

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.

VOL. XXXVII. NO. 1527.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1898.

[PRICE 3d.]

CONTENTS.

LEADERS—	PAGE.
The Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys...	273
Confirmation of Minutes ...	275
Royal Masonic Institution for Boys—Distribution of Prizes by H.R.H. the	
Princess of Wales ...	276
Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire ...	278
Provincial Grand Chapter of Devonshire ...	278
Consecration of the King's Court Lodge, No. 2689 ...	279
MASONIC NOTES—	
Bro. Richard Eve at Distribution of Boys' School Prizes ...	281
Boys' School Athletic Sports ...	281
Provincial Grand Chapter of Devonshire... ..	281
Provincial Grand Lodge of Gloucestershire ...	281
Quarterly Communication District Grand Lodge of Queensland ...	281
Consecration of the Addington Lodge, No. 2683 ...	282
Dedication of Masonic Buildings at Rotherham ...	282
Craft Masonry ...	282
British Homes Investment Corporation ...	284
Masonic and General Tidings ...	286

THE CENTENARY FESTIVAL OF THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The earlier stage of this great Anniversary, to which we have been looking forward with such eager expectation, took place at the Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, on Tuesday, when, in the presence of a vast number of the friends and supporters of the Institution, her Royal Highness the Princess of WALES—who was accompanied by the Prince, H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master and President—was graciously pleased to distribute the prizes annually awarded for proficiency and good conduct. Ordinarily, this important function is held in the great Assembly Hall of the School at Wood Green, but not only was it considered necessary to give to it more than the usual *éclat*, but—what is still more to the point—capacious as is this Hall, it could not have accommodated one half, or it may be one-fourth, of the people that were desirous of being present, to say nothing of the greater accessibility of the Albert Hall. As may easily be imagined, the gathering under the exceptionally favourable circumstances which attended it, was a magnificent success. The chief dignitaries of the Order under his Royal Highness the Grand Master were mostly in attendance to witness the proceedings, and the great interest which the Princess of WALES has always taken in things Masonic proved so contagious that by far the better half of the assembled company was composed of ladies. As regards the proceedings themselves, save as to the unusual brilliancy of their surroundings, they were the same as it has been our privilege to record for very many years. The recitations and vocal and instrumental music were omitted from the programme, but compensation was found for this and other omissions that may have been made in the enthusiasm that was shown by all present, boys, ladies, and brethren. It is unnecessary to say more of the part undertaken by the Princess than that it was performed with, if possible, more than her usual kindness and grace. Every boy who had the good fortune to receive at her hands the prize awarded him for his knowledge, conduct, or skill, must feel encouraged by her kindly smile when handing him his medal or books to strive to win still further honour during his scholastic career, and in that after life of honest and honourable competition, of which it is the preparatory stage. In other respects, there is little for us to say, especially as a full report of the meeting will be found elsewhere in our columns. The speeches were few in number, but brief and to the point, the few remarks made by his Royal Highness, in acknowledging the vote of thanks to the Princess, which was passed amid every possible manifestation of enthusiasm, being most heartily acclaimed by the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

It is evident from the tenour of the discussion that followed the question put by Bro. REGINALD J. MURE at the Quarterly Meeting of Mark Grand Lodge on Tuesday, the 31st ult., on the subject of the confirmation of minutes that sooner or later the matter will be brought to our notice still more prominently than it was at the recent Mark communication. Then the debate followed the mere putting of a question in reference to certain correspondence which was contained in the Report of the General Board, but in the course of his remarks Bro. JOHN STRACHAN, Q.C.—who has so lately been appointed Grand Registrar in Craft Masonry—was pleased to say that “this very question of what was the meaning of the confirmation was being considered elsewhere, and it might be that action would be taken thereon, and the subject brought before Grand Lodge.” We welcome the prospect of the discussion which appears to be awaiting us on more grounds than one, but more particularly because we hope that the law, as it is now set forth in the statute book will remain unaltered, and we believe that the more thoroughly the matter is considered, the more likely is it that the law will remain, in effect, if not in the actual words, precisely what it is at this moment. Bro. J. J. LAMBERT, Past Prov. Grand Registrar Lancashire, who initiated the correspondence which appears in the Report of the General Board, expressed a wish that the Grand Secretary—Bro. C. F. MATIER—would take the opinion of the said Board for the following questions: “Except as regards the confirmation of the election of Master, or where specially required by the Bye-Laws of any Lodge, is it necessary or proper to *confirm* the minutes of each regular meeting of a Lodge, or should a vote be taken only upon the simple question as to whether the Minutes of the preceding meeting have been correctly recorded?” Having pointed out firstly that a difference exists in the practice of private lodges, some requiring that the minutes shall be confirmed, while others are content with a proposition put from the chair as to the minutes being correctly recorded; and, secondly, that in “municipal and other matters it is only considered necessary to confirm the proceedings of an inferior body.” Bro. LAMBERT narrated the circumstances which had led him to submit his question, and concluded his letter by submitting “that the ‘N.B.’ to Regulation 126”—see Mark Book of Constitutions, p. 42—“is misleading and irregular, and that only in the case of the Election of W.M. is it necessary to *confirm* the minutes; and even in this case it is not the minutes that are confirmed, but the election of the W.M. as recorded in the minutes.” Bro. MURE, in bringing the matter before Mark G. Lodge expressed himself in a similar sense as to the word “confirmation” in said Article 126 being misleading, and added that in Societies outside Masonry and Joint Stock Companies, “Confirmation of minutes merely meant that the minutes were correctly recorded.” The General Board, however, is not of this opinion, as it instructed G. Secretary MATIER, to state in reply to Bro. LAMBERT'S inquiry, “that in their opinion, Minutes of a Lodge, whether relating to Grants of Money, or to General Business, should always be put for ‘confirmation,’ which is the word always used in the Book of Constitutions.” Bro. MURE is reported to have taken exception to the Grand Secretary's letter on the ground that it did not answer the question, and the President of the General Board—Bro. R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Q.C., appears to have been of the same

opinion. It seems to us, however, that Bro. MATIER'S answer met the question fairly and squarely. He was asked to obtain the Board's opinion upon the point as to whether—(1) it was necessary or proper that the minutes of each regular meeting of a Lodge should be confirmed; or (2) whether, as Bro. MURE put it, "Confirmation of minutes merely meant that the minutes were correctly recorded," and his reply, made in accordance with the Board's instructions, was to the effect that it was their opinion the Minutes of a Lodge must always be put for confirmation, which is not only, as Grand Secretary put it, "the word always used in the Book of Constitutions," but what is still more to the purpose, the word used and italicised by Bro. LAMBERT in the question upon which he requested the Board's opinion. Will you, says he in effect, obtain their opinion on the questions, "is it necessary or proper to confirm the minutes of each regular meeting of a lodge, or should a vote be taken," &c., &c.? and the Grand Secretary replies that the Board considers that minutes "should always be put for 'confirmation,'" the reason he gave being that that was what the Book of Constitutions required to be done. There is nothing misleading in this answer, nor do we see how the question could have been answered more directly.

The matter, however, to which we are desirous of calling attention, is that, with all due deference to Bro. LAMBERT and those who are of his opinion, the interpretation he has put upon Article 126, Mark B. of C., is an erroneous one. We demur to Bro. LAMBERT'S view "that the 'N.B.' to Regulation 126 is misleading and irregular, and that only in the case of the election of W.M. is it necessary to confirm the minutes, and even in this case it is not the minutes that are confirmed, but the election of the W.M. as recorded in the minutes." As regards the "N.B." in Article 126 being "irregular and misleading," and premising that the Mark Rules on the subject of "confirmation" of minutes are, *verbatim*, almost precisely the same as those of Craft Masonry, we are of opinion that "N.B." is both regular and necessary. The clause in the Mark Rule 126, reads "N.B.—Minutes can be confirmed only at the next regular meeting of the Lodge," while the 4th clause of Article 172, B.C., of the Craft is, as we have said, almost *verbatim* the same, but the word "regular" is not printed in italics. It appears to us that this "N.B." is both "regular and necessary," in order that W. Masters and others who are supposed to have some knowledge of our laws and to be qualified to interpret them, may know that it is only at a regular stated meeting of a lodge that the minutes of a meeting held previously can be confirmed; in other words, that minutes cannot be confirmed at a *special* or *emergent* meeting. The next interpretation which Bro. LAMBERT places on that part of Article 99 of the Mark B. of C.—which in this and other respects are the same as Article 130, Craft B. of C.—that treats of the confirmation of minutes. The Law provides—"At the next regular meeting"—that is, after the new Master has been elected—"the first business after the opening of the lodge shall be the reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting, and if they be confirmed, so far, at least, as relates to the Election of Master, he shall be deemed to be duly Elected," &c., &c. It seems to us to be difficult even to impossibility to twist these words so as to impose upon them a meaning which, we are persuaded, they were never intended to bear. Bro. LAMBERT'S natural acumen fails him when he goes on to explain that "even in this case it is not the minutes that are confirmed, but the Election of the W.M. as recorded in the minutes." If Bro. LAMBERT had taken as much trouble to interpret the Article in its natural sense, as he has been to force upon it a non-natural one, which in all probability the framers of the present Laws never even dreamt of, he would have realised that the law has a far higher opinion of confirmation of minutes than he appears to have. It is not a mere verification of the correctness of the record of what was done, but a confirmation in the sense of a ratification of what was done or decided to be done, so that the lodge may be able, if it thinks proper, to reconsider the proceedings of the preceding meeting. But the law is very particular in laying it down that the new Master of a lodge shall be regularly elected at one stated meeting, and if such election is confirmed at the next, then, and then only, can he be installed in the chair. The meaning of the provision is

this—Minutes of meetings must be confirmed, *i.e.*, ratified at a subsequent, but not necessarily the next regular, meeting, except in the case of the minutes relating to the election of a new Master who must be installed at the next regular meeting subject to the indispensable condition that the choice of the members in respect of their W. Master for the ensuing year is ratified in the manner prescribed by the law—that is to say, by the confirmation of this particular portion of the minutes. The other portions of the minutes may be confirmed or non-confirmed, that matters not as regards the carrying on of the lodge, but in the case of an election of a new W.M. confirmation is necessary or there can be no installation.

We shall not, for the present, at all events, carry the argument further, but we shall gladly give publicity to the opinions of those who take a special interest in this question.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES BY H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, on Tuesday afternoon, attended at the Royal Albert Hall for the purpose of presenting the prizes to the successful pupils of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. Her Royal Highness was accompanied by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; the Earl of Lathom, Pro Grand Master; Earl Amherst, Deputy Grand Master, and Countess Amherst; while in attendance on her Royal Highness was Lady Emily Kingscote, and on H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke. Bro. Lord Llangatock, Prov. G.M. South Wales (E.D.), and Lady Llangatock; Bro. the Earl of Radnor, Prov. G.M. Wilts; Bro. Lord Leigh, Prov. G.M. Warwickshire, and Lady Leigh; Bro. W. W. B. Beach, Prov. G.M. Hants and the Isle of Wight; Bro. Lord Skelmersdale, and Lady Templetown were among other distinguished persons who had seats near their Royal Highnesses.

The Royal party was received by the members of the Board of Management, Bros. C. E. Keyser, Treasurer; the Rev. H. Hebb, Head Master of the School; and J. M. McLeod, Secretary.

On the Princess of Wales taking her stand at the table, Miss Keyser, daughter of the Treasurer, who has promised £5000 towards building the chapel for the new School shortly to be erected at Bushey, presented her Royal Highness with a handsome bouquet. The whole of the company then joined in singing the National Anthem, Bro. G. F. Smith, Past Grand Organist, playing the organ. The solo was rendered by Mr. Herbert Hilton.

The following is the report of the Head Master, the Rev. Harry Hebb, a copy of which was in the hands of all the company. The report and the list of prizes and their winners were printed by the boys at the School, and the work was highly creditable:

Gentlemen,—

I have the honour to submit to you for the ninth time a short account of the work and conduct of the School during the past year.

The work has been tested in a variety of ways.

First, by the Teaching Staff; full details have been laid before you by me at your successive monthly meetings.

Secondly, by outside Examiners—the Rev. T. J. Sanderson, M.A., late Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge (appointed by the University of Cambridge Syndicate for the Examination of Schools), Edwin Lott, Esq., Mus. Doc., and Inspectors from South Kensington—who periodically visit the Classes in Mathematics and Natural Science. The report of Mr. Sanderson dealing with the general class-work of every boy in the School has been published in full for the information of friends of the School, and I would, therefore, only call attention here to the words in which he sums up a long and minute report: "A satisfactory Examination was passed, showing a general improvement since my last visit. The discipline of the School, so far as it came under my notice, was excellent." Dr. Lott also states that the work and progress of the year have been better than ever before.

Thirdly, very many boys have entered for public examinations of various kinds. I append a list of these and I can honestly say that if in some previous year the number of certificates has been slightly greater, yet the work has never been of fuller or better quality. I would especially call attention to the successes of J. A. Coupland gained direct from the School.

In forming a judgment on the work of the School we ought to consider two points.

The first is that owing to the insufficient accommodation of our buildings we have to discharge nearly all our boys as soon as they reach 15—the number over that age being at present only seven. How terribly this cramps me in the organising of a boy's educational life! How hardly it presses on the boys themselves. A large proportion *per* must enter for the Cambridge Local Junior at 14! at the latest—or they cannot enter at all. The candidates for the Senior are of course in a still worse case. It means in fact that in a School where from the very nature of things development is later and the preparation needs to be more deliberate than usual, boys are unduly hurried in order to gain these certificates before leaving School, and fail to do themselves full justice. I rejoice greatly that the generosity of the Craft in this centenary year is supplying us with larger and better equipped buildings at Bushey, whereby we shall be enabled largely to increase the number of boys retained to a higher age. This will enable us to take our public examinations more deliberately, to get into touch with the higher examinations, and so to establish a definite and permanent standard of education in the School.

The second point for consideration is the very wide training the School is now giving. Short as our school life is, yet it is not focussed on any single Examination, tempting us to cram. A limitation of that kind might bring us a few more certificates, but it would totally limit the education the school ought to give. I have tried to make the curriculum as wide as possible. Thus in addition

to the subjects usually taken in schools of this class, every boy is taught to sing at sight, to produce his voice in a proper way, and as he reaches the top of the School, to know something of the theory of music. Every boy is taught the elements of shorthand. The Medical Officer has commenced a yearly course of lectures on ambulance work. There are special classes for instruction in photography, for the study of facts connected with railways, for teaching some fuller knowledge of the Colonies. There is a club for the study of field botany. These and other similar things are giving our boys some breadth of cultivation, and have already told most favourably in the development of mind and character. If you view our work in this light, you will agree with me in saying that our results in public examinations are satisfactory. Similarly, much organised work has been done during the year by means of lectures (usually illustrated by the lantern) given at regular intervals on winter evenings by Assistant Masters and friends. The subjects have taken a wide range *f.e.* "Charles Dickens," "Wild Flowers," "North Sea Fishes," "Travels in Canada," "The New River," "Dutch Republic," "Greek and Roman Athletics." Moreover, we have enjoyed several entertainments at the School, such as the annual concert given by the Derby Allcroft Lodge, and by the generosity of the members of the Board and other brethren, selected boys have been able to see plays of Shakespeare and other excellent plays at the London theatres. All this serves (in my judgment) a very valuable educational purpose.

On behalf of the School I offer hearty thanks to all the kind friends who have by lectures and entertainments contributed to make our life happy and homelike; to those who have given us prizes for sports or for school work; to those also who have sent us subscriptions or books for our Library and Reading Rooms. As Head Master, I prize these invitations and gifts most of all for the sympathy and appreciation which they are intended to mark.

Another department in the life of the School deserves attention. I am exhibiting some of the work done this term in the carpentry, printing and book-binding shops, and I append a list of the articles and of the names of the boys who have made them. Some of the work is of a high merit. But I would carefully remind you that the whole of this work (as well as the printing of the School Magazine—one of the best "got up" of School Magazines) is done as a voluntary occupation—in out-of-School hours. The value to a boarding school of this department of work, which is now taken up by over 50 boys, can hardly be over-estimated.

But we have not neglected the physical side of education. We have done fairly well in our matches at football and cricket with other schools, and practically every boy spends some part of every day at cricket, football, hockey, fives, gymnastics. I ought to say that thanks to Mr. Roberts, who takes an especial interest in the games of the School, and to G. Jones (late of the Surrey Eleven) who has been our Cricket Professional for the last two years, we have an exceptional amount of cricketing promise amongst the younger boys. This will happily find in the playing fields at Bushey ample scope for development.

On the whole, I think that the year has been one of progress in work and conduct. The future, too, is more hopeful. We have had, of course, many disappointments, many failures, and some things to regret. These are inevitable in a large School like ours. We have lately been under the shadow of a great grief. That has, I hope and believe, not been without its deep and lasting lessons for us all. But on the whole the School is distinctly better than it was a year ago. Very much of this is due to my staff of Masters, whom I take this public opportunity of thanking most heartily. Our relations have been of the most cordial kind, and I appreciate more than I can say, not only their admirable work, but their sympathy and kindness towards me in times of difficulty and trouble. I thank also the Matron, whose diligence in her never-ending duties, and whose care for the comfort of the boys are worthy of great praise, and of my high appreciation. Nor must I fail to express my gratitude to the Medical Officer, whose skill and assiduity have kept the School quite free from any outbreak of serious illness. And if I may, gentlemen, I should like to thank you all, and Bro. McLeod as well, for many acts of kindness and many expressions of confidence towards me. You have so often encouraged me in the moments of despondency, so often looked lightly on my shortcomings, that I should be ungrateful, indeed, if I did not believe and say that no Head Master could serve under a more helpful or considerate Governing Body.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

HARRY HEBB.

Bro. RICHARD EVE, P.G.T., then rose and said he felt it his duty, as Chairman of the Board of Management, to make a few observations. It had been the usual custom at the distribution of prizes before the annual Festival of the Institution for the Board of Management to invite the Stewards of the Festival, their friends and supporters of the Institution, to the distribution of prizes previous to the Festival. They were delighted to find such a splendid assembly there that day. It was a matter of great congratulation to the Board of Management, and they felt a high appreciation of the honour done to their Institution by her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales being amongst them to present the prizes to their boys. (Applause.) On Friday next, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, their Most Worshipful Grand Master—(renewed applause)—would preside at the Centenary Festival of their Institution. It was not the first time that his Royal Highness had favoured the Institution, he having taken the chair at its Festival so long since as 1870. They felt doubly honoured by the presence of himself and the Princess of Wales now. He could assure him that on the occasion when he would preside on Friday next, the memorable words made use of by his Royal Highness when he acted as President of the Festival before would be fully realised. He remembered them well; his Royal Highness said that "the watchwords of Freemasonry are Loyalty and Charity." On Friday next he could assure him that the loyalty which Freemasons owed to their M.W.G.M. would be shown in such a way as to prove that the very heart of Masonry was with him and his great work; on that occasion the opening of the hearts of Freemasons would occur as it had never occurred before at any of the festivals. He had no hesitation in saying that his Royal Highness would be delighted with the result of that gathering; it had been unparalleled in all the Masonic Institutions, and had never been surpassed by any other institution in the world of a similar character. He was not going to detain the company with a long speech about the Institution, but he would say that 100 years ago it commenced in a small way without a home of any description with a number of boys they could count on their first four fingers, not more; but it had gradually developed until they had a home of their own in the School at Wood Green. They were met now to extend it sufficiently to meet the needs of those who were entitled to its benefits. He remembered the laying of the first stone in 1862 by Past Grand Warden, the late Bro. Algernon Perkins, who was accompanied by that benevolent lady now the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. The Institution has done a great work, until to-day it was unequal to the requirements of their great Craft. The Craft had developed in importance and influence under the genial and benign rule of their present Grand Master; it had

become larger in numbers and influence; and they felt that the Schools they had to-day were insufficient to accommodate even those who were now within their walls. There were in addition others who were entitled to the Institution's benefits, but they could not put them in. Year after year the Board of Management had been making strenuous efforts to afford accommodation for the children of their brethren, who, from illness, or bad circumstances, or by death, had been unable to provide for them. The brethren knew the steps taken to procure a site to build new Schools upon which would be an honour to the Craft and to all those dependent upon the Institution. It was not for him to dwell on that. On these annual occasions it was the custom to receive visitors at the Schools at Wood Green, but the Schools and grounds were not capable of accommodating the great number who were now present; but the boys were very glad to see them here. (Applause.) They had looked with joyful anticipation and delight to receiving their rewards of merit at the hands of her Royal Highness. He could not express the delight both of those who had prizes and those who had not, and he might say that they were unlike those who had gone before if they did not feel that the honour done to others was done to all, and they did not envy them, and they would do their best to win prizes themselves. The School and grounds would be open to visitors Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, when the boys would be happy to show them what they could do in gymnastics, carpentering, printing, and other matters which would be useful hereafter; the Institution was not educating the boys of rich brethren, but the boys of those who once in affluence had fallen, perhaps by illness or disease, far oftener by death. The brethren felt it a great honour to look after the boys and they wanted to spread the education which was given in the Institution to fit them for the business of life, at the same time to make them sturdy boys, able to encounter the struggle of life. During the last year or two the Board of Management had endeavoured to enlarge the sphere of usefulness of the Institution by keeping those boys who showed an aptitude for higher work for a year or two beyond the time for leaving the Institution in order that they might go through such a curriculum as to enable them to enter the professions. They were through the Head Master, Bro. Hebb, dealing with the average boy; they wanted them all to be healthy boys at the same time that they had a good education; they therefore looked after the gymnasium. He thought the brethren would say that the Board of Management had with the materials they had at hand done the best they could to carry out the objects of the Institution. He now invited the Head Master to come forward and assist her Royal Highness to present the prizes.

The Princess of Wales thereupon presented to the boys the following prizes handed to her by Bro. Hebb:

FORM PRIZES.

- Form IB.—E. Webb, 1, and K. Griffiths, 2.
- Form IA.—F. W. Button, 1, and F. G. Button, 2.
- Form IB.—F. H. Castle.
- Form IA.—T. Anderson.
- Form IIC.—N. A. Mostyn, 1, and J. W. Barnett, 2.
- Form IIB.—L. J. Worsell, 1, and H. S. Prinn, 2.
- Form IIA.—H. G. Todd, 1, and A. Crane, 2.
- Form IVC.—H. Lord, 1, and A. Gray, 2.
- Form IVA.—A. W. Huskinson, 1, and H. D. Maidment, 2.
- Form IVAR.—W. Hills.

PRIZES FOR SPECIAL SUBJECTS.

- Mathematics.—H. D. Maidment, 1, and W. L. Dallas, 2.
- Latin.—(Presented by Bro. H. Manfield)—E. Richardson, 1; L. W. Croft, 2; and H. A. Dodds, equal.
- French.—(Presented by Bro. O. Philippe)—M. A. Grace.
- Honours in Cambridge Local Preliminary.—W. L. Dallas, M. A. Grace, and H. G. Todd.
- Knowledge of the Australian Colonies.—(Presented by Bro. W. F. Lamony, 1897)—W. E. J. Barker.
- Knowledge of the Australian Colonies (Presented by Bros. W. F. Lamony and W. Russell).—L. W. Croft, 1, and A. P. Shaw, 2.
- English Composition (Presented by the "Old Masonians' Society").—A. P. Shaw.
- Drawing (Presented by Bro. H. Kemp).—H. L. Garraway, 1, and C. Morton, 2.
- Best Copy Books.—C. J. Callander and F. D. Cowlishaw.
- Sight Singing.—W. Holland.
- Theory of Music.—A. D. Rogers.
- Pianoforte (Senior).—H. D. Pink.
- Pianoforte (Junior).—W. J. Tunnicliffe.
- Reading in Chapel.—W. L. Kemp.
- Printing.—B. H. Green, 1, and W. Hills, 2.
- Bookbinding.—W. L. Kemp, 1, and R. H. Evans, 2.
- Carpentry.—C. W. Bewsher, A. W. Huskinson, H. Tanner, and B. H. Good.
- Field Botany Club—Best Collection of Specimens.—(To be awarded later).

FUNDED PRIZES.

- (a) Canonbury Gold Medal for the most Popular Boy (elected by his comrades).—E. Richardson.
- (b) Bowyer Prize for Shorthand.—J. R. B. Niven.
- (c) The W. Masters' Memorial for Knowledge of Railways.—E. J. Barker and E. Richardson, equal.
- (d) Escott Prize for Mathematics.—E. J. Barker.
- (e) Raymond Thrupp Prize for History.—A. P. Shaw.
- (f) Winn Prizes for boys who have gained Certificates in the Cambridge Local Examination in 1897—Senior, Class 2.—J. H. Rangley, Class 3.—E. F. Whale. Passes.—E. Barker, A. Clarke, H. Corner, W. Kemp, J. Longbottom, E. Richardson, and A. Shaw. Junior, Class 2.—L. Croft. Class 3.—H. Austin, H. Dodds, A. Huskinson, and H. D. Maidment. Passes.—J. Brewis, R. Chadwick, S. Dowdell, H. B. Earl, R. Evans, D. Greenwood, W. Hills, G. Irons, A. Kelland, D. Mills, J. Naysmith, J. Niven, S. Pattison, H. Roberts, A. Rogers, and B. Green.
- (g) Cama Memorial Prize for the youngest boy passing the Cambridge Local Senior Examination in 1897.—E. J. W. Barker.
- (h) Supreme Council's Prize.—A. P. Shaw.
- (i) Greenwood Memorial Prize.—E. J. Barker.
- (j) Institution Silver Medal for the head of the School.—H. R. Corner.
- Silver Watch and Chain for the head of the School at Christmas (Presented by Bro. Sholto Hale).—J. Rangley.
- (k) The interest on £84 given in 1862 by the late W. Bro. Edward Cox, P.M. Canonbury Lodge, P.P.S.G.W. Norths and Hunts, to be expended in the purchase of a gold medal.
- (l) The interest on £45 14s. subscribed in 1891 by the friends of the late Bro. Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br.
- (m) The interest on £43 subscribed in 1896 by the friends of the late Bro. William Masters, P.M. Lodge 2128, a member of the Board of Management.
- (n) The interest on £71 13s. 6d. subscribed in 1891 by the friends of the late Bro. Albert Escott, P.M. Lodge 1593.
- (o) The interest on £139 10s. subscribed in 1892 by the brethren of the Province of Middlesex as a testimonial to W. Bro. Raymond Thrupp, P.A.G.D.C., D.P.G.M. of Middlesex, and presented by him to the School.
- (p) The interest on £525 given in 1867 by the late Bro. William Winn, P.M. Lodge 657.
- (q) The interest on £105 given in 1895 by Bro. D. P. Cama, in memory of Mrs. Cama.

- (h) A silver watch and chain given annually since 1877, by the Supreme Council 33° A. and A. Rite.
 (i) The interest on £103 13s. subscribed in 1888 by the friends of the late Bro. Charles Greenwood, Prov. G. Sec. of Surrey.
 (j) Founded in 1831.

What the boys have done in Public Examinations during the year:

Department of Science and Art, South Kensington.—Mathematics and Natural Science, 21 certificates; Drawing, 29 certificates.

Cambridge Local Examinations.—Senior (with 2 Classes), 9 certificates; Junior (with 5 Classes), 21 certificates; Preliminary (with 3 Classes and 4 Distinctions), 33 certificates.

Trinity College, London (Theory of Music).—Intermediate Honours, 1 certificate; Juniors, Passes, 3 certificates.

Pitman's Shorthand.—Second Class, 3 certificates; Third Class, 23 certificates.

St. John's Ambulance Association.—Junior Course, 22 certificates.

University of London.—J. A. Coupland, Second Class in the Preliminary Scientific Examinations.

Yorkshire College (Leeds) School of Medicine.—J. A. Coupland, Scholarship of the value of 64 guineas.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., Treasurer of the Institution, then rose and said: Your Royal Highness, my Lords, Ladies, and Brethren,—the very great privilege and honour devolves upon me, as Treasurer of the Institution, of proposing a resolution which I know will be carried with acclamation—that we record a most cordial vote of thanks to her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales for her great condescension in attending here to-day and giving the prizes to the boys of our Institution. (Applause.) The attendance of her Royal Highness will make this not only a red-letter day in the annals of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, but in the history of our Craft. It will I am sure, give great encouragement to the Head Master and to the other brethren who are responsible for the management of this Institution, and I am sure this will be a day that will live long in the minds of all our boys and more especially of those who have been the fortunate recipients of prizes to-day and whom, I think, we all regard with a certain amount of envy, and I think it will furnish them with a stimulus to make a greater effort to obtain success and distinction in their future lives which it is the great object of our School to place within their reach. Ten years ago her Royal Highness was present at the giving of the prizes to the girls of the sister Institution, and to-day she had been graciously pleased to take a more prominent part than she did then. I trust the reason of this is that she is aware of the grand principles on which our English Freemasonry is founded, as explained by his Royal Highness as being its distinguishing characteristics—loyalty and charity; and I may say our loyalty is loyalty to the Throne and loyalty to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, our Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Applause.) I am sure I am stating your feelings when I venture to say that we hope that often in the future her Royal Highness will be pleased to attend our ceremonies when occasions of sufficient importance arise for her to do so. In an assembly like this, composed of Freemasons and ladies who are closely connected with our Craft, I know I may anticipate your response to this proposition, and that I may on your behalf assure her Royal Highness of our sincere and respectful appreciation of her presence here to-day and of her great kindness in coming to this great meeting of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys to give away the prizes to the successful boys of our Institution; and I will ask you to show your assent in the good old English fashion of three hearty cheers which will test the standing capabilities of this building.

Three hearty cheers were then given for the Princess of Wales, and three more for the Grand Master.

H.R.H. the Prince of WALES, who was received with a great outburst of applause, said, in reply: Bro. Keyser, my Lords, Ladies, and Brethren,—Before we leave this hall and the interesting ceremony we have witnessed, the Princess desires me to return her thanks to Bro. Keyser for the very kind remarks which he has made with regard to her for distributing the prizes, and she desires me also to express to you all the great pleasure it has given her to be here to-day and present the prizes to the pupils of this excellent Institution. The Princess has set a good example, as the wife of a Freemason, in not attempting to penetrate the secrets of our Craft—(laughter)—but, at the same time, I think she has taken a philanthropic interest in all that concerns our work, and she has manifested that interest by giving away the prizes to-day. You have heard a long and interesting account from Bro. Eve of the efforts made by the Board of Management of this Institution. I have also had an opportunity of looking over the book that has been placed in my hand and the report of the Head Master. That report is very satisfactory, and I think all of us are convinced now that the Institution has reached its hundredth anniversary, that it is in a very prosperous condition. (Cheers.) The boys from what we have seen to-day, as far as their appearance goes, are very healthy and well, and for their attainments the number of prizes they have received for the excellent technical education given them bodes well for the future. May I hope that when they grow up and become men they will never forget what they have been taught in the School, and go out useful members of the community. (Renewed applause.) I beg again to thank Bro. Keyser for the kind terms in which he has spoken of the Princess of Wales and myself, and I assure the brethren of the deep interest I take in the Craft and the Institutions which are supported by it. (Loud cheers.)

The Royal Party then left the building amid renewed manifestations of enthusiasm.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Tewkesbury on the 31st ult., when there was a large and successful gathering of the Craft. At the invitation of the receiving lodge—St. George—the business was preceded by a lodge of recreation, a pleasing feature of which was a trip up the Avon as far as Strensham, the commodious steam launch being well filled, and the trip was much enjoyed.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was opened at the Abbey Schools by Bro. Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., Prov. G.M., and among those present were Bros. Vassar-Smith, D.P.G.M.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; Dr. C. Venn Childe, P.G.C.; and others.

Bro. J. B. WINTERBOTHAM, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec., read the minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge.

Bro. BURTON, Prov. G. Treas., gave his report, which showed a balance of £117 in hand.

Bro. R. P. SUMMERS, the Charity Secretary, reported that the province had succeeded in procuring the election of a candidate for the Girls' School, and had reduced its indebtedness in votes. There was £21 7s. 3d. in hand from the Provincial Benevolent Fund.

Procession was then formed, and the members of Provincial Grand Lodge attended Divine service at the Abbey. There was a large congregation, the service being conducted by the vicar, the Rev. J. Sheringham. The lessons were read by Bro. the Rev. W. S. Fallon, Prov. G. Chap., the canticles being sung to Stainer's setting in A. The anthem was Goss's "Stand up and bless the Lord."

An eloquent sermon was preached by Bro. Dr. VENN CHILDE, vicar of Christ Church, Cheltenham, from I. Cor., iii., 9-10. He appealed to the Masons present to show that their principles were not an empty profession, and to help forward the restoration of that Abbey, the most solemn and impressive of all the parish churches of the province. Tracing the rich historical associations clustering round the venerable building, he recalled the fact that at the time of the Reformation it was doomed, but was ransomed by the citizens of Tewkesbury, who undertook its perpetual reparation. It had now been restored to something near its pristine beauty and ancient glory, and Tewkesbury now guarded for England one of its noblest shrines.

During the collection the hymn "Saviour, blessed Saviour" was sung. On Provincial Grand Lodge being resumed, the Prov. G.M. moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens, to Bros. Baker, the Mayor of Tewkesbury, and to Dr. Venn Childe for his excellent sermon, and suggested that the Masons of the province should undertake some specific work in aid of the restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey. He thought, after consultation with the authorities, a definite work might be decided on next year.

This was seconded by the DEPUTY PROV. G. MASTER, and carried unanimously.

Bro. Bruton having been re-elected Prov. G. Treasurer, a sum of 100 guineas was voted to the Boys' School Centenary, and Bro. SUMMER announced that this would make the contribution of the province £2540.

The Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year were appointed and invested as follows:

Bro. Alfred Baker, 900	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" S. W. Haddingham, 1067	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. F. W. Morris, 855	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" F. Hannam Clark, 939...	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. B. Winterbotham, 82	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" E. W. Prevost, 1067	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" H. F. Sare, 592	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" W. H. Godby, 493	...	...	...	Prov. G. S. of Wks.
" Conway Jones, 1005	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" T. H. Gore, 2541	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" L. Pullin, 270	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" A. F. Bailey, 761	...	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" P. A. Pike, 900	...	...	...
" H. Rogers, 246	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" M. Llewellyn Evans 82	...	...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" L. D. Winterbotham, 702	...	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" H. C. Baillie, 900	...	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" C. C. Moore, 900	...	...	...
" Window, 855	...	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The M.W.G.M. having authorised the Prov. G.M. to appoint a brother in the province to the rank of Past G. Officer, in commemoration of the record reign of her Majesty the Queen, Bro. Frederic Ticehurst will be appointed to the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden.

The brethren afterwards partook of a banquet at the Town Hall, the Prov. G. Master in the chair.

The usual Masonic toasts were honoured, and the Prov. G. MASTER, in returning thanks for his health, mentioned that a new lodge would be opened at Nailsworth during the autumn.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF DEVONSHIRE.

INSTALLATION OF SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, BART., M.P., AS G. SUPERINTENDENT.

A convocation of the above Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Princess-square, Plymouth, on the 1st instant, for the installation of Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., Grand Superintendent designate, and other business.

The Provincial Grand Chapter is constituted as follows: Comps. W. G. Rogers, 112, Prov. G.H.; F. B. Westlake, 70, Prov. G.J.; J. Stocker, 112, Prov. G.S.E.; J. F. Ellerton, 1125, Prov. G.S.N.; E. M. Moyle, 1125, Prov. G. Treas.; T. Parker, 156, Prov. G. Reg.; G. S. Bridgeman, 1358, Prov. G.P.S.; E. W. Locke, 444, Prov. 1st A.G.S.; R. C. Musgrave, 303, Prov. 2nd A.G.S.; Wm. Powell, 1205, Prov. G.S.B.; F. Hubber, 1284, G. R. Stevens, 494, and W. H. Botterell, 1255, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; J. R. Lord, 1247, Prov. G.D.C.; J. A. Lavers, 223, Prov. A.G.D.C.; J. F. Ralling, 112, Prov. A.G.D.C.; W. H. Lander, 1138, Prov. A.G.D.C.; H. Mann, 106, Prov. G. Org.; W. H. Mayne, 1247, Prov. A.G.S.E.; and H. Shooter, 112, Prov. G. Janitor.

There was a very large attendance of companions from all parts of the province, including the following Provincial or Past Provincial G. Officers: Comps. M. Fortescue, 444; J. B. Gover, 70; J. Kinton Bond, 1247; G. Dunsterville, 189; H. L. Friend, 303; G. Merrifield, 282; Fred C. Frost, 303; John A. Lavers, 223; P. B. Clements, 156; C. G. Withell, 70; C. Dunsterville, 189; C. H. Cooper, 105; H. Holman, 202; Frank Hubber, 1284; J. F. Ralling, 112; R. Cawsey, 230; E. H. Littleton, 230; J. W. Cornish, 223; Jas. Gidley, 1205; H. Reynolds, 2025; W. G. Ellis, 328; J. H. Keats, 282; Harry Skinner, 82; John Lane, 328; John F. Ellerton, 1125; E. M. Moyle, 1125; Sam Jew, 2025; E. G. Dyke, 1246; J. T. Marsh; Thos. Parker, 156;

F. B. Westlake, 50; John Du Pre, 50; R. S. Johns, 59; W. Allsford, 2021; Harry Skinner, 282; W. H. Botterill, 1265; Maj. Tracey, 1247; G. S. Bridgman, 1358; W. Powell, 1205; E. Tout, 70; W. E. Warren, 1358; Maj. Jos. Matthews, 282; J. H. Warren, 1284; Rev. T. C. Lewis, 70; Rev. W. E. Windle, 710; G. Merrifield, 282; R. Pike, 230; J. R. Dugdale, and G. Bray, 202. M.E.Zs. or P.Zs.: Comps. W. F. Weston, 70; J. Sampson, 1284; H. B. Langmaid, 202; G. W. Hancock, 202; C. Philp, 1247; C. Emmett, 1358; J. Bassett, 230; N. Radmore, 159; W. Wingate, 328; J. Shapter, 303; W. Thomas, 156; P. Hannaford, 223; G. F. Bromley, 230; T. S. Eyre, 1247; J. G. Keverne, 1247; J. J. Facey, 1205; T. Kerslake, 282; W. H. Williams, 159; A. Hope, 112; H. Jerman, 112; H. Mann, 106; W. T. Gill, 282; R. R. Rodd, 105; A. H. Whidden, 202; G. Perkins, 1205; W. H. Dillon, 1099; and T. J. Green, 1205.

The Installing Officer was Comp. W. Wither Bramston Beach, M.P., Third Grand Principal of England and Grand Superintendent of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and the ceremony was most impressively performed.

Comp. Sir Stafford Northcote, having been installed as Grand Superintendent, appointed and invested the Officers of Prov. Grand Chapter for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. G. C. Davie, 251	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" J. Lane, 328	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" J. Stocker, 112	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" J. Sampson, 444	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. H. Blackell, 1099	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. Jerman, 112	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. Jolliffe, 954	...	...	Prov. P.G.S.
" J. Munday, 1125	...	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" J. Shapter, 303	...	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" Jno. Bray, 202	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. Philp, 1247	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" C. A. Nicholson, 159	...	...
" W. T. Gill, 282	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" J. R. Lord, 1247	...	...
" C. Emmett, 1358	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" J. Hoyten, 223	...	...
" W. King, 70	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. Ridge, 1284	...	...
" H. Reynolds, 2025	...	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" H. Shooter, 112	...	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The election of Comp. Blackell as Prov. G. Treasurer was proposed by Comp. ALLSFORD, and seconded by Comp. H. STOCKER, and agreed to unanimously.

Comps. J. R. Lord and J. W. Cornish were appointed Auditors of the Prov. G. Treasurer's accounts.

The Prov. G.S.E., Comp. J. STOCKER, presented his report of the returns of chapters in the province, showing a total number of 888 subscribing members, an increase of 16 over the previous year, and the amount paid in dues and fees £39. 2s., an excess of £1 4s. 6d. over the previous year. The names of 63 companions were removed from the register during the year by death, resignation, or exclusion, and 73 new members were admitted by exaltation and six by joining. The number of Past First Principals returned was 301.

The sum of £5 5s. was voted to the Widows' Fund of the Province, on the motion of Comp. ALLSFORD, and £30 to the Boys' Institution (to be placed on the list of the Prov. G.H., who is going up as a Steward), on the proposition of Comp. WESTLAKE.

At the conclusion of the business, the G. SUPERINTENDENT proposed a cordial vote of thanks to Comp. Beach for his kindness in coming down and acting as Installing Officer.

Comp. DAVIE, seconding the motion, observed that everybody who had much to do with Masonry knew how invaluable had been the services of Comp. Beach to Freemasonry in England. If he was not the "Father of the House of Commons," he was certainly the "Father of Freemasonry" at the present time. (Applause.)

Comp. BEACH returned thanks. He stated that 20 years ago he came into Devonshire to install Lord Ebrington as Prov. Grand Master. He had now discharged a similar most pleasant office in Masonry, for he was fully convinced his friend, Sir Stafford Northcote, would preside over that Prov. Grand Chapter with the same ability that he had displayed in the other Degrees of Freemasonry. (Applause.) He (Comp. Beach) was fully rewarded for his trouble by the excellent attendance and the great interest shown in the province in the event. (Applause.)

The PROV. G.S.E. said they had now parted company with Comp. W. G. Rogers, who for the long period of 22 years had been the Second Principal of the province, and for many years was Prov. G.S.E. He was a perfect worker in the Degree in his younger days, and it must be matter of regret that he had been obliged to sever his connection with them. He (Comp. J. Stocker) wished to move a resolution expressing their appreciation of Comp. Rogers' services, and that it be recorded on the minutes.

This was seconded by Comp. LORD.

The G. SUPERINTENDENT having cordially endorsed the motion, it was unanimously agreed to.

The Prov. Grand Chapter was then closed.

Many of the companions afterwards dined together at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel. The Grand Superintendent, Sir Stafford Northcote, M.P., presided, and gave the loyal toasts.

Comp. WESTLAKE responded for "The Officers of Grand Chapter." He said he felt that Devonshire was honoured by his being made an officer of Grand Chapter immediately following a similar office conferred upon Comp. John Stocker, and as representing Devonshire he felt very proud of the honour.

Comp. DAVIE said the very pleasing task fell upon him of proposing the toast of the evening—"The Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., C.B., M.P., Grand Superintendent of Devon." (Applause.) Two years ago Sir Stafford Northcote was installed Provincial Grand Master of Devonshire Freemasons, and they felt it would be beneficial that he should also rule in this supreme Degree, so closely were they allied together. They were clannish in Devonshire, and were, therefore, all the more glad to be ruled over by one of the good old Devonshire stock. (Applause.) They were delighted to welcome him as their Grand Superintendent, for they knew in Sir Stafford they had one who would take an interest in all they did, and place Masonry only second to his more public duties. (Applause.)

Comp. Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, in reply, said he would endeavour to merit in some way the eulogies of Comp. Davie. If he failed it would be

entirely his own fault, for he had had sufficient experience of Devonshire Freemasonry to know that he could count most confidently on the cordial and loyal support of his brother Freemasons. It was a source of pride to him that he had been called upon to preside over the destinies of Freemasonry in that province, and no one more sincerely and earnestly desired the prosperity of the Order than he did. (Applause.) He concluded by proposing "The Health of the Installing Officer, Comp. Beach." (Applause.) They had seen the ability with which he discharged his duties, and they knew the estimation in which he was held in Masonic circles throughout the country. Personally he had known their distinguished guest for the last 18 or 20 years in a more stormy atmosphere. Comp. Beach was "the father" of that insignificant body, the House of Commons—(laughter and applause)—and one of its most popular and justly respected members—respected by men of every shade of political opinion. (Applause.)

Comp. BEACH, in reply, said he had come among them with the greatest feelings of pleasure, and was very grateful for the way in which they had received him. He could not claim to be, like their Grand Superintendent, a Devonshire man, but he did the next best thing—he came to Devonshire and got a wife. (Laughter and applause.) Therefore, he could not say he was totally unconnected with the province. Since he was appointed to the high position of Third Grand Principal he had felt it his duty to perform many offices with regard to Royal Arch Masonry. He had been to the extremity of Wales and into far Northumberland to install Grand Superintendents, and it was pleasant to see Freemasonry carried out in different provinces and in different manners, but always with the same good feeling prevailing. It had been a great pleasure to him during a long Masonic life to do what he could for the benefit of the Order. He had hardly joined the Order before he became a Steward of the Boys' School, and was thus brought into contact with the great benefit Freemasonry was conferring, and he was glad that in the Royal Arch Freemasons they could find further scope for their energies.

Comp. SACH proposed "The Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Comps. HOYTEN and J. W. CORNISH responded.

Comp. CORNISH expressed a hope that more Masons would proceed to this sublime Degree, and suggested that the meetings of the chapters should be put upon the Craft circulars. (Applause.)

Comp. J. KINTON BOND gave the toast of "The Most Excellent the Earl of Mount Edgcombe," Grand Superintendent, and the Prov. Grand Chapter of Cornwall, and Comp. Major Rendle was called upon to acknowledge the toast.

Comp. FORTESCUE proposed "The Visitors," which toast was heartily received.

Comp. JOHN MASON, P.G. Std. Br., responded, and said he visited the province a quarter of a century ago, and he should be always glad to come among them to plead the cause of the Old People's Institution. (Applause.)

Some excellent songs were sung by Comps. J. Richards and Major Rendle. Comp. Wingate gave a beautiful violin solo, and Comp. Beach, M.P., a recitation.

CONSECRATION OF THE KING'S COURT LODGE, No. 2689.

On the 2nd inst., the consecration of the above lodge took place at Gillingham, in the presence of a numerous gathering of provincial brethren from the immediate neighbourhood. The idea of promoting a local lodge was mooted some little time ago by several prominent local brethren, who felt that it was very desirable and distinctly more convenient to have a lodge of their own, than to have to travel some miles to attend a neighbouring lodge. The next step was to secure a site for a lodge room, and in doing so no little difficulty was experienced. Eventually the old malthouse, which formed part of the Phoenix Hotel premises, was offered by Mr. G. B. Matthews, and readily accepted by the Committee as being admirably situated for the purpose. The designs for the lodge room and appurtenances were drawn up by Bro. Miles, Hants, and the work has been carried out by Messrs. J. New and W. H. Hodder, of Shaftesbury, to the entire satisfaction of the founders and architect. The furniture is of a very handsome character, being of carved oak, in the Jacobean style. A beautiful banner was presented by the Friendship and Sincerity Lodge, Shaftesbury, to their Gillingham brethren. It is thoroughly illustrative of the newly-consecrated King's Court Lodge. There are four coats-of-arms painted on it, representing four kings who occupied the King's Court Palace, and surmounting them is King John's crown, the banner being otherwise adorned with Masonic emblems, and the motto—"Usque stat Fortuna Domus."

Owing to the large number of brethren attending the ceremony, it was found necessary to requisition the Drill Hall, which was specially fitted up for the occasion.

To mark the inauguration of the lodge, the bells of the parish church rang peals throughout the day.

The consecration took place at one o'clock, the Prov. G.M., Bro. Montagu J. Guest, performing the ceremony. Immediately after, the W.M. designate, Bro. P. J. Gavin, P.M., P.J.G.D., was duly installed in the chair by Bro. Harry Strange, assisted by Bro. Miles.

The music at the consecration and installation ceremonies was rendered by the well-known Westminster Quartette.

The lodge starts with 16 founders, and it is expected that it will number 30 members within three months.

The following were the officers elected: Bros. P. J. Gavin, P.J.G.D., W.M.; A. T. Manger, S.W.; J. McElpatrick, J.W.; Rev. E. Borradaile, Chap.; E. R. Down, Treas.; Harry Strange, P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; J. H. Wadman, S.D.; G. J. Stickland, J.D.; J. W. Gray, D.C.; J. Ley, P.P.J.G.D., Org.; G. H. Auston, I.G.; J. H. Ayles, H. J. Phillips, and H. Kaines, Stwds.; and J. Stickland, Tyler.

At four o'clock the members and brethren formed a procession to the church, each wearing his regalia and orders, the procession being headed by two Tylers with drawn swords of office. The service was of a special character, the Rev. Bro. Rowland Hill, Prov. G. Chap., Vicar of Lyme Regis, preaching the sermon. The Westminster Singers assisted the full choir, and in addition gave a fine rendering of the anthem, "Behold how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren, to dwell together in unity," Psalm cxxxiii. A collection was taken in aid of the Masonic Charities.

The furniture and banner were manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son.

NOVELTY THEATRE, GREAT QUEEN ST., HOLBORN. *Open all the year round.*

Miss V. Sr. LAWRENCE AND POWERFUL
COMPANY.

This Theatre is closed for decorations and repairs, and
will re-open at an early date.

PRICES 3d. TO A GUINEA.

Manager, Mr. WALTER TYRRELL.

FISH, POULTRY, GAME, OYSTERS.

JOHN GOW, LIMITED

17, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.

13, HONEY LANE MARKET, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.

23, LONDON STREET, MARK LANE, E.C.

93, THEOBALD'S RD., HOLBORN, W.C.

AND

86, HIGH STREET, PECKHAM, S.E.

JOHN GOW, Limited, always have on sale the Largest
Stock in London of the Very Best Quality at Lowest Prices.

CANNON STREET HOTEL, CANNON STREET, E.C.

RITTER & PUZEY, PROPRIETORS.

SPACIOUS AND COMMODIOUS ROOMS

FOR LARGE OR SMALL

MASONIC LODGES,

AND

BANQUETS,

MEETINGS, AUCTIONS, BALLS, CONCERTS, ARBITRA-
TIONS, CINDERELLAS, ETC.

W. G. FENELEY, MANAGER.

BREE'S ROYAL HOTEL, JERSEY

Healthiest situation in St. Helier.

20 degrees cooler than the sea front.

BED AND BREAKFAST 5/6 AND 6/-.
FULL BOARD, ROOMS & SERVICE, 8/6 & 9/ per day.

Telegraphic Address—"BREE'S, JERSEY."

HASTINGS.—GILDERSLEEVE'S PRIVATE HOTEL.

STANTON HOUSE ROYAL

Every accommodation. 50 Spacious Rooms, Private and
Public. Best situation on Sea Front. Most sheltered for
Winter. Strictly moderate. Club of Instruction held.

Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. GILDERSLEEVE.

CROSSLEY BROS., FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS, Funeral Carriage Masters and Monumental Masons.

Valuations for probate.

69, GREEN LANES, HARRINGAY, LONDON, N.
(Two minutes from Haringay Park Station).

No extra charge within six miles.

ANDERTON'S HOTEL & TAVERN FLEET STREET, LONDON.

F. H. CLEWOW, Proprietor.

In connection with the Peacock Hotel, and Royal Hotel,
Boston, Lincolnshire.

The central position of Anderton's is unequalled for
Masonic Banquets, Public Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts,
Meetings of Creditors, Arbitrations, &c.

The RESTAURANT on Eastern Side of Hotel Entrance
is open to the public from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for Breakfasts,
Luncheons, Teas, and Dinners.

The 2s. Hot Luncheon, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Coffee
Room, unequalled.

Registered Address for Telegrams:—

CLEWOW, LONDON.

BRO. EDWARD P. DELEVANTI

will be pleased to undertake

MUSICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MASONIC
BANQUETS, CONSECRATIONS, &c.

(Craft, Arch, Mark, Secret Monitor, &c.)

MASONIC QUARTETTE.

THE COURT PART SINGERS.

Laver Marney, Mount Park, Ealing; or 16 Great Queen
Street, W.C.

GRAND LODGE DECISIONS

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

EDITED, ARRANGED, AND ANNOTATED BY

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

Price 3s. 6d., bound in cloth.

GEORGE KENNING, Masonic Publisher,
16 and 16a, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N

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

GRAND PATRON:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

THE CENTENARY FESTIVAL

WILL BE HELD AT THE

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, KENSINGTON,

On FRIDAY, 10th JUNE, 1898,

Under the Most Distinguished Presidency of

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., &c.,

Most Worshipful Grand Master and President of
the Institution.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES

BY

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES,

WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE

ROYAL ALBERT HALL,

On TUESDAY, 7th JUNE, 1898.

Full particulars on application to

J. MORRISON McLEOD, P.G.S.B.,

Hon. Sec. to the Board of Stewards.

6, Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.

Telephone No. 6879.

Established 1808.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & CO., WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

STATIONERS, PRINTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS,
ACCOUNT BOOK MAKERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED.

"THE PROFESSIONAL NOTE," A High-class Vellum Paper, with Rough or Satin Surface.

SAMPLES ON APPLICATION.

Send for Illustrated Price List Free.

MATTHEWS, DREW, & COMPANY, 37 & 38, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

(Opposite Chancery Lane).

Law Writing Department—10, GRAY'S INN PLACE, W.C.

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

Bro. F. J. THAYRE, Proprietor.

(Many years at the Savoy Hotel).

The above old-established and famous Hostelry is most
pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames at one of
its most charming reaches.

There is a large Coffee Room with a grand uninterrupted
view.

Superior accommodation for Masonic gatherings,
Families, Anglers, &c.

Fish abound in the immediate vicinity of the Hotel, and
experienced Fishermen are always available, Billiards,
Boating, Punting, Posting, &c.

SUMMER OUTINGS.

ROYAL WINDSOR AND THE RIVER THAMES.

Complete arrangements made for Masonic or other
parties visiting Windsor.

Steam Launch Trips over some of the prettiest parts of
the River.

Charming Drives to Virginia Water, Burnham Beeches,
&c.

Steam Launches or Boats engaged.

LUNCHEON & DINING ROOMS. RESTAURANT. Carefully selected Wines

LAYTON BROTHERS,

CONFECTIONERS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN,
WINDSOR.

WASHING WELL DONE AND ACCURATELY RETURNED.

Old Established.

VICTORIA LAUNDRY WORKS, Child's Hill, Hendon.
Prospectus free.

"VICTORIA—MOTHER OF MASONS,"

By Bro. J. HORNSEY CASSON,

P.P.G.O. Derbyshire.

GEORGE KENNING, 16 and 16a, Great Queen Street,
(opposite Freemasons' Hall), W.C.

LAINDON HILLS, ESSEX.—Cheap Freehold Plots,
finest in the locality, undoubtedly the highest and best in
the neighbourhood, Lince Wood Park Estate, Laindon,
Essex. SALE of 180 valuable Freehold Plots, Monday,
June 13, in Marquee on Estate, by

THE LAND CO.

Free deeds, free plans, easy payments; bricks
made and sold adjoining the estate; within five minutes
of railway station, 19 miles from London; special cheap
trains; rising locality.

Special sale train Fenchurch-street, morning sale at 11
a.m.; tickets 1s. return; luncheon provided free.

Apply, THE LAND CO., 67 and 68, Cheapside.

RAYLEIGH. RAYLEIGH. RAYLEIGH.

Clearance Land Sale on Rayleigh Park Estate. Forty
extra Plots Offered and Sold. Easy distance of station,
fronting main road.

THE LAND CO.,

in Marquee on Estate. Luncheon provided free.
Special train Liverpool-street morning of Sale, at 10.50;
return 1s. 6d. Undoubtedly the cheapest Plots in the
Kingdom. Good red and stock bricks made on the estate.
Every advantage offered to small and large purchasers;
free deeds; no law costs; free plans; easy payments;
particulars post free.

Apply, THE LAND CO., 67 and 68, Cheapside.

FREEMOLD.

BUSHEY GROVE PARK, NEAR WATFORD.

PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE
TO BE SOLD, Price £1750,

or would be let on lease at £90 per annum.

Eleven Rooms, Bathroom, Square Hall and Entrance
Porch, ample domestic Offices, large Gardens, with Tennis
Court, Cycle House, &c. Gravel Soil and pure Colne
Valley Water, Extensive Views over the Park.

To view, apply to Mr. BROWN, "Fairlawn," The
Avenue, Bushey Grove Park, near Watford.

FOR ECONOMICAL AND RESPECTABLE FUNERALS at stated charges.

To cover all expenses, exclusive of cemetery fees.

BRO. C. G. HATT,

FUNERAL FURNISHER, APPRAISER AND
MONUMENTAL MASON,

2, HIGH STREET, KENSINGTON, W.

CREMATION AND EMBALMING.

Distance no object.

Orders by post or telegrams promptly attended to.

Price Lists free on application.

Telegraphic Address—"ORPHANHOOD," LONDON.

THE SHIP AND TURTLE, Proprietor, Bro. C. J. PAINTER.

Best and oldest house in London for recherché
Masonic Banquets, Private Parties, and Dinners.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS FOR COMPANIES, &c.

OUR TURTLE "THE ELIXIR OF LIFE," Vide faculty.

Purveyors to H.R.H. Prince of Wales, H.I.M. Emperor
of Russia, Dukes of Saxe Gotha, Connaught, Cambridge,
and most of Crowned Heads of Europe.

Manager, Bro. E. ASHBY.

CLARK'S CIVIL SERVICE AND

COMMERCIAL COLLEGE,

2 AND 3, CHANCERY LANE.

(Branches at 401, Holloway Road; 119, St. John's Hill,
Clapham; 7, Fitzroy Square, W.; and Cork).

FOUNDER & PRINCIPAL—BRO. GEO. E. CLARK,
Late H.M.C.S., Member of London Chamber
of Commerce;

Chief of Civil Service and Commercial Section at Royal
Masonic School for Girls, Battersea Rise.

The College offers special facilities in preparation for
THE CIVIL SERVICE,

University Matriculation,

Local College of Preceptors,

Society of Arts, and

Professional Exam-.

ALL COMMERCIAL APPOINTMENTS,

Scholarship Exams., &c., &c.

Classes and Private Lessons in

All Languages, Correspondence,

Book-keeping, Shorthand,

Typewriting, &c., &c.

Write for particulars, or apply personally any day
between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Over 4500 Students of Clark's College have been suc-
cessful in Civil Service Exams.

2 and 3, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

FREEMASON'S HYMN.—THE MYSTIC TIE. Words and Music composed by J. J. SKIN. Price 1s. 6d. nett.

TEOFANI'S HIGH-CLASS CIGARETTES.

Teofani's are sold at the leading Hotels, Restaurants, and
Tobacconists throughout the United Kingdom.

Awarded Two Gold Medals for Quality and Make,
International Tobacco Exhibition, 1895.

A Feature of the Metropolis.

SPIERS & POND'S CRITERION RESTAURANT, PICCADILLY CIRCUS, LONDON, W.

EAST ROOM.

Finest Cuisine, unsurpassed by the most renowned
Parisian Restaurants, Luncheons, Dinners and Suppers
à la carte and prix fixe. Viennese Band.

GRAND HALL.

Musical Dinner 3s. 6d. per head. Accompanied by the
Imperial Austrian Band.

WEST ROOM.

Academy Luncheon 2s. 6d., Diner Parisien 5s., during both
of which the renowned Mandolin Quartette performs.

BUFFET & GRILL ROOM.

Quick service à la carte and moderate prices. Joints in
each room fresh from the Spit every half-hour.

AMERICAN BAR.

Service of special American Dishes, Grills, &c.

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



Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1898.

It is said that kings can do no wrong, and Bro. Richard Eve, as chairman of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, in that particular position may be looked upon as a constitutional kinglet, if not a full blown king. It is the more to be regretted, therefore, that he did not exhibit greater familiarity with the strict chronological order of events in connection with the Institution over whose government he so ably presides. In his speech at the distribution of prizes in the Albert Hall on Tuesday he is reported to have said with reference to the present School buildings at Wood Green being no longer large enough for the increased and increasing requirements of the Institution, that the foundation-stone of those buildings was laid by the Baroness (then Miss) Burdett-Coutts in 1862. The scheme for the erection of new premises, in place of the old Lordship House which had been purchased a few years previously, had not then been heard of, and it was not till the month of

August, 1863, that the foundation-stone was laid and then the ceremony was performed by the late Bro. Algernon Perkins, Past G. Warden of England. The service rendered by Baroness Burdett-Coutts was that of laying the memorial stone of the present Assembly Hall, and the year to which that event belonged is 1885.

* * *

We look upon this very flagrant evidence of Bro. Eve's weakness in chronology as a more serious matter than might be generally imagined. It is necessary that the pupils of our Boys' Institution should make themselves as proficient as possible in this particular branch of study, and Bro. Eve, as Chairman of its governing body, was bound to set them a good example. But, as a matter of fact, Bro. Eve murdered his chronology to an extent that no self-respecting Head Master would tolerate for a single moment. Unfortunately, the next time any one of the boys is ordered for punishment for mixing up his dates, he will be able to plead in extenuation the terrible example set to the School by the Chairman of its Board of Management.

* * *

In another of his remarks Bro. Eve appears to have made a chronological slip. In speaking of the Prince of Wales having been with them as far back as 1870, when his Royal Highness was pleased to take the chair at the annual Festival, he remarked that, "in speaking of Loyalty and Charity as the watchwords of Freemasonry," the Prince "had uttered words that would never be forgotten by the brethren." It was not at the Boys' School Festival in the year referred to, but at his installation as M.W. Grand Master in 1875, that his Royal Highness made use of the expression as to Loyalty and Charity being the watchwords of Freemasonry. In this instance Bro. Eve is not quite so far out, but evidently he is weak in this matter, and we suggest that in future it will be well for the Chairman of the governing body of one of our Schools to mind his chronological ps and qs.

* * *

The third part of the Centenary celebration will be held on Saturday, the 25th instant, when the boys will exhibit their proficiency in athletic exercises. Ordinarily, this fixture takes precedence of the Prize-day and the Festival; but the labours in connection with the Centenary meetings have been exceedingly heavy, and hence the postponement of the sports to a later date than usual. We have no doubt that the same interest will be taken in these proceedings as at the distribution of prizes and the Centenary Festival in the Royal Albert Hall.

* * *

Unusual interest was taken in the proceedings at the recent convocation at Plymouth on the 1st instant of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Devonshire. The occasion was an eventful one being none other than that of the installation of Comp. the Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, Bart., M.P., as Grand Superintendent of the Province in succession to Comp. Viscount Ebrington, who some time since resigned that important office. In consequence there was a very full attendance of the companions, who were anxious by their presence to welcome the new Grand Superintendent on his installation. Devonshire is strong in its regard for Royal Arch Masonry, the number of subscribing companions being not far short of 900. The ceremony was performed by that veteran in all the branches of Freemasonry with which he has been associated for so many years, Comp. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Third Grand Principal and Grand Superintendent of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Sir Stafford Northcote is now the presiding officer of Devonshire in Craft, Royal Arch, and Mark Masonry. He is very popular with the members of the Order and is regarded by them as one who, by his ability and the diligence shown in the discharge of his duties, will materially strengthen and promote the interests of the Craft in Devonshire. We congratulate the companions on the appointment, and more particularly on the great success which attended the meeting.

* * *

Our Gloucestershire brethren appear to have had a most satisfactory meeting of their Prov. Grand Lodge at Tewkesbury a short while since, when they met under the presidency of their Prov. G. Master, Bro. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., M.P., who, notwithstanding the heavy claims upon his time by his ministerial duties, was able to attend on the occasion. The reports of the executive officers were very gratifying, there being a slight increase in the number of subscribing members, while the financial position of

the Province leaves nothing to be desired. One thing is clear—that Gloucestershire is an out-and-out supporter of our Charitable Institutions, and means doing something great this year, the total of the sums raised for the Boys' Centenary being stated at something over £2500.

* * *

The District Grand Lodge of Queensland held its regular Quarterly Communication at Freemasons' Hall, Brisbane, on the 2nd March last, under the presidency of Bro. the Hon. Augustus C. Gregory, C.M.G., District Grand Master. There was a full attendance of the brethren, and we are glad to know, from the interest they took in the proceedings and from the proceedings themselves, that Freemasonry under the English Constitution in this distant Australasian Colony is in a highly prosperous condition. From the District Grand Treasurer's statement of account it appears that the Invested Funds on the General Account have increased by not far short of £400, as compared with the year 1896, while those of the Fund of Benevolence are greater by nearly £200.

* * *

But our chief interest in the proceedings has reference to a statement made by the District Grand Master, or, rather, read on his behalf by the Deputy District Grand Secretary, on the additions recently made to the Book of Constitutions. The District Grand Master drew attention to the altered state of the law on the subject of joining a new Grand Lodge in a British Colony. He pointed out that until these additions were made it was not competent for any lodge even to consider, as a lodge, the question of joining the proposed new organisation. Now any lodge may discuss it, having previously obtained a dispensation from the District Grand Master for the purpose. But in order that a motion to join a proposed new Grand Lodge may become valid it must be carried by a majority of the members present at such discussion. Moreover, for a lodge to be in a position to apply for a dispensation to discuss any such motion, due notice must be given at one meeting of a motion for the dispensation, and this can only be carried by a two-thirds majority of the members present. Hence visiting brethren would have no right to speak or vote on the motion, and it would be "highly irregular for the Presiding Master to allow" any visiting brother to address the lodge on the subject.

* * *

The District Grand Master further pointed out that in the event of such a resolution being carried, it must be transmitted to the Grand Master, who, if he is of opinion that a sufficiently large majority of the lodges in the District are in favour of having a local Grand Lodge, now has full authority to cease issuing new warrants for additional lodges in the District, and if six months later, any lodge or lodges elects to dissolve, it or they would become extinct, and their warrants and records returned to Grand Lodge, the lodges, however, having power to dispose of its secular property as it might desire. On being pressed as to whether it was obligatory that the warrant and records should be returned to Grand Lodge, the Dist. Grand Master decided that this must be done, to the Grand Lodge of England, "without reference being made to any action that lodge might afterwards take."

* * *

From this statement, it would appear that there are lodges in England under the English Constitution which are desirous of joining a local Grand Lodge, while we know that words of warning were uttered some time ago that the Irish and Scotch lodges in the Colony have become so numerous during the past few years as to exercise a preponderant voice in the event of a proposal for severance from the Grand Lodges at home should be made, even though a majority of the English lodges should desire to remain in their present allegiance.

* * *

Enclosed with copy of the report of the Proceedings of the District Grand Lodge at this meeting is a memorandum issued by Bro. B. L. Barnett, P.G.D. of England, Deputy District Grand Master, and many other influential brethren in the District, in which they express themselves strongly against separating themselves from the Grand Lodge of England, setting forth at considerable length the reasons they have for this opposition. This memorandum is of so important a character, that we shall take an early opportunity of reproducing it in full, so that our readers may have some idea of the views held by some of the principal brethren in the Colony on the multiplication of local Grand Lodges.

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.

GRAND MASTERS' LODGE, No. 1.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In view of the ever increasing number of new lodges, it may not be uninteresting to some of your readers to peruse the subjoined tabular statement showing the number of years the present members of the Grand Masters' Lodge, No. 1, have been attached to it.

It will be seen that in addition to the many old members of the lodge, ranging in Masonic service from 10 to 45 years, we have a constant supply of eligible recruits to enable us to continue the uninterrupted prosperity of our distinguished lodge.

I remember the late Grand Secretary, Colonel Shadwell Clerke (a member of the lodge), telling me that he did not consider the average Masonic life to exceed eight or nine years; the Grand Masters' Lodge may therefore, I think, pride itself on having established a record.

Our present muster roll consists of 82 members, and the following list shows their relative seniority:

1 Member	45 Years.	2 Members	15 Years.
1 "	39 "	5 "	14 "
2 "	38 "	3 "	13 "
1 "	34 "	4 "	10 "
1 "	32 "	6 "	9 "
2 "	30 "	3 "	8 "
2 "	29 "	4 "	6 "
2 "	24 "	3 "	5 "
3 "	23 "	5 "	3 "
1 "	21 "	9 "	2 "
2 "	20 "	3 "	1 "
3 "	19 "	2 "	Current year.
7 "	18 "		
5 "	17 "		
		82	

I am, Sir and Brother, yours very fraternally,

CHARLES BELTON,
P.M., P. Dep. G.D.C., Honorary Secretary.

4th June.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I was one of the unsuccessful candidates at the Board of General Purposes at Grand Lodge on the 1st inst., and should like to state through your columns that by some error the asterisk placed against the names of the members of the late Board in my case was omitted. This, as you must know, is a serious matter in the voting, as so many voters, "especially country brethren," not knowing any of the candidates vote for members of the late Board, some vote for the whole of the candidates who have the asterisk against their name; I used to do so myself when I did not know who to go for. I consider its omission cost me my seat; surely some one should have discovered the mistake ere the voting cards were distributed.

I beg to return my sincere thanks to those brethren who came long distances, and to some expense and trouble to vote for me. Thanking you in anticipation for inserting this letter.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, faithfully and fraternally yours,

EDWIN STYLES, P.M., P.Z. 704.

CONSECRATION OF THE ADDINGTON LODGE, No. 2083.

The above lodge—the latest addition to the Province of Buckinghamshire—was consecrated on the 19th ult., at the Bridge House Hotel, Eton, Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Deputy P.G.M. Bucks, being Consecrating Officer, ably assisted by Bros. J. E. Bowen, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Sec., as S.W.; J. Hathersley, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W.; and J. C. F. Tower, P.P.S. G.D., as D.C.

The founders were Bros. W. Pottinger, P.M. 2262, J.D. 2589; James O Dea, P.M. 1178 and 2589; J. J. Wright, P.M. 1981; W. G. Cannon, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. T. Jones, 1446; W. J. Waterman, 2589; G. Jameson, 2262; W. H. Holliday, F. J. F. Allshorn, G. Cannon, C. Benedict, J.D. 2262; A. Platel, E. Colvin, H. Hicks, W. M. Reid, H. V. Lloyd, W.M. 2262; E. J. Hall, R. H. Cheesman, and W. J. Millington, 2246.

The Consecrating Master did his work efficiently and well and at the close of the consecration installed Bro. Pottinger, P.M., into the chair of K.S., who was pleased to invest the following brethren as officers: Bros. O'Dea, P.M., S.W.; Wright, P.M., J.W.; Cannon, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Jones, Sec.; Waterman, Org.; Jameson, S.D.; Holliday, J.D.; Allshorn, I.G.; G. Cannon, D.C.; and Benedict and Platel, Stwds.

The whole of the furniture, tools, &c., were new and presented a grand spectacle.

The visitors were Bros. Page, P.M. 771 and 2671; Roots, P.M. 2589; W. Malham, P.M. 1539; G. Malham, P.M. 1539; H. W. Humphreys, 1638; J. Youldon, P.M. 548; W. Youldon, P.M. 1638; J. A. Dawes, P.M. 2022; Roberts, P.M. 79; Clemon, P.M. 2262; Moorman, P.M. 1918; Bond, P.M. 860; Pickering, 1539; E. Mitchell, 1446; Vernon, 1539; Elms, P.M. 1539; Wood, 1981; J. Cannon, 2262; Wagner, 1529; Mullens, 2262; Sander, 771; Mold, 1381; H. W. Mitchell, 1987; Lerwill, 15; Taylor, 1682; Newton, 1963; Dunham, 2500; Wilson, 1524; Atkin, 1348 and 2589; Pain, 2416; Saquin, 2264; Holland, 1348; and Roumaine, who enjoyed a most sumptuous banquet.

Those brethren who responded spoke in the highest praise of the whole of the ceremony.

DEDICATION OF MASONIC BUILDINGS AT ROTHERHAM.

On the 2nd inst. the members of the Phoenix Lodge, No. 904, dedicated their new lodge room in High-street, Rotherham. The new home, which it is hoped will be a permanent one, consists of a comfortable suite of rooms in the new block of buildings erected on a site which previously belonged to the Corporation and adjoined the old Bank in High-street, having been purchased by the local authority in the negotiations for street improvements. The new buildings have, on the ground floor, shops, and leading from the centre one, with an additional entrance up the arcade, which forms the main entrance of the hall, is a café, the appointments of which are to be on a scale of great comfort and refinement. The hall has on each side dressing rooms, and is suitable for theatrical entertainments as well as for balls and concerts. The floor is of polished oak, and running on one side about half way up, and leading out of the supper room is a wide balcony or corridor. On account of the diversity of purposes for which the building is to be used it was impossible to hold a Masonic consecration, and it had therefore been decided to hold a dedication ceremony of the rooms which are devoted solely to Masonic purposes. This ceremony was performed on the 2nd instant in the presence of a representative gathering of West Yorkshire brethren, the Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Bro. J. Cooper Malcolm, P.G.D., assisted by the officers of the Provincial Grand Lodge. Particularly interesting parts of the ceremony were the unlocking of the door of the lodge room with a silver key, suitably inscribed, which Bro. Malcolm was pleased to accept as a memento of the occasion.

A short address was delivered by Bro. WATSON, P.P.G.W. and hon. librarian, on the "History and Progress of the Phoenix Lodge."

A banquet was held after the ceremony and served in the large supper room, covers being laid for 70. The toast list was short and speeches were numerous.

Bro. Ensor Drury was warmly received, and, on referring to the Masonic Charities, Bro. BLACKBURN, Vice-Chairman of the West Yorkshire Charity Committee, provoked enthusiasm by his report of the splendid effort made by West Yorkshire in connection with the Centenary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which will be held to-day (Friday), under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, the subscriptions for this one province amounting to £5000.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Honour and Generosity, No. 165.

The installation meeting of this ancient and distinguished lodge—which was constituted in 1767—was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, on the 24th ultimo, when there were present Bros. Frank E. Roshier, W.M.; A. P. Crabb, S.W., W.M. elect; F. H. Roshier, J.W.; Jno. Woodhouse, J.D.; Godfrey Sykes, I.G.; J. W. H. Thompson, P.M., Treas.; H. Times, P.M., Sec.; J. R. Drake, P.M.; A. Hayne; the Rev. H. G. Roshier, M.A.; W. de B. Herbert, B.A.; W. Marcus Thompson, A. Spencer Ellam, C. J. Andrews, H. Bearman, Leo Norman, H. W. Clarkson, J. W. Ellis, Chas. Olden, F.G.S.; and R. H. Goddard, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Jno. Robbins, D.D., P.G. Chap., the Archdeacon of London; F. West, P.G.D.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G. Treas.; J. K. Jarrett, 16 (N.B.); H. Wharton Wells, W.M. 946; W. A. Piggott, P.M. 1670; G. Walker; F. J. Terry Horsey, I.P.M. 1861; O. B. Cuvilge, 1; D. Tudor, 176; Douglas Gordon, 1691; J. Edwards, 1437; W. Van Praagh, P.M. 1491; W. H. Herbert, 173; J. F. Beck, 1853, 1196; W. Grant, 2231; A. R. Upjohn, 2033; Geo. Hallett; J. R. Clipperton, P.G.S.B.; J. H. Wainwright, P.M. 8 (New York); Frank H. Callingham, J.D. 1769; H. S. Simmons, 2488; J. H. Ford, 2028; Reginald Groome, 1929; G. E. Williams, Lovett King, Chas. Bertram, 1614; H. Gough; and R. T. West, 1744.

After the customary opening formalities and the reading of the minutes, the report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted, and it was unanimously resolved that a second bar be added to the Past Master's jewel of Bro. G. E. Wainwright with a suitable inscription in recognition of the ability with which he had discharged the duties of Secretary for the past four years. The W.M., Bro. Frank E. Roshier, then raised Bro. Charles Olden to the Third Degree. The W.M.'s working of the ritual was carried out in a manner that was perfect. Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., then occupied the chair and installed Bro. Alfred P. Crabb as W.M. The newly-installed Master appointed and invested his officers and addressed suitable and appropriate words to each. They were Bros. F. Howard Roshier, S.W.; J. Woodhouse, J.W.; Rev. H. G. Roshier, M.A., Chap.; J. W. Howard Thompson, P.M., Treas.; Henry Times, P.M., Sec.; Godfrey Sykes, S.D.; W. de B. Herbert, L.L.B., J.D.; W. Marcus Thompson, I.G.; A. Spencer Ellam, Stwd.; H. W. Clarkson, Org.; and R. H. Goddard, Tyler. The usual addresses were given by Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., in a most eloquent and impressive manner, and it is hardly necessary to record that he carried out the installation ceremony in his inimitable style. At the close of the addresses the W.M. rose and said that his next duty was a very important one, viz., to present a Past Master's Jewel to Bro. F. E. Roshier, I.P.M., as a very small return for his eminent services to the lodge. In acknowledging the jewel, Bro. Frank E. Roshier, I.P.M., stated that he should ever appreciate it. Might he mention, that after the great traditions of the lodge, the office of Master was not a sinecure, but he hoped he had given satisfaction during his very happy year of office, and the kindness, which he should never forget, he had received from them all. In eloquent and pathetic terms, Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson, P.M., referred to the death of Bro. Robert Collier Driver, P.M., P.G.D., the father of the lodge, and its Secretary for 37 years, and it was unanimously resolved that a letter of condolence be sent to the family of the late brother. The Secretary stated that letters of regret had been received, through illness and other causes, from the following: Bros. Chas. Belton, P.M., P.D.G.D.C.; Edw. Terry, P.G. Treas.; Chas. Warner, the Earl of Euston, Lawrence Kellie, Gerald Loder, M.P.; Sir Simeon Stuart, Bart.; Henry Neville, A.G.D.C.; Thos. Fenn, P.G.W.; Col Sir Edward Gourley, M.P.; Walter F. Orriss, James Fernandez, Alderman Sir Walter Wilkin, W. Ganz, P.G. Org.; W. S. Penley, and W. R. McConnell, Q.C. A gentleman was proposed for initiation at the meeting, when the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet.

The usual loyal toasts having been proposed by the Worshipful Master and duly honoured,

Bro. J. W. Howard Thompson, P.M., at the request of the W.M., proposed "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said it was an easy task, because it was their good fortune to have two members of the lodge who were Grand Officers, viz., Bros. Richard Eve, P.G.T., and Charles Belton, P.D.G.D. of C., and he was sorry that they were not able to be present, and the lodge had lost several members by death who were Grand Officers. They were honoured that evening with the presence of Bros. the Archdeacon of London; Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G.T.; Dr. Jno. Robbins, P.G. Chap.; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Fred West, P.G.D.; J. R. Clipperton, P.G.S.B.; and J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C. The Grand Secretary had performed the installation ceremony in a manner that was perfect, and, on behalf of the members, he tendered him his very best thanks for his services that evening. The wearers of the blue asked the Grand Officers to accept their best wishes, and they were indebted to them for their attendance. He associated with the toast the name of the Archdeacon of London.

The Archdeacon of London responded in a very humorous speech, which elicited roars of laughter, and remarked that the Grand Officers would long remember their visit and the way they had been received and entertained.

In giving "The W.M., Bro. Alfred P. Crabb," Bro. F. E. Roshier, I.P.M., stated that a most pleasant duty fell to him to submit the toast of the evening, but he felt some diffidence because he was not able to do it justice. The Past Masters who had gone before him had always installed their successors and as he had not done so he felt some-

what small, but he was deeply grateful to the Grand Secretary for his kindness in consenting to perform the beautiful ceremony which he did in so perfect a manner. In Bro. Crabb they had a W.M. who possessed every qualification for that high office, he having commenced his Masonic career by attending lodges of instruction, and working hard with the result that he soon became an expert in the ritual. He (Bro. Rosher) was deeply indebted to the W.M. for his Masonic knowledge and he would have been in bad straits without his tuition. During the W.M.'s year of office they might look forward to his work being done "second to none" and they all welcomed him in his position and would all work loyally to make his reign an unqualified success.

Bro. Alfred P. Crabb, W.M., on rising to respond, was received with quite an ovation. He said it was with no ordinary emotion that he rose on that occasion—the proudest and happiest moment of his life—to thank the I.P.M., Bro. Frank E. Rosher, for the kind but too flattering terms with which he had proposed his health and the brethren for the hearty manner with which they had received the toast. To be Master of any lodge, was what every good Mason should look forward to, but to be Master of that ancient and honourable lodge gave additional satisfaction and pleasure. He would like to add, but without wishing to praise himself, that he had always worked hard for the Craft, but during the coming year he could hardly hope to emulate his brilliant predecessors, and all he could promise was to do his best, and man could do no more. He was especially beholden to the Grand Secretary for his services that night as Installing Master. That occasion recalled to him the great obligation he owed to Bro. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., for being his sponsor in Masonry, and to Bro. Howard Thompson, P.M., for being his seconder. In concluding his speech, which was given with much feeling, he said, that during his term of office he hoped to continue the two old attributes of the lodge, viz., "Honour and Generosity."

Before resuming his seat, the W.M. stated that he had a toast to propose, one of the most important of the evening, viz., "The Past Masters of the Lodge," and with it he wished to couple the name of the I.P.M., Bro. Frank E. Rosher, who had done so much good work for the lodge, especially during the last year he was the presiding officer, and they all admired the masterly manner in which he had performed his duties. All the other Past Masters were so well-known to them that it was not necessary for him to extol their good qualities, and reiterate what a keen interest they took in the well-being of the lodge; they were ever willing to lend a helping hand to those of us of whom he felt that he was one who needed assistance.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and Bro. Frank E. Rosher, I.P.M., on rising to respond, was received with much enthusiasm. He stated that he hoped not to have been called upon, but he did not regret it, as it was a grand moment for him to be one of the Past Masters—a great body who would do credit to any lodge—and those present were a fair specimen of what they were. His labours were then ended, and he could rest on any laurels they thought he might have earned; but he should like to mention that he had during his term of office done the Three Degrees in one evening, and he should have performed two that evening, but the initiate was not able to attend. He thanked the brethren for the kind reception they had given him, and said that he and the other Past Masters would always be glad to give every assistance, should any be ever needed.

At the request of the W.M., Bro. Rosher, I.P.M., presented the toast of "The Installing Master, Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.," and said that Bro. Letchworth was so well known that his name was a by-word in Masonry, that he need not dilate upon his worth and eminent qualifications, and the great things he had done for the Craft.

Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., on rising to reply, met with a most enthusiastic reception. He stated that he was proud to have had the honour of installing the W.M., but he regretted that his two old friends—Bros. Richard Eve, P.G.T., and Charles Belton, P.A.G.D.C.—were not present, as he had been associated with them for many years.

The toast of "The Visitors" was honoured.

Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, P.G.T., responded in a very eloquent speech, as did Bro. J. H. Wainwright, P.M. S. New York.

In proposing "The Officers," the W.M. stated that he was extremely fortunate in having an exceedingly good set of officers at his back, and he had much pleasure in joining with the toast the name of the S.W., Bro. F. Howard Rosher.

In responding, Bro. F. Howard Rosher said that he and his colleagues would do their very best to make the W.M.'s year of office a great success.

The Tyler's toast ended a most successful and enjoyable evening.

Bro. Reginald Groome was assisted in the musical arrangements by Mr. James Blakeby, Bros. Lovett King, Charles Bertram (The King of Cards), and J. Edwards.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

A meeting of this lodge was held at Cannon-street Hotel on the 2nd instant, when there were present Bros. William Baker, W.M.; J. G. Robeson, S.W.; Thomas Stokes, J.W.; T. Cohu, P.M., Treas.; H. Legge, P.M., Sec.; A. Fergusson, S.D.; J. C. Peach, J.D.; Jas. Smith, P.M., D.C.; A. J. Rippin, I.G.; G. Couchman, Tyler; Hughes, P.M.; Miner, P.M.; Abbott, P.M.; Taylor, Franklin, Rawkins, Collins, S. Rippin, Hipwell, Ward, Lloyd, Farr, Fishleigh, Welch, Williams, Purbrook, Wetton, Crawshaw, Blaxton, and Dixon. Visitors: Bros. Newman, 65; Harlow, 65; and Field, late Port Natal Lodge, No. 738.

Lodge having been opened, the minutes were read. A candidate for passing arrived too late (being detained), and no work was done. A candidate was proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

Amity Lodge, No. 137.

Wednesday, the 1st instant, may not be inaptly termed a "red-letter day" in the history of the above lodge. On that occasion the lodge celebrated the initiation of the 500th candidate, an event which does not rank less in importance than the centenary of the lodge, which took place as far back as the year 1805. This event of itself was of sufficient importance to warrant the lodge in celebrating it in a befitting manner, but added to this the fact that the member initiated was no less a personage than the Hon. Frederick Napier Thesiger, son of Lord Chelmsford, and son-in-law of Lord Wimborne, additional lustre was lent to the proceedings.

The ceremony of initiation took place in the lodge-room, situate in the Market-street, Poole, and in addition to the members of the lodge, who were present in goodly numbers, the W.M. was supported by a large number of visiting brethren from the Provinces of Dorset, Hants, and the Isle of Wight, Bournemouth being strongly represented. The W.M., Bro. Herbert Saunders, who is to be heartily congratulated on the way in which the whole ceremony was carried through, was supported by all the officers of the lodge, with one exception, Bro. C. Carter, D.C., who is away on the Continent.

Amongst the visitors were Bros. G. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., 44, P.G. Stwd., P.P.S.G.W. Devon (Recorder of Poole); the Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, P.G.C.; Case, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Sec.; C. H. Gush, S.W. 622; C. Pearce, I.P.M. 2208; H. Robson, 2208; A. Robertson, 2208; A. Davidson, S.W. 1037; D. Sydenham, P.M. 195; G. Habgood, jun., P.M., D.C. 622; W. Sloper, 622; F. T. Cutler, W.M. 195; J. A. Crawshaw, J.W. 195; J. Raymond, 622; H. W. G. Knight, S.W. 2208; O. Rogers, 1428; W. H. Vye, P.M. 195; J. Carter, 2539; W. Davis, P.M. 120, P.P.G.S. of W.; F. Parker, J.D. 356; H. G. B. Frampton, 622, P.P.G. Reg.; J. C. Charlton, A.C. Kicher, 132; G. E. Bridge, W.M. 2208; W. J. Bick, W.M. 1146; A. Hart, P.M. 814; W. W. Webber, I.P.M. 814; Chas. Laney, 195; F. Griffin, P.M. 586; and H. Harvey, J.W. 2208.

The officers and members who were present were as follows: Bros. J. H. Whadcoat, I.P.M.; F. P. Oakley, S.W.; H. W. Scratchley, J.W.; F. A. Sharp, Chap.; Dugdale, Treas.; C. J. Woodford, Sec.; L. W. Pretty, S.D.; G. A. Mate, J.D.; A. H. Yeatman, I.G.; W. J. White, Org.; H. T. Harris, Stwd.; W. J. Tarrant, P.M.; H. J. Sydenham, P.M.; T. S. Furnell, P.M.; P. E. L. Budge, P.M.; Geo. Parry, P.M.; F. Travers, P.M.; H. Merrick, P.M.; Geo. Squibb, Tyler; G. Cole, H. Wakefield, H. Burden, A. Langlois, Jas. Summers, W. E. Loader, C. Thresh, W. J. Bacon, A. James, W. S. Hallett, T. Johnston, W. J. Burden, T. K. Ingram, F. Phillips, P. P. King, S. Short, D. Palk, G. T. Budden, W. J. Collins, O. Collins, T. Griffiths, J. Collier, W. Andrew, J. Condon, and others.

The initiation ceremony, which took place at half-past three in the afternoon, was carried out in a most impressive manner by Bro. Saunders, W.M., who was assisted by Bros. Whadcoat, Sharp, Woodford, Oakley, and Rev. Heath.

Immediately after the ceremony, the brethren adjourned to the Guildhall, which had been kindly placed at the disposal of the lodge, where a grand banquet was held under the presidency of Bro. Saunders. The menu, which was of a *recherché* character,

gave every satisfaction, and reflected the greatest credit on Bro. G. W. Green, to whose hands the catering was entrusted.

After the meal, the usual toasts given on such occasions were duly honoured.

The W.M., in suitable terms, first submitted "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G.," which were accorded the customary Masonic honours.

The next toast proposed was that of "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom; the R.W.D.G.M., the Earl Amherst; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." This was spoken to by Bro. Whadcoat, who said they ought to be exceedingly thankful that they had such a body of gentlemen who were willing to spend their time in the service of the Craft. He mentioned that the Earl of Lathom was only just recovering from the great bereavement he had sustained by the death of his wife, and, with the other officers, was now throwing himself more enthusiastically than ever into the work of promoting the success of the Craft. They were honoured that evening by the presence of two Past Grand Officers, Bros. Rev. W. Mortimer Heath, Past G. Chap., and Case, P.G.S.B., whom they accorded a most hearty welcome.

Bro. the Rev. W. M. Heath, the first to respond, congratulated Lodge Amity on the 10th jubilee of the candidature of the lodge, and said it was a most auspicious occasion for the members, by whom it would be sure to be long remembered. He esteemed it a privilege to be there that day, and congratulated the lodge on the proofs of its good working during the many years that were past, and remarked that it was a good augury for the future. Judging from what he had seen that afternoon, as to the manner in which the ritual was carried out, Lodge Amity would never be behindhand, but would always bear a high reputation. He spoke of the good working of the Grand Lodge, and attributed it to the able brethren who conducted the affairs of that august body.

The W.M. next gave "The R.W.P.G.M., Bro. Montague John Guest; the Dep. P.G.M., W. Bro. Brymer, M.P.; and the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past." He said that he had received a letter from Bro. Brymer, M.P., regretting his inability to be present, but they had a good representative present in the person of Bro. Case, whose name was coupled with the toast, as well as those of Bros. F. P. Oakley and W. D. Dugdale.

Bro. Case congratulated Bro. Saunders and the officers who assisted him on the way in which the ceremony was performed that afternoon.

Bro. Whadcoat next submitted the toast of "The Worshipful Master of Lodge Amity," remarking that Bro. Saunders commenced at the bottom of the ladder, and had gone through every office until he had obtained the proud position he now held. Their W.M. was to be envied on having to preside over such a large gathering of brethren and on such an occasion, which would stand out unique in the annals of the lodge.

Bro. Saunders briefly returned thanks for the hearty way in which the toast had been received. He felt that to be a very proud moment in his life at having to preside over the initiation of their 500th member. He regarded it as the most auspicious event in the lodge's history.

Bro. Dugdale submitted the next toast, that of "The Newly-initiated Candidate, Bro. the Hon. F. J. N. Thesiger."

Bro. Thesiger suitably acknowledged it, and apologised for the absence of his father, Lord Chelmsford, who would have been present had not a prior engagement prevented him.

Bro. Woodford submitted "The Visitors."

Bros. G. Pitt Lewis, Q.C., Gush, D. Sydenham (who said that was the jubilee year of his being initiated as a Mason), Griffin, Cutler, and Bick responded.

"The Masonic Charities" was next given by Bro. Oakley, who referred to the excellent work done for the Benevolent Institutions by Bro. Dugdale, who, with Bros. Whadcoat and Woodford responded to the toast. It was remarked that the Dorset Mas. nic Charity was in a flourishing state at the present time.

The W.M. proposed "The Officers of the Lodge," which was replied to by all present.

The Tyler's toast brought the enjoyable evening's proceedings to a close.

Songs were rendered by a number of the brethren, Bro. W. J. White presiding at the pianoforte.—*Bournemouth Visitors' Directory.*

St. George Lodge, No. 242.

The first meeting of this lodge under its new W.M. was held in the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 3rd instant. Present: Bros. G. Smith, W.M.; J. Constable, acting I.P.M.; T. W. Turner, S.W.; F. Duff, J.W.; A. W. Fretwell, D.C., acting Sec.; H. Foster, S.D.; C. Reasbeck, J.D.; T. Anslay, acting I.G.; H. C. White, Org.; C. Goldthorpe, Charity Steward; J. Hirst, acting Tyler; J. F. Hanson, A. Bridge, C. Hopkinson, and others. Visitors: Bros. M. Dowson, 1482, and J. Constable, 2559.

The lodge having been opened, letters of apology for absence were read from several officers and brethren. Bro. C. Goldthorpe was appointed Almoner, and the lodge was closed.

The brethren then adjourned to the ante-room, where light refreshments were served by Bro. F. H. Buckland.

The usual Masonic toasts and songs followed.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

Bro. J. C. Malcolm, P.M. 306, Dep. Prov. G.M. West Yorks, is doing his best to become personally acquainted with the lodges in the province, and on Thursday, the 5th ult., he made an official visit at the regular monthly meeting of this lodge. In the temporary absence of the W.M., the lodge was opened by Bro. Bailey, I.P.M., the officers present being Bros. John Niven, as I.P.M.; Chas. H. Ellis, P.M., Treas.; F. Betteridge, B.A., Chap.; John T. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg.; J. B. Fearnley, as S.W.; J. A. Drake, J.W.; T. P. Sykes, S.D.; Wm. Docksey, J.D.; J. S. Hedley, I.G.; J. C. Cooper, Tyler; and T. H. Bedford and J. H. Townend, Stwds. Visitors: Bros. John C. Malcolm, P.M. 306, P.G.D. Eng., Dep. P.G.M.; Joseph Wilson, P.M. 1034, P.P.G. Std. Br.; H. Holland, W.M. 1018; T. Twivy, P.M. 1018; C. V. Woodcock, W.M., W. C. Dixon, and T. W. Waite, all of 1648; H. F. Scales, 339; and A. J. Taylor, Org. 2609.

The Dep. Prov. G.M., with the Prov. G. Officers present, having entered, were saluted, and the business of the meeting was proceeded with. Bro. J. L. Turner was raised to the Third Degree by the acting W.M.; the working tools were explained by Bro. Drake, J.W.; and the charge delivered by Bro. Fearnley, acting S.W. Notice of a motion for a future meeting with a view to change the time of the lodge meetings, and also a notice of a proposition of a candidate for initiation were given, and after "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed.

Refreshment followed, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

Bro. Malcolm, P.G.D., respond to the toast of "The Grand Officers," and also as Deputy Prov. Grand Master for Prov. Grand Lodge, in doing which, he expressed the pleasure it had given him to visit the lodge. He was gratified with the proceedings of the meeting, and congratulated the W.M. on the efficiency of the working, and he would be pleased to make a satisfactory report to the Prov. Grand Master on the condition of the lodge.

"The Visitors," submitted by Bro. Last, P.P.G.R., Sec., was acknowledged by Bros. Holland, W.M. 1018; C. V. Woodcock, W.M. 1648; and Wilson, P.P.G. Std. Br.

The Tyler's toast closed a very pleasant meeting.

Songs were rendered by Bros. Townend, Sykes, Docksey, and Last, a recitation by Bro. Wilson, P.P.G. Std. Br., whilst Bro. Taylor delighted the brethren with his violin.

Humber Installed Masters' Lodge, No. 2494.

The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Osborne-street, Hull, on the 3rd inst. In the absence of the W.M., the I.P.M. (Bro. J. Bilson) took the chair. There was a good attendance of the members. Bro. M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., read a paper upon "A Review of the Ancient Charges." Bro. Peck said the W.M. some time ago asked him to read a paper that night, and in a weak moment he consented. When, however, he came to consider the task which he had undertaken he soon found that the subject was so extensive that much more leisure and stronger health

than he at present possessed were necessary to do justice to it. In the brief paper he should submit he could merely touch the fringe of the subject, but he trusted to interest the brethren in the study of the Old Charges and induce them to examine the works of those able writers who had made that feature of the Craft their special object of research. The lecturer then introduced the subject by explaining what the Ancient Charges were, their origin, their use, and their discontinuance, except so far as the brief summary contained in the Book of Constitutions and recited to the Worshipful Master of a lodge on his installation, a survival of the custom which formerly obtained in reading them over for the instruction of a candidate at initiation. He described the state in which these ancient documents have been preserved and handed down to us by our forefathers, in scrolls of vellum or paper or bound as books. This part of the address was finely illustrated through the kindness of Bro. W. N. Cheesman, who brought five facsimile scrolls, published by Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, and also rare and beautiful copies of the Regius and Cooke MS., which were freely exhibited to the brethren assembled. These interesting curiosities were explained by Bro. Peck, and a short account of each given, embodying its distinctive features. The lecturer quoted the striking words of Bro. Hughan—the greatest authority on this subject—that these venerable documents “are our title-deeds, and prove the continuity of the Society throughout a very long period.” After referring in warm terms to the labours of Bros. Hughan, Gould, Rylands, and Speth, Bro. Peck said these brethren had laid the Fraternity under an obligation which can never be requited, and have elevated and enriched the Craft in the estimation of the educated reader to an extent which can scarcely be over-estimated. They have shown that our claims to antiquity are well-founded, and that Freemasonry is not only the most moral but also the most ancient of all institutions which have survived—

“The wreck of empires
And the fall of thrones.”

Bro. Peck then proceeded to examine one of the old charges taking the York MS. No. 1, as his example. He read this scroll and commented upon its curious traditional history, pious injunctions, and moral teachings, comparing the language with that of other similar documents, for although the old charges, of which about 63 copies are now extant, present considerable variations partly due to the carelessness or ignorance of transcribers, yet, as the Lecturer pointed out, they had evidently one common original which is lost beyond all recovery in the lapse of centuries. The object of the Masonic literati then is by careful comparison of the charges preserved to ascertain the true meaning of the original version and it is not improbable, judging from the great progress which has of late been made in Masonic study, that in this search many valuable discoveries will be made. For instance, he suggested that the name of Jabel and Jubal, which occur in the early portion of all the MSS., may be the originals of the names of three malefactors in the old ritual of the “Master’s part” (still preserved in America, being derived from the Mother Country), while the victim’s name was concealed as Aynon (anon-anonymous), a striking instance of the cautious reverence of our ancestors when speaking of sacred subjects. This illustration would carry back the legend of the Third Degree to a remote period. Those students who only believe on documentary evidence are not fit judges of an institution whose leading feature was, and still ought to be, secrecy and fidelity. Bro. Peck rapidly sketched the opinion of the Masonic writers upon the introduction of Hermes, Abrahim, and Euclid into the old charges and also the curious account of the two celebrated pillars of stone and brick, and stopping short before he reached the account of Namus Greucus, thanked the brethren for the great attention which they had given to his remarks.

The Worshipful Master proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Peck and said that the careful investigation of the sources from which the ancient charges were derived was much facilitated by the excellent reprints for the exhibition, of some of which they were indebted to Bro. Cheesman. Bro. Mark Scott, S.W., briefly seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously and suitably acknowledged.

The new members were proposed, and after “Hearty good wishes” had been expressed, the lodge was closed.

BRITISH HOMES INVESTMENT CORPORATION.

A SATISFACTORY YEAR’S BUSINESS.

The second annual meeting of the members of the British Homes Investment Corporation was held on Friday, May 28th, at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark, Mr. T. Neville Stack, F.S.S., the Chairman of the Company, presiding.

The Managing Director and Secretary (Mr. M. GREGORY) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen,—When about this time last year I had the pleasure of addressing you on the subject of our First Annual Report, I was enabled to state that the figures I put before you then as the results of the operations of the Corporation for the year 1896 told a pleasant tale of rapid and continuous progress, to which I was quite right in saying I anticipated no check, and I am not at all surprised that the figures which I shall place before you to-day bear me fully out in my prediction, because, in the first place, the Corporation offers national economic advantages of such a nature as to make it a national economic necessity. (Hear, hear.) In the second place, because the business is conducted on economic and actuarial methods of the best kind; in the third place, because the Corporation is more economically and better managed than any other institution of the kind; in the fourth place, because the Corporation has a justly won and enduring reputation; fifthly, because the most important end of our scheme cannot fail to promote the practical welfare of the great body of the people; and, in the sixth place, because intelligent men and women, who may be induced to give any attention to the plan of the Corporation, will at once perceive its vast importance from a national point of view. (Applause.) I will now briefly refer to some of the figures set forth in the report, and, having regard to the fact that the institution is still in its infancy, it will be admitted that the magnitude of the figures may be described as phenomenal and unprecedented. During the year 1897 the directors received 3,411 proposals for new certificates, representing business to the large amount of £1,106,412, covering a new annual subscription of £27,705. (Hear, hear.) Now, let me point out to you what this large amount of business means. It means that in two years and a half after its birth the British Homes Corporation has reached a position as regards its volume of new business to which some of the most powerful life assurance companies of the United Kingdom only attained at the end of half a century of active life and great effort, and which has not yet been achieved by many of them, although long since of matured age.

RECORD OF NEW BUSINESS.

Of the proposals referred to 598 were either not taken up or declined, but the solid completed new business for the year was £946,444, producing a new subscription income of the large amount of £23,688. (Hear, hear.) On making a comparison between the figures of 1896 and 1897, I find that the proposals received in the former year were 3,519, representing £932,000, or an average per certificate of £265, while the proposals for the latter year numbered, as I have said, 3,411, representing, as I have also said, £1,106,412, or an average of £304 per certificate—(applause)—showing a rise in the level of a healthy and significant kind. The net new business for 1896 was £731,256, showing a very satisfactory increase for 1897 of the sum of £215,208 over that of the previous year. (Hear, hear.) The subscription revenue for last year was £24,681, in respect of an income equivalent to £33,204 per annum—(hear, hear)—so you see we have already secured a very substantial basis of receipts, which will continuously undergo accretion, for, I am happy to tell you, the volume of new business which has been received during the current year, and since the end of our financial year is far in advance of the best experience of the Corporation. Many of the shrewdest and most sober-minded of our out-door staff say that a total of £2,000,000 will be completed by the 31st December next. I am inclined to say myself—although I am too knowing to predict before I know—that that sum will be secured. It must be gratifying to you all, as shareholders, to learn that the profits of the past year warrant your directors in declaring a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum on the preference and ordinary shares—(hear, hear)—and equally satisfactory to the certificate-holders to be informed that a substantial bonus is to be placed to the credit of participating certificate-holders. (Applause.) These distributions are made in accordance with the report of our actuary, Mr. Neison, who has long since attained eminence in the world of science, of which he is one of the most useful, and one of the chief ornaments. (Hear, hear.)

THE LOANS DEPARTMENT.

There is one important department of the Corporation’s business to which I wish to refer—I mean the house property department, or, as we sometimes call it, the loans or advance department. This department is in charge of a loans committee composed of several of the members of your directorate. Last year this department made advances to the Corporation’s certificate-holders, to enable them to buy their houses to the extent of the large sum of £50,000, and I am informed that since the beginning of the year up to the present day we have advanced £70,000, or, rather, at that rate for 12 months. I feel that I should not bring my speech to a close without expressing my high appreciation of the outdoor staff, which is composed, I am happy to say, of men of a high order of intelligence and respectability—(hear, hear)—as may be inferred from the large average amount of our certificates to which I have alluded. I think it is only right to say that the way in which the Press of the United Kingdom has received and praised the Corporation is very gratifying and cheering. (Hear, hear.) So long as the Press of England goes on describing the system of the Corporation as a popular and perfect one, and designating the results of our operations as a world’s record, we may well be satisfied. (Applause.)

Mr. WILLIAM STEWART (Deputy Chairman), seconded the motion.

The report and accounts were then unanimously adopted.

Mr. Alderman HUBBARD, L.C.C., then proposed “That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman and Board of Directors and Solicitor for their services in arranging the amalgamation of the business of this Corporation with the British Homes Assurance Corporation, Limited, and to the indoor and outdoor staffs, for the able manner in which they have contributed by their efforts to the successful conducting of the Corporation’s business.”

Mr. W. JAGGARD, J.P., C.C. (Bury St. Edmunds), having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT.

Mr. MATTHEW GREGORY (Managing Director): In acknowledging the vote you have been kind enough to pass, I need hardly say that such a recognition of the arduous labours both of the inside and outside staffs will be warmly appreciated by them. The past year has witnessed a very great expansion in the operations of the Corporation and developments have taken place which in the near future will have an important effect, not only in building up and strengthening the resources of the institution, but in adding largely to its profit-producing capacities. I allude more particularly to the life assurance branch, which is now running well, and already gives evidence of yielding substantial returns. From the day the department was opened there has been a steady inflow of proposals for policies, and I do not think that I exaggerate when I say that the first year’s record in the life branch will show policies written to the nominal amount of at least a quarter of a million. (Applause.) During the past year a number of provincial districts have been opened up, from which satisfactory returns may be expected. In addition, your chairman is giving special and personal attention to our Irish business, and from that country the evidences are that a fruitful source of revenue will accrue to the Corporation. (Hear, hear.) In Scotland, our operations have been carried on up to the present in an unostentatious manner, but the time has now arrived for bringing the institution well to the front in Scotland, and Mr. Stewart, the Deputy Chairman, who is a worthy Scotsman, and a thoroughly competent business man, will take the lead in securing for the Corporation the high position it now enjoys alike in this country and in Ireland. What has been done is but a tithe of what will be accomplished in the immediate future, and in endeavouring to keep pace with the growth and development of business, whether in relation to the certificates, life, accident, or agency departments, the heads of the various departments inside the office, and the heads of sections outside, will, in conjunction with the staff generally, put forth every possible effort to maintain the Corporation in the leading position it now occupies. On behalf, therefore, of the inside and outside staffs, I may say that we greatly appreciate the confidence you have reposed in us by the passing of the resolution. I will not now dilate further upon the prospects of the business of the Corporation, though I should very much like to do so, because to-day the Chairman has made an exhaustive speech, and one which I think will be of very great value indeed in forwarding the operations of the Corporation during the present year. (Applause.)

The retiring Auditors, Messrs. Clough, Armstrong, and Ford were then re-appointed.

Mr. Alderman D. S. WARD (Harrogate) then moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and said that Mr. Stack had conducted the business of the Corporation in a manner which deserved the hearty thanks of the members.

Mr. E. E. BARNETT seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said that he was firmly convinced that the British Homes Assurance Corporation would not only fulfil its obligations in their entirety to the public, but that with increasing years it would become a great power and a great factor in the economic arrangements of the United Kingdom. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.

COUNTY

50 REGENT ST., W., &
14 CORNHILL, E.C., LONDON.

FIRE

OFFICE.

FOUNDED 1807.

The Distinguishing Feature of this Office is **THE RETURN SYSTEM.**

On Ordinary Insurances, under which Policyholders who have been insured for Seven Years and who continue insured—whether under an Annual or Septennial Policy—become entitled to a **RETURN OF 25 PER CENT.** of the Premiums they have paid during each Seven Years, provided no loss has arisen under their Policies in that Period.

Insurances on Farming Stocks and on other than Ordinary Risks do not participate in the Returns, nor are the Returns given on amounts which, being in excess of its own holding, are not retained by the Office.

Policies may be effected or transferred without any extra expenses.

G. W. STEVENS, Joint Secretaries.
B. E. RATLIFF,

Second Edition

PRICE 1s. POST FREE, 1s. 1d.

THE
Master Mason's Handbook

With Portrait of H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES, M.W.G. Master of England.

By W. BRO. FRED. J. W. CROWE, P. PROV. G.O.

With an Introduction by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., &c.

Dedicated by permission to V.W. Bro. FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., Grand Registrar, &c., &c.

The Master Masons' Handbook is a compendium of all information necessary to a knowledge of English Masonry comprising:—An Historical Sketch of Freemasonry—The Grand Lodge: Its Origin and Constitution—Private Lodges, Metropolitan and Provincial—Visiting Private Lodges—Titles, their uses and abbreviations—The Great Masonic Institutions—The "Higher" or additional Degrees, and how to obtain them.

PRICE 1s. POST FREE, 1s. 1d.

THE
Scottish Master Mason's
 **Handbook,** 

With Portrait of Sir CHARLES DALRYMPLE, P.M.W. Grand Master of Scotland.

BY W. BRO. FRED. J. W. CROWE, P. PROV. G.O.

With an Introduction by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., &c.

Dedicated by permission to Bro. D. MURRAY LYON, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

PRICE 1s. POST FREE, 1s. 1d.

THE
Irish Master Mason's Handbook,

With Portrait of His Grace The DUKE OF ABERCORN, C.B., M.W.G.M. Ireland.

By W. BRO. FRED. J. W. CROWE, P. PROV. G.O.

With an Introduction by Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, P.G.D., &c.

Dedicated by permission to R.W. Bro. R. W. SHEKLETON, Q.C., G.C.T., Dep. Grand Master of Ireland.

The Irish Master Mason's Handbook contains a quantity of valuable information with regard to Freemasonry in Ireland, and will be found as useful and interesting to Irish Masons as its companion Volumes have proved to English and Scotch Masons.

Printed and Published by GEORGE KENNING,

16 and 16a, Great Queen Street (Opposite Freemasons' Hall), London, W.C.

1, 2, 3, 3A, 3B, 4, LITTLE BRITAIN, 195, 196, and 197, ALDERSGATE STREET, E.C.;

LIVERPOOL: 23, WILLIAMSON ST. MANCHESTER: 47, BRIDGE STREET. GLASGOW: 9, WEST HOWARD STREET.

Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF ARRAN have come to Hertford-street from Ireland.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WHARNCLIFFE have returned to town from Tintagel, Cornwall.

BRO. LORD AND LADY HOTHFIELD and the Hon. Rosamond Tufton have returned to 2, Chesterfield-gardens, Mayfair.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and suite were present at the performance of "The Ambassador," at the St. James's Theatre, on Wednesday.

THE QUEEN has graciously forwarded a donation of 25 guineas to the fund now being raised for the new building of the Royal Ear Hospital, Soho, of which her Majesty has been Patron since 1841.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES and the Duchess of Albany and suite witnessed the performance of the opera "Die Walküre" at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Wednesday evening.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, K.G., accompanied by the Equerry-in-Waiting, honoured Lord Belper and the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms with his company to dinner on Wednesday night.

ON SATURDAY, the 2nd prox., the annual prize distribution in connection with the Warwickshire School of Mining will take place at Nuneaton. The speakers include the Countess of Warwick, Lord Leigh, and Mr. Newdigate, M.P.

THE CORNER-STONE of the new English church at Lucerne, which is being erected by the Colonial and Continental Church Society, will be laid by Mr. Frederick Robert St. John, Minister Plenipotentiary at Berne, on Tuesday morning next.

DURING THEIR stay at Sandringham for the Whitsuntide holidays T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of York paid a visit to Shernbourne Church and inspected the work of restoration, which is now nearing its completion.

THE CHILDREN'S PORTION of the new Home for Cripples and Afflicted Children, which has been erected at Bournemouth through the generosity of Bro. Passmore Edwards, will be opened by the President, Lord Northampton, on Tuesday next, the 14th inst.

IT HAS BEEN DECIDED that the Oxford and Cambridge Athletic Sports, which were postponed from March 25th last in consequence of the snowstorm, shall be held at the Queen's Club, West Kensington, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at four o'clock in the afternoon. This is the day preceding the Oxford and Cambridge Cricket Match at Lords.

WITH BRIEF ceremony the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman Davies, M.P., on Saturday morning last opened, at the Guildhall, the exhibition of French art, which will remain on view for the next three months. Accompanying the Chief Magistrate was the Lady Mayoress and the Misses Davies, while Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Green and Mrs. Green and Bro. Sheriff and Miss Dewar were also present.

AT GROSVENOR HOUSE, on Monday afternoon, the Duke of Westminster took the chair at the annual meeting of the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association, of which his Grace is President. The report was read by the Secretary, Captain Simpson, and stated that there are now within the Metropolitan area 725 fountains, 242 large troughs, and 487 small ones, all these having been increased in numbers during the year.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, attended by Bro. Sir Robert and Lady Collins, was present on Monday afternoon at an amateur performance of "Masks and Faces" at St. George's Hall, on behalf of the Deptford Fund. In connection with this, we may mention that, at the request of the Duchess of Albany, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has consented to lay the foundation-stone of the new buildings in Creek-road, Deptford, on Saturday morning, the 2nd prox.

THE WILL of Bro. Major-General Arthur Godolphin Yeatman-Biggs, of Simla, formerly of Stockton House, Corlford, St. Mary, Wilts, C.B., who died on the 4th of January last, aged 55 years, at Peshawar, has been proved by his sister, Emily Frances Emma Yeatman, of Greyladies, Blackheath Hill. General Yeatman-Biggs, who served in China in 1862, during the South African War in 1879, and with the Egyptian Expedition in 1882, and was twice mentioned in despatches, left an estate of which the gross value is entered at £1216 17s. 1d.

AMONG THE large and distinguished company who accepted the invitation of Lord Lister, President of the Royal Society, to a conversation in Burlington House, on Wednesday evening, the greatest curiosity was shown in Professor Ramsay's exposition of the new gas discovered in the atmosphere, and which has been christened "krypton." The presence of an unknown property in the air has long been surmised, and it has now been made to disclose its identity by the spectroscope. It has a density considerably higher than that of argon.

SIR JAMES BLYTH gave a large dinner party on Tuesday evening at his residence, Portland-place, to meet Madame Adelina Patti, and to celebrate the musical jubilee of Bro. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G.O. Among the guests were the Belgian Minister, Adelaide Countess of Westmorland, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Warwick, Bro. Viscount and Viscountess Raincliffe, Bro. Lord Herschell, General Sir Evelyn Wood, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. George Grossmith, Mrs. Pinero, Mr. Anthony Hope, and Mr. Forbes Robertson. At the reception held afterwards there were present Bro. Sir Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, and many others.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will not be accompanied by the Princess on his visit to Reading to-morrow (Saturday) to open the new college buildings, but her Royal Highness will travel by Great Western Railway to Wantage-road Station, and drive thence to Lockinge House, the seat of Bro. Lord and Lady Wantage, who will also entertain the Prince of Wales on returning with them from Reading. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein will also take part in the ceremonies. The guests invited to meet their Royal Highnesses at Lockinge will include his Excellency the French Ambassador, Bro. the Marquis and Marchioness of Granby, the Earl and Countess of Abingdon, Earl and Countess Spencer, Earl and Countess Grey and Lady Victoria Grey, Earl of Northbrook, Lord James of Hereford, Lady Jane Lindsay, Hon. Major and Mrs. E. Bourke, the Hon. G. Peel, Bro. Capt. Holford, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lindsay, Mr. A. D. Lloyd, O.C., M.P., and Mrs. Lloyd, Col. Parsons, Bro. Col. Sir Stanley Clarke (in waiting on the Prince of Wales), and Miss Knollys (in waiting on the Princess of Wales).

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE presided on Saturday evening last at the annual dinner of the Royal Engineers, held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING has chosen for the Rede Lecture, to be delivered by him at Cambridge, the subject of "The Theatre in its Relation to the State."

BRO. THE DUKE and Duchess of Devonshire arrived in town on Wednesday morning from Lismore Castle, Ireland, where they spent the Whitsuntide recess.

WE ARE GLAD TO HEAR that Bro. the Earl of Euston, who has been seriously ill for some time past, is improving daily, and is considered to be now practically out of danger.

THE QUEEN has been pleased to approve the appointment of Bro. the Duke of Bedford to be Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex, in the room of the late Earl of Strafford.

BRO. THE DUKE OF ABERCORN and Lady Alexandra Hamilton have returned to Hampden House from Scotland, and have been joined by the Duchess of Abercorn from Baron's-court, Ireland.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES arrived at Marlborough House on Monday from Sandringham, Miss Knollys, Bro. Major-General Sir S. Clarke, and Bro. Sir F. Knollys were in attendance.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES has now fixed the date for opening the grand fête at the Imperial Institute for the 22nd inst., and the Duke of Cambridge has just added his name to the list of Royal patrons.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will pay a visit to the Royal Agricultural Show at Birmingham, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and he will be the guest for the occasion of Bro. Lord and Lady Warwick at Warwick Castle.

MONDAY BEING Trinity Monday, a special General Court was held at the Trinity House on Tower-hill, at which the Duke of York was elected Master, and Sir J. Sydney Webb, K.C.M.G., Deputy Master for the ensuing year.

BRO. SIR W. H. RUSSELL hopes to be able to acknowledge by-and-bye the expressions of sympathy he has received within the last few days for the death of his eldest son at Nagasaki, when on his way home from China.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE arrived at Gloucester House, Park-lane, on Tuesday, from Cambridge Cottage, Kew, where his Royal Highness has been spending the Whitsun recess with his sister, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, after being admitted on Tuesday a Younger Brother of Trinity House, was unanimously elected an Elder Brother of the Corporation, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BRO. VISCOUNT WOLSELEY and the Hon. Frances Wolseley were to visit York yesterday (Friday) to present new colours to the 3rd Battalion Prince of Wales' Own Regiment. The freedom of the city was to be presented to the Commander-in-Chief.

THE DIRECTORS of Spiers and Pond Limited, notify that the Transfer Books will be closed from the 14th inst., to the 30th inst., both inclusive, for the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants, on the 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debentures, the 5 per cent. "A" Mortgage Debenture Stock, and the 5 per cent. "B" Debenture Stock, and the 4 per cent. "C" Debenture Stock of the Company. The Warrants will be posted on the evening of the 30th instant.

AMONG THE first list of subscribers to the Lockwood Memorial Fund are the names of many legal dignitaries, peers, members of the House of Commons, and distinguished personal friends of the late popular Bro. Sir Frank Lockwood. It is headed by Bro. the Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice, and includes many of the Judges, the Marquis of Ripon, the Earl of Rosebery, Viscount Esher, Bro. Lord Glenesk, Lord Rothschild, Bro. Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, M.P., Bro. Sir Edward Lawson, Sir George Lewis, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and others.

H.R.H. THE DUKE OF YORK arrived at Portsmouth on Tuesday evening, and at nine o'clock the following morning hoisted his pennant on the first-class cruiser Crescent. His Royal Highness commissions the cruiser for special service, and it is understood that he will retain command for a period of three months. It is officially announced that after a trip to the Mediterranean she will take part in manoeuvres, at the conclusion of which she will act as guardship during the Cowes week, when his Royal Highness's command will terminate.

THE DUCHESS OF ALBANY, accompanied by Princess Alice, and attended by Bro. Sir Robert and Lady Collins, visited the studios of Mrs. E. M. Ward on Wednesday afternoon to inspect a small display of the students' work. Among those exhibiting was Princess Alice herself, whom Mrs. Ward regards as one of her most promising and painstaking pupils. The young Princess inherits in a very marked degree the artistic talents of the Royal family, and is patiently going through the monotonous, but indispensable course of studies from the antique, some of which were on view, while a pencil portrait from life of a girl in a sun-bonnet showed great powers of observation and skill.

PRINCESS VICTOR OF HOHENLOHE visited Hampton Wick, on Wednesday, and unveiled a memorial drinking fountain erected by the residents to commemorate the Queen's long reign. The Princess, who drove by road from London, lunched with Col. Egerton, Comptroller to the Duke of Connaught, and Mrs. Egerton, at the Stud House, Hampton Court, and afterwards proceeded to the Wick, which was *en fête* for the occasion, flags and bunting being plentifully displayed by the inhabitants in honour of the visit. The Princess was met by the members of the local Committee, and was received by a guard of honour composed of the local fire brigades, including that of Hampton Court Palace. The Vicar of Hampton Wick, the Rev. W. W. Archer, first presented an address of welcome, and after the Princess had received a bouquet from Miss Colpoys, her Serene Highness dedicated the memorial to the public use by unveiling the fountain, which has been placed in a conspicuous position in the High-street, Hampton Wick.

PRINCE EDWARD OF Saxe-Weimar occupied the chair on Wednesday evening at the smoking concert given by the Royal Amateur Orchestral Society at Queen's Hall, and among a numerous assemblage of members and their friends were Lord Bellow, Sir James Blyth, Mr. Christopher Sykes, and Mr. Percy Armytage. A varied and attractive programme was provided by Mr. Ernest Ford, under whose skillful guidance the band gave effective and vigorous performances of the seldom heard overture to Gounod's "Phèdre," and the Prelude to the third act of "Lohengrin." Other orchestral pieces in the list included a selection from "Faust" and examples of Scarlatti, Suppé, and Sullivan. Miss Leonora Jackson, the brilliant young American violinist, gave a remarkable exhibition of virtuosity in Ernst's "Hungarian Airs," whilst Miss Marian McKenzie, the vocalist of the evening, sang "O Mio Fernando" in so pleasing a manner that she elicited abundant applause.

JEROME THIBOUVILLE-LAMY & CO.,

7 & 10 Charterhouse St., London, E.C.,

And at Paris, Sydney, and New York.

Manufacturers of Military Band Instruments,

VIOLINS, VIOLONCELLOS, DOUBLE-BASSES,
GUITARS, MANDOLINS, &c.

Celebrated Violins by G. Grandini, Senr., and Charles Buthod.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

ESTABLISHED, 1798

ESTABLISHED, 1798



JACQUESSON & FILS CHAMPAGNE.

BRANDS—

SPECIAL CUVÉE, Dry "MARQUETTERIE."

Do. Do. BRUT NATUREL.

LONDON
HOUSE

69 & 70, Mark Lane, E.C.