in the present circumstances. Of late years lodges had been springing up limited to members of one particular profession and the present lodge was another instance, although he was given to understand that it would not be absolutely closed to those outside the legal profession. The Chancery Bar Lodge had taken an interest in that lodge, and as it had now come into existence with one for its Master upon whom the Queen had been pleased to confer the honour of appointing him one of her Counsel, he was quite sure that it would flourish under his ruling. He therefore proposed the health of the first Worshipful Master of the Justinian Lodge.

The toast was received in the most hearty manner, and the WORSHIPFUL MASTER very shortly replied, saying that he felt a great honour had been conferred upon him in being the first W.M. of the Justinian Lodge. He promised that he would do all he could to promote the interests of the lodge, and thanked the brethren for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received.

Bro. W. E. M. TOMLINSON, M.P., in replying for "The Visitors," expressed the pleasure he felt at being with so many friends upon such an occasion. He could speak from personal knowledge as a member and Past Master of the Northern Bar Lodge and a member of the Chancery Bar Lodge of the good done by such associations in bringing together in Freemasonry unity of feeling in the region of life in which they were placed. He thanked the brethren for the cordial manner in which the toast was received, and hoped that the career of the lodge would be as successful as he felt it ought to be under such a W.M. and with such officers as it possessed.

Bro. JAS. TERRY, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied to the toast of "The Masonic Charities," and remarked that the outside world often asked what Freemasonry was and what it did. Such enquirers were at times enlightened when their great festivals came round and they saw the amounts realised by the generous offerings of the brethren. In a characteristic speech he gave various details and remarking that the brethren were not boys, could not be girls, and surely did not want to be old women, he asked the brethren to remember the Charity of which he is such an undefatigable Secretary.

The toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," was acknowledged by Bros. C. W. SCOTT, Treasurer, and H. Y. COLLEY, Secretary.

The Tyler's toast given by Bro. MAIDWELL, Tyler, brought the proceedings to a close.

The musical arrangements were under the able direction of Bro. A. BRISCOE, P.P.G. Org. Surrey, and Organist of the lodge, assisted by Miss Mary Owen, Miss Ethel Bevans, Bros. Franklin Clive, T. Powell, W. W. Wheeler, Wm. Davies, and W. Sycklemoore.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Chapter was held on the 29th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester. Comps. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, G. Superintendent, presided, and there were present Comps. Capt. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Edmund Ashworth, C. D. Cheetham, A. H. Jefferies, J. Newton, Buckley Carr, R. Pollitt, M. Weigenthaler, E. G. Harwood, and about 120 members of the Order.

Upon the roll being called, it was found that all the chapters in the province were represented.

Comp. Col. STARKIE referred to the sudden death of Comp. James Heelis, Prov. G. J., a prominent member of the Masonic body, and moved that a letter of condolence should be sent to the members of his family.

Comp. Capt. BESWICKE-ROYDS seconded the motion, which was passed.

The Prov. Grand Treasurer, Comp. R. POLLITT, submitted the financial statement, which showed a balance in the bank of £117.

The accounts having been adopted, Comp. BROOKS moved, and Comp. C. D. CHEETHAM seconded, the election of Comp. N. Heywood as P.G. Treasurer.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Comp. Brooks and G. W. Davies were afterwards elected Auditors.

The Grand Superintendent invested the officers of the Prov. G. Chapter for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. Captain C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds (re-appointed)	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" Buckley Carr, 993	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" James Newton (reappointed)	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Dr. T. Foreman, 210	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" N. Heywood, 645	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. S. Scott, 345	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" H. Lycett, 62	...	...	Prov. D.G. Reg.
" A. Bowen, 298	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" J. Hardcastle, 37	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" Allen Shaw, 268	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" J. Pollard, 345	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" R. Hudson, 226	...	...	Prov. D.G.S.B.
" S. Mamelok, 204	...	...	Prov. G. Std. B's.
" S. F. Simon, 1055	...	...
" J. Halden, 152	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" C. H. Arnold, 645	...	...
" R. Wardle, 350	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" S. Staton, 317	...	...
" H. B. Brown, 581	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Worsley, 1458	...	...
" E. H. Flower (reappointed)	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

Upon the motion of Comp. C. D. CHEETHAM, seconded by Comp. J. T. HOOPER, a grant of £10 was made to the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution.

Comp. CHEETHAM then moved that a grant of £21 be made to the funds of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which this year celebrates its Centenary.

Comp. Capt. BESWICKE-ROYDS seconded the motion.

Comp. WALTER NEWTON proposed as an amendment that the amount of the grant be increased to 50 guineas.

The amendment was seconded by Comp. J. T. HOOPER, and, upon a show of hands, adopted by a large majority.

The business of the meeting was shortly afterwards concluded.

In the evening there was a banquet at the Masonic Hall.

By THE DEATH of Mrs. George Stagg, 23, Craven-hill, W., the world of benevolence has lost a charitable friend and the Charing-cross Hospital a generous benefactor. To the latter institution she made many munificent gifts and built a ward in it in memory of her husband. Mrs. Stagg died on Saturday last after a brief illness.

Scotland.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OVER THE LOWER WARD OF LANARKSHIRE.

A special meeting of the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held within the Masonic Chambers, 100, West Regent-street, Glasgow, on Monday, the 28th ult., Comp. Maj. F. W. Allan, M.E. Grand Superintendent, presiding, assisted by Comps. James Provan, M.E. Grand Principal, H.; John Roper Paton, M.E. Principal J.; James Balfour, E. Scribe E.; J. A. S. Kerr, E. Treasurer; James Murray, E. Benevolent Treasurer; Robert McDonald, E. First Sojourner; Robert Kennedy, E. Second Sojourner; W. G. James, E. Third Sojourner; James Sharrocks, E. Sword Bearer; J. O. Struthers, E. Depute Director of Ceremonies; Alexander Bruce, E. Organist; Archd. C. McAdam, E. Superintendent of Works; David Smith, E. Second Standard Bearer; and a large complement of companions from the several chapters in the province.

The chapter having been opened, the circular calling the meeting was read, as also a letter from the Grand Scribe E., dated the 3rd ult., confirming the appointment by Supreme Grand Chapter of Comp. James Kirkwood to the office of Grand Superintendent over the province. The officers from Supreme Grand Chapter being in attendance to perform the duties of installation, were received with the customary honours, consisting of Comps. C. C. Nisbet, M.E. Depute First Grand Principal; J. Dalrymple Duncan, Past Depute First Grand Principal; R. S. Brown, Grand Scribe, E.; James Melville, Grand Treasurer; James Simpson, Grand Recorder; J. A. Trevelyan Sturrock, Grand Director of Ceremonies; and Alex. Bruce, First Grand Standard Bearer.

When Comp. Major Allan handed over the care of the chapter to Comp. C. C. NISBET, M.E. Depute Grand First Principal, who having thanked Comp. Major F. W. Allan, the retiring Grand Superintendent, occupied the chair and installed Comp. James Kirkwood into the office of Grand Superintendent over the Province of the Lower Ward of Lanarkshire in a very impressive and efficient manner.

Comp. KIRKWOOD, after having thanked the M.E. Installing Principal for the performance of his duties that evening, and also the Principals and companions of the several chapters in the province for having recommended him to Supreme Grand Chapter as the successor of his worthy and esteemed friend, Comp. Major Allan, one who was highly valued as a most faithful companion to the interests of Royal Arch Masonry, both in the province and beyond, appointed as his Commissioned Office-Bearers, viz.: Comps. J. MacNaught Campbell, M.E. Depute Grand Superintendent; John B. McNaught, M.E. Principal H.; William Watson Newton, M.E. Principal J.; James Balfour, E. Scribe E.; James A. S. Kerr, E. Scribe N.; who with the exception of Comp. John B. McNaught, who was absent, were installed into their respective offices by Comp. Nisbet.

At the close of the installation ceremony the companions were entertained by the newly-installed Grand Superintendent in the Organ Hall of the Masonic Chambers to a cake and wine banquet, when a well-prepared toast list brought the different functions of the evening to a close.

Before the Prov. Grand Chapter was closed,

Comp. Major ALLAN, on leaving the chair, in a few remarks, stated he had much pleasure in presenting the jewel of his office—which was his own property, and which he had worn with much pride during the last five years—to the Provincial Grand Chapter, and trusted that his successors in office would wear it with much acceptance to themselves, and at their chapter meetings would remember him who now placed it in their hands.

On the arrival of the Supreme Grand Chapter office-bearers, and previous to the installation, they were entertained to dinner in the Windsor Hotel by Comp. Kirkwood, the Grand Superintendent Designate—Comps. Major Allan, J. Dalrymple Duncan, Jas. Provan, J. R. Paton, Sir James Buchanan, Bart., Col. J. A. Reid, J. Anderson, and J. Balfour assisting at their reception.

Craft Masonry.

Hemming Lodge, No. 1512.

The last meeting of the session was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, on the 24th ult. Among those present were Bros. P. Cronin, W.M.; C. Wheatley, S.W.; H. Gale, J.W.; J. C. Jessett, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.; P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; C. Davis, S.D.; W. Hill, I.G.; G. Ransford, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B., D.C.; H. Wheatley, P.M.; P.P.A.G.D.C., C. Boyce, and A. Z. Schultze, Stwds.; T. W. Ockenden, P.M.; P.P.G.D.; W. Spearing, P.M.; P.P.G.S.B.; W. Hopkins, I.P.M.; and J. Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. Among the visitors was Bro. Frith, 1656.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of a gentleman for initiation, and it being unanimous, he was ably initiated into Craft mysteries by the W.M. Bro. Williams, of the Star Lodge, by request of its W.M., was then impressively raised to the Degree of a Master Mason. The resignation of the active membership of the lodge by Bro. J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.G.P. Middx., was received with regret, and his request to be retained on the non-dining list was unanimously acceded to. A vote of condolence to Bro. G. J. Tagg, I.P.M., on the loss of his mother, the widow of Bro. Tom Tagg, was passed with many expressions of individual regret. A petition to the Charity Committee of the province on behalf of a distressed member of the lodge was signed and recommended. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. Fisher, P.M.; P.P.G.T.; E. H. Trotter, P.M.; P.A.G.P. Middx.; G. J. Tagg, P.M.; A. Macchi, P.M. 1523; H. Webster, J.D.; and others.

The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth the usual toasts followed.

Bro. T. W. Ockenden, P.P.G.D., responded in a neat and happy speech on behalf of "The Provincial Grand Officers."

The I.P.M. submitted the toast of "The W.M." He said that the W.M.'s rendering of the ceremony of raising that night was most effective. The initiation was also well performed. The W.M.'s year of office had commenced well and he believed that at its end the members of the lodge would have to congratulate themselves upon the financial improvement effected under Bro. Cronin's presidency.

The Worshipful Master having replied, gave in quick succession the toasts of "The Initiate," "The Visitors," "The Past Masters," and "The Officers," all of which were duly honoured and responded to.

Bro. J. C. Jessett, P.M., in replying, among others, to the last mentioned toast made a powerful speech on behalf of the Masonic Charities. He said that Bro. Tagg would represent the Boys' Institution in June next, and although many of the members of No. 1512, had generously subscribed to his list, yet he hoped that the others would lose no time in sending donations and thus render their Stewards' list worthy of the Hemming Lodge and the noble Charity which would celebrate its centenary this year under the presidency of the M.W.G.M. The proceedings then terminated.

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And the

R.W. PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGES OF ANTRIM
AND DOWN, &c., &c.,

Will be held at an early date for the purpose of clearing
off the debt on the

New Masonic Hall, Crumlin Road, Belfast.

Further particulars in future advertisements. Meantime,
contributions of work, &c., will be fraternally received and
duly acknowledged by

R. B. ANDREWS, Hon. Sec.,
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GRAND LODGE DECISIONS *Extracted from the Authorised Reports of the Grand Lodge of England, during the past 25 years.*

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

Wor. Bro. Rev. J. T. LAWRENCE, M.A.

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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS, WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

OFFICE, 6, FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

GRAND PATRON:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., M.W.G.M.

A QUARTERLY COURT of the Governors and Sub-
scribers will be held in the Large Hall, FREEMASONS'
TAVERN, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London,
on FRIDAY, the 15th day of April, 1898, for the transaction
of the ordinary business of the Institution.

To read and confirm (so far as relates to the suspension
of Law 79) the Minutes of the Court held 14th January,
1897.

To consider the following Notices of Motion, given at
the Council held Friday, 25th March, 1897.

(I.) By the W. Bro. WILLIAM RUSSELL, A.G.D. of C.,
Vice-Patron of Institution:—

"That this Court approves of the recommenda-
tions contained in the subjoined report of the
Joint Committee as to the purchase money to be
charged for Life and Perpetual Presentations,
and recommends its adoption, provided it be
also accepted by the R.M.I. for Girls, and the
R.M. Benevolent Institution for Aged Free-
masons and Widows of Freemasons."

(II.) By the W. Bro. STANLEY J. ATTENBOROUGH,
P.A.G.D.C., Patron and Honorary Solicitor of the Institu-
tion:—

"That, in order to celebrate the Centenary year
of this Institution, this Court resolves that an
allowance at the rate of £20 per annum be
made to each of the unsuccessful Candidates at
this year's elections, towards their education
and maintenance, provided that such Candidates
be educated at a school to be approved by the
Board of Management, and be subject to the
Rules applicable to Boys maintained and educated
out of the Institution; that such allowance com-
mence from the date upon which such Candi-
dates would, if elected, have been admitted into
the School, and be continued until the date of
their admission into the School, or the date upon
which they become ineligible for admission by
reason of age."

To elect a Treasurer for the ensuing twelve months.
To elect 10 Life Governors to fill vacancies on the Board
of Management.

To elect 27 Boys from an approved list of 50 candidates,
reduced to 49 by the withdrawal of
[No. 15 on List].—Downes, Gilbert George (withdrawn for
presentation).

The chair will be taken at 12 o'clock at noon precisely.
The Ballot for the election of Boys and for Members of
the Board of Management will open at One o'clock, or so
soon as the General Business of the Court shall have
terminated, and will close at Three o'clock precisely.

By order,

J. M. McLEOD,

Secretary.

London,
April 6th, 1898.

* * * The CENTENARY FESTIVAL will be held at
the Royal Albert Hall, on 10th June, 1898, H.R.H. THE
PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M., President of
the Institution, in the Chair. The services of Brethren as
Stewards on this all-important occasion are earnestly
solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged. *Special
Voting Privileges to Stewards only.*

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Accommodation in the new wing for Banquets for any
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can start. Five Lodges meet here, and reference may
be made to the respective Masters as to the catering, &c.

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THE AUSTRALIAN "DRY-AIR" TREATMENT,
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ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS, ST. JOHN'S HILL, BATTERSEA RISE, S.W.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governors and Sub-
scribers of this Institution will be held in the LARGE HALL
of the FREEMASONS' TAVERN, Great Queen-street,
Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, London, on SATURDAY, the 16th day
of APRIL, 1898, at Twelve o'clock precisely, on the
General Business of the Institution; to receive the report
of the Joint Committee on Life and Perpetual Presenta-
tions, and to elect 15 Girls into the School, from a list of
26 approved candidates. The election will commence at
one o'clock, or immediately after the conclusion of the
General Business.

5, Freemasons' Hall,
Great Queen-street, W.C.,
April 9th, 1898.

F. R. W. HEDGES,
Secretary.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

THE

110TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL,
WEDNESDAY, the 18th MAY, 1898.

R.W. BRO. SIR REGINALD HANSON,
Bart., M.P., LL.D.,

P.G.W., Patron and Treasurer of the Institution,
IN THE CHAIR.

Brethren willing to act as Stewards are earnestly solicited
to send in their names to the Secretary as early as con-
venient. Stewards are much needed, and their services
will be gratefully received.

F. R. W. HEDGES,

Office—5, Freemasons' Hall,
London, W.C.

Secretary.

THE SHIP HOTEL, HALLFORD-ON-THAMES, SHEPPERTON.

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Superior accommodation for Masonic gatherings,
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desires to announce that, having acquired the freehold of
this old established Hotel, there will be no change whatever
in the business or its management. Mr. W. A. SADLER
and Mr. T. P. SADLER are associated with her, and their
long experience is a guarantee that all orders will be carried
out, and the same careful attention given to *cuisine* and
cellar, as in past years.

Hampton Court,

March, 1898.

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Prospectus free.

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Academy Luncheon 2s. 6d., Diner Parisien 5s., during both
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Quick service à la carte and moderate prices. Joins in
each room fresh from the Spit every half-hour.

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Service of special American Dishes, Grills, &c.

*Splendid Suites of Rooms for Military and other
Dinners.*



Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1898.

We beg to remind our readers that the School
Quarterly Courts will be held towards the close of
next week. That of the Royal Masonic Institution
for Boys is fixed for Friday, the 15th instant, at
Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, W.C., where
the chair will be taken at the hour of 12 noon, and
when the regular business has been disposed of a poll
will be opened for the election of 27 from an approved
list of 49 candidates—reduced from 50 by the with-
drawal of No. 15, who has been nominated under a
Perpetual Presentation. The Court of Governors and
Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls
will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Saturday, the
16th inst. The chair will be taken promptly at 12
noon, and in due course a poll will be opened for the

election of 15 from an approved list of 26 candidates.
On both days the poll will be closed at 3 p.m., after
which hour no votes will be received under any
circumstances.

As usual, we earnestly appeal to those of our readers
who are not already committed to the support of any
particular candidate, to give their votes and influence
in behalf of those children who, in the event of their
failing to secure election at these Courts, will be no
longer eligible for admission, and will accordingly
have their names removed from the lists. We make
this appeal on the usual grounds (1) that these in
common with all the other candidates have had their
cases sifted and approved, and their names placed on
the lists by order of the presiding authorities; (2)
that the other candidates, if they fail at these elections,
will still have one or more chances afforded them of
being admitted, the greatest hardship that can happen
to any of them being a further delay of six months
before they succeed in winning places in one or other
of our Schools. These latter can wait, but the children
we are appealing for cannot.

There are 10 cases in all of this description on the
two lists, four on that of the Girls' Election, and six
on the Boys' list. The four girls are placed at Nos. 1,
3, 10, and 13; the six boys at Nos. 1, 13, 14, 16, 31,
and 39. We have made similar appeals at successive
elections into our Schools for several years past and
we have reason to know that they have not been made
in vain, there being many Governors who regularly
hold their votes in reserve in order to help the children
who are thus unfortunately circumstanced. We trust
that at the elections to be held on the 15th and 16th
instant respectively, everyone of these 10 last cases
will be found among the successful.

In the paper of Agenda at the Boys' School Court,
on the 15th inst., are included two important Notices
of Motion. The first has reference to the amount to
be paid in future for Perpetual and Life Presenta-
tions, and proposes that in accordance with the
recommendations of the Joint Committee of the three
Institutions appointed to consider the question, 1550
guineas be charged for a Perpetual, and 900 guineas
for a Life Presentation; the latter not to be granted
upon a Life under 21 years of age. The second notice
—by Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough, P.G.A.D.C.—is to
the effect that in order to celebrate the Centenary of
the Institution, an allowance, at the rate of £20
per annum be granted to each of the unsuccessful
Candidates at the year's elections towards their educa-
tion and maintenance, and be continued until they are
admitted into the School, or become ineligible by
reason of age for admission.

We have heard it suggested that Bro. Fenn's state-
ment at the Centenary Festival of the United Strength
Lodge, No. 228—that "he had been looking down the
list of those lodges holding Centenary Warrants and
he found that No. 228 was the last in the London
lodges holding its meeting under an Athol Warrant"
—is not strictly in accordance with the facts. It is, of
course, impossible for us to say what precise meaning
Bro. Fenn was desirous that his words should convey.
He might have meant nothing more than that after
No. 228 there were no more lodges of Athol origin
meeting in the London district. This is strictly true.
A reference to Grand Lodge Calendar will show that
of the lodges marked with a †—to indicate that
they were formerly on the roll of the "Ancient"
or "Athol" Grand Lodge—which come after No.
228, all are located either in the Provinces or
Abroad. Thus, No. 229 meets in Calcutta; No.
230 in Devonport; No. 232 in Calcutta; No. 233 in
Bermuda; No. 234 in Calcutta; No. 243 in Guernsey;
Nos. 244 and 245 in Jersey; No. 246 in Cheltenham;
and No. 247 in George Town, Demerara, S. America.

There are those, however, who appear to think that
Bro. Fenn intended or desired to convey the idea that
No. 228, as there were no more originally Athol
lodges further on in the list, would be the last of
that creation to receive a centenary warrant. We do
not suppose that with the thorough knowledge of the
composition of our Grand Lodge register he had it in
his mind to convey this meaning. There are several
London lodges of Athol origin higher up in the list
than No. 228, which in time no doubt will be able to
prove continuity of working for 100 years and so
become entitled to the honour of receiving a centenary
warrant.

The first of these is St. George's and Corner Stone,
No. 5, a Red Apron Lodge, which, as regards the "St.

George's," is "Ancient," or "Athol," and, as regards
the "Corner Stone," is "Modern"; this has not yet
received a centenary warrant. Then there are the
Robert Burns Lodge, No. 25, and the Egyptian, No.
27, which are both of Athol origin, and meet—the
former under a warrant of 1810, and the latter under
one of 1811. Gihon Lodge, No. 49, dates from
November, 1810; and Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65,
from June, 1810; while Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 75,
dates from October of the same year; and Pytha-
gorean Lodge, No. 79, from March, 1813. No. 87—
the Vitruvian Lodge—dates from May, 1810; the
Eastern Star Lodge, No. 95, from December, 1802;
Temple Lodge, No. 101, from July, 1813; and Lodge
of Justice, No. 147, from January, 1801.

Then there is the Middlesex Lodge, No. 143, which,
though working under a warrant of 10th October, 1775,
has not yet received a centenary warrant. The warrant
of the Jordan Lodge, No. 201, dates from April, 1810;
of the Euphrates Lodge, No. 212, from October, 1812;
and of the Ionic Lodge, No. 227, from April, 1810. Here
then are 14 lodges working in London under Athol
warrants, which sooner or later we have no doubt will
be able to establish to the satisfaction of Grand
Lodge continuous working for 100 years and thereby
obtain the privilege of receiving a centenary warrant.
We will add that most of the foregoing particulars are
derived from Bro. John Lane's "Masonic Records 1717-
1894," while the fact of so many lodges senior to No.
228 being without centenary warrants is to be accounted
for by the practice in vogue among the "Ancients" of
lodges of later creation obtaining warrants higher up
on their register which had lapsed by payment of sums
varying in amount to the Grand Lodge Fund of
Charity.

It happens far more frequently in the United States
than in the United Kingdom that the members of a
lodge or other Masonic body form a party for visiting
lodges or bodies in other parts of the country. Occa-
sionally such excursions are made, the interchange of
visits some time ago between members of St. Nicholas
Lodge, No. 1676, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and those of
Dublin lodges being a case of the kind that occurs to
us. On the 26th ultimo a body of members of the
Baldwyn Preceptory of Knights Templar, of Bristol,
visited Dublin, were shown the principal sights in the
Irish capital, and fêted to their hearts' content by their
Irish brethren, Bro. Black, W.M. of Lodge 53, and the
members of Preceptory No. 245 being among the fore-
most in showing courtesy to the visitors. Among the
places of interest they had the opportunity of seeing
was the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, which they
visited by the special invitation of Bro. Field-Marshal
Lord Roberts, Commanding the Forces in Ireland,
and over which they were kindly conducted by his
lordship in person. We publish elsewhere an account
of the visit from the Dublin *Daily Express* of the 1st
instant, from which it will be seen that the Bristol
Templars, foremost among whom was E. Knight
Pierrepont Harris, P.E.P., P. Prov. G. Chancellor, had
a high time of it during their week's sojourn in
Dublin.

In the review in the *Voice of Masonry* of the pro-
ceedings of the Grand Lodge of California at its 48th
annual communication in October last are to be found
mentioned sundry curious resolutions which appear
to have been adopted without the slightest hesitation.
Our readers are aware that many of the Grand Lodges
in the United States are great sticklers for the physical
qualification dogma. But we were not prepared to
find any body of men in their senses carrying out this
dogma to the extent mentioned by our worthy contem-
porary in two cases. In one of these a resolution to
the effect that a man who had sustained the loss of one
of his eyes "was not disqualified from receiving the
degrees of Masonry" was not adopted, while in the
other case it was decided that "a chronic asthmatic is
not proper for a lodge to accept." As our lodges
mostly meet in the evening we think a "chronic asth-
matic" would, for his health's sake, be better away
from them except during the summer months, but
what there is to prevent him going through the cere-
monies of Masonry and acquiring a knowledge of its
principles we fail to see. As for the disqualification
of a candidate on the ground that he has lost one of his
eyes, it strikes us as being especially absurd. Even
the man with two eyes can do no more than see who
is in the lodge and what passes there, and the one-
eyed man can see as much, though his range of sight
may be more limited. After this we are not surprised
to learn that some time was occupied in discussing the
question whether the honours of a funeral can be paid
to a brother whose body is cremated.

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.

RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I trouble you once more on this subject?

It is to be noted that the advisers of the M.W. Grand Master have wisely decided that the warrants of all lodges joining the New Zealand Constitution are to be returned to England for cancellation.

This is as it should be, and is widely in contrast to former incidents in Australia, that I could mention when the struggle for possession of a lodge warrant gave rise to most unseemly wrangling, not to omit the creation of bitter and unfraternal feelings, as well as interference with the rights of minorities, and, in one case, the spending of hundreds of pounds in litigation.

Some years ago, when a member of the Colonial Board, I more than once drew the attention of the powers that be to the unconstitutional method adopted in the surrender of warrants—*vide* Article 221—in the Australian Colonies, and I am afraid brought myself into conflict with the said powers for presuming to question their action.

However, it is never too late to mend. We are living and learning by painful experience.—Fraternally yours,

W. F. LAMONBY.

Reviews.

"THE DORSET MASONIC CALENDAR, 1898."—The value of this excellent Annual has so many times been referred to in these columns, and of late years, the Editor, Printer and Publisher (Bro. Jno. A. Sherren, of Weymouth), has so ably arranged the contents, that no improvement can be anticipated, and it is now impossible to say aught fresh about its attractions; save as respects the frontispiece, which this year is devoted to that zealous and much esteemed Craftsman, Bro. Robert Case, P.G.S.B., so long Prov. Grand Secretary of Dorset. There are 14 lodges with 723 members (an average of fully 51 to each lodge); seven Royal Arch Chapters with 211 companions; five Mark lodges with 135 members; and two Knight Templar preceptories, as also one Rose Croix chapter. There is a full list of votes for the Central Masonic Charities, exhibiting a total of 434 voters, having in all 3,491 votes, surely a most gratifying number for such a small province; besides which there is a real live local Masonic Charity, with Bro. S. R. Baskett as Honorary Secretary. The particulars concerning the province under all branches are both complete and accurate.

"FREEMASONS' DIRECTORY, PROVINCE OF WIGTOWN AND KIRKCUDBRIGHT (Scotland), 1898."—This handy little Masonic guide is edited by Bro. Joseph T. Hewat (the second year of issue), and is published by J. H. Maxwell, both of Castle Douglas. There are 12 lodges, the oldest, No. 41, dating from 1741, and the youngest only started in 1883. Interesting particulars are appended as to the old lodges, the senior having been in existence some 50 years before it received a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. It is interesting to note the colour of the clothing of each lodge, that of No. 41 being *Light Blue and Silver*; No. 161 is of *Green*; No. 162 wears *Blue and Orange*; No. 189 *Blue and Gold*; nearly all being different, and winding up with No. 689 of *Campbell Tartan*. Bro. Hewat has done his editorial work well.

Craft Masonry.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

This lodge held a meeting at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 25th ult., when there present, among others, Bros. Debenham, P.P.G.O. Herts, G.S., W.M.; Polenz, S.W.; C. Robinson, P.P.G.R. Surrey, J.W.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D. Middx., P.G.S., Sec.; Slade, J.D.; W. Thomas, P.M., I.G.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., P.G.S., D.C.; H. J. Lardner, P.P.A.G.D.C. Surrey, P.G.S., I.P.M.; W. H. Kempster, jun., B.M., P.M., P.G.S.; and R. Evenden, P.M., Tyler. Bros. Elkins, P.P.G. Std. Br. Herts, and W. Wood, W.M. 33, were visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. O. Polenz, S.W., was unanimously nominated as a Grand Steward for the year ensuing. The sum of 10 guineas was unanimously voted to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, per Bro. Debenham, W.M., as Steward to the Centenary Festival. It was also unanimously resolved—"That the summer outing and banquet shall be held at Hampton Court on the fourth Friday in June next." The W.M. then kindly expressed his intention to personally invite the members to an up-river excursion and luncheon on the same day.

Communications regretting inability to attend were received from Bros. H. Young, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; H. Barton, P.M., P.G.S.; H. Slade, P.M., P.G.S.; Dr. W. H. Kempster, P.M., P.G.S.; and others.

The lodge was then closed. A banquet followed.

The W.M. presided most ably, his speeches being brief but pertinent, and the proceedings, although not unduly prolonged, were most enjoyable.

Lodge of Prosperity, No. 65.

The installation meeting of this distinguished lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Thursday, the 24th ult. Present: Bros. G. T. Kinipple, W.M.; S. E. Spencer, S.W., W.M. elect; W. M. Graham, J.W.; J. Roberts, P.M., Treas.; H. J. Harris, P.M., Sec.; J. Smart, S.D.; J. Huckell, J.D.; J. Dobbs, I.G.; G. Schadler, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Downs, A.D.C.; W. H. Montagu, Steward; T. F. Noakes, Org.; W. J. Green, I.P.M.; C. E. Terry, P.M.; C. J. Rich, P.M.; W. E. Thomas, P.M.; C. Daniel, P.M.; W. Chicken, P.M.; G. Haller, P.M.; F. J. Ruse, P.M.; D. Vailors, P.M.; H. J. Karlake, H. Karlake, W. H. Mills, G. W. Bryan, C. Hayden, J. Foyer, H. D. Skates, O. Talbot, J. Goodrich, C. Hammerton, O. N. Ris, H. H. Hobbs, W. W. Woodman, G. Greig, W. Rugg, J. Duck, W. G. Edwards, J. Maurice, T. Sharp, J. Banfield, E. Williamson, W. Hensell, H. Cox, F. W. Rudd, G. H. Wells, W. G. Read, R. J. Martin, G. Brown, J. Biss, W. Evans, J. E. Odell, L. Sullivan, T. W. Bardell, J. J. Harris, J. Barnes, C. Martin, G. E. Underwood, F. Green, C. T. W. Drake, E. Johnson, C. J. Rich, J. Cohen, R. C. Harris, H. Brooks, G. Chivers, E. Gray, jun., T. J. Wormsley, C. Hayman, J. T. Lindsay, C. Newman, H. Palmer, T. White, A. L. Underwood, D. L. Jenkins, F. Spalton, J. Savage, W. Hacksley, E. Mitchell, H. S. Cadle, A. Seneschall, F. B. Dixon, F. High, R. Portwine, H. C. Bettus, A. H. Taylour, W. J. Tidder, W. J. Stephens, H. Rattle, W. E. Knight, J. Chambers, H. Fuller, C. Martin, and G. H. Shepherd. Visitors: Bros. R. Weller, P.M. 1967; W. Mason, P.M. 1571; J. Hicks, P.M. 1237; C. H. Oliver, 471; Professor F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; G. Mills, 147; T. R. Lovett, P.M. 3; F. Keamoy, P.M. 1743; J. Skinner, 823; J. Smith, P.M. 192; J. Lidbury, W.M. 2346; C. Butcher, W.M. 902; T. Arter, P.M. 1278; J. Beard, J.D. 1306; H. A. Lambert, 765; J. G. Mibourne, W.M. 13; F. Logan, W.M. 431; E. Mileson, W.M. 2484; C. Daman, P.M. 1686; A. E. Gadd, J.D. 1891; C. Tuckfield, 1634; C. Cowan, 2552; R. T. Cushing, P.M. 1607; H. Sanson, P.M. 1423; E.

Young, 2421; J. J. Page, 917; J. Lancett, W.M. 781; G. Elliott, 87; J. Tollworthy, P.M. 2625; T. D. Burgess, 781; R. Sandlands, 2398; J. C. Peach, 192; A. Purkiss, P.M. 879; H. A. Mayer, 177; T. Gibbs, P.M. 1696; T. G. Hobley, S.W. 1320; W. T. Snell, W.M. 1818; A. Wood, P.M. 1362; W. Nash, Steward 147; J. E. Andrew, 523; J. Pegotty, I.P.M. 167; E. Ollen, 1306; R. Jennings, P.M. 907; A. B. Waste, 2473; R. J. Thomson, P.M. 1599; J. Baldwin, 2346; A. Cooke, W.M. 1539; W. Allen, 789; J. Hart, P.M. 1743; F. J. Wood, P.M. 1672; G. Fowler, 2360; A. J. Beane, 205; A. Fowler, 2369; J. T. Ball, 157; and A. Schnoder, 151.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. The following brethren were raised to the Third Degree: Bros. J. G. Banfield, F. Sharp, F. E. Odell, T. Sullivan, C. Hayden, W. H. Mills, and G. W. Bryan. The installation of Bro. T. E. Spencer, the W.M. elect, followed. The ceremony was performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Kinipple, in an admirable manner. The W.M. invested his predecessor as I.P.M. The W.M. was saluted by the Past Masters of the lodge and a large number of visiting Past Masters. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. M. Graham, S.W.; J. Smart, J.W.; John Roberts, P.M., Treas.; H. J. Harris, P.M., Sec.; J. Huckell, S.D.; J. Dobbs, J.D.; W. J. Downs, I.G.; G. Schadler, P.M., D.C.; W. H. Montagu, A.D.C.; T. F. Noakes, Org.; M. J. Harris and G. W. Shepherd, Stewards; and W. Lane, Tyler. The Installing Master gave the three addresses in an impressive manner. A summer banquet Committee was appointed. A grant of £25 from the lodge funds was voted towards the proposed testimonial to the Secretary for his long and efficient services to the lodge. The sum of 20 guineas was voted towards the list of the I.P.M. as Steward at the Boys' School Centenary Festival. The Secretary read the correspondence, and the lodge was closed.

A goodly assemblage of brethren sat down to the sumptuous banquet in the Venetian Saloon.

The toasts were proposed with commendable brevity.

The I.P.M. gave "The Health of the W.M." in glowing terms which was received with acclamation by the brethren.

The W.M. responded in a few well-chosen sentences, expressing his thanks for the welcome he had received.

The W.M. then gave "The Installing and I.P.M.," and, on behalf of the brethren, presented Bro. Kinipple with a handsome musical clock in appreciation of his services, also a Past Master's jewel, voted by the lodge, to which was added a tautalus, presented by those who had been initiated by Bro. Kinipple during the past year.

The I.P.M., in response, said he could hardly find words sufficient to express his gratitude to the brethren for the flattering and substantial proofs of their esteem. His year of office had, indeed, been a record one; he had initiated 30 candidates entailing a considerable amount of work, of which, however, he did not complain, for Masonry was a labour of love with him. He thanked the brethren for their handsome presents, and they might rest assured that his services would ever be at the command of the lodge.

On behalf of the lodge, a presentation was then made by the Treasurer, Bro. John Roberts, P.M., to the Secretary, Bro. H. J. Harris, P.M. It consisted of a cheque for 100 guineas in grateful recognition of his services extending over a period of 17 years. To this was added a silver cigar case.

The Secretary replied, saying he felt how inadequate were mere words to express his appreciation of the kindness evinced to him by the brethren.

Then followed "The Visitors," to which Bros. Cushing, Wood, Arter, and Kerney, responded.

The remaining toasts were "The Past Masters," "Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast terminated a most successful evening.

Royal Arthur Lodge, No. 1360.

The installation meeting of this flourishing lodge was held at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Wimbledon, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., the chair being occupied by Bro. J. R. Rutter, W.M., who was supported by about 80 Past Masters, officers, and brethren, including several distinguished visitors.

The minutes of the last regular and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, Bro. A. C. Halfhide, S.W., W.M. elect, was presented to the W.M. by Bro. J. Reeves, P.M., to receive at the hands of Bro. Rutter, W.M., the benefits of installation, which ceremony was ably and efficiently performed by the latter in a full Board of Installed Masters. Bro. Halfhide, on being installed W.M. for the ensuing year, invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. R. Rutter, I.P.M.; F. Neller, S.W.; F. D. Butler, J.W.; C. Gibbs, Treas.; T. R. Porter, P.M., Sec.; R. H. Houghton, S.D.; J. R. Woolgar, J.D.; J. Reeves, P.M., D.C.; C. J. Martin, I.G.; A. R. Williams, Org.; J. H. Mayo, P.M., P.P.G.P. Surrey, and A. Edwards, Stwds.; and T. Williams, Tyler.

The brethren afterwards sat down to a most *recherché* banquet, served in the usual excellent style by Bro. A. J. Gould.

The usual Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

Bro. Rutter then proposed "The Health of the W.M." in terms which elicited hearty applause, saying that he felt proud to have the honour of installing him in the chair of the Royal Arthur Lodge, feeling sure that he would do every credit to the lodge and carry out his duties in that efficient manner which he had done in the various offices he had hitherto filled.

The W.M., on rising to respond, was accorded quite an ovation, and said: I thank you all most sincerely for the very hearty reception you have given the toast of my health, and Bro. Rutter for the very flattering terms in which he has expressed himself on my behalf in proposing that toast. It is most gratifying to know and feel that during my year as Master of this lodge I shall have your loyal and undivided support in all matters appertaining to the welfare of our lodge. I may say that I feel, in a measure, a little diffident in entering this honourable chair, as the various Masters who have hitherto presided in this lodge marked the terms of their Mastership with such zeal, ability, and efficiency, that the task in following them is somewhat a difficult one; but let me assure you that no effort will be spared on my part in conducting this lodge with that efficiency and dignity for which the Royal Arthur Lodge is noted. It is said, and very truly, that Masonry is a progressive science. When I first entered this lodge I felt so very much impressed with the solemnity of my initiation, and the subsequent Degrees which I passed, that I aspired one day to occupy this chair, and so entered the junior offices in progression; and now, having reached the summit of my ambition, I am more than gratified, and I again thank you for your unanimous election, and further assure you that when I resign this gavel at our next installation, I only hope that every brother in this lodge will feel that I have faithfully justified the choice they have made in permitting me to occupy the proud and honourable position which I have this evening attained, and that my duties will have been performed with credit to myself and advantage to the lodge.

The next important speech was that of "The Visitors," in which the W.M. gave them a very hearty reception, and stated that the Royal Arthur Lodge was at all times pleased to meet their visitors and give them a fraternal reception, in fact the oftener they came the better they would be pleased.

This toast was responded to by the visitors, who highly complimented the efficient working of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Installing Master and Past Masters."

Bro. Rutter, as I.P.M., thanked the brethren very sincerely for the able support he had received from them during his year of office, which made his task one of very great pleasure, and hoped that the brethren would again accept his sincere thanks for the honours conferred on him that evening, in presenting him with the Past Master's jewel and also the collar and jewel which he had received from his initiates during the year. These tokens of confidence and respect, he added, would ever be remembered by him in his connection with the Royal Arthur Lodge.

Bro. Capt. Hoey, on behalf of the Past Masters, thanked them very sincerely for the very cordial manner in which they invariably received the toast of the Past Masters. He admitted that their duties were light, but that was to be accounted for by the very thorough manner in which the various Masters had acquitted themselves in their duties in the chair, and he not only felt proud of being a member of that lodge, but looked back with pleasure to the time when he had the honour of being its W.M. He expressed his pleasure at being present that evening to witness the installation of the

W.M., who was one of his initiates, and felt assured that during Bro. Halfhide's year of office the lodge would lose none of its former Masonic splendour, but that its dignity and high reputation would be fully maintained.

The next toast was that of "The Officers of the Lodge."

The Worshipful Master complimented himself and the lodge on the very able officers he had that evening invested, and expressed himself fully confident that during their year of office they would fully prove themselves worthy of the confidence that evening bestowed on them.

The officers suitably responded.

An excellent musical programme was carried out under the direction of Bro. A. R. Williams, Org., the contributors including Bros. S. Gandy, G. Percy, Kelsin, Trueman, W. J. Dann, and H. W. Loftus; and Messrs. Pinoconti, and Brett Hayden.

The Tyler's toast concluded a very pleasant evening.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

The election meeting of this very prosperous and civic lodge was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 28th ult. Among those in attendance were Bros. Evans, W.M.; Witt, S.W.; J. Young, P.M.; as J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M.; P.P.A.G.D.C., Treas.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.M.; P.G. Org. Eng. Org.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A.; P.M.; P.P.G. Org.; Asst. Org.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.; P.G.S.; P.G. Std. Br.; T. Simpson, P.M.; C. Bachoffner, P.M.; and E. Mallet, P.M. 141, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. P. L. Pewtress was raised to the Third Degree by the W.M. in a manner that but few young Masons could surpass. Bro. Witt, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; and Bro. E. Mallet, P.M., Tyler. The Audit Committee were also elected. A Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to the W.M. The Treasurer gave notice of motion that the lodge should vote a sum of money towards partly providing a summer entertainment to which ladies should be invited, the rest of the expenses to be borne by the members *pro rata*. Bro. N. P. Lardner, P.M., the Hon. Sec. to the Ball Committee, announced that the ball which was held on the 23rd ult., at Freemasons' Tavern, was a great success, there being upwards of a hundred present. Two members of the lodge having been excluded for non-payment of arrears, apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; J. D. Webb, S.D.; G. Herbert, P.M.; J. Murphy, P.M.; and others.

The lodge was then closed.

Refreshment followed labour.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the customary toasts were proposed.

The proceedings were greatly enhanced by the instrumental and vocal abilities of Bros. Dr. Lott, Dr. Hinton, J. Young, E. Cook, and N. P. Lardner.

St. Martin's Lodge, No. 2455.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held at the Town Hall, Charing Cross, on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., when members and visitors to the number of about 70 assembled. Amongst those present were Bros. H. T. Brickwell, W.M.; V. Barnes Fendick, P.M.; P.P.S.G.D. Berks, P.P.G.S.B. Bucks, I.P.M.; E. W. Browning, S.W.; Thomas Mason, J.W.; W. T. Farthing, P.M., Treas.; G. W. Mumane, P.M., Sec.; C. W. Cole, S.D.; J. Z. Greenfield, J.D.; Vernon Dowsett, D.C.; Challice, I.G.; Connah, Org.; Godson, Walker, and Wallen, Stwds.; Podmore, Vinden, Moore, Marshall, Partridge, Sutherland, Kinsley, Denton, Greenfield, Granfield, Wylie, Enever, Chadwick, Sayre, and Roger de Coverley. Amongst the visitors were Bros. S. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; G. Marvin, 1567; F. J. Hobbs, 1567; E. Hobbs, 2030; J. J. Horstead, 1585; W. Lonnin, 1973; H. C. R. Dailey, S.D. 1567; T. Eames, 1507; W. A. Tinney, P.M. 1319; T. A. Greene, P.M. 1710; W. T. Dillon, P.M. 1567; W. Sergeant Lee, P.M. 2488; W. R. Cleave, P.M. 2648; W. Adams, P.M. 1687; H. Sayr, P.M. 174; C. E. Gilbert, J.W. 2362; T. R. Roberts, W.M. 55; G. Briggs, P.M. 1572; W. S. Whitaker, P.M. 1572; W. D. Church, P.M., Sec. 1365; T. W. Vaughan, P.M. 1365; W. Fagan, I.G. 1567; A. T. Target, 53; J. H. Pearson, P.M. 1567; H. Rayner, 2648; W. Weedon, 2030; E. Freeman, I.P.M. 55; W. S. Wright, J.D. 1996; J. Brill, 780; E. J. Badderley, S.D.; H. E. Poole, Sec. 2030; and George Belmore, 1507.

The lodge was duly opened and the minutes confirmed. Bro. Wylie was subsequently passed to the Second Degree and Mr. Charles R. Enever was duly initiated, after which the ceremony of installation was proceeded with. The W.M. elect, Bro. E. W. Browning, was presented by Bro. Fendick, and the Installing Master, Bro. Farthing, duly installed Bro. E. W. Browning into the chair of K.S., after which the W.M. appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. H. T. Brickwell, I.P.M.; T. Mason, S.W.; C. W. Cole, J.W.; Rev. J. F. Kitto, M.A., Chap.; W. T. Farthing, P.M., Treas.; G. W. Mumane, P.M., Sec.; J. Z. Greenfield, jun., S.D.; Vernon Dowsett, J.D.; W. Challice, I.G.; J. Connah, Org.; W. H. Waller, D.C.; R. J. Godson, A.D.C.; C. Maynard Walker and T. R. Essex, Stewards; Cooke, Tyler; and Jarvis, Asst. Tyler. The investment was well done, and Bro. Farthing delivered the addresses in an earnest and efficient manner. The W.M. announced his intention to represent the lodge as Steward at the Boys' Centenary Festival.

All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Grand Hotel, where a splendid banquet was partaken of.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were ably proposed by the W.M., and honoured with enthusiasm.

Bro. Langdon, P.D.G.D.C., replied for "The Grand Officers," and expressed his approval of the splendid working in the lodge, and his pleasure at the W. Master's announcement of his intention to represent the lodge as Steward at the Centenary Festival of the Boys' School, and he made an earnest appeal to the brethren to assist and support the W.M. in sending up a good list.

The I.P.M., Bro. Brickwell, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said that he held in his hand a summons of the lodge called for February 22nd, 1893, where he read that "Mr. E. W. Browning was to be balloted, and, if approved, duly initiated." In the short space of five years Bro. Browning had by hard work and the respect of the brethren of the lodge worked his way up to the position of Worshipful Master, and he congratulated the Master and the lodge on the event, as the W.M. was a good worker and the lodge was perfectly safe in his hands. The toast was splendidly received.

Bro. E. W. Browning, W.M., suitably acknowledged the toast, and thanked the brethren for the honour conferred upon him. He was proud of the position and would do all he possibly could to uphold the position of the lodge.

Bro. C. B. Enever responded to the toast of "The Initiates," and made a very able speech.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the W.M. said the brethren of the St. Martin's Lodge were always glad to receive and honour visitors and that night they had among them some of the best. He coupled with the toast the names of the following visitors: Bros. T. R. Roberts, W.M. 55; W. Sergeant Lee, P.M. 2488; W. R. Cleave, P.M.; and J. H. Pearson, P.M. 1567.

The toast was cordially responded to.

Bro. Roberts was delighted to be present. They had had a splendid dinner, and the work had been exceedingly well done.

Bro. Lee, in acknowledging the toast, told one of his funny anecdotes.

Bro. Cleave was delighted to be present, and had thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Bro. J. H. Pearson said that the I.P.M. had told them that the W.M. had been known by some of them for just over five years; well, he had known Bro. Browning for more than six times five years, and all he could say was that they had the right man in the right place. He enjoyed coming to the St. Martin's Lodge, and he had just received a perpetual invite from his friend, Bro. Walker, and he hoped to accept the annual invitation to the lodge. The dinner had been one of the best he had ever sat down to.

Bro. Farthing responded to the toast of the Installing Master, and congratulated the lodge on its flourishing condition. His heart was with the lodge, and he would stand by it, and would do all that lay in his power to promote its interests, which were dear to him as its Treasurer.

Bro. Mumane briefly responded as Secretary, and Bro. T. Mason, as S.W., on behalf of the officers of the lodge. He assured the W.M. of the loyal and active support of each individual officer during his year of office. They were all proud to see the W.M. in his present position.

The Tyler's toast brought a most successful evening to a happy conclusion.

During the evening a Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M. The W.M. said Bro. Brickwell had done a great deal for the lodge. He had succeeded in cultivating

a splendid feeling among the officers, and he could truly say that in leaving the chair he left the lodge in a better position than he found it.

The I.P.M. suitably acknowledged the presentation.

The harmony of the evening was greatly appreciated, amongst the items being specially commended were the glees "Sweet and low" and "O, who will o'er the downs," and the grace "For these and all Thy mercies," in which Mrs. William Sinclair, Miss Emily Bodel, Mr. William Sinclair, and Bro. R. J. Godson took part. Miss Emily Bodel sang "Angus Macdonald" splendidly, and Mrs. William Sinclair's song—"The flight of ages"—was charmingly rendered. Bro. W. Sergeant Lee, P.M., gave an amusing song, which was well received. The whole programme was indeed well rendered and highly appreciated.

Royal Arch.

St. Magdalen Chapter, No. 242.

A convocation of this chapter was held at Nether Hall, Doncaster, on Friday, the 25th ult. Owing to the most inclement weather the attendance was not large. Among the officers present were Comps. A. W. Fretwell, M.E.Z.; J. Fitzgerald, H.; H. A. Fenton, J.; C. Goldthorpe, I.P.Z.; J. Constable, P.Z., S.E.; R. Brew, P.S.; C. E. Boomer, 1st A.S.; J. W. Chapman, 2nd A.S.; and C. Richardson, Janitor. Comps. T. B. Whytehead and A. Procter, W.M. 1611, were visitors.

A ballot was taken for Comp. W. Langbridge, 26 (I.C.), as a joining companion, which the M.E.Z. declared to be unanimous. Comp. Whytehead, P.P.G.H. N. and E. Yorks., P.P.G.S.N. England, gave the mystical lecture with explanations. This proved to be most interesting and instructive and was listened to with marked attention. A cordial and hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Comp. Whytehead who said he could well understand why so few were present when the wretched weather was taken into consideration.

The companions afterwards partook of light refreshment in the club anteroom.

Rose Chapter, No. 1622.

The installation meeting of this well-known and very flourishing chapter was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, on Saturday, the 26th ult. Present: Comps. Isaac Dunn, M.E.Z.; Samuel J. Derham, H., M.E.Z. elect; Wm. Dawson, J., H. elect; Thos. R. Cass, S.N., J. elect; J. Hooper, Treas.; Geo. Thompson, S.E.; G. H. Lewis, P.S.; Jas. Parr, Stwd.; F. E. Choveaux, Org.; Frank Williams, P.Z., D.C.; J. Whiteman, Janitor; John Loader, P.Z.; J. F. W. Morris, Hy. Potter, W. J. Frampton, Wal. Kirby, Fred. Wright, Richd. Brambleby, R. Sobel, W. J. Snodgrass, Arch. Christie, and R. J. Richards. The visitors were Comps. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.; Thomas Grummant, P.Z. 1275; Robt. Milligan, P.Z. 253 (I.C.); J. H. Cureton, P.Z. 2182; W. Cock, P.Z. 1295; H. C. Turner, 1901; Goddard Clarke, 2272; Hy. Hardman, H. 1275; R. T. Godfrey, P.Z. 172, and C. H. Stone, P.Z. 1275, 1901.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The installation of Principals then took place. A conclave of First Principals was formed, and Comp. Derham was installed into the first chair by Comp. T. Grummant. A conclave of Second Principals was formed, and Comp. Wm. Dawson was installed into the second chair by Comp. C. H. Stone. A conclave of Third Principals was formed, and Comp. J. R. Cass was installed into the third chair by Comp. Wm. Dawson. The M.E.Z. invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows: Comps. Isaac Dunn, I.P.Z.; J. T. Loader, P.Z., Treas.; Geo. Thompson, S.E.; Geo. H. Lewis, S.N.; Wm. G. Frampton, P.S.; Wal. E. Jeffery, 1st Asst. Soj.; Wal. G. Kirby, 2nd Asst. Soj.; Frank W. Williams, P.Z., D.C.; Francois Choveaux, Org.; Jas. Parr, Stwd.; J. F. W. Morris, Asst. Stwd.; and J. Whiteman, Janitor. A ballot was taken for Bros. R. Brambleby, F. W. Wright, Wm. Jack Snodgrass, and Archibald Christie, of the Rose Lodge, No. 1622; and Bro. Richard Richards, Victoria Lodge, No. 1056, which, proving unanimous, they were exalted in an exemplary manner, the three lectures being rehearsed most impressively. The M.E.Z. announced he hoped to represent the chapter at the forthcoming festival for the Aged, and trusted that his list might be worthy of the companions of the Rose Chapter.

The convocation ended, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent banquet supplied by Mrs. Venables, the proprietress.

The banquet ended, the loyal and Royal Arch toasts were presented by the M.E.Z. in truly Masonic style, and as such were received by the companions.

The M.E.Z., in proposing "The Pro G.Z., the G.H., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," dilated upon their excellent virtues, and the great work they did for the benefit of R.A. Masonry. The chapter was honoured by the presence of Comp. W. M. Stiles, P.G. Treas.

In reply, Comp. Stiles said it was indeed a great honour to respond on behalf of such a noble body. As regarded the M.E.Z., all had the highest regard for him, also for the Earl of Lathom, Pro G.Z., with whom the whole body of Masons sympathised in his recent bereavement; but it was gratifying to know of his improvement in health at Madeira, and that he was about to return to his excellent work; and, lastly, Earl Amherst, all of whom were splendid officers. He should never tire of thanking the brethren of South London for the manner they worked on his behalf, and elected him to the proud position of Grand Treasurer. He was delighted to be present and witness the installation of his old friend, the M.E.Z., and also to have the companionship of many old friends in the chapter. For such a cordial greeting he thanked them.

Comp. Isaac Dunn, I.P.Z., next rose, and wished health, happiness, and prosperity for very many years to come to the M.E.Z., Comp. Derham, and remarked all knew the very deep interest he took when in the chair of the lodge, and he was evincing the same in the chapter. All were much impressed at the able exaltation of five worthy brethren and it augured well for the chapter that the M.E.Z. would have an exceptional year of office. It was no easy matter to rehearse that beautiful ceremony for the first time, as he himself could testify, and he would take the opportunity of thanking many companions whom he saw around for their able assistance during the past year. The companions were delighted to see the M.E.Z. in that exalted position.

The M.E.Z., in reply, thanked the I.P.Z. for his very kind remarks, which he felt he hardly deserved. However, he had done it to the very best of his humble abilities, and at times felt almost that he should fail, but Comp. Wm. Dawson, H., came to the rescue for any word that was required. He most sincerely thanked the companions for the heartiness shown him, and he trusted his wish might be granted him, viz., that he might live for many years to be a member of the Rose Chapter.

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The Co-Principals," and remarked that in them were two very old friends and capable officers. The H. had performed splendid service in the chapter of instruction under Comp. T. Grummant, Preceptor, as also the J., who was most assiduous, and had worked exceedingly well in the same chapter of instruction. They had delighted all with their work.

In reply, Comp. Wm. Dawson, H., said he thanked them most cordially for the very flattering remarks; he was proud of his high position and would do his best to carry out the duties appertaining thereto. He also paid a high tribute to Comp. Grummant.

Comp. T. R. Case, J., also tendered his sincere thanks for the kind and generous manner the toast had been proposed and received. He had done his best, although when elected to the position he felt very diffident indeed about being able to carry out the duties, but he at once placed himself under such an excellent tutor as Comp. Grummant, and the companions had seen the result. His aim would be to still further perfect himself and maintain the excellent prestige of the chapter.

The toast of "The Exaltees" was presented by the M.E.Z., which was a very pleasurable one indeed. They were companions of the very best calibre, they had been known to him for years and had performed various duties in the Craft, and he felt sure the same zealotness would be exhibited in the Royal Arch. He welcomed them most cordially.

Comps. Brambleby, Wright, Snodgrass, Christie, and Richards, most ably responded, each making a neat speech in appreciative terms.

Comp. S. J. Derham, M.E.Z., most cordially welcomed a goodly array of visitors, among whom were many endeared to members of the Rose Chapter, so that the one feeling

among them was, that they were quite at home and not in the least strange in the chapter.

Comp. Grumant said, in reply, that he thanked the M.E.Z. for his kind remarks and also the companions for their hearty greeting. It was a pleasure to attend such a chapter to witness such admirable working. He should not single out one more than the other, but for young companions, from the P.S. upwards, the work had been most exemplary. Many brethren after they left the V.M.'s chair in a lodge thought it was next to an impossibility to work for the chairs in the Royal Arch, but by dint of indomitable perseverance it could be surmounted as had been witnessed that evening. From the manner the M.E.Z. had worked the splendid ritual with such impressiveness upon such excellent companions, he was sure it would be a red-letter day in his life's history.

Comps. Dr. W. Cock, Goddard Clarke, and Godfrey, P.Z., also ably replied. The toast of "The Past Principals" was next ably proposed by the M.E.Z., who remarked upon their excellent virtues and regretted the absence of Comp. J. Pullen. The Senior Past Principal, Comp. F. W. Williams, he congratulated upon his recovery from illness. Comp. John Loader was his oldest friend and he trusted that friendship would continue for many years. He had taken the liveliest interest in the chapter from its inception. Of Comp. Isaac Dunn, I.P.Z., all knew his worth, and what energy he always threw into his duties. He was an exemplary companion, and for the excellent services rendered the chapter for the past year the companions, to mark their esteem and regard, had unanimously voted him the P.Z.'s jewel, which the M.E.Z. presented in their name with the earnest hope he might wear the same for many, many years.

The toast was very ably responded to by Comps. Williams, Loader, and Isaac Dunn.

Comp. Dunn remarked upon the truly Masonic and kind manner the M.E.Z. had spoken of him, and also to the companions for their reception of the same. The officers certainly had made the past year a very happy one to him, and for this he was exceedingly grateful. For the handsome jewel he tendered his hearty thanks, and assured the companions it would remind him of the very happy reminiscences of the past year, and to all the succeeding officers he promised his most strenuous efforts would be for the welfare of the Rose Chapter.

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The S.E. and Treasurer," and remarked that in them were two most faithful and efficient officers. He paid a laudable tribute to Comp. J. Hooper, the late Treasurer, who had relinquished the position through business engagements, and heartily thanked him on behalf of the chapter for late services rendered.

Comp. J. Loader, Treas., thanked the companions for the honour of his election and the trust reposed in him. He could assure them he should continue in the same lines of the late Treasurer, and always keep within their means. There were three ways of living, below their means, up to their means, and beyond their means. He need not repeat, that the first way would be his way.

Comp. G. Thompson, S.E., also thanked the companions for such a cordial greeting. He was proud of being a founder of so excellent a chapter, and should be content remaining its S.E., if approved by the M.E.Z., for the time being. He was doing very well in his mother chapter and progressing favourably, but while in the position of S.E. he should take the liveliest interest in the Rose Chapter.

The toast of "The Officers" was most ably proposed and responded to by Comps. G. H. Lewis, S.N.; Frampton, P.S.; and others.

The Janitor's toast closed a very eventful convocation.

A capital programme of music was arranged by Comp. F. E. Choveaux, Org., the artistes being Madame Helen Coleman (loudly encored); Bro. Jas. Avon, and Mr. F. E. Cooter, both of whom were well received. Comp. F. E. Choveaux ably accompanied.

Obituary.

BRO. JAMES SQUIRE, P.M. 3.

It is with sincere regret we have to announce the death of Bro. James Squire, P.M. Fidelity Lodge, No. 3. He held the Secretaryship of this venerable lodge for the very long period of 40 years, and on two special occasions received from the brethren very handsome testimonials of plate in recognition of his services—one given in 1852 and the other in 1876; he was father of the lodge for many years, and on his retirement was made an honorary member, and received an illuminated address from the brethren. For 13 years he was Secretary of the Dobie Lodge, No. 889, and on leaving through ill-health, was presented with a very handsome timepiece. He became a founder of the Surbiton Lodge, No. 2146, and was a constant attendant at the lodge of instruction held at Surbiton; he was also Past Provincial Grand Sword Bearer for Surrey. His kindly, genial nature made him a general favourite with all who came in contact with him. Universally respected, he passed peacefully away in his 79th year. A deputation of the brethren attended the funeral at Highgate Cemetery, and placed on the coffin, as a token of respect from the brethren, a very beautiful wreath, with No. 3 worked in flowers.

Masonic and General Tidings.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK has been pleased to grant his patronage to a concert to be given by the Westminster Orchestral Society, in conjunction with the Streatham and Reigate Choral Societies, in aid of Westminster Hospital.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK left Mentone on Saturday afternoon last on her return to London. Among those assembled at the railway station to bid farewell to her Royal Highness were the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and the British Consul.

THE QUEEN has approved of the medal for operations on the West Coast of Africa, with a clasp inscribed "Dawkiti, 1897," being granted to Lieutenant F. B. Henderson, late of the Royal Navy, and to the force employed under him in the defence of Dawkiti, in the Gold Coast hinterland.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will hold their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall, on Wednesday, the 13th instant, at 4 p.m. The business will include the appointment of the usual Committee to draw up the annual report for presentation at the annual general meeting on Friday, the 20th May.

AMONG THE LATEST CONTRIBUTORS to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London are: N. M. Rothschild and Sons, £500; Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, £105; Prudential Assurance Company (Limited), £250; and the Duke of Norfolk, £50. All the above are annual subscriptions. Further support is needed to make the Fund's contributions permanent and somewhat larger. Many of the rich have subscribed largely, but several people in comfortable circumstances have not responded so freely as might have been expected.

THE 17TH ANNUAL DINNER of the Press Club was held at the Trocadero Restaurant, on Saturday last, the chair being taken by Mr. John Corlett, the newly-elected president. Among the guests present were Sir John Willcox, M.P.; Mr. H. Lawson, Mr. Anthony Hope, Bro. the Archdeacon of London, Bro. Sir Douglas Straight, Bro. Sheriff Dewar, Sir George Lewis, the Lord Mayor of Sheffield (president of the Sheffield Press Club); the presidents of the Liverpool and Manchester Press Clubs, Colonel Newnam Davis, Mr. A. A. Beckett, and Bro. D. Naoroji.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES paid a visit on Saturday last to the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha on board the Surprise. In the evening the Prince gave a dinner party at the London House, the guests at which included the Grand Duke Michael and Colonel and Mrs. Paget. His Royal Highness was afterwards present at a reception given on board Count Lanza's yacht Louise. The Crown Prince and Princess of Roumania, the Grand Duke Boris, the Duke and Duchess of Rivoli, the Duke of Leuchtenberg, the Count of Turin, and the Duke of the Abruzzi were also present.

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ALBEMARLE, who have been staying at Mentone have returned to England.

BRO. A. H. SMITH-BARRY, M.P., and Mrs. Smith-Barry have returned to their residence in Hill-street, Berkeley-square, from their tour in Egypt.

AS PART OF the memorial of the late Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood it is proposed to endow a bed in the London Hospital under the name of "Frank Lockwood Bed."

LORD JAMES OF HEREFORD will spend the Easter vacation at Ferne, near Salisbury. Before leaving Cimiez on Thursday last, Lord James had a long interview with Lord Salisbury.

BRO. THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF ZETLAND, accompanied by Lord George Dundas, have left Aske Hall, Richmond, Yorks, and will join their yacht, the Paulina, this week, in the Mediterranean.

THE GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS' COMPANY, whose Master is Bro. J. Bishop, will entertain the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Frank Green, and Bro. Sheriff Dewar at a dinner on Tuesday, the 3rd prox., at the Holborn Restaurant.

PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES arrived at Cromer from Sandringham on Saturday afternoon last. Her Royal Highness, who was accompanied by Sir Dighton Probyn, at once drove to Carrington Villa, which had been placed at her disposal by Bro. Lord Suffield.

AMONGST THE Wesleyan body a movement has been set on foot in favour of removing Wesleyan pauper children from the workhouse schools and pauperising influences. Bro. Horace B. Marshall, M.A., C.C., has offered to provide one of the first 120 houses required to accommodate the children.

A VERY interesting function took place last evening at York House, when the Duke of York was presented with an elegant model of the stern of her Majesty's ship Bacchante, in which he and his lamented brother, the late Duke of Clarence, made a voyage round the world some years ago.

BY DESIRE of the Queen, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, K.G., will represent her Majesty at the forthcoming Jubilee of the King of Saxony. His Royal Highness will reach Dresden on the 22nd instant, and will be accompanied by Colonel the Hon. Charles Eliot and Major-General Sir Charles Du Plat, K.C.B.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES has altered his plans, and instead of returning to London and proceeding thence to Sandringham for Easter, will remain on the Continent for some time longer. This arrangement will enable his Royal Highness to be present at the approaching marriage of the young Prince of Denmark. His Royal Highness will probably return to England in time for the Newmarket Spring Meeting.

ON SATURDAY afternoon last her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and attended by Miss Cochrane, drove to La Bastide to visit the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, both of whom are deriving great benefit from their stay on the Riviera. The Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury received the Royal party at the entrance to their villa.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Prison Mission, held on Saturday afternoon last in the Conference Hall, Clapham-road, it was announced that the Duchess of York had graciously taken the place of the late lamented Duchess of Teck as Patroness of the Princess Mary Village Homes in connection with the Mission. On the proposition of Lord Rookwood, a resolution thanking her Royal Highness for her kindly interest in the Homes was unanimously adopted.

THE ANNUAL exhibition of the Royal Amateur Art Society, of which H.R.H. the Princess of Wales is President, will be opened on May 11th by Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, at No. 1, Belgrave-square, S.W. The Hon. Secretary is the Hon. Mrs. Charles Elliot, S. Onslow Garbens. The loan annexe of the above will consist of drawings in pencil and water colour by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A., and water colour portrait-sketches by the late George Richmond, R.A., as well as of curious old fans and old shagreen and pique work.

THE QUEEN'S PRIVATE CHAPEL in the Excelsior Hotel Regina was beautifully decorated on Sunday last with palms, arranged in the form of a canopy behind the Communion table. In addition to her Majesty, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Princess Christian, Princess Henry of Battenberg, and the members of the Royal Household were present. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Ripon. In the afternoon, the Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian, and attended by Countess Erbach, drove to the heights of St. Antoine, and thence to the Château Fabron, where they stopped to see the children of the Crown Prince and Princess of Roumania. The return was made via the Promenade des Anglais and the old Cimiez road. The crowd respectfully saluted as the Royal carriage passed.

LORD AND LADY WIMBORNE entertained at dinner on Saturday evening last at Wimborne House, Arlington-street, the Duke of Roxburghe, the Marchioness of Dufferin and Lady Hermione Blackwood, the Marchioness of Blandford, Earl and Countess Grey, Bro. Lord and Lady George Hamilton, Lord and Lady Rodney, and others. Lady Wimborne afterwards held a reception, the guests including the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, the Danish Minister and Madame de Bille, Bro. the Earl of Halsbury (Lord Chancellor) and Countess of Halsbury, the Marquis and Marchioness of Hamilton, the Marchioness of Hastings and Miss Chetwynd, the Earl of Erne and Lady Evelyn Crichton, the Earl and Countess of St. Germans, Viscount Landaff, Lord and Lady Savile and Miss Helyar, Lord and Lady Henry Fitzgerald, Lord Jedburgh, the Right Hon. Joseph and Mrs. Chamberlain, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir Matthew and Hon. Lady Ridley, Bro. the Right Hon. W. and Lady Doreen Long, the Right Hon. Sir Francis and Lady Jeune, Bro. the Right Hon. W. L. Jackson, Bro. the Right Hon. Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Bro. the Hon. Alban Gibbs, M.P., and many other members of the House of Commons.

LORD ROBERTS AND OUR MASONIC VISITORS.

The party of Bristol Freemasons, who have been occupying their time in Dublin since Saturday, the 26th ult., in sight-seeing and in being feted by their Irish brethren, visited on Thursday, the 31st ult., by special invitation of Bro. Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Commanding the Forces in Ireland, the Royal Hospital, Kilmalsham. The visitors, who were again under the guidance of Bro. Gerrard Black, W.M. 53, were met at the Royal Hospital by Major Streatfield and Captain Feilden, and conducted to the Large Hall, where they were most fraternally received by Lord Roberts, each of the Bristol brethren being introduced to his lordship by Bro. Gerrard Black. His lordship first conducted his visitors over his private apartments, which are replete with the most interesting objects connected with the great soldier's career, both in battle and in civil functions. His many treasures include a number of caskets containing the certificates of the freedom of cities which have been conferred on him, and that relating to Bristol City, of which he is an honorary freeman, was, of course, pointed out with peculiar pleasure. The Field Marshal also showed a casket presented by the Merchants' Venturers' Society of Bristol. Indian trophies were to be seen on all sides, and before the party left, Lord Roberts' celebrated Arab pony charger was put in evidence. The chapel was an object of much interest to the visitors, as on its site once stood the habitation of a body composed of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. At the close of the visit, Bro. Gerrard Black and Bro. Harris (Bristol) thanked Lord Roberts for his great courtesy. His lordship expressed his regret that the time at the disposal of his Bristol brethren did not permit of a longer visit to the Royal Hospital. The visitors then took a drive through the Phoenix Park, and on returning to town were entertained at luncheon by Preceptory 245 at the Hammam Hotel. A visit was subsequently paid to Trinity College. The following is a correct list of the visitors from Bristol: Pierrepoint Harris, P.E.P., P.P. G. Chancellor; Wm. Proctor, P.E.P., Prov. G. Treas.; W. E. Parry, P.E.P., Prov. Vice-Chancellor; E. T. Collins, P.E.P., Prov. Priors Banner Bearer; A. C. Powell, E.P., Prov. Priors Banner Bearer; G. W. Flint, Constable; J. C. Gilmore, Marshal; H. W. Pearson, F. C. Bolt, A. W. Paul, J. L. Dickenson, W. Agnew Fedden, and C. J. Hill (all members of Baldwyn Preceptory).—Daily Express of Dublin.

DEATH.

MEAD.—On the 1st ult., at Ascent Villa, Red Hill, John Alexander Richmond Mead, late Colonel R.A. Aged 72.