

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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CONCURRENT JURISDICTION IN BRITISH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS.

In referring, in our "Notes" of last week, to the principal points mentioned by Bro. I. M. SHIELDS, acting District Grand Master, in his address at the half-yearly meeting on the 29th November last of the District Grand Lodge of Bombay, we noticed certain remarks which he made in respect of the contemplated establishment of an Irish lodge in the City of Bombay, of which he had heard some months previously. In the majority of those of our Colonies which are under the government of the Grand Lodges in the United Kingdom, such an incident would, in all probability, have been allowed to pass unheeded, or if reference were made to it, it would take the form of a congratulation to our Irish brethren on the project for establishing a Masonic lodge under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. But in Bombay, there appear to be no Irish lodges and all the practical knowledge which our Bombay brethren of the English Constitution seem to have of Irish Masonry seems to be derived from the occasional sojourn in their neighbourhood of an Irish Military lodge. Nor is there anything we have read in our Book of Constitutions which bears on the subject of Concurrent Jurisdiction, so that Bro. SHIELDS may well be excused for being unfamiliar with the plan pursued in British Colonies and Possessions in reference to jurisdiction. Thus, when he heard that an application for a warrant for such a lodge had been forwarded to Dublin, he does not appear to have realised that it was the usual thing in British possessions to find not only English and Scottish Lodges, but English, Irish, and Scotch Lodges working harmoniously together in nearly all those parts of the British Empire, which have no Grand Lodges of their own. Hence, in his address at this half-yearly Communication of the District Grand Lodge, he seems to have regarded the project as a kind of intrusion. "With all due respect," said he, "to so venerable and honourable a body as the Grand Lodge of Ireland, it appeared that to introduce a third jurisdiction into this Province, where there are already so many lodges under the English and Scottish Constitutions, would not really be for the ultimate advantage of the Craft, and might create confusion, and disturb the amicable feelings which now prevail." It may be quite true, as Bro. SHIELDS went on to remark that "the Grand Lodge of Ireland has not

hitherto, doubtless for good and sufficient reasons, sought to form any permanent lodges in India, though we are frequently visited by, and are glad to welcome, military lodges under her banner." But we confess that we fail to see why the permanent location of one or more Irish lodges in the city or presidency should be held as likely to cause a disturbance of those harmonious relations which have always existed—at all events between the members of the English and Scottish Constitutions. Elsewhere the lodges and brethren of the three Constitutions have worked together most amicably. It was so in the old days in British North America and in the Australasian Colonies in which sovereign and independent Grand Lodges are established. It is so in the different Districts into which South Africa is parcelled out, where, indeed, there are *four*, not *three*, Constitutions working side by side; it is so, as far as we know, in Queensland and Western Australia; in Ceylon, which is geographically, if not Masonically, a part of India; and we know of no reason why it should be otherwise in Bombay. True, no Irish lodges have ever been warranted there, and from what the "influential officer of the Grand Lodge of Ireland" said to our Grand Secretary—that no warrant would be granted "unless recommended by an existing lodge in that city"—there would appear to be no present likelihood of one being established. It may also be readily conceded that the "establishing a lodge in Bombay under a third Constitution" may be very undesirable. But it occurs to us that the Grand Lodge of Ireland has the right to establish lodges in Bombay or elsewhere in British territory, so long as it does not, in issuing its warrants, infringe upon the rights of existing Colonial Grand Lodges. There must have been a time in the case of all our colonies and possessions when no lodges of the English, Irish, or Scottish Constitution existed, and when consequently there were none that could recommend the grant of a charter under one of these Constitutions. Yet lodges were established, and in due time increased in number to such an extent as to justify the organisation of the lodges into Provinces or, as we now call them, Districts. So in Bombay, though there may never have been an Irish lodge permanently located, we are not aware of any insuperable difficulty in granting a warrant any more than in a colony or possession which has never had lodges of any of the three Constitutions located in them. Certainly, it strikes us as being a great hardship that Irish Masons should not enjoy the same rights and privileges in Bombay and the other Indian presidencies, which are cheerfully recognised as theirs in our other possessions and dependencies.

FREEMASONRY IN QUEENSLAND.

It is to be regretted that a movement should have been started during the past year in Queensland with a view to establishing an independent Grand Lodge for the whole of that colony. We trust our readers will clearly understand that we are very far from being opposed to the establishment of Masonic autonomy in those of our colonial possessions which desire it with some approach to unanimity. We can all remember well how grieved the late Earl of CARNARVON, Pro G. Master, was when, on visiting our Australasian colonies, he was approached by members of a Constitution to which, as it had been established in direct opposition to the wishes of the brethren of the three recognised English, Irish, and Scottish Constitutions, he found himself unable, officially, to tender the same cordial reception he

had extended to the lodges and brethren of the Dist. and Prov. G. Lodges. It must also be fresh in the minds of all our readers how bitter was the feeling that existed among the Craftsmen in New Zealand because a local Grand Lodge was established which did not find favour with a very considerable and influential section of the members of the recognised Constitutions. That bitterness, if it has not wholly died out, is in a fair way of being removed, and we doubt not that in time the old kindly and harmonious relations will be found existing among the several sections of the Masonic community. The Grand Lodge of New Zealand has been recognised by our United Grand Lodge, and time is the one thing that is needed in order to bring about a complete restoration of the old friendly feelings existing among the brethren. But it is manifestly contrary to the spirit of Freemasonry, as it is contrary to the interests of those who have enrolled themselves under its banner, that, in order to bring about a union among the three Constitutions already established in Queensland and other of our Colonial possessions, a spell of discord should be inaugurated. We realise that at a time more or less remote from now the colony of Queensland will be, Masonically, autonomous; but, knowing as we do, that at the present moment there is a very strong feeling—at all events, among influential English Masons—against the inauguration of any scheme for establishing a local Grand Lodge, we sincerely hope that nothing will be done with the idea of unduly hastening forward a consummation, which there can be no question will come, when the time is ripe for such a change. We do not desire to see, nor, we are content to believe, are our Queensland brethren desirous of seeing an outbreak in the Colony of those unfraternal feelings, which existed years ago in New South Wales and Victoria at the period of the late Earl of CARNARVON'S visit, and more recently in New Zealand, when a part only of the Craft seceded from their allegiance to the Home Grand Lodges and set up a Grand Lodge of their own. If our Queensland brethren are sincerely anxious for the early establishment of a Grand Lodge of their own let them follow the example of the brethren of South Australia, who were the first Australasian brethren to found a local Grand Lodge and who have the satisfaction of knowing that their plans were carried out not only successfully but, at the same time, without engendering the slightest feeling of ill-will on the part of any body of English, Irish, or Scottish brethren.

CONSECRATION OF THE LOYAL TRAVELLER'S LODGE, No. 2733.

The consecration of the above lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham on Saturday, the 4th inst., at 2.30 p.m. The large room was tastefully decorated and quite full, upwards of 500 brethren being present, amongst whom were Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary of England, who undertook the duties of Consecrating Officer, assisted by Bros. Major-General Arbuthnot, Prov. G.S.W., as S.W.; T. J. Walsh, Prov. J.G.W., as J.W.; Rev. L. H. Pearson, Prov. G. Chap., as Chap.; W. Luxmore Marshall, Dep. G.D.C. Eng., as D.C.; T. C. Waite, Prov. G. Purst., as I.G.; R. A. Matthews, P.P.J.G.D., W.M. designate; E. S. Sumner, P.M., S.W. designate; and W. O. Lewis, M.M., J.W. designate.

Other Grand officers present were Bros. G. Beech, D.P.G.M. Warwickshire; Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D.; Col. Bindley, P.G.D.; Col. Walker, P.G. Std. Br.; and A. E. Fridlander, P.G.S.B.

Amongst the Prov. Grand and P. Prov. Grand officers were—

Bros. T. J. Walsh, J.G.W.; L. H. Pearson, G. Chap.; J. Harris, G.T.; W. H. Hebbert, G.R.; F. G. Swinden, G.S.; R. G. Stephens, Asst. Sec.; J. Evans, J.G.D.; H. Mason, Asst. Deacon; F. Glover, G.D.C.; A. W. Parkes, A.G.D.C.; W. Young, P.G.O.; W. G. Madeley, P.G.S.; D'Arcy Power, P.P. G.W.; J. Suffield, P.P.S.G.W.; W. F. Tolladay, P.P.D.G.D.C.; J. C. Whateley, P.P.A.G.S.; T. Shaw, P.P.G.D.; J. T. Harcourt, P.P.A.G.S.; W. T. Belcher, P.P.G.O.; W. G. Smith, P.A.G.D.C.; J. W. Bladon, P.G.O.; W. H. Blunt, P.P. A.G.S.; J. A. Leary, P.P.A.G.P.; Wright Wilson, P.G.D.C.; T. S. Harvey, P.P.G.D.C.; G. H. Milward, P.G.S.B.; F. Dnvis, P.S.G.W.; W. Stacey, P.A.G. Purst.; Lord E. Seymour, P.P.S.G.W.; W. H. Wood, P.P.G.R.; Rev. Canon T. B. Dickins, P.P.G.C.; J. Taylor, P.P.G.S. of W.; George Bown, P.P.G.P.; B. H. Joseph, P.P.G.D.; T. G. Waite, P.G.D.; P. Fryer, P.A.G.D.C.; and G. Shread, P.P.S.G.D.

Among Provincial Grand Officers belonging to other provinces were—

Bros. J. J. Perkins, P.P.G.P. Staffs; C. F. Brown, P.P.G.D.C. Hants; B. L. Griffiths, P.G.S. Worcester; Rev. C. Black, P.P.G.C. Worcester and Hereford; W. Spraggon, P.P.G.D.C. North Wales; J. T. Windle, P.P.G. Reg. Derby and Salop; F. Hughes, Prov. G.S. Staffs; C. Eaton, P.P.G.D.C. Worcester; J. D. Pepper, P.P.S.G.W. Staffs; B. Hunn, P.P.G.S.W. Oxon; R. A. Matthews, P.M. 493, P.P.J.G.D. Gloucester; E. S. Sumner, P.M.; J. Collins, P.M.; Hans Graff, P.M.; E. R. A. Matthews, I. Guy, W. J. Woolcott, W. W. Lawrence, 487; W. Hopkins; W. H. Welshman; E. J. Collins; Russell Smith, F. D. Hazeldine, and A. J. Webb.

The brethren having assembled, the Consecrating Officer and Grand Officers entered in procession, and the ancient ritual proceeded, the work being performed, as might be expected, in the most admirable and impressive manner; and the ceremonies relating to the petition and warrant having been concluded, the Prov. G. Chaplain delivered an oration on the nature and principles of Freemasonry.

Here came the first anthem, "Behold, how joyful and good a thing it is," splendidly sung by Bros. D. Harrison and E. Richardson (both of Lichfield Cathedral), with Bros. W. H. Myers and W. Young, P.G.O.; Bro. W. T. Belcher, Mus. Doc., P.P.G.O., being at the organ.

After the dedication and invocation, and the beautiful ceremonies relating to the lodge board and the elements of consecration (all with full choral ritual), the lodge was constituted, and the patriarchal benediction concluded one of the most impressive Masonic ceremonies ever witnessed in Birmingham, and one which will long linger in the memories of those who were fortunate in being present.

The next business was to instal the W.M. designate, Bro. R. A. Matthews, P.M. 493, P.P.J.G.D. Gloucester, which ceremony was undertaken by Bro. Letchworth, in the presence of about 250 Past Masters, and the Treasurer and Tyler having been elected, the officers of the new lodge were invested.

The addresses to the W.M., the Wardens, and to the brethren were given by Bro. LETCHWORTH.

The Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers retired in procession, leaving the new W.M. to close his lodge.

A large proportion of the brethren adjourned to the Grosvenor Room at the Grand Hotel, where a dinner according to ancient custom was held, at which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given, being interspersed with songs, &c., this ending one of the most striking and successful Masonic meetings that has been held in the Midland counties.

The lodge was furnished by Bros. George Kenning and Son.

A HANDSOME BADGE.

Bro. George Kenning has sent me a very handsome silver gilt Badge for examination, and has undertaken to provide an illustration thereof, size of the original, to accompany a brief description of its chief characteristics by me.

The style is quite that of a massive Company's Badge, the square is in paste, and suspended by a chain from the loop at top, there is a shield of arms on either side, the one having those of the premier Grand Lodge of England prior to the union of December, 1813, and the other the Arms of the Family of Archer, Bishops-Burn, Kent (*Baronetcy*, 1660-1723), viz.,



Ermine, on a chief azure three lions rampant argent. The Masons' Arms are not of the usual colours, being a goldfield and blue chevron.

The date of the Hall Mark is 1794-5, and Bro. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., tells me that the Jewel is engraved as being worn by the R.W. Bro. William Perfect, M.D., the Provincial Grand Master, in the Portrait by W. M. Sharpe, engraved by W. Say, and dated August 31st, 1803. The shield at foot of the Badge, with the *White Horse of Kent*, is representative of the Province, and doubtless it is the Jewel with which Dr. Perfect was invested on his Installation, as the fifth Prov. G.M. of Kent, at Faversham, March 18th, 1795. I could not find the Arms of the Archer Family with a *Baronetcy* (extinct) in any book in my Library, but Bro. Rylands kindly traced the particulars for me. This is a very fine souvenir of the period, and valuable in many respects.

Scotland.

GRAND LODGE.

The Quarterly Communication was held in Edinburgh, on Thursday, the 2nd instant. Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, Grand Master Mason, occupied the throne, and the Wardens' chairs were filled by Bros. F. W. Allan, Senior Grand Warden, and the Hon. Charles Maule Ramsay, Junior Grand Warden.

After Grand Lodge had been opened in full form,

Bro. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, G.D.C., presented Bro. Arthur Hodge, who had been elected Grand Architect of the Grand Lodge of All India, to the Grand Master, with the request that he would install him into the said office, which was accordingly done.

Bro. HODGE, in thanking Grand Lodge for the honour they had done him, said how highly esteemed the Grand Lodge of Scotland was among the Scottish Masons throughout the different quarters of the globe in which he had travelled.

Bro. PHILLIPS also introduced the elected office-bearers of Grand Lodge who had been absent at the installation ceremony on St. Andrew's Day, and they were duly installed by the Grand Master.

Grand Lodge agreed to give recognition to the newly-formed Grand Lodge of New Zealand, and to open fraternal relations with it, under the declaration and reservation that the Grand Lodge of Scotland retains its jurisdiction unimpaired over all its lodges in New Zealand who may choose to continue their allegiance to it; and also that the rights and jurisdiction of the three Scottish District Grand Lodges in New Zealand over such lodges and Scottish interests be reserved.

Permission was given to the District Grand Lodge of Queensland to extend their territory so as to include the islands of the Pacific Ocean under British rule, and that the title of the District Grand Master shall be that of "Right Worshipful," and not "Most Worshipful."

Bro. John Graham, of Broadstone, was again, amid fervent acclamation, re-appointed as Provincial Grand Master of the Glasgow City Province.

Bro. Matthew Arthur was welcomed in Grand Lodge as the newly-elected R.W.M. of Mother Kilwinning Lodge, No. 0, and as such, to the office of Provincial Grand Master of Ayrshire.

A motion by Bro. Dr. DICKSON, that the following be added to Rule 164 of the Constitution was unanimously carried: "But it shall be competent for a lodge, as a favour and without affiliation, always in accordance with Law 162, to pass or raise a member of another lodge, as a favour, in the name of that lodge, at the request of the Master and Wardens thereof, and this shall have the same effect as if the said member had been passed or raised in the lodge requesting the favour."

The following members were elected to the 16 vacancies in Grand Committee: Bros. W. Munro Denholm, James Berry, W. A. Dinwiddie, Major-Gen. J. J. Boswell, D. Speirs Fraser, P. L. Henderson, W. W. Robertson, R. King Stewart, F. C. Buchanan, James Thomson, William Hill, James Taylor, jun., Alexander Neil, Thomas McKee, William Scott, and James Reid.

This completed the business. Grand Lodge was therefore closed in full form and with solemn prayer.

The estimated attendance of members at this meeting was about 400, the hall being quite full.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF FORFARSHIRE.

VISIT OF LORD SALTOUN.

Never in the history of the above Provincial Grand Lodge has there been such a large and influential gathering of brethren at the annual meeting. This to some extent was due to the visit of the Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, the M.W. the Grand Master Mason of Scotland, and a deputation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland. The function took place in Russell's Royal Hotel Hall, which was crowded, upwards of 300 brethren from the various lodges in the province being present.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was opened by Bro. James Berry, Prov. G.M., and the other members of Provincial Grand Lodge present were Bros. Lord Glamis and the Hon. Charles Maule Ramsay, P.P.D.G.Ms.; Captain P. W. Anderson, P. Substitute G.M.; ex-Provost Anderson, P.G. Sec.; A. C. Anderson, P.A.G. Sec.; the Revs. Stewart Galloway and Andrew Armit, P.G. Chaps.; Andrew Bennet, P.S.G.W.; J. G. Sprunt, P.J.G.W.; and ex-Bailie Herald, P.G. Treas.

Bro. BERRY, after the minutes of Provincial Grand Lodge and Standing Committee had been read and approved, remarked that since last provincial meeting he had visited every lodge in the province, and that work had been commenced for 1899. The state of the province was singularly prosperous. They had topped the previous year as to entrants by about 65, and over the five lodges already visited in Dundee the average showed a great increase over the previous year in membership. Bro. Berry intimated that a lengthy correspondence had taken place between the Grand Lodge and the agents for the Ferguson Bequest in America. This bequest was left for the founding of a Masonic Home in Forfarshire, and although the negotiations were still being continued, he could assure them they were in safe hands. It appeared that the party who had bequeathed the money did not, according to the law of America, have the power to leave it as he did, and so far as he could learn they were only entitled to half of it. He hoped, however, to intimate a final conclusion to the matter in three months.

Bro. HERALD, P.G.T., said his estimate of the probable expenditure for the current year would not require any advance on the fees chargeable for the purposes of Provincial Grand Lodge—namely, 2s. for every initiation and 1s. for the benevolent fund.

The following office-bearers were then elected:

Bros. James Berry	...	...	Prov. G.M.
" The Hon. Frank Bowes Lyon	...	...	} Prov. P.G.Ms.
" Captain Clayhills Henderson of Invergowrie	...	...
" Lord Glamis	...	...	} Prov. D.G.Ms.
" J. W. Bruce Gardyne of Middleton	...	...
" The Hon. C. M. Ramsay	...	...
" Captain P. W. Anderson	...	...	Prov. S.G.M.
" Ex-Provost Anderson, Arbroath	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" A. C. Anderson	...	...	Prov. G. Asst. Sec.
" The Rev. S. Galloway	...	...	} Prov. G. Joint Chaps.
" Andrew Armit	...	...
" J. G. Sprunt	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. J. W. Cameron	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Alexander Ramsay	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" Andrew Naysmith, Arbroath	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" Ex-Bailie Herald	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" John Burrows	...	...	Prov. G.D. of Music
" Wishart Galloway, Brechin	...	...	Prov. G. Jeweller
" I. Dyer	...	...	Prov. G. Bible Br.
" W. Smith, Dundee	...	...	Prov. G. D. of C.
" F. Kemp, Newport	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" Jas. Robertson, Dundee	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" R. J. Muir, Montrose	...	...	Prov. G. Bard
" A. W. R. Birrell	...	...	Prov. G. Marshal
" M'Lagan	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" John M'Gregor	...	...	Prov. G.O.G.
" John R. Wilson	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" P. A. Tosh	...	...
" Bruce	...	...
" Millar	...	...

Bros. Macintosh and Binnie, Prov. G. Auditors.

The Grand Lodge deputation was then received, consisting of Bros. the Right Hon. Lord Saltoun, G.M.; the Hon. C. M. Ramsay, J.G.W.; A. Wilson, P.G.M. of Aberdeen; D. Murray Lyon, G. Sec.; David Reid, G. Treas.; the Rev. Arch. Fleming, G. Chap.; W. Munro Denholm, J.G.D.; Robert K. Inches, G. Jeweller; James Thomson, acting G.S.B.; E. A. Chisholm, Chief Clerk Grand Lodge; David Laird, acting G. Tyler; and A. Hodge, G. Architect G. Lodge of India.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER, in the name of the brethren in the province, extended a cordial welcome to Forfarshire to Lord Saltoun.

Lord SALTOUN, in reply, said he had to thank them most heartily for the honour they had done him.

Bro. the Hon. C. M. RAMSAY said it was his pleasant duty to invite the Grand Master to take part in a ceremony which, he was certain, would prove extremely interesting to all Forfarshire Masons. It was the unanimous wish of the brethren that Bro. Berry, who had done such good work in the district, should be honoured on the occasion of his resuming a third term of office as Prov. Grand Master, and he had to ask his lordship to present a token of the favour in which Bro. Berry was held.

Lord SALTOUN, in presenting the collar and jewel to the Provincial Grand Master, said it was right he should refer in some small degree to the history of the province. The Province of Forfar, Angus, and Aberdeen, was erected in 1747, and remained under that designation for many years. On a redistribution of districts early in the present century, the Hon. William Maule (afterwards Lord Panmure) was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Forfar and Angus, and held the post for 50 years. His lordship's three immediate successors were members of the Maule-Ramsay family, that eminent statesman, Fox Maule, being one of them. The Right Hon. Lord Ramsay was Provincial Grand Master 20 years ago, and Captain Clayhills Henderson, R.N., and the Hon. Frank Bowes Lyon followed in succession. By the way, in the person of the Hon. C. M. Ramsay they were gratified to recognise a son of the 12th and brother of the 13th Earl of Dalhousie—a name dear to the Masons of the province and to Grand Lodge itself. That brought them to the advent of the present Provincial Grand Master—Bro. James Berry—than whom no more devoted or efficient brother had ever held in hand the direction and government of Masonic affairs in that important province. (Applause.) Prior to 1877 the province included Kincardineshire, but in that year the lodges in that county were formed into a Provincial Grand Lodge, with the Right Hon. Lord Inverurie (now Lord Kintore) as Provincial Grand Master. The next point of interest was the fact that there were 26 lodges in Forfarshire, two of which took part in the erection of Grand Lodge in 1736, and were still in active operation—namely, Montrose Kilwinning and Ancient Operative, Dundee. Bro. Berry was appointed to the Prov. Grand Mastership in 1888, re-appointed in 1893, and six months ago entered upon a third term of office as Masonic head of the province. (Applause.) The bare mention of these facts showed the high respect in which Bro. Berry was held in the Craft. He had, too, been the recipient of tangible marks of the brethren's appreciation of his Masonic abilities, and on the present occasion he felt it an honour to have been selected to invest him with that gold collar and jewel, which was at first intended as a gift, but which, through his generosity and unselfish spirit, was henceforth to be the insignia of the Prov. Grand Master of Forfarshire. (Applause.) Bro. Berry's services to the Craft had not been confined to that province—they were known to and were appreciated by Grand Lodge itself. He had often filled the highest position in Grand Lodge, and presided with acceptance in Grand Committee, of which he had been a member during 18 consecutive years. He was also Chairman of the Finance Committee, and whether in or out of office he had devoted his attention to the interests of the Forfarshire lodges, and had a record of 30 years' service to the Craft. He had great pleasure in investing their Prov. Grand Master with the beautifully and artistically wrought collar and jewel of solid gold, and he did so in the hope he would be spared for many years to wear it in the bosom of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Forfarshire. (Applause.)

The Prov. G.M. was then invested with the collar and jewel, amid applause, three cheers being given in his honour.

Bro. BERRY, in reply, traced his connection with Prov. Grand Lodge, and referred to the efforts Grand Lodge was making to popularise Masonry. In conclusion, he hoped his successors in office would do their duty as conscientiously as he had endeavoured to do it. He then stated the collar and jewel would hereafter be recognised and entered in the inventory of Prov. Grand Lodge as its sole property. (Applause.)

Lord SALTOUN, in the name of the brethren of the province, presented Bro. Berry with a silver tea tray, as a mark of the respect in which he was held.

Bro. BERRY feelingly returned thanks.

Prov. Grand Lodge was afterwards closed.

In the evening the brethren sat down to dinner in the grand hall of the hotel in honour of Lord Saltoun's visit. Bro. James Berry presided.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE PANTILES LODGE, No. 2200, AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

A SUCCESSFUL RE-UNION.

The second of the ladies' evenings in connection with the above lodge came off on the 25th ult., at the Pump Room, and was in every respect a grand success. The W.M., Bro. Wm Rule, had spared neither effort nor expense to attain this end, and in it he was well supported by his officers and a special committee of brethren.

The brethren met for the ordinary business of the lodge at half-past four, when there was a good attendance.

At half-past five the W.M. and officers received and welcomed the guests in the Nevill Club Reading Room, and shortly after six o'clock the Mayor and other of the principal guests having arrived, an adjournment was made to the Pump Room for the banquet. The room had been very nicely decorated for the occasion with plants and drapery, and the tables having been nicely set out by Mr. Adams, the caterer, the effect produced was very fine. The brethren appeared "clothed," a special dispensation having been obtained from the D.G.M., Bro. Earl Amherst. The toilettes of the ladies also added brilliantly to the scene.

The W.M., Bro. Rule, occupied the chair, the several vice-chairs being filled by his principal officers: Bros. T. Best, S.W.; E. O. Howis, J.W.; E. Westbrook, S.D.; W. H. Downs, D.C.; and F. L. Williams, I.G.

Amongst those present were Mrs. Rule, the Mayor (Bro. F. W. Stone), Bro. C. J. and Mrs. Gallard; Bro. J. and Mrs. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; Bro. N. and Mrs. Grunwell, Bro. L. and Mrs. Beale; Bro. and Mrs. Burslem; Bro. T. and Mrs. Ryder; Bro. T. and Mrs. Potter; Bro. R. and Mrs. Stevenson; Bro. J. and Mrs. Corfield; Bro. T. Burton, Bro. R. Clements, Bro. E. E. and Mrs. Fenwick; Bro. H. C. and Mrs. Gain; Bro. Roger and Mrs. Waymark; Bro. M. A. H. and Mrs. Edwardes; Bro. T. E. and Mrs. Collins; Bro. F. H. and Mrs. Hobbs; Bro. C. J. and Mrs. Ellis; Bro. E. C. Sanderson and Miss Potter; Bro. A. and Mrs. Oliver; Bro. Fincham, Bro. C. Y. and Mrs. Ellis; Bro. W. J. and Mrs. Gane; Bro. E. and Mrs. Catchpole; Bro. L. and Mrs. Edwards; Bro. R. and Mrs. Callingham; Mrs. Urquhart, Bro. A. G. and Mrs. Nye; Bro. Wall, Bro. J. W. and Mrs. Slack; Bro. Minns and Miss Wallond; Bro. J. Jones, Bro. H. Harris, Bro. Adkin, Bro. H. and Mrs. Hewett; Bro. M. D. Brown, Miss Hewett, Bro. G. and Mrs. Smith; Miss Gardener, Mrs. Harmer, Bro. Fred and Mrs. Davis; Bro. Denyer, Miss Banning, Bro. and Mrs. Combley, Mrs. Westbrook, Bro. C. and Mrs. Dudency; Bro. J. W. and Mrs. Warwick; Bro. A. E. and Mrs. Hobbs; Bro. Perry, Bro. Llewellyn, Bro. I. Race and Miss Race; Bro. and Mrs. Brice; Bro. H. and Mrs. Adams; Bro. G. Glanville, Bro. Dunkley, Bro. D. B. Harrison, Bro. G. Paine, Bro. Chapman, and others.

A capital banquet having been served and excellent wines provided by Bro. M. D. Brown, the following short toast list was gone through.

"The Ladies," of course, on a ladies' evening being one of the chief items. This toast was entrusted to Bro. J. Burton, whose remarks elicited much laughter.

The W.M., in a couple of exceptionally neat speeches, proposed "The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W. the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," which were received most loyally.

Bro. J. BURTON, J.P., P.M., P.P.G. Reg., in one of his humorous speeches, next proposed "The Health of the Ladies." This was, he said, a very important toast, and would, he was certain, receive due recognition. It might be asked, he said, how it was in these days of women's rights, an age when the male sex had to take back seats and allow the ladies to be "lords" of the creation to go to the front; when women were Masters of Art, Bachelors of Science, doctors and journalists, in fact, elbowing the poor unfortunate man out of everything; when ladies had their clubs, political and social, and where they carried on, he had been told, "high jinks," singing "when man was lord of creation, but is not so now"; when women appeared on public platforms, teaching man everything, even to the cut of his inexpressibles; when they scorched through the country on their bikes, to the serious enlargement of their carcasses—the last word had "proved a slip"—he meant the serious enlargement of the back parts of their extremities; when they did all this, the wonder was that they had not formed a female Masonic lodge. (Laughter.) They could fancy how jolly it would be for the man to be invited to a gentleman's evening, relieved from the task of proposing toasts, simply to eat, drink, and to listen to what the up-to-date female Mason had to say about the poor effete man. In the Masonic ritual they were told who were "fit and proper persons" to be made Masons, and, in truth, which he might say was characteristic of his profession, women were not mentioned. That, to his mind, must have been an inadvertence, owing to the fact, no doubt, that in the good old days long ago, to which their ritual dated, women less asserted themselves than at present. He had debated the matter in his own mind whether woman was a fit and proper person to be made a Mason, and he had come to the conclusion that she was, and for three reasons, which were most essential points in Masonic ritual. She could eat, drink, and talk. No one could gainsay that after they had heard a "curtain lecture." Then as to Charity, which was the brightest jewel in the crown of Freemasonry; why women had been known to be so charitable as to give away her best friend. (Laughter.) Then as to secrecy, the keystone of Freemasonry. Could a woman keep a secret? If woman meant it, not even rack and thumbscrew would extract a secret from a woman. For these reasons he submitted women were entitled to be enrolled as Freemasons, and if they were in fear of the proverbial red-hot poker, why, they could use it cold. (Laughter.) He coupled with the toast, in the absence of Bro. A. T. Simpson, Bros. Roger C. D. Waywork and E. C. Sanderson, both of whom gallantly responded.

Bro. A. BURSLEM, I.P.M., proposed "The Health of the W.M."—a toast always received, he said, with acclamation and enthusiasm. He was pleased also to mention in connection with the toast the name of Mrs. Rule, who had so kindly graced their proceedings. He could assure her it gave the members of the Pantiles Lodge exceeding pleasure to see her present. (Hear, hear.) They had to congratulate their W.M. on two things—that he had so far recovered from his indisposition as to be able to be present, and upon such a magnificent and successful gathering. It would be waste of words at such a gathering for him to attempt to extol the praises and the virtues of their W.M., his good qualities, his genial good nature, especially his zeal and interest in Masonic Charities. (Cheers.)

The W.M., in response, said he was pleased with the gathering. The work of arranging had not been of a sinecure nature, but he had been well backed up by

his officers, and especially his indefatigable Secretary, Bro. Rufus Stevenson. He felt it a high honour to be elected W.M. of such a prosperous lodge, and he hoped the success which had attended this, the second of the ladies' evenings, would ensure its being made an "annual." (Hear, hear.)

His Worship the Mayor (Bro. F. W. Stone, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.) proposed "The Masonic Charities." It was a proud privilege for a Mason to address such an assembly of ladies and brethren. Ladies they knew were boiling over with Charity and love, and, therefore, he knew they would respond heartily to his toast. Although it would not be right for brethren to divulge Masonic secrets, they could freely tell their wives all about their Masonic Charities. The past year had been a record one in the cause of Masonic Charities. As Bro. Terry, an officer of the Grand Lodge, who had honoured them with his presence that evening, would tell them, they had subscribed no less a sum than £160,000 or £170,000 for their boys and girls and those aged Masons and widows who required assistance. (Cheers.) He, therefore, asked for a hearty response to the toast of the Masonic Charities.

Bro. J. TERRY, P.M., P.Z., P.G.S.B. Sec. R.M.B.I., responded. He thanked Bro. Stone for the way he had introduced the toast, and the admirable way in which Bro. Burton had thought fit to develop the peculiar proclivities of the ladies, who if not having sufficient money to give to Charity would give their dearest friends away. The unfortunate part was ladies were not so convertible into stock as money, and it was a wonderful thing how Bro. Burton had made it clear to his own mind what was to become of the ladies when converted. The great thing was to transform them into mothers, and, as time goes by, into grandmothers. He had not the slightest doubt when man and woman were first created it never struck Adam how he should convert Eve. He did not suppose it ever entered his head (laughter), and although he had heard it said that gardening was the oldest business extant, he ventured to think there was one earlier, because they read that Adam and Eve went about seeking aprons to put on. (Laughter.) Millinery, therefore, he contended was about the first trade, and there was not the slightest doubt it had thrived well ever since. He ventured to think the toast of the Masonic Charities was appreciated by everybody. As his Worship the Mayor had said, 1898 had been a record year in the history of Freemasonry. They had raised something like £170,000, £144,000 of which was contributed in one night, when they met under the presidency of the Prince of Wales. They had 275 girls which they educated and clothed at their schools; they had 285 boys which they also clothed, maintained, and educated, and put out into the world in such a manner as to fit them to take their places as citizens of the world. Kent had contributed nobly. The Old People's Institution, with which he was more directly concerned, was not so attractive as the Schools for boys and girls, but they had 475 annuitants on the fund, who were continually praising God there was such an Institution as Freemasonry. It was no uncommon thing to hear of boys and girls being adopted, but he ventured to think no one ever thought of adopting an old man or an old woman. (Hear, hear.) He thanked the lodge for its donation of 10 guineas that day, and expressed the hope that when they had another ladies' evening he should be invited. In conclusion, he would say, love the girls as much as you like, but honour your fathers and mothers that their days may be long in the land, and you will never regret having given them the means to enjoy themselves in their old age.

The company then separated.

During the dinner Mr. Donovan sang several songs, Mr. Johnson accompanying.

After the banquet, members with their wives and friends inspected the lodge-room and its appointments, in which the ladies especially expressed a considerable amount of curiosity.

By nine o'clock the banqueting-room had been completely transformed, the tables were cleared, the floors swept and polished, Prince's Scarlet Band struck up a warning note, and the dance was at once in full swing.

There was a large attendance at the dance, the arrangements for which were excellent, the M.Cs. being Bros. E. O. Howis, J.W.; E. E. Fendick, J.D.; H. C. Gain, S.; and E. A. Sanderson.

The Craft Abroad.

RETURN HOME OF BRO. HON. C. E. DAVIES, M.L.C., M.W.G.M. TASMANIA.

Bro. the Hon. C. E. Davies, M.L.C., accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Davies reached Launceston on his return to Tasmania by the Pateena, on the 10th December. From a health point of view he has benefited very much, and he speaks highly of the courtesy and hospitality shown him in all the leading centres of Great Britain. On arrival he was met by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania, and with Mrs. and Miss Davies was heartily welcomed back, and congratulated on his restoration to health.

A more formal welcome took place later at the Brisbane Hotel, where the leading members of the Masonic Craft in the North assembled, and over a glass of wine assured the Grand Master of the pleasure they felt at his return, and at the benefit and enjoyment he had secured from his holiday. The M.W. Pro Grand Master, Bro. R. J. Sedler, preside, and among those present were Bros. J. H. Room, P.M.W. Pro G.M.; W. R. Lisbey, R.W.S.G.W.; J. Brickhill, V.W. D.G.S.; W. Scott, W.G.S.D.; W. Aikenhead (Devonport), P.M.; G. Gragg, W.M.; A. J. R. Larner, W.M.; W. G. Wilkinson, W.M.; L. P. Collins, C. H. Hogg, M.D., F. R. Uasworth, A. Jones, F. J. Prichard, and J. C. Ferguson. Glasses having been charged,

The PRO GRAND MASTER said they had met together to welcome back the Grand Master of Tasmania to his native land. (Applause.) It had been their intention to entertain him at a banquet, but, unfortunately, owing to circumstances over which they had no control, their arrangements had fallen through, but they hoped on some future occasion when he came to the North to give him a loyal welcome, and show him how much he was appreciated by the Masons in this part of the island. He need hardly tell him (the Grand Master) of the satisfaction they all felt at the worthy manner in which he had represented the Grand Lodge of Tasmania in Great Britain, as he felt sure that scarcely anyone else could have done so with equal dignity and credit. (Applause.) Their Grand Master had been honoured in England by the Prince of Wales and other dignitaries of the Craft, and although he had all these honours heaped upon him, they must take a little credit to themselves that he was the representative of Tasmania, and in consequence a certain portion of these honours came back to them. He was sure the Grand Master would not grudge that. (Hear, hear.) However, they now extended to their Grand Master, Mrs. Davies, and Miss Davies a hearty welcome. With the other brethren he was pleased he had come back in good health and spirits, and it was their earnest wish that he might be long spared to occupy

his present position. The Masons of the North felt proud of their Grand Master, and he was highly respected in every lodge. They would all be pleased on some future occasion to have an opportunity of listening to an account of his travels and the various lodges he had visited in England. (Applause.) He asked the brethren to drink "The Health of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Tasmania." (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically received, and Bros. Lisbey, Cragg, Wilkinson, Brickhill, and Aikenhead, on behalf of their respective lodges, having all expressed their welcome.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER, in reply, said he could not but feel very highly flattered at the very cordial reception they had been good enough to extend to him on his return to Tasmania. It was said that out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh; but on this occasion he felt really his heart was so full that he could scarcely give expression to the feelings which had taken possession of him on returning once more amongst them, and hearing that they were all progressing satisfactorily. (Hear, hear.) He was pleased to have their welcome and congratulations on his return, and to let them know that he felt now thoroughly reinvigorated and restored to health and strength. (Applause.) He trusted that his travels and experiences in the old country had been not only advantageous to him from a health point of view, but would also be a benefit to the Institution which he held in such high affection and reverence, and to the community in which he dwelt. (Applause.) He was sure they would not at this juncture expect any extended remarks from him, for he hoped on some future occasion, when he had had time to consolidate his Masonic experiences in the old world and put them into form, to lay them before the brethren in a manner that would be of interest and benefit to the Craft in general. (Applause.) He could assure them, however, that it had been his desire and endeavour to maintain with honour and dignity the proud position which they had conferred upon him, and he had ever been mindful that in all the honours, courtesies, and hospitalities extended to him, they had been extended to him as the representative of Tasmania. (Applause.) It would be gratifying to them all to know that when recognition was extended to a Grand Lodge such as theirs it really meant a fraternal greeting, and he attributed much of the gratification and pleasure he had experienced in the old country to the genuine Masonic feeling which the Masons there desired to extend to Masons throughout the universe. He had the privilege while in England of meeting, perhaps, some of the greatest Masons in the world, and had gained a knowledge of Masonic matters which would be beneficial to him whether he occupied his present position or any other position in the Craft in Tasmania. His desire would always be to assist the Institution which he held in such high affection. (Applause.) In going round the world he had looked forward with considerable pleasure and happiness to the day of his return to Tasmania, and he could assure them that while his anticipations were pleasing, the realisation had been much more pleasing still. (Applause.) He might tell them that wherever he had been he had never lost an opportunity of extolling the beauties and climate of Tasmania. (Hear, hear.) He thanked them for their courtesies to his wife and daughter, and was sure they would be pleased to hear of the hearty welcome extended to them. And now he must thank the M.W. Pro Grand Master and the officers of the Grand Lodge for the manner in which Grand Lodge affairs had been conducted during his absence, and also Masons generally for the loyalty and goodwill shown to the Grand Lodge officers during that period. (Hear, hear.) He concluded by thanking them once more, and assuring them how deeply grateful he was for the cordial welcome they had accorded him. (Applause.)

The M.W. GRAND MASTER said there was another toast he would like to propose. He thought they should not allow such an opportunity to pass without showing their goodwill and esteem towards the M.W. Pro Grand Master, who had so well and ably filled the position during his absence. He had already thanked him for his efforts on behalf of the Craft, and now asked the brethren present to drink his health. (Applause.)

The M.W. PRO GRAND MASTER thanked the Grand Master for his kindly words. He had felt the responsibility very much; but he had been greatly assisted by the Deputy Grand Master, and by the Grand Lodge officers, who had come forward and helped him right loyally. (Applause.)

This terminated a very pleasant function.

Hon. C. E. Davies, Mrs. and Miss Davies left by the afternoon express for Hobart, which was reached the same evening. Mrs. and Miss Davies alighted at Risdon Station, and Bro. Davies came on to Hobart, accompanied by his brother (Bro. J. G. Davies, M.H.A.), and Bro. G. T. Taylor, the Commercial Manager of the *Mercury*. Upon alighting at the Hobart Station, the Grand Master was accorded a hearty reception by his Masonic brethren and others.

The party drove to the Masonic Hall, where there was a very large gathering of brethren, and on the Grand Master entering the hall he was greeted with enthusiastic cheers.

The R.W. Past Deputy Grand Master (Bro. L. Susman) having taken the chair, with Bro. T. R. Marsden as Grand Director of Ceremonies.

The R.W. Deputy Grand Master, Bro. J. G. DAVIES, M.H.A., said that, having regard to the relations that existed between him and the M.W. Grand Master, he would content himself by expressing his heartfelt thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe that his brother, their Grand Master, had been permitted to return, and be once more amongst them in good health. (Prolonged cheers.) In handing over to him again the work which he had given him (the speaker) to do before leaving the colony, he did so in the full belief and hope that he would find that, as far as the southern jurisdiction was concerned, he would have no cause of complaint about the manner in which that work had been performed during his absence. (Applause.) The officers of the Grand Lodge had loyally supported him, and he heartily thanked them for it. He would call upon their Right Worshipful P.D.G.M., Bro. Susman, to address the Grand Master on behalf of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. SUSMAN, P.D.G.M., addressing the Grand Master, said: The privilege has been accorded me of welcoming you, Most Worshipful Grand Master, on behalf of the Grand Lodge and the Craft generally, on your return from your voyage from the old country to your native place, and to the seat of your Masonic government. We earnestly hope that yourself and family will have derived all the benefit you expected from the trip, and will have returned with renewed health and strength in our midst. We know that your mind is ever open to learn and improve whenever opportunity offers, and we have no doubt that you will have made in your travels a large number of mental notes of improvements you have seen in matters social, political, and Masonic, which will stand you in good stead in your future career as a citizen, a member of our Legislature, and Grand Master of our beloved Order. (Cheers.) We have watched with keen interest the announcement of your various visits at high Masonic functions in England, and it was clearly brought home to us, in reading of the proceedings, that you were indeed most brotherly and loyally treated, and that, masonically speaking, you occupy the same position which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales occupies in England. (Cheers.) I do sincerely hope that you may now be able to resume your various and sometimes onerous duties with advantage, to the furtherance of the best interests of your country, and to Masonry in general, over which we trust you will rule as ably in the future as you have done since your elevation to the high and responsible office of Grand Master. (Loud cheers.)

Refreshments were served and the toast of "The M.W. the Grand Master" was honoured with much cheering and musical fires.

The W. Masters of the lodges having tendered their hearty congratulations,

The M.W. the GRAND MASTER in rising to reply was received with prolonged cheers. He said he scarcely knew how to adequately express himself in assuring them of the gratification he felt at being once more amongst them all. (Cheers.) When he left, several months ago, he must confess that he took his departure with a feeling of reluctance; but now he had returned he did not feel he had reason to regret the step he then took. (Cheers.) The advantages of his trip to Europe—the old country especially, and the experience he had gained, he trusted would prove not only beneficial to him from a personal point of view, but advantageous to the great institution of Freemasonry, which he revered so much—(cheers)—and he also hoped that the information he had gained would prove of some service to the community in which he lived. (Renewed cheers.) He had already been honoured that day in being received by the Northern brethren—(prolonged cheers)—in the most cordial and fraternal manner. (Renewed cheers.) If he had consulted his own wishes he would, perhaps, have preferred meeting them when he had got his land legs on, and he could have addressed them more fully. During his sojourn in the old country he ever strove to be mindful in connection with Freemasonry that he was the Grand Master of Tasmania, and that the respect which he so ungrudgingly received and the welcome everywhere accorded to him was not as Charles Ellis Davies, but as the Grand Master of Tasmania. (Cheers.) To his brethren of this colony he owed the distinguished position he occupied, and he had endeavoured to zealously uphold that proud position wherever he went with dignity and honour—(cheers)—and it was gratifying to him to learn on his return that they had heard of his efforts in that direction, and that they were appreciated by his brethren. The grandest Masonic scene that he had witnessed was in the Albert Hall, London, on that occasion when there was such a marvellous gathering of Freemasons, and when the Benevolence of Masons was so strikingly and handsomely demonstrated by their subscribing, as no doubt they had heard, the magnificent sum of £130,000 to a Masonic charitable institution. He fancied he saw that wonderful scene still, with the thousands of their brethren gathered within that immense building at the moment that the munificent sum was announced by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The cheers that went up seemed to shake the building. It was a most imposing scene. Never before had he witnessed such a display of enthusiasm, and he should never forget it. Might the benevolence of their brethren at home prove an incentive to them in Tasmania to emulate such a noble example! (Cheers.) He would like to take this first opportunity afforded of thanking most sincerely the Deputy Grand Master and officers of Grand Lodge for the able manner in which they had carried on the work of Grand Lodge during his absence. He took it as a personal compliment to himself, and hoped now he had returned that he would be able to resume the important duties which had been entrusted to him with that judgement and discretion that was only to be expected of him. (Cheers.) He could not tell them how delighted he was to be once more amongst them. From the moment he reached Launceston that feeling of gladness was uppermost, and as he came through from the North, with so many places reminding him of old associations, his bosom was filled with pride and joy at returning to his own beautiful, native land. (Loud cheers.) Though he had been in many distant lands since his departure, and about the beauties of which people had talked to him on several occasions, he was bound to confess that he could not enthuse about them whilst mindful of the fact that he had left behind in fair Tasmania scenes quite as grand and beautiful, and in most instances much more so. (Enthusiastic cheers.) He assured them that he had never lost an opportunity, whenever he spoke, of impressing upon his audience the many natural advantages that Tasmania enjoyed, and that he thought there was no more beautiful land on God's earth. (Loud cheers.) He again thanked them for their very cordial reception, and was grateful to the Great Architect of the Universe that he was restored to perfect health and strength. (Prolonged cheers.)

Bro. Bradshaw-Major then played "Home, sweet home" on the pianoforte.

The M.W. GRAND MASTER next proposed "The Health of the M.W. Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers," thanking them for the good work they had done during his absence.

The toast was received with musical fires.

Bros. J. G. DAVIES, M.H.A., Deputy G.M.; F. H. WISE, Past Deputy G.M.; E. J. ROGERS, President of the Board of General Purposes; J. W. ISRAEL, President of the Board of Benevolence; and JNO. HAMILTON, M.H.A., G. Secretary, responded.

The proceedings then terminated with the toast of "The Presiding Past Deputy Grand Master," which was warmly honoured.

St. John's Lodge, No. 492 E.R.

A regular meeting of the above lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, St. John's, Antigua, on Tuesday morning, the 27th ult., being the festival of St. John the Evangelist, the Patron Saint of the Order; there were present Bros. R. H. K. Dyett, W.M.; M. R. Higgins, S.P.M.; Thos. Fisher, S.W.; W.M. elect; Chas. Griffin, J.W.; Rev. J. Emery, Chap.; J. D. Wall, Treas.; T. S. Piggott, S.D.; J. H. Bridger, J.D.; C. U. Melanson, D.C.; G. T. Gallwey, acting Org.; F. J. W. H. Doig, acting I.G.; J. D. West, Tyler; and others.

The lodge was opened and the minutes read and confirmed, after which labour was suspended, and the brethren repaired to the Cathedral School room, whence they moved in procession to the Cathedral, where Divine Service was performed by the rector, assisted by his curate, the Rev. Mr. Jackson, and Bro. the Rev. C. H. Branch, P.M. The sermon was preached by Bro. the Rev. Jos. Emery, Chaplain designate, from 1 Thes. V. 21, "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." The antiquity of the Order and its excellencies were dilated upon, and the brethren reminded solemnly of their obligatory duties to the Craft, to the world, but, above all, their natural and assumed duties to the Great Architect of the Universe. It was a purely Masonic sermon, which the brethren could not fail to appreciate. A hymn specially composed for the occasion by the W.M. and set to music by Bro. G. T. Gallwey was sung. At the close of the service the brethren returned in procession to the school room and thence they went back to the lodge, where, labour being resumed, after the W.M. had addressed the brethren shortly as to the events of the year and the satisfactory state of the finances, Bro. Thos. Fisher was, according to ancient ceremony, installed and saluted as W.M. for the ensuing Masonic term. The newly-installed W.M. appointed and invested the following officers: Bros. Chas. Griffin, S.W.; Thos. S. G. Piggott, J.W.; Rev. J. Emery, Chap.; J. H. D. Wall (re-elected) Treas.; W. W. Malone, Sec.; John H. Bridger, S.D.; Wm. L. Wall, J.D.; M. R. Higgins, P.M., D.C.; F. J. W. H. Doig, I.G.; and J. F. D. West, Tyler. After the appointment of the Committee for General Purposes, and an Audit Committee, and all other business having been disposed of, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the dining hall where luncheon was served, under the superintendence of Mr. Frederick Lewis, whose reputation as a caterer was again well sustained.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly drunk, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to an end.

BRO. THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN on Saturday last returned to town from Blackburn.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT and Countess Cadogan have been entertaining this week at Dublin Castle, the Marquis of Ormonde and the Ladies Butler, Bro. the Marquis of Headfort, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Erne and Lady Evelyn Crichton, Bro. the Earl and Countess of Bandon, Viscountess Helmsley, Lord Hyde and Lady Edith Villiers, Lord and Lady Castletown, of Upper Ossory, the Hon. Gerald Ward, the Hon. Arthur O'Neill, Bro. Sir Charles and Lady Barrington, Captain and Mrs. Fowler, Miss Farquharson, and the Hon. William Cadogan.

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G. Master for South Wales (E.D.).

Brethren are earnestly solicited to accept the Stewardship upon this most important occasion, BEING THE JUBILEE FESTIVAL OF THE WIDOWS' FUND, especially considering that the income during the past year was not sufficient to meet the expenditure, and to kindly forward their names as soon as possible, with full particulars, to

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The R.W. Bro. The

RT. HON. THE EARL OF DARTMOUTH

(Prov. Grand Master of Staffordshire)

has kindly consented to preside.

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

The Work will be the First Lecture.

The First Section by Bro. J. Collett Smith.

„ Second „ „ D. D. West.

„ Third „ „ J. F. Roberts.

„ Fourth „ „ W. R. Bennett.

„ Fifth „ „ Charles Lewis.

„ Sixth „ „ G. R. H. Clark.

„ Seventh „ „ T. W. Allsop.

Supper will be served in the adjoining hall immediately after the Lodge is closed.

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Masonic Notes.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1899

The deepest sympathy will be felt with the Queen and Royal Family in the severe bereavement they have just suffered through the death of Prince Alfred, the only son of the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, more familiarly known to us as the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. The young prince, who was heir to his father's duchies, appears to have been always in delicate health. But the blow to the Duke and Duchess and the Queen, his grandmother, is not the less serious because it may have been anticipated sooner or later. The deceased Prince was in his 25th year, having been born on the 15th October, 1874, and by his death the succession to the dukedoms of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha will, it is said, devolve upon the Duke of Connaught.

We are pleased beyond measure to learn that since we wrote our article of last week, Bro. Terry has met with still further success in organising the Board of Stewards for the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Wednesday, the 22nd inst. On the 31st ult. the number of those who had volunteered their services was between 330 and 340; now, we are glad to say, there are about 390, and during the 10 days that must elapse between now and the celebration of the Anniversary, we may reasonably expect that the Board will be increased to 400 and upwards. This is most encouraging, and if only the Returns are up to the average of ordinary years it is clear the Benevolent Institution will recover the ground it lost last year.

The consecration of the Harlow Lodge, No. 2734, augments the number of lodges in the Province of Essex to 41, and of these as many as 21 have been constituted since 1882, when Bro. Lord Tenterden was succeeded by the present Prov. G. Master, Bro. the Earl of Warwick, who has been recently appointed Deputy Grand Master of England. Of these 21 lodges, five are located at Buckhurst Hill and five at Chingford, the remaining 11 having their homes at Brentwood, Clacton-on-Sea, Halstead, Harlow, Kelvedon, Leigh, Manningtree, Purfleet, Rainham, Southend, and Wyvenhoe. Thus, Masonry is admirably distributed throughout the Province, and whereas at the close of 1882 there were only 18 towns in the county which could boast of having lodges, and of these only two—Colchester and Maldon—that had more than one, there are now as many as 28 towns that are thus happily circumstanced, Chingford having six, Buckhurst Hill five, and Brentwood, Colchester, Maldon, and Southend two each. Indeed, there is not a place of any importance in the county which is not, Masonically, well furnished. This is splendid progress to have made under a single ruler in little more than the space of 16 years. But then every Province is not so fortunate as to have an Earl of Warwick to preside over its Freemasonry.

So, too, in the Royal Arch. Under the genial and able rule of Comp. Philbrick, Q.C., there has been a similar—indeed, proportionately, even a greater—rate of progress. At the close of 1882 there were only four chapters, located at Chelmsford, Colchester, Romford, and Southend respectively; now there are 13, of which five meet at Chingford, and the others at Buckhurst Hill, Halstead, Maldon, and Rainham, in addition to the four in existence, as already stated, in 1882. In the other branches of Masonry, Essex has been also fortunate, so that there is not a county, for its size, in which Masonry is more firmly and more prosperously established.

By the way, it may be as well to remind our Essex brethren of the Mark Degree that Bro. the Earl of Warwick—who, when Lord Brooke, presided over Warwickshire as Prov. G. Mark Master from 1882 to 1886—has very kindly consented to preside at the Festival which will be held on Wednesday, the 12th July, in behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund, and we trust that the celebration will be proportionately as successful as those in aid of the Central Charitable Institutions at which his lordship presided.

We have been requested to state that a lodge of instruction has been established under the sanction of the Italia Lodge, No. 2687. It meets every Monday evening from 9 to 11.30 p.m., at the Restaurant Fumagelli, Nos. 12, 13, Wilton-street, Victoria, and the duties of the lodge are carried out in Italian. We trust it will receive the amount of support it deserves.

In our issue of last week it was stated that in the Masonic Service held at the Congregational Church, Kingsland-road, on the 29th ult., "an innovation was made, which is unique in the annals of Nonconformity," and that Masonic services in places of worship "hitherto have been confined to the Established Church." It appears, however, that the reporter was at fault. On referring to our issue of 31st July, 1897, page 389 and 390, we find therein a long account of a Masonic service which was held at the Whitby Congregational Church, on Sunday, 11th July, 1897, in connection with the celebrations of the centenary of the Lion Lodge, No. 312, of that town.

The brethren on that occasion, in accordance with the invitation officially issued, assembled at the Masonic Hall, and, having assumed their Masonic regalia, were formed in procession, and then pro-

ceeded to the Congregational Church. When the service of song and prayer was ended, Bro. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas, P.M., P.P.G. Chap., Chap. of the Lion Lodge, No. 312, preached an eloquent sermon, taking for his text Psalm li, verse 18—"Build thou the walls of Jerusalem." At the conclusion of the sermon a collection was taken, partly for the Royal Masonic Charitable Institutions, and partly for the funds of the church. The Masonic hymn, "Almighty Sire, our Heavenly King," composed and sung on the occasion of opening the new lodge, Whitby, on June 24th, 1813, was then sung, and the Benediction having been pronounced, the congregation rose while the brethren left the church to the strains of the closing march from Masonic service music.

The installation meeting of the Royal Savoy Lodge, No. 1744, was held on the 23rd ult., when Bro. A. B. Fox was duly installed into the chair. We regret that a full report of the proceedings has not been published in our columns in consequence of the serious illness of our representative who attended the meeting, but we hope the report will appear in our next issue.

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution held their regular monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 8th instant, under the presidency of Bro. J. A. Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., Treasurer and Patron of the Institution. The business, as usual, consisted for the most part, of finally determining the lists of Candidates and declaring the numbers of vacancies to be competed for at the annual election in May. As regards the lists, there are 55 for the Male Fund and 68 for the Widows' Fund, making a total of 123, while the vacancies are as follows, namely, for the Male Fund 15, including the three Deferred Annuities, and for the Widows' Fund 12, that is to say, nine immediate and three deferred.

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to the report of the Quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which will be found in another column. From this it appears that the Grand Lodge has followed the course adopted by us last year in recognising the Grand Lodge of New Zealand as an independent Grand Lodge. The conditions on which it has consented to take this step are practically the same as those submitted by us and accepted by New Zealand, namely, that the rights and privileges of those lodges which elect to remain under the banner of Scotland, as well as of the three Dist. G. Lodges shall be respected. We understand that the Grand Lodge of Ireland has officially recognised the new order of things in the Colony so that there is no longer any reason why the harmony of the several Constitutions should be disturbed. A little soreness, as we have said before and say elsewhere, will doubtless remain, but this will disappear under the benign influence of that good-fellowship, which is part and parcel of Freemasonry.

Bro. James Berry, J.P., Prov. G. Master of Forfarshire, is to be felicitated on the tokens of respect and affection which were presented to him at the recent meeting, as described elsewhere in our columns, of the Prov. G. Lodge of Forfarshire, and also upon the honour paid to his Province by the Grand Master Mason of Scotland. Bro. Berry has been a prominent member of the Scottish Craft for a long term of years and his administration of the Province entrusted to his charge has been most successful. It is, therefore, nothing more than might have been expected that when a favourable opportunity presented itself, the brethren should resolve on paying him honour. Hence, when the meeting of his Prov. G. Lodge was officially attended by Bro. Lord Saltoun, M.W.G. Master, and a number of his Grand Officers, his lordship was invited—and most cordially acceded to the invitation—to present Bro. Berry with a solid gold chain and jewel of office in appreciation of his uniform kindness and courtesy and the marked success with which he had presided over them. And as Bro. Berry announced his intention of placing this present among the possessions of the Province to be worn by his successors, the brethren made him a further present of a handsome silver salver, which should find an honoured place among his personal belongings. The proceedings passed off most satisfactorily.

According to the *New Zealand Craftsman* of the 1st ult. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G. Master, has graciously consented to become Patron of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand—a position he has occupied from their very foundation in the case of the other new Australasian G. Lodges. His Royal Highness has also approved of Bro. the Earl of Onslow being the representative of the newly recognised body at our G. Lodge.

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.

MASONIC IMPOSTOR,

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

Again I caution Almoners against an itinerant giving name of Francis Bysh, of Lodge 850. The Secretary of St. Oswald's Lodge, No. 850, Ashbourne, acquaints me that no such person has ever been a member of their lodge.—Yours fraternally,

JAMES NEWTON,
Prov. G. Sec. E. Lancs.

23, Silverwell-street, Bolton.
7th February.

Reviews.

"BELL'S CATHEDRAL SERIES, WITH PLAN AND ILLUSTRATIONS, 1899;" (*York-street, Covent Garden.* Price, 1s. 6d.)—The latest issues are "The Cathedral Church of YORK, by Mr. A. Clutton-Brock, M.A.," and "BEVERLEY MINSTER, an Illustrated Account of its History and Fabric, by Mr. Charles Hiatt." These handsome little books are a credit to all concerned, and deserve, as they are doubtless having, a very large circulation. Nothing but that can possibly re-imburse the spirited publishers for their heavy outlay, for each volume of the set is perfect typographically and artistically, and written by a gentleman fully conversant with the subject. YORK is ably done, and being the *Mecca* of English Freemasonry, should be very popular with the Craft in this Country. There are over 40 illustrations, including not only the Grand historic Fane, but also St. Mary's Abbey; Bootham, Walmgate Micklegate Bars, the Shambles, &c. Of the series there are now 16 issued of the Cathedrals; St. Martin's Church, Canterbury, and now Beverley Minster, which also includes "The Church of S. Mary," with fully 40 illustrations, all of them being works of art. DURHAM may be expected shortly; and will be noted in due time.

"WHITTAKER'S TITLED PERSONS, 1899."—(*London: Whittaker and Sons, 12, Warwick-lane, and all Booksellers.*)—This remarkable compilation is designed as, and actually is, a Companion to the world-renowned "Whittaker's Almanack," and is published annually, with additions and corrections to date of issue. The arrangement of the varied contents is such that reference to the extraordinary number of items and condensed information generally is quite easy, so that for reference purposes it is most valuable and indispensable. It is just such a volume as Secretaries of lodges in Great Britain and Ireland (and also Provincial Grand Secretaries) need, and should have. All who desire to correctly appreciate, converse about, and correspond as to, or with any of, the thousands of titled persons represented and described in this wonderful volume of over 500 pages, will gratefully remember the Editor for thus placing within their reach, and at such a trifle, so accurate and complete a Directory of the Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage, and Titles and Prefixes or Suffixes generally. Every test applied has proved the reliable character of the work, its completeness being as much a feature of its contents as its excellent editorship and perfect typographical arrangement. The particulars afforded as to the Sovereign, her Majesty's Family, and her most distinguished subjects make most interesting reading, quite apart from the directory portion, and the Index to Country Seats cited in the body of the work, is simply invaluable for purposes of Correspondence and Trade.

"FREEMASONS' CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY FOR THE PROVINCE OF DURHAM, 1899."—This ably arranged and carefully edited annual is a real pleasure to peruse and consult, because always so accurate, handy for reference, and complete as to details. The Prov. Grand Secretary, the responsible Editor, is no novice at such work, neither is his Prov. Asst. G. Sec., Bro. John Joel; so it is no wonder the volume is so full of details. The Province now numbers 37 Lodges, and by the new and most welcome Table of Total Yearly Summaries, 1884 to 1897, it has increased during the last 13 years by 17 Lodges, the membership now being 3092, the largest yet returned, and paying in dues alone, to the Prov. G. Lodge, the sum of £309 18s. 6d. The average membership per Lodge is nearly 84, which thus considerably exceeds the usual experience in the Provinces. There are 13 R.A. Chapters in the Prov. of Durham, and 12 Mark Lodges in Northumberland and Durham, but these are also much beyond the ordinary average as to the number of members, and so also as to the "Higher" or additional Degrees, about all of which the Directory is a never failing guide. The Durham Masonic Education Fund is doing a grand work, and so is the new Institution, "The Hudson Benevolent Fund," founded to commemorate the valuable services of Bro. Robert Hudson to his Province, as one of the best Provincial Grand Secretaries in England. The Directory is a great boon for the Province generally, and a credit to all concerned.

The Editor of the "Berkshire Masonic Register and Calendar" (Bro. J. T. Morland, D.P.G.M.) has anticipated the Reviewer's advice as to giving the total numerical strength of the Province, by adding such particulars at page 174 of the second edition, just out. The 16 Lodges return a total of 700 members, but, deducting duplicate returns and adding serving brethren, the net total is 693. In like manner the particulars of the Royal Arch Chapters are given—five in number—there being 142 companions on the Register. Copies may be had from the Printer and Publisher, Bro. G. J. Cosburn, of Newbury, Berks, at 1s. 3d. each, post free.

LADIES' NIGHT OF THE STRONG MAN LODGE, No. 45.

The ladies' night of this lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, the 6th instant. There were present Bros. Wm. Briggs, L.L.M., W.M.; T. C. Taylor, S.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; W. G. Mills, P.M., Sec.; T. J. Burgess, J.D.; J. A. Langdon, P.M., D. of C.; J. Briggs, M.A., Asst. D. of C. and Org.; E. J. Vidler, J.G.; W. R. G. Emerson, F. Bristow, and H. Durell, Stwds.; F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.; J. G. Powell, A. G. Peckham, J. H. Selmes, Bromley Hall, E. M. Hall, G. S. Manuelle, T. W. Heaton, Montague Leighton, Philip Thorpe, J. H. Phillips, Arthur Davies, Arthur Hall, G. F. Ward, and E. Mallett, P.M., Tyler. Visitors: Bros. W. Bailey, P.M. 131; W. Purchas, P.M. 88; A. G. Wallis, 1201; A. G. Beale, P.M. 59; Robt. Bryant, 2033; F. W. Howard, 12; W. C. Virgo, 1445; W. Fowler, 1728; E. P. Woodman, 1238; Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and E. R. Cleaton, J.W. 2077.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of regular lodge of 5th December last, and emergency meetings of the 2nd and 31st ult., were read and confirmed. There being no business, the lodge was closed.

The W.M. held a reception and welcomed the lady guests, among them being Miss Briggs, Mrs. Purchas, Mrs. Vincent, Mrs. Woodman, Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Sharpe, Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Bryant, Mrs. Beale, Mrs. Peckham, Mrs. Linney,

Miss Durell, Mrs. Virgo, Misses A. and M. Cahill, Miss Wittenbury, Mrs. Geo. Powell, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Selmes, Mrs. Bromley Hall, Mrs. Vidler, Mrs. Burmah, Miss Barnett, Mrs. Manuelle, Mrs. Fowler, Miss Howard, Mrs. A. Hall, Mrs. Kingsbury, Mrs. Cleaton, Mrs. Punt, Mrs. Bristow, Miss Simmons, Mrs. Emerson, Mrs. Palmer, Miss Davies, Mrs. and the Misses Cooke, Mrs. and Miss Staines, Mrs. Hutt and others.

At the conclusion of a sumptuous banquet,

The W.M. gave "The Queen and the Craft;" "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M.;" "The Pro G.M., the Dep. G.M., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Bro. G. G. SYMONS, P.M., Treas., gave "The Health of the W.M." He spoke of his active Masonic life, that he was a member of four lodges, and how well the Strong Man Lodge was ruled under his guidance. The toast was enthusiastically received by all present.

The W.M., in reply, spoke of the fact that, at ordinary Masonic meetings, many toasts were given, but on the present occasion he thought music would be preferred to long speeches; he thanked all present for their cordial reception of the toast.

"The Ladies" was given by the W.M. He spoke of the influence which ladies exercised in Freemasonry, alluded to the patronage of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, always ready to assist the Craft, also to that of the late Countess of Lathom. The W.M. extended a hearty welcome to the lady guests, and trusted they had spent a pleasant evening.

Bro. W. G. MILLS, P.M., Sec., replied on behalf of the ladies; he said they were delighted to be present, that they had been most hospitably entertained; and they thanked the W.M. for the pretty souvenir of their visit he had given them, which they would highly value.

Misses Richardson and Edith Hands, together with Bros. Berry, Miles, Burgess and Taylor, and Messrs. Walter Banks and Sydney Bryant, and Professor F. A. Forde, contributed their valuable services at the entertainment. The musical arrangements were under the able direction of Bro. W. R. G. Emerson.

The Strong Man Lodge may be congratulated on having achieved a great success.

Craft Masonry.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

A meeting of this lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. H. Debenham, P.G.S., W.M.; Dr. W. H. Kempster, P.M., P.G.S., as S.W.; C. Robinson, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., J.W.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G.S., Sec.; Slade, J.D.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br., D. of C.; W. Ford, Stwd.; H. J. Lardner, P.G.S., I.P.M.; R. Evenden, P.M., Tyler; Chancellor, P.M.; H. Slade, P.M.; W. H. Kempster, jun., P.M., P.G.S.; and H. Hills, J.P., P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. C. Robinson, J.W., was unanimously nominated as G. Steward for 1898-99, *vice* Bro. O. Polenz, resigned; and Bro. Slade was unanimously nominated as G. Steward for 1899-1900. Bro. C. Robinson was elected to represent the lodge as an additional Steward from No. 60 for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and the sum of five guineas was voted to his list. The resignation of Bro. O. Polenz was received and accepted. A notice of motion was given to amend one of the by-laws. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. White, S.D.; W. Thomas, P.M., I.G.; H. Barton, P.M., P.G.S.; and others. Bro. Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S., was unanimously elected Treasurer, *vice* Bro. Henry Young, P.M., P.G.S., deceased. A letter was read from the widow of the last-named, acknowledging with thanks the resolution of condolence that had been forwarded to her by the Secretary, and which communication was ordered to be entered on the minutes. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed.

"The Health of the W.M." was warmly proposed by the I.P.M., and duly responded to.

The W.M. then gave "The Grand Stewards nominate." In the course of his speech he touched upon the dignity and responsibility of the office of G. Steward. He felt confident that in the respective hands of Bros. Robinson and Slade the duties of the position would be ably carried out, and to the credit of the lodge.

This pledge was duly acknowledged by the brethren mentioned.

Bro. H. J. Lardner responded on behalf of "The Past Masters."

In proposing the toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. congratulated the lodge upon having elected Bro. Chancellor, P.M., as Treasurer, *vice* Bro. H. Young, P.M., whose untimely death every member of the lodge regretted. Bro. Young, at his death, was one of the oldest members of No. 60, and his successor at the present time occupied a similar honourable position in the lodge. He trusted that for many years Bro. Chancellor would hold the office, and he felt confident that he would receive every assistance in his labours from their worthy Secretary, Bro. Rogers.

The toast was drunk with acclamation, and Bros. Chancellor and Rogers briefly responded.

Bros. Robinson, Slade, and Ford acknowledged the toast of "The Officers."

The proceedings then terminated.

Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 2nd instant, at Cannon-street Hotel, when the following were present: Bros. William Baker, W.M.; John G. Robeson, S.W.; Thos. Stokes, J.W.; Thos. Cohu, P.M., Treas.; Hy. Legge, P.M., Sec.; A. Fergusson, S.D.; J. C. Peach, J.D.; Jas. Smith, P.M., D. of C.; A. J. Rippin, I.G.; R. F. Roche, Steward; Couchman, Tyler; F. Hughes, P.M.; Mower, P.M.; Bayley, Williams, Collins, Taylor, Meers, Lloyd, Francis, Farr, Hipwell, Cowderoy, MacLarty, Thomson, Lockett, Franklin, Fishleigh, Welch, Crawshaw, Davies, and Jones. The visitors were Bros. Richmond, 205; Wilkinson, 2361; Langley, 446; Bliss, 1320; Miller, 879; Dixon, 1706; Hogben, 784; and Brough, 1343.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed, after which Bros. MacLarty, Thomson, Meers, and Bayley were raised to the Degree of M.M. A ballot was then taken for Messrs. R. W. Jones and Tom Davies, and, proving unanimous, these gentlemen were regularly initiated. The election of W.M. for the ensuing 12 months being the next business, a ballot was taken and was most unanimous in favour of Bro. John G. Robeson, S.W. The greatly-esteemed Bro. T. Cohu, P.M., was unanimously re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. C. Couchman re-elected Tyler. Bros. Fishleigh, Lockett, and Williams were elected as members of the Audit Committee, the meeting of which was fixed for Thursday, the 16th instant. Notice of motion was given by Bro. H. Legge, P.M., Sec., that the usual Past Master's jewel be presented to the W.M., Bro. Baker, on his retiring from the chair at the end of his year of office; also that the sum of 20 guineas be voted by the lodge and placed on the list of Bro. Robeson, W.M. elect, who will represent the lodge as its Steward at the next Festival of the Girls' School. Lodge was then closed.

At the dinner table the proceedings were rendered notable by the W.M., on behalf of Bro. George Kenning, P.M., presenting the lodge with a beautifully designed cigar cabinet, which was much admired, and hearty recognition was shown by the members present of this and many other tokens of Bro. Kenning's interest in the lodge.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Garton, I.P.M., who, in his speech, bore testimony to the very excellent working of Bro. Baker during his year of office, an expression of opinion which was received with unanimous approval.

A very elaborate musical programme had been provided by the W.M., and given under the direction of Bro. Edward P. Delevanti, assisted by Madame Whitfield Rose and the Court Part Singers, which gave great satisfaction, and was much enjoyed by all present.

Hartington Lodge, No. 1035.

The anniversary festival of the above lodge and the installation of the W.M. for the ensuing year took place at the Masonic Hall, Derby, on the 1st inst., and was attended by a large number of members of the lodge, as well as by brethren from many other lodges in the province. The incoming W.M. was Bro. H. Offiler, S.W. The installation ceremony was admirably performed by Bro. Manton, and the W.M. invested his officials for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. E. Partridge, S.W.; R. W. Richards, P.P.G.O., J.W.; C. D. Hart, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; C. E. Birchthorpe, Sec.; E. T. Ann, S.D.; C. J. Shackleton, J.D.; Thomas Jordan, D. of C.; S. Neville Cox, Org.; J. W. Gandy, I.G.; J. A. Hefford, G. Nichol, A. Ottewell, and W. Village, Stwds.; and A. E. Slinn, Tyler.

Lodge of Equity, No. 1384.

The annual St. John's Festival in connection with the above lodge was held in the lodge rooms, Central Hotel, Widnes, on the 3rd inst., when a large gathering of members of the lodge and visiting brethren were present.

The lodge was opened at 3.30 p.m. by Bro. A. M'Connell, W.M., and Bro. A. E. Jarvis, the W.M. elect, was duly installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. The installation ceremony was performed by Bro. J. S. Patten, P.P.A.G.P., the second part and addresses to the several officers being given by Bro. James White, P.P.A.G.D.C. The W.M. invested the following officers: Bros. A. M'Connell, I.P.M.; C. F. Yates, S.W.; J. H. Lee, J.W.; John Goff, Treas.; T. Showen, Sec.; A. E. Calvert, S.D.; Tom Laws, J.D.; A. W. Webster, I.G.; J. Forshaw, W. R. Clark, and S. G. Davey, Stwds.; James White, P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; J. S. Patten, P.P.A.G.P., Charity Representative; G. T. Barton, Org.; and S. Welding, Tyler.

At the banquet which followed the lodge business, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to.

Bro. M'Connell was presented with a Past Master's jewel by the members of the lodge, and Bro. James White, P.P.A.G.D.C., was presented with an elaborate silver hot water jug and a pair of silver serviette rings for Mrs. White in recognition of his long services to the lodge, he having served continuously for 24 years in various offices.

Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190.

The installation meeting of this celebrated lodge was held on Tuesday at Freemasons' Hall. Bro. Harold Burke, W.M., presided, and there were also present the following brethren: Bros. E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; J. H. Matthews, Pres. Bd. Ben.; W. J. Fisher, P.M., Sec.; Harry Nicholls, P.M.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; F. West, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. Surrey; Sir J. R. Somers Vine, P.M., P.G.D.; T. A. Bullock, P.G.S.B.; Edwin Andrew, John Northcott, P.M.; C. F. Matier, P.G. Std. Br.; C. L. Carson, P.M.; E. G. Salmon, E. F. Peacock, W. H. Denny, Raymond Tucker, P.P.G.D.C. Berks; Dr. Eccles, W. H. Jessopp, P.M. 1150; S. Cohen, Oscar R. Dibb, Templer Saxe, Thos. Balls, H. Stanley Patterson, Dalgety Henderson, George Leake, Q.C. West Australia; F. H. Cheesewright, P.M. 907; Holmes Kingston, B. Van Praagh, Reginald Groome, George Campbell, Parrington Salvage, Lionel Brough, W. F. Cheesewright, G. J. Odell, Arthur Turner, P.P.G.S.W. Bucks; G. H. Charsley, P.P.G. Reg. Bucks; J. E. Bowen, D.P.G.M. Bucks; R. Bowdler-Sharpe, L.L.D.; F. Cleaves, P.P.G.D. W. Yorks; Eugene Oates, P. Dist. G.W. Burma; A. J. Cove, P.M. 1351; Ernest Cove, W.M. elect 1599; W. J. Sadler, Arthur Lewis, A. Walker, Charles Hardy, F. Bingham, W. Hogarth, R. Messum, J. Lorimer, J. Murison, S. Foxcroft, P.M. 2003; E. A. Cartwright, W.M. 2603; H. Massey, P.M. 610 and 1928; E. H. Draper, G. J. Dawson, P.M. 1853; Victor Corbould; Thomas Catling, P.M. 2127 and 2190; James Catling, P.M. 441; J. B. Boyle; Isaac Seaman; G. Beeching; C. Maude; Scott Battams, M.D.; C. D. Gill; Fred Terry; T. J. Long; Gerald Maxwell, W.M. 2127; John Griffin, W. J. Holloway, I.P.M. 1319; E. Rosenthal, P.M.; T. H. Chance; Charles Oxford, W.M. 90; H. de Mosenthal; Lloyd Wise; Herman Hendriks; Basil Tree; W. H. Pike; Dan Godfrey; W. M. Terrott; R. Maitland Collin, W.M. 2581; A. Walton, P.M. 1257; Herbert Johnson; W. R. Ingram; E. Ravenstein; J. Meredith Ball; and H. J. Drane, P.M. 2318 and 2500.

Bro. Harold Burke, W.M., first passed to the Second Degree Bro. Holmes Kingston and afterwards installed Bro. Eugene Barnett as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. The S.W. and J.W. chairs were occupied by Bros. C. L. Carson, P.M., and E. Rosenthal. Bro. Harold Burke was invested as I.P.M., and the other brethren who furnished the list of officers for the year were Bros. Charles Townley, S.W.; W. L. Barrett, J.W.; Raymond Tucker, P.M. 1899, Treas.; W. J. Fisher, P.M., Sec.; W. H. Denny, S.D.; E. E. Peacock, P.M. 1928, J.D.; R. Bowdler Sharpe, L.L.D., P.M. 2430, I.G.; H. S. Patterson, Org.; F. H. Cheesewright, P.M. 907, D. of C.; Hugh Moss, Templer Saxe, E. G. Salmon, and C. D. Gill, Stewards; and G. J. Swan, Tyler.

The sum of 10 guineas was afterwards voted to the family of a deceased former member of the lodge, after which the brethren closed down, and adjourned to Freemasons' Tavern to an excellent banquet.

The toast list which was afterwards gone through was interspersed with singing and recitation of the highest order performed by several of the following artists and artists: Miss Emma Barnett, Miss Ethel Bevans, Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Emily Foxcroft, Miss Lydia Thompson, Miss Zeffie Tilbury, Miss Kate Vaughan, Mr. Frank Barclay, Bro. F. Boyle, Bro. Lionel Brough, Bro. F. H. Cheesewright, Bro. Franklin Clive, Bro. Charles Collette, Bro. W. H. Denny, Mr. R. Courtier Dutton, Bro. Richard Green, Bro. Reginald Groome, Bro. Walter Hedgcock, Bro. J. Dalgety Henderson, Bro. William Hogarth, Bro. Lovett King, Bro. Holmes Kingston, Mr. Gilbert Lay, Bro. Harry Nicholls, Bro. E. J. Odell, Bro. H. Stanley Patterson, Mr. Henry Piercy, Bro. Henry Pyatt, Bro. John Radcliffe, Bro. Templer Saxe, Mr. Leo Stormont, Bro. Charles Townley, and Bro. Wharton Wells.

The entertainment committee were Bros. Charles Townley, F. H. Cheesewright, Templer Saxe, E. Rosenthal, and H. Stanley Patterson.

Bro. John Northcott, P.M., proposed "The M.W.G.M.," and said that his Royal Highness was so popular with every Mason that they rejoiced when he rejoiced, and mourned when he mourned. Since the last installation gathering of the Savage Club Lodge the Prince had had a very serious illness, but they were glad to say that he was now quite recovered, and able, as he always had been, to take an interest in the Craft.

Bro. Harry Nicholls, P.M., proposed "The Pro G. Master, Earl Amherst; the Dep. G. Master, the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., responded.

Bro. Harold Burke, I.P.M., in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," said that, subject to correction, he believed it had never been satisfactorily decided whether the egg or the bird was first created. There seemed to be an equal difficulty attending music, which might be described as emotion by sound, and pantomime, which might be described as emotion by action. He had given precedence to music, but he was informed that the indignant howl with which he was greeted when he first saw the light was only an announcement that another Irishman had been brought happily to the first genuine dawn of intelligence. That was distinctly pantomime. But be this as it might, the brother he had the pleasure of installing that day was the descendant of that grand old harmonious blacksmith, Tubal Cain. He remembered that on one of those evenings when Bro. Barrett was called upon to accompany a song he said he did not do it to his own satisfaction; and he added that it was miserable stuff, and execrably written. It ultimately transpired that although it was a little thing it was his own. But it was very satisfactory to the brethren. Since then, the W.M. had gained knowledge as a Mason, and he was a man of progress. If he had not been he would not have conducted the song as he did. He was sure they might depend on their present W.M. to conduct the business of the lodge in a way that they had been accustomed to expect of W.Ms. He (Bro. Burke) believed that the government of the country would not be possible but for the permanent staff. They had all known Bro. Barnett a good Mason and a good man; he had found him as a man a good fellow, and as a Mason to be regular in his attendance, and excellent in his working.

Bro. Eugene Barnett, W.M., replying, said he felt the intense pleasure and satisfaction of one who had achieved a high and legitimate ambition, and he trusted in the forthcoming season he should not prove unworthy of the honourable position to which he had attained. He must thank Bro. Burke for the eulogism he had passed on him, but he must confess that Bro. Burke appeared more Irish than the Irish; he was one of the brilliant brethren of the sister isle who had spoken of him not as a Mason but as a man, which showed that he added to the witchery of the Blarney stone by kissing it on the wrong side. He must ask the brethren to accept one thing, his sincerity as a Mason. When he was first a Mason he was very remiss in his duties to the Craft, but

he owed his enthusiasm in the Craft to Past Master Fisher. He was not aware at the time of the good Bro. Fisher was doing him. During Bro. Fisher's year of office he called a meeting of his officers for the rehearsal of the ceremonies. Some were not there and he (Bro. Barnett) being pressed into the service took the dual rôle of Deacon and candidate—a Masonic "cook"—to conduct himself round the lodge. His failings were lamentable, and this made him think, and he resolved after that moment to make himself an efficient member of the Craft. He had received his reward. He had now the pleasant task of proposing "The Health of Bro. Harold Burke, I.P.M." All those who were then present could bear witness that the ceremony of passing and the trying ceremony of installation were performed to perfection by Bro. Burke, and those who had been present during the session would always bear witness with him in saying Bro. Burke had not only done the lodge work well, but that he had presided over the brethren in a most genial and kindly way. He then presented Bro. Burke with a handsome Past Master's jewel, and said that he was speaking the feelings of the lodge when he remarked that they were happy to add that they hoped so loyal a Mason, so distinguished an artist, and so good a man, and one who carried on the traditions of his great ancestor, Edmund Burke, might have health and prosperity and a long and useful career.

Bro. Harold Burke, I.P.M., in reply, said there was an old Saxon proverb which said that all men were gentlemen but Hodge the ploughman, and when Hodge grew rich men all called him good brother. Since Edmund Burke had become famous those were only too glad who belonged to the family. He now rose with mingled feelings—of regret and of thanksgiving—feelings of regret at having left the chair of this distinguished lodge. He supposed it was right and natural that all men should consider the lodge that gave them birth pre-eminent amidst the lodges of England; but he had found in his Masonic career, and especially in this lodge that the Savage Club Lodge was held in high esteem among the lodges of England. Wherever he had been on special invitation he had always been treated as a welcome and honoured guest, not only among those great lodges which formed this lodge's allies, but also in other lodges where he had been asked as an ordinary guest. Until his name had been mentioned with the addition of "Savage Club" he was ignored, but when that lodge was named he became a great person, and his breast swelled, and he returned thanks for the visitors. His feelings of regret were not his only feelings, because every one who presided over that lodge would feel that it was a lodge of good fellows. He was only too pleased to think that that evening he had placed in the W.M.'s chair another to whom they might look forward to giving them a similar year of pleasure and enjoyment to that which they had just passed. He now came to his feelings of thanksgiving that his labours were over, and he had to look for rest and refreshment, and only to assist in the work. A Past Master had things to do which he should do to the best of his skill and ability. He felt thankful to those officers who had assisted him during his year of office. Only some of them were now present, but for all that he thanked them—the Wardens, the Deacons, and all who had done as well as they could. He would like to mention one civil officer especially—Bro. Fisher, the Secretary. To him he owed largely the lightness of the labour he had had. But the work had been mutual; he had not bothered Bro. Fisher, and Bro. Fisher had not bothered him. He remembered reading in *The Times* some years ago a letter of Acton Ayrton to his constituents, almost all in monosyllable to suit them. Bro. Fisher's letters were cleverer still—they conveyed the largest amount of information in the fewest amount of words, and the result was that no time was lost in mastering the contents, and no time had been lost in replying. He thanked the brethren for their assistance and for the Past Master's jewel, which he trusted to wear to the last hour of his life.

Bro. W. J. Fisher, P.M., Sec., proposed "The Visitors."

Bro. Gerald Maxwell, W.M. 2127, responded, and said the Savage Club contained the very cream of human kindness, and from the experience of the brethren that night, the Savage Club Lodge contained the very cream of cream of human kindness. The brethren had had placed before them the feast of reason and the flow of soul; they had seen the ancient landmarks of Masonry preserved, and as they could only be preserved among artists and good Masons, they had had a good banquet and an entertainment which could not be surpassed.

Bros. Cartwright and George Leake, Q.C., P.M. St. George's Lodge, West Australia, also replied, the latter saying that on his return he should bear an assurance that in England they regarded Australian brethren in that true Masonic spirit which the Australians so greatly desired.

Bro. Carson, P.M., replied to the toast of "The Past Masters and the Civil Officers of the Lodge," and in the course of his remarks paid a high tribute to the work of Bro. W. J. Fisher in his capacity of Secretary.

Bros. E. E. Peacock, S.D., and Dr. Bowdler-Sharpe, I.G., responded to the toast of "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast closed the agreeable proceedings.

Bisley Lodge, No. 2317.

The regular meeting of this lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Woking, on Thursday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. J. Tomlinson, W.M.; A. M. Kennett, S.W.; H. A. Whitburn, J.W.; Captain J. Hoey, P.M., Treas.; J. B. S. Lancaster, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Sec.; G. J. Wooldridge, S.D.; A. Althorp, J.D.; J. W. H. Littleboy, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; H. W. Gloster, I.G.; W. A. Shaw, I.P.M.; J. E. O'Connor, J. B. Walker, J. Colman, C. F. Waters, and A. S. Gunning. Bro. R. F. Gould, P.G.D., was a visitor.

There being no regular business, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, after which the lodge was closed, and the brethren dined together.

Royal Arch.

Urban Chapter, No. 1196.

A convocation was held in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Friday, the 3rd inst. There was a good attendance, including Comps. A. J. Turner, M.E.Z.; F. R. Farrow, P.Z., H.; W. Thwaites, J.; T. Simpson, P.S.; C. Ortnor, S.N.; G. Nelson Watts, J.P., P.Z., S.E.; R. Manuel, P.Z.; Drew Bear, P.Z.; J. Wiggins, and J. W. H. Byrne. Visitors: Comps. Alderman B. Blasby, J.P., P.Z.; Major R. Grey, P.Z.; and R. Voisey, P.Z.

Chapter was duly opened, and the minutes of the last convocation having been read and confirmed, the M.E.Z. inducted Comp. F. R. Farrow, P.Z., into the chair of H. Ballots were taken for Bros. J. Wiggins, P.M., and J. W. H. Byrne, I.G., of 1767, which proving favourable and the candidates being in attendance, they were exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The lectures were delivered by the Three Principals, and the P.S. work was rendered by Comp. C. Ortnor with equal effect.

The chapter was then closed, and the companions dined together in Freemasons' Hall.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. In giving "The Queen and Royal Arch Freemasonry," the M.E.Z. said that her Majesty had been such a wise, just, and good ruler, and such a model of all womanly virtues, that she was loved and idolised by the English-speaking people throughout the world. Her Majesty had already exceeded in length the reign of any other ruler of this empire, and it was earnestly to be hoped that the remainder of her days in this world might be full of joy and happiness, and that she might continue to practice those virtues which Royal Arch Freemasons so much admired.

The next toast was "The First Grand Principal, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and in giving it, the M.E.Z. said that the great success of Freemasonry during the past 20 years was in no small degree due to the personal interest taken in the Order by his Royal Highness, and to the zeal and enthusiasm of the other Grand Officers. Grand Chapter had recently sustained a great loss by the lamented death of the Earl of Lathom, and Freemasons throughout the world sympathised most sincerely with his bereaved family.

Comp. F. R. Farrow proposed the toast of "The M.E.Z.," and alluded to the good example he set to the companions by his excellent work in the chapter, and by the efforts he was making in every way to maintain the high position which the Urban Chapter had always held in Royal Arch Freemasonry.

The M.E.Z. thanked the companions for the flattering reception they had given to the toast, and expressed his gratitude for the encouragement and support he had

received from every companion of the chapter. He hoped he might continue to enjoy their confidence, not only while he was First Principal, but when he was numbered among the P.Zs. of the chapter.

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The Exaltees," and in doing so he gave Comps. Wiggins and Byrne a very hearty welcome into the Urban Chapter. The companions were pleased to receive such good men and Masons, and he was sure that the Exaltees were equally delighted to have the privilege of becoming members of such a distinguished chapter.

The exaltees, in responding, expressed their delight at their first experiences of Royal Arch Freemasonry. They had seen the excellent qualities of the M.E.Z. in the Kensington Lodge for many years past, and they felt great confidence in joining a chapter of which he was M.E.Z.

The toast of "The Visitors" was received with great cordiality, and Comps. Alderman Blasby, Major Grey, and R. Voisey all testified to the very enjoyable evening they had spent.

The following toasts were also duly honoured: "The H. and J.," "The P.Zs.," "The Treasurer and Scribe E.," and "The Officers." The Janitor's toast closed the list.

The pleasure of the meeting was considerably enhanced by some excellent songs sung by Comps. G. Nelson Watts, R. Manuel, R. Voisey, S. W. Thwaites, and T. Simpson.

Mark Masonry.

Langley Lodge, No. 28.

The installation meeting took place at the Masonic Temple, Cardiff, on the 2nd instant, when Bro. J. K. Fraser was installed as W.M. for the ensuing year. The ceremony was performed by Bro. T. P. Kerman, the outgoing W.M. The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. T. P. Kerman, P.P.G.M.O., I.P.M.; I. Leon, P.P.A.G. Sec., S.W.; S. Jones, P.P.G.I. of W., J.W.; F. H. Simpson, P.P.G.S.B., M.O.; F. Martin, S.O.; W. I. Vaughan, J.O.; N. D. Marks, P.M., P.G.S.B. England, Sec.; Dr. De Vere Hunt, P.A.G. Sec., S.D.; N. Hurley, J.D.; S. O. Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D. of C.; W. B. Wilks, B.A., Org.; R. Morgan, Asst. Sec.; J. M. Cadle, I.G.; O. Leon, Steward; and A. Jenkins, Tyler. Bro. Robert Lack, P.M., Prov. S.G.W. (in charge of the province), then presented Bro. T. P. Kerman, P.M., the retiring Master, with a valuable Past Master's jewel, after which the lodge was closed.

The banquet was held at the Park Hotel, under the presidency of the W.M., a large number of guests being present.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the proceedings terminated.

Cumberland Lodge, No. 60.

A meeting was held at the Masonic Temple, Fisher-street, Carlisle, on Tuesday evening, the 7th inst. Present: Bros. W. Mathews, P.J.G.D., W.M.; C. J. Nanson, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; S. Lockyer, P.M.; D. J. White, P.G. Tyler; W. Gibbings, S.W.; W. L. Thorpe, J.W.; J. G. Iredale, Treas.; J. Henderson, Sec.; R. A. Clarke, J.O.; W. R. Irving, I.G.; J. J. Skelton, J. Wilson, E. N. G. Parker, and others. Visitors: Bros. R. Saunders, P.M. 82, D.J.G.D. Madras; Thos. Atkinson, P.M. 229, P.J.G.W.; and James Gardiner, P.M. 151, P.G. Sec.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bros. Thos. Elwen, F. J. Brunt, and Eugene Wood, which proved unanimous in their favour. Bro. John Wilson was then impressively advanced to the Honourable Degree of a M.M.M. by Bro. Gardiner, Prov. G. Sec., ably assisted by Bro. Thomas Atkinson, Prov. J.G.W., as S.D., and the other officers of the lodge. It being election night, Bro. Gibbings, S.W., was elected W.M., and Bro. Iredale was again re-elected Treasurer for the ensuing year. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Mathews, the retiring W.M., for his services during the past year. Bro. Nanson, P.M., proposed and Bro. Gibbings, S.W., W.M. elect, seconded, "That Bros. Gardiner and Atkinson become honorary members of the lodge for this and their past services to this lodge." This was carried unanimously. Bros. Gardiner and Atkinson suitably replied. The lodge was then closed.

This meeting was marked by all the features which characterise a successful lodge, a popular incoming W.M. and the best of fraternal feeling prevailing throughout the whole of the proceedings.

Wycombe Lodge, No. 480.

The installation meeting of this prosperous lodge was held on Tuesday, the 7th instant, at the Masonic Hall, High Wycombe. Present: Bros. C. Bating, W.M.; Joseph J. Simcox, S.W., W.M. elect; J. T. Rees, J.W.; Bliss, P.M., Sec.; F. Johncock, P.M.; R. Nicholson, P.M. 257; and many others.

The minutes of the last lodge having been read and confirmed, the balance-sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £14 19s., was received and adopted. Bro. J. J. Simcox was duly installed into the chair of the retiring W.M., Bro. C. Bating. Bro. Simcox then appointed his officers as follows: Bros. C. Bating, Prov. G.M.O., I.P.M.; J. T. Rees, P.P.G.S., S.W.; H. Hambling, J.W.; H. Flint, M.O.; J. C. Coppock, Prov. G.I. of W., S.O.; J. Williams, Prov. A.G.D.C., J.O.; J. Bliss, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Sec.; Rev. C. E. Roberts, Prov. G. Chap., as Chap.; G. T. James, P.M., Prov. J.G.W., D. of C.; F. Johncock, P.M., P.P.S.G.O., as Org.; J. Bowden, Treas.; Bradshaw, S.D.; H. H. Sherwin, J.D.; A. Ball, I.G.; Roberts, Steward; and J. N. Hodgkinson, Tyler. The W.M. then presented a handsome Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M., Bro. Bating, as a mark of esteem from the brethren, for which Bro. Bating feelingly and suitably responded.

Letters of apology were read from Bro. the Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Prov. G.M., and several other brethren regretting their inability to be present.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren dined together, and the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The jewel was manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, of Little Britain, E.C.

Instruction.

STAR CHAPTER, No. 1275.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., at the Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E. Present: Comps. C. Plant, M.E.Z.; Wm. Hy. Growse, H.; Wm. Dawson, J.; Thomas Grummant, P.Z., Preceptor; C. H. Stone, P.Z., Scribe E.; J. H. Cureton, P.Z., Scribe N.; Stone, P.S.; Garner, Hardwick, and Cass.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. The ceremony of exaltation was rehearsed, Comp. Hardwick personating the candidate. Comp. Wm. Hy. Growse, H. 1297, was elected a member. The chapter was placed at the disposal of the M.E.Z. of the Stendale Bennett Chapter for to-day (Friday). The chapter was closed.

BRONDESBURY LODGE, No. 2698.

A meeting was held on Monday, the 6th inst., at the Earl Derby, High-road, Kilburn. Present: Bros. A. R. Greaves, W.M.; C. J. Greaves, S.W.; Hy. Goodwin, J.W.; A. F. Hardymont, Preceptor; R. J. Campbell, P.M., Treas.; Harry Willsmer, Sec.; W. G. Coxen, S.D.; J. Buck, J.D.; T. G. Palmer, I.G.; A. F. Horstead, Org.; Marks, Leavers, Bore, Pearce, Smith, Turner, Geo. Coxen, G. D. Fraser, Hawdon, and Wynam.

The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. F. Hawdon acting as candidate. Bro. S. A. Marks being a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree was examined and submitted. The lodge being opened in the Third Degree, the ceremony of raising was

rehearsed, Bro. Marks acting as candidate. The W.M. delivered the traditional history. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Bro. A. R. Greaves for the admirable manner in which he had carried out the duties of W.M. and the rehearsal of the Second and Third Degrees for the first time in this lodge of instruction. This was well deserved, for our brother was initiated as March last in the mother lodge by the W.M. (his uncle), Bro. R. J. Campbell, P.M., P.Z. Bro. C. G. Greaves was elected W.M. for the 20th inst., the 13th being the occasion of the first annual supper.

Obituary.

BRO. WALTER FERGUS, S.D. 659.

It is with sincere regret we have to record the death of Bro. Walter Fergus, S.D. of the Blagdon Lodge, Blyth. The deceased brother was in his usual state of good health about five hours before his death, he having been suddenly seized with an illness, which, in despite of all medical aid, terminated fatally. The circumstances attending the lamentable death of Bro. Fergus are most painful. In his last moments of consciousness he wished to bid a last farewell to all his friends and acquaintances. The late Bro. Fergus was a most hard-working and enthusiastic Mason, and since his initiation into the Blagdon Lodge he has gradually risen, until at the time of his death he held the office of Senior Deacon. He was held in much esteem by the brethren. In the Blagdon Royal Arch Chapter he was a most ardent worker, and held the office of Scribe Namoi at the time of his death. In the town of Blyth he was very much respected, and his sudden demise has caused great regret. The late Bro. Fergus held the management for the Grosvenor Photo Company at Blyth, and his photos were greatly admired. The Masonic ball, under the auspices of the Blagdon Lodge, which was advertised to come off on the 8th instant, has been postponed until Easter, owing to the death of Bro. Fergus, who was Secretary of the Committee. Bro. Fergus was a frequent visitor to lodges in the north of England, and his death—under such sudden and sad circumstances—has caused great regret. The deceased was a native of Glasgow.

On Monday, the 6th instant, the remains of our late brother were interred in Cowper Cemetery in the presence of a large concourse of brethren and others. Part of the burial ceremony was gone through in the Waterloo-road Presbyterian Church, and was choral, the "Dead March" being played on the organ. The members of the Blagdon Lodge, No. 659, headed the procession; then followed the hearse, which contained the coffin, which was covered with flowers, wreaths, and immortelles. Then came the mourning coaches, which contained the father, brother, and friends and acquaintances of the deceased. The service at the grave was performed by the Rev. P. Peace, M.A.; after which the Masonic ceremony was gone through, Dr. Dykes' impressive and solemn hymn, "Days and moments quickly flying," being sung by the brethren; after which each brother filed past the open grave, dropping a sprig of acacia on the top of the coffin. Amongst the brethren present were the following: Bros. A. A. Askwith, W.M.; L. Carr, P.M.; John Tweedy, P.M.; W. Robson, P.M.; C. H. Keay, P.M.; R. Robinson, P.M. (Quebec); W. Charlton, P.M.; N. Arveshnoo, A. A. Windle, R. L. Manners, W. P. Straker, John Fawcett, Thos. Usher, E. Brooks, J. B. Bilton, Jas. Thompson, W. Wood, J. G. Archbold, D. Wilson, A. M. Carswell, R. Nicholson, Hugh Reid, G. Fay, C. Heddon, Jas. J. Gibson, Robert Nicholson, and others.

BRO. HENRY GLENN, P.M., TREAS. 19.

We regret having to announce the death on the 1st instant, after a long and weary illness, of Bro. Henry Glenn, P.M., Treasurer of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, aged 57. He was known by many members of the Craft as "Charity Glenn," on account of the fervent interest he always took in support of the Masonic Charities; his last act in this respect being to make his son a Vice-President of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. The absence of his familiar face and open-hearted fellowship must for a long time to come leave a sense of vacancy, not only among the members of his own lodge, whose affections he held unanimously, but amongst a larger circle of Masons, relations, and friends. He was initiated in the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, in 1872, installed W.M. in 1883, and made Treasurer in 1891. He was ever an active and respected member of the lodge. The funeral, which was of a most impressive character, took place at Highgate Cemetery, on Saturday, the 4th instant, the chief mourners being his son George, his two brothers, John and J. B. Barber; his son-in-law, R. J. Tickle; his brother-in-law, J. G. R. Sharer; Bros. Japheth Tickle, P.P.G. Treas. Middx., and C. E. Birch, P.P.G.D. Kent, and P.P.G.W. Herts.; Dr. Keeley, Harold Craske, W. Brooks, and John Pugh. Amongst the many members of his lodge who followed were the W.M., Bro. W. Stacey; the W.M. elect, Bro. J. H. Merrett; J. Dix, P.M.; Wm. Pound, P.M.; C. Barnes, P.M., Sec.; Geo. Corderoy, P.M.; A. Wormull, P.M.; H. Posten, P.M.; A. Digby-Green, P.M., Treas. elect; Milton Smith, P.M.; and C. R. Cassberg, I.P.M. Of the junior members there were Bros. M. Pulverman, J. W. Barnes, D. Paterson, and R. H. Cassberg. A number of his employees also followed.

BRO. LIEUT.-COL. WILLIAM NEWTON, DEP. P.G.M. NOTTS.

Bro. Lieut.-Col. William Newton, Dep. P.G.M. Notts, who died at Newark on the 6th instant, was a solicitor, and was well-known in the Midlands, as he held many offices. He was a County Coroner, Registrar of the County Court, Clerk to the Guardians, Clerk to the Magistrates, &c. His last public appearance was at a Masonic ball at Nottingham a few weeks ago. He went home unwell, and his condition soon became critical. He was an officer in the Volunteers, and was 69 years of age.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE BRO. H. MUGGERIDGE, P.M., P.Z.

The remains of our late Bro. Muggeridge were interred at Abney Park Cemetery on Saturday, the 28th ult., at 12.30, in his family grave. The Rev. Chas. Lee-Dunham officiated, both at the service, which was held at the residence of the deceased, No. 103, Tottenham-road, Southgate-road, N., and at the graveside. The principal mourners were his four daughters, the Misses Eliza, Elizabeth, and Kezia Muggeridge, and Mrs. Alfred Sack; his son-in-law, Bro. Alfred Sack, P.M. and Treas. 1679; and Mr. C. A. Sack, his grandson. A deputation attended from the Henry Muggeridge Lodge, viz., Bros. W. Boyce, P.M. and Sec.; S. G. Sowton, I.P.M.; Geo. Clark, P.M.; W. J. Woodthorpe, P.M.; J. Sibley, P.M.; W. J. Hall, P.M.; and others; Bros. Fenshaw Anderson, P.M. Panmure and Neptune Lodges, and Preceptor of the Stability Lodge of Instruction; Henry Birdseye, P.M. Panmure Lodge; F. H. D. Copestick, P.M.; Jos. Corbett, P.M. and Sec. Neptune Lodge; F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; Henry Sadler, G. Tyler; D. Wittee, P.M.; E. C. Dyer, and a number of other brethren. His relatives and friends were Mr. R. A. Ellis and Mr. E. Ellis, of Fenchurch-street; Mrs. C. Sack, Miss Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Ward; Mrs. H. Birdseye, Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Sibley, Mr. Jos. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Hide, Mrs. Holland, Mr. Jas. Fielder, Mr. Albert Ward, Mrs. Witte, Miss Lee, Mr. Vicarey, and others. The wreaths were very numerous and beautiful. The brethren threw sprigs of acacia on the head of the coffin, and many were the expressions of respect, attachment, and admiration for the Masonic and private career of the departed one.

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, February 13, 1899.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

- CRAFT LODGES.**
 5, St. George's and Corner Stone, Freemasons' Hall.
 20, St. Alban's, Albion Tavern.
 58, Felicity, Prince's Restaurant.
 59, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
 103, Confidence, Anderton's Hotel.
 103, Leigh, Freemasons' Hall.
 105, St. Marylebone, Criterion.
 107, Adelphi, Freemasons' Hall.
 178, Ubiqne, Criterion.
 201, Chiswick, Criterion.
 204, Elthorne and Middlesex, Cafe Royal.
 239, Galen, Freemasons' Hall.
 244, Guildhall School of Music, Holborn Restaurant.
 256, Royal Rose, Head-quarters 3rd V.B. Royal Fusiliers Hampstead-road.
 261, London School Board, Hotel Cecil.
 263, Byfield, Great Eastern Hotel.
- ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.**
 22, Mount Zion, Guildhall Tavern.
 72, Panmure, Horns Tavern.
 80, Whittington, Anderton's Hotel.
- MARK LODGES.**
 104, Macdonald, Mark Masons' Hall.
 224, Mennatshim, Criterion.
- KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**
 149, Studholme, 33, Golden-square.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

- Supreme Council, 33, 33, Golden-square.
- CRAFT LODGES.**
 96, Burlington, Albion Tavern.
 130, St. James' Union, Freemasons' Hall.
 198, Percy, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 211, St. Michael's, Albion Tavern.
 228, United Strength, Guildhall Tavern.
 235, Nine Muses, Grand Hotel.
 781, Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse.
 834, Ranelagh, Criterion.
 917, Cosmopolitan, Cannon-street Hotel.
 933, Doric, Anderton's Hotel.
 1100, Urban, Freemasons' Hall.
 1269, Stanhope, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 1571, Leopold, Bridge House Hotel.
 1593, Royal Naval College, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
 1604, Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.
 1614, Covent Garden, Criterion.
 1635, Canterbury, 33, Golden-square.
 1668, Samson, Cafe Royal.
 1693, Kingsland, Holborn Restaurant.
 1709, Clarendon, Guildhall Tavern.
 1891, St. Ambrose, St. James's Restaurant.
 1909, Waldeck, Freemasons' Hall.
 2127, Drury Lane, Theatre Royal.
 2127, Hampden, Hampden House, St. Pancras.
 2546, Ralere, Frascati Restaurant.
 2622, Beach, Horns Assembly Rooms.
- ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.**
 101, Temple, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 145, Prudent Brethren, Freemasons' Hall.
 172, Old Concord, Holborn Restaurant.
 185, Jerusalem, Frascati Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15.

- General Committee of Grand Lodge, and Board of Benevolence, at 5 precisely.
 Supreme Council, 33, 33, Golden-square.
- CRAFT LODGES.**
 7, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, Albion Tavern.
 140, St. George's, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
 169, Temperance, Tower Bridge Hotel.
 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern.
 190, Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
 909, Maybury, Inns of Court Hotel.
 1044, Wandsworth, Municipal Buildings, Lavender-hill.
 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.
 1349, Friars, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 1382, Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town.
 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel.
 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 1624, Eccleston, Criterion.
 1673, Welcome, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
 1677, Crusaders, Holborn Restaurant.
 1681, Londesborough, Cafe Royal.
 2266, Cator, Public Hall, Beckenham.
 2272, Rye, Peckham Public Hall.
 2345, Duke of Fife, Alexandra Hotel, Clapham Common.
 2349, Lombardian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 2391, Cricklewood, Frascati Restaurant.
 2409, Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest-gate.
 2589, Borough, Bridge House Hotel.
- ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.**
 554, Yarborough, London Tavern.
 1658, Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 1706, St. Leonard, Great Eastern Hotel.
 2499, Willesden, Freemasons' Hall.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

- House Committee Girls' School at 4.30.
- CRAFT LODGES.**
 6, Friendship, Criterion.
 23, Globe, Freemasons' Hall.
 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tavern.
 55, Constitutional, Cannon-street Hotel.
 63, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hotel.
 181, Unive-sal, Albion Tavern.
 657, Canonbury, Holborn Restaurant.
 733, Westbourne, Holborn Restaurant.
 1287, Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall.
 1320, Blackheath, Bridge House Hotel.
 1475, Peckham, Surrey Masonic Hall.
 1598, Ley Spring, Anderton's Hotel.
 1613, Cripplegate, Albion Tavern.

1716, All Saints', Office of the Board of Works, Poplar.
 1901, Selwyn, Montpelier Hotel, Peckham.
 2551, Clissold, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street.

- ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.**
 9, British, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 73, Mount Lebanon, Cannon-street Hotel.
 79, Pythagorean, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
 507, United Pilgrims, Freemasons' Hall.
 1383, Friends in Council, 33, Golden-square.
 1085, Guelph, Red Lion Hotel, Leytonstone.
- MARK LODGES.**
 Bon Accord, Criterion.
 7, Carnarvon, Cafe Royal.
 357, Chiswick, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

- Board of Management Boys' School, at 2.30.
- CRAFT LODGES.**
 143, Middlesex, Albion Tavern.
 975, Rose of Denmark, The Horns, Kennington.
 1902, London Rifle Brigade, Anderton's Hotel.
 2157, St. Mark's College, Holborn Restaurant.
 2340, Warrant Officers, Freemasons' Hall.
 2716, Milland and Oxford Bar, Cafe Royal.
 2721, Light, Holborn Restaurant.

- ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.**
 10, Westminster and Keystone, Freemasons' Hall.
 1538, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Guildhall Tavern.
 1591, Studholme, Cafe Royal.

- MARK LODGE.**
 251, Mount Moriah, Mark Masons' Hall.
- ROSE CROSS.**
 3, Mount Calvary, 33, Golden-square.
- SECRET MONITOR.**
 9, Zacharie, Holborn Restaurant.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

- CRAFT LODGES.**
 715, Panmure, Cannon-street Hotel.
 1139, South Norwood, The Pavilion.
 1364, Earl of Zetland, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
 1641, Crichton, Frascati Restaurant.
 1732, King's Cross, Anderton's Hotel.
 2153, Sir Walter St. John, Holborn Restaurant.

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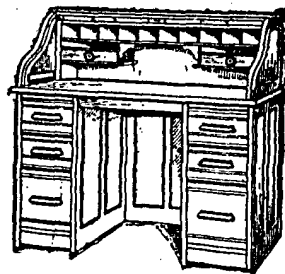
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Masonic and General Tidings.

The *Morning Advertiser*, in a lengthy review, thus speaks of the Grand Registrar's work on Northumbrian Masonry and the development of the Craft in England: "A highly instructive and interesting volume. The author's long connection with Masonry, especially in the Masonic province, and the high official position he enjoys, have given him great advantages for undertaking a historical work of this description, and he has made the best use of these for the production of one which should be of real value to the historic interests of the Craft. The whole volume is most interesting."

BRO. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF PORTLAND are staying at the Cap Martin Hotel for a few weeks.

THE STATE APARTMENTS of Windsor Castle will be closed after Saturday next, the 11th instant, until further orders.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF DERBY have come to their residence, St. James's-square, S.W., from Knowsley Hall.

BRO. THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF WHARNcliffe arrived in Curzon-street on Saturday last from Wortley Hall, Sheffield.

BRO. LORD AND LADY PIRBRIGHT have arrived in Grosvenor-place from Pirbright for the opening of Parliament. They will remain in town until Easter.

ACCORDING TO present arrangements, her Majesty is expected to return to Windsor Castle on Tuesday, the 14th inst., upon the conclusion of her winter visit to the Isle of Wight.

BRO. HORACE BROOKS MARSHALL, M.A., C.C., will preside at the Memorial Hall on Tuesday, the 21st instant, at the annual meeting of the News-vendors' Benevolent and Provident Institution.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, as Grand Master of Mark Masons, has appointed Sir Edward Hill, K.C.B., M.P., to be Provincial Grand Master of Mark Master Masons for South Wales.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES and the Duke of York were unable to be present at the debate in the House of Lords on Tuesday afternoon, owing to the death of H.R.H. the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

IRISH INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION.—The Queen and T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales have again given their patronage to the combined national sale of Irish peasant work to be held on St. Patrick's Day and the day following.

THE SPEAKER of the House of Commons, Bro. W. C. Gully, Q.C., will give his usual full-dress Parliamentary dinners to the members of the Government on the 22nd instant, and to the Opposition on the 1st prox. Mrs. Gully will hold a reception after each dinner.

BRO. THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE has presented the living of Keighley to the Rev. Henry John Palmer, M.A., the vicar of Christ Church, Cockermouth. Mr. Palmer was married two years ago to Miss M. Chapman, the daughter of Bro. W. S. Chapman, of Aldersgate-street.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING completed his 61st year on Monday, having been born on February 6, 1838, and his countless friends in all parts of the world will be glad to hear that he has now quite recovered from his recent illness, is in excellent health, and almost ready to appear again before the public, who regret to have been deprived so long of his services.

THE HONORARY SECRETARIES of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London have received a very generous subscription of £1000 from Lord Mount-Stephen, with a letter stating that it is his lordship's intention to contribute the like sum annually. This is the second yearly subscription of £1000 from private donors, the first, from the Hon. W. Waldorf Astor, having been continued since the commencement of the fund.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL MAXWELL has made an interesting addition to the collection of Omdurman relics which are now on view at the Museum of the Royal United Service Institution, in Whitehall. This consists of a finely-constructed coat of chain armour, worn by one of the Dervish leaders on the battlefield, and of which several specimens have already reached London. That the public have evinced a remarkable interest in these relics may be gathered from the fact that since they were first exhibited, at the end of November, no fewer than 15,000 visitors have passed the turnstiles.

TUESDAY NIGHT'S Court Circular says: "A new very grievous loss has again befallen the Queen and Royal Family. Her Majesty received on Monday evening, with the deepest grief, the sad news of the death of her dear grandson, the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg, only son of the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg. The young Prince was in his 25th year, and had been very unwell for some weeks past. He became suddenly much worse in the night on the 5th to 6th, and passed away peacefully on Monday afternoon, at 4.20 o'clock, at Meran, whither he had gone for his health only two days after the silver wedding of his parents. This sad event is a terrible blow to the bereaved parents, who are in the deepest affliction."

IN CONSEQUENCE of the death of the young and lamented Prince Alfred of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Queen Victoria's grandson, her Majesty has postponed the opening of the Children's Wing of the Isle of Wight Infirmary at Ryde, which was to have taken place on Wednesday, with simple but stately ceremonial, and all the arrangements have been cancelled for the time being. The new wing is the practical and useful form in which the loyal inhabitants of the island decided to commemorate her Majesty's Jubilee, and a sum of over £4000 was raised for the purpose of erecting the building. Her Majesty has graciously intimated that she hopes to perform the ceremony when the Court is again in residence at Osborne, probably on a date in July.

FOLLOWING ON THE full-dress dinner given by Bro. the Duke of Devonshire as Lord President of the Council on Monday, and on similar dinners given by other Ministers and prominent politicians to their supporters in both Houses, the Duchess of Devonshire held a reception. The Blue Hungarian Band played at the base of the winding marble stairway, at the top of which stood the hostess. The magnificent reception rooms were thronged, among the company present being Bro. the Duke of Fife in uniform, wearing the green ribbon of the Thistle; Lord Rowton, the Duke and Duchess of Somerset, Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord and Lady Tweedmouth, Lady Victoria Innes-Ker, Earl Spencer, Bro. Earl Carrington, the Chinese Ambassador, the Danish Minister, the Persian Minister, the Swedish Minister, the Portuguese Minister, the Brazilian Minister, the Marchioness of Londonderry, Mr. Wentworth Beaumont, M.P.; Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P., accompanied Miss Alice Stanley, &c., &c., &c.

LONG'S HOTEL has just changed hands, having passed into the possession of Bro. G. P. Bertini, who so successfully equipped and opened the Hotel Cecil.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Bros. Captain Holford and Sir F. Knollys, arrived at Marlborough House on Monday from Sandringham.

BRO. ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR has appointed the Rev. Bryant Salmon to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, vacated by the promotion of the Rev. S. Buss.

A COURT BALL in Berlin which was to have taken place on Tuesday night was countermanded by the German Emperor on account of the death of the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, Minister of War, and Bro. the Marquis of Tweeddale, were among the guests who dined with Bro. the Duke of Devonshire, at Devonshire House, on Monday night.

THE FIRST ANNUAL BANQUET AND CONCERT (ladies' night) of the Alfred Newton Lodge, No. 2686, takes place to-night at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, Bro. Alderman A. J. Newton, W.M., presiding.

LAST NIGHT the Old Masonians' Association held their annual concert at Anderton's Hotel in aid of the Benevolent and Grant Fund, which was formed some years ago to assist, when necessary, Old Boys of the R.M.I.B.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK, accompanied by their children, and attended by Lady Katherine Coke and Sir Charles Cust, arrived in London on Monday afternoon, from York Cottage, Sandringham.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE.—The Marchioness of Granby will unveil the panel "The Fire of London," painted by Mr. Stanhope Forbes, A.R.A., and contributed by the Sun Fire Office, at the Royal Exchange on the 16th inst.

RANGEMORE HALL, Bro. Lord Burton's place in Staffordshire, is about to be rebuilt. It is expected that the work will extend over two years, and during that time Lord and Lady Burton will reside at Needwood House, Burton-on-Trent.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY and the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., are both expected to make speeches at the annual dinner of the Institution of Civil Engineers, which is to be held in Lincoln's Inn Hall on the 15th prox.

THE REPAIRS to Swale Bridge, which connects the Isle of Sheppey with the mainland of Kent, were completed on Thursday, and Sheerness and the Isle of Sheppey, after being isolated for five days, were again brought into railway communication with London.

BY COMMAND of her Majesty the Queen, who is patron of the Up-Country Nursing Association for Europeans in India, Sir Fleetwood Edwards has forwarded to the Hon. Mrs. Neville Lyttelton, Honorary Treasurer, a donation of £30 to the funds of the association.

HER MAJESTY has been petitioned to nominate some member of the Royal Family to attend the Welsh National Eisteddfod at Cardiff in July, as a representative of the Crown. The Marquis of Bute has placed Cardiff Castle at the disposal of the Mayor for the entertainment of Royalty.

THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN has been authorised to state that, in consequence of the death of his Royal Highness the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, her Majesty's Drawing Room, announced for Friday, the 24th instant, will not take place. Notice will be given, as soon as possible, of future Court arrangements.

IT HAS now been decided that the Queen will leave Windsor Castle for the Riviera on Thursday, March 9th. Her Majesty will vary the usual route, and on quitting the Royal Burgh will proceed over the South-Western Railway to the Metropolis, and thence along the South-Eastern line to Folkestone. After crossing to Calais the Queen travels in her own saloon carriage to Nice.

COUNTESS GROSVENOR distributed on Wednesday evening the prizes gained by the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers at the headquarters of the battalion, James's-street, Buckingham-gate, in the presence of a very large company, which included the Marquis of Lorne, M.P., Bro. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, General Sir George White, V.C., and Lady White, Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, Major-General Trotter (Commanding the Home District), &c., &c., &c.

PROFESSOR HORATIO PARKER, head of the Yale University Music Department, has, according to our New York correspondent, been informed that his latest oratorio, "Hora Novissima," has been chosen as the composition to be produced at the Musical Festival of Worcester, Gloucester and Hereford, to be held at Worcester. The conductor of the festival, writing to Professor Parker, says this is the first time an important American musical composition has been produced in England.

IN REPLY to a message of condolence in the name of the citizens of London to the Grand Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha on the death of their son, the Lord Mayor (Bro. Sir J. V. Moore) has received the following telegram from the Grand Duke: "Meran, Wednesday Morning.—Am deeply touched by your lordship's kind telegram, and express my sincerest thanks to you and the citizens of London for sympathy with me in my intense sorrow.—(Signed) ALFRED."

THE CHAPTER HOUSE at St. Paul's was crowded after the four o'clock service on Thursday with the friends who had gathered to do honour to the Dean by the presentation to him on his 80th birthday of the fine and characteristic picture painted of him by Sir William Richmond. The proceedings were as simple and informal as they were hearty, the presentation being made through Canon Scott Holland, mounted on a chair. The Dean gallantly mounted another chair, and returned thanks in his own warm-hearted fashion. The Bishop of London and others who were unable to be present wrote letters to express regret.

THE LEVEE announced to be held by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on behalf of her Majesty on the 27th inst. will not take, but the Duke of York will hold two levees on behalf of the Queen on March 6th and 14th. Drawing Rooms will be held at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, March 1st, and on Friday, March 3rd next, under the ordinary regulations. Ladies whose names are on the list for presentation on the 24th inst. will be received on March 1st, for which date the presentation cards already forwarded will be available. The Court will be in mourning on both occasions, and ladies must appear in half mourning according to the published notice.

RESPECTING the Court mourning for the lamented Prince Alfred of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, grandson of the Queen, a special supplement to the "London Gazette" contains an announcement from the Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace, prolonging the present mourning for the late Princess of Bulgaria, which would have terminated on Monday next, the 13th inst., until Thursday, March 9th next, the Queen having been pleased to command that the Court shall be in mourning for four weeks from Thursday, the 9th inst., for his late Royal Highness the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Prince Alfred of Great Britain and Ireland, K.G., grandson of her Majesty the Queen.

COUNTY

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