

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

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THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON.

Present circumstances are not greatly calculated to promote the usual enthusiasm for Christmas. For more than two months the country has been engaged in a big war, and in the various engagements that have taken place has sustained some heavy losses, and more than one serious check. Hence, in families innumerable where Old Father Christmas would have received the heartiest of welcomes, there is either grief for the loss of the loved ones who have fallen in battle or anxiety for their safety. But though in so many households sorrow has occupied the place ordinarily occupied by joy, there is no reason why the claims of Christmas to its usual honourable treatment should be lost sight of. The sympathies of the entire nation are with the sufferers by the war, and sympathy and Christmas have ever been found hand in hand together. In view of what is passing in South Africa, our "heartly good wishes" may be uttered in a more subdued tone, but none the less do we consider it our duty to utter them. So to our readers in all sincerity we tender the usual "Compliments of the Season." May those who are suffering, and those who have fortunately escaped suffering, derive comfort and consolation from that kindness of spirit by which we are all actuated towards each other at this period of the year!

MARK MASONRY IN BENGAL.

From the report contained in the *Indian Masonic Review* for last month of the proceedings at the recent half-yearly meeting at Meerut of the District Grand Lodge of Bengal, it is very evident that the Mark Degree in this presidency is in a fair condition of prosperity. The acting District Grand Master, in the unavoidable absence of Bro. the Hon. Mr. Justice BURKITT, District Grand Master, reviewed the work of the previous six months, and in doing so expressed his belief that the slight decrease of membership from 383 to 379, was due rather to accident than to any real falling off in the interest taken in the Mark, and he justified this opinion by the fact that there had been 36 advancements against 33 in the previous half-year, and 24 joinings as compared with eight. On the other hand, there had been as many as 64 withdrawals as against 12, but he accounted for this by remarking, "this is a contingency we are always liable to in a district like this where so many of our brethren are 'men under authority' liable to be transferred to the other end

of India, or to the ends of all the earth at a moment's notice." With the view of counteracting this liability, the acting District Grand Master urged upon the brethren that they should not neglect any opportunity of promoting the spread of Mark Masonry. It was not permitted to them to use any solicitation to induce outsiders to become Masons, but there was no reason, as far as he knew, why members of the Mark Degree "should not take upon themselves to point out to their Craft brethren that we have it in our power to afford them valuable assistance in increasing and consolidating their Masonic knowledge." As regards the Royal Ark Mariner Degree, there was, as in the case of the Mark, a slight decrease in numbers; but this he accounted for as being due to the same cause. As to the actual figures, the returns showed 16 Mark lodges, with an aggregate membership of 379, and seven Royal Ark Mariner lodges, with one of 116. The accounts, too, were of a satisfactory character as shown by the District Grand Treasurer's statement, so that in essentials the Mark, if it is not a very numerous body, is a flourishing one, and, as additional lodges in the case of both Mark and the Royal Ark have been sanctioned, there are fair grounds for hoping that the District Grand Mark Lodge of Bengal will be in a position to hold its own, notwithstanding the difficulties caused by withdrawals, to which, in common with all other Masonic bodies in India, it is peculiarly liable.

Knights Templar.

GREAT PRIORY.

A Great Priory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta, in England and Wales and the Dependencies thereof, was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on Friday, the 8th instant, A.L. 5903, A.D. 1899, A.O. 781, at five o'clock. Present:

The M.E. and Supreme G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., on the throne; V.E. Prov. Priors: V.E. Knights Captain N. G. Philips, G.C.T. East Anglia; and J. Woodall Woodall, K.C.T., N. and E. Yorks; Great Officers: V. E. Knights the Rev. A. W. Oxford, G. Prelate; R. Loveland Loveland, O.C., G.C.T., G. Chancellor; C. L. Mason, as 1st G. Cons.; Richard Clowes, 2nd G. Cons.; Ralph Clutton, G.C.T., G. Treas.; Frank Richardson, G.C.T., G. Reg.; C. F. Matier, K.C.T., G. Vice-Chancellor; and Charles Belton, K.C.T., G. Marshal; E. Knights Col. G. Walton Walker, G. Herald; Philip Colville Smith, G. Std. Br. (Beauceant); A. F. Church, G. Std. Br. (Vexillum Belli); A. Conyers Haycraft, Grand Master's B.B.; Capt. H. G. Giles, R.N., G.S.B.; Hubert S. Clutton, G. Aide-de-Camp; Walter J. Ebbetts and A. H. Hebbert, G. Capt. of Guards; and H. J. Edwards, Mus. Doc., G. Org. Past G. Officers: V.E. Knights Rev. H. G. Morse and Rev. C. E. L. Wright, G. Prelates; and Ralph Gooding, M.D., K.C.T., G. Herald; E. Knights H. Harvey George and J. C. FitzRoy Tower, G. Std. Brs.; H. E. Cousins, Grand Master's B.B.; Col. Clifford Probyn, Major T. W. Richardson, and R. A. B. Preston, G.S.Bs.; Major J. R. Pearson, F. B. Westlake, and E. Armitage, G. Aide-de-Camps; A. Woodiwiss, G. Chamberlain; T. P. Dorman, G. Capt. of Guards; and H. R. Rose, G. Org.; and V.E. Knight Major C. W. Carroll, K.C.T.

There were also present:

(London): Sir Knights Harold Burke, 1st Constable, Herbert Wright, Reg., F. A. Powell, and Gerald Maxwell, of Bard of Avon; J. H. Whadcoat, P.P., C. Imre Kiralfy, and Charles Wells, of Faith and Fidelity; Rev. W. Russell Finlay, E.P., and H. Thomson Lyon, P.P., of Holy Palestine; J. A. Sherrin and Walter G. Crombie, of Mount Calvary; R. Percy F. W. Simpson, P.P. New Temple; E. Nash, Marshal, Capt. G. Berthon Preston, and F. Gordon Watson, of Oxford and Cambridge; Gordon G. P. Hills, Shadwell Clerke; Fredk. J. L. Bevan, Studholme; and Rev. C. E. Roberts, United Kemeys Tynte and Temple Cressing; (in the Province of Cheshire): Charles S. Brewer, E.P. Geoffrey de Bouillon; (in the Province of Devon): Rev. R. W. J. Smart, E.P. Trinity in Unity; (in the Province of East Anglia): C. Winlove Smith, Cabbell; Astley Terry, E.P., and R. Haliburton Adie, P.P., of Prudence; R. P. F. W. Simpson, Marshal, John Briggs, and W. J. Armitage, of Tancred; (in the Province of Kent and Surrey) John Dimsdale, P. Preceptor, Black Prince; William Briant, E. Preceptor, Frank W. Williams, P. Preceptor, C. Vincent Cotterell, P. Preceptor, Philip Monson, 1st Cons., and A. V. Marshall, Lullingstone; (in the Province of Somerset) A. E. Fuller, P. Preceptor, and Rev. E. A. Purvis, P. Preceptor, Bladud; (in the Province of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire) Sir Thomas Roe, P. Preceptor, Peveril; (in the Province of Sussex) G. M. Buckham, Sussex; and H. C. Heard, P. Preceptor, and Millner Jutsum, Stuart.

The knights having formed the arch of steel, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, attended by the Great Officers, entered and ascended the throne.

A Chapter of Great Priory was opened in ample form.

The GREAT REGISTRAR called the muster roll.

The minutes of the Great Priory of 12th May last were read by the GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR, and declared to be correctly recorded.

The GRAND MASTER announced that the next business was to consider the following ;

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master,

Your Council has to report, with great regret, the death of the V.E. Knight Major-General John C. Hay, K.C.T., formerly Vice-Chancellor of the Great Priory of England and Wales, and also the death of the V.E. Knight Raymond H. Thrupp, K.C.T., for many years the Great Registrar.

You have been pleased to sanction an arrangement between the Provincial Priors of North and East Yorkshire and Cheshire, whereby the Preceptory of Geoffroy de Bouillon, No. 91, has been transferred from Scarborough to Birkenhead, with every prospect of increased activity and prosperity.

A serious irregularity was reported to your Council as having occurred in the Preceptory of Robert de Sable in Carlisle, the Eminent Preceptor elect having been installed in the chair, he not having been duly qualified according to Statute 76, by having served the office of Constable for one year. Your Council, having carefully considered the case, imposed the fine of one guinea on the preceptor, and directed the Preceptor to apply at once for a dispensation.

You have been pleased to recognise the valuable services of the Eminent Knight George Simpson, Past Preceptor of the Bermuda Preceptory, by conferring on him the rank and dignity of a Past Great Aide de Camp of this Great Priory, which it is trusted he may enjoy for many years.

The fourth annual conference of the three governing bodies in the United Kingdom of the United Order of the Temple and the Hospital, was held in Dublin on 14th April, 1899.

The Great Priory of Ireland was represented by: V.E. Sir Knights Sir Charles A. Cameron, G.C.T., Great Seneschal, and Lieut.-Col. A. V. Dawson, G.C.T., Great Chancellor; and E. Sir Knights Rev. W. G. Boyce, Great Prelate, Col. Saunders, Grand Master's Banner Bearer, and E. R. H. Walker, Vice-Chancellor.

The Chapter General of Scotland was represented by: V.E. Sir Knights Sir James Buchanan, Bart., K.C.T., Grand Mareschal; Lindsay Mackersy, G.C.T., Grand Registrar, &c.; F. W. Allan, K.C.T., Grand Herald; Herbert B. Ezard, K.C.T., Grand Bearer Vex. Belli; and Walter W. Robertson, K.C.T.

The Great Priory of England was represented by M.E. Sir Knight the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., Grand Master; and V.E. Sir Knights Captain N. G. Philips, G.C.T., Prov. Prior E. Anglia, John Woodall Woodall, K.C.T., Prov. Prior N. and E. Yorks, and Charles F. Matier, K.C.T. (Scot. and Eng.), Great Vice-Chancellor.

There was also present V.E. Sir Knight General John Corson Smith, Past Grand Commander of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America.

The conference was presided over by V.E. Sir Knight Sir Charles Cameron, G.C.T., Great Seneschal, Great Priory of Ireland.

The delegates from Scotland reported that the Chapter General had adopted the unanimous recommendation of the delegates at the last conference, and had agreed to sanction the interchange of representatives with sister governing bodies.

Some discussion then took place as to the governing bodies with whom representatives might be interchanged, and more especially as regarded the position of the Order in the United States of America, in which country there was a Grand Commandery in every State of the Union. V.E. Sir Knight General John C. Smith explained that these Grand Commanderies had no authority to exchange representatives with the governing body of any kingdom or State outside the Union, and that such representatives could only be appointed or received by the Grand Encampment of the United States.

The delegates from Ireland and Scotland called attention to letters received from the Grand Commandery of the State of Kentucky, in which it was stated that representation already existed, and a wish was expressed that the Great Priory of Ireland and the Chapter General of Scotland should say if they were satisfied with the Representatives or wished new ones to be appointed. The delegates from both countries stated that there must be some mistake in this, as their governing bodies had never appointed Representatives to the Grand Commandery of the State of Kentucky, nor had they received any from it.

V.E. General John C. Smith stated that had such appointments been made they would have been irregular, and it was arranged to communicate this to the Great Priory of Ireland and the Chapter General of Scotland, in order that, if so advised, they might reply to this effect to the Grand Commandery of Kentucky.

The conference then called for a report of the joint Committee upon the Ritual of the Degree of Knights of Malta. It was explained that in consequence of the distances separating the three Committees, they had not had an opportunity of meeting together, but that the English and Scottish Committees had considered the question. A long discussion then followed, and ultimately it was resolved that each governing body should communicate to the other two such parts of the ritual used by it as was necessary to enable the Committees to consider how far assimilation was practicable, and that each Committee would endeavour to prepare such a report as would allow the question to be discussed and settled at the next annual conference.

The delegates from England brought under the notice of the conference the existence of a body in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, styling itself "The Sovereign Great Priory of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and of St. John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta for Victoria, Australia," which had been formed out of certain preceptories which had been chartered by the Great Priory of Canada in 1887. The granting of these warrants by Canada outside its own dominion and in territory of the British Crown, had caused a serious breach with the Great Priory of England, and an edict of non-intercourse had been issued by the late Convent General on 9th December, 1887. For a considerable period all friendly relationship with the Great Priory of Canada was broken off. In 1892 a letter was received from the Grand Master of the Order in Canada, praying that friendly relationship might be resumed. After a long correspondence, the Great Priory of England was assured by the Great Priory of Canada that preceptories constituted by warrants from the Great Priory of Canada were no longer under the jurisdiction of that body, and that there was not the least possibility of the Great Priory of Canada issuing further warrants outside of the dominion, except to Newfoundland. On the 11th May, 1894, the Great Priory of England, while fully re-asserting the position taken by them with regard to jurisdiction, being satisfied with the assurance of the Great Priory of Canada, rescinded the resolution of 9th December, 1887, and agreed to resume friendly relations with them. The Great Priory of England has a Provincial Priory in Victoria in full working order, and has no knowledge of the body styling itself the Sovereign Great Priory for Victoria, &c.

V.E. C. F. Matier then moved, seconded by M.E. the Earl of Euston, Grand Master—

"That the so-called Sovereign Great Priory of Victoria is not a legitimate body of Knights Templar, and that all Masonic intercourse be prohibited between it and the knights under the jurisdiction of England, Scotland, and Ireland."

This motion was unanimously approved of, and the delegates unanimously agreed to recommend its adoption by the governing bodies in the United Kingdom they represented.

It was unanimously resolved that the next conference should be held in London, in 1900, on a day to be arranged by the Great Priory of England.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to V.E. Sir Charles A. Cameron for presiding.

In the afternoon the delegates were received by the Great Priory of Ireland, and, at the request of that Great Priory, the Preceptory conferred the Degrees upon three aspirants. It afforded your delegates much pleasure to see the working of the Degrees in Ireland. After this the delegates were entertained at dinner by the Great Priory of Ireland, V.E. Sir Charles A. Cameron, in absence of the Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught, occupying the chair.

The delegates from your Great Priory desire to express to the Great Priory of Ireland their cordial thanks for all the kindness and hospitality they received during their stay in Dublin, and their warm appreciation of everything that was done for their entertainment.

Your Council has the pleasure of announcing that the Fifth Annual Conference of the Templar Bodies in the United Kingdom will be held at Mark Masons' Hall, London, on Thursday, 10th May, 1900, being the day before Great Priory.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the conference, you have been pleased to appoint as the Representative of this Great Priory near the Chapter General of Scotland the Most Eminent Knight the Marquess of Breadalbane, K.G., Grand Master, &c., &c., &c., and the patent and star of this exalted office have been duly forwarded to his lordship.

The patent, as follows, has been received from the Chapter General of Scotland appointing you to be the Representative of the Chapter General of Scotland near this Great Priory—

To all to whom these presents shall come; Greeting, know ye, that we, The Most Eminent and Reverend The Most Noble the Marquess of Breadalbane, Knight of the Garter, Earl of Breadalbane and Holland, Viscount of Tay and Paintland, Baron Glenorchy, Benedraloch, Ormelie, and Weik, Baron Breadalbane of Kenmore, and Earl of Ormelie, by the Grace of God and the Suffrages of the Brethren, Grand Master of the United Order of the Religious and Military Order of the Temple, and of the Order of the Hospital in Scotland, Considering that it has seemed good to Us and to our Chapter General in Grand Priory assembled to declare that it would be for the benefit of the United Order were Representatives exchanged between Supreme Governing Bodies: And that it has been made known to Us, that the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, and Great Priory of England and Wales, equally with ourselves, consider it advisable in the interests of our Order, that Our Governing Bodies in the respective Countries of England and Wales and Scotland should act in unison and concert for the general good, and with this object that there should be between us an intimate alliance of amity: And, farther, considering that the interests of the said United Religious and Military Order will be promoted by the appointment underwritten: Therefore, We, with the advice and consent of our Chapter General, do hereby nominate, constitute, and appoint our faithful and well-beloved Fellow-Soldier and Brother,

HENRY JAMES, EARL OF EUSTON,

Grand Cross of the Temple, &c., &c., &c.,

To be our Representative and guarantee of amity near the Great Priory of England and Wales: And we pray that they will receive and welcome him as such; as we shall receive and welcome anyone whom it may please the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master and the Great Priory of England and Wales to commission as their Representative near us.

In Testimony whereof, these presents are given under our hand and the Seal of the Order hereunto affixed, at Edinburgh, the Twenty-fifth day of August, in the year of the Order, 781, and Anno Salvatoris Domini, 1899.

Signed—

BREADALBANE, Grand Master.

L. MACKERSY, Grand Registrar.

Your Council was informed that a Masonic ball was held in July within the County of London, at which the habit of the Orders was worn, notwithstanding that a dispensation had not been applied for nor obtained according to Statute No. 118.

The Preceptors of those Preceptories immediately connected with the lodges of the Secretaries of the Ball Committee were summoned to appear before your Council, and on being questioned, entirely exonerated themselves from any responsibility in the matter, as they had not been present at, nor had they any knowledge of the ball.

Your Council thinks it is its duty under the circumstances to rule that every Eminent Preceptor be required, at the earliest possible opportunity, to remind all members of his preceptory of the provisions of Statute No. 118, wherein it is laid down, "No knight shall wear the costume of the Orders in public without a dispensation from the Grand Master, or the Provincial Prior of a province"—and should also cause it to be distinctly understood that it is the duty of every knight, before appearing in public in the costume or habit of the United Orders, to assure himself that a dispensation has been granted by the M.E. Grand Master, if in London, or by the Provincial Prior, if in a province. And your Council recommends that if these precautions are not taken, the Preceptor, as well as individual knights, offending against the Laws, should be dealt with in accordance with the provisions in the Statutes relating to such offences.

Your Council recommends to Great Priory that the sum of 100 guineas be voted from the General Fund of the Order to the *Daily Telegraph* fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of our soldiers and sailors.

Your Council has voted the sum of 10 guineas in relief of a petition from a knight formerly of the Pembroke and Percy Preceptories, Australia.

The following preceptories abroad are in arrear:

	Years.
Celestial	5
Calpe	4
Connaught and Strathearn	2
Johannesburg	1
Melita	1
Pembroke	1
Royal Deccan	2
Vasco de Gama	1

The Great Treasurer's accounts have been duly audited to the 31st August, 1899, and show the following balances, which are in the London and Westminster Bank, Limited, Bloomsbury Branch:

General Fund	£497 3 7
Benevolent Fund	117 2 0

By Order of the Council,

£614 5 7

R. LOVELAND LOVELAND, Great Chancellor.

C. FITZGERALD MATIER, Great Vice-Chancellor.

13th November, 1899.

The usual motion that the report be taken as read, was proposed by V.E. Knight LOVELAND LOVELAND, G. Chancellor, and seconded by V.E. Knight FRANK RICHARDSON, G. Reg., and agreed to.

The G. CHANCELLOR then moved, and the G. REGISTRAR seconded "that the report be received and entered on the minutes."

The G. CHANCELLOR: The first recommendation arising out of the report is in consequence of what occurred at the Fourth Annual Conference of the Three Governing Bodies of this Order in the United Kingdom. If brethren look at the report, they will see that the delegates from England brought under the notice of the Conference the existence of a body in Melbourne, Australia, styling itself the Sovereign Great Priory for Victoria, which had been formed out of certain preceptories chartered by the Great Priory of Canada in 1887. For some time, this Great Priory and the Great Priory of Canada were in correspondence, the result of which was that all intercourse was subsequently broken off between Canada and ourselves. I am happy to say, however, that in May, 1894, the Great Priory of England, while fully re-asserting the position it had taken up with regard to jurisdiction, rescinded its resolution of December, 1887, and agreed to resume friendly relations after the explanations which had come from the Canadian Great Priory. The Australian body still remained to be dealt with, and at the Conference, the resolution which I will now ask this Great Priory to adopt, was proposed by our Great Vice-Chancellor, seconded by the Earl of Euston, and unanimously adopted with the understanding that it should be also recommended for adoption by each of the Governing Bodies in the United Kingdom. The resolution which I therefore now move is as follows: "That the so-called Sovereign Great Priory of Victoria is not a legitimate body of Knights Templar, and that all Masonic intercourse be prohibited between it and the Knights under the jurisdiction of England, Scotland, and Ireland."

V.E. Knight RALPH CLUTTON, G. Treas.: I beg to second the proposal.

The GRAND MASTER: Brethren of the Temple, you have heard the resolution which I seconded at the Conference as to this so-called Sovereign Great Priory. In pursuance of the undertaking which I gave at that Conference, I now bring it forward so far as we here are concerned to perform our part of the undertaking. It is your will and pleasure that that should be the case.

The motion was then put to Great Priory and unanimously agreed to.

The GREAT TREASURER: I beg to move "That the sum of one hundred guineas from the General Fund of the Order be voted to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund of the Widows and Orphans of Soldiers and Sailors." It requires no words of mine to recommend this to the whole body of English Knights Templar, and therefore I shall content myself with moving the resolution in the words I have just read. (Hear, hear.)

The GREAT REGISTRAR: I beg to second that. I quite endorse what our Treasurer has said that this requires no words from me to commend it to all Knights Templar. (Applause.)

The GRAND MASTER: I put this resolution to you, brethren, with the utmost heartiness. I am only too glad to know that this Great Priory of England is now so prosperous that we are able to do something for the relief of those who are so deserving and who so sadly need it.

The resolution was then agreed to.

The GREAT CHANCELLOR: I have now to move that the report be adopted.

The GREAT TREASURER: I beg to second that.

The motion was agreed to.

Alms amounting to £5 2s. 6d. were collected.

The GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR: I should say, Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, that I have received many apologies for absence from this Great Priory, mostly on the ground of illness.

Great Priory was closed in due form.

ORDER OF MALTA.

Great Priory of Malta was opened in ample form.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., occupied the throne.

The Great Chancellor, V.E. Knight C. F. Matier, K.C.T., read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

The GREAT CHANCELLOR then said that he had received the commands of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master to announce that he had made the following appointments:

V.E. Knight R. Loveland Loveland, G.C.T.	Great Prior.
" Col. A. R. M. Lockwood	Great Capt. General.
" G. C. W. Fitzwilliam	Great Lieut. General.
" Col. G. Walton Walker	Great First Lieut.
E. Knight P. Colville Smith	Great Second Lieut.
V.E. Knight Rev. A. W. Oxford	Great Prelate.
" Charles Belton, K.C.T.	Great Mareschal.
E. Knight Rev. Canon Walker	Great Hospitaller.
" A. F. Church	Great Admiral.
" A. Conyers Haycraft	Great Conservator.
" Capt. H. G. Giles, R.N.	Great Bailie.
" Hubert S. Clutton	Great Turcopolier.
V.E. Knight C. F. Matier, K.C.T.	Great Chancellor.
" Ralph Clutton, K.C.T.	Great Treasurer.
E. Knight F. E. Remfrey	Great Banner Bearer.
" John Taylor	Great Sword Bearer.
" Walter J. Ebbetts	Great Capt. Outposts.
" A. H. Hebbert	Great Capt. Outposts.
" H. J. Edwards, Mus. Doc.	Great Organist.

The Great Officers took their seats as follows: At the East Table—V.E. Knights R. Loveland Loveland, G.C.T., E. Prior; Frank Richardson, G.C.T., as Capt. General; Ralph Clutton, G.C.T., as Lieut. General; and Col. G. Walton Walker, 1st Lieut.; and E. Knight F. Colville Smith, 2nd Lieut. At the Octagon Table in the West—V.E. Knight Charles Belton, K.C.T., Mareschal; E. Knights H. E. Cousins, as Hospitaller; A. F. Church, Admiral; A. Conyers Haycraft, Conservator; Capt. H. G. Giles, R.N., Bailie; Hubert S. Clutton, Turcopolier; H. Harvey-George, as Chancellor; and A. E. Fuller, as Treasurer; V.E. Knight Rev. A. W. Oxford, Prelate; and E. Knight Major T. W. Richardson, as Capt. of Guards.

The following knights were Guards to Banners: Knight Capt. G. Berthon Preston, Banner B.; E. Knights R. A. B. Preston, Banner L.; Imre Kiralfy, Banner D.; Philip Monson, Banner R.; and Harold Burke, Banner A.

The following knights of the Order of the Temple then received the Mediterranean Pass, and were admitted into the Order of Malta, the accolade being given by the M.E. and S. Grand Master: Knights Charles Wells, Charles Imre Kiralfy, and John Henry Whadcoat, of Faith and Fidelity Preceptory; Charles Winlove Smith, Cabbell Preceptory; Henry John Edwards and Rev. Robt. Wm. John Smart, of Trinity in Unity Preceptory; Charles Vincent Cotterell and Albert Valery Marshall, of Lullingstone Preceptory; John Vaughan Sherrin and Walter George Crombie, of Mount Calvary Preceptory; Frederick Lincoln Bevan, Studholme Preceptory; Rev. Charles Edmund Roberts, Kemeys Tynte Preceptory; Gerald Maxwell, Bard of Avon Preceptory; John Briggs, Tancred Preceptory; and Millner Jutsum, Stuart Preceptory.

Great Priory was closed in ample form.

The M.E. and Supreme Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., afterwards presided at the banquet, supported by the V.E. Prov. Prior for North and East Anglia, the Great Officers, many Past Great Officers, Preceptors, and other knights.

Tancred Preceptory, No. 102.

A regular convocation of this preceptory was held at the Isaac Newton University Masonic Hall, Corn Exchange-street, Cambridge, on Thursday, the 7th instant. Sir Knight Richard Haliburton Adie, M.A., Trin. Coll., Eminent Preceptor, presided, and Sir Knights Wm. Briggs, M.A., LL.M. Jesus Coll., 2nd Capt. of Guard in Prov. G. Priory of East Anglia, E.P. elect; the Rev. Denis Hall, Treas. and Reg., and several other knights were also present. Among the visitors were Sir Knights V. Page, Prov. G. Treas.; Money, and F. W. Driver, M.A., P.E.P. Mount Calvary Preceptory.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and confirmed. The ballot was then taken for Comps. John Briggs, M.A., and Fisher Wentworth Dilke, both of Euclid Chapter, No. 859, and on it proving unanimous, they, with Comp. Chas. Harold Hole, previously elected, were installed by the E.P. The preceptory was then called off by the E.P., who was compelled to leave to read a paper at one of the learned societies in town. The preceptory was resumed at six p.m. for the inauguration of the E.P. elect, Sir Knight Wm. Briggs. He was presented to the acting Installing Preceptor, Sir Knight Percy Simpson, P.E.P., and duly inaugurated as E.P. of the Tancred Preceptory. The E.P. appointed as his officers Sir Knights W. J. Armitage, 1st Cons.; W. M. Powell, 2nd Cons.; John Briggs, Marshal; Dr. J. P. Green, Pelate; the Rev. D. Hall, Treas. and Reg.; F. W. Dilke, Capt. of Guard; A. W. Izard, Almoner; C. H. Hold, Std. Br.; and H. W. Baily, Purst. The correspondence having been read, the preceptory was closed.

After a well ordered banquet the E.P. gave the usual toasts.

In naming the Queen in connection with K.T., the E.P. reminded the Sir Knights that "In days of old, when knights were bold," they loyally rallied in times of danger round their Sovereign—so, at this present imminent crisis, it behoved all her Majesty's subjects to accord her true and loyal support. The mutual attachment between the Queen and her people was stronger now than ever it had been.

"The Health of the M.E.P., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Grand Sovereign of the Order; the Grand Priory, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was then given.

Sir Knight Dr. Green replied to the toast. He congratulated the E.P. on his exalted position. The Tancred was a small, but select preceptory, it was well-known and appreciated in the Templar world; he would remind the Sir Knights that those who became office bearers in P.G. Priory might even reasonably hope, in due course of time, to be officers in Grand Priory.

"The Provincial Grand Officers" having been toasted,

Sir Knight Page, Prov. G. Treas., responded. He observed, though the Tancred Preceptory was small, it had a large heart in the welcome accorded to its visitors. He wished the E.P. and the preceptory all imaginable prosperity.

"The Health of the E.P." was given by Sir Knight Percy Simpson, P.E.P. He observed the E.P. was well-known in the Masonic world by his devotion to every branch of Freemasonry—his services were most valuable. The Tancred Preceptory was fortunate in having so excellent a Preceptor.

The E.P. replied by stating he was indeed proud of presiding over them. It was not sought by Knights Templar to exalt themselves above the Craft; a proper knowledge of the Craft is most essential before joining the other Degrees, which to a certain extent may be considered as ornamental. He assured the knights and companions he would uphold the dignity and prestige of the Tancred Preceptory.

The E.P. then gave "The Newly Installed Knights."

Sir Knight John Briggs, Marshal, in replying, said he noticed their number that evening was that of perfection. He ran through, in an amusing manner, the moods and tenses of the verbs.

The E.P. gave "The P.E.P.s," naming Sir Knights Adie, I.P.E.P., Dr. Green, and Percy Simpson. They were well-known by their works.

Sir Knight Percy Simpson, E.P., replied. He said the P.E.P.s were actuated by one spirit—the welfare and progress of the Tancred Preceptory. There were difficulties in the way of Cambridge Freemasons; University terms would sometimes interfere with Masonic engagements.

Sir Knight Dr. Green also replied. It was pleasant to look back at the early times of the preceptory. He alluded, in an amusing manner, to the difficulty they once experienced in forming "the arch of steel." He said the present prosperity of Tancred was due to the work of former E.P.s, who had rendered good service. He showed how intimately connected were the Tancred and New Temple Preceptories, and suggested that they should be associated together as sister preceptories.

Sir Knights Money and Driver responded to the toast of "The Visitors."

To "The Officers" Sir Knight Powell replied.

The Janitor's toast concluded the evening.

The music of the evening was given by Bro. Whitworth Mitton, Sir Knight J. Briggs, and Mr. Byles, and it is only necessary to add that Bro. Mitton was in excellent voice, for all who have heard him before, know that his audience had a musical treat of the highest order.

Obituary.

MR. BERNARD QUARITCH.

The well-known bookseller and dealer, Mr. Bernard Quaritch, of Piccadilly and Belsize-grove, Hampstead, died at the latter address, on Sunday, rather suddenly. Mr. Quaritch, who was in his 82nd year, has been ailing for the last year or two, and was at business for a short time last Saturday. By his death one of the most widely-known men in the book trade has been removed from Sotheby's and other haunts of book collectors, where he has figured prominently for the last half-century. In early life he was employed by the late Mr. H. G. Bohn, the publisher, and in the course of his long career bought and sold most of the rare books and MSS. that have come into the market. He was a founder of "Ye Odde Volumes," a society of bibliophiles, started some 10 or 15 years ago. Of late years he has purchased every copy of the Mazarin or Gutenberg Bible—some copies more than once—that came under the hammer. The last sale he was present at was the Ashburnham Library, early in the present year. It is understood that Mr. Quaritch possessed a large and valuable private library, quite apart from his business.

THE FIRE BRIGADE AND INSURANCE OFFICES.—A Committee of the London County Council (as a long report bears witness) have commenced in earnest to agitate the question whether the contributions of insurance offices to the cost of maintaining the Metropolitan Fire Brigade should not be increased.

Art and the Drama.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

By the courtesy of the management we visited the theatre for the second time to see "The Black Tulip." It was preceded by an interesting little one-act play, entitled "The Bugle Call." We have previously alluded to the wise plan, pretty generally prevalent during the last few years, of providing such "curtain raisers" for the delectation of those who attend early, as shall not be an insult to their intellectual capacities. We are pleased to instance "The Bugle Call" as one deserving commendation. The story is simple enough, and told in a sensible way. There are contrasts of character, affording light and shade. There is brought before us the prudent old Scotchwoman, Lady Kinnordie, who, though far-seeing and worldly to the greatest degree, yet betrays a feeling of human sympathy at the last, which shows that she is a true good woman at heart. The match-making instinct of the fashionable mother is at war with maternal love; Nature asserts her claim at the hour of trial, and obtains the mastery. Then in contrast with the successful millionaire, who believes in the power of money to buy everything, even a woman's love, we have the true courage and sacrificing self-denial of the chivalric young soldier. As is to be expected, poetic justice rewards him for his manly forbearance. We hardly think the authors have sufficiently developed the character of Millicent; more might have been made of it. The interpretation of the respective characters was so good all round that we will not make any invidious distinctions. With regard to "The Black Tulip," the judgment we have before given of it is indubitably confirmed. We consider it to be the most interesting work at the present time presented to the British public. The simplicity of the story is its chief charm. It appeals to all in unmistakable tones. Our sympathies naturally follow the fortunes of the hero and heroine. The quiet, yet expressive, by-play between them is natural and well-conceived. We noticed with great satisfaction that the character of Gryphus has been rendered less repulsive than before. The power of the part has not been rendered ineffective by adopting a more moderate tone. There is still a jarring note which disturbs the general harmony. We allude to the Clerk to Van Spelling. His discordant, feeble, raven-like croak might surely be spared; indeed, if the part were altogether dispensed with, we are sure no one in the audience would regret it. It possesses no humour, and only serves to hinder the action of the piece. The scenery is well painted and truthful, the accessories and details of Rosa's room are strictly correct. The pavilion in the gardens of the Horticultural Society, at Haarlem, is a gorgeous display of colour, yet the hues are so artistically arranged that there is nothing antagonistic to its general harmony.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

On our second visit to this theatre we saw, as a first piece, "The Sacrament of Judas." Our previous criticism is confirmed; we consider it to be one of the most powerful dramas of the present time. We would especially commend the clever, yet natural manner in which the key note of the drama is struck. The dialogue at the supper table with which the piece opens should be listened to attentively; from it the action progresses until the consistent *denouement* is attained. Mr. Robertson has made a careful study of the character of Jacques Bernez. The true artist is shown in his careful attention to details, which help to build up the individuality of the part. How consistent is the involuntary, vindictive action of the arms repressed by stern will evincing the righteous indignation at the wrong done to his dearly loved one by the repentant seigneur so naturally developed in the confession. We would, however, suggest that the twice-repeated allusion to "les droits du seigneur," it would be prudent to omit; an unsuspecting daughter naturally seeking for an explanation, might lead to an awkward embarrassment on the part of *paterfamilias*, as to how the question should be answered. Should he honestly plead ignorance, so much the better; if he understands he had better feign ignorance. To return to Bernez, the apostate monk, whose quick repentance can only be accounted for by the fierce conflict of emotion in his mind, marks the self-devotion of the man, and the charitable forgiveness of the priest, his death being the proof of his true conversion. The brutal nature of Chapin, the representative of the people, is well conceived by Mr. Bromley Davenport; he has not fallen into the common error of exaggerating the part. Mrs. Patrick Campbell has little to do; however, one or two brief opportunities occur, of which she does not fail to avail herself. The domestic interior is well built up by Mr. Hawes Craven; we have seen many similar kitchens in our travels through Brittany. We must now briefly speak of the principal piece of the evening—"The Canary." The author, Mr. George Fleming, calls it a sentimental farce; it should rather be styled a farce of mock sentiment. A better title might have been found. Serious criticism would be unsuitable for such a piece; it would be like breaking a butterfly on a wheel—it is a light, airy nothing; a literary "soufflet." The first act is colourless and devoid of interest; the second and third acts are very much better. In the second act the awkward position and trouble of the amorous private secretary, when the married lady visits him alone at his lodgings, is certainly amusing. There are quaint character sketches in the landlady and her daughter. We like the third act (the best). The Bohemian wife of Oliver Glendinning we do not think untrue to nature; we have met such people in our time; there is a ring of true metal in her love to her errant husband, who tries to make people think him to be a rake, for which there is no foundation. For the principal character, Mrs. Temple Martin (Sybil), we have no sympathy; she is a silly creature, who is let off too easily. We regret Mrs. Campbell should have undertaken such a part utterly unworthy of her. She does her best for it; by anybody else it would not be tolerated. The present performance will be continued at the Royalty Theatre early in January next.

GARRICK THEATRE.

Bro. Brickwell will present his Christmas fairy pantomime, "Puss in Boots," on Boxing morning, and, in order to enable those who have other engagements for Boxing evening to get away in good time, the performance will commence at one o'clock sharp, instead of at 1.30 as at subsequent matinees.

CHRISTMAS AT THE INNS OF COURT.

We resume the subject from last week. Cardinal Wolsey's indignation and the punishment he inflicted upon Master John Roo, Serjeant-at-Law, for covert strictures upon the haughty Cardinal in his (Roo's) "disguising," we have already related. Not satisfied with this, the Cardinal "highly rebuked and threatened" the actors, sending one Thomas Moyle to the Fleet, while Master Simon Fish, of Gray's Inn, "was compelled of force to avoid his own house, and so fled over unto Tindall," the great Protestant reformer and martyr. Christmas at the Inner Temple in 1561 was held in great state, although it was attended by a brutal exhibition that would shock the more refined tastes of the present age. The Lord of Misrule, attended by a train of upwards of 100 horsemen, having the Queen's favourite, Dudley, Earl of Leicester, as Marshal, and Hatton, subsequently Lord Chancellor, as Master of the Game, rode through the City, and proceeded to the great Hall. The banquet over, the Master of the Game, attended by Rangers of the Forest and huntsmen with ten couples of hounds, entered the Hall, the huntsmen winding their horns, and giving the rousing music of the chase. Then, a thin pole, to which a live fox and a cat were securely fastened, one at each end, was brought in. The pole was rolled into the centre of the Hall, the hounds uncoupled, and after a brief scene of excitement in connection with this savage cruelty, which could not have lasted very long, the guests fell back upon the wassail and other cheer, much gratified, we are informed, with the "sport." (?) Upon another occasion the Temple Lord of Misrule was not so happy in his amusement. He levied a fine of five shillings for every house in Ram-alley and Fleet-street, and broke open the doors to enforce it. Whereupon the Lord Mayor, accompanied by his officers, stopped the band in Fleet-street, wounded Palmer, the veritable Lord of Misrule, and conveyed him to prison. However, upon the pleading of the Attorney-General, he was released. Christmas revels at each of the Inns usually took place under the presidency of a mock Prince, called at Gray's Inn the Prince of Purpoole, and at Lincoln's Inn the Prince de la Grange, whilst at the Temple the titles varied. In the Gesta Grayorum (The acts of Gray's Inn) we find set forth: "The history of the high and mighty Prince Henry, Prince of Purpoole, Archduke of Stapulia and Bernarda, Duke of High and Nether Holborn, Marquess of St. Giles and Tottenham, Count Palatine of Bloomsbury and Clerkenwell, Great Lord of the Cantons of Islington, Kentish Town, Paddington, and Knightsbridge, Knight of the Most Heroical Order of the Helmet, and Sovereign of the same, who reigned and died A.D. 1594." This prince was Mr. Henry Helmes, a gentleman of Norfolk, described as a "proper man of personage, and very active in dancing and revelling." On this occasion, Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" was produced in place of a Masque. Helmes and his court, together with the Ambassador of Templaria, were received by Queen Elizabeth at Greenwich, and afterwards dined in State with the Lord Mayor at Crosby-place. The cards of admission to these festivities were often very elaborate. At the present time, the cards of invitation issued by the Lord Mayors for the State banquet at Guildhall, on 9th November, are worth preserving as being fine examples of high modern art.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF SURREY.

PRESENTATION TO BRO. J. A. BRAIK, PROV. S.G.W.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held on Monday, the 11th inst., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, under the auspices of the Kintore Mark Lodge. The members of this lodge took the opportunity of presenting their W.M., Bro. Braik, with a handsome token of their esteem and regard on the occasion of his marriage. The brethren present included—

Bros. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Prov. G.M.; F. West, Dep. Prov. G.M.; S. G. Kirchhoffer, acting Prov. S.G.W.; J. Leach Barrett, Prov. J.G.W.; A. H. Salter, Prov. G.M.O.; R. W. Wilson, Prov. J.G.O.; Rev. E. L. G. Houndle, Prov. G. Chap.; Stamper Lambert, Prov. G. Reg. of Marks; Arthur H. Bowles, P.G.D., Prov. G. Sec.; Major G. H. N. Bridges, P.P.S.G.W., Prov. G.D.C.; Sydney F. Mackway, Prov. S.G.D.; Wm. A. Shaw, Prov. J.G.D.; Walter Hill, Prov. G.I.G.; C. Woodrow, Prov. G.S.B.; W. Featherstinhaugh, P.M. 451; Rev. C. E. L. Wright, P.M.; Ralph Neville, P.G. Stwd.; C. W. G. Bird, 333; J. H. Cureton, P.P.G.D.; J. H. Farnfield, P.G.W.; J. A. Braik, W.M. 333; C. F. Tyler, E. A. Whitby, P.P.G.D.; T. White, 114; F. Dowse, W.M. 114; H. W. Willis, 505; E. J. Pocklington, 505; R. Mossop, 442; A. W. Marshall, S.D. 333; H. Hayward, I.G. 333; W. T. Snell, J.O. 333; F. Lockett, W.M. 505; G. Duberly, 505; R. C. Bayne, 451; Hugh James, S.O. 451; G. D. King, S.W. 198; R. Jackson, J.W. 333; G. S. Howell, F. Pow, 333; J. H. C. Collier, J.W. 505; W. W. Lee, and others.

Prov. G. Lodge was opened, the Prov. G. Master saluted, and the minutes confirmed.

The roll of lodges was called, and all were represented, with the exception of the Bisley Lodge, which recently handed back its warrant on its removal to Camberley.

Bro. Lieut-Col. A. H. Bircham, Prov. G. Treas., who was prevented by illness from attending, was unanimously re-elected, and the Auditors' report, showing an increased balance, was adopted.

The Prov. G. Master then appointed the following officers:

Bro. F. West	...	...	...	Dep. Prov. G.M.
" J. A. Braik	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" Ralph Neville	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" the Rev. E. L. G. Houndle	...	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" Walter Hill	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" F. Lockett	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" the Rev. C. E. L. Wright	...	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" the Rev. J. W. St. Claire Hill	...	...	...
" S. W. Lambert	...	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" A. H. Bowles	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" W. Mackway	...	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" F. Dowse	...	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" J. L. Taylor	...	...	...	Prov. G.I. of W.
" Major G. H. Newington Bridges	...	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" R. J. M. Coffin	...	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" G. A. King	...	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" C. S. Rogers	...	...	...	Prov. G. Sid. Br.
" E. J. Packington	...	...	...	Prov. G. Org.

Bro. A. W. R. Sowman	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" R. Jackson	..	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" E. Miles	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" R. Mossop	...	...
" G. W. Fortescue	...	...
" R. Potter	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.

The Committee of General Purposes was re-elected, and the Prov. G. Lodge was closed.

The banquet which followed was supplied by Mrs. Venables, and was much enjoyed, and the customary toasts were briefly given.

Bro. S. G. KIRCHHOFFER responded for "The Grand Officers," and having expressed his thanks, said the G. Officers performed their duties to the best of their ability. If they did not altogether come up to the high ideal of work laid down for them they were a cheery set of mortals when they came to the banquet.

Bro. F. WEST, D.P.G.M., proposed "The Health of the R.W. Prov. G.M.," and having, as he said, very little voice left, he would simply ask the brethren to drink the toast, hoping that their Prov. G.M. might live to reign over them for many years.

Bro. Major NEWINGTON BRIDGES, Prov. G.D.C., said it had come to the knowledge of the members of the Kintore Lodge that their W.M. had lately entered into the state of matrimony. The brethren, to mark their affection for their W.M., had subscribed for a small present, which, they felt sure, Bro. Braik would receive in the same kindly manner. The Prov. G.M., as an honorary member of the lodge, had kindly acceded to their request to make the presentation to Bro. Capt. Braik.

Bro. the Earl of ONSLOW, R.W.P.G.M., said he had great pleasure in presenting Bro. Braik with a handsome barometer as a memento of the work he had done for the Kintore Lodge. He thought it might be looked upon as allegorical, and he hoped, as a forecast of Bro. Braik's married life, that, notwithstanding the fact of the inclement weather outside, the barometer stood at "set fair." In his new state—which was no light undertaking—Bro. Braik could be assured he had the good wishes of the members of his lodge and of everyone in the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Surrey. With regard to the remarks of the Dep. Prov. G.M., he (the Prov. G.M.) thanked the brethren for the way in which they had been pleased to drink his health. He thanked all the Mark lodges for the way in which they had supported him, for all were represented. So long as they had such ardent Masons in the Province, extending as it did over a much larger area than in the Craft, Mark Masonry would continue to place Surrey amongst the foremost counties in England. Whenever Charity lists were announced, Surrey had always shown a good face and a good front, and he hoped it would always be to the front in following the M.W. Grand Master.

Bro. J. A. BRAIK, Prov. S.G.W., thanked the Prov. G.M. for his kind words. It was rather trying to have a matter like this brought into their Masonic work. If he could not adequately express his thoughts, he could assure them he was grateful at heart for their kindness, and their gift would show his wife that he was not altogether disliked by the brethren.

In proposing "The Dep. Prov. G. Master and Prov. G. Officers," the Prov. G.M. regretted the absence of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Bircham, who had been Prov. G. Treasurer for several years, and who had been not only a faithful keeper of their accounts, but a genial and jovial companion.

Bro. F. WEST, D.P.G.M., said the Prov. G. Officers esteemed it a great privilege to work under the Prov. G.M., and they did the best they could to help him in carrying out the duties of the chair which he performed so well. It was a gratification to have not only so distinguished a member of her Majesty's Government as their Prov. G.M., but one who was also a man who had filled many important offices in all parts of the world. It was of great assistance to a D.P.G.M. to know that if any case of difficulty should occur in which a well-balanced mind was required to form a judgment, they had a Prov. G.M. of such experience as Lord Onslow. The only regret of the past year was that the Bisley Lodge had returned its warrant, but the other lodges had been able to show an increase in members, and the Prov. G. Treasurer had an increased balance in hand.

The final toast given by the Prov. G.M. was "The Kintore Lodge," under whose banner they had met, and whose arrangements, in conjunction with the Prov. G. Secretary, had conducted to a successful meeting.

Bro. Major NEWINGTON BRIDGES, Prov. G.D.C., replied. He was the first Master of the lodge 15 years ago, and it had since been successful not only in its numbers, but in its working. They were delighted to receive Provincial Grand Lodge, and also to see their W.M. invested as Prov. S.G.W.

The Prov. G. Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF BERKS AND OXON.

The annual meeting of the above Provincial Grand Mark Lodge was held under the banner of the University Lodge, at Oxford, on the 4th inst. The Prov. G.M., Bro. Viscount Valentia, M.P., occupied the chair, and the other P.G. Officers, Present and Past, included Bros. J. T. Morland, W. Ravenscroft, P.G. Sec.; Col. Ricardo, E. Margrett, the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, C. Slaughter, W. Hickie, W. G. Millar, A. H. Bull, E. Salmon, E. O. Farrer, G. H. Morland, F. Tunbridge, T. R. Kent, Colville Smith, Taphouse, R. E. Baynes, W. C. Long, J. Stradling, the Rev. E. Fitz Patrick Penruddock, Simcox, and H. Collison; also Bros. Crombie, B. Petty, T. Sawyer, G. Higgs, and G. T. Phillips, and about 60 officers and brethren.

Apologies for their unavoidable absence were received from Bros. John Tomkins, the D.P.G.M. (who also telegraphed expressing regret at not being able to attend, and conveying hearty good wishes), Earl of Jersey, C. Stephens, C. E. Keyser, J. W. Martin, and others.

The roll of Prov. Grand Officers and that of lodges in the province (all of which were represented) having been called, and the minutes of the Prov. Grand Lodges at Reading and Windsor read,

Bro. W. RAVENSCROFT, P.G. Sec., reported that the six lodges in the province had a membership of 288, an increase on last year of 33, the largest increase being at Oxford.

The P.G.M. said the report was exceedingly satisfactory, and was a good sign of the healthy condition of Mark Masonry in Berks and Oxon.

Bro. E. MARGRETT, P.G. Treas., then presented the balance-sheet which was also most satisfactory.

In moving the re-election of Bro. Margrett, Lord VALENTIA said no one could more have the confidence of the province than the Treasurer enjoys, and no one could be found to take more trouble or pride in the work of that office.

Bro. KIRCHHOFFER seconded the proposal, which was carried with acclamation.

Bro. MARGRETT briefly acknowledged the confidence again reposed in him.

The Provincial Grand Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:

Bro. J. Tomkins, 225	...	...	D.P.G.M.
" G. H. Morland, 225	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. Hickie, 235	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" E. Margrett, 235	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. Collison, 55	...	...	Prov. G.M.O.
" F. B. Oldfield, 55	...	...	Prov. S.G.O.
" E. Marshall, 519	...	...	Prov. J.G.O.
" Rev. F. Fitz Patrick Penruddock, 519	...	...	Prov. G. Chap.
" J. Stradling, 27	...	...	Prov. G.R. Mks.
" W. Ravenscroft, 235	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" F. P. Nunneley, 55	...	...	Prov. S.G.D.
" H. Mathews, 247	...	...	Prov. J.G.D.
" E. W. Goddard, 27	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" A. D. Mosley, 247	...	...	Prov. A.G.D.C.
" T. Sawyer, 235	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" G. T. Phillips, 235	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" J. G. Burnett, 55	...	...	Prov. A.G. Sec.
" W. C. Long, 235	...	...	Prov. G.I.G.
" W. H. Castle, 247	...	...	} Prov. G. Stwds.
" H. D. Tilly, 257	...	...
" S. W. Bowles, 519	...	...
" W. G. Crombie, 55	...	...	} Prov. G. Tylers.
" W. Hemmings, 235	...	...
" G. R. Norwood, jun., 55	...	...

The invitation of the Windsor Castle Lodge to hold next Provincial Grand Lodge at Windsor, was unanimously accepted.

The usual vote of money towards the education of the son of a Mark Master Mason having been voted, a vote of thanks to the University Lodge was passed, and the Prov. G. Lodge was closed.

The brethren then repaired to the Randolph Hotel, where luncheon was partaken of.

For some few years past it has been customary to invite ladies to take part in the social proceedings connected with the annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge, and on this day several accepted the invitation, those accompanying the brethren from Reading being Mrs. C. Slaughter, Mrs. W. Hickie, Miss Cooper, Mrs. W. G. Millar, Mrs. A. H. Bull, Mrs. Stace, Mrs. B. Petty, Mrs. E. O. Farrer, Mrs. T. Sawyer, Mrs. G. Higgs, Miss Ravenscroft, and Mrs. F. Tunbridge.

Lord Valentia presided, and after luncheon proposed a few toasts.

In giving "The Ladies," the Prov. G.M. said he was glad to see so many present, as it was a sign that ladies had come to realise that Masons did not meet for pleasure, but to carry out those noble principles for which their Order was established, and of which their splendid Charity work was the best evidence. (Applause.)

The company subsequently visited various colleges and other places of interest in Oxford (under the guidance of Bros. R. E. Baynes and P. Colville Smith), and then returned to the University Masonic Hall, where tea was served.

The Reading party returned home by the 5.47 train, having spent a most enjoyable day.

Craft Masonry.

British Union Lodge, No. 114.

A large number of members and visiting brethren assembled for the annual installation ceremony in connection with the above lodge, on the 7th instant, at Ipswich, when Bro. Stanley Turner was installed W.M. for the ensuing year. After the installation ceremony, which was ably performed by Bro. Ward, of Harwich, the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. Owen Turner, I.P.M.; Herbert A. Wright, S.W.; J. B. Cullingham, J.W.; the Rev. L. Stanforth, Chap.; R. K. Casley, P.M., P.P.G.T., Treas.; C. E. Tempest, P.M., P.P.J.G.D., Sec.; F. W. Turner, S.D.; J. S. Parmenter, J.D.; H. C. Casley, P.M., P.P.J.G.W., D. of C.; T. Palmer, Org.; F. Ward, I.G.; H. S. Jefferies and B. C. Ransome, Stwds.; and Geo. Gould, Tyler.

Aire and Calder Lodge, No. 458.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms, Goole, on Friday, the 8th inst., when there were present Bros. R. Alcock, W.M.; E. Timm, S.W.; Hy. Lindley, J.W.; Hy. Wilson, Treas.; J. Greenwood, Sec.; F. T. Downing, S.D.; H. Wilson, Chap.; A. Blyth, I.G.; R. Jackson, Stwd.; H. Young, Tyler; J. T. Robinson, P.M.; A. J. Peacock, P.M.; W. Brook, P.M.; J. E. Leech, P.M.; T. C. Turton, P.M.; J. H. Hind, P.M.; G. J. Hunt, G. Ibbetson, J. B. Timm, T. Green, B. Whitworth, Wm. French, Wm. Harrison, and J. Law. Visitors: Bros. F. E. Egerton, P.M. 910, P.P.G.C.; C. Goldthorpe, 242, P.P.G.D. of C.; John Constable, 2259, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Geo. Eland, I.P.M. 2259; T. G. Smith, J.W. 2259; R. P. Jones, 630; Hy. Chadwick, 219; Ed. Simpson, S.W. 2259; T. Stanforth, P.M. 1482; J. H. Lee, W.M. 1482; A. W. Cundall, S.W. 1482; and W. E. Cranidge, 1482.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. E. Timm, S.W., W.M. elect, was duly presented by Bro. R. Alcock to the Installing Master, Bro. H. Wilson, who performed the whole of the work in a very creditable manner, Bro. Robinson giving the working tools, and also singing the solo "Be thou faithful" in very good style. Bro. Timm invested his officers as follows: Bros. R. Alcock, I.P.M.; H. Lindley, S.W.; J. Greenwood, J.W.; H. Wilson, Treas., and Chap.; F. T. Downing, S.D.; A. Blyth, J.D.; R. Jenkins, I.G.; R. Jackson, Stwd.; H. Young, Tyler; and H. Wilson was re-elected Charity Representative.

The lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the Lowther Hotel where a substantial banquet had been spread by Bro. Cawthorne.

After grace, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were gone through, including "The Queen and the Craft" and "The Grand Lodge Officers."

To the toast of "The Provincial Grand Lodge Officers," Bro. Rev. F. E. Egerton, P.P.G. Chap., responded. Bro. Dr. Alcock gave "The Health of the W.M."

Bro. Leech gave "The Health of the Installing Master," to which Bro. Wilson responded.

Bro. Lindley gave "The Visitors." Bro. Eland responded.

Other toasts followed, intermingled with song, and amid harmony and sentiment a very pleasant evening was spent.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1899.

Masonic Notes.

We have been requested to state that the 112th Anniversary Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, which will be celebrated next year under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G. Master of Staffordshire, has been postponed from Wednesday, the 9th, to Wednesday, the 16th May.

We learn with pleasure that Bro. Terry has been making considerable progress in the task of organising the Board of Stewards for the Anniversary Festival, which will be held on Tuesday, the 27th February next, in aid of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Upwards of 250 ladies and brethren, or more by some 50 than at the corresponding period in previous years, have volunteered their services, and if Bro. Terry's good fortune continues it is not improbable that in the two months that remain for preparation this number may be about doubled. We are glad of this. Having regard to the Transvaal War and Refugee Funds which are being raised throughout the country, it is our opinion that the work of the Stewards in obtaining donations and subscriptions will be greater than usual, so that it will be a distinct advantage if the Board is exceptionally strong in the matter of numbers.

We announced last week that Bro. F. Sumner Knyvett, P.G.D., has been chosen to fill the office of Deputy Prov. G. Master of Hertfordshire rendered vacant by the lamented death of Bro. George E. Lake, P.G.D. But this is not the only change that has taken place recently in the personnel of the Grand

Lodge of that Province, Bro. the Rev. Dr. O. C. Cockrem, P.M., P. Prov. G. Chaplain, having been appointed Prov. G. Secretary, vice Bro. Charles Bullock resigned. Through the selection of Bro. Knyvett for the position of Deputy P.G.M., a vacancy occurs in the office of Prov. G. Treasurer.

All the Masonic Grand Bodies of the United Kingdom that have met since the outbreak of the war in South Africa have voted grants to one or other of the War Funds that have been started for the relief of our soldiers and sailors and their wives and families, the last instance being that of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, which, at its Quarterly Communication, on the 7th instant, voted, by acclamation, the sum of 100 guineas. The following are the grants that have thus far been made: England—Grand Lodge, 1000 guineas; Grand Chapter, 100 guineas; Great Priory, 100 guineas; Supreme Council, 100 guineas; Mark Grand Lodge, 100 guineas; and Grand Council Allied Masonic Degrees, 10 guineas; Scotland—Grand Lodge, 100 guineas; and Ireland—Grand Lodge, 100 guineas.

Freemasonry is very strongly represented among the general officers who are already or are about to be engaged in the war in South Africa. The newly-appointed Commander-in-chief for South Africa—Field Marshal Lord Roberts of Candahar, V.C., G.C.B., &c.—was appointed S.G. Warden in 1895, while his Chief of the Staff, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, G.C.B., had the brevet rank of Past G. Warden conferred upon him in 1897, and early in the present year was appointed Dist. G. Master of Egypt and the Soudan. Lord Methuen, in command of the force advancing to the relief of Kimberley, was appointed S.G. Warden in 1896; and Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Warren, who has just arrived at Capetown, was made a Past G. Deacon in 1887, and served as Dist. G. Master of the Eastern Archipelago from 1891 to 1895. We learn also from the *Canadian Craftsman* that Lieut.-Col. W. D. Otter, who is in command of the Canadian contingent now serving with the Imperial troops in South Africa, is a Mason "of many years' standing, being a P.M. of Ionic Lodge, No. 25, since 1873." It may be interesting if we add that Lord Wolseley, who, as Commander-in-chief, is engaged at the War Office in the work of organising the forces for South Africa, and Lord Charles Beresford, who has just been appointed second in command of our Mediterranean Squadron, are both Past G. Wardens of England.

While we are all rejoicing at the announcement that our distinguished Bro. Lord Roberts has been offered and accepted the command-in-chief of our armies in South Africa, we must not omit to tender his lordship our deep sympathy in the loss of his only surviving son, the Hon. F. H. S. Roberts, who was mortally wounded in the unsuccessful attempt to force the passage of the Tugela river on Friday, the 15th inst., and has since died. The gallant young officer was struck in the stomach while making a desperate attempt to save the guns, and it is said that had he survived he would have been recommended for the Victoria Cross, a distinction conferred upon his father more than 40 years ago for personal gallantry during the Indian Mutiny. Lord Roberts leaves England to-morrow (Saturday) for South Africa, and will take with him not only the sympathy of the whole nation, but also its confident hopes that he will carry the war to a successful issue.

Our readers will no doubt bear in mind that this is the second time Lord Roberts has been given the chief command in South Africa, the first having been in 1881, after the disaster that befel our arms at Majuba Hill. But on his arrival at Capetown, Sir F. S. Roberts, Bart., as he then was, found that, during his passage there, peace had been concluded, and there was no need for his services. The task before his lordship now is a far more serious one than that which he was prepared to undertake in 1881.

Our Dorsetshire brethren have good reason to be gratified with the facts and figures as set forth in the 19th Annual Report of the General Committee of the "Dorset Masonic Charity." As will be seen from our account last week of the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge at Blandford, on the 27th ultimo, this report was then presented, but without furnishing any idea of its contents. It appears, how-

ever, that the percentage of annual subscribers to lodge members is small compared with what it ought to be, and we trust the advice of the Prov. G. Master will be taken to heart, so that in due course there may be an approximate, if not an actual, correspondence between the number of subscribing Masons in Dorsetshire and that of the subscribers to its Charity. In 1897 there were 333 members out of 723 who were enrolled as annual subscribers, the total of the subscriptions being £85 17s., and the percentage 46. Last year, with 758 members, the number who subscribed to the Charity was 324, and the amount they subscribed £82 7s., the percentage of subscribers to Masons being thus reduced to 43. But while we hope and believe this shortcoming will be remedied, we note with pleasure that the Donations, which amounted to only £14 7s. 7d. in 1897, increased, owing to a grant of £50 by Prov. G. Lodge, to £63 3s. last year, so that, including interest on investments, there was an increase in the receipts from £207 14s. 9d. in 1897 to £248 4s. in 1898.

The balance sheet is an excellent one, while it is worthy of note that the expenses of management amount to only £8 8s. 6d. The balance on the Cash Account was £176 12s. 6d., which was carried to the Relief Account, and that on the Relief Account £62 17s. 3d., while the value of the Investments at cash price, including those made during the year 1898, is £3716 9s. 5d. We may add that the lodges which most largely support the Charity are the Beaminster Manor Lodge, No. 1367, and All Souls Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth, with a good third, as the report puts it, in St. Mary's, No. 707, Bridport. The number of cases relieved during the year was four, and the number from July, 1881, to January, 1899, inclusive, 77. This is good work done, and a fair amount of investments accumulated by so moderate-sized a Province as Dorsetshire.

We are glad to find that our distinguished Bro. Josiah A. Drummond, Past G. Master of Maine, is of the opinion, as quoted in the *Canadian Craftsman* for last month, that "Lodges have no 'proprietary interest' in prospective candidates." He points out that the law which requires that a candidate must apply to the nearest lodge is of recent enactment, and that it was intended "for the benefit of the fraternity and not the lodges." The reason he assigns for the enactment is that a candidate must be best known by the lodge that is nearest to his residence, and consequently that the members of that lodge are best qualified to pass judgment upon his fitness to be received into the ranks of Freemasonry.

The regular quarterly communication of the District Grand Lodge of Queensland was held in Freemasons' Hall, Brisbane, on the 6th September last, under the presidency of Bro. the Hon. A. C. Gregory, C.M.G., Dist. G. Master. In the course of the proceedings, which were of a more than usually protracted character, a pathetic incident occurred. A letter was read from Bro. R. A. Rankin, formerly Dist. G. Tyler, in which that brother said "he felt his end approaching," and requested "the acceptance by the District Grand Lodge of his collar, apron, and gauntlets in remembrance of him." On the motion of Bro. Barren L. Barnett, P.G.D., Dep. Dist. G. Master, who was warmly supported by the Dist. G. Master, the Dist. G. Secretary, and Bro. E. W. Smith, Past Dist. G. Warden, it was unanimously resolved that a letter be written to Bro. Rankin "accepting the proffered gift with thanks, and assuring him of the deep sympathy of the District Grand Lodge in his present condition."

The meeting was, as we have said, a more than usually protracted one, owing to the official announcement being made that Bro. Alex. Corrie's appeal against the ruling of the District Grand Master—to the effect that Bro. Corrie's motion to pass certain new By-laws could not be put to the District Grand Lodge—had been upheld by United Grand Lodge at its meeting on the 7th June. Consequently, after certain remarks from the District Grand Master, and the reports of the District Boards of Benevolence and General Purposes had been read and adopted, Bro. Corrie brought forward his three motions successively, there being a long discussion on each; but the enactment of the proposed new Bye-laws has not yet been quite disposed of, and with Bro. Corrie's consent, the final consideration of one of the motions was postponed till the next Quarterly Communication.

At the request of the District Grand Master of the Transvaal—R.W. Bro. George Richards—we have, as already announced, undertaken to open a subscription list for the relief of those of our brethren who have suffered by the war in South Africa. Contributions have been received from Bros. S. R. Baskett, W. F. Lamonby, and others, in addition to the £100 given by Bro. Richards, and steps are being taken to bring the Fund more immediately under the notice of the lodges in town and country and abroad. Under these circumstances, we defer the publication of a list until the New Year.

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.

LODGE BENEVOLENCE AND RELIEF.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I notice in your report of the proceedings at a lodge in your issue of to-day that prominence is given to the fact that certain brethren were the recipients of relief, and giving names in full. Surely this must be a grave mistake, as such publication is neither Masonic nor fair to the brethren named, whose cases have been deemed worthy.

Grand Lodge surely sets a worthy example in such cases when they do not name the brethren whom it is proposed to relieve, that being only done within tyled doors.—Yours fraternally,

December 16th.

CHARITY.

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HOMAGE TO CHRISTMAS.

SONG AND CHORUS.—FOR MUSIC.

By PROF. F. W. DRIVER, M.A.

To welcome old Christmas
Our voices let's raise,
With laughter and frolic
We'll sing to his praise,
All troubles we banish,
No cares shall annoy,
But free and light hearted
We carol with joy.

CHORUS—To thee, merry Christmas, from full wassail bowl,
We quaff off our bumpers, thou jolly old soul.

Then pile up the yew logs,
Come deck the old hall.
Let holly and ivy
His presence recall;
Our friends gathered round us,
So loved and so dear,
With hearts warm and grateful
We'll taste his good cheer.

CHORUS—To thee, merry Christmas, from full wassail bowl,
We quaff off our bumpers, thou jolly old soul!

At this festive season,
May Christmas attend
On the rich and the poor
Alike as a friend.
May the sunshine of Hope
Cheer all far and near,
And brighten in prospect
The coming New Year!

CHORUS—To thee, merry Christmas, from full wassail bowl,
We quaff off our bumpers, thou jolly old soul!

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The last meeting for the year 1899 of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C. Bro. James Henry Matthews, President of the Board, occupied the President's chair; Bro. D. D. Mercer, Senior Vice-President, and Bro. Henry Garrod, Junior Vice-President, were in their respective places. The Grand Secretary, Bro. E. Letchworth, Bro. W. Dodd, Bro. G. S. Recknell, and Bro. Henry Sadler, G. Tyler, represented the Grand Secretarial Department.

The other brethren who attended were Bros. Henry A. Tobias, W. Fisher, E. W. Nightingale, F. W. Hancock, S. H. Goldschmidt, Charles J. R. Tijou, W. Kipps, W. M. Bywater, George Graveley, R. W. Ker, Charles Pulman, James Block, Thomas Jones, W. H. Caton, Walter Martin, John Ellinger, Charles Henry Stone, W. Wills, W. M. Stiles, P.G.T., Frederick Kent, Albert T. Chesfield, Julius Bovenstock, R. A. Brangwin, G. J. Thompson, W. Bower, E. J. Robinson, H. Massey, D. B. Thomas, C. J. Husband, George Herbert Burns, W. Hanbert, Alfred Sack, William Sugg, J. D. Wilkinson, E. W. Pillinger, William C. Parsons, Richard Carey, L. J. Dilnutt, and A. J. Swash.

Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS, President, before the Board took up the list of cases for relief, said it would be remembered that at the last meeting of Grand Lodge a sum of 1000 guineas was voted to the Lord Mayor's Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, in such proportions as the Board of Benevolence in their discretion should think fit. That was an amendment to the motion proposed on behalf of Sir Reginald Hanson. After that he had an interview with the Grand Secretary with reference to a special meeting of the Board of Benevolence, and it was thought better that the present meeting should decide the question. As a point was raised at Grand Lodge that the Mansion House Fund did not relieve all descriptions of cases, he went to the Mansion House and saw Mr. Soulsby, the Lord Mayor's private secretary, and explained to him that there were three reasons why the reference to the Board was made; one was that the members wanted to know whether widows of men not married on the strength were included among the objects of the fund. He also asked whether the widows and orphans of officers were included, and also whether the fund included widows of sailors, and also disabled soldiers and sailors and the Colonial Forces. The answer to the first was that widows married without leave partook equally with others. With regard to the second point, was that the relief lists issued by the Mansion House were for the widows and orphans of officers and men of her Majesty's Forces; and the third point was answered also in the affirmative. There was a meeting held at the Mansion House next day when the matter was brought forward as to what branches should participate, there being homes for soldiers and sailors. It was considered that they required equal attention. One of those was recommended by Lord Pirbright. It was thought that, except so far as donations were earmarked, the Lord Mayor should exercise his discretion, and that the Marines should participate and the Colonial troops. The Lord Mayor said that from the inception of the fund until

now he had never made any distinction between widows married with leave or without leave.

Bro. D. D. MERCER, Senior Vice-President, said that after hearing what had been stated by the President, and knowing full well the decision of the Mansion House Fund, he would proceed at once to move that the sum of 1000 guineas be given to the Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, to be at the entire disposal of the Lord Mayor without being earmarked.

Bro. HENRY GARROD, Junior Vice-President, had much pleasure in seconding the motion, and he thought the general body of Freemasons would endorse what the Board did in the matter by placing the fund in the hands of the Lord Mayor to dispose of as his lordship thought fit.

Bro. R. W. KER said he would like to mention that in Grand Lodge it was impressed upon the brethren that the widows of officers who died in this war were particularly to be cared for, and he would like some special mark to be made with respect to this matter.

Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS remarked that he had already said that all branches would be relieved.

Bro. R. W. KER added that he wanted part of the gift to be earmarked as he had mentioned.

Bro. J. H. MATTHEWS observed that the three points he had put to the Lord Mayor's Secretary were satisfactorily answered.

Bro. C. J. R. TIJOU, P. Asst. G.P., said he had intended specially to select Col. Gildea's Fund for Officers and Widows, but he did not think it necessary now to speak at all after the explanation that had been given.

Bro. MATTHEWS then put the motion that the 1000 guineas be paid to the Lord Mayor's Mansion House Transvaal War Fund, to be distributed at the discretion of the Lord Mayor.

The motion was carried.

The brethren then proceeded with the ordinary business. They first confirmed recommendations for the Grand Master to approve grants to the amount of £510 at the November meeting. They then considered 30 new cases from the London district, from Sydney, N.S.W., Margate, Aylesbury, Taunton, Melbourne, Guildford, Rye, Walton-on-the-Hill, Balham, Manchester, Whitehaven, Torquay, Newport, Isle of Wight, Milford, Fyzabad, High Barnet, and Hastings. Out of this list two cases were dismissed and two deferred, and £700 was voted to the remainder. Grand Lodge was recommended to grant £75 in one case, and £50 in two cases. Three were recommended to the Grand Master's approval for £40 each, and six for £30 each. Nine petitions received £20 each, one was voted £15, two £10 each, and two £5 each.

The total amount granted during the year was £7803, and 286 petitioners were relieved. Monthly they ranged thus: January, 18 cases, £460; February, 22 cases, £530; March, 39 cases, £930; April, 24 cases, £515; May, 25 cases, £785; June, 15 cases, £515; July, 24 cases, £690; August, 13 cases, £395; September, 13 cases, £313; October, 25 cases, £895; November, 42 cases, £1075; December, 26 cases, £700. In 1898 the cases relieved were 337 in number, and the amount voted £9105. This shows a considerable improvement.

Craft Masonry.

St. Luke's Lodge, No. 225.

The annual installation of Master and officers of the above lodge, and the celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist, took place at the Masonic Hall, Sloane-street, Ipswich, on the 13th inst. The large attendance of members, Past Masters, and visitors, and the most impressive way in which the retiring W.M., Bro. G. W. Senton, discharged the duties of Installing Master, will make the 1899 anniversary rank as one of the most successful in connection with the lodge. The retiring J.W., Bro. H. J. Brook, was installed in the Master's chair, after which the new W.M. appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows, Bro. Brook discharging the first duties of his new office in a most interesting manner: Bros. G. W. Senton, I.P.M.; S. Sparkes, S.W.; R. Miller, J.W.; J. Talbot, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Treas.; G. P. Price, P.M., P.P.G. Standard Bearer, Secretary; J. Howlett, S.D.; R. D. Taylor, J.D.; A. W. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.P., D.C.; W. Parker, Org.; A. E. Senton, Asst. Org.; E. B. Lewcock, I. Girling, A. Mills, H. B. Clarke, and F. G. Fisk, Stewards; and G. Gould, Tyler. Afterwards the lodge re-appointed Bro. A. W. Cook, P.M., P.P.G.P., as its Charity representative; but before adjourning for the Masonic banquet, on the initiative of Bro. J. Talbot, unanimously voted a sum of money from the lodge fund to be sent to the Mayor of Ipswich for the relief of the victims of the war. Subsequently they "passed the hat," which increased the amount forwarded to the Mayor to 25 guineas.

At the banquet Bro. Brook presided, and he was supported by Bros. N. Tracy, P.P.J.G.W., P.G. Std. Bro., Prov. G. Sec. Suffolk; Geo. W. Senton, J. Talbot, G. Abbott, H. Cockrell, S. Snow, W. H. Cook, J. A. Pettitt, S. Skeritt, W. Whitehead, and others.

Crichton Lodge, No. 1641.

The installation meeting of this very flourishing lodge was held on the 16th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., when there were present Bros. V. T. Murché, W.M.; Chas. H. Stone, S.W., W.M. elect; G. M. E. Hamilton, P.M., Treas.; Geo. King, P.M., Sec.; J. Elliott, S.D.; P. A. Nairne, P.G.D., D.C.; J. Day, I.G.; W. H. Barratt, A.D.C.; H. A. Stunt, P.M.; Wm. Briant, P.M.; R. J. Vincent, P.M.; T. Weeks, P.M.; Geo. Gill, P.M.; R. Greenwood, P.M.; R. Stokoe, P.M.; E. Townshend, G. Rankin, R. T. Randell, S. Cresswell, H. Kendall, E. West, F. W. Parker, W. Smart, A. Henley, T. G. Ball, G. A. Goodwin, W. Ellis King, T. Pilcher Shovelier, A. T. Flux, W. A. Moore, J. Bailey, D. Greville, J. E. Kettle White, H. W. Prior, Valentine Hill, D. D. Carroll, R. J. Fox, T. A. Organ, J. W. Melton, and C. Castle. Visitors: Bros. V. Codma Langlin, S.D. 2458; A. E. Oxley, W.M. 2147; R. J. Pugh, P.M. 2147; Thos. Lee, P.M. 2751; Harry Eyre, W.M. 101; Thompson, 2157; C. F. Clifton, 957; Chas. Wm. Stone, P.M. 507; Jos. Kirby, J.D. 1603; R. E. Goffin, P.M. 1572; J. J. White, P.M. 2513; Thos. Grumman, P.M. 1559; Robt. Elgar, P.M. 1329; Geo. F. Hipkins, W.M. 1598; L. J. Phillips, 2513; G. Briggs, P.M. 1572; Isaac Dunn, P.M. 1622; P. W. Ryde, 2513; E. Gill, 2535; Hy. Cornford, W.M. 1922; and J. Bate, P.M. 1507.

The lodge was opened at 3.30 p.m. precisely, and the minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. The W.M. then, in a most able manner, raised Bro. Edgar Townshend to the Degree of M.M., after which a ballot was taken for Mr. Daniel David Carroll, and proving unanimously in favour of the candidate, he was duly initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry by the W.M. in a most impressive manner, which must leave a lasting impression on the initiate's mind. The report of the Audit Committee was presented, received, and adopted. Bro. Wm. Briant, P.M., then duly presented Bro. Charles Henry Stone, P.M., S.W., and W.M. elect, to receive the benefit of installation at the hands of the W.M., which was carried out in a Board of 25 Installed Masters in a most perfect manner. After Bro. Stone was installed, he invested Bro. Vincent Murché as the I.P.M., and thanked him on behalf of the lodge for the excellent manner he had performed the work throughout the year. The officers of the lodge were then duly invested as follows: Bros. John Tom Evans, S.W.; John Joseph Elliott, J.W.; George M. E. Hamilton, P.M., Treas.; Geo. King, P.M., Sec.; Perceval A. Nairne, P.M., P.G.D., D. of C.; Ernest Day, S.D.; Tom. A. Organ, J.D.; William Henry Barratt, I.G.; James Weal Melton, A.D. of C.; Thomas G. Ball and George Rankin, Stwds.; and George Harrison, Tyler. The addresses were then delivered by the Installing Master in a most able manner, which won for him the commendation of the brethren and visitors present. During the ceremonies the work of D.C. was ably performed by Bro. Perceval Nairne, P.M., P.G.D., who has for many years undertaken this most important duty. Bro. C. H. Stone, W.M., then presented the lodge jewel to Bro. V. T. Murché, I.P.M., speaking of their association

together for 19 years as brethren of the same lodge, and of their companionship ever since their small boyhood days, and trusted the I.P.M. would be spared many years to wear that jewel, and to be able to render help and assistance to the members of the Crichton Lodge. The I.P.M. thanked the brethren for their token of appreciation for his humble services, and promised that any assistance he was able to give should be at their service in the future as in the past, as the interest of the lodge was the dearest wish of his heart. He trusted the friendship of the W.M. would be for many years the more firmly cemented. The W.M. then proposed the motion on the agenda in his name, viz., "That it be advisable to hold a 'ladies' night' early in February." This being duly seconded by the I.P.M., and supported by several of the brethren, was carried *nem. con.* All Masonic business being ended, the visitors gave "Hearty good wishes," and the lodge was closed.

The brethren and visitors at once proceeded to the banqueting room, where they did ample justice to the excellent *menu* provided.

After dessert the grace, "For these and all Thy Mercies," was sung.

The first toast, "The Queen and the Craft," was received by the brethren in the way which shows the "Loyalty" of our members, the W.M., speaking of the sympathy of her Most Gracious Majesty with her people, and the sorrow she feels at the present time for many who are bereaved of their loved ones, and the reverence and loyalty of the whole body of the British people for their Sovereign.

The impression of the W.M.'s words left its mark upon the brethren, who were asked to sing the first verse of "God Save the Queen," which they did most heartily, and then asked for and obtained the consent of the W.M. to sing the second verse.

The toast of "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," was then given by the W.M., who remarked upon the great interest he took in Freemasonry, and although he described him as "Our hope for the future," did not in any way wish that the intervening period which must elapse before the consummation of that event should be in any way shortened by his words.

The Masonic anthem—"God bless the Prince of Wales"—was sung by Bro. R. J. Vincent, P.M.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was also given by the W.M., who mentioned the great amount of Masonic work performed by them, and that merit was not forgotten and appreciated, as they had two Grand Officers amongst their own brethren, viz., Bro. David Dixon Mercer, P.G.P., who had withdrawn from the lodge, and with them still Bro. P. Nairne, P.G.D., whose interest in their lodge was second to none, as they had been able to see during the evening in the way the work of the D. of C. was performed. It was indeed an honour to the Crichton Lodge to have the counsel of so eminent a Mason as Bro. Nairne.

A pianoforte solo, "Alice," was here given by Mr. W. J. W. Melton, a pianist of great merit, and the son of a member of the lodge, which was duly appreciated.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Bro. P. Nairne, P.G.D., in responding for the toast, thanked the W.M. for the way in which it had been given, the brethren for their reception of the same, and the opportunity given him for speaking on behalf of the Grand Officers. In his speech he mentioned his connection with the lodge for 25 years, as he was one of the founders of the same, and at the time believed it had a great future before it, and, as it had progressed steadily from that time to the present, he trusted it would further increase, and although neither of those present could possibly live to see it, he trusted the Grand Lodge would have to grant them the centenary warrant in due course.

The toast of "The W.M., Bro. C. H. Stone," was ably given by Bro. V. Murché, I.P.M., who spoke of the length of time he had known the W.M., and of Bro. Stone's interest in the lodge, his zeal in the cause of Masonry in general, and his great ability as a worker of the Masonic ritual. He was pleased to find that they had that evening proposed three worthy candidates for initiation at their next meeting, and they would then, he hoped, be able to witness his ability as a worker.

Recitation, Bro. Valentine Hill, "The Fully-Licensed Man."

The W.M., on rising to reply, received quite an ovation, being most loudly applauded. He thanked the I.P.M., officers, and brethren, the I.P.M. for his proposal of the toast, and the whole for their acceptance of the same. He was only too pleased to be of service to them, would do what he could for the good of the lodge, was glad to know that they intended bringing a few candidates, whom he would be pleased to welcome, and further, he trusted the brethren would not regret the confidence reposed in him by having voted him to that important office.

Song, "The Absent-minded Beggar," by Bro. Shovelier.

The gavel collection of £3 3s. was given to the fund for the benefit of the widows and orphans now being organised by the *Daily Telegraph*.

The W.M., in proposing the toast of "The I.P.M. and Installing Master," trusted that the light of his experience would be used for the good of the lodge, and further

expressed gratification at the splendid manner in which the ceremonies had been performed that evening, stating that in his opinion the I.P.M. had that evening excelled himself in his admirable rendering of the charges to the W.M., officers, and brethren. Personally, he felt quite carried away by his eulogy, and he believed the brethren were likewise, and that it had not failed to make its mark even upon the Installing Master.

Song—"Tut, tut," Mr. Chas. Penny.

Song—"Asthere," Bro. Moore.

The I.P.M., in responding, thanked the W.M. as the proposer and the brethren for their reception of the toast most heartily. He was obliged to the W.M. for the kind remarks he had been pleased to make regarding his work during the past year. Personally he believed in what he rehearsed, and tried to impress it upon the minds of those candidates it was his pleasure to have to take through the commencement of their Masonic career, and further he would do all he could for the benefit of the Crichton Lodge, not forgetting their forthcoming ladies' night.

The next toast—"The Initiate" was given by the W.M., who remarked that it had never been his pleasure to watch a candidate who entered into the spirit of the working so well as their newly-made brother—Daniel David Carroll, and trusted that the step into Masonry he had taken that evening would never be regretted.

Song—"Jack of Ours," Bro. C. W. Stone, P.M.

Song—"Captain of the Mercantile Marine," Bro. H. A. Stunt, P.M.

The initiate, in reply, thanked them for their reception of the toast, and also his proposer for bringing him into Masonry. He acknowledged the deep impression the words of the W.M. (Bro. Murché) had made upon him during the ceremony, and, lastly, said he would do all he could for the Society of Freemasonry.

The toast of "The Visitors" was then given by the W.M., who said he was proud to welcome so many that evening, especially as amongst that number were present four Worshipful Masters of lodges, viz., Bros. Oxley, W.M. 2147; Eyre, W.M. 101; Hipkins, W.M. 1598; and Cornford, W.M. 1922. He should like these four to respond, and he added thereto the names of Bros. Giffin, Grumman, and Briggs.

In reply, Bro. Oxley, W.M. 2147, thanked the W.M. for the kind invitation which had been given him. He was very pleased to have been able to attend, as he had great respect for the W.M., who was present at his own installation, and was often a visitor at the Crays Valley Lodge.

Bro. Hipkins thanked the brethren for their acceptance of the toast. He was pleased to be able to respond, in that he had worked with Bro. Stone, their W.M., for 22 years, and consequently knew him well, and, therefore, he felt no diffidence in saying that the lodge gained by making him their W.M.

The toast of "The Past Masters"—"the pillars of the lodge," as the W.M. so tersely put it—was next honoured.

Bro. G. M. E. Hamilton ably responded, and said he was always pleased to be of assistance to the lodge, and as he had done in the past, he would continue to work for the future, and thanked them most heartily for their reception of the toast.

Bro. G. King, Sec., said that he had the good of the lodge at heart, and would continue to do his best in its interest, and thanked them for their acceptance of the Past Master's toast.

Bro. Weeks, P.M., also ably responded.

The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Officers," said that the lodge had such a goodly array that any lodge might be proud of them, in fact, he eulogised them both collectively and individually.

The S.W., in responding, thanked the W.M. for the kindly way in which he had spoken of the officers of the lodge. Personally, he felt diffident to follow Bro. Stone, as he trusted he would be able to do in the future, as he looked upon their W.M. as one of the ablest exponents of Masonry in the Crichton Lodge. He continued in a most able speech to state that in his appreciation of their W.M. he had brought a visitor, Bro. Langlin, who had adorned that room in which they were seated, and continued in a very interesting manner to explain the decorations.

The J.W. trusted in time to do the work as well as their W.M., although to his mind at present it appeared as a roadway beset with difficulties to obtain that ideal.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close one of the happiest meetings of the Crichton Lodge.

Mr. W. J. W. Melton very ably accompanied at the piano.

The W.M. was initiated 19 years ago in the Crichton Lodge, and has now succeeded through the various offices to the chair. He joined the United Pilgrims' Lodge, No. 507, and eventually became W.M., when he initiated his son (Bro. C. W. Stone), who is now a P.M. of the same lodge. He was exalted in the Star Chapter, No. 1275, and became M.E.Z. after many years of waiting on account of not having passed the chair in the Craft lodge. He was a founder of the Selwyn Chapter, No. 1901, and is now a P.Z. and S.E. of the same. Bro. Stone is a most enthusiastic Mason, and has spent much time in helping to secure elections to the various Masonic Institutions. He is a Life Governor of each Institution, has served six Stewardships, and hopes to stand as Steward at the forthcoming Girls' Festival. He is also a Life Subscriber of the local Old Kent-road Pension Society. He greatly appreciates the honour accorded him by being elected a member of the Board of Benevolence for the third year. The lodge is to be congratulated upon having so worthy a Master.

Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

The election meeting of this lodge was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 5th inst. Among those present were Bros. T. Davies, W.M.; Wolsey S.W.; Hopkins, J.W.; Hearn, P.M., Sec.; Harris, S.D.; Brading, I.G.; Linwood, Org.; G. Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas., as I.P.M.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; C. H. Kohler, P.M.; A. Lundie, P.M.; Dr Millsom, P.M.; and Barry, P.M.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Tull was raised to the Third Degree. The ballot was taken for a gentleman for initiation, and he being in attendance, was duly admitted to the light of Craft mysteries by the W.M., both ceremonies being well carried out. Bros. Wolsey was unanimously elected as W.M.; R. La Feuillade, P.M., as Treas.; and Brading, Hucker, and Moll, Auditors. The audit to be some time in January. A Past Master's jewel was voted with acclamation to the W.M. Upon the proposition of Bro. Major Walls the sum of five guineas was unanimously voted to the *Daily Telegraph* Fund for Widows and Orphans, and this sum was at the subsequent dinner handsomely augmented by individual subscriptions. It having been announced that the wife of Bro. R. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas., had recently and somewhat suddenly died, a vote of condolence was passed and ordered to be sent to Bro. La Feuillade. The lodge was then closed.

Refreshment followed labour.

A few toasts followed.

Bro. George Everett, P.G.T., responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers," and then proposed "The Health of the W.M." In submitting this pledge the proposer said that the toast happily brought its own recommendation. Bro. T. Davies was not only a good Mason but a most genial soul. As W.M. of No. 1381 he had given satisfaction to every member of it. As it always happens, just as a Master gets almost perfect in his work he had to go, although he might feel happy and would wish to remain. The W.M. during his year had set a good example, and he trusted that those coming on would endeavour to emulate his very excellent example.

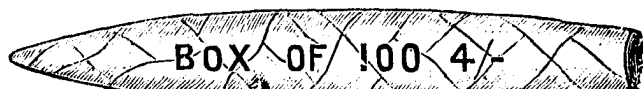
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This toast having been warmly drunk, the W.M. briefly replied, and then gave "The Initiator."

The recipient having acknowledged the toast, the W.M. proposed "The Past Masters," coupled with the names of Bros. Major Walls, Dr. Millsom, and Barry, who replied.

In giving "The Officers," the W.M. expressed his obligation to the Treasurer, Secretary, and the officers generally for the great aid and support that they had given him during his year of office.

To this toast Bros. Hearn, Wolsey, W.M. elect, and Hopkins replied.

During the evening Bros. Hopkins, Linwood, T. Davies, Brading, G. Everett, A. Lundie, and others entertained the brethren.

Mirfield Lodge, No. 1102.

INSTALLATION OF BRO. H. WHITWAM AND PRESENTATION TO THE I.P.M., BRO. T. G. HOWELL.

The anniversary of this prosperous lodge was celebrated in the Masonic Hall, Mirfield, on Friday, the 8th inst., and was, as usual, largely attended. Mirfield as a place of residence may be regarded as perhaps not too desirable, though its inhabitants don't think so, but Mirfield Lodge, to pay a visit to, is a pleasure not to be lightly put aside. Founded in 1866, it has during its third of a century's existence had occasional hard struggles to hold its own, but with the dogged perseverance of true Yorkshiremen, its members have "stuck to it," and it is now established on a solid basis, and promises continued prosperity. To go into particulars on this point would be invidious, as names would have to be mentioned, but we think that there is no brother in the lodge who will not gratefully admit that to the fostering care of Bro. John Barker, P.M., and his faithful devotion and zeal, Mirfield Lodge mainly owes its present position. Twelve months ago we chronicled the accession to the chair of Bro. Thomas Gaukroger Howell, and we ventured to prophesy good results therefrom. We are pleased to find that our expectations have been more than realised, and that the successful management of Bro. Howell has placed his lodge in a stronger position than perhaps it has ever previously reached. This fact so gratifying was, as we shall see, duly recognised during the evening.

The W.M., Bro. T. G. Howell, opened the lodge at 4.15 p.m. The officers were as follows: Bros. A. L. Lister, I.P.M.; H. Whitwam, S.W.; M. M. Milner, J.W.; W. H. Wilson, P.M., Treas.; John Barker, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W., Sec.; Geo. Barker, S.D.; F. Shaw, J.D.; G. C. Hirst, D.C., as I.G.; and W. Ibberson and S. W. Wilkinson, Stwds. The other Mirfield brethren present were Bros. J. W. Parkinson, W. H. Wilkinson, P.M., F. S. Clay, Hubert Dyson, T. Lang, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., W. C. Jeffrey, J. W. Bell, W. Bailey, P.M., P.P.G. Org., and C. E. Sutcliffe, P.M.

In addition to those who were members of the Mirfield Lodge, the Province of West Yorkshire was represented by Bros. T. Woods, P.M. 448 and 2695, Prov. G. Treas.; Wm. Blackburn, P.M. 306, P.P.G.D., Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee; W. Dyson, P.M. 2261, P.P.G.D.; and Joshua Marshall, P.M. 275, P.P.G. Org. The visitors included Bros. F. W. Lewis, P.M. 149; W. Dunnill, J.D. 264; E. Haley, Sec. 275; John Pyrah, P.M. 521; J. J. W. Savile, 1042; J. Rhodes, P.M. 1231; R. F. Rogerson, J.W. 1301; J. E. Parsonson, 1469; W. F. Munro, W.M., W. Riley, P.M., Joe Sykes, P.M., and J. Milligan, S.W., of 1514; J. A. H. Eagland, W.M., J. Hirst, S.D., and G. Webster, of 1645; H. Shaw, W.M., S. Hirst, P.M., J. Hirst, P.M., A. Hanson, P.M., J. E. Bottom, P.M., D. J. Bailey, P.J.W., M. Addy, Sec., D. S. Eastwood, J.D., F. Pickersgill, W. Shires, T. Hirst, and T. Shires, of 2261; T. Hamnett, P.M. 2363; and S. H. Cliff, P.M. 1221 and 2695.

As the business of the meeting comprised the installation and appointment and investiture of officers, no time was lost in getting through the preliminaries. Bro. Herbert Whitwam, the W.M. elect, who is a joining member of the Mirfield Lodge through circumstances singularly favourable to him, has attained his present position very rapidly. We do not believe in too rapid promotion, as experience is one of the most necessary qualifications in a W.M., but, judging by the ability displayed by Bro. Whitwam, and by the confidence exhibited by his brethren, we think that what has certainly been a lucky thing for the one will also turn out to be of advantage to the other. The W.M. elect was presented for installation by Bro. John Barker, and the ceremony up to the formation of the Board of Installed Masters, was most ably and accurately carried out by the retiring W.M., Bro. Howell. Bro. A. C. Lister, I.P.M., conducted the next part of the ceremony, and placed Bro. Whitwam in the chair of K.S. Bro. Howell was at once invested as I.P.M., Bro. Lister explaining the jewel. The working tools in the various Degrees were elucidated by Bros. A. C. Lister, P.M., W. H. Wilson, P.M., and T. G. Howell, I.P.M. Bro. Howell also announced and proclaimed the appointment and installation of Bro. Whitwam to the brethren, and presented the warrant, &c. The officers were next invested, and in doing this the W.M. made special and interesting reference in the case of several, notably those of Bros. G. Barker and W. Ibberson. Bro. G. Barker, who is the son of Bro. John Barker previously referred to, had been, the W.M. declared, "cradled in Masonry," whilst Bro. Ibberson was the son of an old and revered P.M., whose memory would long be cherished in the Mirfield Lodge. The full list of officers was as follows: Bros. T. G. Howell, I.P.M.; M. M. Milner, S.W.; G. C. Hirst, J.W.; W. H. Wilson, P.M., Treas., and Chap.; G. V. B. Barker, Sec.; F. Shaw, S.D.; W. Ibberson, J.D.; John Barker, P.M., D.C.; J. W. Bell, Org.; S. W. Wilkinson, I.G.; H. Wilson, Asst. I.G.; W. H. Wilkinson, P.M., and A. C. Lester, P.M., Purveyors; W. C. Jeffery, F. S. Clay, H. R. S. Dyson, and J. W. Parkinson, Stwds.; and John Wood, Tyler. In appointing Bro. John Barker, Preceptor of the lodge, the W.M. remarked how fortunate they were in having a brother so eminent and capable, who was willing, in addition to his other duties, to undertake that of Preceptor. And here it may be noted that up to this point the brethren who had taken parts in the ceremony were all Bro. Barker's pupils, that brother therefore, made a fitting climax to what had throughout been good work by himself delivering the addresses to W.M., Wardens, and brethren. Bro. F. H. Hare, P.M., was unanimously elected Charity Steward. Apologies from numerous brethren were announced, and after other routine business, the lodge was closed.

It should also be mentioned that the solo "Be thou faithful," and other portions of music during the ceremony were beautifully rendered by Bro. Mellor Addy, Sec. 2261. Dinner, comprising

"Things which in hungry mortals' eyes find favour," at once followed, after which came the usual toasts, loyal and Masonic.

The first two proposed from the chair were, of course, "The Queen" and "The M.W.G. Master and the Officers of Grand Lodge, Present and Past."

These were heartily received and duly honoured.

Next followed "The Prov. G. Master for West Yorkshire, his Deputy, and Officers, Present and Past," proposed by Bro. W. H. Wilson, P.M.

This was also cordially drunk, and a very humorous response, made by the Prov. G. Treas., Bro. Thomas Woods, P.M. 448 and 2695.

"The Health of the W.M." was ably submitted by the I.P.M., Bro. Howell, and Bro. Whitwam duly acknowledged it.

In the absence of Bro. W. Wilson, J.P., P.M., P.P.G.D. of C., "The Masonic Charities" was undertaken by Bro. Barker. For many years Charity Steward for his

lodge, Bro. John Barker thoroughly understands this intricate subject, and was able eloquently to advocate the cause of our boys, girls, and old people.

Bro. Wm. Blackburn, P.M. 306, P.P.G.D., Vice-Chairman of the Charity Committee, responded.

The toast of "The Visitors" was very warmly honoured.

The replies were interesting, especially that of Bro. Parsonson, of Meridian Lodge, No. 1469, Cradock, Cape Colony. The words of this colonial brother went straight to the hearts of his hearers, and his reception was one of genuine cordiality.

The W.M. then rose to propose "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. T. G. Howell." He complimented the retiring W.M. upon the success which had attended his services in the chair, and declared that the brethren fully recognised the zeal, regularity, and punctuality which had been displayed by him. They were wishful, however, in addition to any verbal assurance of appreciation, to offer some more tangible evidence of their estimation, and they had, therefore, decided to present their outgoing W.M. with a Past Master's jewel. It was, Bro. Whitwam declared, a very great pleasure to him to be permitted to pin that jewel upon Bro. Howell's breast, and, whilst wishing him length of years during which to wear it, he might add, as still further enhancing its value, that, though the lodge had existed for 33 years, that was the first occasion when the presentation of a jewel had been made to the Master leaving the chair. The brethren of Mirfield Lodge would, he was sure, join with him in the expression of every good wish for their retiring W.M., and would show that they endorsed his few words of commendation by drinking most heartily to his happiness and prosperity.

This the brethren did. Bro. Howell it would appear was completely taken by surprise. That his services to Mirfield Lodge in particular, and to the Craft generally, should be acknowledged is universally allowed. During his term of office the lodge has made greater progress than in any previous year of its history, having admitted nine initiates besides two joining members. Whilst as to the Craft generally, when we point out how consistent a supporter of the Masonic Charities Bro. Howell has been from his first entering a lodge, we are only mentioning what in his own province is universally known. To be a Vice-Patron of the Boys' and Vice-President of the Girls' and Benevolent Institutions is a position well deserving of commendation, and we are not surprised that the Mirfield brethren should mark their appreciation of Bro. Howell's services. The inscription on the very handsome jewel declares it to be "a token of esteem and regard."

Taken by surprise, overwhelmed by the kindness of the proposer and the hearty way in which his remarks were received, Bro. Howell was somewhat overcome, but in a few very feeling words he thanked the brethren for the goodwill which had prompted this manifestation. Had he known, he might have been prepared with more suitable expressions of acknowledgment, but of this they might feel assured, that in whatever language he might have replied to this compliment, his gratitude could not have been greater than it was at that moment.

The other toasts were "The Past Masters" and "The Officers of the Lodge," proposed respectively by the J.W., Bro. G. C. Hirst, and the W.M., which closed the list.

Altogether the occasion was exceptional, and Bro. Whitwam is to be congratulated upon coming to the chair of a lodge which, under the guidance of Bro. Howell, has reached so satisfactory a high mark of progress.

Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745.

The installation meeting was held at the Viaduct Hotel, Holborn, on the 27th ult. Among those present were Bros. W. R. Witt, W.M.; J. D. Webb, P.M. 1314, S.W., W.M. elect; W. Wellsman, C.C., P.M. 1539, J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; F. P. Weinell, P.M. 1828, S.D.; A. E. Cook, J.D.; Dr. J. W. Hinton, M.A., P.M. 1503, P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; W. T. Collyer, Stwd.; Evans, I.P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G.S., P.G. Std. Br.; J. Young, P.M.; T. Simpson, P.M.; E. Schultz, P.M.; G. Herbert, P.M.; C. Bachoffner, P.M.; N. P. Lardner, P.M.; F. Kent, P.M. 177; J. W. Gaze, C.C., P.M. 1768; and J. H. Lile, C.C. Among the numerous visitors we noticed Bros. E. S. Lardner, P.M., P.G.S.; A. J. Hexton, W.M. 749; T. G. Newell, W.M. 860; A. E. Purkiss, W.M. 1314; Major W. Williams, P.M. 1275; E. W. Ellis, P.M. 1314; E. Coste, P.M. 1314; G. R. Bolton, P.M. 1314; C. Winkley, P.M. 1445; J. Clark, P.M. 1445; and F. B. Williams, P.M. 2087.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. J. J. Hampton was raised to the Third Degree and Bro. W. G. Kent passed to the Second Degree, both ceremonies being well performed. Bro. J. D. Webb, S.W., having been duly presented by Bro. Major Walls, D.C., he was impressively installed as W.M. by the W.M. The officers appointed and invested for the year were Bros. W. Wellsman, P.M., S.W.; F. P. Weinell, P.M., J.W.; H. J. Lardner, P.M., Treas.; W. H. Jackson, P.M., Sec.; A. E. Cook, S.D.; H. Harden, J.D.; J. H. Lile, D.C.; T. Shapcott, A.D.C.; W. T. Collyer, I.G.; Dr. Lott, P.G.O., Asst. Org.; Dr. Hinton, P.P.G.O., Asst. Org.; J. W. Fuller, H. B. Marshall, M.A., J.P., C.C., P.M., P.P.G.W., P. Walldvogel, P.M. 1828, and T. L. Pewtress, Stwds. The investiture of the Tyler, Bro. H. Evenden, P.M., in consequence of his absence through severe illness, was postponed. The report of the Audit Committee was received and adopted. It was proposed by Bro. Major T. C. Walls, seconded and carried unanimously, "That the sum of five guineas be subscribed from the funds of this lodge in aid of the Lord Mayor's Transvaal War Fund (Widows and Orphans)." Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. J. Murphy, P.M.; Dr. E. M. Lott, P.G.O. Eng.; H. B. Marshall, C.C., P.M.; and others. The Treasurer announced that the Permanent Committee had arranged that at the next meeting Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Treloar, P.M., and Sheriff Bevan, G. Treas., would be entertained by the lodge. The lodge was then closed.

A banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth the customary toasts received full justice.

The I.P.M. submitted the toast of "The W.M." In the course of his remarks, he said that the W.M. had only just left the chair of another lodge, and therefore, he brought ripe experience to bear on the affairs and working of the Farringdon Without Lodge. He was particularly struck with the excellent manner in which the W.M. had invested his officers.

The W.M., in reply, briefly said that they had elected him as their Master, and, therefore, it was his duty, and he might add pleasure, to do his best to warrant the confidence placed in him. In conclusion, he said that the quotation on the list of toasts met his views exactly. "Thus have I begun my reign, and 'tis my hope to end successfully."

The toast of "The Installing Officer" followed. The W.M. said that no one who had passed the chair in the lodge had done the work better than the Immediate Past Master, Bro. Witt. He had richly deserved the jewel that had been presented to him in the lodge that afternoon, and it afforded him great pleasure also to present the I.P.M. with the collar and silver jewel of his office which had been subscribed for by those officers who had served under him.

The I.P.M. made an emotional response in reply.

As it was getting very late, the remaining toasts were given quickly and briefly acknowledged. They were, "The Visitors," to which toast Bros. E. S. Lardner,

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P.G.S.; A. J. Hexton, T. G. Newell, and Major W. Williams responded; "The Past Masters," coupled with the names of Bros. T. Simpson and G. Herbert; "The Treasurer and Secretary" (Bros. H. J. Lardner and W. H. Jackson); and "The Officers" (Bros. Weinle and Cook).

An excellent programme of music was furnished under the direction of Bro. Arthur Weston, in which several well-known artists appeared.

The whole of the proceedings were highly successful.

Guildhall School of Music Lodge, No. 2454.

The above lodge, now seven years old, held its installation meeting at the Holborn Restaurant, on Monday, the 11th instant. Bro. H. W. Wheeler, W.M., presided, and the brethren who attended were Bros. W. Syckelmoore, P.M., S.W.; D. Beardwell, J.W.; W. Morrow, Treas.; G. F. Smith, P.M., P.G. Org.; Sec.; W. Rogers, P.M., S.D.; W. J. Batho, J.D.; A. E. Rowarth, I.G.; B. W. Kenyon, Stwd.; W. H. Cummings, I.P.M.; W. H. Thomas, P.M.; H. Guy, P.M.; H. Turnpenny, G. H. Dawson, Montague Borwell, R. Boulcott Newth, Hilton Carter, H. J. Swindell, R. Clowes, P.M., T. R. Busby, T. Stirling, jun., H. E. Cummings, W. H. L. Brook, H. R. Thacker, A. W. Lines, R. J. Triggs, D. Strong, E. Preston, A. Braining, G. K. Lang, T. French Lydall, H. Simmons, W. Wells, W. G. Barton, P. W. J. Webb, and Arthur Thompson. The visitors included Bros. Wilhelm Ganz, P.G. Org.; W. Stevenson Hoyte, P.G. Org.; Hermann Klein, P.G. Org.; A. R. T. Eales, 1437; H. W. Chausser, 2728; Otto Peiniger, 2548; H. Massey, P.M. 619 and 1928; H. Goodwin, P.M. 1669, J.W. 2095; F. Birch, 2077; S. Noble, 1706; W. H. Pocklington, P.M. 1288; J. S. Chapuy, 780; E. L. Hatch, 1538; F. Partington, P.M. 1288; T. Powell, J.W. 2182; F. Wint, P.M. 101; S. Chalkley, 8; G. C. Laenskey, 2427; A. Reake, and R. Davies, C.C., I.G. 176.

The only work before the lodge consisted of the installation of the new Worshipful Master, and the appointment and investiture of his officers. Bro. George F. Smith, P.M., P.G. Org., Sec., presented to the W.M. Bro. Walter Syckelmoore, P.M., S.W., and W.M. elect, for installation. Bro. Wheeler then performed the ceremony, and afterwards received the collar of Immediate Past Master. The W.M. appointed and invested his officers as follows: Bros. David Beardwell, S.W.; W. Rogers, J.W.; Walter Morrow, P.M., Treas.; George F. Smith, P.M., P.G. Org., Sec.; W. J. Batho, S.D.; A. E. Rowarth, J.D.; A. Raimo, I.G.; T. Hastings Miller, P.M., P.G.S.B., D.C.; Montague Borwell, Org.; Thomas Busby and B. W. Kenyon, Stwds.; and Patrick, P.M., Tyler. The Immediate Past Master was presented with a Past Master's jewel, and in the name of the lodge he afterwards presented a testimonial to Bro. W. H. Cummings, P.M., G. Org., Principal of the Guildhall School of Music. This gift consisted of a beautifully-engrossed and illuminated vellum, elegantly framed and glazed, and a set of clothing of a Grand Organist. The engrossment was in the following words: "Guildhall School of Music Lodge, No. 2454. Presented to Brother William Henry Cummings, F.S.A., I.P.M., Grand Organist, by the brethren of the Guildhall School of Music Lodge and brother professors of the Guildhall School, as a token of esteem, together with the Grand Lodge clothing." This was followed by the names of 59 gentlemen, amongst whom were nine Grand Officers. Bro. W. H. Cummings, in acknowledging the gift, said it had come upon him as a great surprise, and he should value it as long as he lived as a testimony of the good feeling of his Masonic and professional brethren.

A banquet followed, the customary toasts being afterwards honoured, while some charming music was contributed by Miss Stanley Lucas, Bro. E. Turnpenny, Miss Lucie Johnstone, Bro. Powell, Bro. Triggs, Bro. Simmons, and Bro. Arthur D. Strong. An impersonation of Dickens's characters by Bro. Ernest Cherry also formed a notable feature of the entertainment.

The jewels, clothing, and engrossment were manufactured by George Kenning and Son, Little Britain, E.C.

Rahere Lodge, No. 2546.

An ordinary meeting of this lodge was held at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, W., on the 12th inst., Bro. Reece, M.D., W.M., occupying the chair. Bro. Sydney Cornish was admitted to the Third Degree, and Bros. Bennett and Worth to the Second Degree. A vote of £100 was made from the funds of the lodge towards the relief of the sick and wounded, and the widows and orphans of soldiers falling in the Transvaal war. Twenty guineas were voted to the British Medical Benevolent Fund and the sum of £1 is. was contributed towards the maintenance of "Our Brothers' Bed" at the Home for the Dying. A Steward was appointed for each of the three Masonic Charities and a sum of £10 10s. was voted for the list of each Steward.

The brethren with their guests afterwards dined together.

Alfred Newton Lodge, No. 2686.

A regular meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 9th inst., at the Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, W. There were present Bros. A. J. Naughton, W.M.; John J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br., acting I.P.M.; David F. Norrington, S.W.; Harry K. Newton, J.W.; W. B. Abbott, P.M., Sec.; Ernest J. Rix, S.D.; Harry J. Thwaites, J.D.; Arthur Strutt, D.C.; Thos. G. Heighington, I.G.; John W. Jupe, Musical Director; Wm. H. Eardley, Alfred E. Catchpole, and Fred. Le Sueur, Stwds.; Richd. W. Burbidge, Dep. Treas.; Benj. Robinson, P.P.G.P. Worc.; Chas. Garton, P.M.; Richd. T. Pearce, P.M.; John Brock, P.P.S.G.D. Kent; Albert C. Bonham, P.M.; Gustave C. E. Gelardi, Herbert Redgrave, Herbert C. Arthur, Harry Johnson, Peter Carmichael, Gwilyn Hinds, John A. Swann, Fred. Pegrum, Harry Day, Chas. Bland, Laurie A. Cohen, Owen E. Davies, and Wm. Skilton, joining member. Visitors: Bros. T. K. Sly, 2763; Joseph Hielson, 1791; W. J. Cox, 865, P.J.G.D. Middx.; Prof. F. W. Driver, M.A., P.M. 45; J. G. Doncaster, P.M. 834; and G. W. Towner, 858.

Lodge was opened by the W.M. and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed. The ballot was taken for Bros. Wm. Skilton, 2581, and Percy Walter Villiers Brooks, 2021. It proved favourable in the case of each brother, Bro. Skilton being present, was admitted a joining member, and returned thanks. Bro. Harry Day was raised to the Degree of M.M. by Bro. Albert C. Bonham, P.M. Bros. Laurie A. Cohen and Owen E. Davies were passed to the Degree of F.C. by the W.M. A discussion ensued whether there should be a ladies' night next February, an affirmative resolution was passed, and it was determined to appoint a Committee to carry out the necessary details. The lodge was closed by the W.M.

After the banquet, the usual toasts were given, "The Queen and the Craft," and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M."

That of "The M.W. Pro G.M., Earl Amherst; the Earl of Warwick, R.W. Dep. G.M.; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," was next given, coupled with the name of Bro. John J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.

Bro. J. J. Thomas replied on behalf of the Grand Officers. He assured the brethren that it was a great pleasure to the Grand Officers to see and assist in every kind of Masonic work. The amount in collecting plates was put up to auction—it was knocked down to Bro. Laurie A. Cohen for £3. The plates were then uncovered, and the actual money there was £2 2s.

Bro. J. J. Thomas gave "The Health of the W.M." He congratulated the W.M. on his exalted position—stated he was the second who had occupied the chair of W.M. in the lodge. He dilated on his good qualities as a man and a brother.

The W.M. replied. He said he thought the I.P.M. (acting) spoke too highly of his merits. He knew his own defects, but he was sure that the brethren would give him credit for the best intentions, and any failure on his part would be kindly excused. He and all the brethren were proud of the lodge. He spoke of his officers, and especially

Bro. Thomas, the acting I.P.M.; he also mentioned the P.M., Bro. Albert C. Bonham.

"The Health of the Joining Members, Bros. Skilton and Brooks," was then toasted.

Bro. Skilton replied.

"The Visitors" was next given.

Bro. Bonham, by permission of the W.M., here interposed. He thanked him for his kindness in permitting him to raise his friend, Bro. Day.

"The Officers of the Lodge" was proposed by the W.M. He alluded to his chief officers—the Wardens, his Secretary, and the D.C. The junior officers were also well worthy of commendation. He spoke of the two talents so useful in a lodge—those of music and wine. He said how useful were Bros. Heaton, Organist, and the Wine Stewards at the banquet.

The S.W. and Secretary replied on behalf of the officers.

The Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

The musical arrangements were under the skilled direction of Bro. J. W. Jupe, musical director.

Royal Arch.

Pythagoras Chapter, No. 88.

The half-yearly convocation was held in the chapter room at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on Thursday, the 14th instant, when there was an unusually large attendance. Comps. J. Gordon Chemell, M.E.Z., A. E. Chaplin, H., and W. P. Spalding, P.Z., J., opened the convocation of Installed Principals. The installation of Comp. Chaplin as M.E.Z. was performed by Comp. Benj. Chennell, P.Z., and the installation of Comp. W. Sindall as J. by Comp. Frank Piggott, P.Z., who consented to supply a vacancy in the second chair. Upon the opening of the chapter the other officers for the year were invested by Comp. Chaplin in felicitous terms. The complete list of officers for 1899-1900 is as under: Comps. A. E. Chaplin, P.P.G. Freas, M.E.Z.; F. Piggott, P.G.H., H.; W. Sindall, J.; J. Gordon Chennell, P.P.G. Std. Br., I.P.Z.; Major O. Papworth, P.Z., P.P.G.H., S.E.; A. H. Longridge, S.N.; T. Hunnybun, P.P.G. Std. Br., Treas.; J. H. Moyes, P.S.; J. West Knights, 1st A.S.; J. Leader, 2nd A.S.; B. Chennell, P.Z., P.P.G.H., D. of C.; C. F. Moody, Org.; J. V. Pryor, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., Stwd.; and G. A. Allen, Janitor. One joining companion and three candidates were elected, and two of the candidates were exalted by Comp. Chaplin. The work of P. Soj. was ably performed by Comp. C. H. Banham, who was cordially thanked. The subsequent lectures by Principals were given by Comps. B. Chennell, F. Piggott, and W. P. Spalding. It was decided to alter the day for holding the December chapter to the "second Thursday." The Treasurer's accounts were reported to be satisfactory. Notice was given in favour of voting 20 guineas to the Transvaal War Fund, and the First Principal elicited that there would be no opposition on the part of any then present.

Comp. Chaplin presided at the banquet, and submitted the customary Masonic toasts.

That of "The Prov. Grand Supt. of Cambridgeshire, Bro. Col. Caldwell, and his Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," was acknowledged by Comp. Frank Piggott, P.G.H.; "The Visitors," by Comps. J. Royston and F. W. Potts, and "The Officers of the Chapter," by Comp. J. H. Moyes.

The whole proceedings passed off in the most satisfactory manner.

Kennington Chapter, No. 1381.

A meeting of this prosperous chapter was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 14th inst., when there were present, among others, Comps. Major T. C. Walls, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., as M.E.Z., in the absence through illness of Comp. W. Smith Whitney; H. Gale, J.; H. Higgins, P.Z., P.P.G.D.C., S.E.; Wolsey, S.N.; G. Everett, P.Z., P.G. Treas.; C. H. Kohler, P.Z.; Dennis, P.Z.; Dowling, P.Z.; and R. J. Brinkley.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken on behalf of Bro. Dixon, 72, and, it being unanimous, he was duly exalted to the Degree of a R.A.M. by the acting First Principal, Comp. H. Higgins acting as P.S. It having been reported that Comp. R. Lingley, P.Z., and one of the oldest exaltees in the chapter, had been accidentally killed on the railway at Nine Elms on the 12th inst., a vote of sincere condolence was passed to the distressed widow and family in their awful bereavement. The S.E. was directed to forward the same in due course, and it was arranged that the chapter should be represented at the funeral at Tooting on the 16th inst., and that a funeral wreath should be sent. Apologies for non-attendance were received from the M.E.Z., Comps. H. J. Lardner, P.Z.; A. Clay, and others. The chapter was then closed.

A banquet followed, and the subsequent proceedings were presided over by Comp. A. Lundie, I.P.Z.

Consequent upon the loss that the chapter had sustained by the death of one of its oldest and most respected members, the proceedings were shorn of their accustomed geniality and formality.

The I.P.Z. briefly proposed a few toasts, and the proceedings terminated at an early hour.

Allied Masonic Degrees.

W. M. Sewell Council, No. 11.

A meeting was held at Freemasons' Hall, Eaglesfield-street, Maryport, on Monday, the 11th instant. Among those officers in attendance were W. Bros. Col. F. R. Sewell, P.S.G.W., W.M.; James Gardiner, P.S.G.D., as I.P.M.; J. Dickinson, P.M., P.G. Std. Br., as S.W.; T. Atkinson, P.M., as J.W.; Bros. W. W. R. Sewell, Treas.; D. Greenhill Douglas, Chap.; John Smith, Org.; and John Messenger, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous quarterly council having been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Comps. Hoggarth, Rigg, and Baron, of 129, which proved unanimous in their favour, and Comps. Hoggarth and Baron being in attendance, were admitted into the Degrees of St. Lawrence the Martyr, Knight of Constantinople, Secret Monitor, Red Cross of Babylon, and Grand Tyler of King Solomon. The lodge was resumed to the St. Lawrence Degree. One candidate was proposed for the next meeting, and the lodge was closed.

ROYAL FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.—Bro. Sir John B. Monckton presided last week over the annual meeting of this Charity at the Cannon-street Hotel. The report submitted by the secretary stated that there were 143 children at present in the Institution at Beddington, which number would be increased by eight to be elected that day. The committee referred with peculiar pleasure to a gift of £200 received last October from an old inmate of the charity, who had as a child been placed under the shelter of the asylum in the year 1829. She left nine years later, and entered domestic service, retiring from it in 1882, after more than 45 years of diligent work and careful economy.

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THE "DAILY TELEGRAPH"
SOLDIERS'
WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS'
ONE SHILLING FUND.

No.	LODGES.	Shillings
2488	Eccentric ...	1460
2409	Woodgrange ...	1102
1503	City of Westminster, after sending round the Hat, it was sold by Auction and bought by Bro. Giles ...	1050
65	Prosperity, Collected from Members ...	993
65	" Lodge ...	210
65	" Instruction ...	63
1728	Temple Bar Lodge, Proceeds from the Charity Box, and 10 guineas from the Funds of the Lodge ...	710
1821	Atlingworth ...	600
357	Apollo and Isaac Newton University, pro-	
452	Frederick Lodge of Unity (per The Freemason) ...	105
	Employees of Geo. Kenning & Son (Little Britain) ...	372
1657	Aldersgate Chapter (per The Freemason) ...	105
	ceeds of a Ball ...	580
1673	Collected at a Banquet ...	570
766	William Preston, Collected by Members and Friends, Installation Banquet ...	525
781	Merchant Navy ...	525
1602	Sir Hugh Myddleton ...	525
733	Westbourne ...	500
1349	Friars ...	500
1563	City of Westminster ...	500
2789	Royal Warrant Holders, Collected at the Consecration Banquet ...	500
1673	Welcome, Sale of Charity Box and its contents to Under-Sheriff J. D. Langton ...	465
1614	Covent Garden ...	403½
1668	Samson ...	450
1260	John Hervey, W.M. and Brethren ...	442
15	Kent, Collected at Meeting ...	420
534	Polish Lodge ...	420
720	Nelson ...	420
1361	United Service ...	420
1539	Surrey Masonic Hall ...	420
1604	Wanderers ...	420
1767	Kensington ...	420
2107	Etheldreda (per The Freemason) ...	420
2361	Cricklewood ...	420
2739	Verity ...	420
2397	Columbia Lodge, Members and Friends ...	420
2742	Eyre ...	420
1541	Alexandra Palace ...	378
2202	Regent's Park, Subscribed by Members ...	368½
2472	Walthamstow Lodge and Lodge of Instruction, Subscribed by the Members ...	365
834	Ranelagh, Collected by the Brethren ...	360
1910	Shadwell Clerke ...	350
179	Manchester ...	345
1305	St. Marylebone ...	320
1071	Mizpah, Collected at a Meeting ...	320
303	Benevolent ...	315
862	Whittington and Chapter ...	315
1524	Duke of Connaught ...	315
1708	Plucknett, Collected by the Brethren ...	304
59	Royal Naval ...	300
192	Lion and Lamb ...	292
157	Bedford ...	280
193	Confidence, Collected among Members and Visitors ...	280
1426	Great City ...	280
2060	La France ...	280
879	Southwark ...	273
1227	Upton ...	255½
2632	Byfield ...	252
19	Royal Athelstan ...	250
180	St. James' Union (per The Freemason) ...	245
917	Cosmopolitan, Collected at a Meeting ...	245
1076	Capper ...	240
1815	Penge ...	240
2489	Willesden, and Chapter ...	230
1507	Metropolitan ...	228½
95	Eastern Star, do. do. ...	220
1559	New Cross ...	220
975	Rose of Denmark ...	213
2308	Viator ...	213
2	Antiquity ...	210
28	Old King's Arms, Collected from Members and Visitors ...	210
33	Britannic ...	210
87	Vitruvian, Collected from Members and Visitors ...	210
765	St. James' ...	210
794	Camden ...	210
905	De Grey & Ripon, Collected at the Banquet ...	210
920	Burgoyne, Collected at Dinner ...	210
1110	Tyrian ...	210
1348	Ebury ...	210
1364	Earl of Zetland ...	210
	Collected by the Brethren ...	210
1693	Kingsland ...	210
1922	Earl of Lathom ...	210
2006	Tilbury ...	210
2407	Beckenham, Members of ...	210
2347	Grafton ...	210
2348	Lombardian ...	210
2394	Galen ...	210
2404	Lord Charles Beresford ...	210
2502	Gatwick ...	210
2593	Hugh Owen ...	210
2698	Brondesbury ...	210
2743	Maida Vale, collected at the Banquet Table ...	210
2332	Borough of Greenwich ...	205
898	Temperance in the East, Members of ...	203
43	Idris, Cairo, Egyptian Constitution ...	200
105	Honour and Generosity ...	200
1319	Asaph, Second Donation ...	200
1421	Langthorne ...	200
1635	Canterbury ...	200
2455	St. Martin's, Collected by Members ...	200
2466	Cheerybles, Collected at Banquet ...	200
2671	Victoria ...	190

No.	LODGES—continued.	Shillings
1348	Ebury, Collected at the Dinner ...	170
2128	United Northern Counties, Collected at the Installation Banquet ...	168
2721	Lodge of Light ...	168
792	Pelham Pillar ...	165
1662	Beaconsfield ...	163½
188	Joppa, a few Members ...	156
1328	Granite ...	156
34	Mount Moriah, Members of ...	155
25	Robert Burns ...	154
1805	Bromley St. Leonard, and Commemoration Lodge of Instruction ...	150
2076	Quatuor Coronati ...	150
1381	Kennington, Members of ...	147
2765	Earl's Court ...	147
1489	Marquis of Ripon ...	145
1704	Anchor ...	140
771	Windsor Castle, collected at Supper G.S. (Masonic), per Major Walls ...	140
2417	Bolingbroke ...	136½
141	Faith ...	132
1201	Eclectic ...	131
2300	Pantiles, Collected at Installation Banquet ...	130
238	Pilgrim ...	127
1755	Eldon ...	125
2090	Hammersmith ...	120
2217	Windermer ...	120
2569	St. Trillo ...	120
2589	Borough, Collected at a Banquet ...	115
1687	Rothsay ...	113
1572	Carnarvon, Collected at a Meeting ...	110
1686	Paxton ...	110
1707	Eleanor ...	110
1766	St. Leonard ...	110
1891	St. Ambrose ...	110
87	Victorian ...	108
2030	Abbey ...	107
73	Globe ...	105
144	St. Luke's, Collected at ...	105
177	Domestic ...	105
211	St. Michael's ...	105
339	Unanimity, Collected among Members ...	105
452	Frederick Lodge of Unity ...	105
772	Pilgrim ...	105
813	New Concord ...	105
898	Temperance in the East, Collected at Supper ...	105
920	Burgoyne ...	105
928	Charity Fund ...	105
1056	Victoria ...	105
1381	Kennington ...	105
1464	Erasmus Wilson ...	105
1598	Ley Spring ...	105
1915	Graystone ...	105
2150	Tivoli ...	105
2206	Hendon ...	105
2331	Ravenscourt ...	105
2484	Second Middlesex Artillery, Members of ...	105
2589	Borough ...	105
2738	Army and Navy ...	105
754	High Cross (per The Freemason) ...	105
2499	North Kent ...	102
35	Medina ...	100
55	Constitutional ...	100
554	Yarborough ...	100
1471	Islington ...	100
1658	Skelmersdale ...	100
1901	Selwyn ...	100
2098	Harlesden ...	100
2426	Wood Green (per The Freemason) ...	100
2549	Benevolencia ...	100
2668	Sancta Maria ...	100
2764	St. Clair ...	100
2331	Ravenscourt, Collected at Dinner ...	90
951	Prince of Wales ...	84
860	Dalhousie, Members of ...	80
30	United Mariners, Collected at Supper ...	80
1319	Asaph, Collected at a Meeting ...	80
45	Strong Man, 75 Members ...	75
2694	Justinian ...	73½
1204	Royd's ...	70
1744	Royal Savoy, Collected at Dinner ...	65
49	Gihon, Collected at a Meeting ...	64
228	United Strength ...	63
1044	Wansworth ...	63
1541	Alexandra Palace ...	63
1632	Stuart, Collected after reciting the "Absent Minded Beggar" ...	63
2283	Euston ...	63
	Collected at a send-off Concert to Mr. C. E. Gilbert, by Masonic Friends at Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square ...	63
2016	Shalden ...	61
1366	Highgate, Collected in Charity Box ...	60
2361	Cricklewood, Collected at a Meeting ...	60
2399	Ordinance ...	60
2528	Lancastrian, Collected at a Meeting ...	60
	Residents of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, Croydon ...	57
2477	Colne ...	55
1538	St. Martin's-le-Grand ...	54
1627	Royal Kensington, Collected at a Banquet ...	54
511	Zetland ...	53
1512	Hemming ...	52
2728	Muswell Hill ...	52
548	Wellington ...	50
861	Finsbury ...	50
1829	Burrill ...	50
1929	Mozart ...	50
	Masonic Lodge Sandown, I.W. ...	50
2163	Jersey ...	47
2661	Mendelssohn ...	45
182	Old Masonians, Members and Friends of the Royal Jubilee ...	43
72	Royal Jubilee ...	42
77	Freedom, Collected at the Monthly Supper ...	42
1599	Skelmersdale ...	42
	Hiram (Grand Orient of France) ...	42
1986	Honor Oak, Charity Fund ...	42
2047	Alley ...	42
183	Unity, Collected at Supper ...	41
698	Ryde ...	40
27	Egyptian, Charity Box ...	37
2147	Cray's Valley ...	35
1589	St. Dunstan's ...	34½
1475	Peckham ...	33
	Sever Kings, Masonic, Members of ...	31

No.	LODGES—continued.	Shillings
174	Sincerity ...	30
1110	Tyrian ...	30
2754	Thomas-a-Becket ...	30
1805	Bromley St. Leonard, Personal Contribution ...	28
1996	Priory Lodge of Acton ...	25½
2136	St. Michael's, Collected ...	25
1805	Bromley St. Leonard ...	21
2540	Ember ...	21
1328	Granite (additional amount) ...	15
1564	St. John's, a few Members ...	15
1694	Fifteen Brethren Imperial ...	15
13	Masons Spaten Restaurant ...	13

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

2579	Lewisham, Collected at Supper ...	168
	Logic ...	105
1585	Royal Commemoration ...	100
1044	Wandsworth ...	88
1922	Earl of Lathom ...	70
198	Percy ...	63
2709	Old Masonians ...	63
	Canning Town ...	63
1541	Alexandra Palace ...	60
2184	Royal Victorian Jubilee ...	60
2168	Derby Allcroft, Collected at the Annual Supper ...	56
1677	Crusaders ...	43
189	Citadel ...	42
781	Merchant Navy ...	42
1227	Upton ...	42
1381	Kennington ...	42
1593	Southern Star ...	42
1563	City of Westminster ...	42
1901	Selwyn ...	42
2441	Clarence and Avondale ...	42
	Hugh Myddleton ...	41
548	Wellington ...	40
871	Royal Oak ...	40
765	St. James' ...	34
1559	New Cross ...	34
538	La Tolerance ...	30
	Bournemouth ...	30
1658	Skelmersdale ...	25
73	Mount Lebanon ...	21
1076	Capper ...	21
1348	Ebury ...	21
1489	Marquess of Ripon ...	21
1901	Selwyn, Second Instalment ...	21
	New Finsbury Park ...	21
1446	Mount Edgumbe ...	20
2030	Abbey ...	16
538	La Tolerance, 4th contribution ...	13½
538	La Tolerance, Fifth Instalment ...	10
1591	St. Ambrose ...	10
862	Whittington ...	8

CHAPTERS.

	Grand Chapter ...	1050
10	Westminster and Keystone ...	500
8	British ...	210
2108	Empire ...	210
2410	Asculapius ...	205
73	Mount Lebanon ...	200
9	Albion, Collected at Banquet ...	120
1437	Lorne ...	107
125	Hengist ...	105
291	Vale of Jehoshaphat ...	105
1201	Eclectic ...	105
1604	Wanderers ...	105
1839	Duke of Cornwall ...	105
938	Doric ...	100
1023	West Smithfield ...	66
172	Old Concord ...	50
1489	Ezra ...	42
1589	St. Dunstan's ...	21

MARK.

	Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund ...	2100
	Mark, Grand Officers' Mess ...	420
487	Dramatic ...	210
16	Onslow, Collected in Charity Box ...	148
223	West Smithfield ...	65
451	Bolingbroke, Collected at a Meeting ...	40
238	Leopold, Collected at a Meeting ...	34

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

	Faith and Fidelity ...	210
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A. & A. RITE.

	Supreme Council ...	2100
--	---------------------	------

ALLIED MASONIC DEGREES.

	Grand Council ...	210
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RED CROSS OF ROME & CONSTANTINE.

	Premier Conclave ...	42
--	----------------------	----

GREAT PRIORY OF ENGLAND & WALES

	ROSE CROIX.	2100
--	-------------	------

Sovereign Chapter Mount Calvary

	SECRET MONITOR.	42
--	-----------------	----

8	Cleve Fast, Collected by a few Members ...	30
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INSTITUTION.

	Royal Masonic Institution for Girls ...	120
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THE MANSION HOUSE REFUGEES FUND.

	Grand Chapter ...	105 0 0
	Supreme Council ...	105 0 0
2535	Fellowship Lodge ...	26 5 0
	Prov. Grand Lodge of Surrey ...	10 10 0
	Unity Lodge ...	5 5 0
1677	Crusaders Lodge ...	3 13 0
1426	Great City Lodge ...	2 2 0
1386	St. Hugh Lodge ...	0 0

CHAPTER.

192	Lion and Lamb ...	10 10 0
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ROSE CROIX.

4	Weymouth Chapter ...	4 4 0
	Invicta ...	2 2 0

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

1275	Star ...	2 10 0
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THE MANSION HOUSE
TRANSVAAL WAR FUND.

LODGES.			£	s.	d.
1613	Cripplegate	...	80	0	0
	Grand Officers' Mess, Grand Lodge	...	52	10	0
1446	Mount Edgumbe	...	28	18	6
11	Enoch	...	23	0	0
197	Jerusalem	...	21	0	0
720	Panmure	...	21	0	0
1017	Montefiore	...	21	0	0
2022	Haven	...	21	0	0
1707	Eleanor	...	21	0	0
2150	Tivoli	...	21	0	0
43	Croydon Lodge of Concord	...	16	5	0
1827	Alliance	...	15	15	0
2470	Telegraph Cable	...	15	15	0
1790	Old England	...	15	6	0
1278	Burdett Courts	...	14	5	0
1624	Eccleston	...	12	0	0
29	St. Alban's	...	10	10	0
92	Moir	...	10	10	0
161	Universal	...	10	10	0
175	Phoenix	...	10	10	0
548	Wellington	...	10	10	0
1023	West Smithfield	...	10	10	0
1719	Evening Star	...	10	10	0
1820	Sir Thomas White	...	10	10	0
1928	Gallery	...	10	10	0
2140	Huguenot	...	10	10	0
2612	Navy	...	10	10	0
2686	Alfred Newton	...	10	10	0
60	Peace and Harmony	...	10	0	0
63	St. Mary's	...	10	0	0
172	Old Concord Benevolent Fund	...	10	0	0
1584	Loyalty and Charity	...	10	0	0
2371	Felix	...	10	0	0
1077	Crusaders	...	8	10	0
2562	Papyrus	...	8	2	6
1155	Excelsior	...	8	0	0
386	Unity	...	7	2	6
1642	Earl of Carnarvon	...	7	0	0
2398	Holborn	...	6	16	6
2715	Midland and Oxford Bar	...	6	10	0
140	St. George's	...	6	6	0
1731	Cholmeley	...	6	6	0
1768	Progress	...	6	2	0
2183	Royal Hampton Court	...	6	0	0
2400	Brentford	...	5	13	0
143	Medina	...	5	6	0
30	United Mariners	...	5	5	0
194	St. Paul's	...	5	5	0
502	Rectitude	...	5	5	0
1139	South Norwood	...	5	5	0
1382	Corinthian	...	5	5	0
2505	County Palatine	...	5	5	0
158	Adams	...	5	0	0
2414	Wychwood	...	5	0	0
2552	Stoke Newington	...	5	0	0
1672	Mornington	...	5	5	0
879	Southwark	...	4	10	6
56	Howard Lodge of Brotherly Love	...	4	1	0
435	Salisbury	...	3	13	6
1196	Urban	...	3	13	6
457	Monmouth	...	3	3	0
2086	Alfred Newton, 2nd Donation	...	3	0	0
1321	Emblematic	...	2	2	0
1817	St. Andrew's	...	2	2	0
2087	Electric	...	2	0	0

CHAPTER.

2	St. James	...	10	10	0
3	Fidelity	...	5	5	0
5	Royal Somerset House and Inverness	...	5	5	0
613	Bridson	...	5	5	0
	St. Katharine	...	2	0	0

MARK.

132	Amity	...	3	3	0
	West Sussex	...	1	1	0

INSTRUCTION.

483	Evening Star	...	7	2	0
2030	Sympathy	...	5	5	0
	Abbey	...	4	10	0
	Feltham, Collected at Annual Supper	...	3	10	0
101	Temple	...	2	2	0
907	Royal Albert, some Members	...	1	5	0

CRYPTIC MASONRY.

3	Matier	...	10	0	0
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889	Dobie (County Fund, per Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart, Treasurer)	...	10	10	0
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PRINCESS OF WALES'
HOSPITAL SHIP (MAINE).

LODGE.

1259	Duke of Edinburgh	...	25	Guineas	
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GRAND LODGE OF SCOTLAND,
FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF SCOT-
TISH SOLDIERS killed in the present Cam-
paign

100 Guineas

LORD PROVOST FUND.—
LODGE OF EDINBURGH (Mary's Chapel),
No. 1

£10 10 0

PROV. GRAND LODGE OF EAST
LANCASHIRE, on behalf of the
MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT AFRICAN
RELIEF FUND

60 Guineas

WEST LANCASHIRE AND
CHESHIRE MASONIC CHARITIES.

	Liverpool Masonic Cycling Club	...	21	0	0
	„ Reserves' Fund	...	5	5	0

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD
DISTRICT SOUTH AFRICAN FUND.

In aid of Sick and Wounded Soldiers, Widows & Orphans,
and of the Wives and Children of Reserve Men called up
for service in South Africa, and of Militiamen who may
be embodied.

LODGES.

	£	s.	d.
163	Integrity	...	10 10 0
1253	Travellers	...	10 10 0
2324	Horwich	...	10 10 0
143	Bridgewater	...	8 8 0
852	Zetland	...	6 16 0
992	St. Thomas	...	5 5 0
1993	Wolseley	...	5 5 0
2185	Ardwick	...	5 5 0
1009	Shakespeare	...	5 4 6
2688	Wythenshaw	...	4 10 0
1458	Truth	...	2 11 0
152	Virtue	...	2 10 0
1161	De Grey and Ripon	...	2 7 0
654	Peveril of the Peak	...	2 2 0
1375	Architect	...	2 2 0
1534	Concord	...	2 2 0
815	Blair	...	1 11 0
2554	Manchester	...	1 7 6
633	Yarborough	...	1 1 0

ROYAL ORDER OF SCOTLAND £5 0 0

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, December 30, 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, DECEMBER 25.

RAFT LODGE.

706, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.

MARK LODGE.

226, Excelsior, Masonic Hall, Plumstead.

LODGES 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, 11th Road, Tottenham, at 8.
Friars, The White Horse, 94, 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 Rail-
way 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, DECEMBER 26.

No Meetings.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Alfred Newton, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, at 8.
Brixton, 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 8.
Dalhousie, Lord Truro, Dalston-lane, at 8.
Egyptian, Salut ion, Newgate-street, at 7.
Emblematic, St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, at 8.
Enfield, Rose and 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, Balaam-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.
Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-street, Woolwich, 2nd and
4th Tues., at 7.30.
Hendon, 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 5.30.
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.
Southwark, White Hart Hotel, New Cross Gate, at 8.
Wandsworth, St. Mark's School-room, Battersea Rise, S.W. at
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, DECEMBER 27.

No Meetings.

LODGES AND CHAPTERS OF INSTRUCTION.

Beach, London and South Western Railway Institute, Bruns-
wick 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.
Creton, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
Crusaders, The St. John's Gate Tavern, St. John-square,
Glerkenwell, at 8.30.
Derby Allcroft, 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.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28.

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

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29.

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

No Meetings.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30.

(No Meetings.)

BUCHANAN
BLEND
SCOTCH WHISKY



JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.

SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.

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the test of 20 years, curing 1,000,000 persons, and are still
acknowledged to be the only real cure for Deafness, Noises in
the Head, and other Aural Troubles. Doctors say these Ear
Drums have done more for humanity than any other medical
invention. A Descriptive Book in any language sent free by
J. H. Nicholson, 17, Bury Street, London, W.C.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE JOPPA LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 188, will meet at the Globe, 11 and 13, Finsbury-pavement, E.C., until further notice.

BRO. JOHN AIRD, M.P., left Port Said on Monday for England, having visited the reservoir works at Assouan and Assiout, which are progressing most favourably.

MR. PERCY ALBERT ALTMAN, the eldest son of Bro. Sir Albert Altman, C.C., was married last week at the Wesleyan Chapel, Streatham, to Miss Jessie Amelia Heath, the youngest daughter of Bro. Deputy Heath, J.P., of The Rylands, Norwood.

A SERVICE "in memory of those who have fallen in the war" was held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, and was attended by an immense congregation. The Duke of Cambridge, Lord Lansdowne, and Bro. the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were amongst those present.

ANGLO-AMERICAN SHOOTING CONTEST.—It is stated that a shooting contest between teams representing American and English volunteer soldiers has been arranged. The first match will be between teams of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers and the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, to be held in June next in London.

THE FREEMASONS of high degree of the United States and Canada held services last week at George Washington's tomb at Mount Vernon, on the Potomac, this being the 100th anniversary of the first President's death. Various notable personages were present, including Bro. McKinley, who delivered an eloquent speech.

BRO. EARL CARRINGTON'S ALLOTMENTS.—The annual meeting of the tenantry of Bro. Earl Carrington's allotments and small holdings in the Spalding district took place at the Mill Hall, Spalding, last week. Mr. Richard Winfrey presided, and said they now had 385 acres of land, divided amongst 226 tenants, the annual rent amounting to £600 a year.

SONS OF THE CLERGY.—Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, the recently appointed Vice-President of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, presided last week at a Monthly Court of Assistants at the Corporation House, Bloomsbury-place. One hundred and fifty-two applications were presented by the Registrar, Sir Paget Bowman, including 99 from clergymen, and a total sum of £2630 was granted.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE LEAGUE OF MERCY.—T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales received at Marlborough House on Monday the President and Lady Presidents of the League of Mercy. The gathering was a very pleasant one, their Royal Highnesses welcoming the representatives of this organisation, and enquiring about the work and the prospects of the movement, in which they both take a deep personal interest.

THE CURE OF CONSUMPTION.—A preliminary meeting, convened by the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption and other Forms of Tuberculosis, was held on Monday at Gray's Inn Hall, with the view of a congress, representative of Great Britain and Ireland, being held in London in the spring of 1900. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has accepted the presidency of the congress, and has expressed his intention of opening it in person.

INAUGURATION OF A NEW PENSION FUND.—Mr. Forbes, the general manager of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway, with the approval of the directors, held a smoking concert on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, to inaugurate the establishment of the new pension fund, and for the purpose of distributing certificates and badges to the staff of the Brighton Railway who have passed the St. John Ambulance First Aid Examination.

BRO. MAJOR GEO. T. HARLEY THOMAS, F.R.C.S.E., Royal Army Medical Corps, son of our well-known Bro. James Lewis Thomas, F.S.A., P.A.G.D.C., embarked on board the "Gascon" for South Africa on Saturday, the 16th inst., in medical charge of the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Regiment, forming part of the 12th Brigade of the Sixth Division, which brigade is commanded by Major-General Clements, formerly of the South Wales Borderers. We wish him God speed and a safe return home.

THOSE who have a fortnight to spare at Christmas time, and feel energetic enough to rid themselves thoroughly, for that space, of mist and mud, may care to know of a neat holiday plan devised by Gaze's, whereby their persons may be surrendered to that enterprising Co.'s conductor on December 22nd, and thereafter carried by easy enough stages to Nice, where plum pudding will be provided, thence on to Monaco, Monte Carlo, Genoa, and Turin, returning *via* Mont Cenis to Paris in time for the New Year festivities. And all who want to see the last-named city before she becomes "impossible" had better hurry up.

THE LATE BRO. LORD DE TABLEY, whose "Poems, Dramatic and Lyrical," first and second series, are well known, besides being a numismatist of no mean order, and a collector of book-plates, was, perhaps, before all else, a botanist and collector of dried plants. His "Flora of Cheshire," published only a few months ago, proves beyond a doubt his skill as a botanist, and also his intimate acquaintance with the flora of the district. It is not generally known, however, that he had an entire collection of the whole of British flora, comprising some 20,000 sheets of specimens, all carefully labelled. This herbarium, which completely filled three of the rooms in his London house, 62, Elm Park-road, has been generously given by his sister, the Hon. Eleanor Lady Leighton, of Tabley House, Knutsford, to the Science and Art Museum, Dublin, and the Keeper of the Herbarium, Professor Johnson, D.Sc., considers that it will form a very valuable acquisition to the Museum. Lady Leighton has also kindly met the cost of remounting and labelling, and each specimen bears the name of the genus, species, and locality, besides the name of the collection, Lord de Tabley Herb.

ON THE EVENING of Wednesday, the 13th instant, the second of a series of concerts, under the auspices of Lodge Operative, No. 47, was held in the lodge hall, 43, Overgate, Dundee. Notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather there was a large attendance, the hall being well filled. A splendid programme was gone through by several members of the lodge along with their lady friends, and several leading local artists who kindly lent their services on this occasion. A collection was taken up on behalf of the soldiers' and sailors' wives and families, when a considerable sum was subscribed. Lodge Operative are the first in the city to inaugurate these concerts or musical evenings, which are got up for the very desirable object of allowing the members, their wives, families, and friends to meet for an occasional evening's amusement throughout the winter months. The success attending their first two ventures shows the necessity of having something of the kind in connection with the various lodges in the city. The arrangements reflect the greatest credit on the committee of the premier lodge in Dundee, and a special vote of thanks is due to Bro. Henderson, the hard-working and enthusiastic Secretary, for his services on behalf of the movement. It is already whispered that several of the local lodges are about to copy the example of Lodge Operative in this matter, and we cordially wish them all success.

THE CARDIFF BOHEMIAN CAMERA CLUB held at the Central Hotel, on the 14th instant, an exhibition of photographic prints and lantern slides. During the evening the large barqueting hall was crowded, and the event proved in every respect a conspicuous success. The prints included about 200 pictorial photographs, which have secured awards in the *Amateur Photographer* prize competitions. They were displayed to advantage on 10 large panels, and gained general appreciation, not only for their artistic merits, but skilled technique of the exhibitors. There was a department for trade exhibits, Messrs. Eastman, Messrs. Marion, The Paget Company, and Messrs. Wellington and Ward being represented by examples showing the possibilities of the various paper manufactured by the firms. The most interesting section of this part of the show were several panels covered with recent work by club members, prints by Mr. F. Fox (the president) being much admired. The lantern slides projected by Mr. Ryan in first-class manner consisted for the most part of collections kindly lent by the editors of the leading photographic journals, and represented the winners in the open prize competitions. Members' slides were also put on the screen, and it was a particularly gratifying feature of the exhibition that the average merits of the prize-winning slides was equalled generally, and in some cases excelled by the local examples. Bro. Dr. De Vere Hunt, one of the vice-presidents, acted as chairman, and that the first public show on a large scale was an all-round success is attributable to the energy of a sub-committee, splendid praise being due to Mr. F. Fox, the chairman, and Mr. Franklyn (90, Neville-street), the secretary. The club now numbers 60 members.

WE HAVE BEEN ASKED to state that the Hugh Owen Lodge of Instruction, No. 2593, will not meet this (Friday) evening.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, attended by Captain Holford, and H.R.H. the Duke of York, attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel, left Hall Barn on the 20th inst. on the termination of their visit to Sir Edward Lawson.

ALL OXFORD MEN, especially those belonging to New College, will be sorry to hear that the Rev. J. E. Sewell, Warden, and the oldest Head of a College in the University, is seriously ill. He is about 90 years of age.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN inspected the hospital train, which bears her name, and has been made at Birmingham, for service in connection with the war in South Africa. Princess Christian was shown how the train would be utilised.

BRO. DR. GILBERT LACEY BARRITT has been elected W.M. of the Hundred of Elloe Lodge, No. 469, Spalding for the coming year, and Bro. Councillor Benjamin Fountain has, for the 35th year in succession, been re-appointed Treasurer.

WE ARE INFORMED that the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements has unanimously voted \$50,000 for the relief of those connected with the expeditionary force in South Africa. The money will be handed over to the Mansion House War Fund.

ON FRIDAY EVENING LAST, at a meeting of the Segontium Lodge, No. 606, a presentation was made by Bro. Edward Roberts, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., P.G. Sec., D.G.S.B. Eng., of an excellent portrait of Bro. Lord Harlech, Prov. G. Master of North Wales. The portrait, which is framed, will find a place in the lodge room.

THE QUEEN, who was accompanied by Princess Beatrice, paid a visit to the Empress Eugenie on Thursday. Leaving Windsor at 10 minutes past 11 o'clock, her Majesty travelled by way of Staines to Farnborough. After an hour's visit to the Empress, the homeward journey was begun, Windsor being reached shortly before two o'clock.

LIVERPOOL MASONIC CYCLING CLUB.—At a committee meeting of the above club, held on Monday, the 18th inst., Bro. J. C. Robinson, P.P.A.G.D.C., President, in the chair, it was resolved that the sum of £21 be granted from the funds of the club to the West Lancashire and Cheshire Masonic Charities, and £5 5s. to the Liverpool Reservist Fund.

THE QUEEN will give a Christmas entertainment to about 200 of the wives and children of the non-commissioned officers and men of the regiments stationed at Windsor and of the Reservists of the district. Her Majesty has also become patron of the Albert Hall Concert, in aid of the widows and orphans of the members of the Colonial forces.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN will visit Leamington on Wednesday, the 17th prox., for the purpose of opening a new wing of the Warford Hospital, erected as a Diamond Jubilee memorial of her Majesty's reign. Her Royal Highness will be the guest of the Earl and Countess of Warwick, at Warwick Castle, during her stay in Warwickshire.

THE ESTATE has been valued at £43,895 17s. 6d., including personality of the net value of £41,456 14s. 1d. of Bro. Lieut.-Col. Phineas Cowan, of 27, Linden-gardens, and of the firms of J. and P. Cowan and L. Cowan and Sons, of 7, Mincing-lane, sugar refiners and soap makers, Sheriff of London and Middlesex in 1883-84, and Alderman of the Ward of Cordwainer from 1885 to 1892, and Past Master Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company, who died on the 22nd October last, aged 67 years.

LONDON UNITED TEMPERANCE COUNCIL.—The Council have arranged to hold their annual festival in the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, on Monday, February 12th, 1900, when the Archbishop of Canterbury will preside. The Council has secured the Crystal Palace for the purposes of the National Temperance Fête on Wednesday, July 11th, 1900, and the London Temperance demonstration, annually held in the London parks, has been fixed for Saturday, June 2nd, 1900.

THE QUEEN and H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg drove out, at Windsor Castle, on Tuesday afternoon, attended by the Hon. Harriet Phipps, and her Majesty went out on Wednesday morning, accompanied by H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg. His Highness Prince Alexander of Battenberg arrived at the Castle from his school at Park Hill, near Lyndhurst, for his holidays. The Dowager Lady Churchill has succeeded Viscount Downe as Lady-in-Waiting to her Majesty.

A VERY successful concert was given in the St. John's Church Room, Boscombe, on Wednesday, the 20th instant, in aid of the funds of the Boscombe Hospital. There was a full and varied programme of music and recitation provided for the delectation of the audience, among the artists being several of London Ballad Concert fame—a male voice quartette, the Southey-Frost String Quintet, &c., &c. The accompanists were Miss Alice Harding and Mr. Arthur Genge, the former likewise evoking hearty applause by a solo performance on the piano. We have little doubt that the hospital will be found to have greatly benefited by the concert.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL SHIP.—On behalf of the executive committee of the American Ladies' Hospital Ship Fund, Lady Randolph Churchill has communicated to the officials of the West India Docks and to Superintendent Cahill, of the dock police, her heartfelt thanks for the admirable arrangements made for the visit of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, on the occasion of the presentation of the flag given by the Queen to the Maine. On Sunday last over 10,000 people went over the Maine, and neither accident nor even a hitch occurred, thanks to the efficiency and tact displayed by the dock police, who have generously waived all claim for pay for the day, asking the executive committee to accept their gratuitous services as their contribution to the Maine Fund.

THE ETON COLLEGE VOLUNTEERS, of which the late Major Myers, of the King's Royal Rifles, who was killed in South Africa, was adjutant, have subscribed £180, and the officers and permanent staff £90, for a memorial window in the Lower Chapel at Eton College, where deceased had already given two windows. It has also been decided to put up a memorial tablet in the drill hall, and to send any surplus that may be left over to the Riflemen's Aid Society, for the benefit of the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade. Major Myers, by will, left to the headmaster a sum of money for the completion of two more windows in the Lower Chapel. He has also bequeathed his entire collection of curios collected abroad to Eton College.

THE HON. MRS. EDWARD THESIGER, on the 20th instant, distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Westminster City School, of which Sir Sydney H. Waterlow is chairman and Mr. Robert Giffin headmaster. The school, the object of which is to give such secondary education as will qualify the students for practical life, contains between 600 and 700 boys. The report of the examiner, the Rev. F. J. Foakes-Jackson, Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, was exceedingly satisfactory. It was announced that the gold medal had been awarded to Vincent Cope, who, like last year's winner, has taken his B.A. degree at London University while still at school. John MacFadden secured the silver medal. At the instance of Mr. H. A. Hunt, deputy-chairman of the governors, a vote of thanks to Mrs. Thesiger was carried by acclamation.

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.

Instruction.

HUGH OWEN LODGE, No. 2593.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 15th inst., at the Frascati Restaurant, Oxford-street, when there were present Bros. Alfred Taylor, W.M.; H. Ramsbottom, S.W.; J. B. Scrader, J.W.; H. G. Holland, P.M., Preceptor; R. H. Nicholls, P.M., Treas.; Henry Thos. Kobelt, Sec.; J. W. Hunt, S.D.; W. G. Read, J.D.; C. G. Ridgway, I.G.; Jas. Barnett, and H. E. Williams.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Nicholls, P.M., acting as the candidate. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Barnett acting as the candidate. The lodge was then closed.