

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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GRAND LODGE OF TASMANIA.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that on the occasion of Grand Festival our Grand Lodge had the honour of receiving as a visitor Bro. the Hon. CHARLES E. DAVIES, M.L.C., M.W.G. Master of Tasmania, and that in acknowledging the toast of "The Sister Grand Lodges," with which his name was associated, that distinguished brother spoke in the warmest terms, not only of the cordial reception extended to him in Grand Lodge, but likewise of the kindly recognition and encouragement which the Freemasons of Australasia had received from the Grand Lodge of the old world and the patronage bestowed upon their Grand Lodge by our Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of WALES. He also stated that Freemasonry in Australasia was established on a healthy basis, and was in a most flourishing condition, a statement which is fully borne out by the report of the Proceedings at the seventh annual Communication in January last of his own Grand Lodge, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. DAVIES himself. The reports that were submitted for the approval of the brethren were one and all of a most encouraging character. A Board of Benevolence has been organised during the year, and in addition to sundry donations from lodges and individual brethren, which will form the nucleus of the Fund, the Committee of the Tasmanian Masonic Benevolent Fund have transferred the control of that Fund to the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, and President of the Board of Benevolence for the time being as Trustees, who will from time to time pay over to the Board of Benevolence the interest derived from the investment of the capital of the Fund amounting to £1250. Certain of the private lodges have also, it is understood, decided to pay over to the Board the interest derivable from certain portions of the invested capital of their respective Benevolent Funds, so that the Board of Benevolence in addition to the income derived from quarterages, or the Tasmanian equivalent for quarterages, will have a fair amount of income on which it can rely to help it forward in the discharge of its duties. This would appear to have formed the staple of the address which Bro. DAVIES delivered at the meeting, but there were many other matters of local interest, which were referred to by him and in nearly every case in terms that appear to have been deservedly complimentary.

It must be remembered that the Grand Lodge of Tasmania is the smallest of the Grand Lodges established of recent years in our Australasian Colonies. It has but 23 lodges on its roll, while its statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year 1897 is composed of figures of very moderate amount such as we are accustomed to meet with in the annual statements of account of some of our medium-sized Provincial and District Grand Lodges. But as far as it is possible for us to form an opinion, everything connected with the administration of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania would seem to be conducted in a thoroughly business-like fashion, and so long as the Grand Master and his officers continue to exhibit such praiseworthy care and energy in the discharge of their duties, and the private lodges and brethren exhibit the same loyalty towards their Constitution, so long, we hold, will the Grand Lodge of Tasmania continue on its present satisfactory basis. We are pleased to have had this opportunity of reviewing the proceedings of what is very nearly, if not quite, the youngest of our British Colonial Grand Lodges, and we trust that, like the rest of those bodies, it may, with each successive year, become stronger and still more prosperous than ever.

ARS QUATUOR CORONATORUM.*

The Transactions recorded in the first Part of the current volume of "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum" are those of the January and March meetings of the lodge and include, as we mentioned last week, two papers which are certain to attract a large share of attention, not merely from students of our early history, but also from the Masonic public generally. The first is by Bro. Dr. CRAWLEY, and gives a far more elaborate description than we have hitherto met with of "The Masonic MSS. in the Bodleian Library." The character of this paper will be best judged from the concluding paragraph—which we quote in full—of the introductory portion in which the author clearly defines the object he had in view in compiling it. Says Bro. CRAWLEY: "An attempt has been made to render the raw material more digestible by supplying such collateral information as may serve to portray the personality of the writers and thus bring home the import of the MSS. Unless we can penetrate through the dust of ages to the mental temperament, the literary method, and the habitual environments of a writer, we are apt to lose sight of the true bearing of facts narrated without their circumstances, dates enumerated without their sequence, and excerpts presented without their context." There are few who read the essay who will not, we imagine, unite with us in the opinion that Bro. CRAWLEY has fulfilled his purpose. The MSS. he describes are grouped under three heads (1) "ELIAS ASHMOLE and his Diary;" (2) "JOHN AUBREY and the Memoires of Natural Remarques in the County of Wilts;" (3) "Dr. RICHARD RAWLINSON and his MSS." As regards ASHMOLE and his Diary, or rather those passages in it in which he describes, firstly, how he was made a Mason at Warrington in 1646, and, secondly, how, 35 years later, he was summoned to attend a lodge held at Masons' Hall, in London, and witnessed the admission of six gentlemen into "the fellowship of Free Masons," most of our readers must be tolerably familiar with the circumstances. The passages in question are

* "Ars Quatuor Coronatorum." Being the Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, London. Edited for the Committee by G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec. Volume XI.—Part 1. Margate: Printed at "Keble's Gazette" Office. 1898.

reproduced in facsimile, and there is also a portrait of ASHMOLE "from a fine specimen of the engraving after FAITHORNE, in the collection of Heralds' Portraits formed by Bro. Sir ARTHUR VICARS, Ulster King-of-Arms," to whom Bro. CRAWLEY acknowledges his indebtedness for his courtesy in permitting the reproduction. There is also a brief account of ASHMOLE'S career, and if the facts recorded are not unfamiliar to some of us, they have the merit of being well arranged and clearly set forth. So, too, with JOHN AUBREY and his "Memoires of Natural Remarques of the County of Wiltshire," the same fullness of well-ordered description is observable, but in respect of these our interest is the greater because it is perhaps not so generally known that it is "in these *Memoires*" that "occurs the only contemporary statement of Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN'S connection with the Craft," the next mention of him as a "Brother" being "in the year of his death, 1723, when some of the newspapers in their obituary notices call him 'a worthy Freemason.'" This also—that is, the passage which contains the statement—is reproduced in facsimile, while, as regards AUBREY himself, there is plenty of information given as to his career. Naturally enough, Bro. CRAWLEY notes the question which has been again and again discussed as to the worth of the statement that WREN was a Freemason, and, in regard to this, we hold that he has come to the right conclusion when he sums up the case in the following paragraph: "In view of the more recent investigations, the case stands somehow thus. Omitting AUBREY'S testimony, we find, in the course of the Acception, in the stream of family tradition, and in the obituary notice of 1723, such grounds for inferring Sir CHRISTOPHER WREN, like others of his stamp and day, to have been connected with the Craft, that we should be justified in feeling the liveliest surprise if it should be shown that the fact was otherwise. Admitting AUBREY'S testimony, we find the probability turned into such a certainty as actuates men in the conduct of their daily life. Rebutting evidence there is none. The witness and his testimony are such as the Court must admit. It is for the jury to determine the precise amount of credibility." We have always held that though there is no direct positive evidence that WREN was made a Freemason on the day mentioned in AUBREY'S Memorandum, the probabilities approximate so clearly to a certainty, that the title of a hair's weight will not suffice to distinguish the former from the latter. Happily, with AUBREY'S and other statements in favour of WREN'S admission into the Fraternity, the burden of disproof rests with the opponents of the theory, and we agree with Bro. CRAWLEY, when he says—"we should be justified in feeling the liveliest surprise if it should be shown that the fact was otherwise." As regards "Dr. RICHARD RAWLINSON and his MSS.," which occupy fully three-fourths of the paper, the account which Bro. CRAWLEY has compiled contains more information about Dr. RAWLINSON, and a fuller description of the Masonic portion of his MSS. than we have met with heretofore. There is a portrait of the Doctor and a reproduction in facsimile of a letter of his addressed to "Mr. THOMAS TOWL, at Mr. HEATH'S, near the Blackdog, in Shoreditch," from which it appears that it was not Dr. R. RAWLINSON, but Mr. TOWL, who compiled the volume containing references to Masonry, which has been hitherto attributed to the former. But this portion of the paper is so interesting that we must leave the reader to study it for himself. As Dr. CRAWLEY himself remarks—"we are apt to lose sight of the true bearing" of "excerpts presented without their context," and a few quotations taken at random would not suffice to show the real merits of the essay.

We have, unfortunately, left ourselves no room to deal with Bro. SPETH'S paper on "The Two Degrees Theory," and, therefore, we reserve our remarks on it for a further article, but as regards the other contents of the Part in which appear the two contributions specially singled out for comment, they include Bro. KLEIN'S "Hidden Mysteries," which have already appeared in these columns, together with the usual "Notes and Queries," "Obituary," in which will be found a brief account by Bro. Major LESLIE, of the late Bro. Major-General A. G. YEATMAN-BIGGS, C.B., Dist. G. Master of Bengal; "Reviews," and "Chronicle." To this must be added the description furnished by Bro. KLEIN of "the Symbolic Card for Christmas 1897," which is reproduced in order that the reader may be able to follow Bro. KLEIN in his explanations.

"BELL'S WEEKLY MESSENGER."

OLD LISTS OF LONDON LODGES—1796-7.

Through the courtesy of Bro. F. C. Crossle, P.G. Sec., co. Down, Ireland, I have been able to examine extracts from various numbers of *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, from 18th September, 1796, to 5th February, 1797, inclusive. These papers purport to give a list of the days and places of meeting of the London lodges under the Grand Lodge of the "Moderns," but the list is evidently unofficial and was probably compiled from information supplied by the lodges themselves.

In these lists I find two or three lodges still recorded as meeting, but they had been removed from the official register for several years.

No. 188, Corinthian Lodge, is stated on 16th October, 14th November, and 10th December, 1796, to be meeting at the "White Horse, North Street, Rathbone-place"—this is a place of meeting not recorded in the *Grand Lodge Calendar*, and should be noted accordingly.

In the *Messenger* for 18th September, 1796, at p. 168, we read—

"Several of the Fraternity having suggested the convenience and advantage that would arise to the different Lodges in London from a weekly statement of the Time of their respective Meetings (as it might induce the members to attend more frequently, and thereby greatly promote the Interest of that benevolent Society), the Proprietor of BELL'S WEEKLY MESSENGER has determined to add such a statement to his Diary. It is hoped, that the Plan, and the Paper that contains it, will meet with the liberal Patronage of the Fraternity, which will be a Favour essentially serviceable to one of the Brotherhood, who has almost been swept from the face of the earth, by the nefarious conduct of an Individual, who took advantage of his credulity. In spite of this misfortune, he once more confidently calls the attention of the World to his efforts, to produce a Weekly Paper, which he hopes will prove useful to them, and beneficial to himself."

"John Bell, of the British Library, Strand, respectfully solicits, that any alteration of the Places or Times of meeting, and of the respective Lodges, may be communicated to him, which shall be punctually attended to in future statements. Any Ideas which may be suggested to promote the General Interest of Freemasonry, shall also be adopted in this Paper."

In the *Messenger* for 2nd October, 1796, a lodge appears, without any number, "Royal Coldstream, Blue Anchor, Petty France." This lodge I cannot trace as belonging to the English Constitution. There was no "Royal Coldstream Lodge" on the registers of the "Modern" or the "Ancient" Grand Lodges. The Coldstream Regiment of Guards had a lodge, at that very time, No. 322, called the "Royal York Lodge of Perseverance," which was, according to these papers, then regularly meeting at "The Tower."

The *Weekly Messenger* for 27th November, 1796, has the following announcement: "Sunday, Nov. 27, 1796. A select meeting of Freemasons at Surry Tavern, Surry St." Sunday was the date of the paper, and the foregoing also appears in the issues for 4th, 11th, and 18th December, 1796, whilst in those for 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th January, and 5th February, 1797, the announcement reads: "A select meeting of Freemasons every Sunday Evening at the Surry Tavern, Surry St. Strand."

In the *Messenger* for 18th December, 1796, the following occurs: "The Prestonian Lectures. These Lectures have been again resumed at the Surry Tavern, Surry St., Strand, and are to be continued every Thursday Evening, at 8 o'clock, under the directions of that zealous and indefatigable Masonic Luminary, Mr. Preston, patronised by the Master, Officers, and a respectable Body of Members of the Lodge of Antiquity. We cannot, upon this occasion, withhold our due tribute of applause, particularly when we consider the simplicity, economy, and liberality of the means used by the Constituents of this Society so excellently calculated for the extending of Masonic Information. And we conceive ourselves further justified in pronouncing our opinion, that these meetings are likely to be respectable and durable, if not numerously attended."

"Public Masonic Meetings."

"On Monday Evening the Harodim Chapter is held at Eight o'clock, Freemasons Tavern, Great Queen St."

One final excerpt from the *Weekly Messenger* of 25th December, 1796, must close these notes:

"On Tuesday Evening next Dec. 27, a General Board of Trial for all the Brethren belonging to the Lodge of Antiquity, desirous to be raised to the Degree of a Master Mason, will be held at the Surry Tavern, Surry St., Strand, at 8 o'clock."

JNO. LANE.

Torquay, May 6th.

MASONRY IN WHITBY.

Bro. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, as the Historian of the "Lion" Lodge, No. 312, wrote an excellent work on "Freemasonry in Whitby, 1764-1897," which was printed and published last year, with a brief Introduction by me. The Volume is a credit to all concerned in its production, and the Illustrations add much to its interest and value. (Bro. George Kenning, 16, Great Queen-street).

The Book was prepared for the Centenary Celebrations, the lodge, strange to say, in the Centenary year (1897) numbering at the time exactly 100 members.

An Appendix of some 40 pages has just been printed giving a succinct Account of the Centenary Celebration of the Lion Lodge and the meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire, held at Whitby, 15th July, 1897, the pagination being continued from the History of the Lodge, and thus may be bound up with that artistic volume in completion of the special Commemoration.

The Celebration of the Centenary of the Lodge began by a service at the Congregational Church, John-street, on July 11th, 1897, when the

members and visitors, having assembled in the Masonic Hall, went in procession and took part in Divine Worship, the church being well filled and worthy of the occasion; the Pulpit and Choir stalls were suitably decorated, a special form of service was printed, and a Choir of 50 voices added much to the impressiveness of the proceedings; Bro. F. C. Atkinson, Mus. Bac., P.P.G. Org. West Yorkshire, presiding at the organ and rendering the Masonic Opening March most effectively.

The Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, P.M. and Historian of the lodge, and minister of the church, wearing his Masonic collars as P.P.G. Chaplain and Chaplain over his robes, occupied the pulpit, and preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon from the text—"Build thou the walls of Jerusalem"—(Psalms 51, v. 18). A collection was made, and divided between the church and the Masonic Charities, during which Bro. Hallgate gave a pleasing rendition on the violin of Handel's *Largo* in G, &c., and subsequently the congregation left the edifice to the strains of the Masonic closing march.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 15th of the same month, the Most Hon. the Marquis of Zetland, Prov. G.M., being in the chair, having the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, P.G.W., the D.P.G.M., on his right, Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. of England, the esteemed Prov. G. Sec. (these three distinguished brethren being honorary members of No. 312), Bro. T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B., and many other notable Craftsmen being present.

The R.W. the Prov. G. Master formally presented the centenary charter and jewel to the W.M. of the lodge, and Bro. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas gave a racy and ably condensed account of the "Lion Lodge," and then asked his lordship's acceptance of a copy of his History. The Prov. G.M. gratefully received the work, and desired that the address should be printed with the minutes of the meeting. A copy was also presented to the Dep. Prov. G.M. A grand banquet and ball completed the festivities, which will not soon be forgotten by those who were privileged to attend.

The Appendix has many illustrations, the frontispiece being devoted to the "Interior of Masonic Hall," and there are several portraits of old members, with memoirs, which make together a very tasty souvenir of the eventful proceedings, the pamphlet concluding with a well-written review of Bro. E. Fox-Thomas's History, reprinted from the *Whitby Gazette*.

W. J. HUGHAN.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

CONSECRATION OF THE ADDINGTON CHAPTER, No. 1787.

The above Prov. Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Buckingham, on Thursday, the 21st ultimo, and the occasion was taken advantage of to consecrate a new chapter to be called the Addington Chapter.

Amongst the companions present on this interesting occasion were the following:

Comps. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, G. Supt.; T. Taylor, Prov. G.H., as H.; J. Williams, Prov. G.J., as J.; Lord Addington, W. Weston, P.Z., P.P. 1st A.G.S., R. F. Shillingford, J., W. W. Carlile, M.P., the Rev. W. Miles Myers, F. D. Bull, E. Revill, S. E. Hipwell, G. H. Sampson, W. H. Bull, W. G. Bowyer, and J. Line, all of 840; A. Jacob, 360; W. T. Reeve Knapp, Prov. G. Std. Br.; M. Clapshaw, W. Knight, T. Mattinson, J. C. F. Tower, 2458, Prov. G.S.N.; T. H. Hobbs, 2421, Prov. G.D.C.; J. W. Singers, P.Z. 591, P.P.G. Reg.; H. H. Sherwin, 591, Prov. G.D.C.; W. J. Stratton, M.E.Z. 753; H. W. Horwood, P.M. 591, Prov. G. Reg.; W. Hodgkinson, Janitor 1501; T. Payne, Prov. G. Janitor; W. Surfleet; Joseph Simcox, M.E.Z. elect 1501, P.P. G.O.; B. R. Russell, 2458; A. Saunders, S.N. 591; E. Brown, 591; Ratheram, 591; G. H. Charsley, M.E.Z. elect 1894; R. P. J. Laundry, P.Z., Prov. G.S.N.; and others.

The Prov. Grand Chapter having been duly opened, the minutes of the last Prov. G. Chapter were read and confirmed.

Comp. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, Grand Superintendent, assisted by Comps. T. Taylor and J. Williams, proceeded to consecrate the Addington Chapter, No. 1787. He remarked it was a pleasure and an honour to him to consecrate a chapter which was to be presided over by so distinguished a Mason as their Provincial Grand Master, Lord Addington. In delivering his oration, he said they had done well in Buckingham, not quickly or without discipline, but in many points a good work, and now they had come to put the crowning stone on that work, in imitation of their ancient brethren who strove after perfection, thinking of their work and of the future rather than of themselves; they sought not to glorify themselves, but strove rather to do the work in a religious and honest spirit and without hesitation, desirous that the work should not merely be an assumption, but a solid evidence of perfection, which could only be done slowly and at the sacrifice of self, but to the glory of God and for the use of their fellow men.

After the dedication and constitution of the chapter and the Patriarchal Benediction, the installation of the Principals was proceeded with. The Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year are as follows:

Comp. H. W. Horwood	...	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" Lord Addington	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" G. H. Charsley	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Laundry	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" Rev. W. L. Harnett	...	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" Rev. W. M. Myers	...	...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" J. Simcox	...	...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" B. Sharp	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. T. Reeve Knapp	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Stratton	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" R. F. Shillingford	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Clapshaw	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" A. Saunders	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" E. A. Bennett	...	...	...	} Prov. G. Stewards.
" A. A. Walford	...	...	...

The following are the founders of the Addington Chapter: Comps. Lord Addington, T. Taylor, P.Z., Prov. G.H., W. Weston, P.Z., P.P. 1st A. G.S., R. F. Shillingford, J., W. J. Gough, A. A. Walford, C. A. Bennett, the Rev. W. M. Myers, and W. W. Carlile, M.P., all of 840; J. Williams, P.Z. 591, Prov. G.J.; and M. W. Myers, 357.

The first officers were chosen as follows: Comps. Lord Addington, Z.; Rev. W. M. Myers, H.; R. F. Shillingford, J.; A. A. Walford, S.E.; C. A. Bennett, S.N.; W. J. Gough, Treas.; W. Weston, P.S.; M. W. Myers, 1st A.S.; and J. J. Simcox, Org.

After the Provincial Grand Chapter had been closed, the companions repaired to the White Hart Hotel, where Comp. W. J. Gough had prepared an excellent banquet.

Comp. the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, G. Supt., presided, and was supported by the principal Prov. G. Officers. Champagne and other wines were kindly placed on the table by Lord Addington.

The toast list opened with that of "The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry," followed by that of "The M.E. the Grand Superintendent."

The next toast was that of "The Principals and Officers of G. Chapter, Present and Past," and in giving this Comp. the Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF remarked that one thing in connection with her Majesty's Jubilee which gave him the greatest possible gratification was when it was decided to make additional Grand Officers, the one who was selected for that special honour in Buckinghamshire was Comp. J. Williams. He should like to have mentioned that fact at the last Provincial Grand Chapter, but his lips were then closed. He had therefore much pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Comp. Williams.

This was suitably acknowledged by Comp. WILLIAMS, who said he would personally express his gratitude to the Grand Superintendent for the honour which had been conferred upon him, as he knew it was to him that he was indebted for that honour.

Lord ADDINGTON proposed "The Grand Superintendent and the Principals and Officers of Provincial Grand Chapter, Present and Past."

Comp. BROWNRIFF, in reply, said he felt really there was an especial pleasure, because though, with much regret, he was laying down an office which he had held for some years in the Craft, he was permitted by Lord Addington to continue in the chapter. It was indeed a pleasure because there was a great deal that would bring him amongst them, and the work of that Degree would not be so arduous. They were really very prosperous in the province in respect of Royal Arch Masonry, for there were now nine chapters in Buckinghamshire; in fact it had progressed at a greater rate than the other Degrees in Freemasonry, for he well remembered the time when there were only two chapters, and that was not so long ago. And it was a satisfaction to state that all the chapters were in good working order. That which had been consecrated that day, he hoped would become one of the most valuable in the province. He remembered the time, even before Sir Daniel Gooch was Provincial Grand Master, when it was almost impossible to get anyone to take the office, but to-day they had a Provincial Grand Master in Lord Addington, whose energy, industry, personal courtesy, and kindness was well-known to them all, and who was, he might say, second to none, in fact he went a long way above the rest. It was, therefore, an especial pleasure, to him to have installed Lord Addington as First Principal of the new chapter, but the London and North Western Railway Company's trains did not allow him to do so with his usual prolixity—(laughter)—if he had time, he might, perhaps, have been more eloquent. He would not say that that was the first time in his life that he had had to work against time. (Laughter.) But though he had to work against time he still felt that every word uttered was genuine, and that Lord Addington had the good wishes of member every of the chapter. (Applause.)

The other toasts were those of "The Addington Chapter," "The Visitors," and the Janitor's toast, and the gathering terminated, the companions having to leave shortly after five o'clock.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE.

A meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, St. John's-place, Halifax, on Wednesday, the 20th ultimo, under the banner of the Fearnley Lodge, No. 58, when the following brethren were present:

Bros. Charles Letch Mason, Prov. G.M.; George Henry Parke, W.M. 110, G. Treas. of Eng., acting D.P.G.M.; R. Hodgson, P.M. 58, Prov. S.G.W.; Simeon Whiteley, P.M. (T.I.), Prov. J.G.W.; H. S. Holdsworth, P.M. 58, P.G.S.B., C. Woollons, P.M. 110, J. W. Monckman, J.P., P.M. (T.I.), P.G. Stwd., W. F. Wilkinson, P.M. 58, W. E. Smithies, P.M. 493, and C. T. Rhodes, P.M. 58, P.P. G. Wardens; Thomas Uttley, P.M. 14, Prov. G.M.O.; W. Joseph Morris, P.M. 58, P.P.G.O., as Prov. S.G.O.; Wm. Cockerell, P.M. 501, Prov. J.G.O.; Richd. Nelson, P.M. 14, W. D. Shoebridge, P.M. 58, T. Gaukroger, P.M. 14, and Wm. Haigh, P.M. 14, P.P.G. Overseers; Rev. J. M. Walton, Chap. 501, as Prov. G. Chap.; H. Beaumont, P.M. 501, Prov. G. Treas.; T. Robertshaw, P.M. 58, P.P.G. Treas.; H. Gaskell Blackburn, P.M. 378, Prov. G. Reg.; Wm. Langbridge, P.M. 398, P.P.G. Reg.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 110, Prov. G. Sec.; S. Pegler, P.M. 398, Prov. S.G.D.; T. G. Howell, P.M. 137, 493, Prov. J.G.D.; J. J. Martin, P.M. 110, P.P.G.D.; John Reed, P.M. 398, Prov. G.I. of W.; J. T. Last, P.M. (T.I.), Prov. G.D.C.; Alfred Leach, P.M. 110, P.P.G.D.C., as Prov. A.G.D.C.; Abram Armitage, P.M. 137, as Prov. G.S.B.; John W. Smith, Sec. 374, Prov. G. Std. Br.; T. Buckland, 501, as Prov. G. Org.; John Brook, S.W. 493, P.P.G. Org.; T. H. Pattinson, P.M. (T.I.), as Prov. G.I.G.; Gledhill Hallas, P.M. 14, and Thos. Rowbotham, P.M. 53, Prov. G. Stewards; W. S. Milligan, P.M. 58, as Prov. G. Steward; C. A. Phillips, P.M. 457, Prov. G. Steward; J. H. Newton, 111, Prov. G. Tyler; and many others.

Bro. C. Letch Mason, Prov. G.M.; Bro. G. H. Parke, acting Deputy Prov. G.M.; and the Prov. G. Officers entered and Prov. Grand Lodge was opened.

The Prov. Grand Master, the acting Deputy Prov. Grand Master, and the Officers of Grand Lodge were saluted according to ancient custom.

The roll of lodges was called; all were represented.

The roll of Provincial Grand Officers was called; there were a few absentees.

Letters of regret at inability to be present were produced by the Prov. Grand Secretary from Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, P.G.W., Prov. G.M. North and East Yorkshire; A. Woodiwiss, Prov. G.M. Derbyshire; J. Sutcliffe, P.P.G.M. Lincolnshire; T. B. Whytehead, P.P.G.W., P.G.O.; J. C. Malcolm, D.P.G.M. (Craft) West Yorkshire; and Dr. J. Murray, M.A., P.P.G.W. Lancashire; also a letter from the D.P.G.M., announcing that through the death of his wife, which took place early that morning, he would be unable to attend.

Apologies were received from many Past Prov. G. Officers and other brethren.

The Prov. Grand Secretary presented the minutes of the half-yearly meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge, held at Bradford, on the 9th October, 1897, which were confirmed.

The Prov. Grand Reg., Bro. H. GASKELL BLACKBURN, on being called upon for his report, said: During the year ending 31st December, 1897, there had been seven deaths, 16 resignations, and four exclusions—total, 27. There had been 46 advancements and three joinings, and the total stood at 480—a progress not rapid, but steady and satisfactory.

The Prov. G. Treas., Bro. H. Y. BEAUMONT, in presenting his balance-sheet, pointed out a highly satisfactory condition of affairs, viz., that in addition to an increased balance, out of a membership now nearly approaching 500, there was not a single case of arrears.

The Prov. G.M. then informed the brethren that in the letter of explanation sent by the Deputy, Bro. Barker had enclosed a copy of a short address which it had been his intention to deliver to them that day.

Bro. Barker's words were heard with great attention and appreciation, after which

Bro. HENRY BEAUMONT, P.M. 493, Prov. G. Treas., rose to propose his successor. He had great pleasure in nominating for that office, Bro. John Reed, P.M. Danum Lodge, 398, Doncaster. Bro. Reed he knew to be an able and energetic Mark Mason, well skilled in lodge finances, having for many years held the position of Treasurer both in Mark and Craft lodges. They would find him an excellent man of business, and he (Bro. Beaumont), without any hesitation strongly recommended them to elect him.

Bro. W. LANGBRIDGE, P.M. 398, P.P.G. Reg., seconded, speaking in very high terms of Bro. Reed's fitness for the office.

There was no other candidate, and the proposition was carried unanimously.

Bro. REED briefly returned thanks.

The retiring Provincial G. Officers then surrendered their collars, being individually thanked by the Prov. G. Master, after which the following brethren were appointed and (except in the case of those absent) invested for the year:

Bro. Wm. Aked Statter, J.P., 110	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" E. J. Crow, Mus. Doc., 352	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" T. Rowbotham, 53	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" T. H. Pattinson, T.I.	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" W. H. Kingswell, 110...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. J. M. Walton, 501	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" John Reed, 398	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" C. A. Phillips, 457	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Joseph Matthewman, 110	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" G. Hallas, 14	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. B. Mays, 111	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" A. E. Dalzell, 58	...	...	Prov. G.I. of Wks.
" J. H. Pawson, 398	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. F. Dyson, 137	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" A. Armitage, 137	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Geo. Martin, T.I.	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" A. Walker, 127	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" T. Pickles, 127	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" A. J. Forsdike, 53	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. S. Milligan, 58	...	...
" M. A. Briggs, 374	...	...
" G. H. Schofield, 457	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. H. Newton, 111	...	...

The acting Deputy, Bro. G. H. PARKE then announced that the next business was the nomination of a brother to occupy the position of Prov. G. Master for the ensuing three years, and in the absence of Bro. Aked Statter, he would call upon the acting Prov. S.G. Warden.

Bro. R. HODGSON at once rose, and, after speaking of the long and faithful services that their present Prov. G. Master had rendered during the past 15 years, assured the brethren that they could not do better than retain him in that post, and therefore moved—"That this Provincial G. Lodge does hereby nominate for the approval of the M.W. Grand Master, R.W. Bro. Charles Letch Mason, to occupy the distinguished position of Provincial Grand Master for West Yorkshire for the next three years."

This was seconded by Bro. E. J. CROW, Prov. J.G.W., and supported by Bro. W. J. WILKINSON, who had, he declared, been a member of Prov. G. Lodge since its formation in 1871, and had personally known all the Prov. G. Officers.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

Bro. MASON thanked the brethren for their continued confidence in him. He well remembered 15 years ago, when, after returning from the funeral of their Prov. G. Master, Bro. John Wordsworth, they nominated him, an untried man, to that important position. That nomination had been renewed from time to time, which he took as a proof that they were satisfied with the way in which he had conducted the affairs of the province. He had always a strong liking for Mark Masonry, because of its peculiar teaching, and with their support and sympathy, he would, he assured them, do what he could, as their Prov. G. Master, to promote the interests of the Order for the next three years.

The CHAIRMAN of the Charity Committee then called upon the Prov. G. SEC. to read the report for the year just ended.

This was done, and on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by the VICE-CHAIRMAN, the report was adopted.

On the proposition of Bro. C. WOOLONS, seconded by Bro. W. J. WILKINSON, the two Wardens and three Overseers were elected to serve on the Board of General Purposes.

There being no further business, Prov. Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

The brethren—about 60 in number—afterwards dined in the Hall.

The loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The PROV. G. MASTER expressed his warmest thanks to Bro. C. E. Rose, W.M., and the brethren of Fearnley Lodge for the excellent arrangements they had made to secure the comfort of the brethren and the success of the meeting.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE.

The above Grand Lodge assembled in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 5th inst., for its quarterly communication, the throne was occupied by the M.W. Grand Master, Bro. Lord Saltoun, who was supported, right and left, by a goodly array of Provincial Grand Masters. The Wardens, Bros. Major F. W. Allan and Sir John Stirling Maxwell, Bart., being unavoidably absent, their chairs were occupied by Bro. Col. John Campbell, Past Senior Grand Warden, as S.G.W., and W. Munro Denholm, Junior Grand Deacon, as J.G.W.; among the other Grand Office Bearers being Bros. D. Murray Lyon, Grand Secretary; David Reid, Grand Treas.; Alec. A. Speirs, of Elderslie, Senior Grand Deacon; John Carruthers, Grand Bible Bearer; Col. W. Ivison Macadam, V.D., Grand Director of Ceremonies; William Phillips, Grand Marshal; Matthew Richmond, Grand Inner Guard; and others.

The first item on the billet of business was the unveiling of the replica of the bust of Bro. Sir Charles Dalrymple, of Newhailes, Bart., M.P., Past Grand Master, the M.W. GRAND MASTER gave a commentary on the work done by Sir Charles while Grand Master, and called upon the sculptor, Bro. W. G. Stevenson, to unveil the replica, which was done amidst the applause of the brethren assembled. The bust is a speaking likeness of the sitter and quite worthy of a place among the other replica that adorn the walls of Grand Lodge.

The GRAND MASTER read a letter from Bro. Sir Charles, regretting his inability to be present, on account of Parliamentary duties, and thanking Grand Lodge for thus doing him this additional honour.

A most pleasing proposal was made that the 21 years' service of Bro. D. Murray Lyon, as Grand Secretary, be recognised by a gift of 100 guineas, part of which would be devoted to the purchase of a lasting memorial.

Charters were granted for a new lodge in Nicaragua, and one in Rhodesia.

The minutes of Grand Committee embraced a recommendation that a collection be made at the annual meetings of all the lodges under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and that the result of the collection be at once remitted to Grand Lodge on behalf of its Annuity Fund. Also, that Bro. the Hon. Hew Dalrymple be re-appointed Provincial Grand Master of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright, and Bro. M. Hugh Shaw Stewart of Carnock, M.P., be re-appointed Provincial Grand Master of Renfrewshire West.

The income of Grand Lodge for the quarter ending April 16th, was reported as £1888 9s. 4d., and the expenditure as £1132 8s. 11d., leaving a balance, being excess of income over expenditure of £756 0s. 5d., while during the same quarter the Committee of the Fund of Scottish Masonic Benevolence granted sums to the total of £181 12s. 6d. to various applicants.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE STAR CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT, No. 1275.

The annual supper of this well known and highly successful chapter took place at the Ship Restaurant, Charing Cross, S.W., on Saturday, the 30th ult. Present: Comp. W. R. Barr, M.E.Z. 1275, President, supported by Comps. T. Grummant, P.Z. 1275; Chas. Meierhoff, P.Z. 1275; J. Block, P.Z. 1158; J. H. Cureton, P.Z. 2182; Harper, M.E.Z. 2182; W. Wills, M.E.Z. 1901; S. J. Derham, M.E.Z. 1622; J. Loader, P.Z. 1622; Lundie, M.E.Z.; Longhurst; T. R. Cass, J. 1622; H. Hardman, H. 1275; Geo. Thompson, S.E. 1622; W. Dawson, H. 1622; G. H. Lewis, M.E.Z. 2048; H. C. Turner, J. elect 1901; T. Baillie, 1365; Wal. Jeffery, 1622; Wal. Kirby, 1622; Wm. Becroft, Treas. 1158; Frampton, P.S. 1622; William Eckersall, P.Z. 1275; Sobel, 1622; and Blewett Faull, 101; Bro. Arth Court; and Comp. C. H. Stone, M.E.Z. 1275 and 1901.

The companions having highly appreciated the excellent repast supplied by Bro. Bonaldi, the proprietor, for which he received special thanks.

The M.E.Z. proposed the loyal and Royal Arch toasts in befitting terms, which were duly honoured.

Comp. THOS. GRUMMANT, P.Z., next proposed the toast of the evening, that of "The President, Comp. W. R. Barr," and remarked that it was a great and unlooked for pleasure to present to the companions one so worthy and highly esteemed. It was but eight years since he was initiated in the Stuart Lodge, and he had performed the various duties with very great efficiency. His year as Master of the Stuart Lodge was most successful and highly commendable. He was exalted in the Star Chapter a very few years since, and had succeeded to the position of its First Principal. Only last Tuesday he showed how able an M.E.Z. he was in performing the ceremony of exaltation for the first time, which required great nerve, calmness, and collectedness. The previous Saturday he was honoured by being installed M.E.Z. of the Addiscombe Chapter; so the President had the double privilege of two M.E.Zs. combined, that of the Star Chapter and a provincial chapter in Surrey. He presented the toast with the greatest possible pleasure, and thanked him for presiding over so united and happy a company.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Comp. W. R. BARR heartily thanked the companions for so cordial a greeting and the kind words that had fallen from Comp. T. Grummant. He was certainly proud to be a "double Barr" and to have performed the duties to their satisfaction. His advice to brethren and Royal Arch companions was to make themselves efficient in their respective duties, and attend lodges of instruction and chapters of improvement, thus enabling them to perform any duty they might be called upon to perform, whether a minor office, or that of Principal. Specially would

he urge the necessity of working far in advance of their position (if a minor one) so that they could be ready for any emergency, and also for companions to be able to perform their duties even 12 months before they might be elected to the office. His endeavour would be to give as great satisfaction in the future as in the past.

The PRESIDENT next gave "Success to the Star Chapter of Improvement," the toast of the evening, which had for its Preceptor Comp. T. Grummant, one of the most capable companions, willing, and ever ready to impart that instruction which had made the chapter second to none in London. The Star Chapter had been most successful, and in it had been trained companions who were able to conduct the whole ceremonies, even in the absence of the Preceptor. He hoped the same success would continue, and the efforts of the Preceptor be still further crowned for many years to come. He would couple with the toast Comp. Thos. Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor.

The toast was most cordially received.

In reply, Comp. GRUMMANT said it was the second time he had responded in that capacity, and he was, indeed, grateful for his name being thus associated. He should like to take a retrospect of R.A. Masonry and the founding of the Star Chapter of Improvement. Some 18 or 20 years ago a few companions met in Greenwich under the able Preceptorship of the late Comp. Bumstead, who took a very deep interest in Royal Arch Masonry, and who particularly gave him the sound advice of working up and perfecting himself in the various duties, which would in the end be appreciated, and that had been attained. In times gone by the work had been relegated to a few Past Principals, but how different was it now since the formation of the Star Chapter of Improvement when other chapters of improvement had failed. The late esteemed Comp. Poore had endeavoured his best in Camberwell, but had never received the support sufficient to make it successful. The idea having struck a few companions, seven or eight in number, among whom were Comps. R. J. Voisey and C. H. Stone (one of the most enthusiastic companions one could meet), the Star Chapter was started 10 years ago, and had continued to succeed. He was called upon most unexpectedly to be its Preceptor, and felt somewhat diffident at first, but when he had such able and hearty support from the companions, together with so much kindness, it had gone on and prospered. The work of the Star Chapter of Instruction was amply exemplified in uniting the various neighbouring chapters—the Rose, Selwyn, Star, Sterndale Bennett, and the Southern Star, from the companions of which he had had the heartiest support, and had received the greatest possible kindness. While such excellent work was carried on, and each succeeding Principal installed his successor, he felt a new era was dawning on Royal Arch Masonry, so long should he be proud in remaining Preceptor of so valuable a chapter of instruction as that of the Star, 1275.

The PRESIDENT next gave the toast of "The Treasurer and S.E." Comp. R. J. Voisey, P.Z., Treas., had been associated with the chapter from its formation, and filled the office of Treasurer during that time. He was a most distinguished Mason, and when able to attend, through his manifold duties, showed a very lively interest in the chapter. The funds were safely guarded and applied in the right direction. Of Comp. C. H. Stone, P.Z., S.E., it was unnecessary to say that, whatever position he was called upon to undertake, he not only did it with a will and power, but with great credit to himself. He was a most indefatigable worker, and his life and soul was for the welfare of Freemasonry. His willingness and readiness at all times to do good was his aim, and the welfare of the chapter of instruction was his desire. He was to be congratulated for so recently having been elected a member of the Board of Benevolence, which gratified his many friends. He would ask the companions to drink in bumpers, and he would couple with the toast Comp. C. H. Stone, S.E.

In reply, Comp. STONE, S.E., heartily thanked the companions for so very cordially receiving the toast of Treasurer and S.E. Of Comp. R. J. Voisey, Treasurer, he would say that the funds were in safe custody with him, and no doubt his absence was accounted for through his ill-health. All would have been delighted at his presence, as he was deeply interested in the welfare of the chapter, and wished his health would improve. For himself, he had been very kindly spoken of by the President, and felt that it was almost more than he deserved. He had only done his duty, and trusted that he should be spared to continue in that straight path for many years. A few statistics of the chapter he should like to present, which, to his mind, were not only interesting, but highly commendable. The chapter had been founded 10 years, and, from reference, had not missed a single convocation. During the past year there had been 38 meetings, with an average of nearly 14, which, to his mind, spoke volumes as to the kind of instruction imparted. There had been 14 new members in the year, making a total of 242 on the roll; the furniture of the chapter had been purchased and repaid by the subscriptions, "but the best test and surest proof of the sincerity," &c., was the part that those subscriptions had played in the cause of Charity; no less a sum than 30 guineas had been paid to the various Institutions, and the companions had voted a further sum of five guineas on his list for the Boys' Centenary Festival. That fact alone gave him every incentive to do his utmost for the welfare of the Star Chapter of Instruction. It was certainly very significant, but the neighbouring chapters were represented on that occasion by the M.E.Z. of each chapter, thereby showing their deep interest, and also in supporting the President and the excellent Preceptor, Comp. Thomas Grummant. He hoped the same good feeling would exist for many years, and nothing would be left on his part to continue to support all who assisted to make the chapter of instruction second to none in London.

The toast of "The Artistes" was ably proposed by the PRESIDENT and duly responded to by Comps. BLEWETT FAULL and DERHAM, P.Z., and Bro. ARTHUR COURT.

An excellent selection of music was given by Comps. Derham (flautist), Hy. Hardman, Lundie, G. Thompson, and Frampton (reciter), and Bro. Arthur Court. Comps. Harper and Blewett Faull ably presided at the piano.

"ACADEMY OF ARMORY," BY R. HOLME.

Mr. Bernard Quaritch, of 15, Piccadilly, has two copies for sale of the "Academy of Armory," by Randle Holme, of Chester, who was a prominent Freemason of the 17th Century, and is familiar to us students in the Harleian MS., No. 2054, British Museum.

There is a fine copy of this first edition in the Library of Grand Lodge, and certainly, no general Masonic Library could be complete without having one on its shelves. So perfect a copy is most difficult to procure and costly withal.

Mr. Bernard Quaritch, who is the Prince of 2nd Hand Booksellers, thus refers to the Editions of 1688 and 1701. He has in his Collection Book 3, small paper, to complete the 3 Parts, in folio, and also the scarce Index of names to the "Armory" (1010) of 1821, of which only 50 copies were printed.

Randle Holme, in the aforesaid work, thus alludes to the Fraternity: "I cannot but Honour the Fellowship of the Masons, because of its Antiquity; and the more, as being a member of that Society called Freemasons."

The following is quoted from a Catalogue just issued, of "Choice and valuable Books," which may be had from B. Quaritch, post free, for five pence:

W. J. HUGHAN.

Holme (Randle) "The Academy of Armory, or, a Storehouse of Armory and Blazon" With the instruments used in all trades and sciences, together with their terms of art—small folio. Parts 1 and 2, folio, large paper (unique in this state), dedication copy to King James II, fine copy, with the rare frontispiece, bound in old red Morocco, with the King's Arms impressed on the sides, gilt edges. Chester, Printed for the author, 1688.

Dedication Copy to King James II., having a specially printed leaf of dedication (not a patron's leaf as is sometimes found) following the title. On the reverse of this leaf is an address—"The Author to the Gentle Reader," in which occurs this passage—"It is only given thee to Understand that I have in this Volume Presented to your view two Books, the first Treating of the Office of an Herald; The second Treateth of Natural Bearings" and further soliciting encouragement for the publication of books 3 and 4. This shows clearly that books 1 and 2 were originally issued without book 3. This is further confirmed by the dedication to chap. 2, book 3, in which Holme says: "he stood at a stay" after finishing books 1 and 2, on account of the "vast expense past," and thanks R. Brereton for providing him with funds. The address above referred to was reprinted with the obvious alterations, on the last page of book 3, and on this occasion Holme asks for encouragement for book 4.

This original issue differs from the later issue of this date (and consequently, also, of the reissue of 1701), in having the last page of sig. A. (page 8 of contents) quite blank. This sheet was afterwards entirely reset, with two commendatory verses by T. Simpson, jun., and R. Holme, jun., on page 8, and an extra leaf of "Anagram," etc., added. In this first issue the catchwords of pages 2, 4, and 6, of sig. A. are "Liber," "longing," and "Blazon," respectively, and the abbreviation, "Cap," is used throughout instead of "Cráp." The leaf between pp. 220-221, "An Alphabet of all known Beasts," was not in this copy, but I have inserted it. It is often missing, and inasmuch as it is a fifth leaf in a sheet, and has no pagination, must have been issued subsequently to the book.

This copy, at an early date, came into the possession of Dr. Wm. Cowper, F.S.A., of Colne, Mayor of Chester (his ex-libris is dated 1728.) He died 1767, bequeathing his property to Thomas Cowper, from whom it descended through his daughter and sole heiress, Dorothy, to Reg. Cholmondeley, of Conover, recently deceased. The book-plates of these three gentlemen are in the volume.

It is fortunate this book has not passed through the hands of an ex-libris collector, or we would have lost this delightful pedigree, showing that the home of the book has been for 170 years in Cheshire.

Holme (R.) "The Academy of Armory," folio, good sound copy, in old calf. London, 1701.

This is the reissue of the 1688 book, with a reprinted title-page.

The engraved title was not issued with the copies dated 1701, no doubt, owing to James's Arms forming portion of the design. A dedication leaf to William and Mary is sometimes found inserted, but is not in this copy. Lowndes, in his collection, does not mention two separate plates of alphabets found at pp. 414 and 416, in book 3.

Royal Arch.

Jerusalem Chapter, No. 185.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held by dispensation at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, on the 19th ult., when there were present Comps. G. Davis, P.Z., S.E., as First Principal in the absence of Comp. Blankley, M.E.Z.; Hill, H., M.E.Z. elect; N. Moss, J.P., P.Z., as J.; Johnston, J. elect; Harfield, P.Z., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C.; Staley, P.Z.; Rivers, Huish, and Foskett. Comp. Mason, P.Z., Vice-President of the Board of General Purposes, was a visitor.

The minutes of the previous convocation having been read and confirmed, Comp. G. Davis, P.Z., impressively installed the First and Third Principals. Comp. Witthaus, H. elect, was unable to attend. Among the officers invested were Comps. G. Davis, P.Z., S.E.; Harfield, P.Z., Treas.; Huish, P.S.; and Foskett, 1st A.S. A notice of motion was given—"That in future the chapter meet at the Frascati Restaurant." Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. Blankley, I.P.Z.; Witthaus, H. elect; Cleghorn, P.Z.; and Eisleman, P.Z. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The resignation of Comp. Hanbury was received with regret.

The chapter was then closed. Refreshment followed labour.

The long list of toasts was duly gone through by the M.E.Z.

In the intervals an agreeable programme of instrumental and vocal music was presented and gave unqualified satisfaction.

Wycombe Chapter, No. 1501.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Masonic Rooms, High Wycombe. Present: Comps. E. T. James, M.E.Z.; J. J. Simcox, H.; H. H. Sherwin, J.; John Williams, P.Z., M.E.Z. 591, P.G. Std. Br. Eng.; R. Nicholson, P.Z., Treas.; J. Bliss, P.Z., S.E.; F. Johncock, C. Batting, A. Ball, J. C. Coppock, J. D. Carter, W. Ratheram, D. Wilton, R. Hambling, and J. W. Hodgkinson, Janitor.

The minutes of the last chapter and chapter of emergency were read and confirmed. Comps. J. J. Simcox, Sherwin, and Johncock were then installed into the three chairs, the ceremony being very ably performed by Comp. J. Williams. The M.E.Z. afterwards proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: Comps. C. Batting, S.N.; J. Bliss, S.E.; R. Nicholson, Treas.; J. Coppock, P.S.; Ball, 1st A.S.; J. Williams, 2nd A.S.; W. Scott Miller, D.C.; D. Wilton and H. Hamby, Stwds.; and Hodgkinson, Janitor. The M.E.Z., in appropriate terms, next presented Comp. E. T. James with a P.Z.'s jewel for his arduous zeal in the chair for the past year. Comp. James having responded, Comp. Simcox, M.E.Z., proposed, and Comp. Bliss seconded, that Comps. John Williams and R. O. G. Grace, both of whom had shown great earnestness in the welfare of the chapter, and were both Grand Officers, should be appointed honorary members of the chapter. This was carried unanimously. Bro. H. Flint, S.D. 1501, was proposed as a candidate for exaltation, and Comp. Ball was nominated to represent the chapter at the Boys' Festival.

The chapter was then closed.

Mark Masonry.

Wycombe Lodge, No. 480.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, High Wycombe, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., when a large number of brethren were present. Bro. F. Johncock, W.M., occupied the chair.

The minutes of the last lodge and of an emergency meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. C. Batting, P.M. 257, P.J.G.W. Berks, was duly installed in the chair, the ceremony being most impressively rendered by the W.M. Bro. Batting having been saluted, appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. J. Simcox, S.W.; E. T. Rees, J.W.; H. Hambling, M.O.; H. Flint, S.O.; J. C. Coppock, J.O.; W. L. Bradshaw, S.D.; W. Brich, J.D.; T. Bliss, P.M., Treas.; R. Nicholson, P.M., Sec.; H. H. Sherwin, I.G.; and A. Ball and J. N. Hodgkinson, Stwds. The W.M. then presented a Past Master's jewel to Bro. Johncock, I.P.M., for his valued services to the lodge during his year of office. Bro. Johncock suitably responded, and the lodge was closed.

THE QUEEN and Court left Windsor Castle shortly before half-past eleven o'clock on Monday for the Metropolis. Her Majesty and suite travelled by special Great Western train to Paddington, whence they drove, under an escort of the Household Cavalry, to Buckingham Palace.

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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,

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London, W.C. Secretary.

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The Committee of the E.L. of I. have instructed me to
give notice that there will be no meeting of this Lodge, on
Friday, June 10th, this being the date fixed for the celebra-
tion of the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Insti-
tution for Boys.

J. RUSSELL, Secretary.

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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1898.

Next week will be an unusually busy one in the region round about Freemasons' Tavern. First of all, there will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 18th instant, the 110th Anniversary Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. The chair will be taken by R.W. Bro. Alderman Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Past G. Warden of England, Patron and Treasurer of the Institution, and the Board of Stewards which will support him will not greatly exceed in number about 200 ladies and brethren. We have more than once expressed our regret at the paucity of Stewards, and the discouraging prospects which appear to await the School on this occasion. We have explained why it is the Stewards are so few, and the outlook so unpromising. We need not do more, therefore, than express the hope that, after all, we may prove to be a conspicuous failure in the rôle of prophet. We do not anticipate that the Girls' School will fare better than the Benevolent Institution, which is the first in order of time of the three Institutions to celebrate its annual Festival, and the latter only succeeded in then obtaining about the half of what it annually expends; or, to put it some-

what differently, only about two-thirds of the deficiency it has to make good, and it had a Board of over 250 Stewards. If the Girls' School Festival turns out to be proportionately more productive, we shall be delighted beyond measure.

Of one thing we are certain—that the Chairman and the Board of Stewards will do all in their power in order to ensure a satisfactory result, nor will it be their fault if the Donations and Subscriptions are materially less than in ordinary years. As for the distribution of prizes and calisthenic display, the day appointed for this part of the annual fête is Monday, the 16th instant, when the prizes will be distributed by Lady Hanson. In this case, of course, anything in the way of shortcoming is out of the question. All that is needed to enhance its attractiveness as usual is plenty of bright sunshine, and we must hope that the Clerk of the Weather will be considerate in this respect.

Two days later, that is, on Friday, the 20th instant, the Annual General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be held at the same Freemasons' Tavern. The first business will be the presentation of the Report of the Committee of Management for the past year. This will not occupy the meeting for long, but there will, in all probability, be a discussion over the motion of which Bro. W. C. Parsons has given notice, namely, that two of what are known as the three "deferred annuities" shall be reserved for the two candidates who have been longest on the list, if they are considered worthy of the same; or, in the event of this not being carried, that the names of candidates who fail to receive election within six years shall be removed from the lists, but they shall be eligible for re-nomination if worthy. We have already furnished reasons why, in our opinion, it is undesirable that either of these motions should be adopted, and we trust those reasons will have weight with the Governors and Subscribers present at the meeting.

There is, however, one point in connection with the the second, or alternative proposal, which appears to have escaped the notice of Bro. Parsons. It occurs to us that in the event of any candidates whose names are thus removed from the lists, being re-nominated and accepted, they will be virtually *new* candidates, and will lose the votes polled for them during their previous six years' candidature. Will it not be wiser, if for no other reason than this, to let them remain on the list?

As for the elections, which will commence at 1 p.m. or as soon as the regular business has been disposed of and close at 3 p.m., there are 57 male candidates and 14 vacancies of which 11 are immediate and three deferred; while on the Widows' Fund there are 62 candidates for eight vacancies—five immediate and three deferred. Of the Male candidates 35 remain from last year and 22 have been added since; while of the Widow candidates 24 were on last year's list and 38 have been added since. On both Funds there are several of the Old People who have been unfortunately before the electors for periods ranging from six to 15 years, but we do not see that anybody is to be blamed for their successive failures, and, as we have before said, we do not think it desirable that any change should be made in the existing laws of the Institution. Everybody must sympathise with people who are so unfortunately circumstanced as to be unable to secure election, but it is not in anyone's power to compel people to vote for them.

Freemasonry has just sustained a serious loss through the death of his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, Past Prov. G. Master of Nottinghamshire. Latterly, owing to the malady from which he was suffering he had taken no very active part in the affairs of the Craft, but he was Provincial Grand Master, firstly of Lincolnshire and then of Nottinghamshire for 35 years, and resigned the latter office only towards the end of last year. He was greatly and justly respected by the brethren in the Provinces he had successively presided over, and we tender our most respectful sympathy to the widowed Duchess of St. Albans; his son, the Earl of Burford, who succeeds to the title and estate; and the other members of his Grace's family.

It does not often happen that we are privileged to report the consecration of so many new London lodges as we have done during the present year. In the earlier days there were the Arcadia and the Italia, not long ago it was the Old Masonians, and last week it was the Playgoers' Lodge, which starts under most

favourable auspices. There was a goodly muster of Grand Officers to witness and, in some cases, take part in the ceremonies of consecration and installation, while a very large number of candidates for initiation and membership were proposed, so that there is every reason to anticipate for it a long and prosperous career. We need hardly be at the trouble of adding that the new lodge has our sincerest wishes for its success. We shall at all times be ready to lend it a helping hand.

The April number of the *Canadian Craftsman* contains a brief description of the Jubilee Address of the Grand Lodge of Quebec to the Queen. The Committee charged with the duty of preparing the Address was appointed about a year ago; but it was not presented during the Diamond Jubilee year because the Committee were desirous of first submitting it for the approval of Grand Lodge, which did not hold its annual meeting till early in the present year. From the account given it would appear to be a most beautiful work. The Address proper covers seven pages of illuminated text, the prevailing colour of the ornamentation being sky blue, while the general contrasting shade is pink, the whole being enriched by the plentiful employment of gold leaf.

The frontispiece is a water-colour sketch of the City of Montreal, in which the Grand Lodge has its headquarters, and on the page that follows are the Royal Arms, the Imperial Crown, and the monogram V.R. A Canadian character is given the illumination by the introduction of late autumnal maple leaves on one of the pages, and here and there are to be seen a few Masonic emblems. The binding is described as being most artistic, the front cover being an elaborate gold decoration on Russia leather, while the gold clasps are formed of the Square and Compasses, with the letter "G" in the centre.

We call attention to the fatal accident which occurred to one of the pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on Monday, the 2nd inst., as described in Bro. McLeod's letter which appears in our correspondence columns. It is difficult to realise a sadder picture than that of a generous and promising boy, one moment in the full enjoyment of the highest spirits and the next moment lying prone on the ground with every spark of his young life crushed out of him by the unwieldy implement he had been helping to draw. That it was a case of misadventure, which no amount of care on the part of those in charge of the boys at the time could have prevented, is clear enough, but the pain we all must feel at so calamitous an occurrence is intensified by its suddenness.

It is at least a mournful satisfaction to know that everything was done that could be done both by the Head Master, Bros. J. Glass and S. Attenborough, of the Board of Management, and Bro. McLeod, the Secretary of the Institution, to show respect to the boy thus rudely snatched from the very midst of life into death, and we reiterate the sympathy they have already so kindly expressed to the bereaved mother and the sorrowing sister and other sorrowing relatives.

As some misconception appears to exist with regard to the nature and contents of Bro. Sadler's new work, recently heralded in these columns, we deem it advisable to inform our readers that in addition to the two rare pamphlets mentioned in the prospectus now being issued, the value of which will be greatly enhanced by a copious Introduction from the masterly pen of Bro. Dr. Chetwode Crawley, about half the book will be written by Bro. Sadler himself in his happiest and most telling style. It will also contain fresh evidence bearing on the origin of the Ancient Grand Lodge, together with the names and lodges of the officers and stewards of that remarkable body, and a facsimile of a characteristic letter written by the celebrated Laurence Dermott, their clever and energetic Grand Secretary, afterwards Deputy Grand Master.

Rochester Cathedral will be the scene of an imposing Masonic function on Saturday, the 25th June, when Bro. the Very Rev. S. Reynolds Hole, Dean of Rochester, will celebrate his appointment, last year, to the office of Grand Chaplain and the 50th anniversary of his having been made a Mason. The occasion will be made still more interesting by the fact that our Very Rev. Brother will take the opportunity of adding to the fund for the restoration of the Cathedral—an object on which, as will have been judged from his speech at Grand Festival, he has religiously set his heart. It is expected that in addition to Bro. Earl Amherst, Dep. G. Master and Prov. G.M. of Kent, many Prov. G. Masters and Grand Officers will be present, while the arrangements will be in charge of Bro. Thomas Fenn, P.G.W., as Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies.

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.

SAD FATALITY AT WOOD GREEN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

It is with much regret that I have to inform you of a fatal accident to Clement Hedley Cracknell, which occurred on the 2nd inst., at the Institution.

It appears that the boy was one of a number engaged in working the large roller in the cricket field, and when finishing, and as the roller was being taken to its usual resting place under the trees, he vaulted over the shaft, and slipping, fell underneath, before it was possible to stop the roller. Death was instantaneous. At the inquest which was held last evening, Bro. Glass, as Vice-Chairman, and Bro. Stanley J. Attenborough were present with me. Full inquiry was made into the circumstances, and it was clearly proved to the satisfaction of the Coroner and the jury that the occurrence was purely accidental, the Coroner remarking that every supervision was given to the boys when thus engaged. The jury found a verdict of misadventure.

The mother and other friends of the boy were promptly advised, and I attach a copy of a letter received from the boy's brother-in-law.

Bros. Glass and Attenborough, thinking it would be the desire of the Board, met at the Institution afterwards and made the necessary arrangements with the Head Master for the funeral, and authorised him to pay the expenses thereof.

The funeral will take place at the Old Church of Tottenham, Lordship-lane, to-morrow (Saturday), at 2.30 p.m. Bruce Grove Station is close by.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

J. M. McLEOD,
Secretary.

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys,
6th May.

(copy).

35, St. Thomas' Mansions,
Westminster Bridge, S.E.,
Thursday.

Dear Sir,

I desire to express to you on behalf of poor little Clement Cracknell's family, how very deeply we have felt Mr. Harry Hebb's tender sympathy and thoughtful helpful kindness in our terrible sorrow.

In all our grief we have felt that we owe to him and all his staff nought but the deepest gratitude for his care of the little fellow. Only last Easter was he with us and it was easy to see that, with him, School was Home; and those who cared for him there were dear to him.

And in this terrible accident, which has gone far to break his mother's heart—for he was her Benjamin—and to shatter my wife—who was, perhaps, his dearest sister—we have all known to the full the quick suddenness of the event, the little fellow's high spirits and exuberant activity, and have fully realised that it was his own happy high spirits and utter oblivion of danger and risk in anything which alone caused the disaster. No care, nor helping hand, nor rules could possibly have averted. No one is to blame, no one to be reproached.

We can but be thankful that the little fellow was at least saved all pain.

Permit me to express to you, therefore, the deep appreciation of his family for the unvarying care for several years (ever to the very end) of Mr. Hebb and all at Wood Green for the little lad.—I am, yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. L. MORANT.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION ELECTION, 1898.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In thanking you for your leading article, which, nevertheless, is not very encouraging, allow me to point out that you have based your remarks on a misapprehension of the object of my resolution. The vacancies, my resolution applies to, are those that may occur between the Committee meeting in February and the general meeting in the May ensuing, and does not in any way interfere with the three deferred annuities. I regret that you think a desire to remove a blemish, and to assist those who cannot help themselves, is to cause a tinkering with the Rules and Regulations of the Institution, and that consequently it would be better to allow the blemish to remain. Your final remark as to the amount expended by our three Institutions being now £45,000, and that the calls on the Craft should not be increased, does not apply at all, as I have all along argued that my resolution would not cost the Institution *one penny more*, but, like other Charities, we should be making a small provision for those who are helpless and friendless, and by that means we should endeavour, in some slight manner, to carry out that distinguishing characteristic we have all professed to admire.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours truly and fraternally,

WILLIAM C. PARSONS,

P.M. and Sec. 180, P.M. and Sec. 1687.

51, Loughborough Park, Brixton,
May 10th.

Reviews.

"MASONIC CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT" (Portsmouth: Holbrook and Son, Ltd.)—This excellent annual, ably edited by Bros. Edgar Goble (Prov. G. Sec.), and G. F. Lancaster (Prov. Asst. G. Sec.), and carefully arranged and printed, is one of the largest and most comprehensive works of the kind printed in this country. The Calendar provides for an important province, there being 48 lodges, with 3087 members; 24 Royal Arch chapters; 13 Mark lodges; five Royal Ark Mariners lodges; five Ros. Croix chapters; two K.T. preceptories, and other Masonic bodies. The information supplied as to all these includes the Present Officers, Past Masters, and Presiding Officers, the number of meetings, Initiates, Joining Members, and total number of members to 31st December, 1897. Also many particulars as to the Prov. Grand Organisations, extinct lodges, besides dates of the warrants of all existing bodies, and much else, with a very full index in finale. The editors have thus compiled a most useful work of reference for the Province, and deserve the hearty thanks of all thus benefited.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WHARFCLIFFE have been staying at Wortley Hall Sheffield, during the present week.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS AMHERST arrived at 3, Wilton-terrace, on Monday, from Montreal, Sevenoaks.

Craft Masonry.

Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.

The installation meeting of the above lodge was held in the Masonic Temple, Holborn Restaurant, on Monday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. John Cuer, W.M.; Wm. G. Mills, I.P.M.; Tom Taylor, S.W.; William Briggs, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; Thomas J. Burgess, Sec.; T. Ockleford, S.D.; E. J. Stafford, J.D.; John Jenkinson, I.G.; W. R. G. Emerson and E. J. Vidler, Stwds.; D. A. Langdon, P.M.; E. H. Dove, P.M.; William H. Liddall, P.M.; Charles Cordingley, P.M.; John Briggs, G. F. Ward, J. J. Berry, F. Bristow, John H. Selmes, C. J. Brown, G. Smith, A. Smiley, E. Schneitter, Arthur Davies, Henry Durell, Edwin Thornicroft, C. Yates, A. G. Peckham, Philip Sharpe, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Sammes, J. H. Grove, Bromley Hall, A. L. Guittard, M. Weiss, and E. Mallett, P.M., Tyler. The list of visitors included a very considerable number of Grand and Provincial Rank. Among them were Bros. E. M. Money, P.M. 23, P.A.G.D.C.; E. E. Harding, P.M., P.A.G.D.C.; James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; J. M. McLeod, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. Vincent, P.M., P.G.S.B.; J. R. Green, P.M., P.P.S.G.D.; J. Dempster, P.M. 441, Prov. G.P.; B. Chennell, P.M. 88, P.P.S.G.W.; W. Purchas, P.M., P.P.G. Stwd.; J. G. Cobb, P.M. 2278, P.P. G. Std. Br.; C. E. Boughton Leigh, P.M. 859, P.P.G.D.C.; T. Steer, S.D. 1287; S. Barlet, W.M. 2060; Robert Bryant, 2033; Charles L. Vasey, 1076; Robert J. Voisey, P.M. 1329; H. Nowell, 1732; W. G. Weller, 2550; N. C. Crewe, S.W. 2096; A. D. Hawkins, 1816; G. C. Paine, W.M. 1507; W. G. Feneley, 1687; W. Keith, S.W. 1997; H. Went, 2402; W. Scriven, 1525; R. H. Adie, 859; John Petch, P.M. 2278; Robert D. Cummings, P.M. 2168; W. J. Sampson, 1716; Wm. Briant, W.M. 101; A. H. Cole, P.M. 1744; T. Jefferies, P.M. 1744; F. Dixon, 171; W. G. Davenport, 2306; P. M. Becker, S.W. 238; H. R. Bromley Smith, 877; and H. Thomson Lyon, W.M. 2563.

Bro. H. Smiley was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. W. Briggs, M.A., LL.M., F.C.S., F.R.A.S., J.W., was afterwards installed in the choir of King Solomon. The Board of Installed Masters was a particularly strong one, numbering 30. The W.M. invested the following officers: Bros. John Cuer, I.P.M.; T. E. Taylor, S.W.; T. Ockleford, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; W. G. Mills, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Stafford, S.D.; T. J. Burgess, J.D.; E. J. Vidler, I.G.; D. A. Langdon, P.M., D.C.; Wm. Sammes, Almoner; W. R. G. Emerson, G. Smith, E. Schneitter, H. Durell, and F. Bristow, Stewards; J. Briggs, M.A., Org. and A.D.C.; and E. Mallett, P.M., Tyler.

The banquet was served in the Caledonian Salon, and the after-proceedings were of a most enjoyable character, thanks to the genial presidency of the W.M., good fellowship all round, and the assistance of the Westminster Glee Party, with songs and glee, and F. Upton, with smart stories and sensational novels. Bro. Emerson presided at the piano.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given and received with fervour.

Bro. E. M. Money, P.M. 23, P.A.G.D.C., responded for "The Grand Officers."

Bro. G. G. Symons, the oldest P.M., in glowing terms, proposed "The W.M."

Bros. James Terry, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., and James M. McLeod, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., with their customary eloquence, dilated on the work of the Charities.

Bro. T. J. Burgess responded for "The Officers."

The evening was a brilliant success, testifying to the continued prosperity of this ancient and worthy lodge.

Bro. William Briggs, M.A., LL.M., F.R.A.S., F.C.S., who has just been installed W.M. of the above lodge, has had a remarkable career in Masonry. Initiated but four years ago, he at once showed himself an indefatigable worker, with the result that he holds no fewer than 12 active offices at the present time. These are—W.M. Strong Man Lodge, No. 45; M.P.S. Plantagenet Conclave, No. 2, of the Red Cross of Rome and Constantine (of which he is Grand Precentor), and various offices in Isaac Newton (University) Lodge, No. 859; Euclid Chapter, No. 859; Isaac Newton Mark Lodge, No. 112; Scots Mark Lodge, No. 406; Isaac Newton Ark Mariners Lodge, No. 112; University Rose Croix Chapter, No. 12; Tancred Preceptory; New Temple Preceptory; and Constantine Council of Royal and Select Masters. He is also a member of the Royal Order of Scotland; the Stewart Council, No. 2, Allied Degrees; and the Metropolitan Rosicrucian Society. He has also acted as an officer at the ceremonies of the last three Festivals of the Grand Master's Lodge of Instruction for Mark Master Masons. His work for the Masonic Charities is exemplified by the fact that he is a Vice-Patron of the Boys' School, Vice-President of the Benevolent Institution, and Vice-President of the Mark Benevolent Fund. He has for the last three years acted as Steward at the Festival of each of the above Institutions and at the Girls' School. At the Centenary Festival of the Boys' School next month he is going up with a list already exceeding £300. He is a member of the Committee of the Cambridge Masonic Charity Association and also of the Committee of the Strong Man Charity Association.

Amherst Lodge, No. 1223.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Riverhead, Sevenoaks, on the 7th instant, when the full attendance of members and visitors demonstrated the usefulness and comfort of the rooms which have been added to the Amherst Arms Hotel specially for Masonic purposes. Several members of some years' standing, whose visits have been few and far between, were present, and rejoiced to see such unmistakable signs of vitality and prosperity. There was only the installation to perform, and Bro. T. H. Knight was supported by all his officers when he opened lodge. Bro. Evenden, P.M., took control when the routine business had been got through, and with Bro. Duret, P.M. and Sec., as D.C., Bro. G. W. Lock was installed as W.M. in an able and impressive manner. The Wardens' chairs were filled respectively by Bros. W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br., and F. Wilson, P.P.S.G.D., and exactly a score of Past Masters formed the Board of Installed Masters, which was a goodly show out of a total in lodge of just under 50. The officers appointed were: Bros. Piers N. Holmes, S.W.; C. S. Brown, J.W.; Duret, P.P.S.G.D., Sec.; Durnall, P.P.G.S. of W., Treas.; J. A. Hughes, S.D.; A. B. Bell, J.D.; J. H. Palmer, D.C.; T. R. Jones, I.G.; W. Edmunds and J. Cave, Stewards; and A. F. Boura, Tyler. Bro. Evenden closed his duties with the addresses, given with much force and eloquence, and well deserved the approbation afterwards expressed by visiting brethren of experience. Bro. Duret was able to report a most satisfactory financial state of affairs, and the Amherst Lodge is evidently firmly settled on a sound basis.

Banquet was served by Bro. Waller, and the new W.M. proved himself equal to the task of presiding with acceptance.

The usual toasts were proposed.

Bro. Kentish made an able response for Grand Lodge. He also responded to the invitation given for criticism, and offered a few remarks in a kindly spirit, which were well received from one of the leading lights in, and exponents of, Masonic lore and ritual.

Bro. E. J. Dodd, one of the three "fathers" of the lodge, who still stick closely to it, viz., Bros. Dodd, Duret, and Durnall (famously styled the three Ds. of the Amherst), had his usual opportunity for looking back when responding for "The Past Masters." He recalled that 22 years ago that night he was installed in the chair of No. 1223, when the lodge practically consisted of the "three Ds." and the host of the house where they then met. With the aid of one other lay member and two visitors a lodge was constituted, and he (Bro. Dodd) was installed, the ceremony taking place in a room used for sleeping purposes at other times. Ever since then the "three Ds." had kept together and stuck to the lodge through many vicissitudes. Now they had their reward; a strong lodge had arisen, meeting in a most suitable place, and taking a good position in the Province of Kent. He then alluded to his oft-repeated observation that the Past Masters numbered seven, and rejoiced that night they were 10, out of a total of 13. With a most cordial acknowledgment of the way in which Bros. Duret and Durnall had stuck to him for over 25 years in keeping the Amherst Lodge together under very difficult conditions at times, Bro. Dodd closed his annual address to the May meeting at Riverhead.

A very pleasant time passed and several visitors testified to the gratification which the invite had afforded them. Bro. Herbert Schartau, P.G. Org., contributed considerably to the pleasure of all by his inimitable singing.

Wolsey Lodge, No. 1656.

A meeting was convened by dispensation on the 18th ultimo, at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court. Present: Bros. R. W. Simpson, W.M.; W. R. Flack, S.W.; W. T. Peat, P.M.; P.P.G.O., as J.W.; J. Featherstone, P.M.; P.P.G. Purst., Treas.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M.; P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; D. A. Ross, S.D.; A. Jehu, J.D.; J. Nicholson, as I.G.; F. Figg, Org.; H. Sapsworth, P.M.; P.P.G. Std. Br., Stwd.; R. W. Rice, I.P.M.; H. J. Bond, P.M.; J. Spooner, P.M.; and the following visitors: Bros. the Rev. J. McKinn, P.M. 1030, and T. G. Hatton, 2032.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bros. A. J. Purfitt and F. Hunt were passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., and Messrs. E. E. Rice, F. Bullard, and A. E. Baldeck were initiated by the I.P.M. It being election night, Bro. Flack was unanimously elected W.M.; Bro. J. Featherstone, P.M., Treas.; Bro. H. J. Bond, P.M., Charity Representative; and Bro. J. Gilbert, P.G.T., Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was unanimously voted to Bro. R. W. Simpson, W.M., and a vote of thanks recorded to him for his services as W.M. during a very prosperous yet arduous year of office.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Crozier, P.G. Std. Br. Egypt, J.W.; J. Gaunt, I.G.; T. Grant, P.M.; and others; after which the lodge was closed.

Refreshment followed labour, and a most agreeable evening was spent.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The Officers," thanked them most cordially for the support that they had given to him during his year of office, and for the manner in which they had discharged the duties of their respective offices. He only trusted that they would extend the same support and assistance to his successor (Bro. Flack).

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

The above lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 6th instant. Present: Bros. Sydney T. Klein, W.M.; C. Kupferschmidt, A.G.S.G.C., I.P.M.; C. Purdon Clarke, S.W.; Admiral A. H. Markham, P.D.G.M. Malta, Stwd., as J.W.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; G. Greiner, I.G.; E. C. Castle, Stwd.; W. M. Bywater, P.M., P.G.S.B.; Dr. W. Wynn Wescott, P.M.; and Rev. J. W. Horsley, P.M. The were also present 105 members of Co-respondence Circle attached to the lodge, and 16 visitors.

Five lodges and 126 brethren, as follows, were admitted members of the Correspondence Circle: Waltham Lodge, No. 2592, Vizagapatam, India; Humber Installed Masters Lodge, No. 2494, Hull; Light of the South Lodge, No. 1553, Rosario de Santa Fe, Argentine Republic; Pioneer Lodge, No. 1249, Gympie Lodge, No. 863 (I.C.), both Gympie, Queensland; and Bros. J. D. Amer Diew, P. Dep. G.M. Victoria; H. T. C. Johnson and G. Shallcrass, both No. 110, and W. P. Bice, P.G.D. Vict., all of Melbourne, Victoria; in Queensland, E. Maguire, 826 (S.C.), Gowrie; H. Bean, 2670, Sandgate; J. Johnson, W.M. 293 (I.C.), Stanthorpe; B. W. Wells, 808 (S.C.), Mudpilly; T. B. Jones, P.M., I. G. Oliver, P.M., G. A. Buist, P.M., and J. Flood, all of 260 (S.C.), Gympie; H. Jones, 826 (I.C.), Too-woomba; and R. Crooks, 1596, Blackall; in Cape Colony, J. Cook, W.M. 2646, Stellenbosch; A. J. T. Roux, P.M., and G. W. Kotze, L. San Jan, Malmesbury; and T. W. Irvine, 1800, King Williams Town; in the South African Republic, C. F. Kelly, H. H. Robbins, W. G. Compton, A. Griffiths, C. W. Cowey, P. J. Cory, and A. R. Hands, all of 2481, Johannesburg; Dr. E. J. Nixon, W.M., and G. C. Baer, S.W. 2354, Heidelberg; J. Seehoff, P.M., Dr. E. T. Snell, P.M., and R. J. Tindall, L. Libertas, and F. R. Wallis, P.M. 2643, Krugersdorp; J. Gowan, 1989, Florida; J. J. Nicholson, J.W. 67 (I.C.), and S. Andrews, S.W. 2539, Maraisburg; and J. Richardson, 770 (S.C.), W. Whyte, and G. Hunter, 2539, Roodepoort; in Natal, Rev. C. D. Tonkin, Dist. G. Chap., R. Smith, jun., Dist. G.D.C., and H. J. Lello, 1937, Durban; in India, H. J. Ennon, C. A. Paterson, P. T. Sreenewasa Iyengar, P. D. Chowski, H. M. Cowie, A. V. J. Row, and J. Eaglesome, all of 2592, Vizagapatam; and H. J. Molloy, P.M. 1841, Sarikere; in the U.S.A., C. S. Hoskinson, 5, Zanerville, Ohio; E. H. Hammer, 771, A. A. Stecker, W.M. 588, W. B. Ward, 33, New York, and W. J. Allen, P.M. 638, Brooklyn, New York; N. Coulson, 3, Detroit, Michigan; A. H. Morgan, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; B. W. Rowell, Boston, W. F. Hurd, P.M., and C. S. Hart, W.M., Concord, Massachusetts; W. G. Tubby, 410, St. Paul, Minnesota; C. A. Wilcox, P.M. 659, Quincy, Illinois; and W. D. Wolfkeil, 49, and T. S. Leaser, 33, Elizabeth, New Jersey; in the Argentine Republic, F. C. Marty, Rosario de Santa Fe; J. M. Chapman, P.M. 907 (S.C.); M. Maclean, 817 (S.C.); J. S. Small, 856 (S.C.); F. C. Costello, 250; H. Marshall, 1001; S. McIl. May, 2608; F. Broadhead, 2316; J. Holland, W.M. 2391; G. E. Webster, P.M. 139; C. F. Brindley, P.M. 2491; J. Stokes, P.M. 139; A. E. Hall, 1779; E. S. Hawkins, 2131; A. Blake, 1362; F. E. Owens and H. C. Howell, 2433; W. Merrick, J. A. Thompson, and H. E. Overbeck, P.M. of 216; E. H. Hopson, 81; E. J. Sherman and W. O. S. Pell, 2371; H. C. Clarabut, P.M., F. Caster, and G. W. Holden, 442; A. E. Preston, P.M. 945; Rev. W. Stanley, 1753; P. H. Davy, 1196; H. Griffiths, 1347; Capt. E. S. Heard, P.M. 1899; G. Angold, 2353; W. W. Mansfield, P.M. 1549; T. J. White, 860; Dr. E. Bryceson, P.M., and J. O. Cook, W.M. 913; A. V. March, 1321; W. Hancock, W.M. 2646; W. H. Philipps, 38 (S.A.C.); G. W. Pavitt, 860; O. Hill, 2108; W. Woodward, L. F. Or, 1527; A. Larsen, 2105; R. W. Carter, 2242; A. J. Baker, 2469; J. McG. Simpson, 59; A. Dabbs, 1987; D. Mayer, W.M. 59; D. M. Ipsdal, 2242; V. W. F. Dickens, 822; J. M. Paterson, 2408; H. F. Kingdon, 822; R. W. Barber, W.M. 198; E. R. Painter, 766; J. C. Smith, 1905; A. D. Essien, 2353; H. White, 2424; W. H. Pocklington, P.M. 1288; F. H. Weiss, P.M. 1491; J. T. Rowe, P.M. 167; A. H. Mark, P.M. 1563; L. Simon, P.M. 1693; and J. Mander, P.M. 1201.

The Secretary announced that at the Grand Festival on the 27th ult., the following members of the Correspondence Circle had been appointed to office in Grand Lodge: Bros. Lieut.-Col. Clifford Probyn, G. Treas.; C. L. Fry Edwards, S.G.D.; Dr. H. W. Kialmark, J.G.D.; and G. Graveley, G. Purst.; and the congratulations of the lodge were voted to these brethren on their promotion. Bro. General Astley Terry exhibited a framed engraved portrait of Montgomery, Grand Guardian to Grand Lodge. Bro. Kupferschmidt exhibited photographs of a sword presented to the Grand Lodge "Royal York" at Berlin by the Duke of Sussex at the meeting held on the night of 31st December, 1799, to 1st January, 1800, on which occasion, he stated, that said sword was an exact reproduction of the sword of state used by the Grand Lodge of England prior to their acquisition of the present sword, which was presented to them by the Duke of Norfolk; also a photograph of a broadsheet in the Library of the Lodge Minerva of the Three Palms at Leipsic, being a Mason's examination, which was also printed in the "Westminster Gazette" and the "Grand Mystery Discovers." All these exhibits were presented to the lodge museum by the exhibitors, who were duly thanked by the chair. Bro. Edward Armitage read a paper on "Robert Samber," the principal object of which was to ascertain whether it was really Samber who had, under the pseudonym Eugenius Philalethes, jun., written the dedication prefixed to a book entitled "Long Livers," published in 1722. As the dedication in question contains expressions which have by some students been looked upon as alluding to the existence at that early date of Degrees additional to the three Craft Degrees, it is, of course, important to be sure of the identity of the writer, as so much must turn upon his personal reputation. After a careful study, the result of two years' hard work, Bro. Armitage came to the conclusion that Samber was probably the writer, although he had commenced the investigation with a leaning to an opposite conclusion. Bro. Armitage was also able to produce several hitherto unknown documents in the handwriting of Samber, now in the possession of the Bodleian Library, which were portions of a Masonic ritual of an extremely curious nature. The paper was discussed by the W.M., Bros. Speth, Horsley, Ralph Thomas, and J. R. B. Bell, and a vote of thanks was enthusiastically accorded the lecturer, to which he replied in a few words.

The W.M. then read his promised paper—"Hidden Mystery, No. III."—Jealously with the "Loves of the Atoms," and illustrated by several interesting chemical experiments. He drew a parallel between the scientific facts revealed and the teachings of the Craft in his usual apt manner.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren dined at the Holborn Restaurant.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN was accorded a hearty welcome on her visit to Slough on Monday to open a bazaar in aid of the town cricket club. A guard of honour was provided by the First Battalion Buckinghamshire Volunteers and the Slough Fire Brigade, and the gaily-decked streets were thronged as the Royal party drove through them from Windsor.

Lodges and Chapter of Instruction.

PROSPERITY LODGE No. 65.

A meeting was held on the 11th inst., at the Weaver's Arms, 17, London Wall, E.C. Present: Bros. Croft Wise, W.M.; J. Collins, S.W.; J. G. Robeson, J.W.; D. Harlow, P.M., Preceptor; H. Meadows, Sec.; William Baker, Treas., S.D.; Read, J.D.; Gernon, I.G.; Saunton, P.M.; James Smith, P.M.; Spencer, Butcher, Palmer, Farr, Fergusson, Taylor, and Shipman.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Spencer being the candidate. Bro. Fergusson then answered the usual questions leading to the Second Degree, and was entrusted. The W.M. opened the lodge in the Second Degree, and Bro. Fergusson was passed. The lodge was then opened in the Third Degree and the brethren rehearsed Masonic Drill. Bro. Wise closed the lodge in the Third and Second Degrees respectively, and at the usual risings, Bro. Collins was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed.

PERCY LODGE, No. 198.

This lodge held its usual meeting on Saturday, the 7th inst., at the Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, N. The following were present: Bros. E. G. Platt, W.M.; G. A. Peters, S.W.; C. Ornstein, J.W.; J. A. Powell, Treas., acting Preceptor; F. Stallard, Sec.; A. W. Fenner, S.D.; D. J. Witte, J.D.; W. T. Oakley, I.G.; J. Jacobs, H. Park, W. A. Wallace, J. Anley, and others.

The lodge having been opened, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. then rehearsed the ceremony of initiation in a very excellent manner, Bro. Jacobs kindly acting as candidate. Bro. Powell worked the 4th Section of the Lecture, and Bro. Anley the 5th Section, being assisted by the brethren. On rising, the W.M. thanked Bro. Oakley for his courtesy in allowing him to occupy the chair that evening, he being the W.M. elected last meeting. Bro. G. A. Peters was elected W.M. for next meeting. The Secretary announced that the mother lodge had kindly voted £5 5s., to be placed on his list, he going up as a Steward at the Boys' Festival. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

It may be mentioned that this well-known hostelry has changed hands, Bro. Witte retiring in favour of Bro. W. A. Wallace, of the Metropolitan Lodge, No. 1507, who is a most persevering man of business, being late manager of Arderton's Hotel, and previously assistant manager of the House of Commons Refreshment Department. Bro. Wallace has in a most energetic manner set about improving the popular Farleigh Hotel by making a larger ante-room for the accommodation of the numerous brethren attending the various lodges of instruction. He has also made the billiard-room more commodious (two tables), and is also having the whole of the establishment thoroughly renovated, decorated, and re-lighted in a very handsome manner, for the ease and comfort of his many visitors, and we wish him all the success he deserves.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. T. Rayner, W.M.; J. Birks, S.W.; C. C. Renaud, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; J. W. Clarke, P.M., P.P.G.P. Middx., Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; C. J. Rotter, S.D.; A. F. Hardymont, J.D.; H. R. Bower, I.G.; W. F. Roberts, A. L. Langton, F. H. Johnson, S. Cload, C. Ornstein, and A. E. Hubsch.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was then rehearsed, Bro. Ornstein being the candidate. The ceremony of raising was also rehearsed, Bro. Cload being the candidate. Bro. Carl Ornstein was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Birks was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

A meeting was also held on Tuesday, the 10th inst., at the above address, when there were present Bros. J. Birks, W.M.; W. F. Roberts, S.W.; C. Ornstein, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, and J. Duncan, P.M., Secs.; W. Rapley, S.D.; H. R. Bower, J.D.; A. L. Langton, I.G.; A. Oliver, P.M.; V. J. R. Longman, T. A. Spencer, F. H. Johnson, G. T. Atkinson, R. Philip Upton, P.M.; and A. E. Armfelt.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The W.M. vacated the chair in favour of Bro. Longman, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Oliver being the candidate. Bro. Birks resumed the chair and rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Atkinson being the candidate. Bro. Roberts was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E., on Friday, the 6th inst. Present: Comps. G. H. Lewis, M.E.Z.; Wm. Dawson, H.; J. H. Cureton, J.; Thos. Grumman, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., Scribe E.; H. Hardman, Scribe N.; Leighton, P.S.; West, W. B. Smith, Pascoe, Ellinger, Rankin, and Plant.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Pascoe personating the candidate. Comp. J. H. Cureton was elected M.E.Z. for to-day (Friday). The M.E.Z., Comp. G. H. Lewis, very cordially thanked Comp. J. H. Cureton for allowing him to occupy the position of First Principal. The chapter was closed.

Obituary.

THE DUKE OF ST. ALBANS, PAST PROV. GRAND MASTER NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

It is with very great regret we announce the death of Bro. his Grace the Duke of St. Albans, Past Prov. G. Master of Nottinghamshire. The sad event occurred at Brooke House, Newport, Isle of Wight, on Tuesday morning. His Grace was born in 1840, and succeeded to the title and estates when only nine years of age. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, and it was during his career at the latter that, in 1861, he was installed the first Worshipful Master of the Isaac Newton University Lodge, No. 859, which stands in the same relation to Cambridge University as the Apollo University Lodge, No. 357, does to Oxford. In 1862 he was appointed Prov. Grand Master of Lincolnshire, and in 1877 to preside in the same capacity over Nottinghamshire, in succession to the sixth Duke of Newcastle. He had presided as Chairman at one, if not more than one, Festival on behalf of our Institutions, and, until his health failed him, evinced a great interest in Craft proceedings. It is not very long since he resigned his post as Prov. G.M. Notts, in which he is succeeded by Bro. the Duke of Portland. The deceased Duke was Hereditary Grand Falconer of England, an office which had no duties attached to it, but had been in existence since the reign of Richard I.

BRO. BARON DIMSDALE.

It is with regret we announce the death, on the 2nd instant, of Bro. Baron Dimsdale, in his 70th year. The deceased was M.P. for Hartford from 1866 to 1874, and for the Hitchin Division of Hertfordshire from 1885 to 1892. He was also for many years Chairman of Quarter Sessions, and was very generally beloved and respected in the neighbourhoods of Hertford, where he resided. The deceased was for many years a member of the Hertford Lodge, No. 403, in which he was initiated, and in which, we believe, he formerly held the office of Warden; but he never aspired to lodge honours, and was content with the rank of simple M.M.

Masonic and General Tidings.

LADY LUCY HICKS-BEACH, who is suffering from a slight attack of measles, is progressing very satisfactorily.

THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND, who has gone to Italy, does not return to London till the end of the month.

BRO. SIR JOHN EDGE, Q.C., has been elected a Bencher of the Middle Temple, in place of the late Mr. Alfred Cock, Q.C.

PRINCESS HENRY OF PRUSSIA and suite witnessed the performance of "Julius Cæsar" at Her Majesty's Theatre on Monday night.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE honoured Sir Edward Carbutt with his company at dinner on Saturday evening last, at 19, Hyde Park Gardens.

BY COMMAND of her Majesty the Queen, Sir Fleetwood Edwards has forwarded her Majesty's annual subscription of £105 to the Middlesex Hospital.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Earl of Meath to be Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Dublin, in the room of the late Lord Holm Patrick.

THE MEMORIAL to the Countess of Lathom will take the appropriate form of a perpetual endowment of a district nurse, who shall work in Lathom and Skelmersdale. The fund is growing rapidly.

BRO. THE EARL OF KILMOREY has sailed from Naples for South Australia, and the Countess of Kilmorey, who is recovering from her recent illness, has left London for Ray Court, Maidenhead, which she has taken for the summer.

PRINCESS HENRY OF PRUSSIA and her children, Prince Waldemar and the infant Prince, arrived in London on Saturday morning last from the Continent. Her Royal Highness, who was received at Victoria Station by Lieut.-Col. Davidson, on behalf of the Queen, travelled by the Great Western Railway to Windsor, which was reached shortly before 11. Princess Henry will remain some time with her Majesty.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND AND GORDON, K.G., has accepted re-election as chairman of the Board of Guardians of the West Hampnett Union, Sussex, an office which he has filled for 35 years, having succeeded his father in that position on the latter's death in 1860. His Grace also continues his chairmanship of the West Sussex County Council and the Boxgrove Parish Council, and, although now an octogenarian, he is regular in his attendance at the meetings of the various bodies.

THE ARRANGEMENTS for the Queen's visit to Netley Hospital to-morrow (Saturday) have been definitely settled. Her Majesty and suite leave the Windsor Station of the Great Western Railway at 2.30 p.m. by special train, and travel *via* Reading to Basingstoke; thence the Royal journey is over the South-Western line past Winchester to Netley, which will be reached at 4.30. The Queen leaves Netley on her return an hour later, and will arrive at Windsor at half-past seven o'clock in the evening.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WARWICK's infant son was christened in the private chapel at Warwick Castle on Saturday afternoon last. The sponsors were the Duchess of York, the Earl of Rosebery, Bro. Lord Leigh, and Bro. the Right Hon. Cecil Rhodes, who were represented by proxies, Lady Eva Dugdale taking the place of the Duchess of York. Canon Rivington, his lordship's domestic Chaplain, officiated, and Jordan water was used at the font. The child's name is Maynard, after Lady Warwick's grandfather.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES presided on Monday morning at meetings of the Executive and Finance Committees of the Royal Commission for the Paris Exhibition of 1900, at Marlborough House. Subsequently the Prince and Princess, accompanied by their daughters, the Princess Victoria and Princess Charles of Denmark, were present at the first public concert given by the Concert Orchestra of "La Scala" Theatre, Milan, at the Imperial Institute. Miss Knollys and Bro. Captain Holford were in attendance.

THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL DINNER of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, has been fixed for Tuesday, the 7th June next, at the Hôtel Métropole, when the chair will be taken by Bro. Alderman George Wyatt Truscott. It may, perhaps, be supposed that this hospital has been benefited by the Jubilee of 1897, and that it is not justified in making an appeal for funds. Unfortunately this is not so. The incurables have not shared in that splendid outbreak of national generosity, nor is it likely that they will. The case is the other way; the inflow of contributions has been checked and regular subscriptions have been diverted in the desire to swell the popular movement of last year.

THE PRIVATE VIEW of Mr. Herbert J. Finn's Exhibition will be held at the Modern Gallery, 175, Bond-street, on Saturday next. The work this season being entirely of Kent—"The Garden of England"—and including nine drawings of Canterbury Cathedral, together with landscapes, seascapes, and some figure subjects. The exhibition will be open to the public from the 16th instant to 10th June, excepting Wednesday, 18th instant, on which day the Gallery will be closed by the special desire of Lady Harris. The Corporation of Maidstone are now holding a loan exhibition of 50 of Mr. Finn's pictures.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, attended by the Equerry-in-Waiting, left Marlborough House on Sunday afternoon on a visit to the Queen. Their Royal Highnesses, who were accompanied from London by Mr. Alfred Gilbert, R.A., travelled by the Great Western Railway to Windsor, which was reached about a quarter to two o'clock. Their Royal Highnesses drove to the Palace, and having taken luncheon with her Majesty, proceeded shortly after half-past four o'clock to the Albert Chapel, for the purpose of seeing the monumental statuary which has been placed upon the sarcophagus of the Duke of Clarence. Mr. Gilbert and Canon Dalton were in attendance. The Prince and Princess returned to town at the close of their visit.

"OXINE."—"Oxine" is made from the primest ox beef, and the best and freshest vegetables, so combined and prepared that all the tannin and indigestible fibre of the vegetables are excluded, resulting in a product containing all the stimulating qualities derived from extractives of beef, and at the same time really possessing the various physiological constituents essential in a food of the highest nutritive value, extremely palatable, and most easy of digestion. The celebrated Baron Liebig, the pioneer manufacturer of extracts of beef, often stated that if he could satisfactorily combine vegetable products with his extract in such a way that it would contain the proper proportions of the proteids, albumenoids, and carbo-hydrates, which are necessary to constitute an evenly-balanced and highly-nutritive food, his production would be perfect. This is exactly what the manufacturers of "Oxine" have succeeded in doing, after some years devoted to the subject, and, with the assistance and advice of some of the best and most highly-skilled scientists of the day.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and suite visited the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday evening to witness the performance of "The Medicine Man."

IN OUR REPORT of the Selwyn Lodge, No. 1901, we inadvertently stated that the Charity Association in connection with the lodge had sent up £200 to the Central Charities, whereas we should have said £2000.

LORD MARKHAM has offered a sum of £30,000 for the erection of an art gallery in Lister Park, Bradford, in honour of Cartwright, inventor of the steam power loom and wool-combing machine, a statue of whom is to be placed in the building. His lordship also suggests that a subscription should be made to provide a national memorial of Cartwright.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT were present at the race ball at the Officers' Club, Aldershot, on Wednesday. It was a brilliant success. At each end of the ball room banks of flowers and palms were arranged to reach half way to the ceiling. The balcony was draped with blue and gold hangings, whilst Japanese fans were suspended from the ceiling.

THE ROYAL DINNER PARTY at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday evening included T.H.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Henry of Battenberg, the Duke and Duchess of York, Princess Victoria of Wales, Princess Charles of Denmark, and Princess Henry of Prussia, the Duchess of Roxburghe (Lady in Waiting), the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery (Lord Steward), the Duke of Roxburghe, Lord Harris (Lord in Waiting), and Major-General Sir John McNeill (Equerry in Waiting).

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY have issued a neat and compact little pocket calendar for the current year, in which are to be found lists of all the principal horse and cattle fairs in the United Kingdom, and tables showing the dates of race meetings and the cricket fixtures, each being arranged under the months in which they are held. There are plenty of blank pages on which to enter memoranda, and the whole appears to have been very carefully compiled and edited. The information as to the Great Eastern Company's train and boat service will also be found of great use.

HER MAJESTY will hold a Council at Windsor Castle on the afternoon of Thursday, the 19th inst., for the transaction of various matters of State business requiring her personal attention, prior to her departure for Scotland. The date on which her Majesty commences the journey to the north is the 20th, and the arrangement to hold the Council on the preceding day will enable the various Government departments to make the latest possible settlement of such of their business as requires the Queen's attention, and thus probably obviate the necessity of holding a Council while her Majesty is at Balmoral.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Princess Henry of Prussia, and attended by the Duchess of Roxburghe, the Hon. Harriett Phipps, Lord Edward Pelham Clinton, Sir Arthur Bigge, Sir James Reid, the Hon. Alexander Yorke, Lieutenant Ponsonby, and other members of the Court, left Buckingham Palace about half-past five o'clock on Wednesday afternoon for Windsor Castle. Her Majesty and the Princess, whose departure was witnessed by a large assembly of spectators, drove, under an escort of the Household Cavalry, to Paddington, where a special train had been provided for their conveyance to Berkshire. The Royal train was accompanied by Mr. Walter Robinson, deputy chairman; Mr. J. L. Wilkinson, general manager; and Mr. Allen, traffic superintendent; and travelled under the charge of Mr. Hart, divisional superintendent, to Windsor, which was reached at 25 minutes past six, the journey from the Metropolis having been accomplished in half an hour.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG presided in the Royal United Service Institution, at the annual meeting, on Saturday last, of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, an organisation which, in the past 13 years, has achieved excellent results in its endeavours to assist the wives and families of men serving in the Army and Navy by finding them suitable employment and by giving, when necessity arises, temporary relief from its funds. It is also sought to obtain work for those who have been discharged from the services. The report of the Council for the past year was of a highly encouraging nature. General Sir William Lockhart, who was among the speakers, alluded incidentally to the gallant bearing of the men who had taken part in the Indian frontier campaign, and remarked that in the Tirah expedition the troops had been greatly cheered by the Queen's gracious messages and her sympathy with their families.

A MASONIC SERVICE will be held in the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Charing-cross, on Saturday next, at 3.30 p.m., on behalf of the Centenary Fund of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The sermon will be preached by the V.W. Bro. the Venerable Archdeacon of London, P.G.C. The galleries of the church will be open to ladies and friends. Accommodation will be provided in the Crypt of the church for brethren to "clothe," for which a dispensation has been granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The church will be open at 3 o'clock. Amongst the Grand Officers Past and Present who have promised to attend are Bros. J. Dixon Hartland, M.P., S.G.D.; R. J. Mure, J.G.D.; Lieut.-Col. Kiallmark, J.G.D.; E. Luxmore Marshall, D.G.D.C.; J. T. Winkfield, A.G.D.C.; J. H. Rutherglen, D.G. Std. Br.; J. W. Woodall, P.G.T.; J. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; E. M. Money, P.A.G.D.C.; E. Valeriani, P.G. Std. Br.; R. S. Aubyn Rounieu, P.G. Stwd.; and others.

WE CALL ATTENTION to an organisation which was formed last year under the title of the "Association of Kentish Men and Men of Kent," of which, if well managed as we have no doubt it will be, is likely to prove useful to the members and especially to the county with which it is connected. Its objects, as set forth in the Constitution and Rules as adopted at the Inaugural Meeting held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, on the 16th December last, are (1) to befriend natives of the County of Kent; (2) to promote the social, moral, and intellectual culture of its members; (3) to preserve objects and records of historic and general interest in the county; and to preserve and revive local reminiscences; (4) to encourage educational and industrial objects connected with the county; and (5) to assist as far as funds permit, any benevolent object which the Council deems worthy of support. Each and every of these objects is so praiseworthy in itself and so calculated to prove serviceable to the worthy people of Kent that, though the programme is a somewhat ambitious one for a newly-formed Society, it is impossible not to wish it the utmost possible success. The Association is governed by a Council consisting of eight members together with the officers, who are members *ex officio*. Both officers and members of Council are to be elected at the annual general meeting on the 11th October (Old Michaelmas Day). All gentlemen connected with the county by birth, marriage, or descent, are eligible for membership, while gentlemen who have resided in the county for five years and ladies who are natives and five years' residents, are eligible as Associates. The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer is Mr. Charles J. Redshaw, 27, St. George's-road, Forest Gate, of whom full particulars of the Association can be obtained.

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