

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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CONTENTS.

LEADER—	PAGE
West Yorkshire and the Masonic Vagrant	569
Lodge Room... ..	569
The Latest MS. Discovered	570
Art and the Drama	571
Ladies' Banquet and Concert of the Albion Lodge and Chapter, No. 9	571
Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees (Annual Meeting)... ..	572
Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire	572
Craft Masonry	574
MASONIC NOTES—	
Consecration of the Assheton Egerton Lodge, No. 2793	577
Death of Bro. J. Newton	577
Bro. R. F. Gould's New Work, "Military Lodges"	577
Bro. Sir Charles Warren	577
Provincial Grand Lodge of Warwickshire	577
Grand Council of the Allied Degrees	577
Correspondence	578
Reviews	578
Craft Masonry	578
Royal Arch	581
Mark Masonry	581
Obituary	581
Instruction	582
Masonic Concert	582
SCOTLAND—	
Preceptory of the Temple in Glasgow	584
Masonic and General Tidings	584

WEST YORKSHIRE AND THE MASONIC VAGRANT.

It is about two months since that our attention was called to a pamphlet issued under the patronage, if not with the authority, of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire, in which were set forth very clearly and circumstantially the doings of the Masonic Vagrant, and our earnest hope was expressed that the authorities of the Province would adopt such steps as might have the effect of rendering it unsafe for the out-at-elbows Mason with only a very small modicum of conscience to influence him to live honestly to take up with vagrancy professionally. From this little publication we learned that the movement against the Masonic Vagrant had its origin in a suggestion of Bro. RICHARD WILSON, P.G.D., the newly-appointed Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Yorkshire, that a conference of Lodge Almoners should be held for the purpose of concerting measures against the vagrant. The conference was held in Leeds on the 20th July, under the presidency of Bro. WILSON, and was attended, not only by many lodge Almoners of the Province itself and the Chief Constable of Huddersfield, but also by a brother from the Ashton-under-Lyne District and the Provincial Grand Secretary of East Lancashire. The result of the meeting was that a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect "That this Conference of Almoners respectfully calls upon the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire to consider the subject of Itinerant Masonic Impostors, and urges upon them to make a representation to the Grand Lodge of England that it is desirable to formulate a code of instructions to Almoners throughout England, so that a united stand may be made against an evil which menaces the interests of Freemasonry." Since then, as will be seen from the report of the recent half-yearly meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Yorkshire which appears in another column, the question has evidently been carefully considered by the authorities of the Province. But the result so far, it must be confessed, is somewhat disappointing, unless, indeed, we are to regard the resolution to which we are about to refer merely as a preliminary measure. At all events, for the present, the Provincial Grand Lodge has contented itself with passing a resolution which provides that in cities and towns where more than one lodge is located only one Almoner for the

whole body should be appointed. This, so far as it goes, is satisfactory. One Almoner for the nine lodges in Leeds will be able to do his work more effectually than nine Almoners, one for each lodge. In the latter case an impostor might not be discovered until he had operated successfully on two or three of the lodge Almoners. In the former he would succeed or fail at the first and only attempt he would be able to make in Leeds. But, after all, this arrangement by which one brother does duty for all the lodges in a given town is but a minor detail. It is useful, no doubt, for the town to which it applies, but it does not carry us much beyond the point we have already reached in our endeavours to cope successfully with the Masonic vagrant. We desire to see, not only each Province striving its utmost to put down this vagrancy, but also all the Provinces in England co-operating together to this end. East Lancashire and West Yorkshire in the north, and Kent and Surrey in the south, have had good reason to complain of the ravages of the impostor, but while these are complaining, and their Almoners are more on the alert against his depredations, the knowing impostor has betaken himself to other parts of the country, where people have had less experience of him and his little games; and while the Provinces we have mentioned are up in arms against him, the Midlands or the Eastern Provinces are helping to make him sleek and fat with the alms they bestow upon him. Our readers may depend upon it that the only chance of coping successfully with these fraudulent people is for the Provinces to work together to put them down. Even then, they will not get rid of them altogether, but they reduce their chances of earning a dishonest livelihood at their expense to a minimum.

LODGE ROOM.

I. THE PORCHWAY.

[COMMUNICATED].

At the entrance, or porchway of King Solomon's Temple, there were two pillars, one on either side. Representatives of these two pillars are to be found within the entrance to every lodge room. The neophyte is apt to be confused with the multiplicity of columns and pillars which adorn the lodge. In addition to the two mentioned, there are those to be found at the pedestals of the three principal officers, bearing of course quite a distinct significance, and in some lodges there is to be found what is called the "Broken Column," which is in evidence during the period of mourning for a deceased brother. This is, however, not usual in lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England. In the side degrees, there are references to the "Pillars of Enoch," also found in the "legend of the Craft" contained in the old Constitution. These were supposed to have been constructed by that patriarch for the preservation of records of antediluvian inventions. They were of brass, and of course were hollow, to serve their intended purpose. Most columns are hollow, and it has been abundantly proved, both theoretically and practically, that a hollow pillar possesses far more tensile strength than a solid one of similar dimensions. This truth was not known to the Ancients, however, and the hollow column was probably derived from the pillars of Enoch.

Regarding the pillars in the porchway, we find the following account in Josephus:

"Moreover this Hiram made two hollow pillars whose outsides were of brass and the thickness of the brass was four fingers' breadth and the height of the pillars was eighteen cubits (twenty seven feet) and the circumference twelve cubits (eighteen feet) but there was cast with each of their

"chapiters, lily-work that stood upon the pillar and it was elevated five cubits (seven and a half feet) round about which there was net work interwoven with small palms made of brass and covered the lily-work. To this also were hung two hundred pomegranates in two rows. The one of these pillars he set at the entrance of the porch on the right hand (or south) and called it Jachin, and the other at the left hand (or north) and called it Boaz."

In erecting these pillars it has been suggested that Solomon had reference to the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire which went before the Israelites in the wilderness, the right hand or south pillar representing the pillar of cloud, and the left hand or north pillar, that of fire. They were not merely erected as ornaments to the Temple, but as memorials of God's goodness and his repeated promises of support to His people.

It will be notified that the dimensions, twenty seven feet by six in diameter, represented unusual stability. They were not meant as supports for the roof. The presence of the ornamentation on the top of each of them would in itself make it impracticable. Again their height, including the "chapter" was but twenty three cubits, whereas according to ii Chronicles, iii, 4, and Josephus (ANT. viii, iii, 2.), the porch was a hundred and twenty cubits.

Moreover, Hiram was not the "builder" of the temple, but simply the decorator.

It was not unusual for temples to be so decorated, and Benzing (Biblical Archaeology) points out that such are to be found among both Syrian and Phœnician remains.

As to their names. The reference to the great grandfather of David, in the ritual, is quite gratuitous, as it is perfectly certain there was not the slightest connection. Gesenius suggests they were named after the donors, or, alternatively, the artisans who constructed them, and Ewald (Gesch iii, 4) suggests they were called after two of Solomon's sons.

After standing for 427 years they were broken up by Nebuzar-adan, 588 B.C., as recorded in Jeremiah lii, 21.

The two pillars were remarkable by reason of the "chapiters" which surmounted them. In many of our lodges, these are represented by the two globes, celestial and terrestrial! As a matter of fact considerable doubt exists as to what they really were. The Hebrew word is כִּתְרוֹת (*Keteret*). Its root is to be found in the word כֶּתֶר (*Keter*), signifying a crown, and it is thus used in *Esther*, vi, 8, to describe the royal diadem of the King of Persia. The chaldaic version expressly calls the chapter, a crown, but Rabbi Solomon, in his commentary describes it as a globe, and Rabbi Gerstrom says it was like two crowns joined together. Lightfoot says it was a "huge oval, five cubits in its longest axis, which sat upon the column and glowered around it, being considerably greater in diameter than the pillar itself."

The lily referred to, as decorating the chapiters, was the Nymphaea lotus, or lotus of the Nile, not the common lily such as is referred to in *Luke* xii, 27. The lotus was a sacred plant among the Egyptians, and appeared extensively in their temple decorations.

The custom already referred to, of surmounting the pillars with the celestial and terrestrial globes must have arisen from the fact that the constellations used to be found engraved on the pillars which decorated the porch of the Egyptian temple of Amon.

It has been conjectured that the plan of the ornamentation was as follows. The lotus petals sprang out from the summit of the pillar at the junction of the chapter, and after gently curving round it they drooped towards the pillar in a manner similar to the Acanthus leaves on the Corinthian column. About two-fifths of the distance from the bottom of the chapter, or just below its greatest diameter, or most bulging part, there was carved a tissue of net-work extending over the whole upper surface. Around the bottom of this net-work was suspended a series of fringes on which again were carved two rows of pomegranates, a hundred in a row.

The original or Scriptural symbolism of the pillars is thus described by Dudley (*Naology*, p. 121). "The pillars represent the sustaining power of the great God. The flower of the lotus or water-lily, rises from a root growing at the bottom of the water, and maintains its position on the surface by its columnar stalk, which becomes more or less straight as occasion requires. It is, therefore, aptly symbolical of the power of the Almighty constantly employed in the preservation of the world. The chapter is the body or mass of the earth. The pomegranates being a fruit remarkable for the number of their seeds, are symbolic of fertility, and the wreaths—or network—spread over the surface, indicate the courses of the heavenly bodies around the earth."

It will occur to the reader that all this is very fanciful, and in fact any intelligent student could quite as easily and with quite

as much reason apply half a dozen other explanations, all equally suitable as the above.

We have come across a number of adaptations to Masonic symbolism, which are all as fanciful as that quoted, and the truth is that in the first instance the pillars were introduced into the lectures as parts of historical detail rather than as significant symbols. The catechism of 1731 describes their name, their size, and their material, but says nothing about their Masonic import. If the porches of our lodges are to be adorned at all in this manner, the idea ought to be carried out thoroughly. Pillars of the actual dimensions may be unattainable or impracticable, but the relative dimensions ought to be preserved. The conjoint signification of the two names is stability—but we once observed a candidate, to whom this had been duly explained by the Worshipful Master, and who was in the act of retiring for a brief time from the lodge accidentally stumble against the right hand pillar, with the result that it fell over!

In our lodges the pillars are usually found within the porch, but, according to Lightfoot—who produces some very cogent arguments in his favour—they were without, in a position in which they would be seen by all who entered. Whereas, if they were inside, the incomer would pass them without notice.

They were said to be made of brass. But the brass of the Bible is not the same as the brass of present day commerce. The latter is an admixture of copper and zinc, and it is very rarely found in the remains of ancient cities. Weapons and implements of copper and bronze, however, are frequently met with. In Job, xxviii, 2, brass is said to be "molten out of stone." Clearly copper is here referred to. It is highly probable that the pillars of the porchway were cast in bronze. In our own days the best castings are made in this metal, whereas brass castings of any size or importance are unknown. The superior hardness of bronze makes it possible for the cast to reproduce every outline of the mould. Moreover, bronze is one of the most ancient of metals. The art of making it is referred to by Homer in his description of the shield of Achilles (*Iliad*, xviii, 474), where he states that "copper and tin were brought to the furnace." And bronze implements are described by Rawlinson as found among Chaldaean remains dating from 2286, B.C.

We have now dealt exhaustively with the most noticeable part of the porchway, and there remains but little else to say about it. It might be asked whereabouts in the lodge room ought it to be. It is usually found in the N.W., but we fancy in strictness it ought to be in the South. It is protected by the Inner Guard, who acts under the immediate direction of the Junior Warden. Now, the assistants of the two other principal officers, sit at the right of the Wor. Master and Senior Warden, and we should suppose by analogy that the Inner Guard should be similarly placed with respect to the Junior Warden. This would bring the porch to the immediate right of that officer, a position which would make it easy for him to carry out his duties as to the examination of visitors. This, however, is only the writer's opinion.

THE LATEST MS. DISCOVERED.

I am very pleased, indeed, that Bro. Henry Sadler has discovered another old Masonic Roll, and that he has secured it for the Library of the Grand Lodge of England. Will he please let us know (1) what its name is to be, and (2) also more fully as to the text.

The portions he supplies agree with the "Antiquity MS." of A.D. 1686, which I gave in full in my "Old Charges" of 1872, and duly noted in the 2nd Edition of 1895. It looks, therefore, as if it belonged to that Family known as the "Grand Lodge" *Lansdowne Branch*, which includes three MSS. ("Lansdowne," "Antiquity," and "Probity"), which mentions that Prince Edwin was made a "Mason at Windsor," a peculiarity of that group.

The "Antiquity" scroll begins with the two clauses—
"Fear God and keep His Commandments,"
"For this is the whole Duty of Man,"

which are separated by the Invocation—

"In the name of the Great and Holy God, the wisdom of the Son, and the holy Ghost, Three Persons & one God, be with us now & ever, Amen."

The conclusion also accords with the MS. as given by Bro. Sadler, e.g.,

"These be all the Charges and Covenants that ought to be Read at the making of a Free Mason or Free Masons. The Almighty God of Jacob, who ever have you in his keeping, bless us, now and ever, Amen."

I await now a sight of the transcript, soon as made by our esteemed Sub-Librarian.

W. J. HUGHAN.

BRO. SIR HENRY IRVING IN AMERICA.—Bro. Sir Henry Irving's three weeks' engagement at New York comes to an end to-morrow (Saturday). All seats up to the last performance have been sold, realising a total of \$1,000 dollars. The average receipts for each performance are 3240 dollars. Owing to the extraordinary success of his tour, Bro. Sir Henry is negotiating for the postponement of his re-appearance in London, with a view to extending his tour in America an additional fortnight.

Art and the Drama.

CONTINENTAL GALLERY (WEST ROOM),
157 NEW BOND STREET, W.

EXHIBITION OF SILVER POINT, GOLD POINT, AND WATER COLOUR
DRAWINGS, BY CHAS. SAINTON, R.I.

We visited the above Exhibition last week. It afforded us great pleasure; it was such a change from the many artistic works we are accustomed to behold, to lose, for a while, the glare of colour, and rest and refresh our eyes with the exquisite graceful forms of artistic beauty. Many of our readers will naturally ask the question, "What is Silver Point?" We cannot do better, than adopt Mr. Sainton's own words in explanation. "Silver point is simply a drawing made upon paper, prepared with a wash of opaque white, with a stylus of pure silver fixed in a wooden holder. These drawings are permanent. It was a favourite instrument with the old masters. Fine collections of Silver Point, by St. Francis, Raphael, Perugino, Botticelli, Chirlandajo, Holbein, Albert Durer, and other masters, are to be found in the national collections of England and France." Through the courtesy of the artist, we were invited to see him at actual work, in his studio—the technique is really very simple. Again, we quote from a clever and interesting essay, by F. G. Stephens, Esq., which is a preface to the catalogue of Drawings exhibited. "The practitioner in this method, uses for his paper a stiff sheet, the surface of which is thickly covered with 'cretaceous matter,' practically chalk, and under great pressure, very highly polished by passing it between hot steel rollers—that is to say, 'hot pressing it.' The paper is thus made extremely smooth, liable to be soiled, apt to absorb grease and stains, and so sensitive, that what is drawn upon it can only be removed by scraping, a proceeding, which in an infinitesimal degree, is fatal to the draughtsman's views. Upon this ticklish material and its highly glazed surface, the artist draws with a stylus of gold or silver. Scarf pins serve very well for this purpose, or what are called 'ever pointed' pencils, the tin points of which are softened with bismuth. The work is indelible, and quite permanent." In etching, as is well known, errors can be rectified, and so thoroughly, that the artist is enabled to carry out his original design. Copper or steel plates can be hammered, from behind, or burnished in front, in order to remove faults, or modify the artist's original ideas. Such plates can be again affected by acid, or engraved upon anew, with the needle, over and over again. This is not the case with gold and silver point drawing, errors cannot be satisfactorily amended, and the drawing, under these conditions, is practically valueless. It is interesting to note that Mr. Chas. Sainton is the only son of Mons. Prosper Sainton, the celebrated violinist, and Mme. Sainton-Dolby, the famed contralto. We feel that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to these late distinguished artistes, for the many delightful evenings their talents have afforded us. We should have liked to briefly trace Mr. Chas. Sainton's progress in art, from its earliest period, to his present matured experience, but the limitations of space forbid our doing so. As critics of this choice collection of drawings, we must confess that we can find nothing objectionable, nor in any way deserving of censure. We simply run through the gamut of admiration, from the lowest to the highest notes. We will notice those which especially took our fancy. 1st. "Par excellence," is "A Spider's Web," No. 31, graciously lent to the artist for this exhibition, by H.R.H. The Duke of York. A fairy's child is seated in the centre of a spider's web. The figure is most delicately drawn, and it is remarkable for its quaint grace and beauty. This is in silver point. Another, "Titania's Messenger," No. 13, made with gold point, is one of the loveliest in the collection. "A Bacchante," No. 20, is a study made with a gold point. The graceful figure and face of the maiden, with her wreath of vine leaves, is beautifully depicted. "The Fairy all forlorn," No. 9, is in silver point. Poor Puck is in trouble. There is an original humorous idea in the contact of the fairy's hands upon the mushroom head, delicately and felicitously carried out. These we have named are only a few of this charming collection. We could instance many more, but we must not encroach upon the limits assigned to us. There is, however, one subject to which we must allude. We were much astonished when we read a review by one of the leading daily papers. The critic, on the whole, was not favourably impressed. He spoke of the drawings being "sensuous," and though he did not actually say so, intimated that the impression they conveyed was that of indelicacy. With this opinion we are entirely at issue. We regret that the writer should view Mr. Sainton's drawings from so low a standpoint. We would remind him, that "to the pure minded, all things are pure," and that, in the exquisite poetical feeling with which the artist has effectively and gracefully depicted his subjects, there is nothing whatever which could offend the prudish matron, or the delicately-minded maiden. Let those who would be assured on this point, visit the gallery and judge for themselves. The Princess Victoria of Wales, and Prince and Princess Charles of Denmark, visited the Gallery on Friday, the 3rd inst. (Private view.)

ADELPHI THEATRE.

We were present at a matinee of the Adelphi Theatre last week. The piece now playing is "With Flying Colours." It is an improved type of the good old Melodramatic School, so familiar in our childhood. Of course, there is a murder in it, for what would a piece of that kind be without it. It is ingeniously contrived. How so? Well, my dear brother, have I whetted your curiosity? No, you must not expect me to tell you, go yourself and see how how it is done. You will there revive acquaintance with the old stock characters; the villain, prosperous and well to do, the persecutor of the hero and the heroine, through the four acts of the drama, to be visited with terrible retribution in the fifth. Then there are the two comic characters in the piece; the clever all round utility man, the humble, yet valuable aid in the thwarting the designs of the smiling smooth-faced villain, on the eventual happiness of the loving pair. Then, as a relief, we are introduced to scenes and incidents of naval life, not only on board ship, but also on land, affording the opportunity of developing the plot. In due course, Vice is defeated, and Virtue triumphant. So far, we have written in a light vein, but seriously speaking, it is a fairly good piece, and though written on the usual lines, yet, one or two of the ideas are certainly original. We especially allude to the "right of way," as shown in Act 3, Scene 1.—Harry Belt's cottage; the audience quite appreciated this new departure. Harry Belt and Polly Tumble, the chief actors in this scene, are well interpreted by the universal favourite, Harry Nicholls, and clever Florence

Lloyd. The weight of the drama rests on the shoulders of Messrs. Robt. Pateman, W. L. Abingdon, and Aubrey Mallabien, who are well able to sustain it. But we would suggest to Mr. Abingdon, that if his utterance were less rapid, it would be much more effective. It is evident, that, at times, he is hurried away by his conscientious earnestness. This could easily be amended, giving the talented actor the better opportunity of making his points. We should have spoken of the lady artistes first. We trust they will kindly excuse our not having done so. The heroine, Mary Derrick, is personated by Miss Suzanne Sheldon. We do not recollect having seen her before. She is graceful and unaffected in her manner, possessing a certain amount of power, which, however, she has not many opportunities of using. We hope, ere long, to see her in a more important character. Miss Florence Lloyd contributes, essentially, to the well-deserved success of the piece; while of the evergreen Mrs. Henry Leigh, she is too well known and appreciated, to need any commendation on our part. The unpleasant character of Florence Hackett, is made as little repulsive as possible, and played most intelligently by Mrs. Raleigh. The scenic accessories and costumes are good. We think that the title of the drama might be improved. In these piping times of war, people, would be likely to attach a different meaning to it, than is intended by the authors. Taken as a whole, we think the drama will repay a visit.

"DI TANTI PALPITI," OR "THE MUTTON CUTLET" AIR, FROM "TANCREDI," BY G. ROSSINI.

The other evening during a few idle moments (we have not many, by the way), we were playing from an old music book, some operatic airs selected from the works of the "Swan of Pesars," Giuseppe Rossini. How often memory will look back, through the vista of bye-gone years, and recalls the scenes and events of early life. We well remember on one of our early visits to the Italian Opera, we saw the opera of Tancredi, a well-known type of the romantic school of music, now consigned to oblivion, and only remembered by its brilliant overture, which is still, occasionally, played at Band Concerts. Music, like its sister arts, is subject to the fickle goddess, Fashion. At the time when the operas of that prolific composer, Rossini, were in full vogue, the style of music was utterly different to that of our present age. We find in the Operas of Bellini, Rossini, Donizetti, and others of that florid school, that the melodies written for the great singers, beautiful, as undoubtedly, many of them are, are so overburdened with ornamental additions—"floritoire" as they are called, that the original airs are lost in the exceeding, elaborate, and difficult passages, which really only serve as a vocal display, "tours de force," of the accomplished artistes. Our modern style is better and purer. A notable exception to what we have stated, is to be found in the lovely melody, "Di tanti palpiti," from Tancredi. When first sung, the air is free from that meritorious ornamentation of which Rossini is so fond. Later on in the opera, the melody is again introduced, but overlaid in the way to which we have alluded. "Di tanti palpiti," is generally known under the name of the "Mutton Cutlet," air. As the story is told, Rossini went, on one occasion, at midday, to a cafe on the Piazza di San Marco, Venice, and ordered some mutton cutlets, for his lunch. While they were being prepared, he is said to have been inspired with a musical idea, and hastily jotted down the leading motif of this entrancing melody, a bright, pure, musical gem, which will ever retain its lustre. On a future occasion we may say more of Rossini.

LADIES' BANQUET AND CONCERT OF THE ALBION LODGE AND CHAPTER, No. 9.

The members of the above lodge and chapter annually meet together, accompanied by ladies, and the result is invariably a most enjoyable evening. This year the pleasant function took place at Freemasons' Tavern, on the 14th inst., but for the first time, Masonic regalia was not worn. The visitors on arriving were cordially welcomed by Bro. Jas. R. Francis, W.M., and Mrs. Francis, and found that everything necessary for their comfort had been arranged for by the Secretary, Bro. W. L. Harvey.

At the banquet, over which the W.M. presided, the vice-chairman were Bros. P. B. Smith, W.M.; W. W. Evans, J.W.; and Comp. E. J. Wickenden, M.E.Z. The Past Masters present included Bros. Cane, I.P.M.; Gerrish, P.M.; Meyers, P.M.; W. Dennis, P.M.; and Friend, P.M., Treas.

After dessert, a very short toast list was proceeded with. "The Queen and Royal Family" was first heartily received, the W.M. alluding to Her Majesty's glorious and virtuous reign.

Bro. Cane, I.P.M., proposed "The Chairman," and said his task was both an easy and difficult one. Easy, inasmuch as he had their unanimous support in the desire to honour their W.M., but the opportunity on his part was in the employment of appropriate words to properly convey the kindly feelings of esteem and regard in which the W.M. was held. The brethren of the lodge had watched Bro. Francis' career with great interest, had seen him pass through the various offices with great credit. He took this opportunity of congratulating the W.M. upon his success, and particularly on this meeting, which had been the greatest success, on account of the presence of so many ladies who had graced the assembly.

Bro. JAS. R. FRANCIS, W.M., on behalf of his wife and himself, sincerely thanked all present for their generous support. It had gladdened both their hearts to see so many ladies present, and indeed, he did not know what they should do without them. He would at once propose the next toast, "The Ladies." If he had his way they should attend every time a banquet was held.

Bro. MITTEN acknowledged the toast.

Bros. HARRINGTON and WOOLLEY replied for "The Visitors."

The "Vice-Chairman" was the last toast given by the W.M., who referred to the splendid work done in the chapter by Comp. Wickenden. Comp. E. J. WICKENDEN, M.E.Z., said he was proud to know that so many members of the lodge had joined the chapter. He was pleased to see the ladies with them; and hoped this would continue for many years.

After a short interval, the concert, which proved most enjoyable, was proceeded with, the artistes being Miss Jessie Hotine, Miss Ethel Bevans, Bros. Arthur Weston, Franklin Clive, R. B. Hopkins, Wilson James, and F. H. Cozens.

A pleasant evening was fittingly terminated with "Rule Britannia," and Auld Lang Syne.

GRAND COUNCIL OF THE ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

The annual meeting of the Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of England and Wales, and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown, was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Monday, the 6th instant, at 6.30 o'clock p.m., when the following G. Officers were present: M.W. Bro. [the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.M.; R.W. Bros. Charles Belton, D.G.M.; C. F. Matier, G. Sec., R. Loveland Loveland, P.D.G.M.; and A. Woodiwiss, P.G.W., as S.G.W.; W. Bro. R. J. Voisey, P.A.G.D. of C., as J.G.W.; R.W. Bros. Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.W., and Major C. W. Carrell, P.G.W.; V.W. Bros. the Rev. Richard Peek, P.G. Chap., as G. Chap., and the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, P.G. Chap.; W. Bros. William Bryant, S.G.D.; William Vincent, G.D. of C.; John Robinson, A.G.D. of C.; Harry Tipper, P.G.I.G., as G.I.G.; and E. J. Mills, G. Tyler; with representatives from many subordinate Councils, and many private members.

Grand Council was opened in ample form, and the M.W. Grand Master saluted according to ancient custom.

The minutes of the last meeting of Grand Council were taken as read and, on motion duly proposed and seconded, confirmed.

The following report was read by the Grand Secretary: The Grand Secretary has the pleasure to report that during the past year the great majority of the councils on the roll have shown a large amount of energy and activity, which has resulted in a considerable addition to the roll of registered members. Among these councils may be honourably mentioned the Concord, at Liverpool; the Veran, at Reading; the St. Lawrence, at Pudsey; the W. M. Sewell, at Cockermouth; and the Four Kings, in London. The thanks of the Grand Council are due to these councils and to the brethren by whose untiring energy this happy result has been attained. The concordat established last year between the Grand Council and Conclave of the Order of Secret Monitor and this Grand Council appears to have resulted in the utmost harmony, and all friction happily seems to have ceased. The M.W. Grand Master having been pleased to grant a warrant for a new council at Birkenhead, under the style and title of the Salem Council, No. 28, attended on the 23rd February, 1899, accompanied by a large number of Grand Officers, and the council was by him constituted and consecrated in due and ancient form. Twenty-seven candidates were admitted to the various degrees under the control of the Grand Council, and the council, now numbering over 40 members, has started with every augury of prosperity and success. The M.W. Grand Master also was pleased to grant a warrant for a new council at Bradford, Yorks, to be called the Old York Council, No. 29. The consecration took place on the 26th May, 1899, when his lordship, with all customary ceremonial, most ably discharged his duties as the Consecrating Officer, in which he was assisted by many Grand Officers, Present and Past. Twenty brethren presented themselves as candidates, and were admitted to the various Degrees. This council has the advantage of having our distinguished Bro. C. L. Mason, the Prov. Grand Master (Mark Masons) West Yorkshire, as their first W.M., and may confidently be relied on to support the honour and dignity of the Grand Council. The Grand Secretary is directed to warn members of the Allied Degrees residing in the West of England against visiting two so-called councils of Knights of Constantinople in Devonport and Plymouth, which meet without any authority whatever, and profess to confer the Degree of Knight of Constantinople. The Grand Council has on several occasions made overtures to these so-called councils, and endeavoured to induce the members to accept warrants of confirmation, which would have legalised their action, but to no effect, and has no alternative but to declare that brethren professing to be members of these self-styled Councils, the Red Cross at Plymouth and the St. Aubyn at Devonport, must not be permitted to visit any Council of the Allied Degrees, and that they are not legitimate Knights of Constantinople. This decision has been communicated to the Grand Councils of Scotland and the United States of America. The G. Master has much pleasure in thanking R.W. Bro. Charles Belton for his distinguished services as Dep. G. Master, to which office he has been pleased to re-appoint him for the coming year.

The M.W.G. MASTER said considering the small organisation of the Allied Masonic Degrees, the report showed a remarkable increase in the progress and advancement of the various orders and degrees under the rule and government of the Grand Council.

It was proposed by the R.W. Bro. the Baron de FERRIERES, seconded by Bro. W. H. ABDULLAH QUILLIAM, and carried unanimously, that the report be received and adopted.

The G. SECRETARY: Bro. Gordon Miller, the G. Treasurer, owing to pressing professional duties, is detained at the Admiralty, and on his behalf it is my pleasure to present the most favourable financial statement ever laid before the Grand Council:

The Grand Secretary then read the following statement:

Balance forward	...	...	£97 14 3
Receipts to date	...	...	116 16 6
			£214 10 9
Cr.			
By Expenditure	...	...	£75 6 8
Balance	...	...	£139 4 1

(Signed), GORDON MILLER,
G. Treas.

31st October, 1899.

Audited and found correct.

H. THOMSON LYON,
JOHN SMITH,

3rd November, 1899.

On the proposition of R.W. Bro. CHARLES BELTON, seconded by R.W. Bro. R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, the accounts were received, adopted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Bro. W. VINCENT proposed, Bro. ABRAHAM WOODIWISS seconded, the re-election of Bro. Gordon Miller as G. Treasurer.

There being no other candidate nominated, the M.W.G.M. declared Bro. Gordon Miller duly elected as Grand Treasurer.

The M.W.G.M. then appointed and invested the following Grand Officers:

Bro. Charles Belton	...	...	D.G.M.
" Charles Letch Mason	...	...	S.G.W.
" Vincent Paine Freeman	...	...	J.G.W.
" Charles FitzGerald Matier	...	...	G. Sec.
" Gordon Miller	...	...	G. Treas.
" Rev. C. C. Bluett	...	...	G. Chaps.
" Rev. F. Bethune N. Norman Lee	...	...	G. Chaps.
" George Adams Harradon	...	...	S.G.D.
" H. Thomson Lyon	...	...	J.G.D.
" William Vincent	...	...	G.D.C.
" Charles Samuel Brewer, M.D.	...	...	A.G.D.C.
" Maxwell Hall Boyd	...	...	G.S.B.
" Johannes Sybrand Buck	...	...	G. Std. Br.
" Alfred King, Mus. Doc.	...	...	G. Org.
" Charles Cromack	...	...	G.I.G.
" William Briggs	...	...	G. Stwd.
" E. J. Mills	...	...	G. Tyler.

Grand Council was closed in ample form.

A banquet was subsequently held at the Freemasons' Tavern, at which the M.W. Grand Master presided.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF WEST YORKSHIRE

The half-yearly meeting of the above Prov. G. Lodge was held in the Town Hall, Skipton, on Wednesday, the 18th ult., when there were present

Bros. Richard Wilson, P.M. 289, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., Acting Prov. G. Master; John C. Malcolm, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M., as Dep. Prov. G.M.; Henry Smith, P.M. 387, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M.; Francis Fleming, P.M. 61, Prov. S.G.W.; Charles Crabtree, P.M. 2669, Prov. J.G.W.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; C. L. Mason, P.M. 304; W. C. Lupton, P.M. 974; Wm. Watson, P.M. 61, Hon. Librarian; and Joseph Harrison, P.M. 810, P.G. Stwd., P. Prov. G.Ws.; the Rev. S. C. Walley, S.W. 154, Prov. G.W.; the Rev. Wm. Wilkinson, P.M. 1214, as Prov. G. Chap.; the Rev. L. S. Calvert, S.W. 208, P. Prov. G. Chap.; Thos. Woods, P.M. 2695, Prov. G. Treas.; Wm. Hy. Hewson, P.M. 304, Prov. G. Reg.; Wm. Jas. Waugh, P.M. 1545; Thos. Brayshaw, P.M. 2091; and Jas. H. Pawson, P.M. 242, P. Prov. G. Regs.; Capt. H. G. E. Green, P.M. 1019, Prov. G. Sec.; Arthur Holmes, P.M. 1522, and Dr. Geo. Hoyle, P.M. 1231, Prov. S.G.Ds.; John P. Hewitt, P.M. 1239; J. Pelham Browne, P.M. 1648; and C. W. O. Smith, P.M. 974, Prov. J.G.Ds.; J. W. Balme, P.M. 61; Alfred Robertshaw, P.M. 448; Davis R. Glover, P.M. 289; Fountain Read, P.M. 1034; Wm. Blackburn, J.P., P.M. 306; H. S. Wood, P.M. 439; Wm. D. Shoebridge, P.M. 448; and John Lund Brayshaw, P.M. 2091, P. Prov. G.Ds.; Charles Scriven, P.M. 1211, Prov. G. Supt. of Works; John Barker, P.M. 1102; James Lawton, P.M. 337; and J. H. Bolton, P.M. 1736, P. Prov. G. Supts. of Works; Wilkinson Greenwood, P.M. 439, Prov. G.D. of C.; C. H. Crowther, P.M. 2261, Prov. D.G.D. of C.; Edward Mackay, P.M. 600, Prov. Asst. G.D. of C.; J. W. Monckman, P.M. 1018; Joseph Dobson, P.M. 289; Wm. Hy. Dawson, P.M. 1108; G. P. Sunderland, P.M. 1736; Joseph Wrigglesworth, P.M. 1783; and Joseph R. Mellor, P.M. 652, P. Prov. G.Ds. of C.; William Gudgey, P.M. 149, Prov. G.S.B.; Herbert Columbine, P.M. 1221, P. Prov. G.S.B.; William Haigh, P.M. 1283, as Prov. G. Std. Br.; John Niven, P.M. 2321, Prov. G. Std. Br.; T. M. Holmes, P.M. 1545; John Throup, P.M. 810; John Hy. Roper, P.M. 265; and Hy. Beaumont, P.M. 1301, P. Prov. G. Std. Brs.; Samuel Thornton, P.M. 810, as Prov. G. Org.; Dr. S. Jacob, P.M. 837, and Walter Bailey, P.M. 1102, P. Prov. G. Orgs.; J. R. Barton, P.M. 306, Prov. A.G. Sec.; J. T. Robinson, P.M. 458, Prov. G. Purst.; Geo. M. Marchant, P.M. 1783, Prov. A.G. Purst.; John Seed, P.M. 1302; Wm. Cockcroft, P.M. 307; F. W. Turner, P.M. 408; Thos. Gaukroger, P.M. 1223; Chas. Cromack, P.M. 2330; and Wm. Butterworth, P.M. 1302, P. Prov. G. Pursts.; Chas. F. Bennett, P.M. 2268, Walter C. Fox, P.M. 2263; W. E. Gray, P.M. 296; Joshua Milner, P.M. 1102; and Chas. Middleton, P.M. 2069, Prov. G. Stwds.; Thos. Leighton, Tyler 139, Prov. G. Tyler; and Thos. Chester, Tyler 904, Prov. Asst. G. Tyler. Also W. Masters, Past Masters, acting Wardens, and brethren from Lodges Nos. 61, 149, 154, 208, 242, 258, 264, 265, 289, 296, 302, 304, 306, 307, 308, 337, 380, 387, 401, 408, 439, 448, 458, 495, 521, 600, 603, 652, 810, 827, 837, 904, 971, 974, 1001, 1018, 1019, 1034, 1042, 1102, 1108, 1211, 1221, 1231, 1239, 1283, 1301, 1302, 1311, 1514, 1522, 1545, 1648, 1736, 1779, 1783, 2069, 2091, 2259, 2261, 2263, 2268, 2321, 2330, 2608, 2669, and 2695. Bro. Thos. Robinson, 97, Past G.S.D. Durham, was a visitor.

The following lodges were unrepresented, viz.: 139, 275, 290, 751, 910, 1214, 1462, 1513, 1542, 1645, 2035, 2491, 2558, and 2677.

The Acting Prov. G. Master, Bro. Richard Wilson, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., the Acting Dep. P.G.M., Bro. John C. Malcolm, P.G.D., Past D.P.G.M., and the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge entered at three o'clock p.m.; solemn prayer was offered, and a portion of Holy Scripture read by the Prov. G. Chaplains.

The Prov. G. Master, the Dep. Prov. G. Master, and Officers of Grand Lodge were saluted.

The roll of lodges was called.

The roll of Present and Past G. Officers was called.

Apologies were received from Bros. the Rt. Hon. W. Lawies Jackson, M.P., Prov. G.M.; Rev. T. H. Greenhalgh, 275, Prov. G. Chap.; William Crowther, M.P. 1645, Prov. S.G.D.; J. J. Parker, P.M. 264, Prov. A.G.D. of C.; Chas. Rayner, P.M. 380, Prov. A.G.D. of C.; Charles Lingard, P.M. 1513, Prov. G. Stwd.; and 95 P. Prov. G. Officers, W.Ms., P.Ms., and brethren.

The minutes of the annual meeting, held at Wakefield, on Wednesday, April 19 h, 1899 were presented for confirmation.

Proposed by Bro. CHARLES SCRIVEN, P.M. 1211, Prov. G. Supt. of Works, seconded by Bro. THOMAS WOODS, P.M. 2695, Prov. G. Treas., and resolved, "That the minutes be taken as read and confirmed."

The Acting Prov. G.M., in addressing the brethren, said: My first duty is to read a letter I have received from the Prov. G.M.:

"Allerton Hall, Leeds, 10th October, 1899.

"My Dear Deputy,—I feel that I must obey the summons which I send here-with. It is an imperative duty under the circumstances, much as I regret that it will prevent my being present at Provincial Grand Lodge on the 18th. But I have no option, and I hope, therefore, it will be possible for you to act as my substitute at Skipton. I beg you to convey to the brethren my deep regret at my inability to be with them.—Yours very truly and fraternally,

"W. L. JACKSON."

The enclosure was as follows :

"10, Downing-street, Whitehall, S.W., October 6th, 1899.

"Dear Sir,—The position of affairs in South Africa has rendered it necessary to summon Parliament together on the 17th instant. Matters of the greatest public moment will be immediately discussed, and I therefore trust it will be in your power to be present on that day.—I remain, your obedient servant,

"ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR."

We all value the services of our Provincial Grand Master so much that we desire his presence amongst us, and especially at these Provincial meetings, but at the same time, although we share with him the regret that he is not here to-day, we have great satisfaction in knowing that he is engaged with more important duties, in the discussions and councils of Parliament for the better government and better protection of the millions forming this great nation. It therefore only remains for us to do our duty here that his interests are not in any way neglected. We have met for the third time under the banner of the Craven Lodge. It is not a very old lodge, for it was formed in 1860, and it has entertained Provincial Grand Lodge in its youth, in 1867, and the last time we met was in 1885, 14 years ago. I must express our sorrow that we have not with us to-day, the father of the Craven Lodge, Colonel George Robinson, and I am sorry that he is ailing. He was one of the founders of the lodge, and was W.M. in 1862, and again in 1889; he has also occupied the positions of Treasurer and Secretary, and was in every way an active member of his lodge, and I should feel it remiss on my part, meeting here as we do, if I did not make honourable mention of him. I would also ask the Worshipful Master (Bro. Harrison), the Secretary, and all the members of the Craven Lodge to accept our thanks for the admirable arrangements they have made for conducting our business, and to convey to the Council of Skipton our thanks for the courtesy they have shown by allowing us the use of the Town Hall. It is gratifying to be able to announce that I know of no note of discord in any of the lodges of the province. There has been, and must always be, an occasional false note of this kind struck, but I am quite certain of this—that harmony will quickly be restored. It has been in those cases which have occurred, which showed that there does exist a very strong force of true Masonic feeling among the brethren. Since my appointment as Deputy, I have visited some 20 lodges in order that I may the better qualify myself and gain experience and a knowledge of the lodges and of the brethren in this large province, and I can assure you that I have had the greatest pleasure in making those visits. I have seen the great care and precision in the working of the lodges; I have seen the strong feeling—I was almost going to say the affectionate interest—which exists among the brethren for their individual or mother lodge, and they are as proud of their lodges and lodge premises as they possibly can be. They show it in the serious manner in which they undertake the duties of the lodge, in carrying out the ritual and the ceremonies, the care they take in recording their minutes; and that has not only been very gratifying, but has increased my interest in Freemasonry. In July last, I called a meeting of Almoners to consider how best to deal with itinerant Masonic impostors, and at that meeting a resolution was unanimously passed that it was time decided action was taken to repress the evil which threatens all over the kingdom the interests of Freemasonry. A copy of the minutes of that meeting has been sent to every lodge, although every brother has, perhaps, not seen it, and Bro. Fletcher had undertaken to bring the subject forward, but he has become befogged somewhere or other, and it is impossible for him to arrive in time. Yesterday I was present and saw the 11 sets of plans which have been sent in for the new Masonic buildings in Leeds. I may say for the information of the brethren of the province that the Committee have already paid £3500 for the land on which the building is to be placed. The additional cost of the building and furnishing will be from £8000 to £10,000. The Committee have not advertised their scheme or sent prospectuses outside Leeds. The Leeds brethren have, however, subscribed the sum of £6200 in shares of £1 each, and I am asked—at any rate the Committee request me to invite—the members of the province to co-operate with them. They are willing, when the plans are selected and made public, to make a further issue of shares. At that time they will ask the province to show the goodwill they have towards them, and to send their applications to our Provincial Grand Superintendent of Works, Bro. Charles Scriven, who will give them due attention. I do not intend, when I occupy this chair, to go into details which may be objectionable to the rank and file, but there is one piece of advice I must give. In November and December we shall have 50 or 60 installations, and I feel it my duty to call the attention of the outgoing Secretaries to fill up the annual forms necessary on the occasion of installing the Worshipful Master, and not to leave it to the incoming Secretary, who may be strange to the work. I have the pleasure of informing you that on the 3rd November Lord Stanley will be installed by Lord Lathom as Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire, in succession to that splendid Freemason and our lamented friend, Colonel Starkie. I have been very unexpectedly placed in this high position, and any remarks I have made I have made most sincerely and with freedom, and I ask you to receive them in a kindly spirit. My sole desire is to maintain the dignity and usefulness of Provincial Grand Lodge, and to merit the confidence of the Provincial Grand Master and the brethren of the province.

Bro. W. C. LUPTON, the Chairman of the Charity Committee, in presenting the report of the Committee, said that in the matter of date that was a rather exceptional meeting, and he had, therefore, to make the report for the whole year instead of for six months as usual. He thought they would take it that the report was an eminently satisfactory one. They had succeeded in electing, by the instructions of the Charity Committee, two girls, three boys, and two men, and in presenting one man. The elections were becoming increasingly difficult to manage. In the old time, when the Charity Committee was managed by experienced brethren like Bros. Henry Smith, Thos. Hill, T. B. Fox, William Harrop, W. F. Smithson, Herbert Green, and others, West Yorkshire elaborated a system of voting which was unknown to the other provinces, and they invariably succeeded in landing West Yorkshire cases well up on the poll. The first thing he had to do was to admit a mistake in the voting. They had three men to elect. One man they present d, but of the other two they only succeeded in electing one "third deferred," and leaving the other "first out." He regretted to have to come before Provincial Grand Lodge to make such a confession, but they might depend upon it such a thing was not likely to occur again. They were, however, sorry and glad. The Committee were sorry to have to announce that the first candidate had been claimed by the Great Architect of the Universe, and so had lost nothing from lack of election. The other brother was in a more advantageous position than if he had been elected. The Committee obtained for him a grant of £40

from the Board of Benevolence, and by the kindness of the Committee of the Benevolent Institution he was put on the list of annuitants in place of the deceased brother, so that he actually would receive more than the amount he would have received if he had been duly elected. That was a slip caused by over economy of the voting power of the Province. It was, however, gratifying to know that the natural results of such a mistake were in that case absent, and neither of the brethren had suffered. They had elected two girls and three boys (they had had no widow) at an expenditure of 9162 votes for the girls, and 12,218 for the boys, so that the brethren would recognise that the work of the Executive was no child's play. With regard to the West Yorkshire Fund, there had been a number of small claims before the Committee, and those had been dealt with as they arose, and in as charitable a manner as the funds would permit. They had £1000 invested in Leeds Corporation Bonds, and the sum in the hands of the Treasurer amounted to £500. That was a larger sum than was at present required, but it was likely that further calls would be made upon it in the near future. With regard to the three great Charities, he was afraid he could not say that Yorkshire was in the position that the Committee desired to see, for West Yorkshire had been drawing more money from those Institutions than it had contributed. That was a matter they would have to bring before their lodges. This year, from his point of view, it was worse than ever. West Yorkshire this year had contributed £1489, and had drawn from the Charities £2793, so that the province for the present year stood indebted to the Charities £1304. No urgent whip had been made upon them, and no great number of visits had been paid to the lodges to excite their liberality on behalf of those noble Charities, but he did not think that was a position in the eyes of the Masonic world in which they wished West Yorkshire to stand. He would impress upon the Charity representatives and the members of the Craft the necessity that the Charities should be adequately supported, for West Yorkshire did not want to go to the Institutions in London trading on the past, but for what was being done in the present. Seeing that that was the last opportunity he would have of addressing them as Chairman of the Charity Committee, as he would retire before the Provincial Grand Lodge met again, he would earnestly appeal to the Masons of West Yorkshire to cultivate that loyalty to the Committee which was so necessary. He would remind the brethren that they had a strong Executive—he was not speaking of himself, but of those who had preceded and would succeed him. They had a strong Executive and a strong Committee, and unless they were loyal to the Committee they could not possibly utilise their votes to the best advantage. He left them with a clean sheet; they had not a candidate who had not been carried, and what the Executive had done in the past he felt sure it would be able to do in the future. He wished most strongly to impress upon them all the need of loyally supporting the Executive, not marking their own voting papers, as had been recently done by some brethren, but making their wishes known to the Chairman or Secretary (Bro. Green), and he could assure them from past experience that their desires would never be disregarded. A short illustration of what he meant would suffice. On Thursday last the Executive not only elected their own two girls, but assisted very materially in the carrying of four others. On Friday they elected their own two boys and helped three others, last chance cases which had been recommended to them. If he succeeded in persuading the brethren to support those who would succeed him in his high office, they would never regret it. Bro. Lupton concluded by thanking the brethren for the courtesy they had always shown to him during the three years he had had the honour of holding that office.

Bro. W. BLACKBURN, the Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee, seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

Bro. W. C. LUPTON moved the re-election of Bro. W. F. Smithson, P.G.D., as a member of the Board of Management of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

Bro. W. BLACKBURN, in seconding the motion, said that no one was better known in London than Bro. Smithson of West Yorkshire, or could do better for the brethren as their representative.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

Bro. LUPTON proposed a grant of £20 to a brother of Lodge No. 974, Bradford, who, he said, would be recommended for the Old People's Charity next year.

Bro. BLACKBURN seconded the motion, which was carried.

Bro. R. Tasker, P.M. 1211, brought forward the case of another brother of No. 1211, Leeds, and it was decided to make a grant of £20, the administration of the money to be left in the hands of Bros. Tasker and Winn.

A grant of £5 was made to the widow of a member of No. 2321, Bradford.

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER, in bringing up the subject of the itinerant Masonic impostors, said he had requested Bro. Fletcher to draw up a resolution on the subject, but Bro. Fletcher was befogged, and could not get there. He would make his remarks as short as he possibly could. As far back as 1879, Bro. Tew used these words: "I desire to urge most strongly the impropriety of brethren giving names to mendicant Masons. They should refer them to the Almoner of their respective lodges. A most pernicious system of begging had sprung up, almost intolerable to the Prov. G. Master, to himself, and the Prov. G. Secretary." The same thing was going on all through the country, and unless a stand was made he (the Dep. Prov. G. Master) did not know where it was going to end. The proposition was that in any large town where there were several lodges there should be one Almoner, who, immediately on election, should be registered with the Prov. G. Secretary, and every Almoner should be requested, where doubt was entertained of fraud, to refer the matter to the Prov. G. Secretary, by telephone or other means, as the centre of the movement. The Secretary would then be at liberty to give advice and warn other Almoners, and by that means they would get the Almoners in close communication and bound together. Up to the present they had great difficulty in the matter. A great many letters had been received from Prov. G. Secretaries throughout the country, thoroughly approving of their action, and recommending them to go on. They should all work together to stamp out the evil.

Bro. C. L. MASON moved: "That this Prov. G. Lodge recommends that in towns where one or more lodges meet one Almoner only should be appointed to act for all the lodges, and that the name and full postal address of each Almoner shall be transmitted to the Prov. G. Secretary immediately on appointment. The Prov. G. Lodge also recommends the brethren of this province not to indiscriminately relieve applicants for relief, or to disclose the names of other brethren, but to refer all cases to the Almoner duly appointed."

This was seconded by Bro. F. FLEMING, Prov. S.G.W.

Bro. WAUGH suggested that the motion should read "towns and surrounding urban districts."

Bro. BENNETT said they in Sheffield had one Almoner for the whole of the lodges, and that had been found perfectly satisfactory, and had been of great benefit.

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER thought that might be a way out of the difficulty.

Bro. T. BRAYSHAW said what was wanted was some system of forwarding the brethren, by which they could pass a deserving brother from one town to another, and let him be inquired into by some responsible body.

The motion was carried.

The W.M. of the De Warren Lodge, No. 1302, Halifax, invited the Prov. G. Lodge to meet under its banner. A similar invitation was made by the St. James Lodge, No. 448, Halifax, and the W.M. of the De Warren Lodge withdrew his invitation.

The Prov. G. Lodge was closed at 4.20 p.m.

Some 60 brethren afterwards dined together, under the presidency of the Acting Prov. G. Master.

Craft Masonry.

Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.

A meeting of this ancient lodge was held at the Holborn Restaurant on Monday, the 6th instant. There were present Bros. Thos. C. Taylor, W.M.; Wm. Briggs, M.A., LL.M., &c., I.P.M.; Wm. Ockelford, S.W.; Thos. J. Burgess, J.W.; Geo. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; Wm. G. Mills, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Vidler, S.D.; John Briggs, M.A., D. of C.; S. W. Heaton, Org.; F. Bristow, I.G.; H. Durell and E. M. Hall, and John H. Selmes, Stwds.; Prof. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M.; W. A. Langdon, P.M.; J. Cuer, P.M.; E. E. Salt, Arthur Bayman, Arthur Davies, Richd. Lockyer, A. G. Peckham, Edwd. J. Stafford, and J. J. Berry. Visitors: Bros. C. B. Sammon, 2546; F. Taverner, 2046; Tyler, and Williams.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the last meeting on 2nd October were read and confirmed. Bro. E. E. Salt was examined and entrusted, and passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. Bro. John Briggs, D. of C. then gave the charge in the Second Degree in an admirable manner; not only was it correct, but delivered both intelligently and intelligibly, to the great satisfaction of the candidate and the approving brethren. Bro. Thomas J. Burgess, J.W., spoke of the Strong Man Lodge of Instruction, and the improvements which had taken place; it has now, in addition to the Preceptor, Bro. Philip Sharpe, P.M. 869, Bro. John Cuer, P.M. 45, as Dep. Preceptor, and as Asst. Secretary to Bro. Thos. J. Burgess, J.W. 45, Treas. and Sec., Bro. C. E. Hemmings, 2049. In answer to an appeal from the *Daily Telegraph* for a contribution from the lodge to "Our Soldiers' Widows and Orphans Fund," it was unanimously resolved that 1s. for each member should be paid from the lodge funds towards the support of this laudable object. In addition to this a considerable amount was collected from the brethren at the table. The Secretary read letters from several members of the lodge regretting their inability to attend, also some correspondence. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren adjourned to the banquet in the Queen's Room.

After an excellent repast, the W.M. gave the usual toasts.

In giving "The Queen, her Army, and the Craft," the W.M. alluded to our gallant soldiers, and the gracious sympathy the Queen had evinced for their trials and sufferings.

"God save the Queen" as a solo and chorus was sung.

"H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M." was then given, the W.M. alluding to the lively interest our M.W.G.M. ever evinces in every grade of Freemasonry, especially the Craft.

"God bless the Prince of Wales" was sung.

"The Health of the W.M." was given by the I.P.M., who spoke in kind pleasant words of the W.M.'s work and the promise it gave of future excellence.

The W.M. briefly replied.

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters of the Lodge," coupling the name of the I.P.M. He observed how serviceable the Past Masters had always proved themselves in the lodge.

Bro. Wm. Briggs, I.P.M., replied on behalf of the Past Masters and himself in a very humorous speech.

The W.M. then left the chair and sang a patriotic song entitled "The absent-minded Beggar."

"The Treasurer and Secretary" were given by the W.M. He alluded to their invaluable services, and how the harmony which existed between them was conducive to the well being of the lodge.

The Treasurer and Secretary respectively replied.

By permission of the W.M., the I.P.M., Bro. Wm. Briggs, said how every lodge was bound to support the Masonic Charities—that in the collection at Albert Hall, the Strong Man Lodge had stood fifth in the list of amounts subscribed. He considered that the Strong Man, to maintain its ancient dignity and present high position in the Craft, should make a point of subscribing 50 guineas to the next Masonic Festival, and that the Secretary and himself would pledge themselves to that amount.

This announcement received the warm approbation of the brethren.

In the course of the evening, Bro. Prof. Driver recited an original patriotic poem, entitled, "Ready, aye, Ready."

The Tyler's toast concluded the evening.

Capper Lodge, No. 1076.

A grand gathering of excellent Masons, splendid working, and unstinted hospitality distinguished the installation meeting of the above powerful lodge, which took place at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, City, on the 9th inst., when some 75 of the brethren of the lodge and visitors assembled to do honour to the occasion. The day being Lord Mayor's day, special permission had been applied for and granted by the authorities for the admission of the brethren within the cordon surrounding the Guildhall and its approaches.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. T. H. Maple, and his officers, and the usual business having been transacted, Mr. George Washington House was, after approval, initiated into Masonry. Bro. John James Roberts, S.W. and W.M. elect, was then presented by Bro. H. Taplay, P.M., D.C., to the W.M. to receive at his hands the benefit of installation, and in due course, and in the presence of a duly constituted Board of Installed Masters, he, Bro. Roberts, was installed in the chair of W.S. After being proclaimed and saluted, he appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Maple, I.P.M.; T. S. Green, S.W.; W. Viney, J.W.; J. Dorton, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Ware, P.M., Sec.; D. Ringrose, S.D.; A. Cooper, J.D.; E. W. Wormold, I.G.; J. W. Cooke, D.C.; H. G. Weight and H. Bates, Stwds.; H. C. Wormold, Hon. Org.; and A. K. Tuberville, Tyler. The addresses were most eloquently and impressively rendered by the Installing Officer, who also did the working properly and in strictly ancient form, and so concluded a perfect ceremony. He was presented with a handsome and valuable Past Master's jewel, and it was further resolved "that a vote of thanks to him be inscribed in the minutes of the lodge for his services that day as Installing Officer, and that a copy of the same, engrossed and illuminated on vellum, handsomely mounted and framed, be presented to him at the next meeting of the lodge." Bro. Maple having suitably returned thanks, the reappointment of Bro. H. B. Holliday as President of the Benevolent Society attached to the lodge, was confirmed, and after "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed.

The banquet was, as it always is at these lodge festivals, an excellent and well-served one, and among those present, and not above-mentioned, were: Bros. J. Dorton, P.M.; P. McCarthy, P.M.; W. Dorton, P.M.; W. Watkins, P.M.; C. J. Mears,

P.M.; T. A. Dale, P.M.; J. Tytheridge, P.M.; W. L. Crow, P.M.; C. R. Sayers, P.M.; J. B. Oates, P.M.; C. R. Higgins, P.M.; H. Wormold, J. Spacey, G. Higgins, C. Vasey, T. Piner, B. Spencer, W. Webster, E. Warmold, G. Hillier, R. Brown, T. Whittaker, S. Badger, W. Clarke, W. Stockvis, and M. Taylor, all of 1076; Dr. C. V. Burgess, P.P.G.D. Middx; C. Jolly, P.M. and Sec. of 1472 and 2184, P.P.A.G.D.C. Essex; T. Lait, W.M. 1472; D. Ross, S.W. 1472; C. Powling, P.M. 1472; T. Machin, W.M. 28; F. Islip, P.M. 1278; T. Cowell, P.M. 2615; E. Elkington, P.M. 2416; S. Wales, 1602; G. Wales, 147; Faraday, 2607; C. Creech, 2749; P. Cohen, 1360; W. Wormold, 2676; F. Tagg, 957; J. Harwood, 2265; A. Hewett, 2626; J. Sultry, 2663; W. Spencer, 2291; W. Fisher, 2411; C. Thomas, 1598; A. Appleton, 2501; W. Brown, 15; F. Pritchard, 1874; G. Wood, 1073; G. Harris, 2625; G. May, 2741; J. Darby, 2411; G. Grosbridge, 1716; W. Chadwick, 343; H. Wardle, 2264; W. Minto, 152; H. Johnson, 2409; A. Robertson, 1974; and others. If these names are not correct it is the fault of the signatories.

The W.M., before proceeding with the ordinary Masonic toasts, made an earnest appeal on behalf of the "Patriotic Fund," and Bro. Tagg recited those verses of "The Rudder Kidling" ending with "Pay, pay, pay," with the result that £11 11s. was subscribed to the fund.

The W.M., in giving the toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Order," said his Royal Highness was their head, and they were proud of him. As a Grand Master he had no equal, and he trusted his Royal Highness would live long to preside over them.

The I.P.M. then rose to propose the toast of "The W.M." He was exceedingly sorry the toast had not been placed in more able hands than his. It was not for any want of will, or of diffidence, that he made that admission, but he felt within himself that any language he might make use of was totally inadequate to do justice to it, and express the pleasure felt by all of them to see their esteemed Bro. Roberts occupying the chair as their W.M. He (Bro. Maple) had that day the honour of installing one, that he would say without fear of contradiction, of the most worthy and excellent Masons that had ever achieved the proud distinction of being the W.M. of their grand old lodge. Their W.M. had told them that he did not intend to surpass them but emulate them. They had in Bro. Roberts an able man and a good Mason, a man who was beloved by every brother in the lodge and all who knew him, wished their esteemed W.M. health and wisdom, so that he might be enabled to discharge the onerous and honourable duties imposed upon him, and that, at the end of his year of office, they might be enabled to say that he had worthily followed in the footsteps of his predecessors, the Masters of the Capper Lodge, and further, that he might be enabled to instal his successor as he, Bro. Roberts, had endeavoured that day to do, to the satisfaction of every member of the lodge. (Cheers.)

The W.M., who was received with rounds of applause on rising to respond, said that if their friends, the Boers, were destined to sweep out of existence the rest of the human race, and it was left to him to form a committee of the remainder; as to the formation of the future man, he should propose that the next of the human race should be born without a liver. He was pressed to suggest this because of his own liver, which was in a very bad state. That, however, would not prevent him saying that the present moment was one of the happiest of his life. It was their good pleasure, and that all 11s, that had placed him in the proud and exalted position that he occupied that night as their W.M., and if he could only succeed during his year of office, as he had said before, in emulating the splendid working, not only of his immediate predecessor, but of every Master who had occupied the chair he was now proud to fill, he should, at the end of his year of office, feel in his heart that he had done all that was expected of him by the brethren of the Capper Lodge. He thanked them for their hearty reception of the toast, and assured them that nothing should be wanting on his side to maintain the honour and prestige of the Capper Lodge. (Loud and continued applause.)

In response to a highly eulogistic speech by the W.M. in proposing the toast of "The Installing Officer," Bro. Maple, in a quiet and modest speech, said that if he could only tell them the feelings that filled his heart in a few words he would sit down at once. He was not a good speaker, but he felt that he would be very remiss in duty and love to the brethren if he did not endeavour, even if it were ever so unworthily, to express to the W.M. and brethren, one and all, his gratitude for their continued kindness to him while in the chair, and also for the splendid Past Master's jewel, and promised reminder at the next meeting for his humble services that day as their Installing Officer. (Cheers.) It had been his ambition to do his work in the best possible manner, and he trusted that if he had done it to their approbation he had not worked in vain. He heartily thanked them for the kindly reception of the toast. (Applause.)

The other toasts were "The Initiate," "The Visitors," for whom Bros. Burgess, Pritchard, Elkington, and Lait responded, "The Past Masters," "The Officers," and Tyler's toast.

The musical arrangements were under the management of Bro. V. A. Wormold. The contributors were Miss Alma Jones, a fine contralto, Madame Alice Lovenez, Bros. W. T. Spencer, tenor, and W. H. Webbe. Bro. Andrews sang two comic songs; and Bro. T. Tagg, who had previously recited Rudyard Kipling's "Pay, pay, pay," told an American yarn with much quiet humour.

Royal Kensington Lodge, No. 1627.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 3rd instant, when there was a good attendance. Amongst the members present were Bros. F. Walker, W.M.; E. Glaeser, S.W., W.M. elect; M. Ehrmann, J.W.; J. B. Stevens, P.M., Treas.; H. P. Hay, P.M., Sec.; Percy G. Edwards, S.D.; E. Parsons, J.D.; L. A. Diamant, I.G.; A. F. Bargate, Stwd.; J. H. Jarvis, P.M., D. of C.; H. G. Hale, P.M.; H. J. Palmer, Chas. Gee, H. J. King, and many others. Visitors: Bros. Walter Dennis, P.M. 9; W. P. Metchin, 1420; E. P. Champion, 2473; M. J. Reed, S.W. 5; G. Stwd.; E. Lambert, W.M. 167; Hy. A. Lewis, 2473; M. Sahl, Frankfurt-on-Main; J. Hayward, S.D. 1090; Belgrave Ninnis, P.G.S.B.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; G. Finlayson, P.M. 1017; F. J. Westcott, 1563; F. Hall, 569; H. G. Walker, W.M. 1614; G. W. Speth, P.A.G. D. of C.; J. M. Bastone, P.M. 1861; and W. W. Lee, P.M. 2381.

Lodge was opened, and after the confirmation of the minutes, Bro. H. G. Hale, P.M., was elected as a re-joining member. Mr. H. J. King was then duly initiated into Freemasonry by the W.M. Bro. J. B. Stevens, P.M., Treas., then took the chair, and installed Bro. E. Glaeser as the W.M. for the ensuing year. The following officers were invested: Bros. F. Walker, I.P.M.; M. Ehrmann, S.W.; Percy G. Edwards, J.W.; J. B. Stevens, P.M., Treas.; H. P. Hay, P.M., Sec.; E. Parsons, S.D.; L. A. Diamant, J.D.; A. F. Bargate, I.G.; J. H. Jarvis, P.M., D. of C.; A. Gee, Stwd.; and R. F. Potter, P.M., Tyler.

Lodge was closed, and a banquet was held at Freemasons' Tavern, where the usual toasts were given.

Bro. G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., responding for "The Grand Officers," said it was always a pleasure to respond to this toast. He was more pleased to do so that evening as it provided him with an opportunity of apologising to the lodge for his late attendance. Had it not been for that, he could have wished the toast had fallen to other hands. He happened, however, to be the highest up the tree, although Bro. Ninnis had been the highest up the world, having been the medical officer in Sir George Newnes's expedition to the North Pole. He (Bro. Speth) expressed the gratitude he felt at the manner in which the toast had been received.

Bro. Belgrave Ninnis, P.G.S.B., said the Grand Officers did their work in a way that was very creditable. In eight years he had officiated twice, so that his duties had not been very arduous. He should like to give a word of encouragement to the brethren as far as the attainment of Grand Rank was concerned. Some years ago he was at a dinner of the Quadratic Lodge, which they founded in 1875 or 1876, when Bro. Thripp made the remark that it was in anybody's power to become a Grand Officer if he would only bear in mind that work was necessary. A brother must by strict attention become word perfect in the ritual, learn the ceremonial properly, and support the Charities. He should also take an opportunity when he sees that a new lodge would be a benefit to a locality and to their Charities, to get the right men together and be careful to see whom he got into it. If a lodge was judiciously founded and strict attention was paid to those admitted, then the Charities would benefit and things would go on swimmingly. Having been 36 years in the Navy, he had visited many lodges, and he should like to congratulate the candidate initiated that evening on that ceremony. If that candidate had known the rough treatment some had to undergo in the old days, he would be particularly thankful he was not initiated 30 years ago. They had lived through that kind of thing and treated their candidates in the way that gentlemen should be treated.

Bro. F. Walker, I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master," and said the members knew what an enthusiastic Mason Bro. Glaeser had been since he had been in the lodge. The W.M. had filled nearly every office, and carried out his duties most creditably. There was, therefore, no doubt that he would carry out his present high office in the same way. They hoped he would have a good year, and he could rely upon the support and co-operation of the Past Masters and officers.

Bro. E. Glaeser, W.M., said he had been told from time to time that the office of W.M. was not a bed of roses. He was glad of it, for it would not be worth striving for if it were. Since his initiation it had been his ambition to occupy the position which he now occupied. He was not going to make rash promises. Bro. Ninnis had given them the "tip" to become word perfect in the ritual, and thus become G. Officers. Whether he (the W.M.) succeeded, results would prove. For the manner in which the I.P.M. had proposed the toast, and for the cordial reception given it, he could only say in the words of the greatest poet, "Thanks, thanks, and ever thanks."

In giving "The Initiate," the W.M. said that first impressions were enduring, and no words he could say could add to the beauty and magnificence of their society.

Bro. H. J. King said he deeply felt the honour done him, and hoped he should not be found wanting in the doctrines and tenets laid down.

For "The Visitors," Bros. Bastone, Hall, Finlayson, Metchim, Lambert, Dennis, and Reed responded.

The W.M. proposed "The I.P.M. and Past Masters," presented the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel, alluded to the installation ceremony performed by Bro. Jarvis, P.M., Treas., and welcomed the return of Bro. Hale, P.M.

Bro. F. Walker, I.P.M., acknowledged the toast and the gift in a short speech, and was followed by other Past Masters.

The W.M. gave "The Masonic Charities," and announced his intention of representing the lodge at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution.

Bro. H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., replied, and "The Treasurer and Secretary," and "The Officers" were duly honoured.

Bro. H. Prenton directed an excellent musical programme, and was assisted by Miss Gertrude Maxted, Miss Hamilton Smith, Mr. Fred Rome, and Bros. A. E. Webb and J. De Winter.

Crays Valley Lodge, No. 2147.

The installation meeting of this successful and flourishing provincial (Kent) lodge was held at the Institute, St. Mary Cray, on Wednesday, the 8th instant. Present: Bros. Wm. E. Bailey, W.M.; Arthur Oxley, S.W., W.M. elect; Saml. Gale, P.M., J.W.; Hy. Tyrer, P.M., Treas.; R. J. Pugh, P.M., Sec.; Fred. Lewis, I.G.; A. Mitchell and Wal. Beer, Stwds.; Wm. Tapsell, Tyler; Thos. Knight, P.M.; Frank Stranger, P.M., D.C.; Jas. Cookson, P.M.; Edwd. Baldwin, A. C. Bailey, Fred. E. Hood, and F. R. Greenfield. The visitors were Bros. A. Savage, 1339; N. J. Stanger, P.M. 1711; F. Tyrer, 2046; J. Hattersley, P.M. 2262; J. Loonsdale, 1910; F. Raby, 615; J. B. Guy, J.W. 40; G. N. Fraser, P.M. 1426; and C. H. Stone, W.M. elect 1041, P.M. 507.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Mr. Fred. Rd. Greenfield, which proved unanimous, and he was initiated into the ancient mysteries by the W.M. in a perfect and impressive manner. Bros. A. C. Bailey and F. E. Hood were passed by the W.M. in capital style. The Auditors presented their report, which showed the lodge to be in a thoroughly sound position. Bro. Frank Stanger, P.M., D. of C., next presented Bro. Arthur Oxley, W.M. elect, to Bro. R. J. Pugh, P.M. (who had assumed the chair) to receive from him the benefit of installation, which was carried out in a masterly manner. Bro. Arthur Oxley invested his officers as follows: Bros. W. E. Bailey, I.P.M.; Samuel Gale, P.M., S.W.; Llewellyn Pugh, J.W.; Hy. Tyrer, P.M., Treas.; Robert Pugh, P.M., Sec.; Geo. Miles, S.D.; F. Lewis, J.D.; Frank Stanger, P.M., D. of C.; Ed. Baldwin, Org.; Alex. Mitchell, I.G.; Wal. Beer, Stwd.; and Wm. Tapsell, Tyler. The three addresses were very ably rehearsed by the Installing Master, Bro. R. J. Pugh. The W.M. next said a very pleasing duty devolved upon him at the opening of his year to present the I.P.M. with the handsome jewel as a mark of their appreciation. He hoped their esteemed Bro. W. E. Bailey would wear the same for many years as a credit to himself, and shed lustre on the Crays Valley Lodge. Bro. W. E. Bailey, in reply, thanked the brethren from the bottom of his heart for the beautiful present, and also for their vote of confidence and esteem. Bro. W. E. Bailey, I.P.M., was elected Charity Representative in the province.

The business ended, the brethren adjourned to the Library, St. Mary Cray, to partake of the installation banquet. One very pleasing feature on entering was the table decorations, which were most tastefully arranged by Bro. Beer, Stwd., and Mrs. Beer, who very richly deserved great thanks.

The banquet ended, the W.M. presented the loyal and Masonic toasts, which were most loyally received.

That of "The Pro G.M., Earl Amherst; the Dep. G.M., the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," being duly honoured,

The W.M. next gave that of "The Prov. G.M., the Earl Amherst; the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Eastes; and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past." The W.M. said that toast appealed to the brethren more as Earl Amherst was their beloved and capable Prov. G.M., besides holding the proud position of the Pro G.M. Likewise the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Eastes, was a most worthy and distinguished brother. They were always doing their duty, ever to the fore in all that was good, and were most ably assisted by the Prov. G. Officers. He coupled with the toast their esteemed Bro. Thos. Knight, P.P.G. Org. Kent.

In reply, Bro. Knight said he was greatly honoured in responding for the Prov. G. Officers, although he wished it might have fallen to abler hands. However, Earl Amherst, Prov. G.M., was one of the greatest brethren living, and the Dep. Prov. G.M., Bro. Eastes, was one of the most genial and lovable brethren one could meet. He was increasing in years, but still as interested in everything that appertained to the welfare of the province and he hoped to be so as long as he lived. On behalf of the Grand Officers he cordially thanked the brethren.

In presenting the toast of "The W.M.," Bro. Cookson, P.M., said its importance was great, and the brethren of the Crays Valley Lodge felt very proud in having such a W.M., who on many occasions had given them a Masonic treat in the lodge of instruction, and if he were brought plenty of worthy candidates to initiate in the lodge it would be doubly so. He asked the brethren to drink to the toast in a bumper.

In reply, Bro. A. Oxley, W.M., said it was indeed a very proud moment at being the head of the lodge. He had taken great interest in it, and like all good Masons it was his ambition to rise to the top and be installed the W.M. He thanked the brethren for their confidence, and he hoped to prove them by their finding him work in the shape of true and trusty candidates. He thanked them for the honour done him in electing him to the chair of W.M.

Bro. R. J. Pugh, P.M., next presented the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Bailey," who had performed his duties during the past year remarkably well. He had many difficulties to contend with, living some distance from the lodge of instruction, yet he did attend as often as possible, and was well rewarded. He hoped the I.P.M. would be as frequent in the future to support them in the Crays Valley Lodge of instruction.

In reply, Bro. Bailey, I.P.M., said he was much obliged for the manner in which the toast of his health had been drunk. The past year had been one of the proudest in his life. He had experienced many difficulties, but they had been overcome, and he could testify to the prosperity and usefulness of the lodge of instruction. He thanked the officers of the past year for their splendid loyalty, all had done their utmost. Also for the handsome jewel, the token of their esteem, which he should wear with the remembrance of their good feeling towards him. So long as he was able he would do all that was possible for the benefit of the lodge.

The toast of "The Initiate" having been honoured, it was ably replied to by Bro. Greenfield.

The toast of "The Visitors," given in most cordial terms, was responded to by Bros. Hattersley and Fraser.

That of "The Past Masters," the support of the lodge, was cordially given, and replied to in able terms.

"The Officers" received at the hands of the W.M. the measure of praise it deserved, and

The Tyler's toast closed a very enjoyable evening.

Some excellent harmony was given by Bros. Guy, Hood (cello), Beer, Baldwin, and A. C. Bailey. Bro. F. E. Hood very ably accompanied.

The jewel was manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, and contained the following inscription: "Presented to Bro. Wm. Elias Bailey by the members of the Crays Valley Lodge, 2147, as a token of esteem and in acknowledgment of his valuable services as W.M., 1898-99."

The gavel, which produced £1 15s., was forwarded to the Mansion House Widows and Orphans' Fund.

Fellowship Lodge, No. 2535.

The first meeting of the present session was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., on the 6th inst. There was a heavy programme of work in the Three Degrees, whilst the munificent charitable work of the lodge was further exemplified by a handsome donation of 25 guineas to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the Transvaal Refugees. The W.M., Bro. Rogers, P.M., P.G. Stwd., was supported by Bros. W. Thomas, P.M. 2168, I.P.M.; W. H. Making, P.M., J.W.; J. Welford, G. Std. Br., Treas.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; S. Hussey, Prov. G. Stwd. Middx., J.D.; W. J. Batho, P.M., I.G.; M. S. Rubinstein, D.C.; B. A. Griffin, P.M., Stwd.; H. S. Schuler, Org.; A. Flatman, J. W. Morrell, C. A. Batho, W. A. Grosutt, and many others. Visitors: Bros. Allan T. Walters, 92; J. Humphries, 1558; V. Codina Langlin, 2458; C. J. Catt, 1637; H. L. Cooke, 2098; M. P. Leite, J.D. 1584; E. W. Hart, J.D. 2150; E. D. Everard, 2458; E. George, P.M. 1489, W.M. 2307; F. Leeks, 1891; Walter Harris, 1693; C. H. Worley, 2271; George Harvey, 2361; D. Saines, S.D. 2503; T. Blom, 2309; Walter Martin, P.G.P.; G. W. Smith, 858; H. Gerard, 2430; F. A. Heymer, 1604; Hugh Doherty, 51, Belfast; W. W. Lee, P.M. 2381; and others.

Lodge was opened, and Bros. A. Friedbörje, H. S. Schuler, and C. W. Ferguson were raised to the Degree of Master Mason. Bro. W. Thomas, I.P.M., then passed Bro. E. Walter to the Second Degree. The W.M. resumed the chair and initiated Messrs. A. F. C. Flatman and A. Maddison into Freemasonry. A telegram was despatched to Bro. Rudderforth, P.M., S.D., expressing hopes for his speedy recovery from illness. On the proposition of Bro. Making, seconded by Bro. W. J. Batho, 25 guineas was voted to the Lord Mayor's Transvaal Fund. Two resignations were received, and the lodge was closed.

A banquet was well served under the direction of Bro. Kella, and the usual toasts were subsequently honoured.

Bro. Walter Martin, P.A.G.P., replying for "The Grand Officers," said he missed the face of Bro. Valeriani from the ranks of the Past Masters for he was an old friend whom they all appreciated. The Grand Officers were always pleased to attend Grand Lodge or to visit private lodges and witness, with much pleasure, the splendid work. On the present occasion, noble work had been done in voting 25 guineas to the fund which they, as Englishmen, were proud to support, for those abroad were maintaining the best traditions of Englishmen.

Bro. W. Thomas, I.P.M., next proposed "The W.M." He said that Bro. Rogers was elected unanimously to the chair and succeeded good Masters, whose record he was well maintaining and would maintain to the end. The W.M. had previously filled the office of Master in a very distinguished lodge—the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60—of which he was now P.M. and Secretary. Having maintained the reputation of that old lodge, the W.M. could be relied upon to discharge his duties well in this young and distinguished lodge. They were proud of Bro. Rogers as their W.M., and would be proud of him as their I.P.M., and so long as he continued a member.

Bro. E. Rogers, P.G. Stwd., W.M., in reply, thanked the I.P.M. and brethren. It was a very great pleasure to be their W.M., for this lodge, although a young one, had attained a great distinction in Freemasonry. As one of the founders, he could say they had done more in a short time than any lodge in the world. To belong to the Fellowship Lodge any man would be proud, and how proud should he, therefore, feel at being the W.M.? He never expected to attain the position of W.M. in this lodge, for he never expected they would get a warrant. It was now only a short time before he should retire to the ranks of the P.M.s. The I.P.M. had said he was already a P.M. of a very old lodge. That was not much in his favour as regards presiding over a large lodge like this. He had also been W.M. of another lodge, which he previously thought had done more for the Masonic Charities than any other, but it had now been left behind by the Fellowship Lodge. It only showed the quality of the members of this lodge to be able to do what they had. In conjunction with Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., he took up the position of Steward from this lodge for the Girls' School, and finding they would only rank second on the list, the Secretary and himself undertook to find 30 guineas more, in order to head the list. He had no doubt the brethren would increase their donations in order to complete that amount. The total of the list was over £600.

Bros. Maddison and Flatman replied for "The Initiates," after which the W.M. proposed "The Visitors." The lodge, he said, was rightly named Fellowship, for there was always a large number of visitors. This interchange of visits had done a great deal for Freemasonry, for they saw how the working was done, and were introduced to friends they would not otherwise meet.

Bros. George, Everard, and Saines responded.

Bro. V. Codina-Langlin also tendered his thanks for the welcome he had received.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" afforded the W.M. an opportunity of referring to the services of Bros. Welford and Stephens. He said that the services of both had been recognised by Grand Lodge. Had it not been for Bro. Stephens the lodge would never have been consecrated, for he had worked heart and soul for its success, and was still working for it with that heartiness which was characteristic of everything he undertook.

Bro. J. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., said he had never heard so much flutter before as had been showered upon him that night. If he only considered himself worthy of one half of the W.M.'s remarks he should indeed feel a proud man. As had already been said, he was the cause of the foundation of the lodge, and it was a source of pride to have done something for a dear departed brother. When their good friend, the late Bro. Gustave Lombard first came to the Frascati, some brethren asked him (Bro. Stephens) if they could not found a lodge there. It was no easy matter to get a warrant then. He rather complimented the present G. Secretary for his readiness in granting warrants now. The lodges now in existence numbered nearly 3000, many of them of the numerical strength of the Fellowship Lodge, which numbered about 90 members. Many of the younger members aspire sooner or later to obtain office. If progress was by rotation they would never attain the position of the chair, and they should welcome the influx of industrious young fellows, who not only acquired a knowledge of the ritual, but also the ability to properly render it. All Masons had a desire to attend Grand Lodge, but until brethren became Wardens they could not do it. The young Masons coming into a large lodge were, therefore, only too anxious to be founders of another lodge. They did not, as a rule, desert their mother lodge when starting these new lodges. A case in point was the Tivoli Lodge, where two brethren recently initiated had become founders of a new lodge. One of these brethren would have to wait six years for a collar in his mother lodge, but a few evenings ago he was invested as J.D. in a new lodge. It was to the credit of the present Grand Secretary that he was in favour of issuing warrants for new lodges to those of integrity. Having conceived the idea of founding the Fellowship Lodge, he had a distinct right to be proud of the result. But for the first Mastership of Bro. W. H. Bailey, P.G. Treas., this lodge would not have attained its present colossal dimensions or have sent up such colossal amounts to the Charities. Twenty-five guineas was voted to each of the Institutions on the night of consecration, and at the end of the first year there was a balance in hand of £300. Last year the balance was between £600 and £700. On the present occasion he gloried in the action he took with reference to voting a sum of money to the Mansion House Fund. No notice of motion was necessary, for with business men such as they were they had absolute control of their own funds, and it was a pleasure to all to vote the sum they did for the benefit of the sufferers from the war. He was sure that under the generalship of the present W.M. the lodge would progress in the same admirable way that had characterised it in the past.

In giving "The Past Masters" the W.M. said that Bro. W. Thomas, I.P.M., had done a great deal for the Charities, his son being the youngest Vice-President of the Boys' School.

Bro. W. Thomas, I.P.M., responded, and "The Officers'" toast concluded the proceedings.

Bro. H. Cooke presided at the pianoforte, and a musical programme, which included several selections from comic opera, was well sustained by Miss Emily Foxcroft, Madame Alice Lovenez, and Bros. Wills Page and Broughton Black.

A collection for the Lord Mayor's Fund realised four guineas.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1899.

Masonic Notes.

A new lodge will be added to the roll of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Cheshire on Saturday next, the 25th instant, when the Assheton Egerton Lodge, No. 2793, will be consecrated at the Bleeding Wolf Hotel, Hale, Bowdon. The ceremony will be performed by the Right Hon. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Prov. G. Master, who will be assisted in his important duty by His Honour Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D., D.P.G.M., and other Prov. G. Officers. The founders are 19 in number, and include Bros. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, Past G.W.; Richard Newhouse, Past G.S.B., Prov. G. Secretary; the Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson, D.D., P. Prov. G. Chap.; and Coningsby Disraeli, M.P. The Principal Officers Designate are Bros. Fred Broadsmith, P. Prov. G.W., W.M.; John Ferguson, P. Prov. G.A.S., S.W.; and Henry H. Mainwaring, P. Prov. G. Std., J.W. A banquet will afterwards be served at the hotel, the musical arrangements throughout being under the direction of Bro. James Parker, P. Prov. G. Org.

Nothing could have been better than the arrangements made at Manchester on the 3rd instant, for the installation of Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P., as Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire. The Free Trade Hall had been secured for the occasion and nothing was left undone that was likely to conduce to the comfort and convenience of the very large number of brethren present. This, however, was nothing more than was to be expected from the known ability and long experience of the principal executive officers of Provincial Grand Lodge. But what undoubtedly will strike the reader as having been pre-eminently the best part of the arrangements for so important a gathering was the selection of the Earl of Lathom, Grand

Master of the contiguous Province of West Lancashire, to perform the ceremony of installation, and for two principal reasons. In the first place, the late Bro. Col. Starkie and the late Earl of Lathom were in office as Prov. Grand Masters, the one of the Eastern Division and the other of the Western Division of Lancashire, for five and twenty years. In fact, Col. Starkie was already in office in the East when the late Earl of Lathom was installed in the West, and he survived his lordship by a few months. During the whole of that period the relations between, not only the two Prov. Grand Masters, but likewise the two Provinces were of the closest and most friendly character. What rivalry there was between the two was as to which of them should best promote the interests of Freemasonry.

The other reason is that Lord Stanley and the Earl of Lathom are closely related to each other, the former's grandfather, Edward, 14th Earl of Derby, the famous "Rupert of Debate," who was thrice Prime Minister to the Queen, having married a sister of the first Earl of Lathom, and aunt, therefore, of the present Earl. The fact of the two being thus related was mentioned in the course of the proceedings, nor can there, we think, be the slightest doubt that the pleasure of being installed in office must have been greatly enhanced by the fact of the ceremony being performed by so near a relative. It will also greatly strengthen Lord Stanley's position as Prov. G. Master when our East Lancashire brethren reflect that it was the express wish of their late lamented chief that he might be succeeded by his lordship, whose success in his new office, under the circumstances we have described, may already be looked upon as a foregone conclusion.

There is still another circumstance which deserves to be recorded in connection with the recent gathering at Manchester, namely, the announcement made by Bro. C. D. Cheetham that the newly-installed Prov. G. Master has already consented to preside at a Festival, which will be held in May of next year on behalf of the "East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution." Bro. Cheetham said that it was intended to appropriate 1500 guineas out of the donations and subscriptions which might then be raised towards the purchase of a Perpetual Presentation to the Male Fund of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, to be called the "Colonel Starkie Presentation" as a tribute of respect to the memory of their late ruler.

Here, again, there are two principal reasons why the Province of East Lancashire may congratulate itself on the form of memorial which has been selected. In the first place, the East Lancashire Educational and Benevolent Institution is chiefly indebted for its success, if not for its formation, to the ever-watchful care of the late Col. Starkie. It was he who presided at the inaugural Festival held a few years since, when upwards of £4000 was raised towards its support; and had he been spared there is no doubt he would have occupied the chair at the Festival next ensuing. Moreover, the Benevolent Institution appears to have been held by him in high estimation. He took a deep interest in all our Central Institutions, but it was to the Charity for the benefit of Aged Masons and their widows that he gave his services as Festival Chairman—in 1879, when the Returns amounted to nearly £14,400, of which some £3500 was subscribed by his own Province. Thus the proposed perpetual presentation to the Benevolent Institution will serve the twofold purpose of keeping green in the memory of the Craft his services as President of the East Lancashire Institution and as a former Festival Chairman of one of the Central Charities.

Freemasonry has lost an eminent brother by the death of Bro. J. Newton, F.R.A.S., who, after rendering valuable services to sundry lodges and chapters and other Masonic bodies as well as to our Charitable Institutions, was honoured with the appointment in 1895, of Grand Pursuivant and A.G.D.C. in Supreme Grand Chapter. But his loss will be more immediately felt by the Benevolent Institution, of the Committee of Management of which he was one of the most active and zealous members. Bro. Newton had been in failing health for some time past and died on the 10th instant. A record of his Masonic services will be found in another column.

We have received a copy of Bro. Gould's eagerly-looked-for book on "Military Lodges," and though we are unable to describe its contents at any length, a hurried glance through its pages has satisfied us that it

will prove in every way worthy of the author's reputation. It contains not only an immense amount of information relating to lodges that have been warranted in regiments and ships of war, and of famous soldiers and sailors of all countries, but also biographies of distinguished naval and military brethren, and anecdotes illustrative of the influence which Masonry has exercised in warfare. It is published by Messrs. Gale and Polden, Ltd., of 2, Amen-corner, Paternoster-row, E.C., and Aldershot, who are to be congratulated both on the typographical merits of the volume and its neatness of turn-out generally, and on the very moderate price at which it is being issued—five shillings per copy. Our review of this interesting book will appear next week.

Bro. Lieut.-General Sir Charles Warren, R.E., G.C.M.G., K.C.B., who has been just appointed to command the 5th Division of our Army in South Africa, under General Sir Redvers Buller, has won high distinction in the ranks of Craft Masonry. He is a Past Master of the Mechanics Lodge, No. 245, Jersey, of Octahedron Lodge, Barkley West, South Africa, and of the Charles Warren Lodge, No. 1832, Kimberley. Subsequently he became the principal founder, and in 1886 was installed the first W.M., of our great literary lodge, the Quatuor Coronati, No. 2076. In 1887 he was one of the distinguished brethren upon whom his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master was pleased to confer the rank of Past G. Deacon, and four years later, on being appointed to the command of the troops in the Straits Settlement, he was installed District G. Master of the Eastern Archipelago. As a soldier he has seen much service, firstly in connection with the exploration of Palestine, and later in South Africa, where, in 1884, he was chosen to command the expedition into Bechuanaland; at Suakim; and in command of the troops in the Thames District. He was also for two years Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. His former services in South Africa will stand him in good stead in the position to which he has just been assigned.

On Thursday, the 30th inst., being St. Andrew's Day, when the Grand Lodge of Scotland holds its Grand Festival, and the office-bearers for the ensuing year are installed in the offices to which they have been severally elected, Bro. Lord Saltoun, who has presided over Grand Lodge for the last three years, will vacate the chair, and be succeeded by Bro. the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., the present Depute Grand Master, and Prov. G. Master of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire. Lord Saltoun during his tenure of office, has not only shown himself an able ruler of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but has also won the esteem and respect of all his Scottish brethren. He has been very active in the discharge of his duties; he has given encouragement to whatever was calculated to strengthen and promote the interests of the Scottish Craft, and in his retirement from the cares of government, will retain the feelings of kindness and esteem which have been so readily and so deservedly accorded to him during the past three years. His successor is well-known throughout his Province and in Grand Lodge and will, we are sure, be supported by the brethren with the same loyalty and consideration.

It is clear from the account we published last week of the annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Warwickshire that Freemasonry under the wise and beneficent rule of Lord Leigh has attained a high degree of prosperity. It has a roll of 32 lodges, with an aggregate of 1653 subscribing members. During the year ending the 30th June last it raised £1734 for the purposes of Charity. In the course of next year it proposes to hold a Festival in aid of its Masonic Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund, and the better to ensure the success of the project, a resolution was adopted to form a general Committee consisting of the W. Masters, Past Masters, and Officers of all the lodges in the Province, and, in addition, to have a Central Committee composed of the Prov. G. Master and his Deputy, the Prov. G. Treasurer, the Prov. G. Secretary, the Charity Representative of the Province, and a representative from each of the lodges. We cannot do otherwise than augur well for the success of a Festival for which such ample arrangements have been made at this early date.

Our readers will be gratified to know that the Grand Council of the Allied Degrees has been very successful during the past year. It is not a very strong branch of our Masonic system, and, therefore, the progress it has made must be estimated in proportion to its strength. Two new councils—Nos. 28 and 29—have been formed raising the total on the roll of Grand Council to 37, while on comparing the opening and closing balances in the Grand Treasurer's audited statement of account, we find an increase in favour of the latter amounting to upwards of £40. Above all, the private councils are showing increased energy and activity, while the concordat established last year between the Grand Council and the Order of the Secret Monitor has worked admirably and all friction between the two bodies is reported to have ceased. Members, however, are warned against having anything to do with a brace of so-called councils at Plymouth and Devonport respect

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.

THE OLD KING'S ARMS LODGE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Referring to the above work, which I have read with interest, I can only regret that it is silent on one point—with which I hoped Bro. A. F. Calvert would have dealt—viz., the important part played by his ancestor, Charles Calvert, sixth Lord Baltimore, from about 1717 almost up to the date of his death in 1751.

The Rev. G. Oliver, D.D., in one of his Masonic works, says that Charles Calvert assisted Dr. Desaguliers in renovating the Order about 1717, and Anderson, in his valuable work, says that "on Nov. 5th, 1737, the Hon. Charles Calvert, sixth Lord Baltimore, attended an occasional lodge at the Old Palace, Kew, and assisted the Rev Dr. Desaguliers in initiating H.R.H. Frederick, Prince of Wales, into the mysteries of Freemasonry."

Some friends of mine in Baltimore, U.S.A., wrote asking me to look into this matter, and during my investigations I happened to meet with Bro. Albert F. Calvert, the author of the above work, and he supplied me with the information I required, and also happened to be wearing the original watch (a most beautiful specimen) belonging to H.R.H. and bearing his arms, which was presented by him to the before-mentioned Charles Calvert.

I also understand that from that date to the present we have a direct line of Calvert Masons, although, perhaps, they have not done such useful work as Charles did in 1717 and onwards, and as the present member of the family, who has undertaken the production of such an interesting work as "The History of the Old King's Arms Lodge," and also other work equally interesting, which he is engaged upon at the present time.

As I have been, more than once, asked the connection between the present member of the family and Charles Calvert, perhaps you will permit me to give this interesting information in this letter in their order, giving only the eldest son in each instance: Charles Calvert, sixth Lord Baltimore; Frederick Calvert, seventh Lord Baltimore; Roland Edward Calvert; Edward Calvert, the well-known artist; John Frederick Calvert, Frederick Calvert, and Albert Frederick Calvert.

I do not think many families can claim such an interesting Masonic record as this, and the members of the Old King's Arms Lodge are to be congratulated on having amongst its members a brother who has already done sufficient to show that he is a worthy representative of such an old and distinguished family.—I am, yours fraternally,

T. WILLIAMS.

ROYAL ARCH MUSIC.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Will any R.A. companion kindly inform me what music can be introduced into the Arch ceremonies?

Any suggestions will be thankfully accepted.—Yours fraternally,
M.E.Z. Denison Chapter.

Masonic Hall, Scarborough,
November 10th.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS FOR POOR AND CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The Corporation has again granted the use of the Guildhall for the annual banquet to the Ragged School Children of London, and the Prince of Wales has once more sent me a donation to, if I may quote the words of his Royal Highness, "the excellent Fund which you are again kindly raising for providing dinners and hampers for the poor and crippled children of the Metropolis at Christmas."

Last year, after providing a banquet at Guildhall for about 1,400 poor children, I was enabled to send 4324 hampers to deserving little cripples whose affliction very often keeps them prisoners in one-room homes from year's end to year's end.

I trust that, with the renewal of your valued sympathy and assistance, we shall do better still this year, by increasing the number of hampers to 5000.

May I ask your readers to help me again this winter to brighten the lives of some of London's little cripples. Subscriptions should be sent to me here, marked "Children's Fund.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

W. P. TRELOAR,
Alderman and Sheriff.

Ludgate-hill, London, E.C.
November, 1899.

Reviews.

"FREEMASONRY AND THE TABERNACLE AND TEMPLES OF THE JEWS." By Robert Woodger Bowers, P.M. 15, W.M. 1321, &c., &c. London, 1899.—This very interesting quarto volume has been written by an enthusiastic Craftsman, who has spared no pains (by the consultation of numerous authorities and careful study) to compile an accurate and well-arranged work on the Tabernacle and Temples that shall not only be popular as to style, but fairly exhaustive and comprising the latest discoveries as respects the text. The "booklet," as Bro. Bowers terms it (running to considerably over 100 pages) is really an extension of a lecture given by him to the Israel Lodge of Instruction, at which assembly of Craftsmen it was well received. Bro. G. W. Speth, Secretary of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076, London, who was present, observed at the conclusion of the lecture that "Thanks to Bro. Bowers, they had been able that evening to spend a pleasant couple of hours in Palestine, and failing an actual visit, it was almost as good as having paid a tourist agent for the journey." Freemasons certainly would do well to read this work and thus the better understand the character, extent, and importance of these Temples, as they derive "essential teachings from the Israelitish Tabernacle and Temple, and also the Craft blends itself so indestructibly with the Rites, Ceremonies, and Traditions of Hebrew worship." The authorities consulted, some 40 in number, include names well known as trustworthy writers on the subject, such as Professor Rawlinson, J. Ferguson, D.C.L., F.R.S., &c.; Robert Freke Gould, Professor T. Hayter Lewis, Dean Milman, Sir Charles Warren, Marcus N. Adler, M.A., and others. The illustrations are very helpful in understanding the numerous details, and though no expense has been spared in its production, the handsome volume may be had, 5s. net, from Bro. George Kenning.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 6th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, W.C., Bro. Luigi Lablache, W.M., presiding. A company of some 150 brethren attended, Grand Lodge being represented by Bros. Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G.C.; John Strachan, O.G., G. Reg.; James Fernandez, A.G.D.C.; James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; and Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Dist. G. Chap. Egypt. The Past Masters of the lodge present were Bros. James Weaver, Sec.; Edward Swanborough, William Lestocq, James D. Beveridge, Tom de Brunnow Holmes, J. E. Hambleton, F. H. Macklin, C. C. Cruikshank, Samuel Johnson, and W. J. Holloway.

The brethren of the lodge wore mourning on account of the lamented death of Bro. Tinney, P.M., during his year of office as Secretary, and the lodge being opened and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, Bro. Lablache rose, as he said, to exercise his sad privilege to call the brethren's attention to the melancholy event of Bro. W. A. Tinney's death, a brother who, as a Mason, was perfect. He was of good report, true and trusty, and held in high estimation among his brethren and fellows; he was courteous in manner, easy of address, steady and firm in principle, well skilled in the ancient charges, regulations, and landmarks of the Order, able and willing to take the management of the work; as a man he was one of the kindest, sweetest, gentlest beings it had ever been his privilege and happiness to know. He proposed that a letter of condolence with the members of the late brother's family expressing the deep regret the lodge felt at the loss the brethren had sustained, and his family had sustained by his death. Bro. James Weaver, P.M., Sec., who was specially asked by Bro. Lablache to second the motion, was so overcome by emotion that he was scarcely able to obey the command. However, he managed to say that he and the late Bro. W. A. Tinney were children together. Of course he seconded the motion, but he must be excused from saying more. The motion was carried. Bro. Weaver informed the W.M. that Bro. C. E. Wellard, P.M., Treas., would not be in attendance that day as he had lost a boy; would the W.M. authorise him to send at once a telegram to Bro. Wellard sympathising with him in his bereavement. The authority was given, and the wire sent. Bro. C. C. Cruikshank, P.M., was deputed to assist Bro. Weaver in the receipt of the dues. The Worshipful Master gave notice for next meeting of a motion "That 30 guineas be voted from the lodge funds towards a monument to the late Bro. W. A. Tinney, which was being contributed to by the Asaph Chapter, another lodge to which the late Secretary belonged, and the Dramatic Mark Lodge, of which he was W.M. at the time of his death. The Auditors' report was adopted, and Bro. Lestocq, P.M., said that since the printing of the report another £65 had come in to the Benevolent Fund and been invested, and that the total amount now invested was over £1200. The installation was then proceeded with, and Bro. Luigi Lablache, W.M., installed Bro. Charles Blount Powell, S.W. and W.M. elect, as Master of the lodge for the then ensuing 12 months. Bro. Lablache was invested as I.P.M., and the other brethren who are the W.M.'s officers for the year were Bros. J. W. Matthews, S.W.; Algernon Sims, J.V.; C. Wellard, P.M., Treas.; James Weaver, P.M., Sec.; Louis Honig, S.D.; Akerman May, J.D.; W. Lestocq, P.M., D.C.; C. E. Tinney, P.M., Org.; Herbert Lennard, I.G.; Frank Wheeler, Carl Keifert, and Edward W. Whitmore, Stwds.; and J. Gilbert, P.M., Tyler. On the motion of Bro. F. H. Macklin, P.M., seconded by Bro. J. D. Beveridge, P.M., 10 guineas were voted to the Daily Telegraph Shilling Fund. This amount was afterwards supplemented by £4 in private subscriptions.

After the closing of the lodge the brethren banqueted at Freemasons' Tavern, and subsequently honoured the usual toasts.

A grand musical and variety entertainment was given to the brethren in conjunction with the toasts, the executants being Bros. Kelson Trueman (tenor), Leonard Russell and Richard Green (baritone), and E. Woolhouse (solo cello), Miss Cora Cardigan (Madame Louis Honig) (solo flute and piccolo), and Bros. Harry Nicholls and George Robins. The conductors were Bros. Louis Honig, J. Carrodd, E. Woolhouse, and J. E. Hambleton. Bro. Louis Honig, S.D., had composed a new flute solo (to be published) and dedicated to the W.M., in remembrance of the day. Miss Cora Cardigan (Bro. Honig's wife) played the composition, assisted by Bro. Woolhouse with a cello obligato, and the composer at the piano. The piece is called "Southern Breezes," (a Souvenir of Nice). Bro. George Robins gave a capital humorous sketch, and also astonished the brethren with a memory feat.

Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap., responded to the toast which included "The Grand Officers."

Bro. Luigi Lablache, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said that Bro. Powell had always been of a very retiring and modest disposition; he was an older Mason than most of the brethren of the lodge and many of the P.Ms., and all these years he had hid his light under a bushel; he had attended the lodge meetings year after year, and listened to the words which fell from each successive Master, afterwards going home and studying them, and getting a perfect knowledge of them, yet believing he must remain one of those who must learn, submit, and obey. At last a Master was installed who said he was sure Bro. Powell was one of the brethren who would one day grace the chair of K.S., and so he gave him the first step on the ladder of fame. Since then Bro. Powell had not looked back, and through his own energies and industry had at last succeeded in rising to the high honour of being W.M. of the Asaph Lodge. He hoped that Bro. Powell would live long to wear the badge of W.M. with credit to himself and satisfaction to the lodge.

Bro. C. B. Powell, W.M., in acknowledging the toast, said he was not insensible of the honour conferred upon him. In taking his mother lodge under his care he should do all in his power to merit the confidence the brethren had placed in him. He was very proud to say he claimed to be one of the oldest members of the Asaph Lodge. He had had the pleasure of seeing 24 Worshipful Masters occupying the chair. When he first saw Masonic light in the lodge he never thought the time would come when the brethren would honour him with the office of W.M. But as the brethren had so honoured him he should do all in his power to advance the prosperity of the lodge and work with his utmost skill and ability during his year of office.

Bro. C. B. Powell, W.M., in proposing the toast of "The I.P.M.," said some of the visitors might not know the peculiar construction and constitution of the Lodge of Asaph, so he would inform them that the only persons eligible for the lodge were those who were professionally actors and musicians. In their distinguished P.M. Lablache they had a combination of the two in a remarkable degree; he was descended from the great Lablache, one of the greatest of singers in this country, and himself one of the most popular exponents of the drama of the present, with the greatest possibility for the future. It was fitting that such a brother should rule over this representative body. Bro. Lablache had done his work right royally, with great delight to himself and to the greatest delight of all those who had the privilege of witnessing his work. On behalf of the brethren he now pinned a Past Master's jewel to his breast, and asked him to accept it in the kind spirit in which it was given. He asked the brethren to drink "Long life, health, wealth, and happiness to Bro. Lablache."

Bro. Luigi Lablache, I.P.M., responding, said that in doing so he felt distinctly at a disadvantage. There were so many P.Ms. of years gone by who had responded to the toast that any remarks he might make would be stale, flat, and unprofitable. What-ever he had done to further this Lodge of Asaph had been very little. When he had the honour of being installed in October, 1898, he had been for some time prevented by professional engagements from attending. Five days after his installation he sailed for America. He had, however, the pleasure of presiding over the May, June, and July meetings, and to-day he had the honour of installing the W.M. He should try to make up for his enforced absence by doing his work to the best of his poor ability. But why the brethren should be generous enough to present him with the beautiful jewel was beyond his comprehension; he was sure he did not deserve it. However, he had got it, and he meant to keep it, and when he wore it (he hoped he should wear it very often), and when he looked at it—and he should look at it very often—he should always remember this auspicious occasion, and thank all the brethren from the bottom of his heart for thinking him deserving of it.

Bro. F. H. Macklin, P.M., proposed "The Visitors." It was no slight test of friendship to ask a visitor to attend the Lodge of Asaph. Visitors were asked to sit down at an unearthly hour to dinner (four p.m.), and they had to think what they would have afterwards for supper—bones or tripe and onions. But the lodge were pleased to see visitors, and were glad to show them every feeling of brotherly love. The true spirit of Masonry was now striking a chord which dominated the heart of every man, woman, and child in the United Kingdom. They were all united in respect

to the war. Shakespere might well be described as one who wrote for the times when he wrote those words—

"Come the three corners of the world in arms
And we shall shock them; naught shall make us rue
If England to herself do rest but true."

Passing from this theme, he had to come to the toast, with which he had to couple the name of Bro. James Fernandez—to use "alliteration's artful aid"—Man, Mason, Mummer, *tria juncta in uno*. As a man their good friend had the esteem and love of many beyond the room the brethren were in; as a Mason, a P.M. of their sister lodge, lodge, Drury Lane, and one who had lately conferred on him by the Grand Master the office of A.G.D.C., which he received with the greatest delight; he stood as a Mason; and then as a mummer he had delighted thousands of all ranks, and they sincerely hoped that his great histrionic talents would enable him still further to delight all those around him, and that he would be spared to do so. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. James Fernandez, A.G.D.C., in reply, said that many of the visitors on this occasion had been with him visitors on former occasions at this lodge, and he was giving expression to their thoughts when he said it was always a special privilege to be a visitor there, because of the anticipatory delight of seeing all the ceremonies and rituals described with that accuracy which was supreme joy and satisfaction to all true Masons. On the present occasion, he was pleased to say, this happy result had been obtained, as the visitors would acknowledge, because, he said, with all the force he was capable of, it was impossible to imagine or desire anything given more loftily, eloquently, or feelingly than the installation by Bro. Lablache, who had most worthily upheld the reputation of the Lodge of Asaph. Those sweet sounding words "old friends" had for him (Bro. Fernandez) a music which time only increased the melody of, and to meet them as he did that day on that happy occasion was to feel the force of the truth of the words that ran in his head of an old song—

While seated round the festive board,
All in their usual places,
There's nothing can my soul inspire,
Like old familiar faces.

That was the great pleasure he had received that day; and to pass from friendship to Brotherhood, he thanked Bro. Macklin for the very kind words he had uttered in proposing the toast. He was afraid that in the exuberance of his good nature he had attributed to him characteristics he desired to possess. As the youngest member of Grand Lodge he hoped to take advantage of the good examples for his guidance in the future. Again he thanked the brethren of the Asaph Lodge on behalf of the visitors for the reception and hospitality extended to them, and he indulged the hope that it might in the future be his good fortune to have an additional opportunity of expressing his heartiest and sincerest wishes for the continued prosperity of the Asaph Lodge.

The remaining toasts were given before the brethren separated.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

The lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Wednesday, the 8th inst. Present: Bros. C. Purdon Clarke, W.M.; S. T. Klein, I.P.M.; T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B., S.W.; E. Conder, jun., J.W.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; G. Greiner, S.D.; E. J. Castle, J.D.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D.C.; Admiral A. H. Markham, P. Dist. G.M. Malta, I.G.; Rev. J. W. Horsley, Stwd.; C. Kupferschmidt, A.G.S.G.C.; E. Macbean, P.M.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; F. H. Goldney, P.G.D.; Rev. C. H. Malden, and E. Armitage. Also 52 member of the Correspondence Circle and 10 visitors.

The following lodge and 32 brethren were elected to the membership of the Correspondence Circle, making a total of 408 new members during the year. On the present occasion the juxtaposition on the list of Bro. Cecil Rhodes and a brother name Kruger (but not Paul) caused some little amusement, and the Secretary was accused of having placed the names side by side of malice prepense. His demure denials of the soft impeachment were not quite convincing: Lodge De Ster in het Oosten, Batavia, Java: Bros. J. Dawson, 163, Moulamien, New South Wales; in the U.S.A., O. P. Bloss, 216, Kansas City, Missouri; C. H. Townsend, Dep. G.M., Wyoming; J. M. Friedman, 311, Chicago; G. F. Kuhles, 190, St. Paul, Minnesota; Professor J. W. Wennerberg, 2429 (E.C.), Grand Rapids, Michigan; in Cape Town, G. Van Heerde, De Goede Hoop Lodge and Rt. Hon. Cecil J. Rhodes, 357; A. J. Kruger, G.D.C., Antwerp; C. F. C. Schauffuss, Lodge Zur Akazie, Colln-Elbe, Saxony; E. F. F. G. Kellner, 1001, Harrogate; E. Simpkin, P.M. 42, Bury; A. C. K. Smith, W.M. 2554, Manchester; J. N. Blood, 2716, Gloucester; W. Brooks, Witney; A. C. Bateman, Burford; W. A. Riden, 2414, Bampton; T. A. Bayliss, 2724, Birmingham; F. R. Davis, 1373, Andover; R. W. Wilson, Thornton Heath; W. C. Hobbs, 901, Barnes; J. P. Taylor, Watford; A. S. Reed, Bromley; and in London, H. M. Kruszinski, 185; W. Rushton, 2528; H. Coxen, 53; G. D. Fraser, 2310; W. G. Drew, 765; W. W. Martin, 1441; A. Churchill, 1092; M. Hart, P.M. 73; and W. J. Newstead, 1973.

As usual in this lodge, there were some objects of interest displayed on the Secretary's table for the examination of the brethren. In this case they consisted of three jewels, dating from the beginning of this century, which had belonged to a Bro. Benoni White, an architect at Devizes, and presented some features of curiosity. They were sent for exhibition by Bro. J. Bodenham, P.A.G.D.C., and will probably be figured in the Transactions of the lodge. There was also lent for exhibition by Bro. H. Sadler, Sub-Librarian, a MS. Roll of the Constitutions, which had recently been acquired for the Grand Lodge Library, signed and dated "Thomas Foxcroft, 1699." It was in very good preservation, and shows some slightly peculiar readings. Bro. C. Purdon Clarke then addressed a few words of thanks to the brethren from the chair, previous to leaving it at the conclusion of his year of office. The three chairs were then assumed by Bros. R. F. Gould, P.G.D.; W. M. Bywater, P.G.S.B.; and Henry Lovegrove, P.G.S.B., and Bro. T. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B., was duly installed into the chair of the lodge. The officers for the year are as follows: Bros. C. Purdon Clarke, I.P.M.; E. Conder, jun., S.W.; G. Greiner, J.W.; Sir Walter Besant, Treas.; G. W. Speth, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; E. J. Castle, O.C., S.D.; Admiral Markham, P. Dist. G.M. Malta, J.D.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D.C.; the Rev. J. W. Horsley, I.G.; G. L. Shackles and E. Armitage, Stwds.; and J. W. Freeman, Tyler. An illuminated vote of thanks for his services was then presented to the I.P.M., as also the Past Master's jewel of the lodge. As usual, in this lodge, the W.M. then delivered an address to inaugurate his year of office, which more than once evoked the approval of a critical audience, and will be printed in the transactions. Naturally, no discussion followed, but the thanks of the brethren were tendered to the W.M. by Bro. R. F. Gould. A collection was made for the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund, which amounted to £7 10s., Bro. C. H. Malden meanwhile reciting in admirable taste Bro. Rudyard Kipling's "Absent-minded Beggar."

At the absent banquet, at the Holborn Restaurant, Bro. Gould gave, as he has done on most occasions since the lodge was consecrated, the toast of "the W.M.," being a *resumé* of his career, civil and Masonic, which will also appear in the printed transactions.

Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150.

The successful character of the meetings of this lodge in the past was well-maintained, and even surpassed at the installation meeting held at the Frascati Restaurant, on the 7th inst., when there was a large number of visitors present, including several distinguished Grand Officers, and all must have thoroughly enjoyed the real Masonic treat afforded them in the working of the ritual. It is no exaggeration to say that it would be impossible to hear the beautiful installation ceremony rendered in a more perfect manner than that shown by Bro. Wm. Godson, the Installing Master. The members present included Bros. W. Godson, W.M.; A. Craddock, S.W.; E. P. Moore, J.W.; J. Turk Lacey, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; H. E. Weston, E. W. Hart, E. C. Weston, W. T. Farthing, P.M., D.C.; W. J. Mason, P.P.G.D., Vice-President Board General Purposes; R. Schreiber, P.M.; J. J. Thomas, P.M., P.G.S.B.; W. J. Stratton, P.M.; G. E. Pollard, F. Schmitz, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. Walter Martin, P.A.G.P.; W. A. Scurrah, P.G.S.B.; J. Strachan, O.C., G. Reg.; Jas. Fernandez, P.A.G.D.C.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; J. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; Rev. A. W. Oxford, P.G. Stwd.; H. F. Cooke, 2093; Wills Page, 299; H. T. Dudman, 1039; J. H. Thewlis, 153; J. H. Sang, 1947; J. R. Bicker, 1017; H. J. Weston, Prov. G.S. Wks.; R. Manuel,

P.M. 1196; W. H. Russell, Org. 1783; J. Weston, P.P.G.P. Middx; H. Trask, W.M. 2743; W. Curry, W.M. 435; G. Paxton, J.D. 435; J. H. Wood, P.M. 145; H. Grimsdall, W.M. 1185; J. Millier, P.M. 173; H. Bertram, 65; H. Northcroft, 33; G. B. Godson, 1328; C. Rotheram, W.M. 907; F. Miller, J.W. 1767; E. Lyons, 205; R. D. Cummings, P.M. 2427; J. P. Fitzgerald, P.M., Sec. 2772; C. B. Murless, 2742; J. D. Webb, S.W. 1745; H. R. S. Pulman, P.G.S.B.; W. Yeo, J.D. 2743; G. S. Ashby Darby, J.W. 34; R. Cope, 2361; J. G. Vigo, P.M. 1671; J. B. Harpham, J.W. 753; J. H. Edwards, Org. 2045; T. Hutton Haylor, S.W. 2361; A. Adams, W.M. 2361; J. Otto Schuler, 2535; A. Romano, A. Friedboreg, 2525; G. Crook, C. H. Worler, 2271; F. Trehawke Davies, 2127; W. Lee, P.M. 2381; and others.

Lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. H. T. Dudman, 1929, was elected a joining member. Bro. A. Craddock was next presented as W.M. elect by Bro. Farthing, P.M., D.C., and was duly installed by Bro. W. Godson, I.P.M. The following officers were invested: Bros. E. P. Moore, S.W.; H. E. Weston, J.W.; J. Turk Lacey, P.M., Treas.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., Sec.; E. W. Hart, S.D.; A. Morrell, J.D.; E. C. Weston, I.G.; W. T. Farthing, P.M., D.C.; J. T. Calton and W. H. Stringer, Stwds.; and H. Thomas, Tyler. Bro. Schmitz, P.M., in a very effective speech, proposed that 20 guineas should be voted to the Lord Mayor's Transvaal Fund, and this was unanimously carried. Three candidates were proposed for initiation, and the lodge was closed.

After a *recherché* repast, the usual toasts received hearty recognition.

"The Grand Officers" was proposed by Bro. W. T. Farthing, P.M., who and had been associated with in one of the most successful lodges in the Metropolis. He gladly welcomed Bro. Strachan in the Tivoli Lodge where he (Bro. Farthing) was called the "father" of it. There were also present Bros. Langton, Fernandez, Scurrah, Terry, and Martin, whilst among the members they had Bros. Stephens and J. J. Thomas. It did not always fall to the lot of a lodge to have two Grand Officers in 14 years. In a lodge of 30 years' standing to which he belonged, "the Speaker's eye" had not fallen upon any member of the lodge.

Bro. J. Strachan, O.C., G. Reg., in reply, said the G. Officers first mentioned in the toast were noblemen well known in Masonry. Earl Amherst had endeared himself, not only by the way in which he performed his duties in Grand Lodge, but in other duties pertaining to the M.W.G.M. The Earl of Warwick had given them a taste of his quality in Grand Lodge, and had proved himself well accustomed to Masonic duties. Many of the leading men in Masonry were noblemen and men of position, who were serving her Majesty all over the world. He need only mention such names as fighting "Bobs," who was a P.G.W., and Lord Kitchener, who had now been appointed Dist. G. Master of Egypt and the Soudan. Where the British flag went civilisation followed, and even at Khartoum they were now taking steps to form a Masonic lodge. With such noble examples the G. Officers would be duffers if they did not emulate them. It was their duty to visit lodges, and that night all the G. Officers present were pleased with the work. The ceremonies were performed in a manner which showed that some sort of instruction had been received from the more expert Craftsmen. There was an intelligent appreciation of the noble words of the ritual, and an earnest desire, thoroughly fulfilled, of conveying it in the best manner. The W.M. also gave no sign that he was fresh at his work, and this afforded them additional pleasure. H.R.H. the M.W.G.M. was opposed to long speeches and long toast lists, feeling, no doubt, that they would very often enjoy themselves as well, if not better, without so many toasts and such long speeches. It had given him great pleasure to meet Bro. Farthing again, for he had not met him since he left the lodge with which they were connected. Bro. Stephens invited him to the lodge, and when he opened the invitation and saw "Tivoli," he wondered whether it meant Rome or the Strand. He found it was neither. He was in the position of a V.W. Grand Officer who, on being asked if he was going to the "Tivoli," replied that he had not been to a music hall for a long time. He thanked Bro. Farthing and the brethren for their reception of the toast, and wished the W.M. a highly successful and pleasant year of office.

"The W.M." was then proposed by Bro. W. Godson, I.P.M., who said that, fortunately, no words were necessary to recommend the toast. The W.M. had performed his duties in the various offices with credit to himself and satisfaction to all. They would find he would perform the duties of the chair with equal success, and keep up the high standard this lodge had held since its foundation. He would ask them to drink right heartily to the health of their W.M.

Bro. A. Craddock, W.M., who met with a very cordial reception, thanked the I.P.M. for the kind words spoken in his favour and for the pleasant augury given him for the ensuing year. He entered upon Freemasonry some years ago, and never thought of attaining the exalted position of W.M. in such a distinguished lodge. Freemasonry had taught him many things. The ground work of Freemasonry was Charity, but there were many sorts of charity—the charity of fellowship, of kindness, and of brotherhood, and in this Tivoli Lodge he had met with all those. He had been pushed on and on, and his failings had been excused. He must thank every brother who had been specially kind to him—Bro. Stephens, always willing to give good advice, and Bro. Schmitz, P.M., who was a great acquisition to the lodge. There were other visitors present who had helped him, particularly the Preceptor and Secretary of the Logic Club, Bros. Manuel and J. P. Fitzgerald, to both of whom he tendered his sincere thanks. He feared he had departed somewhat from the toast. He would try to do his best to make the lodge go well and keep up its old reputation.

"The Absent Minded Beggar" was recited, and four guineas was subscribed for the Lord Mayor's Fund.

"The Masonic Charities" was proposed by Bro. Jas. Stephens, who said that this lodge did its duty, and was conversant with those Charities. Last year they gave their support to the Old People, and the I.P.M. took up nearly £200. Lord Addington would preside at the next Festival of the Benevolent Institution, and as many of them were connected with Bucks, they were naturally anxious to do what they could for his presidency. There were 1000 souls in their three Institutions to be cared for. The W.M. would act as Steward, and he hoped the members would support him well.

Bro. Jas. Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I., replied in an effective speech.

Bro. F. Schmitz, P.M., proposed "The I.P.M.," and said the task had been made doubly easy by the high praise of Bro. Strachan. The I.P.M. had succeeded in a most difficult task, and as a small token of their affection and regard the W.M. would place upon his breast a Past Master's jewel as a small but visible sign of their appreciation.

Bro. W. Godson, I.P.M., briefly expressed his thanks, after which

Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., proposed "The Visitors."

Bro. J. Fernandez, P.A.G.D.C., responded, and expressed thanks for the warmth of the hospitality shown the visitors. This was his first visit to the lodge, and their *bonhomie*, their good will, and the "make everybody at home" principle, made him also feel at home. The interchange of kindly thoughts was good especially to Masons, and he reciprocated the kind thoughts expressed.

Bros. Manuel, Sang, and Fitzgerald, P.M., also replied.

Bro. Schreiber, P.M., responded for "The P.M.s.," and Bro. Jas. Stephens, P.M., Sec., for "The Treasurer and Secretary." The latter said the Treasurer had over £250 in hand, and not one member owed a single shilling.

Bro. E. P. Moore, S.W., referring to a musical item, "Follow on," said all the officers would follow the W. Master in his excellent work.

The musical artistes included Miss Emily Foxcroft, Madame Alice Lo rence, and Bros. Broughton Black, Wills Page, and Herbert Cooke.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

Thursday, the 2nd instant, was "ladies' night" at this lodge, and both in the lodge, as well as at refreshment, the proceedings were of the happiest character. There was an unusually good attendance; the W.M., Bro. Jas. B. Fearnley, presided, and was supported by Bros. John Morton, I.P.M.; John Niven, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.; C. H. Ellis, P.M.; Samuel Robinson, P.M.; S. A. Bailey, P.M.; J. T. Last, P.M., P.P.G.R., Sec.; Fred. Betteridge, B.A., Chap.; I. W. Bland, Treas.; T. P. Symes, S.W.; Robt. S. Hird, as J.W.; J. S. Hedley, J.D.; W. H. Townend, as J.D.; R. B. Nicholls, as I.G.; J. S. Cooper, Tyler; W. Docksey, J.W.; J. A. Drake, R. S. Marsland, R. H. Markham, J. Hardy, W. Harrison, J. Wood, J. L. Turner, H. W. Whitley, J. Ledgard, R. S. Town, N. Lea, J. Lee, R. A. Hinchliffe, W. Shaw Smith, C. E. Storey, John Harland, C. Wood, and others. Visitors: Bros. the Rev. Wm. Wilkinson, M.A., P.M. 1214, P.P.G. Chap, W.M. elect 2069; S. Mortimer, P.M. 603; L. R. Wood, Sec. 603; H. S. Peltz, S.W., W.M. elect 1736; E. Hanson, Asst. Sec. 448; and A. J. Taylor, Org. 2669.

After the minutes of the preceding meeting had been confirmed, a resolution dealing with lodge refreshment was passed, and a Refreshment Committee appointed. The election of W.M. for the ensuing year resulted in the choice of Bro. R. S. Hird, a P.S.W. of the lodge, who briefly and appropriately acknowledged the compliments paid him. Past Masters' collars and jewels were presented by the W.M. to such of the P.Ms. of the lodge as had not attained to Provincial rank, and the presentations were suitably acknowledged in each case. After "Hearty good wishes" from the visiting brethren, the lodge was closed.

The ladies having assembled (at the invitation of the W.M.), they joined the brethren at dinner.

On the removal of the cloth, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. The toast of "Our Rulers Supreme and Subordinate" was submitted by the S.W., and acknowledged by Bro. John Niven, P.M., Prov. G. Std. Br.

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by Bro. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., who congratulated Bro. Fearnley, W.M., on the happy inspiration that had induced him to invite the ladies to join them at dinner that evening, on the last occasion that he would have the opportunity of presiding as W.M., his term of office had been an important one as regards the lodge, they had had several happy gatherings during the year, and the lodge had entertained many visitors. The W.M. has been assiduous in the discharge of his duties, and had spared himself no pains to promote the welfare of the lodge and the happiness of the brethren.

The toast was received with much heartiness.

In responding, Bro. J. B. Fearnley, W.M., thanked the brethren for the cordial manner the brethren had drunk to his health. He stated that he had received the unstinted support of the officers of the lodge as well as from the brethren generally, and if he had succeeded in giving the lodge satisfaction he was more than gratified. He was particularly pleased to see such a large gathering (over 80), and to be honoured with the presence of the ladies, and he hoped that all of them would enjoy themselves.

The "Visitors" was submitted by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Rev. Wm. Wilkinson, P.M., P.P.G.C., W.M. elect 2009, and Bro. S. Mortimer, P.M. 603. Both of them expressed the pleasure it had afforded them to be guests at the lodge on such an interesting occasion, and they expressed the opinion that it would be to the advantage of the Craft were the ladies to mingle with them after their lodge meetings more frequently.

Bro. Hird, W.M. elect, in responding to the toast of his health, thanked the W.M. for the kindly way in which he had proposed it, and stated that he should use his best endeavours to discharge the duties devolving upon him as master to the satisfaction of the lodge, and with the support of the P.Ms. and officers of the lodge he hoped to have a happy year of office.

"The Ladies" was proposed by Bro. Bland, Treasurer, who accorded them a hearty welcome.

The response was entrusted to Bro. Harrison, who stated that he felt it an honour to be the mouthpiece of the ladies on that occasion, they were pleased to have an opportunity of being present at that meeting, but it would be far more gratifying to them to be permitted to assemble with them in the hall below, where they understood they practised their mysteries; if again invited, they would be pleased to accept, as they had passed a very pleasant evening.

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

Songs and recitations were contributed by Miss Harrison, Bros. Hansen, Townend, Town, Drake, and Wood, whilst Bro. Taylor delighted the company with solos on his violin.

Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. A. H. Debenham, P.M. 1479, P.G. Stwd., W.M.; R. G. Barton, P.M., P.G.S., as S.W.; C. Robinson, P.M. 780, P.G.S., P.P.G. Reg. Surrey, W.M. elect; J. T. Chancellor, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., P.G.S., P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br. Eng., D. of C.; F. T. Slade and W. Ford, Stwds.; H. J. Lardner, P.G.S., I.P.M.; H. Slade, P.G.S., P.M.; and Dr. W. H. Kempster, jun., P.M. 1745. Among the visitors was Bro. T. Simpson, P.M. 1745.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Rodger was passed to the Second Degree. Bro. C. Robinson having been presented, was duly installed as W.M. by the W.M., assisted by Bro. H. J. Lardner. Among the officers appointed and invested were Bros. F. T. Slade, S.W.; W. Ford, J.W.; J. T. Chancellor, P.M., Treas.; E. Rogers, P.M., Sec.; H. W. Freshwater, S.D.; C. H. Jackman, J.D.; J. H. Jacques, I.G.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., D. of C.; H. J. Barrett, Stwd.; and H. Evenden, P.M., Tyler. A gold bar was presented to Bro. A. H. Debenham, to mark his second year's tenure of office. The lodge also presented him with a handsome and costly Bible, and which he in turn generously gave to the lodge. It bore the inscription: "Presented by W. Bro. Alfred Herbert Debenham, P.G.S. to the Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60, as a souvenir of his second year of office as W.M. October 27th, 1899." The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The resignation of Bro. W. Thomas P.M., &c., was received with great regret. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Dr. W. H. Kempster, P.M., P.G.S.; J. H. Jacques, H. Hills, J.P., P.P.G.W. Essex, and others. The lodge was then closed.

An excellent banquet followed.

Bro. F. T. Slade, G. Stwd., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers."

"The Health of the W.M." was proposed by the I.P.M. in fluent terms. He said that Bro. Robinson was a Past Master of at least three lodges, and therefore, was a brother of experience. He looked forward to a very pleasant year of office under his genial and experienced sway.

The W.M. having replied, gave "The Installing Master." In submitting this toast he spoke of the kindness and liberal hospitality extended by Bro. Debenham to members and visitors alike. They could not but admire his thoughtfulness in presenting to the lodge a Bible, instead of accepting some personal article of value. It was not every brother who would have exhibited such self-abnegation.

The toast having been enthusiastically drunk, the I.P.M. made a most modest speech in reply.

The toast of "The Visitors" followed, and was coupled with the name of Bro. T. Simpson, P.M., whose genial utterances are always pleasant to hear.

"The Past Masters" was acknowledged by Bros. Barton, Kempster, and Lardner; "The Treasurer and Secretary" by Bro. Rogers; and "The Officers" by Bros. Ford, Jackson, and Barrett.

The proceedings then terminated.

Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168.

A large number of members and visitors—the latter numbering about 50—attended the installation meeting of this successful lodge held at the Midland Grand Hotel, on the 9th inst. Everything was well up to the high standard of excellence which is usual with this lodge, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. At the opening of the lodge,

Bro. John Nash, W.M., was supported by Bros. Robert Gregory, S.W., W.M. elect; Nathan Robinson, P.M., J.W.; Wm. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Mitchell, S. Garcia, P.M., D.C.; Dr. Haskins, P.P.G. Org. Essex; W. Harding, P.M.; J. W. Dixon, P.M.; W. Lawrence, P.M.; and many others. Visitors: Bros. John Strachan, O.C., P.G. Reg.; T. A. Bullock, P.G.S.B.; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; C. Bullock, P.G. Sec. Herts; E. Elton Hawkins, W.M. 1507; H. J. Foster, P.P.G.D. Herts; F. G. Lane, P.P.G.S. of W.; J. Matthews, 504; R. J. Perriam, P.M. 1531; T. Weymouth, I.P.M. 1343; G. H. Silverwood, W.M. 1343; R. J. Cullen, P.M. 1339; W. Bills, 1708; A. B. Butt, W.M. 753; James Kift, 1791; H. Emlyn, 1348; R. G. Robinson, W.M. 1531; C. Barralet, 2769; A. E. Fielder, S.D. 804; W. F. Watmore, 489; F. W. White, 30; M. F. Crooger, 30; J. D. Hood, 1668; R. Manuel, P.M. 1196; W. Leckwood, 795; Nathan B. Robinson, P.M. 55; G. H. Burns, W.M. 1687; G. E. Redman, P.M. 1238; Gordon Larnar, W.M. 1326; G. A. Robinson, S.W. 55; T. F. Bryen, 2048; H. Hill, P.M. 1305; N. Mitchell, 2265; J. Myers, S. R. Timson, P.P.G.D.; R. Hunt, 1636; J. Blades, 177; L. Verdier, S.W. 1687; W. A. Brown, 73; W. Churcher, 2467; J. Josey, 1706; and W. W. Lee, P.M. 2381.

After the opening of the lodge, and the confirmation of the minutes, the principal business of the evening was at once proceeded with. Bro. R. D. Cummings, P.M., the well-known Secretary of the lodge, took the chair, and the W.M. elect, Bro. Robt. Gregory, having been presented by Bro. Garcia, P.M., D.C., he was duly installed into the chair in the usual manner, the ceremonial being rendered full justice by such an experienced worker as the Installing Master. The sacred solo "Be thou faithful unto death" was well rendered. The officers invested were, Bros. Nathan Robinson, P.M., S.W.; Dr. Wholey, P.M., J.W.; W. Thomas, P.M., Treas.; R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.; J. H. Mitchell, S.D.; A. Ingram, J.D.; F. A. Baldwin, I.G.; S. Garcia, P.M., D.C.; Dr. Haskins, Org.; W. Short and E. F. James, Stewards, and R. H. Goddard, Tyler.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed, the lodge was closed, and the W.M. accompanied by his officers and the Grand Officers were escorted from the lodge room in procession by the D.C.

A first-class banquet followed, and the toast list and musical programme was proceeded with.

"The Grand Officers" was proposed by Bro. Nathan Robinson, P.M., S.W., at the request of the W.M. He said the Grand Officers stood on such a high pinnacle that he dare not approach them, and he had therefore a subdued pleasure in proposing the toast. He owed Bro. Eve a debt of gratitude for sitting on his immediate right when he was installed in his mother lodge some years ago, and if that brother only poured the same kindly speech into their ears they would not easily forget it.

Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., expressed his pleasure at responding and also at visiting the lodge again. The brother whose name the lodge bore was a splendid specimen of a Mason, the principles he enunciated and acted upon being such as reflected credit to himself and honour to the Craft to which they belonged. There were usually more Grand Officers present, but they had doubtless gone to the Mansion House. They all knew the freedom, the fervency and zeal of the brother who proposed the toast, for he always would "let go the painter" and say what he thought. It was Machievalli who said that "speech was given us for the purpose of concealing our thoughts," but if they had a few more like Bro. Nathan Robinson they would be none the worse. They had all phases of life in Grand Lodge, but they were all good men and true or they would not be in that position. There was nothing equal to Masonry, which embraced men of all colours, creeds, and feelings. Everything was combined in Masonry, religion and politics alone being excluded. They never interfered so long as a man acknowledged the Great Architect. It was a splendid idea that men of various phases should meet together, drink and eat and enjoy themselves after they had done all they could for the good of Masonry in general, and Charity in particular. It was a most democratic Institution for they elected their ruler every year. Was there anything more democratic in form than the election by the universal suffrages of Masonry? The W.M. was a despot from top to bottom, but exercised his authority with the greatest courtesy and goodwill. Although democratic, the Order was most despotic, for they placed in the ruler the power to name all the officers except the Treasurer. The Treasurer was an honourable position, and being a G. Treasurer, he regarded it as such, and in that capacity returned thanks. There were, doubtless, embriotic G. Officers present, for Masonry brought to the top those who desired to earn the suffrages of the Grand Master, but whether they worked at the top or the bottom they all met on the level and parted on the square. There was no supremacy, unless for form, for the purpose of working their Order. They recognised the laws of the country in which they lived, and, having an affectionate feeling towards the country of their birth, desired to see that country stand high, honourable, and proud before all other nations in the world. He regarded as a most important factor in the England of to-day the Masonic feeling which pervaded their body, and he trusted to always see a continuance of that feeling, not only in their own country, but in the colonies, which they hailed with so much delight. A spread of the principles of Masonry could not fail to bring about a period of rest, quietude, and peacefulness, for much could be done by an Institution which was so splendid in its form and so beautiful in its character.

Bro. T. Bullock, P.G.S.B., briefly replied, and expressed his thanks for the hospitable terms in which Bro. Robinson had proposed the toast, for having Bro. Eve present to answer those remarks, and to Bro. Cummings, Sec., for the opportunity of spending a delightful evening.

Bro. John Nash, I.P.M., then submitted "The W.M.," observing that Bro. Gregory had that evening reaped the reward of his Masonic career in having been installed in the chair of his mother lodge.

Bro. Robt. Gregory, W.M., said that words failed him to express his sincere thanks for the kind manner in which the I.P.M. had proposed the toast and for the cordiality with which it had been received. It had been his ambition ever since he was initiated in the lodge to become their W.M., and that ambition had now been realised. He knew his inability to perform his duties in the same manner as his predecessors had done, but he would do his best to uphold the traditions of the lodge. He hoped that with the assistance of the Past Masters, and the indulgence of the members, to discharge his duties so that the brethren would not regret having placed him in that position.

The W.M. then gave "The Masonic Charities," and announced his intention of representing the lodge for the Boys' School. He coupled the name of Bro. Manuel, P.M., the well-known Preceptor of the Logic Club.

Bro. Manuel, P.M., responded, and advocated the cause of the three great Institutions.

Bro. C. Bullock, Prov. G. Sec. Herts, replying for "The Visitors," said that in due time the Herts brethren hoped to see the present W.M. in the chair of the Berkhamstead Lodge. Their little province prided itself on good work in Masonry, and the W.M. was a shining light of the Berkhamstead Lodge, which was not one of the worst in the province.

Bro. Burns, W.M. 1687, and Robinson, W.M. 1531, also replied.

The W.M. next proposed "The I.P.M.," and presented Bro. John Nash with a Past Master's jewel, which was appropriately and briefly acknowledged.

Bro. Mockridge, P.M., acting J.W., then gave "The Treasurer and Secretary," referring to the excellent work done by Bros. Wm. Thomas, P.M., Treas., and R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec.

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SAMPLES AND PRICE LIST SENT ON APPLICATION.

Bro. R. D. Cummings, P.M., Sec., said it had always been a pleasure to help this lodge with which he had been associated ever since its foundation. Its career had been one of unbroken success. They had had "ups and downs" as every lodge had, but when the members received the Auditors' report at the next meeting, they would find a balance in hand of something over three figures. They had had a good night, although not so many Grand Officers as usual, as the 9th November was always against them. Every moment of his life that he could give the lodge would always be at their service.

Bros. Harding, P.M., and Dixon, P.M., answered for "The Past Masters," after which "The Officers" was duly honoured.

Bro. Haskins, P.P.G. Org. Essex, and Bro. James Kift were assisted in the musical arrangements by Bros. Herbert Emlyn, John Josey, and Walter Churcher.

Royal Arch.

Fidelity Chapter, No. 3.

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on the 3rd inst., when there were in attendance Comps. H. J. Lardner, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br. Surrey, M.E.Z.; Lt.-Col. W. Hart, H.; Major I. C. Walls, P.Z., P.D.G.D.C., as J.; W. J. Collens, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., S.E.; Pratt, P.S.; Spawforth, 1st Asst. Soj.; Cooper, 2nd Asst. Soj.; H. Mapleton, I.P.Z.; F. McDougall, P.Z.; Weeks, P.Z.; W. Radcliffe, P.Z.; Larcumb, P.Z.; and Samuel Cochran, P.G. Treas. The lodge was in mourning consequent upon the death of Comp. H. Nash, P.Z., and Third Principal of the chapter.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the election of Principals and officers took place as follows: Comps. Lt.-Col. Hart, M.E.Z.; S. Cochran, P.Z., H.; H. Birch, J.; W. J. Collens, P.Z., S.E.; Pratt, S.N.; Spawforth, P.S.; Cooper, 1st Asst. Soj.; Campbell, 2nd Asst. Soj.; Besch, D.C.; Samuel, Stwd.; and Goddard, P.Z., Janitor. A Past Principal's jewel was voted with acclamation to Comp. H. J. Lardner, P.Z., M.E.Z. Comp. Stephens, P.Z., was elected a non-dining member. A notice of motion was given to vote "the sum of five guineas to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the Widows and Orphans of those soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the Transvaal." A vote of condolence was passed to the family of the late Comp. H. Nash. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Comps. J. Heming, P.Z., Treas.; F. Graves, P.Z.; Birch, P.Z.; Campbell, D.C.; and others. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. The chapter was then closed. A banquet followed.

Comp. S. Cochran, P.Z., P.G. Treas., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers" in a speech of some merit.

"The Health of the M.E.Z." was given by the I.P.Z., who, in submitting the toast, spoke in high terms of the good working Comp. Lardner had shown ever since he had joined the chapter. He—the speaker—had seen the work performed as well, but never better; besides which, the M.E.Z. was a capital Chairman at the banquet table, and a great supporter of the Masonic Charities.

The M.E.Z., in reply, expressed his acknowledgment, and regretted that the time he had been their First Principal had passed so quickly. He always looked forward to the meetings of No. 3 because there was always a spirit of good harmony within its walls. The chapter possessed many excellent Past Principals and a most indefatigable Scribe Ezra and a revered Treasurer. They had been good enough to vote him a jewel that night, and he hoped for many years to be spared to wear it in their company.

"The Health of the First Principle elect" followed, and was responded to by Comp. Lt.-Col. Hart.

"The Past Principals" was replied to by Comps. Mapleton and McDougall, and "The Officers" by Comps. Collens, Pratt, and Spawford.

The proceedings were shorn of the usual conviviality by the gloom cast over the chapter by the untimely death of one who in health was a most genial companion, an interesting raconteur, and a reader of marked ability. The late Comp. H. Nash was a member of the Masonic fraternity whose place in his numerous lodges and chapters will be difficult to fill.—R.I.P.

Zetland Chapter, No. 603.

A regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Bath-road, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, on Friday, the 27th ult., when the officers present were Comps. J. T. Last, M.E.Z.; Wm. Sharp, as H.; Jas. Clough, J.; S. H. Stacks, P.Z., P.P.G.J.; D. Forshaw, as S.E.; S. Mortimer, P.S.; Parker, as S.N.; and S. Halliday, Asst. Soj. Comp. Dr. S. Jacob, P.Z. 837, P.P.G.O., was a visitor.

The chapter being opened, and the minutes of the previous convocation having been confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bros. Dr. Percy Lodge, C. H. Powell, and W. H. Hudson, all of 603, they were duly elected, and Bros. Powell and Hudson being in attendance, were exalted by the M.E.Z., the lectures were deferred until the next meeting.

After the chapter had been closed, the companions dined together.

Mark Masonry.

Copley Lodge, No. 111.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. WM. FLOCKTON, P.M., P.P.G.O.

Considerable and increasing interest in the Mark Degree, as we from time to time have had occasion to show by our reports, has been manifest for some years in the Province of West Yorkshire. The popular Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Charles Letch Mason, has filled the post of chief of the Order for a long period, having been installed into that high position by the then Prov. Grand Master for North and East Yorkshire, Bro. J. Woodall Woodall, on the 17th October, 1883. Mark Masonry under his rule has made steady progress and now has a roll of 15 lodges with a membership largely exceeding 500. Bro. Mason has had able and valuable assistance during his *régime* from the various Deputies whom it was his good fortune to secure. These have been Bro. the Rev. W. C. Lukis, who, besides being an excellent Mason, was a scholar and an eminent archaeologist; Bro. the Rev. T. Cartwright Smyth, D.D., who had long and valuable experience in India and the East and whose enthusiasm and genial personality won all hearts; and, finally, Bro. John Barker, the present Deputy, whose quiet but most practical labours meet with equal appreciation and esteem. If it is true that a man's character is largely moulded by his associates and surroundings, it is equally correct to affirm that men or bodies of men who come in contact with minds that are not self-seeking, that desire only the general good and benefit of all, cannot fail to be thereby influenced to their advantage. Whilst, therefore, it may not be said that Mark Masonry in West Yorkshire has made extraordinary progress, it may be confidently stated that its condition has invariably been characterised by harmony and peace. *Humanum est errare* is one of those truths which has become an axiom, however, and, therefore, we don't for a moment assert that there have not been times when the ruffling breeze of discontent has rippled the usual smooth surface of affairs, but it has invariably proved to be only a temporary inconvenience, and placidity and calmness have rapidly succeeded. Copley Lodge dates from 1870, and has had upon the whole a pleasant and highly creditable history. Situated in Leeds, the centre of a large Masonic community, it has in consequence taken an important part in the concerns of Mark Masonry. Its numerical strength is not so great as that of some lodges in the province, but then it must be noted that two other lodges have gone forth from its midst. In 1886 arose the lodge of St. Chad, also meeting in Leeds, and in 1893 Legiolium was formed in Castleford, both owing their parentage to Copley. Of course, the mother lodge lost in members thereby, but it gained in prestige and renown, and judging from the meeting which took place on Tuesday, the 7th inst., it is not like to lose the position amongst the lodges to which it naturally aspires, and which it has hitherto claimed. The circumstances of the lodge at the moment were such that without the least reflection upon anyone, it seemed desirable that for the year about to commence the Worshipful Master's chair should be filled by a

Past Master, and in the end it was decided, with that brother's consent, that the Past Master chosen for the position should be Bro. William Flockton. Bro. Flockton occupied the chair in Copley Lodge in 1890, and is at present a Past Grand Overseer of the province. Amongst the many Masonic workers in West Yorkshire few are better known, and none more highly valued than Bro. Flockton. He is one of those quiet, unassuming brethren who, without taking anything upon himself, is ready in a case of emergency or difficulty to come to the rescue. Needless to say, Bro. Flockton is popular amongst the brethren, and when it became known that he was for the second time going to occupy the chair of Copley Lodge, they mustered strongly to witness his installation. The ceremony took place at the Masonic Hall, Carlton Hill, Leeds, and the Provincial Grand Master, accompanied by a number of his officers, honoured Bro. Flockton by his presence.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. R. J. Smith, with whom were Bros. José Rickard, S.W.; F. Hinchliffe, J.W.; T. Myers, P.M., P.P.G.O., as M.O.; Harold Bonser, S.O.; F. Bagshawe, J.O.; Wm. Flockton, P.M., P.P.G.O., Treas.; T. A. Withey, Sec.; J. E. Cawthorn, S.D.; J. N. Hart, J.D.; Geo. Tooley, I.G.; F. Long, 374, Org.; T. F. Wheeler, Tyler; B. Sykes Bailey, W.M. 374; J. W. Bailey, P.M., P.P.G.O.; Walter Davey, J.W. 525; Grosvenor, James Millington, and Robert Tasker. Amongst the visitors were: Bros. R. F. Rogerson, W.M. 137; John Cromack, S.O.; Geo. Whittaker, and Hodgson, all of Old York (T.I.); J. E. Mann, S.W., 457; J. W. Corbett, J.W. 457; and A. H. Walker, 457. After the minutes were read the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Charles Letch Mason, was announced. He was accompanied by the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. John Barker; Bros. J. W. Monckman, P.M. (T.I.), P.P.G.W., P.G.O. Eng.; G. H. Parke, W.M. 110, P.P. G.W., P.G. Treas. Eng.; W. E. Smithies, P.M. 137 and 493, P.P.G.W., G. Stwd. Eng.; W. W. Clayton, P.M. 374, Prov. S.G.W.; W. S. Milligan, P.M. 58, Prov. S.G.O.; E. Billington, P.M. 127, P.P.G.O.; Joseph Matthewman, P.M. 110, Prov. G. Sec.; M. A. Brigg, P.M. 374, Prov. G.D.; T. G. Howell, P.M. 137 and 493, P.P.G.D.; A. Leach, P.M. 110, P.P.G.D.C.; G. H. Schofield, P.M. 457, Prov. G.I. of W.; J. Wood Blackburn, P.M. 111, Prov. G.S.B.; Wm. Ash, J.O. 110, P.P.G.Org.; and A. G. Mabin, I.P.M. 457, and A. Rowe, I.P.M. 493, Prov. G. Stwds. After the usual salutes, the Prov. G. Master presented Bro. Wm. Flockton to Bro. R. J. Smith, W.M., and the ceremony of installation proceeded. The Board of Installed Masters numbered 23. Bro. R. J. Smith, the retiring W.M., did his work in a most pleasing manner. Bro. Flockton being already an Installed Master, the ceremony was brief; Bro. R. J. Smith, however, taking all except the addresses to the Master, Wardens, and Overseers, which were delivered by the Deputy, Bro. John Barker. Bro. Flockton appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. J. Smith, I.P.M.; H. Bonser, S.W.; F. Hinchliffe, J.W.; T. A. Withey, M.O.; F. Bagshawe, S.O.; J. E. Cawthorn, J.O.; A. N. Hart, Sec.; Grosvenor, R. of M.; G. Tooley, S.D.; Robt. Tasker, J.D.; Jas. Millington, I.G.; and T. F. Wheeler, Tyler. Bro. F. Hinchliffe was unanimously elected Charity Steward for the lodge, and this closed the business. The Prov. G. Master congratulated the Copley Lodge upon having so efficient a W.M. as Bro. Flockton, and ventured to think that the coming year would be one of genuine prosperity, in which hope he was sure the Prov. G. Officers and all the brethren present most heartily joined. The Prov. G. Master, accompanied by his Deputy and the Officers of Prov. G. Lodge, then retired, after which the lodge was closed.

Upwards of 40 brethren subsequently sat down to one of Mrs. Wheeler's nice little suppers, and the after proceedings were enlivened by songs from various musical brethren.

The usual toasts were given, Bro. J. W. Monckman replying for Grand Lodge and the Prov. G. Master for the Province.

"The Health of the W.M." was enthusiastically given and received, and Bro. Flockton made a most effective reply.

Everything passed off in harmony, and we should not be surprised if from this night Copley Lodge were to take a new departure, and make an effort to actually gain the premier position in the province to which it seems to be entitled. Any way, the success of the meeting will, we trust, prove a happy augury for the future, and we join in all good wishes for this most desirable consummation.

Obituary.

BRO. GEORGE BAKER, P.G.M., D.G.M. VICTORIA.

The Victorian Craft has suffered an almost irretrievable loss in the death, after a short illness, on September 27th, of Bro. George Baker, Past Grand Master, and its Deputy Grand Master since the foundation of the Grand Lodge more than 10 years ago. Bro. Baker, who was 66 years of age at the time of his regretted demise, had not only been for many years one of the leading figures in Melbourne Masonry, but he had been closely identified with the commercial interests of the great Australian city. He was an Englishman by birth, and settled in Victoria when quite a young man. He became associated with Freemasonry under the Irish Constitution, in the Carlton Lodge, then No. 380, now No. 19, under the Victorian Constitution. In course of time, he passed the chair of his mother lodge, and became a Mark and Royal Arch Mason in the lodge and chapter attached to the Washington Lodge, No. 385 (I.C.). It was not long ere our deceased brother made his mark in Colonial Masonry, and, after filling two or three minor offices in the Irish Province of Victoria, he was raised to the distinguished and onerous position of Deputy Provincial Grand Master. It was in the early "eighties" that I met him, soon after my arrival in Melbourne, and from then till the year of his death—for we corresponded regularly after my return to England—I am proud to say we were in the closest touch. Thus I can truly say, that a kinder-hearted, a more genial soul, a firmer friend, and a better Mason, in everything that contributes to practical eminence and usefulness in the Craft, it would be exceedingly difficult to find. He further had a strong will of his own, which once or twice in the course of his Masonic career was forcibly exercised to useful ends. The first instance called to mind was connected with the formation of the original and never recognised Grand Lodge of Victoria, that is to say, it was never recognised by England, Ireland, or Scotland, nor by the two greatest of the Grand Lodges in the United States. The movement originated amongst a few Irish and Scotch lodges, not an English lodge giving the project any countenance, and the district then numbered some 80 subordinate lodges. Bro. Baker, if I rightly remember, was at that time in sole charge of the Irish Province, and, attending some of the lodges under his jurisdiction, he, as a matter of fact, "took possession," and prevented the majorities in cutting the painter which bound them to the old country. Not only that, but he in a few instances promptly granted dispensations to lodges whose warrants had been taken away by the seceders, and thus kept them under the old flag. This action was prompted by a sound conviction that the time had not arrived for an independent Grand Lodge, and until there were prospects of a unanimous feeling in favour of such a project, he discountenanced any interference with the rights of minorities. Not many months after, the late Sir W. J. Clarke, Bart., was successively appointed to rule the Craft in the Colony under the three British Constitutions, and Bro. Baker, if I go without saying, remained in his old post as Dep. Prov. G. Master under the Irish Constitution. Early in 1888, however, an influential movement was started in the direction of autonomy, and Bro. Baker, at once being assured of its genuineness and eventual success, was a tacit supporter, merely as became his position. In a few words, it will suffice to say that Sir William Clarke, as the first M.W.G. Master of Victoria, gave our late brother the rank of Past Grand Master, and also appointed him Deputy Grand Master. This position he held till the day of his death, M.W. Bro. Lord Brassey, who succeeded Sir Wm. Clarke, having gracefully continued the honour. It was during Lord Brassey's visit to England last year that Bro. Baker once more demonstrated his firmness of mind, and that on a critical occasion, arising out of the absence of the Grand Master

from the colony on the day constitutionally appointed for his re-installation into office. The opposition to the time-honoured English procedure of a simple proclamation and subsequent investiture of officers was formidable, but Bro. Baker firmly refused to give way to clamour, and the climax of the teacup tempest was the prevention of similar trouble in the future by the inclusion of a new article in the "Book of Constitutions," whereby it is laid down that a re-elected Grand Master need not be re-installed. Bro. Baker was a veritable *nunquam dormio* in Masonry, and "week in, week out," he was performing some congenial function or other, from consecrating a new lodge to installing a Master. His charity knew no bounds, for he was one of the founders of the homes for old and decayed Masons and widows of such, an Institution started in Melbourne many years ago. He was also President of the Immigrants' Asylum, a director of the Freemasons' Hall Company from its initiation, and a founder of the Masonic Club in Melbourne; whilst in many other directions his energy, good nature, and liberality made themselves felt to excellent purpose amongst the community with which he had been for almost a lifetime so intimately associated. It goes without saying that fitting honours were accorded the funeral obsequies of so eminent a member of the Craft in that far distant part of her Majesty's dominions. At Christ Church, South Yarra, where the deceased had for long resided, the first portion of the burial service was performed, in the presence of the Grand Master. Meanwhile, a Masonic service was in progress in the city, with Bro. the Hon. A. J. Peacock, Pro Grand Master, presiding, who delivered an eloquent oration. Thereafter, at the graveside, in the Melbourne cemetery, where repose the remains of the first Grand Master of Victoria, the last tributes of respect were paid by his numerous life-long friends and brothers in Masonry. The floral memorials were most elaborate, the principal ones being from Lord Brassey, the United Grand Lodge, the directors of the Freemasons' Hall Company, the Grand Lodge of Tasmania, and many private lodges in town and country, including the deceased's mother lodge.

W. F. L.

BRO. JOHN NEWTON, F.R.A.S., P.G.P.

Bro. John Newton, F.R.A.S., the news of whose death will be received with deep regret, but more especially among his colleagues on the Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, has had a long and honourable career in Masonry. He appears to have been initiated on the 12th April, 1861, in the Lodge of Sincerity, No. 174, and having six years later been elected and installed as W. Master, was on vacating the chair appointed to fill the important office of Secretary. That he discharged his duties in this capacity to the entire satisfaction of the lodge may be judged from the fact that some 10 or more years later he was presented with an address of thanks, accompanied by a handsome gold watch and chain. This was done as recorded in the address "in recognition of the valuable services rendered to the lodge, and especially in acknowledgment of the zeal and efficiency with which he has for a number of years carried out the arduous and important duties of Secretary, and also as a mark of personal esteem and friendship for the truly Masonic spirit always manifested by him towards his brethren of the lodge." In 1876, he became the principal founder, and was installed as the first W. Master of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607, and to his able conduct in the chair may be ascribed the good fortune which has since attended the career of that excellent lodge. He was exalted in the Chapter of Sincerity, attached to his mother lodge, in 1867, and was installed in the chair as First Principal in 1871. In the year 1870 he joined the Rose of Denmark Chapter No. 975, and was subsequently elected M.E.Z. He was, lastly, a supporter of all our Institutions, having qualified as Life Governor of the two Schools, and as Vice-Patron of the Benevolent Institution; while as regards the last named he had served five Stewardships, and constituted his wife a Vice-President, and sundry of his children as Life Governors. He was, indeed, one of its staunchest supporters, and as a member of the House Committee took a particularly active part in the regulation of its affairs. But the crowning triumph of his career in lodge and chapter came in 1895, when his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Master appointed him Grand Pursuivant, the honour thus conferred upon him being followed a few days later when he was invested Asst. G.D.C. in Supreme Grand Chapter. We will add that in his profession Bro. Newton was very highly esteemed. He had been a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society since 1862, and was the author of works of acknowledged merit on Navigation and Seamanship, his text-book entitled the "Seamanship Examiner," having gone through many editions. Bro. Newton had been ailing, we believe, for some time past, but though his death may not have been altogether unanticipated, we none the less sympathise with the widow and children who are left to mourn his loss. The funeral took place in Brockley Cemetery on Wednesday, the 15th instant, among those present in addition to the family being Bros. Griffiths, W.M. 174; Lacey, P.M., Treas. 174; Webb, P.M., Sec. 174; Bulmer, P.M.; Jones, P.M.; Butcher, P.M.; Moore, P.M.; Bayley, P.M.; Cocks, J.W.; Wm. Harvey, P.M., I.P.Z. 174; Bulmer, S.D.; J. J. Mustart, J.D.; Laundry, Capt. Cunningham, and Capt. Harvey Oates, of 174; Dunn, Dr. Cock, James Terry, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.B.I.; W. Martin, and many other brethren and friends. Prominent among the wreaths were those sent by Lodges Nos. 174 and 1607, and the House Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Instruction.

HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 10th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, when there were present Bros. J. B. Schrader, W.M.; T. J. Phillips, S.W.; Jas. Barnett, J.W.; H. G. Holland, P.M., Preceptor; R. H. Nicholls, Treas.; Henry Thos. Kobelt, Sec.; C. G. Ridgway, S.D.; Henry Tull, J.D.; Robt. Allingham, I.G.; H. Saunton, P.M.; J. Mayhew, A. W. Lockhart, C. T. W. Drake, A. J. Simpson, J. W. Whipp, and H. Ramsbottom. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremonies of passing and raising were rehearsed, Bros. Lockhart and Mayhew, acting as the candidates. The lodge was then closed.

WHITTINGTON LODGE, No. 862.

A meeting was held on the 8th inst., at the Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, when there were present Bros. Alfred Collins, W.M.; Alex. Clarkson, S.W.; W. H. Latham, J.W.; A. V. H. Pauncefort, P.M., Preceptor and Treas.; Henry Thos. Kobelt, Sec.; H. E. Francis, P.M., S.D.; J. Scarlett, J.D.; Percy Driver, I.G.; and Robert Bell.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Bell acting as the candidate. The lodge was closed.

ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 14th instant, at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. J. E. Thomas, W.M.; C. T. Rayner, S.W.; C. Isler, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardymont, Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; J. Duncan, P.M., Sec.; C. Nicole, S.D.; D. Taylor, J.D.; R. E. Maskall, I.G.; J. Birks, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; C. T. Barlow, P.M.; T. A. Spencer, W. Fowler, G. Mortlock, W. J. Townsend, F. Henderson, E. P. Fischer, S. Cload, and A. Oliver, P.M.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Townsend being the candidate. The W.M. and S.W. exchanged officers, and the ceremony of installation was rehearsed, Bro. Birks as Master elect. Bro. E. P. Fischer was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Isler was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

MASONIC CONCERT.

On Wednesday a very well-attended Masonic Charity Concert took place in the Pillar Room of Cannon-street Hotel, organised by Bro. Walter Gladding, R.M.B.I. The chair was taken by Bro. Boulton, P.P.S.G.D. Essex, and an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered, the principal artistes (all members of the Craft) being Harry Tipper (Silver Bells), Alex. Edwards (Cornet), Alex. Watson (Elocutionist), Roland Henry (Musical Sketches), Harry Greene (Tenor), W. H. Berry (Humorous), Wills Page, and W. C. Hamilton. Bro. Fred Russell, in his "Ventriloquism up-to-date," proved the tit-bit of the evening, time alone preventing his responding to a spontaneous demand for an encore.

The duties of Musical Director were ably discharged by Bro. W. C. Hamilton, whilst Bro. E. J. Jose, presided at the piano with his usual ability. The stewards were Bros. E. Smith, P.M.; H. J. Seal, S.W.; T. Threlford, J.D.; and H. Casswell.

Bro. Walter Gladding was warmly congratulated upon the thorough success of his efforts in a worthy cause—the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

Scotland.

THE PRECEPTORY OF THE TEMPLE IN GLASGOW.

The annual meeting was held on Tuesday, the 14th inst., in the Masonic Hall, when there was a large attendance. Frater Sir Alex. Muir Mackenzie, Bart., of Delvine, the Preceptor presided, and among those present were Frater Principal Story, Sir Jas. Buchanan, Bart., J. Dalrymple Duncan, Rev. Dr. Tulloch, Sheriff Mark Davidson, Major Fenton Newall, and Major F. W. Allan, Secretary. After the minutes were read and approved of, three aspirants were introduced and installed as Novices, Esquires, and Knights.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Frater Sir Alex. Muir Mackenzie, Bart.	... Preceptor.
" R. King Stewart	... Past Preceptor.
" James A. Reid	... Sub-Preceptor.
" Sir James Buchanan	... Marischal.
" A. A. Speirs	... Chancellor.
" James Boyd	... Almoner.
" F. W. Allan	... Secretary.
" James Provan	... Treasurer.
" Rev. Principal Story, D.D.	... } Chaplains.
" Rev. W. W. Tulloch, D.D.	... }
" Sheriff Mark Davidson	... Bannetier.
" H. G. Fenton-Newall	... Br. of the Vex. Bel.
" William Bilsland	... Chamberlain.
" J. Cunningham Kay	... Steward.
" Emile Berger	... Director of Music.
" Rees Price	... 1st Aide-de-Camp.
" J. Guthrie Smith	... 2nd Aide-de-Camp.

After election and installation of office-bearers, adjournment was made to the Windsor Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was partaken of, the Preceptor being chairman, and Major Allan, Croupier.

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MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, November 25, 1899.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries for Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20.

RAFT LODGES.

- 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
- 21, Emulation, Albion Tavern.
- 185, Tranquillity, Frascati Restaurant.
- 720, Panmure, Balham Hotel.
- 862, Whittington, Freemasons' Hall.
- 901, City of London, Guildhall Tavern.
- 907, Royal Albert, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1506, White Horse of Kent, Holborn Viaduct Hotel.
- 1537, St. Peter Westminster, Cafe Royal.
- 1657, Aldersgate, Albion Tavern.
- 1694, Imperial, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2060, La France, Cafe Royal.
- 2489, Willesden, St. Andrew's Schools.
- 2545, Iris, Hotel Cecil.
- 2563, Justicia, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 59, Royal Naval, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1593, Trafalgar, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.

MARK LODGE.

- 333, Kintore, Surrey Masonic Hall.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 131, Holy Sanctuary, 33, Golden-square.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Blackheath, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Brondesbury, Earl Derby Hotel, High-road, Kilburn.
- Commemoration, Star and Garter, Arbour-square, Commercial road, E., at 8.
- Dalhousie, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Duke of Cornwall, Whittington Hotel, Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7.
- Eleanor, Red Lion, High Road, Tottenham, at 8.
- Fraser, The White Horse, 44, White Horse-lane, Mile End-rd., E., at 8.
- Hyde Park, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terr., Bishop's-rd., Paddington, at 8.
- Italia, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria, 9 to 11.30.
- Kingsland, Cock Tavern, Highbury, N., at 8.30.
- Marquess of Ripon, Weaver's Arms, London Wall, E.C., at 6.45.
- Metropolitan, Moorgate Tavern, 15, Finsbury-pavement, at 7.30.
- Neptune, Gauden Hotel, Clapham, S.W., at 7.30.
- North London Chapter, Cock Hotel, Highbury, at 8.
- Perseverance, Ridler's Hotel, Holborn, E.C., at 7.
- Queen's Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Regent's Park, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hotel (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 8.
- Royal Commemoration, Railway Hotel, Putney, at 8.
- Royal Savoy, Earl Russell, 2 Pancras-road, King's Cross, at 8.
- Scots, Holborn Restaurant, Holborn, at 7.30.
- St. James's Union, St. James's Restaurant (Piccadilly entrance) St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road.
- St. Michael's, Richmond Hotel, Shepherd's Bush Road, W., 8.
- Sincerity, Blackwall Railway Hotel, Fenchurch-street, at 7.
- South Norwood, Goat House Bridge Hotel, Penge-rd., at 8.
- Stockwell, White Hart, Abchurch-lane, E.C., at 6.
- Tyssen Amherst, Amherst Club, Amherst-rd., Rectory-rd., N., 7.30.
- United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich, at 7.30.
- Upton, Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street, at 8.
- Walthamstow, Lord Brooke, Shernhall-st., Walthamstow, at 8.
- Wellington, New Cross House, New Cross, at 8.
- Woodrow, Stone's, 24, Panton-street, Haymarket, S.W., at 3.
- Zetland, "The Falkland," Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-road, at 6.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21.

Board of General Purposes, at 5.

RAFT LODGES.

- 39, United Mariners, Frascati Restaurant.
- 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel.
- 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 162, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
- 704, Camden, Anderton's Hotel.
- 857, St. Mark's, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1805, Bromley St. Leonard, Vestry Hall, Bow-road.
- 2021, Queen's Westminster, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2022, Haven, Public Buildings, Ealing.
- 2408, Hampstead, Vestry Hall.
- 2500, Old Boys, Criterion.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 533, Doric, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1017, Montefiore, Trocadero Restaurant.
- 1348, Ebury, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1604, Wanderers, Freemasons' Hall.

ROSE CROIX.

- 45, Oxford and Cambridge University, 33, Golden-square.

MARK LODGE.

- 238, Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hotel.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alfred Newton, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, at 8.
- Buxton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, S.E., at 8.
- Capper, City Arms, St. Mary Axe, at 6.
- Clarence and Avondale, Green Man Hotel, Leytonstone, E., at 8.
- Constitutional, "Apple Tree and Mitre," 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, W.C., at 7.
- Chaucer, Grapes Tavern (Slee & Pike's), 121, Borough High street, at 8.
- Corinthian, George Hotel, Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 8.
- Croydon Lodge of Concord, King's Arms, Katherine-street, Croydon, at 7.
- Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
- Egyptian, Salut ion, Newgate-street, at 7.
- Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Enfield, Rose an Crown, Church-street, Edmonton, at 8.
- Excelsior, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 8.
- Euphrates, Ye Old Greyhound, Balham-street, Plaistow, E., at 7.30.
- Faith, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W.
- Finsbury, The Bell Hotel, Old Bailey, at 7.
- Flor ence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, and 4th Tues., at 7.30.
- Hen ion, Railway Hotel, West Hampstead, N.W., at 8.
- Islington, Cock Tavern, Highbury, at 7.30.
- Joppa, "The Moorgate," 15, Finsbury Pavement, E.C., at 7.30.
- Kensington, Town Hall Tavern, High-street, Kensington, at 8.
- Kirby, Midland Grand Hotel, St. Pancras Station, at 7.30.
- Langton, The Eastcheap, Eastcheap, E.C., at 4.30.

Mount Edgumbe, Rockingham Arms, Newington Causeway S.E., at 7.30.

- Nelson, Star and Garter, Powis-street, Woolwich, at 8.
- New Cross, Kembles' Head, Long Acre, W.C., at 8.
- New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood Tav., Finsbury Park, at 8.
- Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, Greenwich, at 8.
- Richmond, Station Hotel, Richmond, at 8.30.
- Robert Burns, Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W.
- Rose of Denmark, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
- South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, S.W., at 7.30.
- St. Kew, Masonic Hall, Weston-super-Mare, at 8.
- St. Leonard's, Bedford Hotel, Victoria Park-road, South Hackney, at 8.
- Victoria Park, George Hotel, Stratford, E., at 7.30.
- Industry Chapter, Prince Regent, Dulwich-road, Herne Hill, at 8.
- Southark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
- Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W., at 8.
- Westbourne, Oliver Arms, Westbourne-terrace North, Harrow-road, at 8.
- Yarborough, Mitre Tavern, Fish-street-hill, E.C., at 7.30.
- Metropolitan Chapter, Eastcheap Restaurant, Eastcheap, at 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22.

General Committee of Grand Lodge, and Board of Benevolence at 5.

RAFT LODGES.

- 2, Antiquity, Freemasons' Hall.
- 201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
- 212, Euphrates, Holborn Restaurant.
- 754, High Cross, Seven Sisters Hotel.
- 1017, Montefiore, Trocadero Restaurant.
- 1056, Victoria, Guildhall Tavern.
- 1360, Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales' Hotel, Wimbledon.
- 1589, St. Dunstan's, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1718, Centurion, Inns of Court Hotel.
- 1719, Evening Star, Freemasons' Hall.
- 1818, Clapham, Criterion.
- 2332, Boro' of Greenwich, Masonic Rooms, Greenwich.
- 2395, Avondale, Clarence Rooms, Brixton.
- 2416, Hiram, Freemasons' Hall.
- 2455, St. Martin's, New Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- 2450, Chancery Bar, Hotel Cecil.
- 2050, Christ's Hospital, Christ's Hospital.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.

- 704, Camden Anderton's Hotel.

SECRET MONITOR.

- 5, Horatio Shirley, Holborn Restaurant.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Beach, London and South Western Railway Institute, Brunswick House, Wandsworth-road, at 8.
- Bromley St. Leonard, Bromley Vestry Hall, Bow-road, at 8.
- City of Westminster, Cafe Royal, "B" Room, at 8.
- Claremont, Newland's Hotel, Peckham Rye, at 8.
- Confidence, Bunch of Grapes, 14, Lime-street, E.C., at 7.
- Creation, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Crusaders, The St. John's Gate Tavern, St. John-square, Clerkenwell, at 8.30.
- Derby Alcock, Midland Grand Hotel, at 8.
- Doric, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, at 8.
- Duke of Connaught, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, 8.
- Earl of Lathom, Station Tavern, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 8.
- Eyre, Eyre Arms Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8.
- Fidelity, Castle Hotel, 81, Holloway-road, N., at 8.
- Gallery, Press Club, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, at 7.
- Guelph, Plough and Harrow, Leytonstone-road, E., at 8.
- Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford, at 8.
- La Tolerance, Frascati Restaurant, 32, Oxford-street, at 8.
- Londesborough, Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- London Scottish Rifles, Albert Hotel, Victoria-street, S.W., 8.30.
- Merchant Navy, Town Hall, Limehouse, at 7.30.
- Mitcham, Vestry Hall, Mitcham, at 8.
- Mount Lebanon, Foresters' Arms, 294, Boro' High-street, at 8.
- New Concord, Farleigh Hotel, Amherst-road, N., at 8.
- Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham, at 7.30.
- Plucknett, Railway Hotel, Finchley, at 7.45.
- Prosperity, The Whittington, 5 & 7 Moor-lane, Fore-st., at 7.
- Royal Jubilee, the Crown, Lambeth-road, S.E., at 8.
- Royal Oak, Lord Clyde, Wotton-road, Deptford, at 8.
- St. Leonard, Prince of Wales Hotel, Bishop's-rd., Victoria Pk., 8.
- Southgate, Railway Hotel, New Southgate, at 8.
- Strong Man, Blue Anchor, 164, Fenchurch-street, E.C., at 6.30.
- Temperance-in-the-East, Greenwich Pensioner, Bow-lane, Poplar, at 7.30.
- United Mariners, Duke of Albany, Kitto-road, Nunhead, at 7.30.
- United Strength, Hope Tavern, Stanhope-st., Euston-road, at 8.
- Wanderers, Fumagalli's Restaurant, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, Victoria-station, S.W., at 7.30.
- West Smithfield, City Scotch Stores, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C., at 7.45.
- Whittington, Red Lion Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8.
- Zodiac, Denmark Hotel, East Ham, at 8.
- Andrew Chapter, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
- Clapton Chapter, Amhurst Club, Rectory-road, N., at 8.
- Domestic Chapter, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, W., at 8.
- Lewis Chapter, Fishmongers' Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 8.
- Camden Mark Lodge, Earl Russell, Pancras-road, King's Cross 8.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

General Committee Girls' School, at Freemasons' Hall, at 5.

RAFT LODGES.

- 34, Mount Moriah, Freemasons' Hall.
- 65, Prosperity, Holborn Restaurant.
- 66, Grenadiers, Freemasons' Hall.
- 507, United Pilgrims, Bridge House Hotel.
- 766, William Preston, Cannon-street Hotel.
- 858, South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green.
- 861, Finsbury, Great Eastern Hotel.
- 871, Royal Oak, Trafalgar Hotel, Greenwich.
- 1421, Langthorne, Angel Hotel, Ilford.
- 1563, City of Westminster, Cafe Royal.
- 1608, Kilburn, Blanchard's Restaurant.
- 1658, Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1816, Victoria Park, London Tavern.
- 1974, St. Mary Abbott's, Bayley's Hotel, Kensington.
- 2012, Chiswick, Criterion.
- 2319, Scot's, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2432, Sir Walter Raleigh, Inns of Court Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 5, St. George's, Freemasons' Hall.
- 177, Domestic, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1601, Ravensbourne, Board of Works Office, Catford Bridge.

ROSE CROIX.

- 97, Rose and Lily, 33, Golden-square.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Burdett-Coutts, Swan Tavern, New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
- Burgoyne, Coach and Horses, 348, Clapham-road, S.W., at 7.30.
- Caxton, Carr's, 265, Strand W.C., at 7.
- Covent Garden, The Criterion, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Duke of Edinburgh, Eastern Hotel, East India Dock Rd., E., 7.30.
- Elliot, Railway Hotel, Feltham.
- Great City, Red Cross, Paternoster-square, at 7.
- High Cross, Red Lion, High-road, Tottenham, at 8.
- Highgate, Falkland Arms, Falkland-road, N.W., at 8.
- Hornsey, White Hart Masonic Rooms, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
- Ivy, Half Moon & French Horn Hotel, East Hill, Wandsworth, at 8.

Justice, Brown Bear, High-street, Deptford, at 8.

- Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, at 8.
- Kintore Mark Lodge, Montpelier Arms, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.30.
- La France, Cafe Royal, Regent-street, at 8.
- Leopold, Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate-street, E.C., at 7.
- Montefiore, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
- Priory, Berrymead Priory, Acton, at 8.15.
- Rose, Stirling Castle, Church-street, Camberwell, at 8.
- Royal Albert, White Hart Hotel, Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
- Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.45.
- St. John's, Court House, Harlesden, N.W., at 7.30.
- St. John's, Queen Victoria Tavern, Exmouth-st., Stepney at 8.
- St. Luke's, Victoria Tavern, Gertrude-street, Chelsea, at 8.
- Sir Hugh Myddelton, Star and Garter, Upper-st., Islington, at 8.
- Southern Star, Ship Tavern, Kennington Road, S.E., at 8.
- Stockwell, Salutation Tavern, Newgate-street, at 6.30.
- Tranquillity, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, W., at 8.
- Tredegar, The Cheshire Cheese, Crutched Friars, E.C., at 7.30.
- Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-street, Woolwich.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

Council Boys' School at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.

RAFT LODGES.

- 197, Jerusalem, Freemasons' Hall.
- 569, Fitzroy, Head-quarters Hon. Artillery Company, City-road.
- 2000, Earl of Mornington, Cafe Royal.
- 2312, London Irish Rifles, Hotel Cecil.
- 2648, Marcians, Trocadero Restaurant.
- 2693, Pellipar, Holborn Restaurant.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 134, Caledonian, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
- 1216, Macdonald, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1830, Duke of Cornwall, Holborn Restaurant.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

- 1, Grand Masters, Mark Masons' Hall.

SECRET MONITOR.

- 5, Cleve Fast, Holborn Restaurant.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

- 26, Faith and Fidelity, Mark Masons' Hall.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Albion, Essex Head, Essex-street, Strand, at 7.
- All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
- Citadel, Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, N.
- Clapton, Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, E.C., at 7.
- Coborn, The George Inn, High-road, South Woodford, at 8.
- Earl of Carnarvon, Elgin Hotel, Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill.
- Earl of Zetland, Royal Edward Hotel, Triangle, Hackney, at 7.
- Emulation, Freemasons' Hall, at 6.
- Gavel Club, Freemasons' Tavern, at 8.
- Harrow, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
- Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 8.
- Hugh Owen, Restaurant Frascati, Oxford-street, at 7.30.
- Kennington, Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, S.E., at 8.
- Lewis, Fishmonger's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, N., at 8.
- Lewisham, White Hart, Lewisham, S.E., at 8.
- Loyalty, Private Rooms, 91, Church-st., Stoke Newington, at 8.
- Metropolitan (Victoria), Mail Coach, 60, Farringdon-street, at 7.
- Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-street, Hammersmith, W., at 8.
- Royal Standard, Castle Tavern, 81, Holloway-road, at 8.
- St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-road, S.E., at 8.
- Savage Club, Savage Club, Adelphi-terrace, at 6.
- Selwyn, Montpelier Tavern, Choumert-road, Peckham, at 8.
- Stability, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons'-avenue, at 6.
- Stanhope, Fox and Hounds Hotel, Upper Richmond-road, Putney, at 8.30.
- Temperance, Railway Tavern, New Cross-road, at 8.
- The Abbey, The Town Hall, Westminster, 7.30 till 9.30.
- United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-road, at 7.30.
- Warner, Royal Forest Hotel, Chingford, at 8.15.
- Woodgrange, Princess Alice Hotel, Forest Gate, E., at 8.
- Eastern Star Chapter, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, and 4th Friday, at 7.
- Dagmar Chapter, "Slee & Pike's," 121, Boro' High-street, at 8.
- Hornsey Chapter, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace Bishop's-road, Paddington, W., at 8.
- Pythagorean Chapter, Dover Castle, Broadway, Deptford, at 8.
- Star Chapter, Stirling Castle Hotel, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
- Westbourne Chapter, Town Hall Tavern, High-st., Kensington, at 8.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25.

RAFT LODGES.

- 1584, Loyalty and Charity, Frascati Restaurant.
- 1679, Henry Muggeridge, Anderton's Hotel.
- 1706, Orpheus, Holborn Restaurant.
- 2472, Walthamstow, Chequers Hotel.
- 2647, Alleyn, Crown and Greyhound Hotel, Dulwich.
- 2700, Old Masonians, Anderton's Hotel.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

- 176, Caveac, Albion Tavern.
- 1185, Lewis, Holborn Restaurant.
- 1622, Rose, Surrey Masonic Hall.
- 1623, West Smithfield, Anderton's Hotel.

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

- 2, Constantine, Mark Masons' Hall.

LOGGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alexandra Palace, Station Hotel, Camberwell News-road, at 7.30.
- Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammermith, at 7.30.
- Duke of Connaught, The Windsor Castle, 135, Lower Clapton-rd. at 8.
- Ebury, The Rockingham, Newington Causeway, at 8.
- Eccleston, 12 and 13, Wilton-road, S.W., at 7.30.
- Evening Star, Rutland Hotel, Perry Hill, Catford, at 8.
- Finsbury Park, Cock Tavern, at 8.
- King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.
- Manchester, Waterloo Arms, High-street, Marylebone, at 8.
- Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 7.
- Star, New Cross House, Deptford, S.E., at 8.
- Vitruvian, Duke of Albany Hotel, Kitto-road, St. Katherine's park, Hatcham, S.E., at 7.30.

MASONIC WORKS.

Fellows' Mysteries of Freemasonry, or an Exposition of the Religious Dogmas and Customs of the Ancient Egyptians, and their identity with Modern Masonry, numerous illustrations. 3s. 6d. post free.

Origin of Freemasonry, or the 1717 Theory Exploded by C. J. Paton. 1s. post free.

Fox: Account of the Early History of Freemasonry in England. 2s. post free.

Pocket Lexicon of Freemasonry, by W. J. Morris, 18°, P.D.D.G.M. St. Lawrence District, and P.J.G.R. and S.M. 1s. post free.

London: W. REEVES, 185, Fleet-street, E.C.

Masonic and General Tidings.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will open the English Education Exhibition, at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, on the 5th of January next.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION is given of the appointment of Bro. Lieut.-General Sir Charles Warren as Lieutenant-General on the Staff of the Fifth Division for South Africa.

BRO. LORD KITCHENER, accompanied by Major Watson, left for Khartoum on Tuesday instead of on Friday, as he had intended, owing to the report that the Khalifa is now near Duem, on the White Nile, about 130 miles south of Khartoum.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES on Tuesday at Sandringham presented to Mr. W. H. Keyworth, late head boy of the King's Lynn Grammar School, the gold medal for general proficiency which his Royal Highness gives to the school annually.

IT WILL SERVE to give an idea of the scope of the labours concerned in the production of the "Oxford English Dictionary" to learn that in March last the debt on it was over £61,000. The fact was stated at the recent meeting of the Philological Society, under whose auspices it is produced.

PUBLICATION OF THE MEMOIR OF THE DUCHESS OF TECK has been deferred until after Christmas. In the meantime the work is receiving every possible assistance from members of the Royal Family, so that on its appearance it may be expected to prove a singularly authentic account of the late Princess and the period in which she played so prominent a part.

OLD AND NEW COLOMBO.—Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., will preside at the opening meeting of the Colonial Section of the Society of Arts on Thursday, the 23rd instant, when Mr. John Ferguson, of Ceylon, will read a paper, with numerous lantern illustrations, on "Old and New Colombo." The chair will be taken at half-past four o'clock.

THE LORD MAYOR (Bro. Alderman Davies) has kindly lent the Mansion House and has promised to preside on the afternoon of Friday, the 15th prox., when Bro. Sir Squire Bancroft will tell the story of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol," in aid of the Earlswood Asylum, which is in great need of sanitary alterations, as urged by the Commissioners in Lunacy. It is needless to say that the object is a particularly good one, and we trust the "reading" will be very fully attended.

AN IMPORTANT BOOK on accidents in factories, written by Mr. John Calder, is announced for this season by Messrs. Longmans and Co. The author deals with the distribution of accidents, their causes, compensation, and prevention. His book is a practical guide to the law of the subject, and to the methods for guarding against accidents to plant and premises. It contains a large number of illustrations and tables.

THE W.M. OF St. James's Union Lodge, No. 180, has requested us to state that in consequence of the very great success attending the Bohemian Concert in the spring of 1898, and the Cinderella dances last winter, it has been unanimously decided to repeat them during the ensuing winter season. The Crown Room, Freemasons' Hall, has been engaged for dances on the fourth Fridays in November and February, and the Large Hall has been secured for the fourth Friday in January.

AT THE MEETING of the Covent Garden Lodge, No. 1614, held at the Criterion, Piccadilly, on the 14th inst., Bro. Henry G. Walker, W.M., the sum of £10 10s. 0d. was unanimously voted from the lodge, and £12 13s. 6d. collected at the banquet table, making a total of £23 3s. 6d. for the Widows and Orphans of those brave soldiers who are fighting a just cause. We feel sure that these brave men, especially those who are connected with Covent Garden, will be cheered with this announcement when they read it in the *Freemason* in South Africa. The banquet, under the personal superintendence of Bro. Thierry, gave great satisfaction.

A DISCOVERY HAS been made at the Inner Temple which throws some light upon the architectural arrangements in the days of Knights Templars. Some operations have been carried on by the Benchers with a view to increasing their safe accommodation, and for this purpose some rather extensive excavations had to be made under the Hall and the Temple Church. Almost directly under the entrance to the existing hall the workmen discovered an old doorway and staircase. They were carefully examined by his Honour Judge Baylis, who is one of the greatest authorities on the Temple, and he expresses a confident belief that they formed part of the original chamber occupied by the Templars at least 700 years ago. The walls show a thickness of six feet.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY OF LONDON.—The first meeting of Fellows for the new season was held at the Gardens on Saturday last, Major J. W. M. Cotton in the chair. Six candidates for Fellowship were elected and the names of fifteen others read for ballot at the next meeting. The Chairman referred to the very satisfactory manner in which the membership of the Royal Botanic Gardens Club had increased. Although only in its first year of existence, the new club rooms had already been found too small for its requirements, and steps were being taken to increase the accommodation before next season. Dr. R. Boxall read a paper on bulb growing in Holland, with lantern illustrations, and received the cordial thanks of the meeting. A second paper on bulb growing in England will be given on the 25th instant.

THE LORD MAYOR AND THE COURT OF ALDERMEN.—On Tuesday a meeting of the Court of Aldermen was held at Guildhall. The Lord Mayor (Bro. Alderman Newton), who presided, said at that, the first Court of Aldermen over which he had had the honour of presiding, he wished to ask for that assistance which had been invariably and cheerfully rendered to the Lord Mayor by his brethren. The duties of the Mayoralty were constantly increasing, and the calls by the Lord Mayor on members of that Court were not likely to diminish. On the motion of Bro. Alderman Sir Whittaker Ellis, a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Bro. Sir John Voce Moore, the late Lord Mayor, for the admirable manner in which he had discharged his official duties in the past year.

THE MASONIC CRUISES which were carried out in January, 1898 and 1899, are to be repeated this year. Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bramble, P.A.G. Director of Ceremonies England, D.P.G.M. Bristol, has issued an invitation to Brother Masons to join the cruise. Amongst the well-known Masons who have already secured berths, may be mentioned the Archdeacon of London, P.G.C. The first cruise, on which occasion Archdeacon Stevens, P.G.C., acted as Chaplain, visited Egypt, Palestine, and Malta only. The second cruise, on which Bro. Canon Bullock, P.G.C., acted as Chaplain, included Athens in the itinerary. On this occasion the cruise will be still further extended to visit Constantinople, Athens, and Malta, as well as Palestine and Egypt. Last year the cruise was of special interest, as at the lodge meeting in Solomon's Quarrels, Mr. Connop F. S. Perowne, was unanimously elected and initiated. The hearty welcome which our English brethren have received on the two previous occasions in Jerusalem and Egypt, is assured for the party who will visit Palestine and Egypt next year.

THE LORD MAYOR will preside at the presentation of prizes of the London Rifle Brigade, at the headquarters in Bunhill-row, on Saturday, December 9.

AT THE MEETING of the Enfield Lodge, No. 1237, held on Monday last, at the George Hotel, Enfield, Bro. J. Dexter was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing year.

THE TOWER.—The Secretary of State for War gives notice that the Armouries of the Tower of London will be closed for cleaning from Monday, the 20th instant, until Monday, the 4th prox.

AN INTERESTING incident on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Bristol was the presentation of Bro. Mayby, who played in the band which enlivened the dinner of herself and her mother at Burt's Hotel, Clifton, 69 years ago.

A NEW LODGE called the Beach Lodge of Instruction, No. 2622, has been formed, and will meet at the London and South Western Railway Institute, Brunswick House, Wandsworth Road, on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m., commencing December 6th.

BRO. SIR CHARLES WARREN lectured on Palestine at Margate on Wednesday, and, replying to a vote of thanks, said it would be a pleasure to remember the kind wishes expressed, and to know that the hearts of the people were with them in South Africa.

PRESIDING OVER a county meeting held at Derby, on Tuesday, in aid of the fund for the families of Reservists and men killed and wounded in battle, Bro. the Duke of Devonshire made a strong appeal for aid, and spoke with feeling of the sufferings caused by the war.

BRO. SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, whose gifts to hospitals from his rendering of Charles Dickens's "Christmas Carol" exceed £10,000, will repeat the "reading" this winter, in fulfilment of a limited number of promises, and with a like object. To one of the readings in aid of the Earlswood Asylum we refer in another paragraph.

AT A REGULAR MEETING, on the 9th inst., at the Masonic Room, Treharris, of the Forest Lodge, No. 2606, Bro. Richard Evans, S.W., was elected W.M. for the ensuing year, in succession to Bro. W. Cuthbert Thomas, who has been removed to Fishguard, Pembrokeshire. Bro. Owens was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Harry Jones, Tyler.

THE BARONESS BURDETT-COUTTS, who was accompanied by the Countess of Dundonald and Lady Nottage, opened a sale of work at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, on behalf of the Barefoot Mission of the Ragged School Union, the object of the organisation being to clothe the very poorest of the children attending the public elementary schools of London.

ANNEXING THE TRANSVAAL.—What will be the fate of the Transvaal after the war it is difficult to foresee, but one thing may be considered certain, and that is that every one who can will take care to annex a case of that delicious liqueur, Grant's Morella Cherry Brandy, which is so great a favourite at home and abroad. Sold everywhere; also Grant's Cherry Whisky.

CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1897.—A meeting of this lodge was held on Friday, the 3rd inst., Bro. T. Feistel, W.M., presiding. In the course of the evening Two Guineas was voted to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund for Widows and Orphans. A meeting was also held on Friday, the 10th inst., Bro. A. R. Revill, W.M., presiding, when the First and Second Degrees were rehearsed. Bro. A. Rusby, P.M., Acting Preceptor, gave a lecture on the Tracing Board.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY, K.P., &c., has very kindly consented to take the chair at the 25th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Scottish Corporation, which will be held in the King's Hall of the Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday, the 30th instant (St. Andrew's Day). H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Duke of Rothesay, K.G., is President of the Charity which exists for the purpose of assisting the deserving Scottish poor of London.

IN CONNECTION WITH the special appeal fund of the Charing-cross Hospital, a sale of the goods left over from the recent bazaar held at the Royal Albert Hall, will take place on Dec. 7th, in the board-room of the hospital. On the 11th prox. is also to take place a fancy dress ball at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, in aid of the fund, while in connection with the same object, the Lord Mayor is to preside, on Dec. 6, at a meeting which will be held at the Mansion House.

THE QUEEN IN COUNCIL has granted a Royal Charter of Incorporation to the British Home for Incurables at Streatham, under the name and designation of the "British Home and Hospital for Incurables." The Lady Mayoress, accompanied, it is hoped, by Bros. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, will pay a visit to the Institution on the afternoon of Monday, the 4th prox., for the purpose of unveiling the new east window in the chapel and for opening the sale of work made by the patients for their own benefit.

AT THE PALACE THEATRE, on Thursday next, a matinee will be given in aid of the Lord Mayor's War Fund. A large number of theatrical and variety artistes will take part in the programme, which will be lengthy and attractive. On this occasion the Palace vestibule and foyer will be fitted up with flower and sweet stalls, at which prominent lady artistes will preside. Miss Ada Reeve will concoct American drinks, and Miss Eva Green preside at a bar. A specially illustrated programme is being prepared.

ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON news was received at Swansea that Mr. James Jones, a well-known merchant and the High Sheriff of Cardiganshire, had expired in the train while returning from Bristol, after taking part in the proceeding connected with the Royal visit. The deceased, who was a native of Cardiganshire, and 62 years of age, had served as alderman and mayor of Swansea, and had taken an active interest in friendly societies. Over 20 years ago he inaugurated a commercial travellers' scholarship at Aberystwith College.

A COMPETENT PROFESSIONAL.—A correspondent writes: "I read with a great amount of pleasure your important announcement in last week's issue of the *Freemason* re "Art and the Drama," and believe it will be a subject of very great interest and importance to a large number of your readers, especially, as rumour says, the matter will be entirely under the superintendence of a brother whose great literary attainments are so well known, and is a guarantee that what he has undertaken will be efficiently and entertainingly done."

ON THE 10th inst. at the Masonic Hall, Jackson-street, Gateshead, Bro. Samuel Brown, P.G. Stwd., was installed as W.M. of Ravensworth Lodge, No. 2674. After the ceremony, Bro. Brown appointed and installed the following as his officers for the ensuing 12 months: Bros. T. R. Jobson, P.M., P.P.G.S.B. (Northumberland), I.P.M.; Robert Stewart, P.M., P.P.G. Treas., S.W.; Robert Atkinson, J.W.; Adam Dodds, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Treas.; John Carr, Sec.; Dr. A. W. Blacklock, S.D.; Anthony Dodds, J.D.; W. J. Jobson, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C., D.C.; Dr. T. M. Kimpster, I.G.; George Gilhespy, Frank J. Hastie, and Edward Scutfield, Stwds.; and D. Sinclair, P.M., P.P.A.G.D.C., Tyler. Subsequently, the annual festival was held at the Royal Hotel, Bro. Twibell, manager for Messrs. Swinburne and Co., being the purveyor.



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