

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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THE PROVINCE OF N. AND E. YORKSHIRE.

As will be seen from the report of the proceedings at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of this Province, which appears in another column, Freemasonry in the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire fully maintains the position it has held for many many years. Other Provinces there are under the Grand Lodge of England in which Freemasonry has advanced by leaps and bounds, but here, as becomes the district in which is located the first legendary home of our Masonic Craft, there has been, both in earlier and more recent times, an ample muster of lodges, several of which—still prosperously carrying on their appointed duties—were contemporary with the famous, but, unfortunately, defunct, Grand Lodge of all England at York. Even at the commencement of the memorable year (1875) which witnessed the installation of our present M.W. Grand Master, his Royal Highness the Prince of WALES, N. and E. Yorkshire could boast an array of 22 lodges, or as nearly as possible, two-thirds of the present total of 34 lodges, and of these 22 there are seven which have received Centenary Warrants, and to whose subscribing members has been accorded the privilege of wearing the Centenary Jewel. There is still another remarkable feature about North and East Yorkshire, that since 1817, when Yorkshire, previously a single Province, was sub-divided, it has always had a member of the DUNDAS family to preside over it as Prov. G. Master—LAWRENCE DUNDAS, subsequently first Earl of ZETLAND, having so presided from 1817 to 1839; THOMAS, second Earl of ZETLAND—M.W.G.M. 1843 to 1870—from 1834 to 1874; and LAWRENCE, third Earl and first Marquis of ZETLAND, from the latter year till the present time. There are, then, good and sufficient reasons why the Province, though it may be surpassed by many others in the length of their lodge rolls and the aggregate of their subscribing members, should always be a stronghold of Masonry, and exert an influence even beyond its mere numerical strength among the Provinces which hold under Grand Lodge; but none the less is it gratifying to find that the zeal and activity which have always characterised the brethren of the North and East Ridings should remain as prominent as ever.

There are, as we have said, 34 lodges at present on the roll of the Province, and, according to the returns sent in at the recent annual meeting, the number of subscribing members is

2405, which gives an average of slightly more than 70 per lodge. Financially, too, the Province is well circumstanced, while, as regards its Educational Fund, to which we refer at some length in our Notes, let it suffice to state here that during the year to 30th June last it made grants to 25 children, and that during the 10 years it has been established, it has not only paid its way year by year; but has, at the same time, been able to accumulate not far short of £3400, the whole of which, with the exception of some £170, has been advantageously invested. As for the place at and the circumstances under which the meeting was held, the *locale* was Guisbrough, where no such gathering has previously taken place, while the town was chosen as a mark of respect to the Zetland Lodge, No. 561, on completing the first half-century of its existence, that lodge having been constituted in 1849, under a warrant granted by the then Grand Master, THOMAS, Earl of Zetland, uncle of the present Provincial Grand Master, who heartily congratulated the lodge on the good fortune which had attended its proceedings, and expressed his cordial good wishes for its continued prosperity. His lordship also took the opportunity of addressing a few words of wholesome advice to the brethren on the necessity they were under of exercising the greatest caution in admitting candidates to the mysteries and privileges of our ancient and honourable Society. "High moral character," said his lordship, "liberal education, and competent means are requisities indispensable to all men who seek admission to our ranks." Let the brethren everywhere throughout the Provinces and in London ponder well this wise counsel and Freemasonry will have still greater reason to be proud of its members.

SCOTTISH MASONIC BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION IN INDIA.

A general meeting of the Subscribers of this Association was held at the new Freemasons' Hall, Bombay, under the presidency of Bro. K. R. CAMA, on Friday, the 19th May last, when the Report of the Managing Committee for the year ending the 30th November last was submitted, adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated together with a list of subscribers. But while the Report in question shows a considerable improvement on that of the previous year—and the Secretary has courteously provided us with copies of both reports—there can be little doubt as to the Association being less generously supported than it deserves. There are, it seems, three Funds associated together, the largest and most important of the three being the one whose designation we have adopted as the title of this article. The other two may be very briefly dismissed, as neither of them was the recipient of a donation during the years which closed on the 30th November, 1897, and 30th November, 1898, respectively, while the only expenditure in respect of one of them was between two or three Rupees for bank charges. The "Morland Memorial Fund" so named to commemorate the services of the late Capt. Sir HENRY MORLAND, who for some years was M.W.G. Master of All Scottish Freemasonry in India, is the possessor of Masonic Hall Debentures to the amount of 2900 Rupees, which with a small cash balance constitute the sum total of its assets. The "Framjee Dinshaw Petit Fund," established in honour of one of the most prominent Scottish Freemasons in India, had, on the 30th November last, assets amounting in round figures to 1954 Rupees, of which 1500 Rupees are invested, and the rest is in the Bank of Bombay.

As regards the Benevolent Association proper, which is on a larger scale than either of the two Funds we have just referred to, the total Receipts for the year to 30th November, 1897, including a balance of over 3615 Rupees brought forward from the previous account, was 6438 Rupees, while the expenditure reached a total of 1764 Rupees and upwards, the balance remaining towards the ensuing year being over 4673 Rupees. But, on looking into the items of receipt, irrespective of the balance brought forward, we find a very serious falling off in the Donations and Subscriptions, the amount received under this head being 1146 Rupees, or less by 298 Rupees than in the preceding year; while, on comparing the amount with that received in 1894, the diminution is not far short of 2000 Rupees. So, too, with the amount collected by the lodges from their members, the sum thus received from six lodges in 1897 being only 112 Rupees, as compared with 1082 Rupees collected in 1893 from 13 lodges. We are not surprised that the Committee in their report should describe this as "a very serious matter," and express their regret that the appeal they addressed to the brethren in their report for the year to 30th November, 1896, had "not met with the response which was anticipated, and which it deserved." On the other hand, the sum expended on annuitants was 840 Rupees, and for the education of children, 860 Rupees, or together 1700 Rupees, out of a total of 2764 Rupees expended, the number of annuitants being the same as in the preceding year, namely, seven, while the number of children on the Fund was 10, as compared with six in 1896. Under these circumstances, the Committee make an urgent appeal for further support, pointing out, on the one hand, that the benefits conferred by the Association would have to be curtailed in the event of their appeal not being responded to; and, on the other hand, that increased support would not be a very difficult matter if the claims of the Association were brought more prominently to the notice of the brethren by the Masters of lodges and the rulers of other Masonic bodies. At the close of the year, the Association possessed in invested capital and cash in bank assets amounting to 23,873 Rupees, the assets of the three Associated Funds reaching a total of 28,515 Rupees. The effects of this appeal appears to have been so far satisfactory, that during the year ending 30th November last the Donations and Subscriptions reached 1842 Rupees, or nearly 700 Rupees more, the year's income, made up of this sum with the half percentages from lodges and interest, being 3267 Rupees, as against 2823 Rupees the preceding year, and the difference would have been greater still but that the interest brought to account in 1897 was for a period of 18 months, and in 1898 for 12 months. The expenditure during 1898 reached 2364 Rupees, of which 840 was disbursed in annuities—as in 1897—and 1330 for education and maintenance, the remainder having been spent on bank charges, and for printing, postage, and other contingencies. The assets of the Fund amounted at the close of the account to 27,622 Rupees—in which was included, however, a loan of 3000 Rupees from Grand Lodge and the Fund of Benevolence—while those of the three Associated Funds were 32,495 Rupees, which, leaving the 3000 Rupees loan out of the reckoning, shows an improvement of between 900 and 1000 Rupees. But, notwithstanding this, the Committee are not less urgent in their appeal for still further support, pointing out that the amount available under the laws of the Association for the expenses of the current year "falls short of the amount required to pay the Education Fees and Annuities." We sincerely trust that this appeal will be favourably received, so that the Association may be able to continue, and even extend, the good work which it has been doing for several years past.

SUPREME GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, when there were present

Comps. Lieut.-Col. R. Townley Caldwell, M.A., G. Superintendent Cambridge, acting as G.Z.; Col. John W. Woodall, P.G. Treas., as G.H.; Baron de Ferrieres, P.A.G. Soj., as G.J.; W. Lake, Asst. G.S.E., as G.S.E.; W. Gardiner, G.S.N.; Sir George D. Harris, President of the Committee of General Purposes; E. Beaumont, Dep. G. Reg.; Admiral William Sinclair, a

G.P.S.; George Cowell, as 1st A.G.S.; W. Smithett, 2nd A.G.S.; George Parky, as 2nd A.G.S.; John Walford, 1st G. Std. Br.; James W. Burgess, 2nd G. Std. Br.; W. Cleghorn, 3rd G. Std. Br.; Henry Wright, 6th G. Std. Br.; Frank Richardson, P.A.G.S., G.D.C.; J. Boulton, A.G.D.C.; W. Henry Thomas, G. Org.; Wm. Fisher, A.G.D.C.; Charles J. R. Tijou, 4th A.G.D.C.; W. G. Kentish, P.G. Std. Br.; Lewis Lazarus, P.A.G.D.C.; A. C. Spaul, P.D.G.D.C.; George Graveley, P.A.G.D.C.; Henry A. Tobias, P.G. Std. Br.; C. D. Hoblyn, P.G. Std. Br.; Lieut.-Col. and Sheriff Probyn, Walter Ebbetts, P.G. Std. Br.; T. B. Purchas, P.G.S.B.; S. Vallentine, P.A.G.D.C.; E. Luxmoore Marshall, Charles E. Keyser, P.G.S.B.; G. H. Newington Bridges, P.G. Std. Br.; Wm. Vincent, P.A.G.D.C.; T. Paultney Griffin, W. J. Mason, P.G.S.B.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; J. M. McLeod, P.G. Std. Br., Sec. R.M.I.B.; J. Leach Barrett, P.G.S.B.; Henry Lovegrove, P.G. Std. Br.; J. R. Clipperton, P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.; J. D. Langton, P.G. Std. Br.; Reginald St. A. Roumieu, P.G.S.B.; Howard H. Room, P.A.G.D.C.; Robert Gresley Hall, P.G.S.B.; Richard Eve, P.G. Treas.; Ralph Clutton, P.A.G.S.; Edgar Goble, P.G. Std. Br.; J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.S.B.; William Cowper, P.A.G.S.; George C. Kent, P.G. Std. Br.; Gordon Smith, P.G.S.B.; Harry Tipper, P.A. G.D.C.; E. M. Money, P.G. Std. Br.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.O.C.; A. J. R. Trendell, P.G. Std. Br.; Charles Belton, P.G. Std. Br.; Herbert J. Adams, P.D.G.D.C.; Perceval A. Nairne, P.G. Std. Br.; J. H. Matthews, P.G.D.C.; W. B. Fendick, P.G.S.B.; Henry R. Rose, P.G. Org.; Peter de L. Long, P.G. P.S.; T. H. Gardiner, P.G.S.B.; Dr. F. Lawrance, W. Martin, P.A.G.D.C.; Lennox Browne, P.G.S.B.; H. J. P. Dumas, P.G.S.B.; H. Sadler, G. Janitor; H. E. Francis, P.Z. 1149; M. Spiegel, W. Woodiwiss, P.Z. 834, P.Z. 265, M.E.Z. 408, P.P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, P.P.G. Std. Br. W. Yorks; H. Massey, P.Z. 619 and 1928; George Whitaker, J. 408; Charles Kempton, P.Z. 753; James Irvine, P.Z. 862; William Dodd, P.Z. 1194; J. Pickett, P.Z. 2410; John Songhurst, P.Z. 7; John J. White, J. 2005; J. H. Cleave, P.Z. 2030, M.E.Z. 2096; H. Thomson Lyon, J. 1789; L. V. Duren Anley, P.Z. 1201; R. C. Davis, P.Z. 1216; J. C. Osterstock, P.Z. 1185; W. H. Toye, P.Z. 554; William John Hewett, P.Z. 1185; Adam Berry, and G. S. Recknell.

After Grand Chapter had been opened and the minutes read and confirmed,

Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, G.D.C., said that the alterations in R.A. Regulations as to the collars and decorations to be worn by companions which had been arrived at by the May convocation, had been submitted to the M.E.G.Z. for his approval, and it was expected that the assent of his Royal Highness would be received before he left London.

On the motion of Comp. Sir G. D. HARRIS, seconded by Comp. FRANK RICHARDSON, the Report of the Committee of General Purposes was taken as read, ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, and a charter was granted to Comps. John Christian Osterstock as Z., John James White as H., William John Hewett as J., and 10 others for a chapter to be attached to the Cator Lodge, No. 2266, Beckenham, to be called the Cator Chapter, and to meet at the Holborn Restaurant, London.

Permission was also given to remove the Urmston Chapter, No. 1730, Stretford, Lancashire, from the Longford Coffee House, to the Club Assembly Rooms, 20, King-street; and to the James Terry Chapter, No. 2372, Waltham Cross, Herts, to remove from the Four Swans Hotel to the Falcon Hotel.

Grand Chapter was then closed in ancient and solemn form.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF ESSEX.

INTERESTING PRESENTATION TO THE EARL OF WARWICK.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 26th ult., at Tilbury, under the presidency of the P.G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick and Brooke, Deputy Grand Master. The arrangements for the meeting were made by the members of the Tilbury Lodge, No. 2006, who spared no expense or trouble to render it a success. By the kindness of the Dock Company one of their spacious examining sheds was placed at the disposal of the brethren for a lodge-room, and handsomely decorated, and when between 200 and 300 brethren were assembled therein, wearing the insignia of the Order, the spectacle was a most brilliant one.

The Earl of Warwick reached Tilbury by special train at two o'clock, and was received at the station by Bro. Plumer C. Walker, W.M. of the Tilbury Lodge, who was accompanied by Bros. Dudgeon and Bruton, Treasurer and Secretary, and Bro. Ralling, Prov. G. Sec., and by these brethren his lordship was conducted to the Tilbury Hotel close by. This hotel is charmingly situated in a pretty garden on the banks of the Thames opposite Gravesend, and the weather being delightfully fine and the tide at the full, nothing was wanting to complete the enjoyment of the visitors.

At three o'clock the Earl of Warwick, accompanied by a brilliant array of Grand and Prov. Grand Officers, entered the Prov. Grand Lodge, and the business of the day commenced.

The minutes of the last annual meeting, held at Brentwood, having been confirmed,

Bro. RICHARD CLOWES, P.G. Std. Br. (who, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. Col. Lockwood, M.P., acted as Deputy P.G.M.), rose, and said before they proceeded any further he had been asked to do something which he was sure would meet with the hearty approval of all present. It would be fresh in their minds that since Provincial Grand Lodge last met, his Royal Highness the Grand Master had conferred upon the Earl of Warwick the distinguished position of Deputy Grand Master of England—(hear, hear, and applause)—and the Prov. Board of General Purposes had, most wisely, he thought, come to the conclusion that that meeting should not pass without some recognition by the province of their intense satisfaction at that appointment, and of their devotion to the earl, who had so ably presided over them for the past 16 years. (Applause.) The appointment of Lord Warwick as D.G.M. had been hailed with satisfaction all over England, but nowhere more so than in his own county of Essex—(applause)—the members of which trusted his lordship might long be spared to fill both positions. Bro. Clowes then read the address (which was handsomely illuminated in album form by Bro. George Kenning, of Great Queen-street, and bore the Warwick Arms on the title page) as follows:

ANCIENT FRATERNITY OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PROVINCE OF ESSEX.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick and Brooke, Deputy Grand Master of England, Provincial Grand Master of Essex.

The brethren of the Province of Essex, over whom you have ruled so wisely and well for the past 16 years, desire to take this, the first opportunity they have had, of warmly congratulating your lordship upon the distinction lately conferred upon you by H.R.H. the Grand Master, in appointing you Deputy Grand Master of England.

They feel sure that in this high position your lordship will bring to bear that strong sense of duty, perfect tact, and unfailing courtesy which have endeared you to the brethren of your province and has conduced to make it one of the Masonic strongholds of the country.

That T.G.A.O.T.U. may long bless and preserve your lordship is the earnest prayer of every brother of the Province of Essex.

Signed on behalf of 2200 brethren of Essex,

M. LOCKWOOD, Col. P.G.D.,

D. Prov. G.M.

THOS. J. RALLING, P.A.G.D.C.,

Prov. G. Sec.

Tilbury, July 26, 1899.

The reading of the address was received with hearty applause, which was again renewed when

The Earl of WARWICK rose to acknowledge the presentation. His lordship assured the brethren that until the moment the address was read to him he had not the slightest idea that such a step was to be taken on that occasion. It, however, came with additional force from the fact that for some years they had treated his shortcomings with the greatest leniency, and he had always received the greatest kindness, cordiality, and loyalty from all the brethren in his province. (Loud applause.) He had had no idea, either, previously, that the Grand Master was going to confer upon him the dignity he had in Masonry. He (the Provincial Grand Master) had realised very fully the onerous duties attached to the position, and he only hoped that he would be able to discharge those duties to the satisfaction of his Royal Highness and the brethren generally. He asked them to rest assured that so long as he occupied the position of Provincial Grand Master he would have the interests of the Province of Essex most particularly at heart. He would value that address, so kindly worded, as a memento of one of the most pleasurable positions he could hold, and in the years to come those who succeeded him would value it as one of the most treasured heirlooms in his historic home. (Loud applause.)

The Prov. G. Sec. then announced that communications of regret at their inability to attend had been received from Bros. Earl Amherst, Pro G.M.; the Earl of Onslow, P.G.M. Surrey; Lord George Hamilton, M.P., P.G.M. Middx.; the Earl of Stradbroke, S.G.W.; T. F. Halsey, M.P., P.G.M. Herts; Hamon le Strange, P.G.M. Norfolk; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Sir Francis Boileau, D.P.G.M. Norfolk; J. S. Eastes, D.P.G.M. Kent; G. E. Lake, D.P.G.M. Herts; his Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.W.; Matthew Clark, P.G.D.; James M. Small, P.G. Sec. Middx.; Chas. T. Tyler, P.G. Sec. Surrey; Alfred Spencer, P.G. Sec. Kent; G. W. G. Barnard, P.G. Sec. Norfolk; E. C. Wills, P.P.G.W.; Harris Hills, P.P.G.W.; A. J. H. Ward, P.P.G.W.; Millner Jutsum, P.P.G.R.; W. E. Facey, P.G.D.; James Speller, P.P.G.D.; C. Bullock, P.G. Sec. Herts; A. G. Hayman, P.P.G.D.; Mark Gentry, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; and others.

The roll of lodges was then called by the Prov. G. Sec., and all the 44 comprising the province were found to be represented.

Bro. JOHN J. C. TURNER, P.P.S.G.W., moved the adoption of the report of the Board of General Purposes. This report, after alluding with satisfaction to the appointment of Lord Warwick to be Dep. Grand Master of England, proceeded as follows: "The growth of the province is exemplified by the fact that since the last meeting of Prov. G. Lodge no less than five lodges have been added to the roll, making the number 44. One of these lodges bears the name of our greatly loved brother, Albert Lucking, and the Board are sure the brethren will feel that the formation of this lodge is a fitting tribute to the 25 years' ungrudging work of Bro. Lucking as Prov. G.D. of C. During the year there have been 178 initiations, compared with 155 last year; and 134 joining members, compared with 64 last year. There have been 81 resignations, against 64 last year; the losses by death have been 36; whilst 19 brethren have been struck off the books of their respective lodges, leaving the present strength of the province 2297 members, against 2089 last year. The number of members returned as 'In arrear' is 160, which is a slight increase over last year. The losses by death include the names of several brethren who have done good suit and service to the province, but the Board feel that special mention should be made of the loss of Bro. Francis A. White, P.M. 1437, P.P.G.R., who for many years has taken an active interest in the work of the province, particularly as regards the Charities, and for some time has acted as one of the Representatives of the Charity Committee at the elections. The Board are gratified to report that another Essex boy—viz., Herbert Wallace Roberts—has shown such ability and good conduct at the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, that the Board of Management have resolved to retain him beyond his ordinary term for the purpose of higher education. It is interesting to note that the father of this boy was the Chaplain who officiated as one of the Consecrating Officers at the formation of the Tilbury Lodge. The Board recommend that the portrait in next year's Calendar should be that of Bro. George Corble, P.M. and Sec. 453, P.P.J.G.W."

Amongst the grants recommended by the Board were £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £10 10s. to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and £5 5s. to the Tilbury Cottage Hospital.

The motion for the adoption of the report having been seconded by Bro. W. SHURMUR, P.G. Std. Br., it was unanimously carried.

The report of the Charity Committee was read by the PROV. G. SECRETARY, who also proposed its adoption, as follows: The work of the Charity Committee during the year just closed has been very heavy, no less than 11,564 votes having passed through the hands of our representatives. There have been eight candidates—three girls, two boys, two widows, and one brother, of whom the Committee have secured the election of five, viz., one girl, two boys, one widow, and one brother. The Committee desire to thank the brethren of the province for their loyal support during the past year, and would urge upon them the need of a continuance of that support. There are two girls and one widow still to be elected, and it will require

every vote to secure that end. The indebtedness of the province has been considerably reduced. The Committee have to deplore the loss of one of their most active colleagues—Bro. Francis White—who, till his health gave way, rendered very valuable assistance at the elections. The support given by the province to the three Charities has been again most liberal. Eight Stewards supported the Old People with a total of £450; there were 14 at the Girls' Festival, who brought up between them £660; whilst at the Boys' Festival there were seven Stewards, whose lists totalled to £242—the total for the year having been £1225.

The motion for the adoption of the report having been seconded by Bro. H. E. DEHANE, P.P.G.D., it was unanimously adopted.

The PROV. GRAND MASTER then addressed the brethren. Having referred with regret to the absence of Col. Lockwood, which was occasioned by urgent public business, his lordship remarked that the past year had been one of great Masonic activity in the province, no less than five new lodges having been added to their roll. They might rest assured that he had not taken upon himself the responsibility of recommending these lodges to the favourable consideration of the Grand Master without anxious consideration and a full conviction that those lodges would prove a source of strength to their province. (Hear, hear.) As regarded one of those lodges, he quite concurred in the report of the Board of General Purposes in the satisfaction they expressed that the services of their good friend, Bro. Lucking, had been so fitly recognised by the formation of a lodge bearing his name. (Applause.) He was gratified to find that, notwithstanding the great efforts made by the province to support the Boys' School last year—when over £4000 was subscribed—the contributions this year to the three great Masonic Charities had amounted in the aggregate to £1225—(applause)—and he must say he felt great pride when, on the occasion of the Girls' Festival, at which he was present, it was announced that Essex took the lead of the provincial lists. (Applause.) He thought all good Masons would agree with him in the satisfaction he felt that the Grand Lodge had put its foot down so decidedly in reference to the growing desire of Masons to appear in public in their Masonic clothing. (Hear, hear, and applause.) He felt quite sure that the more these occasions were limited the better it was for their Order. (Hear, hear.) Having expressed regret that there was a contest that day for the election of P.G. Treasurer, and a hope that in future an endeavour would be made to agree upon a candidate beforehand, so that he could be elected by a unanimous vote, his lordship referred to one or two Masonic matters, and concluded by repeating the pride he felt in presiding over the Province of Essex. (Applause.)

The next business was the election of four members of the Board of General Purposes, but as only the requisite number had been proposed, his lordship declared them duly elected as follows: Bros. W. Ernest Dring, P.M. 2318, P.P.S.G.W.; W. D. Merritt, P.M. 1003, P.P.S.G.W.; J. H. Salter, P.M. 2442, G.D., P.P.J.G.W.; and John J. C. Turner, P.M. 51, P.P.S.G.W.

A ballot was taken for the election of Prov. G. Treasurer, the result of which was as follows: Bro. T. P. Trounce, I.P.M. 423, 116 votes; and Bro. C. J. Smith, P.M. 2504, 48 votes.

The PROV. G. MASTER thereupon declared Bro. Trounce to be duly elected. Owing to a severe domestic bereavement Bro. Trounce was not present for investiture.

The Prov. G. Master then appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. Plumer C. Walker, W.M. 2006	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Walter, S. Bunting, W.M. 2318	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" the Rev. A. R. T. Eales, M.A., Chap. 1437	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" the Rev. W. H. Tozer, Chap. 2005	...	
" Egerton J. Glyn, W.M. 2561	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Thos. J. Ralling, P.M. and Sec. 51 (23rd year)	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" P.A.G.D.C. Eng.	...	
" J. W. Moss, I.P.M. 2342	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" James Berry, I.P.M. 1817	...	
" G. H. Nichols, I.P.M. 276	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" R. G. Hennings, P.M. 2508	...	
" G. S. Daunton, P.M. 2255	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" A. Lucking, P.M. 160 (26th year), P.G.P. Eng.	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" H. A. Jager, P.M. 453...	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" G. F. Wright, P.M. 51...	...	
" William C. Grice, P.M. 650	...	Prov. A.G.Ds. of C.
" S. C. Kauffmann, I.P.M. 2374	...	
" H. Barrow, P.M. 2442	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" W. J. Barnes, W.M. 2501	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" John Spencer, I.P.M. 1437	...	
" C. E. Judd, P.M. 1734...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. G. Mackenzie, I.P.M. 1543	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" W. Elam, W.M. 1000	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" A. J. Bennett, W.M. 1977	...	Prov. Asst. G. Purst.
" A. J. Constable, P.M. 2006	...	
" E. Ayres, P.M. 1343	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" W. Leghorn, W.M. 2734	...	
" Frank Evans, W.M. 2749	...	
" James Graham, S.W. 2750	...	
" J. T. Dormer, W.M. 2757	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" A. W. Martin	...	

Bro. P. C. Walker, Prov. S.G.W., was elected a member of the Charity Committee in the place of the brother retiring by rotation.

Bro. RICHARD CLOWES, acting Dep. Prov. G.M., proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the members of the Tilbury Lodge for the excellent arrangements they had made for the meeting; to the London and Tilbury and Southend Railway Company for the facilities they had given in the way of special trains; and to the Dock Company for the use of their premises.

The motion, having been duly seconded, was carried by acclamation, and suitably acknowledged by the W.M. of the Tilbury Lodge.

The Earl of Warwick having announced that the meeting for next year would be held at Clacton-on-Sea, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

Upwards of 200 brethren afterwards dined together at the Tilbury Hotel, and in the course of the post prandial proceedings, Lord WARWICK expressed the hope that at no very distant time he might welcome his Essex brethren at Warwick Castle, and his lordship added that he felt sure if each brother brought a lady that Lady Warwick would be most pleased to see them. It is needless to say that the invitation was received with the heartiest applause.

It should be added that during the afternoon and evening the fine band of the Scots Guards, by permission of Col. Fludyer and officers, played a charming selection of music on the lawn, and that between the toasts a high-class entertainment, managed by Bro. A. J. Brickwell, S.W. 2506, was given by Bros. Herbert Emlyn, Harrison Brockbank, and Charles Collette.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MIDDLESEX.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. Grand Lodge was held at the Parish Hall, Teddington, on Saturday, the 22nd instant, when only formal business was transacted, the usual banquet having been abandoned owing to the recent death of the D.P.G.M., Bro. Raymond H. Thrupp, P.A.G. D.C. The brethren were, moreover, deprived of the pleasure of seeing the Prov. G.M. preside, Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., unfortunately, being unable to attend owing to indisposition. The chair was taken by Bro. Douglas G. H. Gordon, J.P., Prov. S.G.W., who was supported by Bros. Guy Repton, P.P.G.W., as Prov. S.G.W.; Salusbury Williams, Prov. J.G.W.; J. Tickle, P.P.G.R., as Dep. Prov. G.M.; G. R. Langley, P.P.G.D., as Prov. G.S.B.; J. Laurence, P.P.G.D.C., as Prov. G.D.C.; W. Fisher, P.P.G.T., as Prov. G. Purst.; James M. Small, Prov. G. Sec.; H. Wharton Wells, Prov. G. Org.; A. Blenkarn, P.P.G. Treas.; R. Bartley Denniss, P.P.G.W.; John Read, P.G.S.B.; R. Biddulph Martin, M.P., Prov. G. Stwd.; Lieut.-Col. C. E. Leyden, W. W. Lee, Asst. Prov. G. Sec.; and many others.

Prov. Grand Lodge was opened, and the PROV. G. SECRETARY explained the circumstances under which Bro. Douglas Gordon was occupying the chair of Prov. G. Master.

The minutes were confirmed, and the Audit Committee's Report showing a satisfactory balance, was, on the motion of Bro. J. TICKLE, seconded by Bro. BARTLEY DENNISS, unanimously adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded Bro. T. L. Green, Prov. G. Treas., for his services.

Bros. Douglas Gordon, Salusbury Williams, and H. P. Hay were unanimously elected members of the Audit Committee.

Bro. G. R. LANGLEY, P.P.G.D., nominated Bro. Geo. Wm. Castle, Castle, P.M. 2381, for election as Prov. G. Treasurer, and there being no other candidates, he was declared duly elected.

The Prov. S.G.W. in the chair, on behalf of the R.W. Prov. G. Master, invested the following brethren as Prov. G. Officers:

Bro. R. Biddulph Martin, M.P.	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Lieut.-Col. C. E. Leyden	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" H. Mills, M.A.	...	Prov. G Chap.
" E. J. Castle, O.C.	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" G. W. Castle	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" J. M. Small (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" R. C. Leversedge	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" C. Fruen	...	
" Joseph Cox	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" W. Fox Warner	...	
" H. J. Weston	...	Prov. G.S. of W.
" H. Woodley	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" E. E. Redman	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" David Moss	...	Prov. A.G.D.Cs.
" E. W. Davis	...	
" W. T. Dillon	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. G. Miller	...	
" H. J. Bond	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" S. C. Fisk	...	
" R. Dunstan, Mus. Doc.	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. (re-appointed)	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" G. J. Tagg	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" W. Hopkins	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Bagot Read	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" A. W. Gerrard	...	
" W. W. Mansfield	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" C. L. Nelson	...	
" S. Hulsey	...	
" R. E. H. Fisher	...	
" J. Gilbert	...	

A sum of 15 guineas was voted to each of the three Masonic Institutions, and 10 guineas to the Vicar of Teddington for local Charities.

Thanks were accorded to the Royal Hanover Lodge, and especially to Bro. R. W. Forge for his valuable assistance in the arrangements for the day.

Bro. DOUGLAS GORDON, P.P.G.W., then referred to the great loss the province had sustained during the past year by the deaths of many distinguished Masons. They had lost Bros. C. J. Veal and T. I. Bird, and recently Bro. R. H. Thrupp, the Dep. Prov. G. Master. The latter was well known throughout the Craft, and a profound feeling of sorrow was in the hearts of every brother in the province. Personally he had known Bro. Thrupp from the commencement of his (Bro. Gordon's) Masonic life. He first regarded Bro. Thrupp with awe, which changed into respect, and, finally, firm friendship and affection. It would be the wish of every brother present that they should record their deep sympathy with the relatives of Bro. Thrupp, and their sense of the loss the province had sustained by his death.

Bro. Dr. GARSON, P.P.G.W., formally moved a resolution expressing these sentiments, which was carried, every brother showing his assent by silently standing in his place.

A letter was read from the Prov. G. Sec. of Surrey, containing a similar resolution passed at the Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey on the previous day.

A telegram was dispatched to the Prov. G.M. expressing the hope that he would be speedily restored to health, and the Prov. G. Sec. subsequently received a reply tendering sincere thanks for this mark of friendship.

The PROV. G. SEC. having expressed his personal thanks to the Asst. G. Sec., Bro. Lee, for his co-operation and assistance during the past year, the Provincial Grand Lodge was closed.

As the brethren dispersed, Bro. Wharton Wells, P.P.G. Org., played the Dead March in "Saul."

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE.

The annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the Temperance Hall, Guisbrough, on the invitation of the Zetland Lodge, No. 561, on Wednesday, the 12th ult. The Most Hon. the Marquess of Zetland, Prov. G.M., presided, and was supported by the Right Hon. Lord Bolton, P.G.W. Eng., Dep. P.G.M., and the following Provincial Grand Officers, namely:

Bros. Chas. Herbert Backhouse, Prov. S.G.W.; James Melrose, Prov. J.G.W.; J. H. Handyside, P.M. 543, P.G.D. Eng., M. C. Peck, P.M. 2494, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.G. Sec., W. H. Cowper, P.M. 662, P.G. Std. Eng., John Stevenson, P.M. 312, Andrew Farmer, P.M. 1848, Mark Scott, P.M. 566, J. A. Manners, P.M. 602, W. Tesseymann, P.M. 57, Major J. A. Barstow, P.M. 236, Wm. H. Rose, P.M. 660, W. J. Williams, M.D., P.M. 1848, James S. Moss, P.M. 312, Wm. Richardson, P.M. 561, and T. B. Redfearn, P.M. 1511, P.A.G. Sec., Past Prov. G.Ws.; Rev. Evelyn W. Drage, M.A., 1244, and Rev. Albert Smith, M.A., 1618, Prov. G. Chaps.; Rev. W. T. Robson, M.A., P.M. 543, Rev. J. W. Dales, M.A., P.M. 1848, and E. Fox-Thomas, P.M. 312, Past Prov. G. Chaps.; Arthur Jones, P.M. 236, Prov. G. Treas.; J. Vernon Cooper, P.M. 1848, Wm. J. Watson, P.M. 602, R. R. Hawley, P.M. 250, Robt. W. White, P.M. 312, and W. Lowther Carrick, P.M. 543, Past Prov. G. Regs.; Martin J. Martensen, P.M. 57, Prov. S.G.D.; C. E. Morton, P.M. 602, Prov. J.G.D.; H. Longford, M.D., P.M. 1416, Wm. A. Hutchence, P.M. 543, J. W. Tindell, P.M. 1605, James Wildbore, P.M. 57, J. Winterschladen, P.M. 1848, and Thomas Bell, P.M. 1248, Past Prov. G.Ds.; Geo. Taylor, P.M. 1618, and Thomson Foley, P.M. 294, Past Prov. G. Supts. of Works; Jno. Geo. Wallis, P.M. 1511, Prov. G.D.C.; A. J. Taylor, P.M. 660, G. H. Walshaw, P.M. 200, and Geo. J. Robinson, P.M. 1337, Past Prov. G.D.Cs.; Robt. McBean, P.M. 643, Prov. A.G.D.C.; R. Clarkson, P.M. 561, and George W. Tindall, P.M. 2586, P.P.A.G.D.Cs.; Jas. C. Heselton, P.M. 294, Prov. G.S.B.; D. W. Dixon, P.M. 1618, John Mackail, P.M. 2134, and W. Holloway, P.M. 602, Past Prov. G.S.Bs.; Newton Walker, P.M. 1244, and Geo. Petch, P.M. 1605, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; Geo. Leigh, P.M. 2134, Stephen W. Close, P.M. 123, James Buckle, P.M. 660, and Thomas Varty, P.M. 561, Past Prov. G. Std. Brs.; W. Hepper, 236, acting Prov. G. Org.; Jas. Boyce, 200, Prov. Asst. G. Purst.; David Young, P.M. 1991, Thos. Dickinson, P.M. 1618, Geo. Hood, P.M. 1244, and W. T. Harrison, P.M. 561, Past Prov. G. Pursts.; H. Davis, 57, S. Begg, 123, Albert Hopper, 200, T. T. Douglas, 2391, E. W. Davis, 2586, and H. Wilmot, 2610, Prov. G. Stwds.; and Chas. Travess, P.M. 1428, Prov. G. Tyler. Visitors: Bros. J. Holt, P.P.G.D., W. Hodgson, P.P.G.D., and C. T. Johnson, P.G.D.C. Durham; the W.Ms., P.Ms., Wardens, and many brethren of the various lodges in the province.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened in due form, the P.G.D.C. called upon the brethren to salute the Prov. G.M. and Dep. Prov. G.M. with grand honours. The Past Grand Officers of England were also saluted.

The minutes of the last Prov. Grand Lodge, held at York, on 14th July, 1898, were taken as read and confirmed.

Letters of apology for absence were received from Bros. J. W. Woodall, P.G.T. Eng., P.P.G.W.; T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.P.G.W.; J. S. Cumberland, P.D.G.S.B. Eng., P.P.G.W.; J. Sykes Rymer, C. M. Forbes, H. L. Swift, G. Wilkinson, J. T. Belk, W. Ascough, P.P.G.W.; Revs. H. Greeves, E. A. B. Pitman, W. G. Chilman, and C. E. L. Wright, P.P.G. Chaps.; Silvester Reed, P.P.G.T.; J. Bilson, P.G. Reg.; C. Waistell, G. Bohn, and E. Corris, P.P.G. Regs.; Col. H. F. Pudsey, J. T. Seller, W. Draper, R. W. Leadbeater, C. Gray, J. Edgar, H. C. Clarke, and J. H. Shouksmith, P.P.G.Ds.; C. H. Fletcher and C. Palliser, P.P.G. Supts. of Works; G. Potter Kirby, P.P.G.D.C.; H. J. Morton, Jos. Knaggs, W. N. Cheesman, J. G. Loam, C. Tweedy, M.D., W. S. Meek, and R. Dobson, P.P.A.G.D.Cs.; R. E. Webb and T. M. Goldie, P.P.G. S.Bs.; J. Major Wilson, P.P.G. Std. Brs.; C. G. Padel, P. Gaskell, and Henry Hill, P.P.G. Orgs.; J. W. Dow, P.G.P.; H. J. Oldroyd, W.M. 57; J. E. Walker, P.M. 250; S. Ridge, W.M. 660; C. Nicholson, W.M. 734; W. Ross, P.M. 1040; E. Wickens, W.M. 1605; J. Barton, P.M. 1605; W. Sykes, W.M. 1611; T. H. Dunn, P.M. 1760; and the Hon. W. A. Orde-Powlett, W.M. 2610.

The annual balance sheet having been audited and found correct, was unanimously adopted.

The P.G. Sec. read the annual report of the Board of Benevolence, which was unanimously confirmed.

Bro. ARTHUR JONES, P.G.T., proposed the election of Bro. Chas. Judge, P.M. 1010, as Prov. G. Treasurer, which was seconded by Bro. GEO. LEIGH, P.P.G. Std. Br. Bro. W. RICHARDSON, P.P.G.W., proposed the election of Bro. Thos. Scott, P.M. 561, which was seconded by Bro. D. W. DIXON, P.P.G.S.B. On a vote being taken, Bro. Thos. Scott was duly elected.

Two representatives of Prov. G. Lodge on the Charities' Association, Bros. Wm. Lawton, P.P.G. Reg., and Andrew Farmer, P.P.G.W., were unanimously re-elected.

Bro. THOMAS MORRILL, P.M. 57, proposed the re-election of Bros. E. Corris, P.P.G. Reg., and J. E. Walker, P.M. 250, as Auditors, which was seconded by Bro. JAS. BUCKE, P.P.G. Std. Br., and carried.

Under By-law 21, the following five members of Prov. G. Lodge were elected to serve on the Provincial Board of General Purposes, viz.:—Bros. T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B. Eng., P.P.G.W.; W. H. Rose, P.P.G.W.; W. J. Watson, P.P.G. Reg.; J. Sykes Rymer, P.P.G. Reg.; and H. Toozes, P.P.G.D., being proposed by Bro. W. A. HUTCHENCE, P.P.G.D., and seconded by Bro. JAS. S. MOSS, P.P.G.W.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY then read an official communication from the Grand Secretary referring to the action of the Grand Lodge of Peru, which had reversed its former action respecting the removal of the Volume of the Sacred Law from the altars of all lodges under its jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge of England welcomed the return of the Grand Lodge of Peru and the lodges holding thereunder to its place amongst those Supreme Masonic bodies which acknowledge a belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. and the presence in lodges of His Sacred Law as essential landmarks of the Craft, and ordered that such be recognised by English Masons as true and lawful Masonic lodges.

The various lodges in the province, all of which were represented, then communicated. The returns showed a total of 2405 subscribing members.

The Prov. G. Master then appointed and invested the following Prov. G. Officers for the ensuing year, and also invested the Prov. G. Treasurer, who had been elected by the Prov. G. Lodge:

Bro. the Right Hon. Viscount Raincliffe, P.M. 1248 Prov. S.G.W.
" Sir Henry Beresford-Peirse, Bart., P.M. 2610 Prov. J.G.W.

Bro. the Rev. J. Allan Pride, D.D., 734	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" the Rev. Robt. J. C. Parker, M.A., 566	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" Thos. Morrill, P.M. 57...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" M. C. Peck, P.G. Std. Br. Eng., P.P.G.W., P.M. 2494	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Jno. T. Towler, P.M. 250	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Fras. R. Hansell, P.M. 1416	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" Jno. L. Spetch, P.M. 1611	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" Wm. Bramley, P.M. 561	...	Prov. Dep. G.D.C.
" C. E. Bradley, P.M. 1760	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" Jno. Geo. Wallis, P.M. 1511	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" John Glen, M.D., P.M. 1848	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Alfred Spring, P.M. 2134	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" Robt. Murray, P.M. 123	...	Prov. G. Org.
" W. H. Johnson, P.M. 2391	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Robert Forster, P.M. 2586	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Thos. B. Redfearn, P.M. 1511, P.P.G.W.	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Wm. Hepper, 236	...	
" Geo. Bradley, P.M. 543	...	
" Burton Newbald, 312	...	
" Chas. Travess, P.M. 1428	...	

The newly-appointed Prov. G. Officers were then saluted with grand honours.

Six Prov. G. Stewards to be nominated by the York, Minerva, Constitutional, Lion, Cleveland, and Zetland Lodges.

The PROV. G. MASTER delivered the following address: Worshipful brethren, this being the first time on which Prov. G. Lodge has been held at Guisbrough, it is with much pleasure that we congratulate the brethren of the Zetland Lodge upon the auspicious occasion of the celebration of their jubilee. The lodge was founded in 1849, and then bore the number 821, which was changed in 1863 to number 561. The brethren first assembled at the Cock Hotel in the Market Place, and removed to the Masonic Hall in 1874. The career of the lodge has been (like its surroundings) tranquil and peaceful, and the 50 years have glided by like a flowing river, undisturbed by storm and tempest. And now, brethren, I feel that it is fitting to take advantage of the opportunity of our annual meeting to make a few observations upon the Institution of which we are proud to be members. I fear we do not all realise the importance of Freemasonry and the position it ought to occupy in our lives and actions. Freemasonry is not a mere social club or friendly association, but a vast system of philosophy, capable of expansion to any extent, and whose ramifications encircle the civilised world. Its basis is so broad, and its principles so excellent, that if fully carried out by its followers the Craft would prove of infinite value to the whole human race. Be it our duty to extend our Masonic influence to those worthy to receive it, so that when a man is known to be a Mason we may feel that he has no ordinary claim upon our friendship and consideration. In addressing an assembly of the W.Ms. and most earnest members of the Craft in my province, I would fraternally direct attention to the position in which Freemasonry stands at the present era. It cannot be doubted that our Order has made wonderful progress during the last few years, and it remains for those who are solicitous for the welfare of the Institution to use their utmost endeavours to promote the best interests of the Craft. We must carefully guard against the introduction of undesirable candidates, and make more difficult the entrance to our lodges. Freemasonry was never intended for all mankind, but only for those whose abilities, education, and character enable them to appreciate its beauties, and contribute to its usefulness. High moral character, liberal education, and competent means are requisites indispensable to all men who seek admission to our ranks. If these requirements were carefully observed by the members of lodges in the selection of candidates we should not be confronted (as is frequently the case) with sad petitions from unfortunate widows, whose late husbands had incautiously been admitted into an Order for which their means and position rendered them quite unsuitable. I forbear to say more upon this subject, but earnestly commend it to your serious attention. The brethren of the Alexandra Lodge, No. 1511, at Hornsea, having determined to erect a new Masonic Hall, I have undertaken to lay the foundation stone on Friday, the 28th inst., and request the assistance of the new Prov. G. Officers in the due performance of this the great ceremonial of our Order, to which the members of the province are cordially invited. I must express my most hearty thanks, and those of Prov. G. Lodge, to the W.M. and brethren of the Zetland Lodge for their kindness and hospitality, and express a hope that the future of the lodge may be as happy and successful as in the half-century now past.

Invitations for next year's meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge may be sent to the Prov. G. Secretary, and will receive due consideration.

Bro. W. RICHARDSON, W.M. 561, P.P.G.W., in acknowledging the thanks expressed by the Prov. Grand Master, eulogised his lodge, and observed that it was not given to every lodge to have one of its seven founders, who met at the Cock Hotel 50 years ago, present at its jubilee. Such, however, was the case that day, for Bro. J. H. Handyside, P.P.G.W., P.G.D.Eng., whom all the brethren respected and esteemed, was with them that day, and they trusted he might long be spared to meet his friends and brethren.

Bro. MARK SCOTT, P.P.G.W., gave notice of the following motion:—"That the Prov. Grand Secretary be authorised to renew, from time to time, such of the Prov. Grand Lodge regalia as may be old and worn out."

The Masonic anthem, "Hail Masonry," was then sung, the solo by Bro. A. Spring, P.A.G.D.C., and the chorus by the brethren, accompanied on the organ by Bro. W. Hepper, P.G.O., after which the Prov. Grand Lodge was closed.

A banquet, at which the Prov. Grand Master presided, was subsequently held at the Providence School.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured, and a most agreeable evening spent.

A meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on the same day when Prov. Grand Lodge assembled, at the Temperance Hall, Guisbrough, under the presidency of the Most Hon. the Marquess of Zetland, Prov. G. Master.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board, held at York on 14th July, 1898, which had been confirmed by Prov. Grand Lodge, were taken as read.

The annual Balance-sheet, having been audited and found correct, was taken as read and confirmed.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY read petitions for relief from—

The widow, aged 69, of a late brother, P.M., and for 32 years a member of the Lennox Lodge, No. 123, Richmond. The lady is entirely without means, and dependent on the bounty of former pupils. She had a grant of £25 from Prov. G. Lodge in 1893, and has been adopted as a candidate for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

The W.M. of the Lennox Lodge moved a grant of £10, which was seconded by the PROV. G. TREASURER, and carried.

The widow, aged 38, of a late brother, a member for 10 years of the Handyside Lodge, No. 1618, at Saltburn, who was left totally destitute on the death of her husband in 1894, with four children and one born afterwards making five. The lady is solely dependent upon her father, an old man 70 years of age, who has another widowed daughter with two children likewise dependent upon him. Two of the children have received £38 from the Prov. Educational Fund, one of them being now upon the Fund, while the other has ceased by age.

Bro. RICHARDSON, W.M. 561, P.P.G.W., warmly supported the case, and moved a grant of £25, which was seconded by Bro. W. H. COWPER, P.P.G.W., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., and carried.

The Board then separated, and at the meeting of Prov. Grand Lodge held immediately afterwards, the report of the meeting of the Board of Benevolence was read and confirmed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the St. George's Hall, Stramongate, Kendal, on Thursday, the 27th ult., under the presidency of Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, J.P., C.A., D.P.G.M., in the absence of Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., Prov. G.M. There was a large attendance, including

Bros. W. Bradley, P.G.M.O.; W. Mathews, P.S.G.D.; G. Dalrymple, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., P.G. Treas.; J. Gardiner, P.G. Stwd. Eng., P.G. Sec.; H. Hoggarth, P.G.D.C.; W. W. R. Sewell, P.G. Std. Br.; R. Monkhouse, P.G.I.G.; W. H. Musgrove, P.G. Stwd.; J. Brown, S.W. 213; J. E. Singleton, W.M. 195; D. J. White, P.G. Tyler; O. Proctor, 195; Rev. D. Greenhill Douglas, 452; T. Brakenridge, P.P.G.D.C.; Henry Burns, P.P.G.M.O.; I. W. Hutton, J.O. 195; J. D. Wilson, 213; Foster Wilson, 195; W. P. Gibbings, W.M. 69; J. G. Iredale, Treas. 60; John Gibson, P.M. 452; H. W. Barron, S.O. 195; J. W. Hutton, J.O. 195; J. Winder, 195; T. De Rome, Sec. 195; W. Wilson, S.D. 195; I. H. Hogg, P.P.J.G.D.; G. Webster, S.W. 195; J. Owen, R. of M. 195; J. Atkinson, Tyler 195; G. F. Rigg, 195; J. I. Lace, W.M. 216, P.P.G.M.O.; and others.

The Prov. Grand Lodge having been opened, the minutes of the last annual meeting were read.

The PROV. G. SECRETARY read apologies for absence from a number of brethren.

The roll of Prov. Grand Officers was called; some were unavoidably absent.

The roll of lodges was called. All the lodges in the province were represented, with the exception of Nos. 282, 421, and 462.

The Prov. G. Treasurer presented his report, which showed a steady increase in the funds.

Bro. G. Dalrymple, P.M., P.A.G.D.C. Eng., was unanimously elected, by ballot, Prov. G. Treasurer for the ensuing year.

The officers for the ensuing year were then appointed and invested as follows:

Bro. J. I. Lace, W.M. 216	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" J. E. Singleton, W.M. 195	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" W. Mathews, P.M. 60	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" W. D. P. Field, W.M. 213	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" W. P. Gibbings, W.M. 60	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. D. Greenhill Douglas, 452	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" G. Dalrymple, P.M. 213	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" W. W. R. Sewell, W.M. 229	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" J. Gardiner, P.M. 151	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" R. Monkhouse, W.M. 151	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" J. Brown, S.W. 213	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" G. E. Cartmel, 195	...	Prov. G.I. of Wks.
" G. Webster, S.W. 195	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" W. H. Musgrove, J.W. 195	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" D. S. Thorpe, S.W. 60	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" J. G. Iredale, Treas. 60	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" F. Wilson, Treas. 195	...	Prov. G. Org.
" D. J. White, J.O. 60	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" T. De Rome, Sec. 195	...	
" T. Milburn, S.W. 151	...	
" J. Henderson, Sec. 60	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" S. F. Rigg, 195	...	
" J. Atkinson, 195	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

Bros. Armes, Burns, Jackson, and Mathews were unanimously appointed to serve on the Committee of the General Purposes for the ensuing year.

Some other business was transacted, and the Prov. Grand Lodge was then closed.

The banquet took place at the King's Arms Hotel, under the direction of the Prov. G. Stewards.

Bro. Col. Sewell, D.P.G.M., presided, being supported by Bros. J. Armstrong, P.P.S.G.W. Cheshire; J. G. Gandy, P.P.G.R. of M.; Dr. J. I. Lace, P.S.G.W.; W. P. Gibbings, P.J.G.W.; and a large number of other brethren.

The toasts given were "The Queen and Mark Masonry," proposed from the chair, and duly honoured; "The M.W.G.M.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales;" "The Pro G.M., the Earl of Euston; the Dep. G.M., Viscount Dungarvan; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past;" "The Right Hon. Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, R.V. Prov. G.M.M.M. of Cumberland and Westmorland."

Bro. J. G. GANDY, P.M., P.P.G.R. of M., then proposed "The W. D.P.G.M.M.M., Bro. Col. F. R. Sewell, P.G.D. Eng.," which received a hearty response.

"The Visiting Brethren," "The Newly-Invested Prov. G. Officers," "The Mark Benevolent Fund," "Success to the Kent Dale Lodge," and the Tyler's toast closed a very enjoyable evening.

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Bro. T. P. TROUNCE, I.P.M. 453,
Tenders his grateful thanks to those Brethren through whose support he was elected to the distinguished position of Provincial Grand Treasurer, at the meeting on Wednesday last.

Waltham Abbey,
27th July, 1899.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1899.

Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Convocation of Supreme Grand Chapter was held at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., the chairs of the Grand Principals being occupied by Comps. Col. Caldwell and W. Woodall, and Baron de Ferrieres, as Grand Z., H., and J., respectively. As usual at this time of the year, there was no great attendance of the companions, while the business was of the usual routine character. The proceedings, therefore, were very speedily at an end. It is just possible that if there were more to do at these quarterly meetings of Grand Chapter, greater energy might be shown by the private chapters, and greater interest generally taken in the work of Royal Arch Masonry. But how can we expect greater activity and zeal in the inferior bodies, when there is none exhibited by the superior?

There are few members of our Order, to whom the spontaneous testimony of a sincere personal regard could more appropriately have been offered by his numerous friends and associates in Masonry, than R.W. Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods (Garter), P.G.W., G.D.C. Others have been privileged to celebrate the jubilee of their initiation, and it may be there are others, like the late Bro. W. H. White, Grand Secretary, who have held office in Grand Lodge for upwards of 40 years. But none have acquired for themselves the respect and affection of the Craft more quickly, and retained that respect and affection more fully, than the distinguished Mason, who, after serving for a couple of years as Asst. G.D.C., has held the post of Grand Director of Ceremonies since the year 1860. Since then he has had under his charge the arrangements connected with all the important ceremonies that have taken place in Craft and Royal Arch Masonry. He was in Grand Lodge when the rank of Past Grand Master was conferred on the Prince of Wales in 1869. For his services at the installation of his Royal Highness in 1875, the brevet rank of Past Grand Warden was conferred upon him. There is, indeed, no great Masonic function during the last 40 years in which the direction of the arrangements has not been left in his hands, until the last two or three years, when age and failing health have compelled him to leave the active duties of Director of Ceremonies to other brethren. During all this time he has, though a strict disciplinarian, enjoyed the respect and esteem of our leading members, from his Royal Highness downwards, and we rejoice that, while he still retains his office, this gift, in token of that respect and affection, should have been presented to him and Lady Woods.

Among the Stewards at the recent Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys were 20 members of the Board of Management and the Secretary, whose combined lists amounted to £1895 4s. 6d., while 21 members of the "Committee Dinner Club" together raised £979 8s. 6d.

The North and East Yorkshire Educational Fund, which was established 10 years ago, has made considerable progress, and is already in a position to confer substantial benefits upon the children of deceased or indigent members of the Craft in that Province. It was started in 1889 with a Festival, which produced donations and subscriptions amounting to close upon £1000. Festivals were also held in 1890 and 1891, which together yielded nearly £800. Since then, however, the Festivals have taken place triennially, the one in 1894 producing £376, and that in 1897, £780. The contributions from these gatherings, with the amounts received as donations in other years, and one or two other sums, represent a total of £3386, of which all but a balance in bank of £171 has been advantageously invested, the interest received during the year to 30th June having realised about £104.

Turning to the account for the year mentioned, we remark the amount received in subscriptions from the lodges in the Province reached nearly £198, while £87 represented the total received in donations. Of these sums the former is placed to revenue account, while the latter goes to swell the capital. With the exception of the Installed Masters' Lodge, No. 2464, which, of necessity, is composed of members belonging to the other lodges, the whole of those located in the Province took part in raising this sum, the most prominent being the Humber, No. 57; the Minerva, No. 250; the Cleveland, No. 543; the North York, No. 602; the St. Cuthbert's, No. 630; the Kingston, No. 1010; the Marwood, No. 1244; the De la Pole, No. 1605; the Eboracum, No. 1611; the Handyside, No. 1618; and the Wilberforce, No. 2134; the contributions from them ranging from £10 upwards.

The amount disbursed during the year reached £261 14s., and was composed of grants to the extent of £106, made in November of last year, to 10 children, and grants in May of the present year to the extent of £147, the number of children thus benefited during the year to 30th June being 25. The sum of £8 14s., comprising the rest of the year's expenditure, was spent in Printing, Postages, and Stewards' Jewels, so that this excellent Educational Fund is maintained at a nominal outlay. We congratulate the Committee of Management on the manner in which they carry out their duties, and the Provincial Grand Master (the Marquess of Zetland), and our North and East Yorkshire brethren generally, on the prosperous condition to which they have succeeded in bringing their Educational Fund in so brief a space of time.

We are pleased to find in the list of brethren who have recently been appointed to office in the Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire the name of Bro. Viscount Raincliffe, P.M. of the Denison Lodge, No. 1248, Scarborough, upon whom the collar of Prov. S.G.W. was conferred. His lordship is the eldest son of Bro. the Earl of Lonsborough, was S.G.W. of England in 1860, and grandson of Bro. Lord Lonsborough was S.G.W. in 1853. The Denison family—after whom the lodge No. 1248 is named—has for many years taken an active part in Masonry, and we are glad there is every prospect of that active interest being maintained.

The warrant for a new Masonic lodge, to be entitled the Richard Eve Lodge, has just been granted by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master. The officers named in the warrant are Bros. Richard Eve, P.G. Treas., W.M. designate; Harry Manfield, Northampton, S.W. designate; and J. Morrison McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B., J.W. designate. The majority of the founders are members of the Governing Bodies of the Boys' School, with the management of which the officers named are intimately connected. Bro. J. Percy Fitzgerald is the Acting Secretary. The lodge is to be consecrated in October at the Freemasons' Hall.

We learn from the columns of the *Indian Freemason* for the month of June, that the inaugural meeting of the St. George Chapter, No. 549, was held in the new Freemasons' Hall, Bombay, on the 6th April. When the chapter had been opened and the summons convening the meeting read, Comp. the Hon. Justice H. J. Parsons, M.E. Pro Grand Superintendent of the Bombay District, with the assistance of Comps. I. M. Shields and R. S. Brown, performed the ceremony of consecration. Comps. H.E. Lord Sandhurst, the Hon. Justice Parsons, and I. M. Shields were then installed as Z., H., and J., respectively, and Comp. R. A. A. Jenkins was invested as Scribe E.; Comp. R. S. Brown, as Scribe N.; Comp. James Mumford, as Treasurer; and Comp. J. H. Barrett, as Janitor. The remaining offices being left for future appointment.

On the 2nd May, a meeting of emergency was held, when four candidates were balloted for and elected and three of them being present were forthwith exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. Subsequently, Comp. Shields, who was acting as M.E.Z., presented the chapter with a complete set of collars and jewels, and was warmly thanked by the companions for his handsome gift. In June, yet another meeting was held, when four more brethren, all members of the St. George Lodge, No. 549, were balloted for, elected, and exalted. These additions to the original roll of members enabled the Chapter to fill up the offices which had been left vacant, and Comp. F. C. Allen was elected Principal Sojourner, and Comps. G. K. Heinrichs and E. C. A. Acworth, Assistant Sojourners. Thus the new chapter is well officered and starts on its career with every likelihood of a long and prosperous future. We need hardly be at the trouble of adding that St. George Chapter has our heartiest good wishes.

It is not often that we meet with a Royal Arch Chapter of great numerical strength, but the same number of the *Indian Freemason*, to which we are indebted for the information contained in the two preceding Notes, contains the report of a regular meeting of the New Union Chapter, No. 234, Calcutta, in May last, when Comps. C. T. M. Andersson, F. G. Clark, and R. H. M. Rustomjee were installed in the three Principals' chairs, and the officers for the ensuing 12 months were invested. From this it appears that the Permanent Committee were in a position to announce a total membership of 117 companions on the 31st December, 1898, and of these as many as 19 were exalted during the year to that date. Moreover, the Treasurer's accounts showed that the Chapter was, at the same time, financially prosperous; and that, after subscribing 10 guineas to the Boys' Centenary, and 200 Rupees to the Bengal Masonic Association, it still had a substantial balance in hand. Under these circumstances it voted a further 200 Rupees to the same Bengal Association, and the members then sat down, with all the greater pleasure, to enjoy their installation banquet. We should like to see more of our chapters modelled on the lines of this New Union, No. 234. Were a few whiffs of the spirit of zeal by which its members must be actuated inspired into sundry of our chapters at home, it would soon prove contagious, and we should be the better for it.

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.

PROVINCIAL GRAND RANK.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I fear the writer of the article under the above heading is the victim of an oversight when he suggests the impracticability of the proposal made by the R.W. the District Grand Master of the Punjab.

On the other hand, I think it a very easy way out of an admitted difficulty. Instead of a Master of a lodge making the selection personally—I cannot imagine this was Bro. General Wolseley's exact idea—let the Master decide a selection by a popular vote of his brethren in open lodge. This could be done on the spur of the moment—that is to say, without a direct notice of motion, which would prevent the objectionable and unfair methods of prior canvassing, and at the same time insure a truly popular opinion as to whom the brethren of a lodge considered most worthy of the purple in a province or district.—Yours fraternally,

W. F. LAMONBY.

July 29th.

Reviews.

"CALENDAR OF MASONIC MEETINGS IN EAST LANCASHIRE, 1899—1900."—This ably-condensed and capably-arranged annual is in its 49th issue, and for its purpose cannot be improved. There are considerably over 100 lodges in the province, these being arranged according to towns in alphabetical order, with their names, times, places, and days of meeting, &c. There are some 40 lodges in Manchester, that city being quite a good sized Masonic province by itself. There are over 40 Royal Arch chapters attended to in like manner. The Mark lodges are grouped in a province for the whole of Lancashire, and number nearly 40, so also are the 22 Knight Templar preceptories, and the nine Rose Croix chapters. The Provincial Grand Lodge of the Royal Order of Scotland meets three times a year at least, and oftener as required. The lists of Grand and Provincial Grand Lodge Officers are duly detailed, and other information that is supplied adds much to the usefulness of the very handy and ever-welcome publication by Bro. James Newton, the courteous Provincial Grand Secretary. Copies may be had from the Publisher, Bro. O. C. Compton, Fleet-street, Bury.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. SIR ALBERT WOODS.

It will be within the knowledge of many of our readers that during the past few weeks a movement was set on foot by several Present and Past Grand Officers with the view of offering for the acceptance of Bro. Sir Albert Woods some tangible mark of the respect and esteem in which he is held by those who have had the privilege of being associated with him as officers of the Grand Lodge of England, and it was considered that the celebration this year, both of the 50th anniversary of his initiation into Freemasonry, and of his having for 40 consecutive years held office in Grand Lodge, was a fitting occasion for such a presentation. When in the year 1849, Bro. Sir Albert Woods was initiated in the "Old Union Lodge," the late Earl of Zetland had but a few years succeeded H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex as M.W. Grand Master, and there were on the roll of Grand Lodge but a little over 800 lodges, being about one third of the number which, despite the secession of many Colonial ones, are now registered under the Grand Lodge of England. Nine years later Bro. Sir Albert Woods was appointed by the Grand Master to the office of Assistant Grand Director of Ceremonies, and in 1860 he was promoted to the office of Grand Director of Ceremonies, a post which had some years previously been filled by his father, Bro. Sir William Woods (Garter). In the year 1875, on the occasion of his installation as Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales conferred on Bro. Sir Albert Woods the rank and dignity of Past Grand Warden.

The proposal to ask Bro. Sir Albert Woods to accept the offering to which we have referred, met with an immediate and liberal response; and a sum of nearly £300, headed by a subscription from his Royal Highness the Grand Master, was at once forthcoming. It was in accordance with Bro. Sir Albert Woods' special desire, that, while a small portion of the amount should be devoted to the purchase of a piece of plate which might be handed down to his family, the bulk should be applied to the acquisition of some article of jewellery to be offered for the acceptance of Lady Woods.

It was under these circumstances that the testimonial took the form of a most beautiful diamond crescent and a diamond and ruby ring for Lady Woods, and a massive silver tray for Sir Albert. The presentation, which was of a strictly private character owing to Bro. Sir Albert Woods' state of health, took place on Monday last at his private residence. It was made by R.W. Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., in the presence of Sir Albert and Lady Woods and their only daughter, Mrs. Wollaston, the wife of Mr. Arthur Naylor Wollaston, C.I.E., of the India Office.

In addition to Bro. Beach, the following Grand Officers were present: R.W. Bro. T. Fenn, P.G.W., and Past President of the Board of General Purposes; V.W. Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, Q.C., President of the Board of General Purposes; V.W. Bro. Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary; V.W. Bro. James H. Matthews, President of the Board of Benevolence; W. Bros. Frank Richardson, P.G.D., Acting G. Director of Ceremonies; and Capt. N. G. Phillips, P.G.D. R.W. Bro. Robert Grey, P.G.W., Past President of the Board of Benevolence, was, much to his regret and disappointment, unable to be present.

It goes without saying that the happy and fitting terms in which the presentation was made by Bro. Beach left nothing to be desired, and he most adequately gave expression to the feelings which all those he represented entertained towards both Sir Albert and Lady Woods.

Bro. Sir ALBERT WOODS, speaking on behalf both of Lady Woods and himself, referred, in a most feeling and touching speech, to the happy connection which for so many years had existed between the Craft and himself, and tendered his heartfelt thanks for the gift, which would form one of his most treasured possessions.

The following is the inscription on the tray: "Presented to Rt. Worshipful Brother Sir Albert W. Woods, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Garter, Past Grand Warden, and Grand Director of Ceremonies of the United Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of England, by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master, and by Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past, who have been officially associated with him, as a mark of fraternal esteem and respect on the occasion of his celebrating the 50th anniversary of his initiation into Freemasonry, and of his having for 40 continuous years held office in Grand Lodge."

CONSECRATION OF THE HARRINGAY LODGE, No. 2763.

The Harringay Lodge, No. 2763, was consecrated at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday, the 25th ult., in the presence of a large gathering of brethren and with every prospect of success. The new lodge is intended to meet the requirements of brethren residing at Harringay, where it will be located at the Salisbury Hotel. The strong body of founders, numbering 24, are well officered, having as the first W.M. Bro. C. E. Wetton, P.M. 2087, and the onerous duties of Secretary will be ably carried out by Bro. G. R. Newman, P.M. 1950, W.M. 1673.

The following is a list of the founders: Bros. C. E. Wetton, P.M. 2087; E. F. Barnes, I.G. 1950; W. E. Toynton, S.D. 1950; W. J. Janes, P.M. 1708; L. E. Thurlow, 1987; G. R. Newman, P.M. 1950, W.M. 1673; R. R. Sinclair, J.D. 1185; George Wetton, 192; C. D. Pagniez, 1185; W. G. Adcock, W.M. 2202; John Davis, 1288; William Hewitt, 2353; George Evans, 1360; C. G. Dunk, 1360; Harry Inder, I.G. 2087; H. J. Thwaites, 1891, J.D. 2684; Arthur Bloyce, 1950; J. C. Brunjes, 1288; Alexander Jackson, 2087; Carl Eberstein, 1949; R. J. F. Clark, 1686; Charles Goodman, S.W. 2698; H. Godwin, P.M. 1673, J.W. 1950; and W. W. Wooster, S.W. 1950.

The Consecrating Officer, Bro. E. Letchworth, G. Sec., was assisted by Bros. W. H. Bailey, P.G. Treas., as S.W.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C., as J.W.; Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G.C., as Chap.; F. Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and Trewinnard, P.M., as I.G.

After the lodge had been opened, The CONSECRATING OFFICER, addressing the brethren, said they had met together for the purpose of undertaking a most interesting and solemn ceremony, which could not fail to enlist the sympathies of all who had at heart the interests of the Order. They had met to start into existence a new lodge, and to add one more to the long list of lodges on the register of Grand Lodge. Although the ceremony of consecration was performed in that building, which might be called the head-quarters of the Order, the lodge was founded for the convenience of brethren in the suburb of Harringay Park. He trusted that new lodge might be the means of cementing together in fraternal regard those who resided in that neighbourhood; that it might accomplish all those special objects the founders had in view; and that it might be the means of advancing the best interests of Freemasonry.

The D. of C. read the dispensation for the consecration to be held at Freemasons' Hall, and the ceremony was then proceeded with.

Bro. the Rev. BROWNRIFF delivered an eloquent oration, in which he strongly emphasised the necessity for care in the admission of members, and the new lodge was solemnly constituted.

Bro. C. E. Wetton, P.M., was installed as the first W.M., and the following officers were invested. Bros. E. F. Barnes, S.W.; W. E. Toynton, J.W.; W. J. Janes, I.P.M.; L. E. Thurlow, Treas.; G. R. Newman, Sec.; R. R. Sinclair, S.D.; Geo. Wetton, J.D.; C. D. Pagniez, I.G.; W. G. Adcock, D. of C.; John Davis, W. Hewitt, Geo. Evans, and C. G. Dunk, Stwds.; and W. Webb, Tyler.

On the proposition of the W.M., the Consecrating Officers were elected honorary members and accorded a hearty vote of thanks for their services.

The G. SEC., who was presented with a copy of the founders' jewel, returned thanks for himself and colleagues.

A lengthy list of candidates for initiation was announced, and lodge was closed.

A banquet was held at Freemasons' Tavern, at which the W.M. presided, and the customary toasts received hearty recognition in spite of the fact that the speeches were models of brevity.

In proposing the combined toasts of "The Grand Officers" and "The Consecrating Officers," the W.M. expressed the indebtedness of the founders to the latter brethren for the manner in which they had conducted the ceremony. It would make a lasting impression upon the members. It was a matter of regret that Bros. Letchworth and Richardson were unable to stay to the banquet. It would be the aim of the founders to act up to the excellent example set them that evening.

Bro. Rev. J. S. BROWNRIFF, P.G. Chap., replied, and said that this was the third lodge consecrated in 10 days, and he did not know how long this rate was to be kept up. They would have to go on strike for more pay and regular hours. He was sorry that Bro. Letchworth was not present, for he fancied that he could hear that brother's eloquent remarks when dilating upon the future of the lodge and the happy choice of the first W.M. They hoped one day to visit the Green Lanes and hear the present W.M. relate his experience of the starting of the lodge. He gave them "The Health of the W.M."

The W.M. expressed his sense of the honour paid him by placing him in that position and he hoped to merit their esteem by his efforts. He had the interests of the lodge very much at heart. At the next meeting he proposed to offer himself as a Steward for the Charities and was sure a sum would be voted to his list. He thanked the founders for the great kindness shown him and could assure them his services would always be at their disposal.

For "The Visitors," Bros. T. H. Gardener, P.A.G.D.C.; W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.; Davies, P.M.; Hall, P.M.; and Trewinnard, P.M.; replied; and the Secretary and Treasurer of the lodge acted in a similar capacity for "The Officers."

The Tyler's toast then closed the proceedings.

The musical programme was ably carried out by Bros. S. Masters, H. Schartau, Franklin Clive, W. Emerson, and S. Wright, and Miss Rodriguez.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY; MASONICALLY VIEWED.

Being an Address for the Festival of St. John the Baptist, 1899, by Bro. CHARLES FREDERICK SILBERBAUER, Orator of the Lodge De Goede Hoop, Cape Town, Cape Colony, under the Grand East of the Netherlands in South Africa.

During the past Masonic year two events have occurred of more than ordinary interest to every Craftsman in South Africa, and worthy of special notice on this occasion. As a lodge we gladly shared in the local celebrations in honour of the coronation of Queen Wilhelmina—that sweet flower of the House of Orange (a House to which our Empire was so deeply indebted in 1688 for placing its civil and religious liberties on a firmer basis, and whose scions have during this century taken high rank among the rulers of the Order). May the Almighty abundantly bless her and her people, and grant that she may more than fulfil the lofty expectations which her career hitherto so amply warrants! By a happy coincidence we have also been privileged, more recently, to take our part in the loyal outburst of gratitude to the Giver of all-good gifts for His mercies vouchsafed to our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria during her prolonged, benign, and prosperous reign over a far-extended realm. Herself the daughter of a Freemason and the mother of Royal Craftsmen, we most heartily join in the Laureate's aspiration regarding our beloved Empress—

May our children's children say:
"She wrought her people lasting good;
Her Court was pure; her life serene;
A thousand claims to reverence closed
In her as Mother, Wife, and Queen."

We are nearing the threshold of the year 1930, and—if our lives are spared—we may become to the generation about to be born objects of a reverential awe akin to that with which we in our early youth regarded the aged survivors of the 18th century. A rare Stoic indeed would he be who could unmoved reflect that little short of a physiological miracle will enable anyone here present to behold the last day of the year 1999. No! for ever stilled shall our voices be then, and our toilworn bodies laid to rest after life's fitful fever—even as it hath already been with the majority of the brethren of the Victorian era

Who, in their fair abodes of peace and truth
With allegory deep and symbols old,
Set forth in rite mysterious all that man
May know, learn, fear, or hope.

Though the Craft, as a general rule, takes no cognizance of matters external to itself, yet—seeing that every temple is supposed to be a symbol of the universe, and that the ancient charges enjoin the study of the liberal arts and sciences—it may not be amiss, if, under the circumstances, we dwell for a brief space on a few of the many triumphs of our race during the 19th century. It has been well said that the progress made in all spheres of human work since 1800 has been greater and more far-reaching than that attained during hundreds of years before it. Were Sophocles to flourish in these days, how many additional thoughts suggested by modern achievements would sparkle gem-like in that diadem of deathless verse—

Since first this native world began,
Nature is busy all in every part;
But passing all in wisdom and in art,
Superior shines inventive man.
Fearless of wintry winds and circling waves,
He rides the ocean and the tempest braves;
On him unwearied earth, with lavish hand,
Immortal goddess, all her bounty pours,
Patient beneath the rigid plough's command,
Year after year she yields her plenteous stores.
By learning and fair science crowned,
Behold him now full-fraught with wisdom's lore,
The laws of nature anxious to explore,
With depth of thought profound.

The mining shaft is sunk to Tartarean depths, the tunnel is driven through the snow-capped mountain by the aid of power primarily generated by streams flowing down its very slopes; the artesian well makes the desert blossom as the rose; the persevering Netherlander is now safeguarding with a success hitherto unprecedented the dykes which protect his lands wrested from the hoary main. The Suez Canal unites the waters of the Mediterranean and Red Seas; the construction of the Manchester and the North Sea Canals are events of yesterday, while there are rumours of a resumption of the works of the Panama Canal, which shall join the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The railway train whirled us rapidly with safety and comfort for thousands of miles along a road which engineering skill has taught to burrow beneath the beds of the mightiest rivers or through the hearts of the eternal hills, to span the widest frith or even climb the dizzy peak. The great African railway has recently emerged from the brain of the empire-dreamer, and is being steadily pushed on not only from the land of Pyramid and Sphinx (reminiscent of hieratic and, as some aver, ancient Masonic associations), but also from this Cape of Storms (soon we pray to be in very truth that of Good Hope once more), in which our lot is cast, and where, in 1772, our revered forefathers, under the Dutch Constitution, first lit the lamp of modern Freemasonry in the southern hemisphere with sacred fire originally derived from England's shrine. Reservoirs, whose proportions entitle them to be styled *lakes*, have been constructed in various portions of the globe, and recently the immemorial Nile has beheld the commencement of a gigantic barrier, which shall control the tide when in flood or impound the waters for distribution over many a mile of otherwise parched land. The ocean steamer—the leviathan of the deep—has rendered those that go down to the sea in ships and do business in great waters well-nigh independent of the winds and waves. The science of aeronautics has made immense progress, and dirigible balloons now play important parts in the operations of war and the investigation of atmospheric phenomena. Improvements in the microscope have revealed to us numerous mysteries in the domain of the infinitely small in almost every form of matter—whether animate or inanimate—and taught us to recognise and, therefore, to fight the bacillus of disease, to distinguish between beneficent bacteria and noxious microbes, to discover adulterations in our food, and to convict the

murderer or acquit the innocent from an examination of the suspicious bloodstains. Astronomical telescopes of huge dimensions have not only increased our knowledge respecting those heavenly bodies familiar to the men of old, but brought within our ken myriads upon myriads of shining worlds and systems which to the unaided eye seem but primal darkness of interstellar space. With the photographic camera we are enabled to readily obtain counterfeit presentments of those near and dear to us, to permanently fix the fleeting impressions of nature in her various moods, to detect the ingenious erasure or forgery in the document produced as evidence in the court of justice, and to register on the negative stars invisible to us even with the most powerful telescope. Electricity lights our towns and dwellings, instantaneously conveys our messages to the uttermost ends of the earth either over the vast continent or under the deepest ocean, and also (for shorter distances) through the trackless fields of air. It tips with healing fire the surgical instrument in operations where other methods would prove fatal; with skilfully graduated force, it cures or alleviates many ills that flesh is heir to; in electroplating, it renders yeoman's service to art; and chemistry is dependent upon its aid in a variety of important processes. Through its agency some of the energy which thunders down Niagara or in lesser volumes descends from crag to crag all over the world is converted into power, heat, and light for the benefit of the populous cities. By means of the telephone, friends miles apart hold converse as if they were in the same room together; the phonograph and graphophone reproduce at will the words once spoken by many a voice now hushed in death, while the bioscope or Kinetoscope re-enacts on the lantern screen any phase of movement—whether it be the innumerable laughter of the waves, the tree tops bending to the breeze, or some busy scene of human life. With the spectroscope we determine with accuracy the chemical composition of the remotest star; and Röntgen Rays pass through the body and locate the bullet which eludes the torturing probe, or reveals the death that lurks within the seemingly innocent packet received from the cowardly assassin. The practical application of the laws of optics in the combination of lenses and prisms enables the lighthouse to send forth its warning beams to a distance never dreamt of by our ancestors. Coal has been made to furnish us with a convenient illuminant, with powerful disinfectants and with dyes of rarest beauty. As the earliest artificer in metals, Tubal-Cain, would be lost in amazement were he permitted to behold the rolling mill or the well nigh miraculous Bessemer steel process—to say naught of the machine tools which bore into, plane, saw, and stamp cold iron as if it were wood, or the steam hammer smiting with an accuracy and force worthy of comparison with the mythic exploits of Vulcan himself. Think also of the thought and ingenuity expended upon the prosaic but useful sewing machine, the typewriter, the bicycle, the electric tramway, or the motor car. New metals—such as aluminium—have been discovered, and improved means devised for extracting those previously known from the reluctant ore. We may well style all trades and industries new, by reason of the entirely different machinery and other methods of working recently brought to bear upon them. To take one solitary instance, what a far cry it is from the earliest printing press to the linotype and similar contrivances of the present day! The hydraulic press, with its resistless force so silently applied in diverse forms, reminds one of the slow but sure operations of mighty nature herself. Various also are the uses to which air under pressure is put. It works the rock drill in the bowels of the earth, propels the mail-laden carrier through the pneumatic despatch tube and keeps at bay the waters and mud which threaten to overwhelm the tunnel drivers in the "greathead shield," or—in its gentler manifestations—causes a hundred clocks far apart to synchronise with a central standard timepiece, and (replacing the antiquated "trackers") makes the full organ peal forth with as little effort to the musician's fingers as if only one stop of softest voice were sounding. High explosives—to name gun cotton and dynamite alone—rend huge masses of rock asunder with a power stupendous as that of the fabled Titans. Substances unknown not many years ago are in daily use with us; need I instance Indian rubber and gutta-percha, or paraffin and petroleum? Cases have been liquified, nay, even solidified, and the most refractory metals vaporised, while recent experiments with low temperatures and liquid air seem to point to startling developments in the near future. Chloroform and other anaesthetics lull consciousness to sleep and still the quivering nerves—thus enabling the surgeon's blade to do its beneficent work within a hairbreadth of the very citadel of being; and scientific nursing often fans the almost expiring embers of life into the full blaze of health restored. Hypnotism (already in some quarters a branch of the healing art) professes, with her sister thoughtreading, to be capable of further extensions; and patient observers are devoting attention to that mysterious sixth sense which insects possess but which his lacking in man. Lunacy is no longer considered as somewhat akin to dishonour, but as a disease capable of successful treatment by loving tact in suitably equipped asylums. Geology is now a science most rich in practical results, and the trusted adviser of those proposing to incur heavy expenditure in the search for minerals or for water-storing strata. Almost all portions of the earth's surface and of the ocean's bed have been explored; the frozen North retains but few of her secrets, and a vigorous effort is being made to lift the veil of ages from the little-known Antarctic regions. The determination of the mechanical equivalent of heat, the doctrine of the indestructibility of matter and of the conservation of energy, not to mention our present knowledge of the laws of chemistry, have done much to save inventors and investigators from pursuing labours as illusory as those formerly bestowed upon the problem of perpetual motion. Again, the theories of evolution and natural selection have solved many an enigma which baffled the speculations of our predecessors. The Egyptian hieroglyphics—unintelligible for centuries—have at last found able interpreters; and the painstaking toils of antiquaries have been crowned with wondrous success in many other fields of labour. The founding may here be noted of the Lodge Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076, London (now numbering over 2700 members throughout the world), which focusses the rays of the leading intellectual lights of the Craft, and publishes the results of careful inquiries into all subjects of interest to our Order. When we visit the ancient seats of learning, we find that, although still loyally standing upon the old paths of mental and spiritual culture for their own sakes, they, nevertheless, have their modern side also, which is destined to add to their already great renown. Every historian worthy of the name now devotes more thought to the illustration of streams of tendency than to the description of battles, sieges, and Court intrigues; while the novelist must not only strive to emulate the excellences of the earlier writers of fiction, but also be absolutely accurate in his portrayal of persons who actually lived at the period of his narrative. The principles of equity have been so largely blended with the otherwise

inelastic body of law that the ancient definition of justice as "the constant and perpetual wish of rendering to everyone his due" is now truer to actual fact than it has been for many years past. Criminology has become a science, and justice in carrying out its sentence keeps in view the reformation as much as the punishment of the offender. Slavery has been abolished among civilised nations; and it may here be observed that to the ancient Jewish sect of mystics called the Essenes (whom some would find number among our Masonic progenitors) belongs the high honour of having made the first protests against this curse to humanity. Furthermore, "the eternal spirit of the *chainless* mind" throughout the world ceases not to "make the bounds of Freedom wider yet" in other praiseworthy spheres of interest—with the happiest results to mankind. The enthusiastic crusade of our day against the abuse of alcohol is also a potent factor which makes for righteousness; and the world at large has been greatly benefited by the removal of disabilities which hitherto prevented woman from taking that place in any branch of human activity to which her talents and virtues may justly entitle her. Religious controversy has lost much of its virulence, and many good and earnest men concede that it by no means follows that because the particular side of Divine truth which is turned towards themselves reflects "the Light that never was on sea or land," no similar illumination can gladden the eyes of those to whom another facet of the same Brilliant is presented. Nay, there are even some so tolerant of the intolerances of their opponents that, while deeply deploring the presence in the spiritual spectrum of bigotry flaming red, they joyfully greet at the further end the tender violet rays of self-denying love and mercy. The terribly destructive nature of the weapons which modern science has placed in the hands of man is at last rousing the nations of the earth to a sense of what widespread misery the next great war will inevitably occasion; and at this moment a Conference of the Powers is being held for considering the question of the reduction of armaments and the promotion of the cause of universal peace. Although we, as Freemasons, neither recommend nor disparage any particular form of religion or government, but quietly aim at the spiritual and moral improvement of the individual, we, nevertheless, most strongly feel that if every member of civilised society, irrespective of nationality, creed, or caste, could be made to recognise *his own responsibility in the sight of God* for the existence of or a condition of affairs necessitating war, instead of throwing it upon his rulers, we shall find that spontaneously—without congresses or lengthy diplomatic parleys—

All crime shall cease, and ancient fraud shall fail;
Returning Justice lift aloft her scale;
Peace o'er the world her olive wand extend,
And white-robed innocence from heaven descend.

It might be asked—"Why, in view of the dawning of another era, and seeing that old things have to so great an extent passed away, should Freemasonry continue to receive adherents?" We cannot do better than reply in the words which Jowett used respecting Balliol College: "There is a great interest in belonging to an ancient institution. The members of it are bound by a peculiar tie to those who have gone before them; they are in a manner our spiritual ancestors; if they had not been, neither should we have been, and we are indebted to them for more than we know. Without vanity, we may regard ourselves as belonging to a family which has continued during many ages, and which numbers among its sons many distinguished and even illustrious personages." We will go yet further, and say that the Craftsman upon whom the teachings of our Order have not been wholly lost, has learnt to know his own powers as well as his limitations, and will govern himself accordingly. He unfeignedly believes in the Almighty as the Creator and Supreme Ruler of the Universe—as the eternal source of all goodness, and of all wisdom, strength, and beauty. Finally, after having "served his own generation by the will of God" in the exercise of the virtues of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth (in their widest sense), he will be ready to commit his soul into the hands of his Maker and just but merciful Judge, in trustful expectation of that

One far-off divine event
To which the whole creation moves.
So mote it be!

The Craft Abroad.

MASONIC JOTTINGS.

The installation meeting of the Manica Lodge, No. 2678 (E.C.), was held on the afternoon of Thursday, the 8th June, at the Masonic Hall, 4th Street, Umtali, Rhodesia, South Africa, when the election of Bro. W. E. Haworth, M.B., C.M., B.Sc., J.W., as W.M. for the ensuing year was confirmed. The installation ceremony was unavoidably postponed, owing to the fact that only two Installed Masters were at the time present in the district, though every effort had been made to secure the services of a third from Salisbury or Beira.

In the evening of the above date the brethren entertained some 150 friends at a ball in the Cecil Hotel Theatre. Regalia was worn during the first half of the programme, under the general dispensation recently granted to the lodge through the kind service of Bro. Dr. Hugh Rayner. Dancing terminated at 2 a.m., a most enjoyable evening having been spent. This is, we believe, the first Masonic ball held in Rhodesia, and was considered a complete success.

On the 19th June, Bro. J. D. Tennant, W.M. 2479, travelled down from Salisbury, by the recently-opened railway, and the installation ceremony was carried through at an emergency meeting, Bro. W. E. Harvey acting as Installing Master, and being assisted by Bro. T. B. Hulley, the retiring W.M. Bro. Haworth invested his officers for the year, viz.: Bros. M. Russell, S.W.; J. Meikle, J.W.; W. A. D. Moodie, Chap.; W. H. Lane, Treas.; C. W. Finch, Sec.; H. C. Davis, S.D.; J. Murdoch, J.D.; H. J. Hillary, D.C.; H. B. Watkins, I.G.; H. S. Smith and J. R. Sykes, Stwds.; and J. Crockett, Tyler. The presentation of a Past Master's jewel to the retiring W.M. was postponed as the jewel had not yet come to hand.

On the 23rd June, the first meeting of the Manica Lodge of Instruction, under authority of the Manica Lodge, was held at the Masonic Hall. Bro. Haworth was elected Preceptor; Bro. H. P. Miles, Treasurer; and Bro. H. B. Watkins, Secretary, for the ensuing year. The ceremony of initiation was

rehearsed, after which the Preceptor delivered an address on the "Religious Beliefs inculcated in the emulation working of the Three Craft Degrees." Bro. H. C. Davis was elected W.M. for the following meeting.

It is only 12 months since the consecration of the Manica Lodge, which now has a membership of 38. A hall has been built at the cost of £800, the money being raised partly by debentures and partly by loans from one of the banks at 9 per cent., a few of the brethren giving a personal guarantee for the overdraft. Most of the debentures have already been presented to the lodge, and the overdraft is now reduced to a few pounds, so that a few months should see the lodge clear of debt. The furniture, at a cost of over £200, was presented by the Hon. C. J. Rhodes, and the B.S.A. Co. gave their assistance by a grant of two stands in a good quarter of the town.

A prosperous future is anticipated for the Craft in this district, and throughout the whole of Rhodesia. The most cordial relations being kept up by frequent communications between the Manica and the Rhodesia and Bulawayo lodges.

Craft Masonry.

United Military Lodge, No. 1536.

The last installation of the Masonic season in the under-mentioned district of the Metropolis took place on Tuesday, the 25th ult., at the Masonic Hall, Mount Pleasant, Plumstead, when the above lodge held its annual festival, and installed a new Master to preside over its destinies for the ensuing 12 months.

The lodge was opened soon after 2.30 p.m. by the W.M., Bro. A. Hill, and after Bros. Hebert and Rycroft had been raised, Bro. Hill installed his successor, Bro. A. Simmonds, S.W. and W.M. elect, in a quiet and careful manner. Bro. Walter Martin, P.A.G.P. Eng., having arrived, he was at this period saluted with the honours suitable and appropriate to his exalted position in the Craft. The new W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. A. Hill, I.P.M.; J. Howe, S.W.; W. Shackleton, P.M., J.W.; W. Gee, Treas.; E. W. Sinnett, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., Sec.; R. F. Cockrane, S.D.; S. J. Hackworthy, J.D.; G. W. Ingle, P.M., D.C.; J. Jones, I.G.; W. A. Whitmore, Org.; H. Furlong, Asst. Org.; A. Andrews, A.D.C.; F. J. Marfleet, F. Rowland, J. Grieveson, G. Melton, and E. Earnshaw, Stewards. Bro. Hill was presented with a Past Master's collar and jewel, and was thanked for his work as Installing Officer, and feelingly returned thanks. Bro. Captain G. Spinks, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., was re-elected to represent the lodge on the Provincial Charity Committee, and returned thanks for the brethren's continued confidence. Bro. C. Jolly made an earnest appeal on behalf of the candidature of two of the children of the late esteemed Bro. Curtis, P.M. 1472, P.M., founder, and Sec. 2615, for the Masonic Schools, his (Bro. Curtis's) widow being left with nine children, seven girls and one boy, the latter six years old, and the oldest girl 16. He explained that Bro. Curtis had invested all his savings in a business at Bexley Heath in June, 1898, and died, after a few days' illness, in February of this year. The business was sold over the poor woman's head, and she and her fatherless children were thrown upon the mercy of the world. Bro. Jolly's appeal produced a good effect, no less than 150 votes being immediately promised, of which number our good friend and brother, W. Martin, promised 75.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to the upper hall of the building, where the banquet was satisfactorily discussed.

Among the other brethren present were Bros. G. Kennedy, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; W. Moulds, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; J. Bilton, P.M.; R. Fowler, P.M.; W. J. Downs, E. B. Herbert, W. Craigend, M. Houghy, C. Brook, W. Hurn, J. Willingborough, C. Warren, G. B. Mardett, J. Laurie, A. Jupp, C. H. Molloy, E. W. Gearte, D. Green, E. Searle, and G. Hook, of the lodge. Visitors: Bros. H. Jacobs, W.M., J. Quick, S.W., J. Horn, J.W., A. H. Russell, P.M., J. Willin, T. Chambers, and R. Stead, of 13; W. Long, W.M., J. H. Roberts, P.M., Treas., and E. Loerger, of 700; E. M. Taylor, W.M., A. Moore, S.W., and J. G. Tucker, J.W., of 913; T. H. Lait, W.M., D. Ross, S.W., and S. H. Chaplin, J.W., of 1472; J. Wheatley, W.M., R. Rawlinson, S.W., and W. Steer, J.W. 2399; A. Walkin, W.M. 483; G. Kennedy, P.M. 829; C. Parsons, I.G. 2041; H. Appleby, 2277; H. Onslow, 2706; R. Smith, 765; and T. Fairbairn, 1789.

The loyal and Grand Lodge toasts were honoured in a grand and loyal manner, and, in response to the toast of "The Grand Lodge Officers, Present and Past,"

Bro. W. Martin, who was received with cheers, said he would detain them for only a few moments. He was exceedingly pleased to be present, because their lodge was not only a military lodge, but a "United Military" lodge. It was a Masonic home, not alone for one especial corps, but for the whole army who chose to join its ranks. He thanked them for their cordial reception of the toast, which included in its scope not only some of the most excellent Masons throughout the provinces, but a fair share of the London brethren; and as one of the London contingent he felt proud of the honour conferred upon him by their beloved Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. He then referred in glowing terms to the splendid music given by the Royal Artillery band at "The Chough" Musical Society—one of the best in London—and held at the Cannon-street Hotel; and was delighted to be present that evening and hear the musical treat prepared for them by that portion of the band that had entertained them during the banquet. He thanked the W.M. and brethren for the kind manner in which they had received him, and drank his health, and trusted the lodge would be as prosperous, and every brother of it be as happy and contented, as they now appeared to be.

Our distinguished brother resumed his seat amid cheers. Bro. Sinnett, in responding to the toast of "The Right Hon. Earl Amherst, Pro G. Master of England, Prov. G. Master of Kent; and the rest of the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," said he rose with a great amount of diffidence to respond to the toast, because there were a good many of the brethren present who knew that speech-making was not his forte. As he had before said, it gave him a great amount of pleasure to be associated with the officers of the Province of Kent, which numbered 64 lodges, and was presided over by one—than whom a more genial or better Mason never existed. They were all proud of having for their Prov. G. Master the Pro G. Master of England. There was no prouder man on the face of the earth than he was when he received the command of their Prov. G. Master to go to Sevenoaks to receive the collar of P.G. Standard Bearer. Bro. Eastes was a most energetic and hard-working Mason, and how he managed to please all in his selections for office surprised him. He spoke highly of the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge, and heartily thanked them for coupling his name with the toast.

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said they would agree with him that in their W.M. they had a good sample of a man and a Mason, and he was sure that Bro. Simmonds would make a good Master; one who would not shirk his duty but would make theirs a grand and successful lodge, and he was proud of the honour of placing their W.M. in the chair of K.S. He had now said all he could say with regard to the time at his disposal. He had had the honour of speaking to them a good deal during the past year—a good deal of sense and a good deal of nonsense—so he would at once conclude by asking them to rally round and support their W.M., and bring him the best of candidates.

The W.M., in reply, could assure them that it was very flattering and gratifying to be the W.M. of such a good and prosperous lodge, and that he should leave no stone unturned to make himself worthy of their confidence.

Bro. Martin here rose, and said that, being in the midst of a military assemblage, it might be interesting to the brethren to know that they had just consecrated a new lodge at Greenwich, which bore the honoured name of Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, who that day had taken his seat in the House of Lords. His lordship sent a telegram to the lodge accepting the honorary membership of the lodge. His lordship had been a Mason for many years, and he hoped before long to hear that a lodge had been founded at Khartoum. He felt sure the brethren of that lodge, as military men, would be glad to know that a lodge had been founded with the name of one who was an honour to the Army and to England. (Loud applause, which was continued as Bro. Martin retired from the lodge.)

Bro. Hill, in response to a kind reception of his name as "The Installing Officer," said he remembered some years ago, when he was first installed, thinking to himself what a great honour it was to be an Installing Officer. It was then the rule for some Grand Officer or old Past Master to do the ceremony, as no one else was considered capable of doing it. Now it was almost the invariable rule for the W.M. to install his successor, and in that lodge they expected to find in their W.M. the man to do the work. Well, those who came found him there. He felt that he had been appreciated. They met him with solemn faces when at labour, but with family faces at the festive board. He had installed their W.M., and should keep a sharp eye upon him and watch him; and if he found him kick, he should put the kicking strap on him. He heartily thanked them for their toast.

Bro. Spinks, in responding for "The Past Masters of and Belonging to the Lodge," said it seemed so him, as years rolled on, that the toast of the Past Masters was better received than ever. It showed that their work for the honour, welfare, and prosperity of the lodge was known to, and appreciated by, the brethren. It also seemed to him that the coming year would be both a prosperous and popular one, and he was proud to see so many Masters and Wardens of other lodges present. He stood before them that night "the father of the lodge." Twenty-two years ago it was when he vacated the chair and made way for his successor. He could not let that occasion pass without saying something about their departed Past Master Bro. Weston. No one, unless they had the knowledge of the facts as he (Bro. Spinks) had, would ever know what Bro. Weston did for that lodge. He worked hard and unceasingly until he succeeded in getting the warrant signed and accepted by both Provincial and Grand Lodges. At the conception of the lodge they wanted it to be called the Duke of Connaught Lodge, after his Royal Highness, who was at that time at the Royal Military Academy; but the duke would not consent. He could only say that Bro. Weston was one of the best friends the lodge ever had. Bro. Weston could always command a thousand votes, and always some £2 or £3 whenever the business of the lodge called him or some of the Past Masters to Grand Lodge, either on matters of benevolence or on votes for some of the lodge candidates. He trusted he had not said too much about Bro. Weston, but he must again say that their deceased brother was the best friend the lodge ever had.

The next toast was that of "The Visitors," and Bros. Jolly, Jacobs, Long, Taylor, Lait, and Wheatly, all briefly responded.

Several other toasts followed.

The singing was in the hands of Bro. Fowler, and he was assisted by Miss Nellie Roberts, Miss Clara Pierce, Bro. Ireland, and Mr. Hengler, and these talented artists sang songs, duets, &c., to perfection. Bro. Robinson played a violin solo, and Bro. Parsons did wonders on the euphonium.

The following selections were played during the banquetting by a portion of the Royal Artillery Band, under the direction of Bro. Robinson: March, "Unter dem Siegesbanner;" Overture, "Bauer und Dichter;" Valse, "Verborgene Perlen;" Selection, "The Belle of New York;" Song (Cornet Solo), "Gute Nacht;" Intermezzo, "Cavalleria Rusticana;" and Selection, "A Life on the Ocean;" and all went merry as the Byronic "Marriage Bells."

Lodge Acacia, No. 2321.

The regular monthly meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Bradford, Yorkshire, on Thursday, the 6th ult. The W.M. (Bro. J. B. Fearnley) presided, and was supported by Bros. John Morton, I.P.M.; T.P. Sykes, S.W.; W. Docksey, J.W.; J. S. Hedley, S.D.; T. H. Bedford, J.D.; W. H. Townend, I.G.; J. S. Cooper, Tyler; A. Stephenson, P.M.; P.P.G.D., D. of C.; J. T. Last, P.M.; P.P.G.R., Sec.; S. A. Bailey, P.M.; C. H. Ellis, P.M.; S. Robinson, P.M.; J. W. Bland, Treas.; T. Wainman-Holmes, P.M.; P.P.G.O., Org.; W. Durrance, Asst. Sec.; J. Ledger, J. Hardy, R. S. Hird, J. Wood, R. A. Hinchcliffe, and G. Lee. Visitors: Bros. J. K. Blakey, P.M. 13; J. R. Horspool, 1185; L. J. F. Watson, Sec. 2069; Eli Spencer, 2669; and A. J. Taylor, Org. 2669.

After the lodge had been opened, and the minutes of the previous regular lodge, and also of a lodge of emergency, had been confirmed, the ballot was taken for a gentleman as a candidate for initiation, who was duly elected. Bro. Hardy was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by the W.M., the working tools being explained by Bro. Docksey, J.W., and the charge in the Third Degree was delivered by Bro. Sykes, S.W. The next item on the lodge agenda was of peculiar interest, the W.M. stated that it afforded him the greatest possible pleasure to propose the following resolution: "That with a view to signalise the very happy and successful special meeting of the lodge held on the 11th May, 1899, when as Dep. G. Master of the province and his first Masonic ceremonial as Deputy, he did the members the honour of unfurling the splendid new banner of the lodge, and in appreciation of his services then rendered, Bro. Richard Wilson, P.M. 289, P.G.D. Eng., D.P.G.M. of West Yorkshire, be and he is hereby elected an Honorary Member of the lodge." The resolution was seconded by Bro. Last, P.M. and Sec., supported by Bro. Alfred Stephenson, P.M., P.P.G.D., and carried unanimously. The Secretary was directed to communicate the resolution to the Dep. Prov. G. Master. Notice was given of a proposed grant towards the relief of the widow of a deceased member of the lodge.

After "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors, the lodge was closed, and the brethren subsequently dined together, when the usual Masonic toasts were duly honoured and a pleasant evening spent, harmony prevailing.

Chislehurst Lodge, No. 1531.

The ordinary July meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Chislehurst, on the 20th ult., when these were present Bros. R. G. Robinson, W.M.; G. Procter, S.W.; Jas. Baron, J.W.; Wm. Hollis, P.P.S.G.D., Treas.; C. F. Quicke, P.G.S. of W., Sec.; Wm. Kipps, P.P.G.O., D.C.; A. Smith, I.G.; G. H. Dowsett, J. Stephens, and E. Dettmer, Stewards; H. Martin, Tyler; A. J. Perriam, P.M.; T. Featherstone Smith, P.M.; W. J. Kipps, P.M.; Thos. Woolf, Walter Scott, W. F. Coney, M. Tetford, and A. W. Petersen. Visitors: Bros. H. Pickett, P.M. 1602; G. A. Robinson, S.W. 55; A. Pratt, 55; G. Fairbairn, 30; and F. Busby, J.W. 731.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, Bro. T. Woolf was raised to the Third Degree, and Bro. Walter Scott advanced to that of the Fellow Craft, both ceremonies being very ably performed by the W.M. The principal feature, however, was the presentation to the senior Past Master of the lodge, of a new set of Past Provincial Grand Organist's clothing in recognition of his great services to the lodge. Bro. William Kipps, who was initiated in the Star Lodge, No. 1275, in 1871, became a founder of the Chislehurst Lodge in 1875, and its third W.M. After an absence of 22 years from the chair of this lodge, he was called upon to resume the duties of that office last year owing to the sudden death of the W.M. This he did with credit to himself and satisfaction to the brethren. The W.M. in asking Bro. Kipps's acceptance of the gift paid a very just compliment to the great musical gifts as well as the Masonic virtues of the "Father of the Lodge." Amongst numerous appointments as Organist, he is Hon. Organist of the Grand Masters Chapter, No. 1, and has on frequent occasions conducted the musical arrangements at consecration ceremonies. He has served several Stewardships, and is a Life

Governor of all three Masonic Charities. He also has an excellent record in Royal Arch and Mark Masonry. The W.M. also referred to the coincidence of Bro. W. J. Kipps, P.M., worthy son of worthy sire, during the past week being appointed Organist of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, after a severe competition of about 50 applicants; this last honour being the latest of a series since 1834. Bro. W. Kipps, in accepting the gift of the brethren, was considerably affected, and spoke most feelingly of that memento from the lodge. Probably the brethren had noticed that, after 22 years of wear, his collar and apron were not quite so smart as they should be. He was deeply sensible of, and grateful for, the honour done him that day.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the Village Hall to the banquet.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards duly honoured.

Chantry Lodge, No. 2355.

On the 28th ult. Bro. C. F. Shepherd, S.W., was duly installed W.M. of the above lodge at the Masonic Hall, Dore. There was a large attendance of brethren, amongst whom were Bro. T. Cox, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., and a large number of Present and Past Prov. G. Officers of Derbyshire and Yorkshire. The Installing Officer was Bro. G. A. Tandy, I.P.M., who performed his duties in a most efficient and impressive manner; after which the W.M. elected his officers for the coming year as follows: Bros. A. E. Mayger, P.M., S.W.; James Tindall, J.W.; W. Boden, P.P.J.G.W., Treas.; G. T. Y. Dickinson, S.D.; William Roper, J.D.; W. Allen, P.P.G. Stwd., Sec.; G. Gibson, D. of C.; J. H. Lawson, Org.; J. Wallace, I.G.; Vincent and Page, Stwds.; and C. Birch, Tyler.

Subsequently, at the Masonic Hall, Sheffield, the W.M. and between 70 and 80 brethren sat down to a banquet, at which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were given, and an agreeable programme of music was rendered.

THE LATE BRO. REV. J. H. ROSE.

MEMORIAL WINDOW UNVEILED.

At St. James's Church, Clerkenwell, Captain Penton on Monday last unveiled a stained glass window in memory of the late Bro. Rev. J. H. Rose, vicar of the parish. The body of the church was filled with parishioners, who took part in a special memorial service. The anthems were "Be thou faithful unto death" and "O rest in the Lord."

Bro. Archdeacon SINCLAIR, in the course of an address, said the late vicar was much beloved in the parish, and rightly so. For 30 years he had been going in and out among them. He was one in whom the milk of human kindness was very strong, and was a thorough, earnest, genuine Christian minister. It was to his advantage that Clerkenwell was one of the few parishes where the vicar was chosen by the people themselves. On the whole, that arrangement must result in strong harmony between the people and their vicar. Bro. Rose set an example to all the clergy of London, and as a parish priest no one could have been more loyal to the Church of England. Socially he was equally successful. In all these aspects he showed himself a true man, who had the love of God as the foundation of all his actions, and was animated by love for his fellow-men. In conclusion, the Archdeacon expressed a wish that all the clergy could show that spirit of sympathy and brotherhood which distinguished Bro. Rose.

Obituary.

BRO. ALDERMAN LAYTON, J.P.

Bro. Alderman Layton, J.P., was found dead in bed on Thursday at his residence, Holmlea, Lower Addiscombe-road, Croydon. Bro. Layton was a member of the Common Council of the City of London, and one of the first aldermen of the borough of Croydon, of which he was Mayor during her Majesty's first jubilee. He was a member of the firm of Waterlow Brothers and Layton. On the 28th ult. he presided at the first Layton dinner, having last year invested £2000 for the purpose of providing an annual dinner for the Croydon Corporation. He was a member of the old Croydon Local Board, and when Croydon was incorporated in 1883 he was elected member for South Norwood Ward, and immediately chosen alderman, a position which he had held ever since.

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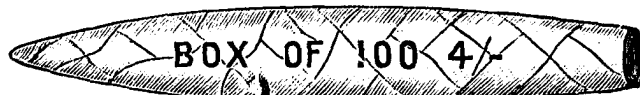
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SAMPLES AND PRICE LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

Masonic and General Tidings.

BRO. THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND has left town for Alnwick Castle.

BRO. JOHN AIRD, M.P., contradicts the report that he will retire from Parliament at the next election.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK left York House, St. James's Palace, in the afternoon of Monday, on a visit to the Queen at Osborne.

BRO. THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF HERTFORD have arrived at Bembridge, Isle of Wight, for a few weeks.

THE TREASURER of Guy's Hospital has acknowledged with thanks the receipt of a further donation of £5000 to the Re-endowment Fund from "M."

BRO. SIR STAFFORD AND THE HON. LADY NORTHCOTE are staying at Hardwicke House, Oxfordshire, where they will remain until the end of September.

LATE VICAR OF CLERKENWELL.—Capt. Penton unveiled a memorial to the late Vicar of Clerkenwell, Bro. the Rev. J. Henry Rose, M.A., M.L.S.B., at Clerkenwell Parish Church, on Monday.

A PORTRAIT of Bro. Sir Henry Harben, the chairman of the Hampstead Vestry, which has been subscribed for as a public recognition of the many valuable services rendered by him to Hampstead, was unveiled last week at the local vestry hall.

NEW PALACE STEAMERS.—Owing to the increasing popularity of the Boulogne trips, the Company has arranged for La Marguerite to run to Margate and Boulogne and back every Thursday, in addition to her ordinary trips, commencing on Thursday last.

THE BULLFINCH DISASTER.—The Board of Management of the Orphan Working School have, on the motion of Bro. Horace B. Marshall, agreed that a child of one of the deceased men in connection with the above disaster be admitted to the institution free, without election.

THE NEW "CITY."—The Queen has directed that as soon as the necessary arrangements under the London Government Act have been completed, there shall be confirmed to the borough of Westminster, as constituted under that Act, the title of city originally conferred upon Westminster by King Henry VIII.

DINNER TO BRO. T. BLASHILL.—The District Surveyors of London gave Bro. Blashill a dinner at the Holborn Restaurant on his retirement. Bros. A. Williams, H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., R. P. Notley, W. Hardcastle, H. H. Collins, T. Mundy, H. McLachlan, H. Chester, D. Mathew, G. Elkington, and others attended.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES, after spending several weeks at Sandringham with her daughters, Princess Victoria and Princess Charles of Denmark, left on Monday to join H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at Cowes, and at the end of this week or beginning of next her Royal Highness will leave for Copenhagen, where she will remain some time.

THE LIST of gentlemen forming the "Ship" Committee of the projected National Antarctic Expedition is headed by the veteran Bro. Sir Leopold McClintock, the others comprising Bro. Sir G. Nares, Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, Sir Anthony Hoskins, Sir John Murray, Bro. Admiral Markham, Captain Field, R.N., Captain Creak, R.N., and Admiral Aldrich.

WITH THE CONCURRENCE of the Speaker (Bro. the Right Hon. W. C. Gully) and the First Commissioner of Works, the memorial to the late Bro. Sir John Mowbray, "Father of the House of Commons," is to be placed either in the room in which he presided for so many years over the Committees of Selection and of Standing Orders or in the corridor staircase adjoining.

THE MARQUIS AND MARCHIONESS OF LONDONDERRY entertained the following among other guests at Mount Stewart last week for the festivities in connection with the coming of age of Viscount Castlereagh: The Countess of Kilmorey, the Earl of Ava, Viscountess Helmsley, Bro. Viscount Helmsley, Lady K. Cole, Bro. Lord and Lady Arthur Hill and Miss Hill, and Lord and Lady Langford.

LADY LILIAN OGLE, wife of Mr. Newton Ogle, passed away on Monday morning at her residence, in Curzon-street, Mayfair. Her ladyship had undergone a severe but successful operation last Friday, but, unhappily, her strength proved unequal to the strain. The greatest sympathy will be felt for the bereaved husband and for Bro. Lord and Lady Londesborough in the loss of an amiable and much-loved daughter.

NEW LIBRARY FOR CAMBERWELL.—Bro. Lord Llangattock has offered, as a gift to the Camberwell Vestry, the site for a public library for St. George's Wards, which comprise the very poorest portions of the parish. It is understood that the generous offer will be accepted. Up to the present the densely-populated district between Camberwell-road and the Old Kent-road has only had a small temporary library in Neate-street.

THE CHILDREN'S FRESH AIR MISSION.—The Bishop of Islington, Bro. Justice Bruce, and Sir Charles Hall, Q.C., M.P., are the signatories of an appeal that is being made for funds to provide a fortnight's change of air and scene for poor and ailing children living in Holborn, Clerkenwell, and St. Luke's. The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Walter Hazell, M.P., will gladly acknowledge subscription sent to him at St. Peter's Schools, Onslow-street, Farringdon-road.

BRO. LORD KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM arrived in Worksop from town on Monday evening on a visit to Bro. the Duke and Duchess of Portland at Welbeck Abbey. In the house party were included Prince Louis of Battenberg, the Earl of Enniskillen, Bro. the Earl of Durham, Lord Annaly, the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, the Countess of Hopetoun, Sir Nigel and Lady Emily Kingscote, Hon. Evan Charteris, Bro. and Mrs. W. H. Grenfell, Sir Edgar and Lady Helen Vincent, Lady Dickson-Poynder, and others.

THE CORDWAINERS' COMPANY have made a grant of 100 guineas to the Royal Free Hospital in memory of Mr. William Marsden, the founder of the hospital, and the Master of the Cordwainers' Company in 1849. The following grants have also been made: Twenty-five guineas to the City and Guilds Institute Prize Fund; 10 guineas each to the Woodwardian Museum, Cambridge, and the St. Dunstan's-in-the-West Assistant Clergy Fund; five guineas to the St. Dunstan's Church Schools; and three guineas each to St. Mildred's Offertory Augmentation Fund, and the Christ Church, Newgate-street, Sunday Schools.

LAST WEEK, Messrs. Ventom and Co. submitted the lease and good will of the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street. The property was described as the "world-renowned and old-established business of Painter's, where the leading business in the turtle trade has been and is still carried on." The premises were stated to cover an area of 4500 square feet, and to be held direct from the freeholders for an unexpired term of 63 years at a low ground rent. Bidding was elicited up to £65,000. The auctioneer intimated that he was unable to allow the property to go at that price, and should, therefore, buy it in, on behalf of the vendors, for £30,000.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to issue on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays, during August, first-class return tickets from Paddington to Henley-on-Thames, in connection with a launch from Henley up the picturesque reaches of the Thames to Pangbourne and back. Luncheon will be provided on board the launch, and dinner at the Red Lion Hotel, Henley, at an inclusive charge of 20s., and the railway tickets will be available by the express train leaving Paddington at 10.10 a.m., reaching Henley at 11 a.m., and returning from Henley at 9 p.m., and arriving at Paddington at 9.52 p.m.

COMING CIVIC EVENTS.—Bro. the Lord Mayor will entertain the Lord Mayor-elect at dinner at the Mansion House on Friday, the 29th prox. On Wednesday, October 11th, the Lord Mayor will receive from the Fruiterers' Company their annual presentation of fruit, and his lordship will in return entertain at dinner the members of the Court of the company. The Lord Mayo s, Mayors, and Provosts of the United Kingdom will be invited to a ball at the Mansion House on Tuesday, October 17th. The Elcho Shield will be received at the Guildhall on Saturday, October 21st. Lord Waldegrave (the captain) and the members of the English eight, together with the commanders of the Metropolitan Volunteer corps, will be entertained at dinner by the Lord Mayor at the conclusion of the ceremony.

THE VINTNERS' COMPANY have made a grant of 50 guineas to the East London Church Fund.

THE MERCERS' COMPANY have given 10 guineas in aid of the London Diocesan Police Court Mission.

THE GROCERS' COMPANY have made a further grant of £100 to the London Fever Hospital, Islington.

THE MERCHANT TAYLORS' COMPANY have given a donation of £105 to the East London Church Fund.

THE SKINNERS' COMPANY have contributed five guineas to the funds of the London Diocesan Police Court Mission.

THE CLOTHWORKERS' COMPANY have given a donation of £20 to assist the work of the London Diocesan Police-court Mission.

THE LEATHERSELLERS' COMPANY have recently given five guineas towards the funds of the London Diocesan Police-court Mission.

BRO. ARCHDEACON SINCLAIR has left town for Scotland. He will not resume his duties at the Cathedral until the end of September.

THE MAYOR OF HULL has received £30 from the Queen as her Majesty's contribution to his fund for the relief of sufferers through the explosion on the Bullfinch.

SEVERE STORMS have swept over the United States, destroying the crops in the Mississippi Valley, and causing great loss of life on the coast of Florida, where five towns have been overthrown.

GRAY'S INN GARDENS.—By permission of the Benchers these gardens will be open every evening until the end of September for the benefit of the poor children of the surrounding crowded streets.

KENNING'S C.C. v. GUY'S HOSPITAL.—Played at Crofton Park on Saturday last, and resulted in a win for the latter by the narrow margin of four runs. Scores—Guy's, 84; Kenning's, 80.

BRO. LORD KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM has postponed the date of his departure from England until the 15th inst. His lordship will proceed direct to Cairo, where he will spend some little time, before going on to Khartoum.

THE FOLLOWING BULLETIN was issued on Thursday by Dr. H. R. Walker: "Lady Salisbury is making slow progress towards recovery. She has had another good night." The Marquis of Salisbury reached Walmer Castle in the evening. Viscount Cranbourne arrived earlier in the day.

THE MARRIAGE was celebrated on Saturday, the 29th ult., at Clapham, of J. E. Neale Shand, eldest son of Bro. J. E. Shand, P.M., P.Z., Registrar of Westminster, and of 27, Union-road, Clapham-rise, S.W., and Ellen Edwards, third daughter of William Edwards, of Tarporley, Cheshire.

AMONGST the latest additions to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund for London are the following annual subscriptions: Mr. Lewis P. Ford, £12 12s.; Messrs. Baird and Tatlock, £10 10s.; Messrs. Collingwood and Co., £10 10s.; Lord Glanusk, £10; and Lord Wenlock, £10.

AN INSPIRED ARTICLE in the *Official Messenger* of St. Petersburg reviews at length the results of the Peace Conference, and declares that they have fully come up to the expectations of the Russian Government. They afford, it says, a fresh basis for international peace without impairing the sovereign rights of individual States.

THE NAVAL MANŒUVRES are at an end. The convoy has been brought safely into Milford Haven, and the enemy, represented by the vessels under the command of Vice-Admiral Rawson, have signally failed. Throughout the war, which began on Saturday last, neither the battleships nor cruisers of the rival fleets have come into contact with one another.

THE SHAMROCK, after meeting with a slight mishap to her bowsprit, which delayed her departure, left Fairlie on her way to New York, and received an enthusiastic send-off. The best wishes of the United Kingdom go with her. Before she sailed, Sir Thomas Lipton, her owner, addressed the crew, and, in the course of a stirring speech, assured them that they would meet with perfectly fair play on the other side of the Atlantic.

THE SMITHFIELD MARTYRS' MEMORIAL.—A movement is on foot for the restoration of the Martyrs' Memorial, which was erected in the year 1870 at Smithfield by the members of the Protestant Alliance. The tablet marks the spot where men, such as John Rogers, John Bradford, and Archdeacon Pailpot, were "done to death" for their adherence to the Protestant faith. When the work of restoration is completed it is proposed to hold an open-air service, at which the memorial will once more be unveiled.

IN A REVIEW of the work on the development of the Craft, recently written by the Grand Registrar, the *Newcastle Daily Journal* says: "Mr. Strachan has brought to his task, not only painstaking research, but an honestly critical judgment. . . . Space does not enable us to make further quotations from this interesting work; but we have said enough to show that it is a volume abounding in interest, not only to local Freemasons and to the members of the Brotherhood all over the country, but also to those who are interested in historical subjects and the origin of the ancient buildings of the county and district."

HER MAJESTY went out on Thursday morning, accompanied by her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Henry of Battenberg, and his Highness Prince Alexander, left Osborne in the morning for London, crossing to Portsmouth on board her Majesty's yacht *Alberta*, Vice-Admiral Sir John Fullerton, A.D.C. The Hon. A. Yorke was in attendance. Lieutenant Freiherr von Strombeck had the honour of being received by the Queen yesterday morning, and delivered a letter from the German Emperor.

THE ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S annual show was formally opened at Liverpool on Thursday, in brilliant weather, by the Lord Mayor of the city, Lord Derby, the President of the show, in introducing the Lord Mayor, referred to the trial of self-propelled motor cars that has taken place in Liverpool within the present week, and said that this year the trials had been witnessed by representatives of foreign powers as well as of the War Office, the Board of Trade, and the Post Office, and many others interested in locomotion, and it was, therefore, right that self-propelled motors should be admitted to the show. The number of entries is larger than usual, and the opening was highly successful.

HER MAJESTY has been graciously pleased to convey to Viscount Peel, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Portrait Gallery, her wish to present to the gallery as a national possession a portrait of herself in the robes worn at her coronation, painted by Sir George Hayter, and at present in Kensington Palace. At a recent special meeting of the Board the Trustees accepted this gift in the name of the nation, and offered to her Majesty their most sincere and hearty thanks for the honour thus conferred upon the National Portrait Gallery. As it is not possible to make arrangements for the immediate transfer of this portrait from Kensington Palace, further notice will be given as soon as it can be placed on view in the gallery.

A SUCCESSFUL INSURANCE COMPANY.—The annual dinner of the British Key and Property Registry, Limited, of Glasgow and London, the pioneer company in key and accident insurance, has been held at the Holborn Restaurant. The chairman was Mr. F. Norie Miller, of Perth, who is so well known in the insurance world as the organiser and developer of several of the most successful Scotch insurance companies, including the General Accident and the Northern Plate Glass. Mr. Miller had the support of Mr. A. Robertson Cowper (who instituted this now popular form of property and accident insurance, and is managing director of the British Key and Property Registry, Limited), and Mr. A. T. Macfarlane, of Chatham. In the course of an enjoyable evening some very interesting remarks were made as to the position of the company, and it was stated, among other things, that the increase in premiums (which are only one shilling each) for the year exceeded £5000. The company have under consideration the extension of their business to America and the Colonies. The dinner, which is an annual event, gave the company an opportunity of treating their officials to a three days' holiday in the Metropolis, the arrangements for which were very satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. J. J. Cowper (the general inspector) and T. Hassan Cowper (the London manager).