

# 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;  
HON. JAMES HOZIER, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS  
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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## THE BENEVOLENT FESTIVAL.

There are few who will not most readily allow that the Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which was celebrated at Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, under the presidency of Lord ADDINGTON, Prov. Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, has proved a striking success, a success which even the most sanguine of the brethren can hardly have anticipated. For months past appeals have been addressed to members of the English Craft in common with the rest of their fellow countrymen for contributions to War and Refugee Fund Funds; for the equipment of Volunteers, horse, foot, and artillery; for providing comforts for our gallant troops in South Africa; for the fitting out of hospital ships for the sick and wounded; and for other purposes. In these circumstances, it was not unreasonable to assume that the regular Charitable Institutions, which are always with us, might suffer some diminution in their annual receipts while the war and the expenditure connected with the war were still in progress; and doubtless there are those that have suffered. But, as we suggested last week, it seems as if the English Masons had resolved that no such misfortune should befall their Institutions. Hence the greater success of Bro. TERRY and his staff in enrolling brethren as Stewards, and hence, by the medium of a stronger Board of Stewards than the Benevolent Institution has ever known to be organised for any of its ordinary Festivals, there has been obtained on this occasion about £2000 more than was announced when Lord LLANGATTOCK presided at last year's Festival. It has taken upwards of a hundred more Stewards to accomplish this fact; but it has been accomplished, and it only remains for us to discharge the very agreeable duty of congratulating Lord ADDINGTON, the Chairman, who, by his earnest advocacy of the Old People's cause contributed so materially towards the success of the meeting; the Board of Stewards who supported his lordship, both generally and as regards those who hailed from the Province of Buckinghamshire particularly, for the services they rendered; and, lastly, to the lodges, brethren, and others who gave so generously of their means towards the maintenance of our Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution. Nor must we forget to offer our sincere congratulations to the Committee of Management on a result which justifies the resolution adopted at their last meeting to increase the number of annuitants on both Funds,

and to Bro. TERRY and his small but experienced staff on the admirable, and, as it has now proved, successful manner in which they have performed their duties. May the future Festivals of this Institution be equally, and, if possible, still more gratifying!

## ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

### ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The festival to celebrate the 58th anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, was held on Tuesday evening, at Freemasons' Tavern, London, under the chairmanship of the Right Worshipful Bro. Lord ADDINGTON, Provincial Grand Master for Buckinghamshire. His lordship was supported by Bros. C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; Dr. Strong; H. S. Clutton; E. Letchworth, G. Sec.; Major J. W. Woodall, P.G.T.; George Everett, P.G.T.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; R. Wilson, P.G.D.; E. A. Smith, D.G.D.C.; Rowland Venables, P.A.G.D.C.; W. Lake, Asst. G. Sec.; Richard Clowes; J. M. McLeod, Sec. R.M.I.B.; F. R. W. Hedges, Sec. R.M.I.G.; John Evan Bowen, P.A.G.D.C.; H. Lovegrove, P.G.S.B.; James Terry, Secretary of the Institution; and many other Past Grand Officers. The company included some 600 brethren and ladies.

After dinner had been partaken of the usual toasts were proposed and honoured.

Bro. Lord ADDINGTON, in proposing the first toast, "The Queen," said the people's hearts had been thrilled that morning when they heard of Cronje's surrender. (Loud applause). They prayed the Great Architect of the Universe, that before next Christmas the scattered Freemasons of the Transvaal would drink "The Queen and the Craft," as heartily as the company present now drank the toast.

In proposing the toast of the "The Prince and Princess of Wales, and other Members of the Royal Family," his lordship said the Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, was always to the fore whenever the interests of an hospital or the cause of children, or any other good work had to be pleaded, and if a ship was wanted to bring home wounded soldiers, the Princess of Wales gave her money and time, and the use of the ships. (Applause). The brethren knew that the Duke of Connaught would have given all he possessed to go out to South Africa, but we could not spare him to go out of England.

Bro. Major WOODALL, P.G.T., responded to the toast of "The M.W. Pro G.M., Earl Amherst; the R.W. Dep. G.M., the Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said the Grand Officers did their duty as the brethren in South Africa were doing their duty.

Bro. Lord ADDINGTON next gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons." He said, that in May last 207 brethren were receiving £40 a year each, and nearly 250 widows £32 a year each; besides which 22 widows were receiving £20 each per year, or half their late husbands' annuities; or a total for the year of £14,500. When he was asked to accept the honour of presiding at the present festival, he recollected somewhat sadly, though our hearts were heavy and our pockets light; but he was told that the liberality of a Mason knew no bounds. He went down to the Institution at Croydon, on Monday, for the first time, with some distinguished brethren who formed the House Committee, and he never saw charity more gracefully given or more dignifiedly received. If it had been an old landlord receiving his rents, neither the men nor the women would have received their largess with more grace, or with more smiling faces. Let the brethren recollect one thing, that deep down in human hearts was a strong belief that every man should have a fair trial. Some were born rich, some poor, some healthy, some sickly. It was the distinguished task of the brethren to soothe sickness and poverty; it was the easiest thing in the world to go into the room of the annuitant at Croydon, and see how his face lighted up when Bro. Terry put the bank notes and the gold on his table; it was a pleasure to see the aged widow to whom Bro. Terry with inimitable grace passed compliments upon her youth and beauty, and received what he gave her. He (Lord Addington) himself had the pleasure of going into every one of the thirty-two houses occupied, into the kitchens also, and he found them all in order. He congratulated the distinguished brother, the architect, who made a building worthy of the name of a London home. Coupling the toast with the name of Bro. Charles E. Keyser, P.G.D., his Lordship said it was rather hard to speak of a man when he was only a few feet off, but he would say that Bro. Keyser, was a Past Grand Deacon, a Patron of the Institution, and a Past Chairman. He was Chairman also of the New Schools Committee of the Boys' Institution, and had promised to build a new Chapel for the Institution.

The toast having been enthusiastically received, Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., responded, and expressed regret at the absence of Bro. J. A. Farnfield, the Treasurer, through illness, whose

province it had been for years to acknowledge the toast. He (Bro. Keyser) undertook the task with very great diligence, although on such an occasion it was very easy for anyone to do so. He first thanked the noble Chairman for his kindness in coming forward to preside at this festival, and he congratulated him on the magnificent way in which his chairmanship was supported. On behalf of the Institution he thanked the ladies and brethren who had come forward as Stewards. Except on the occasion of the Jubilee of the Institution, in 1892, there had never been such a large and influential Board of Stewards as at this festival. If anything could prove what a grip there was among Masons, it was on an occasion like this. When they were asked to subscribe they subscribed; they did not shut their purses when asked to give; they were willing to give on behalf of those who fought for them in South Africa, and in addition, to give to the Masonic Institutions a good round sum—those Institutions of which they were all proud. With regard to the Benevolent Institution, he could honestly say it was worthy of the fullest support. It was energetically and economically managed; it had an admirable Secretary in Bro. Terry, who had been many years Secretary, and it was hoped he would be spared many many years. Bro. Terry was ably supported by his staff and by Committees, of which he (Bro. Keyser) was proud to be one. He was proud of going to Croydon on Monday, and seeing that the Chairman was pleased with what he saw. He believed the Institution was as well managed as any Institution in the country. The Chairman had said what the number of annuitants was. Had it occurred to the brethren the immense relief it was to those who, from unavoidable circumstances of calamity or misfortune, had been reduced to the lowest ebb of poverty and distress, to think that after fighting the battles of the world he had £40 a year, or a widow £32 a year paid every quarter in advance? It was a great pleasure to know that we could make their lives sweet. He did not think any Institution was doing more good than this Institution, and therefore he commended it to the brethren's support, and he hoped the splendid support they had already given would be an earnest, and the great Masonic Institutions would have that support they so thoroughly deserved.

Bro. TERRY then read the lists, but prefaced the announcement by saying that there were 599 Stewards, 268 from London, 328 from the Provinces, and three from Foreign parts. The London lists amounted to £11,699. The premier list was that of the Friars Lodge, represented by Bro. David Moss, with a total of £572. The next highest was the Lodge of Sincerity, which for 47 years had never failed to send a Steward to this Institution. It was represented by Bro. J. W. Fox, and sent £231 8s. 6d. Then there was the Marquess of Ripon Lodge, represented by Bro. Edwin George, P.M., with £223 10s. Thirty-four London lodges sent over £100 each.

## STEWARDS' LISTS.

LONDON.		£	s.	d.
Lodge	1 Bro. Col. Pryce-Jones, M.P.	25	0	0
2	" H. F. Manisty, L.L.B.	27	5	0
3	" Rev. J. Rupert Paterson	63	0	0
4	" Cyril Plummer	31	10	0
5	" B. G. Gardner	56	13	0
5	" Hugh Wyatt	21	0	0
Chapter	5 Comp. Aubone S. Reed	11	11	0
Lodge	7 Bro. E. A. Smith	80	17	0
8	" J. Leach Barrett	26	15	6
15	" Geo. F. Smith (see also 2454)	119	0	0
18	" Col. Clifford Probyn	10	10	0
19	" J. H. Merrett	34	13	0
21	" Sidney Gotto	53	11	0
22	" F. W. Golby	52	8	0
23	" Jocelyn Brandon	55	9	6
Chapter	25 Comp. A. A. Frigout	16	16	0
Lodge	26 Bro. P. P. Whitcombe	31	10	0
28	" P. J. Machin	35	2	0
29	" A. M. Wilson	21	0	0
30	" George Faggs	35	7	0
45	" W. G. Mills	15	15	0
49	" Major Eustace Anderson	93	9	0
Chapter	58 Comp. R. W. Wallace, Q.C.	78	15	0
Lodge	59 Bro. H. A. Tobias	73	10	0
59	" B. Newgass	...	...	...
60	" Frank T. Slade	175	17	0
63	" John F. Roberts	52	10	0
65	" James Smart	68	5	0
69	" W. J. Gow	73	10	0
72	" Joseph Cohen	52	10	0
73	" Fras. E. Wrigley	61	5	0
79	" W. Greatorex	64	0	0
87	" A. J. Swash	57	2	0
134	" A. F. Thomason	42	10	6
144	" Col. J. G. Unite	27	6	0
147	" John Cook	105	0	0
157	" William Smith	42	3	6
162	" A. B. Kent	25	4	0
165	" Henry Timms	10	10	0
169	" C. W. Cobon	65	1	0
172	" Louis W. Fleck	39	2	6
174	" Alfred Cocks	231	8	6
Chapter	176 Comp. Lionel W. Harris	48	6	0
Lodge	180 Bro. A. W. Dennis	63	0	0
Chapter	185 Comp. J. A. Witthaus	95	0	6
Lodge	186 Bro. W. S. Page	70	17	6
193	" J. W. Simeon	126	0	0
197	" Harry Kent	...	...	...
227	" A. J. Thomas	22	1	0
238	" Benj. J. Douthwaite	...	...	...
235	" J. M. Courage	...	...	...
256	" J. A. Farnfield	36	15	0
259	" A. D. Hansell	15	15	0

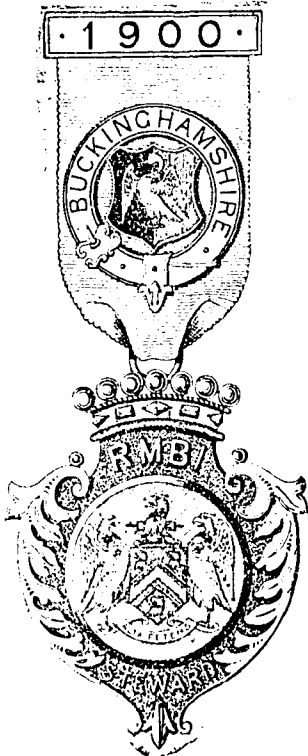
Lodge		£	s.	d.
1928	" H. L. Bell	79	0	0
1962	" W. H. Latham	145	19	0
1962	" Jas. C. Tilt	...	...	...
1963	Collected by Bro. W. T. Wynn	37	15	0
1964	" John Chapman	106	1	0
2012	" W. C. Miller	...	...	...
2029	" T. P. Baptie, J.P., D.L.	10	10	0
2030	" J. A. Yapp	120	15	0
Lodge of Instruction	2090 Bro. W. H. Cave	36	15	0
Lodge	2108 " J. Sefton Mayors	38	17	0
2108	" B. Schönberger	3	3	0
Chapter	2108 Comp. Hermann Klein	67	4	0
Lodge	2128 Bro. W. Nicholson Haydon	65	0	0
2150	" Albert Craddock	135	19	6
2192	" Geo. S. Collins	45	3	0
2202	" W. G. Adcock (see also Lodge 2763)	...	...	...
2242	" R. S. Ellis	31	10	0
2265	" H. Raphael	...	...	...
2291	Collected by Bro. Bush, W.M.	85	3	0
2319	Bro. E. Johnston Gordon	38	17	0
2361	" J. A. Adams	89	5	0
2395	" William Cambden	49	19	0
2409	" Edward Black	...	...	...
2409	" J. G. Stevens	120	0	0
2409	" A. R. Trew	...	...	...
2427	" E. Gerson	111	6	0
2454	" G. F. Smith (see also Lodge 15)	...	...	...
2446	" Arthur Underhill, L.L.D.	57	14	0
2466	" Edward J. Wood	65	2	0
2467	" Henry Mann	162	4	6
2484	" Joseph Toon	89	5	0
2484	" E. T. Lea	...	...	...
2488	" J. R. Cleave	105	0	0
2509	" Walter S. Bunting	270	18	0
2500	" G. Scott Miller	...	...	...
2500	" John Almond	...	...	...
2500	" F. G. Dray	...	...	...
2500	" W. G. A. Edwards	...	...	...
2500	" W. Scott Miller	...	...	...
2500	" J. F. Percival	...	...	...
2500	" Arthur Pain	...	...	...
2500	" Thos. Whitford	...	...	...
2500	" A. Reid	...	...	...
2500	" E. S. Miller	...	...	...
Chapter	2511 Comp. Jas. Pinder	...	...	...
Lodge	2511 Bro. J. H. Milton	63	0	0
2511	" John Gordon	10	10	0
2511	" A. Rusby	...	...	...
2512	" T. Blanco White	10	10	0
2512	" Rev. J. W. St. Clare Hill	52	10	0
2528	" J. Robert Hosker	47	3	0
2535	" J. J. Thomas (see also Lodge 2421, Bucks)	42	0	0
2546	" G. H. Robinson	34	13	0
2565	" J. A. Carpenter	11	10	0
2581	" Chas. J. Kiralfy	68	5	0
2601	" R. Pain Walkden	80	7	0
2603	" Edward White	35	14	0
2632	" Walter Gladding	31	12	0
2632	" James Boulton (see also Chapter 933)	27	7	0
2648	" T. Simpson	142	7	6
2650	" John F. Roberts (see also Lodges 63 and 2693)	48	19	6
2665	" C. B. Carter	...	...	...
2693	" John F. Roberts (see also Lodges 63 and 2650)	...	...	...
2696	" Percy E. Beard (see also Lodge 1734, Essex)	...	...	...
2698	" C. Goodman	...	...	...
2699	" H. Hudson	73	16	6
2722	" S. Case	21	0	0
2736	" Col. G. J. Parkyn	21	0	0
2739	" E. Roehrich	109	4	0
2742	" W. H. G. Rudderforth	42	0	0
2743	" H. Trask	150	0	0
2754	" H. Carman	34	2	6
2754	" G. W. Duck	10	10	0
2763	" W. G. Adcock (see also Lodge 2202)	28	7	0
2763	" J. C. Brunjes	...	...	...
2765	" John J. Orr	15	15	0
2765	" J. Worth	126	5	0
2766	" C. Thwaites	52	18	0
2771	" F. Trehaake Davies	6	16	0
2789	" D. Mayer	52	10	0
UNATTACHED.				
Bro. James Terry	...	172	0	0
" A. W. Humphreys	...	73	10	0
" W. H. Bailey	...	63	0	0
" J. T. Nash	...	36	15	0
" H. J. Collier	...	5	5	0
" *Walter C. Tyler	...	...	...	...
" Henry Kemp	...	10	10	0
" *A. Haig-Brown	...	...	...	...
" George Rankin (Gavel Club)	...	26	5	0
" *T. W. Chant (see also Lodge 2128)	...	...	...	...
" Geo. T. Baker	...	...	...	...
" C. F. King	...	...	...	...
" Frank Sweetland	...	...	...	...
" *George Geen	...	...	...	...
" *Imre Kiralfy	...	...	...	...
" *C. H. Cooper	...	...	...	...
" *Sydney C. Driver	...	...	...	...

Bro.		£	s.	d.
*Arthur G. Lister	...	...	...	...
*J. H. Crickmay	...	...	...	...
*W. Wilkie Jones	...	...	...	...
*A. Wright	...	...	...	...
" J. W. Elvin	...	10	10	0
" Frank R. Kenning	...	10	10	0
*W. J. Lodge	...	...	...	...
" John Nanson	...	10	10	0
" H. T. Brickwell	...	...	...	...
" Gerald W. E. Loder, M.P.	...	21	0	0
" Percy G. Driver	...	38	17	0
" Thomas Cohu	...	10	10	0
*J. R. Pakeman	...	...	...	...
" C. Hines	...	10	10	0
" H. Bown	...	...	...	...
" Jas. E. Terry	...	10	10	0
" H. B. Marshall	...	26	5	0
" Ernest Hart	...	...	...	...
*Robert T. Sharp	...	...	...	...
*James Timmins	...	...	...	...
*S. E. Firminger	...	...	...	...
*J. W. Morrell	...	...	...	...
" H. F. Kingdon	...	...	...	...
" H. Forbes	...	...	...	...
" F. W. Prior	...	10	10	0
" H. W. Smart	...	...	...	...
*Geo. Spice	...	...	...	...
" Stanley J. Attenborough	...	36	15	0
*F. Neary	...	...	...	...
" H. J. Ollive	...	10	10	0
" E. Brindley	...	...	...	...
" Geo. F. Carr	...	...	...	...
*J. Bergmann	...	...	...	...
" Chas. Robinson	...	...	...	...
" W. H. Gardner	...	10	10	0
*Max. H. Von Omme	...	...	...	...
" Spencer W. S. Morris	...	15	15	0
" Alfred G. Hayman	...	10	10	0
" Richard Davies	...	10	10	0
" S. Ellis	...	...	...	...
" W. T. Tharp	...	...	...	...
" C. G. Marcus	...	10	10	0
" B. G. Elliott	...	...	...	...
" W. Webber	...	10	10	0
" H. G. Cox	...	...	...	...
*W. P. Wilton	...	...	...	...
" J. Vardley Johnson	...	...	...	...
" P. A. C. Wilkinson	...	...	...	...
" A. J. Harman	...	...	...	...
" J. S. Green	...	3	3	0
*J. S. Wilton	...	...	...	...
" F. W. Green	...	...	...	...
" Geo. Gaddes	...	...	...	...
" Alfred Page	...	...	...	...
LADIES.				
Mrs. M. A. Christian	...	43	1	0
" J. H. Milton	...	...	...	...
" Nellie Smith	...	10	10	0
" James Stephens	...	...	...	...
" Henry Kemp	...	5	5	0
" E. Pierpoint	...	...	...	...
" C. Cooper	...	42	0	0
" A. Craddock	...	...	...	...
" T. Blanco White	...	...	...	...
" Geo. Levin	...	...	...	...
" A. E. Chant	...	...	...	...
" W. F. Simpson	...	...	...	...
Miss M. B. Simson	...	...	...	...
Mrs. W. G. Cannon	...	105	0	0
PROVINCES.				
BEDFORDSHIRE.				
Lodge	2343 Bro. Rev. V. P. Wyatt	30	10	0
BERKSHIRE.				
Lodge	414 Bro. W. Haynes	42	0	0
574	" Walter G. Crombie	22	16	0
771	" W. E. Kington	17	16	0
945	" G. H. Morland (see also Rose Croix Chapter No. 117)	...	...	...
1566	" C. Batting	50	0	0
1566	" W. T. Porter	...	...	...
2671	" J. M. Payne	...	...	...
2671	" W. A. Hardy	10	10	0
2760	" C. E. Keyser	115	10	0
UNATTACHED.				
Bro. D. Bidmead	...	...	...	...
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.				
The Lord Addington, P.G.M. (Chairman)	...	105	0	0
Lodge	591 Bro. R. J. Thomas	...	...	...
591	" A. S. Lightwood	...	...	...
591	" S. L. Grist	...	...	...
591	" A. B. Watson	5	5	0
631	" Rev. Sir B. Savory	...	...	...
631	" Sir George D. Harris	...	...	...
840	" C. A. Park	50	0	0
Chapter	840 Comp. the Rev. W. L. Harnett	15	15	0
Lodge	1410 Bro. H. T. Wickham	43	1	0
1501	" B. R. Wright	10	10	0
1501	" Walter Birch	31	10	0
1501	" William Williams	10	10	0
Chapter	1501 Comp. Joseph Bliss	21	0	0
Lodge	1639 Bro. S. Calladine	20	3	6
1787	" C. A. Bennett	15	15	0
1787	" F. W. Denchfield	15	15	0
Chapter	1894 Comp. Arthur Turner	21	0	0
Lodge	1894 Bro. W. Dicks Shuard	31	4	0
1894	" W. Woollett	13	6	6
1894	" J. Evan Bowen	10	10	0
1894	" J. D. Carter	10	10	0
2244	" S. E. Hipwell	36	15	0
2262	" H. W. Clemow	31	10	0



knew how to make a garden. If there was a rocky hill in it it was still a garden. High up in the hills hundreds of little rills of water were brought down gently to some figure-head, sometimes a nymph, sometimes a satyr. To-night it might be either nymph or satyr, but at anyrate they had brought up £20,000. He thanked the brethren for the quiet work which had brought about that result. It was the work of discipline. It was that which led to Lord Roberts's success in South Africa and made us love home the more. Life was a rough and tumble place, some had advantages and some had disadvantages; but there would be one day a Lodge where all our works would be tried, and we were told in memorable terms that the Great Architect would say, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these my Brethren, you have done it unto me."

Bro. W. F. SMITHSON, P.G.D., proposed "The Masonic Charities," and appealed to the brethren to support liberally the forthcoming festivals of the Girls' and the Boys' Institutions.



STEWARDS' JEWEL

Designed and Manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son.

Bro. F. R. W. HEDGES, P.G.S.B., responded. The Boys' School Festival would be presided over by a most popular member of the Royal Family. That would ensure a hearty response. The Girls' Festival would take place previously, and the Earl of Dartmouth would preside. He was quite sure that when the time came round the brethren would show their appreciation of his Lordship's services, and accord the Girls' School a result somewhat similar to that which they had that night witnessed. (Cheers.)

Bro. CLUTTON proposed "The Stewards," and Bro. WILSON, Dep. Prov. G.M., W. Yorks, replied; after which Dr. STRONG proposed "The Ladies," and the brethren adjourned to the Temple, Freemasons' Hall, where a concert was given.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Turle Lee. The artistes were Madam Kate Cove, Miss Maggie Purvis, Miss Edith Turner, Miss Marian Blinkhorn, Bros. W. R. Maxwell, Ivor Foster, and Bro. Robert Radford. A recitation was given by Bro. Fred. Upton, and a violin solo by Miss Jeanne Levine; Bro. Wallis Arthur contributed a humorous sketch; at the piano were Bros. G. F. Smith, P.G.O., and Turle Lee. The grand pianofortes were kindly supplied by Messrs. Erard.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

There is no need for anything in the nature of a preface to our usual analysis of the Returns as announced by Bro. Terry on Tuesday. The Board of Stewards consisted of 600 ladies and brethren, and the total of Donations and Subscriptions—there being, however, many lists still outstanding—was £20,220 16s. Towards this splendid return, London with 269 Stewards, contributed £11,699 10s., and the Provinces and Foreign Stations, with 331 Stewards, £8521 6s. Last year, when Lord Llangattock occupied the chair, the announcement on the night of the Festival was 483 Stewards; total £18,207 8s. 6d., which sum was ultimately increased to £20,162 9s. 3d.

#### LONDON,

as we have said, furnished a contingent of 269 Stewards, the aggregate of whose lists amounted to £11,699 10s. Of these 269 Stewards 184 represented 159 lodges and nine chapters in the Metropolitan area, and 85, namely, 71 brethren and 14 ladies, were Unattached. Among the individual lists which compose the total, there are as many as 30, which range from £100 upwards, the place of honour, as the highest list of all being taken by the Friars Lodge, No. 1349, whose representative, Bro. David Moss, had the gratification of compiling a total of £572. The next in order, but at a wide interval, was the list obtained by Bro. Walter S. Bunting, with the co-operation of 10 of his fellow-members of the Old Boys' Lodge, No. 2500, for £270 18s.; and then came Bro. Benjamin Stocker, High Cross Lodge, No. 754, with £255 3s.; Bro. Alfred Cocks, Sincerity Lodge, No. 174, with £231 8s. 6d.; and Bro. Edwin George, Marquess of Ripon Lodge, No. 1489, with £223 18s. 6d. Bro. S. W. Bull, of the Merchant Navy Lodge, No. 781, compiled a total of £194 8s., and Bro. Frank T. Slade, Peace and Harmony Lodge, No. 60, Bro. W. H. Hillman, Fitzroy Lodge, No. 569, and Bro. James Terry, the Secretary, Unattached, who figure with £175 17s., £175 8s., and £172, respectively. Bro. Henry Mann, Pickwick Lodge, No. 2467, handed in a list of £162 4s. 6d., and was followed very closely by Bro. W. H. Pocklington, Pinsbury Park Lodge, No. 1288, who returned £155 5s.; Bro. W. H. Latham, London Rifle Brigade Lodge, No. 1962, compiling £145 19s., and Bro. T. Simpson, of the Marclians Lodge, No. 2048, £142 7s. 6d. Bro. Alfred Craddock, Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150, did well in raising £135 19s. 6d., while at no very great distance came a whole batch of good

lists obtained by Bro. John Worth, Ranelagh Lodge, No. 834, and Bro. J. Worth, Earl's Court Lodge, No. 2765, each with a total of £126 5s.; Bro. J. W. Simeon, Confidence Lodge, No. 193, and Bro. W. G. Hale, Mount Edgumbe Lodge, No. 1446, each with £126; Bro. J. A. Yapp, Abbey Lodge, No. 2030, and Bros. E. Black, J. G. Stevens, and A. R. Trew, jointly representing the Woodgrange Lodge, No. 2409, the return from the former being for £120 15s., and from the latter for £120. Bro. G. F. Smith, of the Kent Lodge, No. 15, who also did duty for the Guildhall School of Music Lodge, No. 2454, is entered for £119; Bro. E. Gerson, Hampden Lodge, No. 2427, for £111 6s.; Bro. G. W. Smith, Stanhope Lodge, No. 1269, for £110 5s.; Bro. E. Roehrich, Verity Lodge, No. 2739, for £109 4s.; Bro. Frank W. Whitlock, All Saints Lodge, No. 1716, for £108; and Bro. John Chapman, Clerkenwell Lodge, No. 1964, for £106 1s. The three that come next in order are each entered for £105, namely, Bro. John Cook, Lodge of Justice, No. 147; Bro. J. R. Chase, Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488; and Mrs. W. G. Cannon. The last of all is Bro. Halfhide, of the Royal Arthur Lodge, No. 1360, with a round £100.

Among the other lists which appear to us worthy of notice are the following in their proper numerical order, namely: Bro. E. A. Smith, Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7, for £80 17s.; Major Eustace Anderson, Gihon Lodge, No. 49, for £93 9s.; Comp. R. W. Wallace, O.C., of the Chapter of Felicity, No. 58, for £78 15s.; Bro. H. A. Tobias, Royal Naval Lodge, No. 59, for £73 10s.; Bro. W. J. Gow, Lodge of Unity, No. 69, also for £73 10s.; Bro. J. A. Witthaus, of Tranquillity Lodge, No. 185, for £95 0s. 6d.; Bro. W. S. Page, Industry Lodge, No. 186, £70 17s. 6d.; Bro. R. Clarke, New Concord Lodge, No. 813, £73 10s.; Bro. V. W. F. Dickens, Victoria Rifles Lodge, No. 822, £84 17s.; Bro. Frank E. Wright, Royal Oak Lodge, No. 871, for £90 16s. 6d.; Bro. Geo. F. Rossiter, Royal Albert Lodge, No. 907, for £87 3s.; Bro. John Barlow, John Hervey Lodge, No. 1260, for £94 10s.; Bro. A. Collinson, Highgate Lodge, No. 1366, for £75 17s.; Bro. Campbell W. Wynne, Friends in Council Lodge, No. 1383, for £82 14s.; Bro. Arthur White, Kingsland Lodge, No. 1693, for £84; Bro. Frank Irvine, Kensington Lodge, No. 1767, for £89; Bro. H. L. Bell, Gallery Lodge, No. 1928, for £79; West Ham Abbey Lodge, No. 2291, collected by Bro. Bush, W.M., £85 3s.; Bro. J. A. Adams, Cricklewood Lodge, No. 2361, for £89 5s.; Bros. Joseph Toon and E. T. Lea, of the Second Middlesex Artillery Lodge, No. 2484, for £89 5s.; Bro. R. P. Walkden, Holloway Lodge, No. 2601, £80 7s.; Bro. H. Hudson, Wandle Lodge, No. 2699, for £73 16s. 6d.; and Bro. A. W. Humphreys, Unattached, for £73 10s.

Turning our attention to

#### THE PROVINCES,

we find that of the 46 into which our Country Masonry is sub-divided, as many as 32 were, more or less, numerously and efficiently represented, the number of those who gave their services as Stewards being 331, and the total amount it was their good fortune to accumulate £8521 6s. Last year there were 36 Provinces represented by 216 Stewards, the aggregate of whose lists ultimately reached £9788 9s. 6d., so that the present Returns, though gathered from a smaller number of Provinces, compares on the whole favourably with that of the 1899 Festival.

The 14 absentee Provinces are headed by BRISTOL (nine lodges), which, we regret to see, takes apparently little interest in the work of our Central Institutions. No doubt this is in great measure accounted for by the claims of its own Charity, but still the fact remains that during the years 1897, 1898, and 1899 it figured at the Boys' Centenary Festival only, for which event it raised £354 7s. 6d., or at the rate of nearly £40 per lodge. The last occasion on which CUMBERLAND and WESTMORELAND (22 lodges) put forth its strength was at the Boys' School Festival in 1897, when its Prov. G. Master, Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., presided as Chairman, and was loyally supported by the lodges and brethren under his charge to the extent of £1260. It also figured at the Centenary Festival of the same Institution, to which it contributed £222 1s. HEREFORDSHIRE (five lodges) appears to be resting on the laurels it gained at the Boys' Centenary in 1898, to which it subscribed the very creditable sum of £330 15s., being at the very high average—especially for so small a Province—of £66 per lodge. LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND (14 lodges) took part in last year's Festival on behalf of this Institution, and to very good purpose, the total of its contributions being £429 19s. 6d. But, before the year is out, we shall find it has done its duty by supporting one of the Schools. LINCOLNSHIRE (25 lodges) did yeoman service for the Old People last year, when it subscribed to its funds within a fraction of £400, the precise sum being £399 7s., and an odd £10 10s. from the Steward for one of its lodges found its way into the coffers of the Boys' School. MONMOUTHSHIRE (11 lodges) also did duty last year for this Institution, the total of its contributions reaching £477 15s. NORTH WALES (20 lodges), thanks to the zeal of Bro. C. K. Benson and others among its brethren, is not often mentioned among the unrepresented Provinces. Last year, for instance, it was entered at all three Festivals, subscribing £21 to this Institution; £55 1s. 6d. to the Girls' School; and £78 15s. to the Boys' School; making a total of £154 16s. 6d., the comparative smallness of the Returns being due to the great exertions put forth in aid of the Boys' Centenary, to which, in addition to £294 to the Old People and £10 10s. to the Girls' School, it subscribed £1089 10s., the amount for the whole of 1898 being £1394. There is no need to go very far afield to account for the absence of SOMERSETSHIRE (26 lodges) from Tuesday's gathering. Last year Viscount Dungarvan presided as Chairman at the Girls' Festival, and was supported by the lodges and brethren herules over to the extent of £2191 17s., in addition to which it gave £25 10s. to this Institution and £26 5s. to the Boys' School. The absence of the EASTERN DIVISION OF SOUTH WALES (23 lodges) may be similarly accounted for. Last year it raised £631 for this Institution, at whose Festival Lord Llangattock, its Prov. G.M., occupied the chair. In 1898 it raised £605 6s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, and in 1897, when its respected chief presided at the Girls' Festival, its contributions amounted to £1050. Its neighbour, the WESTERN DIVISION OF SOUTH WALES (10 lodges), is much smaller, and, though scarcely a year passes but it supports one or other of our Institutions, its figures are for the most part on a modest scale. In 1898 it subscribed £161 7s. to the Boys' Centenary, and last year £105 to this Institution. N. AND E. YORKSHIRE figured in the Returns at the Benevolent and Girls' School Festivals last year, raising £137 9s. at the former and £66 3s. at the latter, while in 1898 it subscribed £563 13s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary and £78 15s. to the Girls' School, or together £642 8s. 6d. The remaining absentees are GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY (six lodges), JERSEY (seven lodges), and the ISLE OF MAN (nine lodges), but, as we have been in the habit of pointing out, while their presence is always welcome, we do not look for them to be represented frequently, owing to their remoteness from headquarters. The number of lodges comprised in the foregoing 14 unrepresented Provinces is 221.

We now turn to the represented Provinces, the first of which, in alphabetical order, is

#### BEDFORDSHIRE.

On Tuesday one of its seven lodges contributed £31 10s. by the medium of Bro. the Rev. V. P. Wyatt, who has more than once acted the part of a Steward. Last year it confined its attention to the Girls' School, for which it raised £133 17s. 6d., the contributors being the St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 803, Biggleswade, and the Sir William Harpur Lodge, No. 2343 (per Bro. the Rev. V. P. Wyatt, as on Tuesday), together with Bro. Charles E. Prior, M.D., D.P.G.M., and another brother Unattached. The Province has been a consistent supporter of our Institutions, distributing £152 5s. among the three in 1892; £183 17s. 6d. in 1893; and £238 9s. in 1894. The following year it gave its attention to this



Institution and the Boys' School, subscribing £43 to the former and £105 to the latter. In 1896, this Institution and the Girls' School were the recipients of its favours, while in 1897, the Old People had the field all to themselves to the extent of £66 3s. Its most successful year was 1898, when it raised in all £321 16s. 6d., of which £33 12s. fell to the lot of this Institution, and £288 4s. 6d. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary.

## BERKSHIRE

with a roll of 17 lodges has done great things since it was separated from Buckinghamshire and became a Province by itself. It had the honour of starting on its career under the auspices of the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, K.G., as Prov. Grand Master, and in 1891, it began its work by distributing £385 10s. among the three Charities. In 1892, when it had the misfortune to lose its chief, it raised inclusive of the £661 9s. 6d. subscribed at the Jubilee of this Institution, no less a sum during the year than £945 11s. 6d. In 1893 and 1894, it compiled totals of £724 7s. and £583 13s. 6d. respectively, but the year following it returned to the higher figures and subscribed in all £935 6s. 6d. In 1896, it went nearly £100 still better and totalled up £1019 19s. 6d., while in 1897, there was a slight reaction and the Returns amounted to £825 16s. 6d. Its record year, as in the case of many another Province, was 1898, when after subscribing £163 16s. to this Institution, and £96 12s. to the Girls' School, it finished up with a subscription of £1436 17s. to the Boys' Centenary; the aggregate of the three Returns being £1697 5s. Last year it subscribed £242 0s. 6d. to this Institution in February; £431 9s. 9d. to the Girls' School in May; and £552 18s. 6d., as announced, to the Boys' School, at whose Festival Bro. C. E. Keyser, who is a Berkshire as well as a Hertfordshire and London Mason, was the Chairman. On Tuesday seven of its 17 lodges sent up Stewards, and there was also a brother Unattached, the total from the eight brethren, including £145 10s. per Bro. Keyser as W.M. of the Aldermaston Lodge, No. 2760, being £258 12s.

We now come to the "Chairman's Province" of

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

This is the second occasion during the period that has elapsed since it was separated from Berks that the Province has furnished a Chairman for one of our Festivals, the first having been in 1891, when Lord Carrington—now Earl Carrington, Past Prov. Grand Master—presided at the 103rd Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and Bucks supported his lordship with donations amounting to £300, the amount raised during the year being £511 1s. In 1892, it raised in all £705 15s., of which £290 18s. was given to this Institution on the occasion of its Jubilee. In the five following years its totals were still creditable, but on a smaller scale, amounting, in 1893, to £479 16s.; to £590 in 1894; to £438 14s. 6d. in 1895; to £429 11s. in 1896; and in 1897 to £489 17s. 6d. In 1898, however, the ever memorable year of the Boys' Centenary, it came out bravely, its total, inclusive of £1143 18s. 6d. to the said Centenary, being £1323 9s. 6d. Last year the efforts of the Provinces were necessarily of a less ambitious character and the sum apportioned among the three Charities was £425 15s. 6d. On Tuesday it acquitted itself splendidly, the total, including a personal donation of £105 from the Chairman, amounting to £1321 15s. In raising this large sum—exclusive of the Chairman's £105—the number of brethren who gave their services as Stewards was 56, as many as 17 out of the 20 lodges sent up Stewards, while five of the nine chapters were also represented, there being, in addition, six brethren who did duty as Unattached. The Wycombe Lodge, No. 1501, High Wycombe (three Stewards), £52 10s.; the Grenville Lodge, No. 1787 (two Stewards), £31 10s.; the Herschel Lodge, No. 1894, Slough (four Stewards) £65 10s. 6d.; the Dagmar Lodge, No. 2262, Wraybury (two Stewards), £68 5s.; the Ferdinand de Rothschild Lodge, No. 2420, Aylesbury (seven Stewards), £178 10s., including £137 11s. on the list of Bro. H. Turnham; the Carrington Lodge, No. 2421, Amersham (12 Stewards), £343 17s. 6d., of which £216 16s. 6d. was obtained by Bro. William Yeo, while the Studholme Brownrigg Chapter, attached to the lodge, subscribed per Comp. W. A. Stratton, £43 11s. 6d. The Concordia Lodge, No. 2592, Wendover, with two Stewards, contributed £53 11s., and the Addington Lodge, No. 2683, Eton—so named after the present Prov. G. Master, and consecrated as recently as 1898—which had three of its members representing it, £103 10s. Thus, whether we have regard to the number of lodges and chapters that were represented, the number of brethren and companions who gave their services as Stewards, or the aggregate of the several lists, we find that the Province of Buckinghamshire has, as we have said, acquitted itself most creditably, and we gladly take the opportunity of congratulating his lordship, the Chairman, the lodges which supported him, and the Stewards who laboured so arduously and so successfully, on the result which has attended their efforts.

For several years past—indeed ever since it established its Charity Association—

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

has been doing good work in behalf of our Institutions. It is a small Province, with only seven lodges on its roll, yet, according to the latest Report of its Association, it raised during the period 1883-1898, both years inclusive, no less than £5737. In 1896 its contributions amounted to £364 5s.; in 1897 to £323 10s. 3d.; and in 1898, inclusive of £707 3s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, £759 13s. 6d., or between £108 and £109 per lodge. After such an effort it is not surprising there should have been last year a reduction to £222 12s. On Tuesday, however, a fair beginning was made with a total of £95 15s., raised by the representatives of two of its lodges, of which £80 formed the list of Bro. F. H. Potts, of the Etheldreda Lodge, No. 2107, Newmarket.

## CHESHIRE,

which has latterly had several additions to its lodges, and including the recently consecrated John Brunner Lodge, No. 2799, has as many as 54 on its roll, was represented on this occasion by five brethren acting as Stewards for three lodges, the total of their lists being £63. This is not much for so strong a Province, nor were its performances last year, when it distributed no more than £126 among the Central Charities, on a scale proportionate to its strength. But, in 1898, it raised £2779 17s., of which £2753 12s. was in respect of the Boys' Centenary, while in 1891, it gave £1050 to the same School; in 1892, £1088 to the Benevolent Jubilee; and, in 1895, when its Prov. Grand Master, Earl Egerton of Tatton, took the chair at the Boys' Festival, £2000 to that Institution. Moreover, as we have often pointed out, Cheshire has an Educational Charity of over 35 years' standing and a Benevolent Institution, which, naturally, have a prior claim upon the members of the Province.

Thanks to the Stewardship of Bro. Sholto H. Hare, of the Molesworth Lodge, No. 1954, Wadebridge,

## CORNWALL,

with its array of 31 lodges, escapes being in the absentee list, Bro. Hare's donation being one of £10 10s.; but the Province, nevertheless, has been doing capital work for years, and we shall no doubt hear of it to advantage before the year is out. In 1899, including £238 1s. subscribed to this Institution, the total reached £516 6s. In 1898 it amounted to £924 5s., of which £854 19s. was raised for the Boys' Centenary. In 1895, when the Earl of Mount Edcumbe, Prov. G.M., was in the chair at the Girls' Festival, the Province raised £750 for that

Institution, and during the year £789 18s., while in 1892, when his lordship presided at the Old People's Jubilee, it subscribed £776 15s. In 1896 its total for the year was £305 11s., and in 1897 £341 19s., so that its support, if small on occasions, is given consistently.

## DERBYSHIRE

has an Unattached representative in the person of Bro. I. N. Woodiwiss, with a personal donation of £10 10s., but hardly a year passes in which it does not acquit itself with honour. Last year it subscribed £390 8s. to the Girls' School, and £251 4s. to the Boys' School. In 1898 it made a brave show, the total amounting to £2784 10s. 6d., of which £2419 2s. was raised for the Boys' Centenary, £335 for the Girls' School, and only £30 8s. 6d. for this Institution. In 1896 the Duke of Devonshire presided as Chairman at the Boys' School, and was supported by the Province to the extent of £1642 2s. In 1893 its Returns reached £1025 8s. 6d.; in 1892 £1738 14s., of which £1362 went to the Jubilee of this Institution; and in 1891 £980 7s., the roll of lodges being then 24, but since increased to 27.

We are glad to find that

## DEVONSHIRE

with its strong array of 59 lodges, notwithstanding it has its own Educational and Annuity Funds, is continuing its efforts in support of the Central Institutions. In 1888, when Viscount Ebrington, then Prov. Grand Master, took the chair for the Boys' Institution it subscribed £840 in support of his lordship's Chairmanship, and during the year £1013 5s. In 1892, it raised for the Benevolent Jubilee £807 8s. 6d., out of a total for the year of £923 8s. 6d. In 1898, including £1875 2s. 10d. to the Boys' Centenary, its contributions reached £1961 4s. 10d. Last year the result was small and amounted to only £274 11s., but on Tuesday a good start was made for the current year with a total of £173 5s. from the representatives of two lodges and an Unattached brother, the list of Bro. J. R. Wilson, St. Aubyn Lodge, No. 954, Devonport, being for £141 15s., and that of Bro. F. B. Westlake, St. John's Lodge, No. 70, Plymouth—who is one of the mainstays of our Central Charities in this Province—for £31 10s.

The Province of

## DORSETSHIRE,

with its 15 lodges, had a worthy representative in the person of Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, J.P., whose name must be familiar enough to those who look well into our Festival Returns, and who, on Tuesday, handed in a list of £105. Last year there was subscribed £157 10s. to this Institution, £268 6s. to the Girls' School, and a something not included in the announcement sheet, which subsequently proved to be £15 15s. to the Boys' Festival, Bro. Whadcoat doing duty at all three Festivals; while, in 1898, the year's total reached £2127 10s. 6d., and of this £2054 0s. 6d., including the 1000 guineas, as announced from the chair in the Royal Albert Hall, from Bro. Whadcoat, then Mayor of Poole, was subscribed towards the Boys' Centenary.

Why

## DURIAM

should so often elect to be Stewardless we are unable to explain, nor, as it is a regular subscriber to all three Institutions, is the point a material one. On Tuesday its donation of 100 guineas was included in the Returns, and we shall no doubt have occasion to report other donations when we furnish particulars of the School Festivals. Last year each of our three Institutions received 50 guineas, making a total for the year of £157 10s., while the Province held high festival in behalf of its Educational and Hudson Benevolent Charities, when the proceeds obtained amounted to some £2500. In 1898, including £533 2s. raised for the Boys' Centenary, the total Returns amounted to £643 7s.; in 1897 to £305 11s.; in 1896 to £566 10s.; in 1892 to £1034 5s., of which £720 5s. was subscribed to the Benevolent Jubilee. The Province contains 37 lodges.

There are 45 lodges on the roll of

## ESSEX,

and of these 11 took part in Tuesday's proceedings, the number of brethren who gave their services as Stewards being 39. The largeness of the number is to be accounted for by the fact that two of the lodges, which were only warranted last year—the Seven Kings Lodge, No. 2749, Romford, and the Charles Dickens Lodge, No. 2757, Chigwell—furnishing, the former 11 and the latter 22 Stewards. The total amounted to £1270 7s., among the principal lists being one for £152 5s. per Bro. Fred England, of the Albert Lucking Lodge, No. 2717, Southend-on-Sea; £346 10s. from Bro. Frank Evans and 10 others of No. 2749; and £405 from Bro. J. T. Dormer and 22 others of Lodge No. 2757. Last year the Returns totalled up £1225 13s. 6d., of which the Girls' School had the good fortune to receive £726 11s. In 1898, it subscribed the very large sum of £4122 12s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, the year's total including the contributions to the other Institutions, being £4282 16s. In 1893, when its Prov. Grand Master—then Lord Brooke—presided at the Boys' School Festival, it was £2258 3s., of which "Our Boys" received £2155 6s., while in 1892, when this Institution celebrated its Jubilee, the product of the year, including £2218 2s. 6d. to the Old People, was £2608 5s. In 1888, the Returns were £1297 3s. 6d., of which £874 6s. was raised for the Girls' Centenary. The intermediate years have also been very productive showing that Essex is as regular in its contributions to all three Institutions as it is generous.

Among the most regular and liberal—even beyond its strength—of the supporters of our three Institutions is the Province of

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

which, though it musters but 17 lodges, is almost invariably and on occasions very prominently represented in our Festival Returns. In 1892, when Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., Prov. Grand Master, presided at the Boys' School Festival, it subscribed £1645 11s. to that Institution out of a total for the whole year of £1729 11s. In 1893 and 1894, the totals were £304 18s. and £428 6s. 6d., respectively; in 1895 it rose to £598 19s.; while in 1896, there was a slight fluctuation in the opposite direction to £544 19s. In 1897, the Returns reached £675 18s., and in 1898, the record sum of £2860 2s., of which £2723 12s. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary. Last year, the total was £524 19s. 6d., of which £331 16s. fell to the share of this Institution, while on Tuesday, two Stewards, hailing from the Royal Gloucestershire Lodge, No. 839, Gloucester, handed in lists together amounting to £31 10s.

## HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

with a roll of 48 lodges, is one of our strong Provinces, but as it has an Educational Fund of its own, in which it takes a great interest and for which, therefore, it works hard and successfully, it is not always as prominent at these Central Festivals as other Provinces which are in a position to give their support to the Central Charities. On Tuesday three lodges and the chapter attached to one of them sent up three brethren, and the lists they compiled, with the donation of an Unattached brother, reached a total of £112 6s. Last year the record was a good one, amounting to £983 19s., of which this Institution received £432 7s., the Girls' School £377, and the Boys' School the remainder. In 1898 the aggregate reached the splendid sum of £3343 13s. 6d., of which all but £105 was

raised for the Boys' Centenary. Its previous "bests" were in 1887—the year of the Queen's Jubilee—when the Prov. Grand Master was Chairman for this Institution, and the Province supported him to the extent of £1785 9s. 6d., out of a total raised during the year of £1882 19s. 6d.; in 1888—the year of the Girls' Centenary—when "Our Girls" received £1149 13s. 6d. out of £1355 1s. 6d., and in 1892, when this Institution celebrated its Jubilee and had £1345 19s. 7d. subscribed to it out of a total for the year of £1650 17s. In 1894 the subscriptions reached £951 9s. 6d., and in 1897 £1149 12s. 6d. These are big figures, even for so strong a Province.

#### HERTFORDSHIRE

is another of those Provinces which, though comprising only a moderate array of lodges, is both regular and liberal beyond its strength in its contributions to our Charities. It now has 24 lodges on its roll, as compared with the eight it mustered in 1874, when its chief, Bro. T. F. Halsey, M.P., was installed in office, and its contributions have more than kept pace with its growth. In 1888 it raised £45 15s. 6d. for this Institution and £649 19s. for the Girls' Centenary, or together £795 14s. 6d. In 1892, when the Benevolent Jubilee was celebrated, it subscribed in all £2135 6s. 6d., of which £1883 6s. 6d. was in respect of that anniversary, while in 1893, when Bro. C. E. Keyser took the chair at the Festival of that Charity, he received support to the extent of £1455 18s. 6d. out of the year's product of £2106 14s. In 1898 it was again well to the front with a total of £2126 3s., of which £1614 5s. 6d. was raised for the Boys' Centenary, and last year, when Bro. Keyser was Chairman at the 101st Festival of that Institution, it subscribed £1151 4s. 6d. in honour of his Chairmanship, in addition to £384 10s. 6d. to this Institution in February, and £179 to the Girls' School in May, making the total for the year £1714 15s. On Tuesday 10 of its lodges were represented mostly by a single Steward, and there were four brethren Unattached, the total raised by the 15 Stewards being £54. Bro. Keyser, representing No. 2518, which bears his name, being entered for £105.

#### KENT,

with its 65 lodges, is decidedly a strong Province, and has the will to render help commensurate with its strength. In 1891, when the Prov. G. Master—Earl Amherst—presided at the Benevolent Festival, it subscribed in its behalf £4018 16s. In 1892, at its Jubilee, it raised for it £1868 15s. 6d. out of the total of £2969 6s. 6d. for the year. In 1898 the total, including £5542 3s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, was £5671 16s. Last year it stood at £1476 13s.; while, on Tuesday, the representatives of seven lodges compiled a total of £277 15s.

The two Lancashires, which are far and away the strongest of our 46 Provinces, attach great importance to the necessity for supporting the Institutions they have established for helping their own people. Hence, except on very special occasions, they do not show to great advantage. Thus

#### LANCASHIRE (E.D.),

with its array of 113 lodges, had only three of them and the chapter attached to a fourth represented, the number of brethren who acted as Stewards, including two Unattached, being nine, and the amount raised by them, including Bro. Cheetham's £147, £288 15s. Last year its total, distributed among the three Institutions, was only £503 5s.; but in 1898 it stood as high as £6081 6s. 6d., of which £5772 7s. 6d. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary. In 1895 it raised upwards of £4000 for its own Educational and Benevolent Institution. In 1892 it raised £2667 5s. for the Benevolent Jubilee, and in 1888 £2873 14s. 6d. for this Institution, and £1350 16s. for the Girls' Centenary, or, together, £4350 13s. This year, no doubt, the Returns will be small, as it is intended to hold a Festival in May for its own Institution.

Similarly, as regards

#### LANCASHIRE (W.D.),

which musters 122 lodges, the total returned is £15 15s. 6d., the number of lodges taking part in the gathering being two, and the number of Stewards four, of whom two were Unattached. Last year it contributed £152 5s. to this Institution; £168 to the Girls' School; and £115 10s. to the Boys' School; or together £435 15s.; but in 1898, it raised in all £4525 3s., of which £4451 13s. was in support of the Boys' Centenary. Its greatest success was in 1891, when it raised £6126 14s. 4d. in support of the late Earl of Lathom's Chairmanship for the Boys' School.

Crossing the Thames into the Metropolitan Province of

#### MIDDLESEX,

we find the 42 lodges under the rule of Lord George Hamilton, M.P., actuated by the same sympathy with our Charities, a sympathy they delight in exhibiting regularly and on special occasions to excellent purpose. Eight of these 42 lodges figure in Tuesday's Returns, the Staines Lodge, No. 2536, having four of its members to represent it. The total from the 11 Stewards reached £153 15s. Last year the sum of £300 11s. 6d. was raised for this Institution; £489 10s. for the Girls' School; and £77 3s. 6d. for the Boys' School; the total of the three contributions being £866 5s. In 1898, in common with other Provinces of equal weight and influence, it made a brave show, and after preliminary subscriptions of £273 17s. to this Institution, and £507 13s. 6d. to the Girls' School, it raised by the medium of 78 Stewards, £2895 10s. for the Boys' Centenary, the product of the whole year being £3587 6s. 6d. In 1897, it was for obvious reasons comparatively quiet, and distributed £1105 18s. among the three Charities, but even this must be looked upon as a success, when we remember that 1896 is its "record" year, when the total raised was £3967 15s. 6d., of which £3705 15s. 6d. was subscribed in support of Lord George Hamilton's Chairmanship for this Institution. It also figured well for £1315 9s. at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892; for £1000 at the Girls' Festival in 1890, when the late Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., presided at its Festival; and for £1107 14s. at the Girls' Centenary in 1888.

#### NORFOLK,

though it musters 18 lodges, is not a strong Province, but every now and then it does some exceedingly good work. Last year it confined its attention to this Institution, for which, by the hands of Bro. S. F. Stackard, it raised the sum of £122 17s. 6d. In 1898, it went for the Boys' Centenary, for which it raised £818 8s., or more than £300 in excess of any previous contribution at any single Festival. In 1892, it honoured this Institution with subscriptions amounting to £516 10s., while in 1888, at the Girls' Centenary, it figured for £214 4s. In 1886, when Lord Suffield, till recently Prov. Grand Master, presided at the Boys' School Festival, the sum total of its donations and subscriptions was £420. On this occasion it contributed £73 10s. by Bro. Geo. W. G. Barnard, Prov. Grand Secretary.

Under the genial sway of the Earl of Euston, the Province of

#### NORTHANTS AND HUNTS

has developed an energy in supporting our Masonic Institutions, which it knew not before, and that energy has displayed itself with commendable impartiality among the three charities. It has a muster-roll of 16 lodges, and its earliest achievement belongs to the year 1889, when the Prov. Grand Master took the chair at the Old People's Festival, and was supported by his lodges to the tune of £914 10s. 6d. In 1893, when his lordship was in the chair for the Girls' School, the amount

raised was £1050, while in 1899 the total reached £1784 2s., of which £1621 7s. was for the Boys' Centenary. Even in 1899 the proceeds were considerable, amounting to no less than £530 1s. 6d.; but on Tuesday there was a respite, and two lists, each of £21, per Bros. Manfield and Cockerill, represented the work of the Province.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND,

with 33 lodges, figured in the Benevolent and Girls' School Returns of last year. The total of the amounts raised being £77 5s., and on this occasion a representative appeared in the person of Bro. Thos. Martin, whose list was for £47 5s. These figures look small, but it has shown to advantage on several occasions, notably in 1891, when, including the sum paid for a Perpetual Presentation, it raised £1364 4s. for the Boys' School; in 1895, when it gave, per Bro. R. Holmes, D.P.G.M., £2315 5s. to the Girls' School, with a supplementary £186 18s. to the Boys' School; and, again, in 1898, when it subscribed £1290 9s. to the Boys' Centenary, the principal item being the list of Bro. Sir M. White-Ridley, Bart., M.P., Prov. G. Master, for £1124 11s.

A single Steward with a list of £10 10s. did duty for

#### NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

with its array of 18 lodges. But last year Bro. Rorke for the Province as a whole, with Bro. Bradley, acting for the Newark Lodge, No. 1661, Newark-upon-Trent, and Bro. N. Ashurst, for the Rufford Lodge, No. 2553, Nottingham, compiled a total of £199 10s. for the Girls' School Festival. In 1898, it subscribed £777 to the Boys' Centenary, while in 1897, it shared £309 4s. between this and the Boys' Institutions; in 1896, £397 6s. between the two Schools; and in 1895, £274 11s. 6d. between the Boys' School and the Old People.

Our attention is now turned to the Province of

#### OXFORDSHIRE

which, though small numerically—it has but 12 lodges, all told—is nevertheless a staunch friend of all our Charities. It would take us more time than we have at our disposal to ascertain the particular Festival during the last quarter of a century, in which it did not bear a part. Suffice it, however, to say that in 1892 it raised during the year £662, of which £428 7s. was subscribed to the Jubilee of this Institution, while in 1898 its total reached £917 13s. 6d., of which £505 12s. 6d. fell to the share of the Old People, at whose Festival the Earl of Jersey, Prov. G. Master, was the President; £73 14s. to the Girls' School, and £338 7s. to the Boys' School Centenary. Last year a total of £516 14s. 6d. was realised, of which this Institution received £141 4s.; the Girls' School, £209 4s. 6d.; and the Boys' School, £166 6s. On this occasion, six of the 12 lodges, took part in the work, the aggregate of the seven Stewards' lists being £111 6s.

#### SHROPSHIRE,

12 lodges, had two Unattached representatives in its respected Deputy, Bro. Row and G. Venables, P.A.G.D.C., and Bro. W. Lascelles Southwell, the latter of whom returned a list of £21. Last year the Province took part in only one of the three anniversary gatherings, the amount raised for this Institution by Sir Osley Wakeman, Bart., Prov. G.M., and Bro. W. Lascelles Southwell being £36 15s. But this is not surprising. In 1898 Shropshire, after contributing £89 5s. to this Institution and £36 15s. to the Girls' School, raised no less than £1199 8s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, the total of the three amounts being £1325 18s. 6d. In 1892 it raised £456 15s. for the Benevolent Jubilee out of a year's total amounting to £615 10s. 6d.; in 1888 it gave £770 15s. to the Girls' Centenary out of £807 10s.; while in 1887, at the outset of its career as a separate Province, it supported its Prov. G.M. as Chairman for the Girls' Festival to the extent of £1022.

It is not surprising that

#### STAFFORDSHIRE

should make a small appearance on this occasion. The Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G. Master, has kindly consented to preside at the Girls' School Festival in May, and the Province is very naturally holding itself in reserve in order that its support of his lordship's presidency may be worthy of its respected chief. Thus the appearance of only a single Steward from one of the 34 lodges on the roll, with a personal donation of £10 10s., is not to be wondered at. Last year the Province put in some good work, subscribing £178 10s. to this Institution in February, £420 to the Girls' School in May, and £169 10s. to the Boys' School in June, the year's total being £768 1s. This is the more creditable as in 1898 it laid itself out to support the Boys' Centenary, for which it raised £3845 8s. out of a total for the year of £4023 18s. In 1892, including £362 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee, it subscribed in all £762; in 1891 £761 8s. 6d., of which £452 was for the Boys' School; and in 1888 £617 17s., of which the Girls' School received £355 7s. at its Centenary, and the Boys' School £262 10s.

There are few more regular supporters of our Institutions than

#### SUFFOLK,

and few which, having regard to its strength, contribute more generously. On Tuesday, six of its 22 lodges and one of its 10 chapters were entered in the Returns, their contributions, by the eight brethren who did duty as Stewards, amounting to £429 10s., the principal list being that of Comps. Rowe and Martin, Chapter 1224, for £126 5s. Last year the total was much lower than usual, the amount distributed among the three Charities, only reaching the modest sum of £238 7s., but can we wonder at this when we remember the prominent part that Suffolk took in the work of the Boys' Centenary, to which, by the hands of 33 Stewards, it contributed £1510 17s. 6d. out of a total for the year of £1563 7s. 6d. In 1888, it subscribed in all £1105 12s., made up of £451 10s. to this Institution; £517 12s. to the Girls' Centenary; and £136 10s. to the Boys' School. In 1889, it raised £1048 17s. 6d., of which £577 19s. 6d. was subscribed in honour of Lord Henniker's Chairmanship at the Girls' Festival, while in 1892, including £1291 14s. to the Jubilee of this Institution, it raised in all £1449 4s.

Passing to the Home Province of

#### SURREY,

we find five of its 45 lodges is represented each by a single Steward, the aggregate of the lists being £196 14s. This is a modest sum for so influential a Province, but it did extremely well last year, when it subscribed by the hands of 17 Stewards, £649 4s. to this Institution; £531 6s. 6d. by the same number of Stewards, to the Girls' School; and £102 2s. 6d. by five Stewards, to the Boys' School; giving a total for the year of £1288 5s. 6d. In 1898, it surpassed all its previous performances by raising £3968 2s., of which £3499 16s. was obtained for the Boys' Centenary by the efforts of 85 Stewards. In 1894, when the late Bro. Col. G. Noel Money, C.B., Prov. G.M., presided for the Old People, the proceeds of the year, including £1399 2s. to this Institution, amounted to £1673 4s. 6d.; while in 1892, a total, including £2148 0s. 6d. to the Benevolent Jubilee, of £2817 19s. 6d. was subscribed. In 1888, the Returns amounted to £1298 14s., of which £1147 18s. was in respect of the Girls' Centenary.

#### SUSSEX,

notwithstanding that its Prov. G.M., H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has consented to preside at the Boys' Festival in July, has come out exceedingly well, the Province itself being represented by Bro. J. M. Reed, Prov. Grand Treasurer, while 11 other brethren acted as Stewards for seven of its 33 lodges. The sum total of the lists is £378, the principal one being that of Bro. G. A. Hunt, of

the Worthing Lodge of Friendship, No. 851, for £126. Last year the total stood as high as £1049 8s., notwithstanding the great efforts it had put forth in 1898 for the Boys' Centenary, to which it contributed £2869 15s. out of a total for the year of £2932 15s. In 1897, when the Duke of Connaught presided at the Festival of this Institution, the total, including £1263 2s. 6d., reached £1497 5s. 6d. The year 1892 yielded £2214 2s., of which £1155 6s. was in respect of the Benevolent Jubilee, and £1026 5s. in support of the Duke's chairmanship at the Girls' School Festival. In 1885, when the late Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., took the chair for the Girls' School, Sussex supported its then chief by raising £1850 out of a total for the whole year of £1923 10s.

Three out of the 32 lodges in

#### WARWICKSHIRE

were represented at this gathering, the total returned being £26 5s. Last year this Institution was supported to the extent of £84, the Girls' School with £467 5s., and the Boys' School with £21, the year's aggregate being £572 5s. In 1898, after giving £31 10s. to this Institution, and £42 to the Girls' School, its contingent of 237 Stewards, with the venerable chief, Lord Leigh, at their head, compiled the magnificent total of £5079 14s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary. In 1892 this Institution, at the celebration of its Jubilee, received £2186 out of the year's aggregate of £2410 4s. In 1888, the year of the Girls' Centenary, the Stewards numbered 93, and the aggregate of their lists was £1440 6s. 6d. This year it is contemplated to hold a Festival in aid of the Provincial Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund, and, therefore, we must not expect contributions to any great amount to the Scholastic Institutions.

#### WILTSHIRE,

having a modest array of 12 lodges, makes a practice, as do other Provinces of about the same strength, of supporting each Institution in turn, though occasionally it so far breaks through this rule as to extend its favours to a second Charity. Last year, for instance, its principal subscription was one of £288 15s. to the Girls' School, with a supplementary donation of £10 10s. to the Boys' School from Bro. Bevir, Prov. Grand Secretary, who is a member of the Board of Management. In 1898, it raised £539 0s. 6d. for the Boys' Centenary, and £71 1s. for the Girls' School. In 1896, it raised £310 for the Girls' School; in 1895, £279 6s. for the Boys' School; and in 1892, £483 14s. for the Benevolent Jubilee. On Tuesday, three Stewards compiled a total of £168, of which £131 5s. formed the list of Bro. W. C. Powning, the Provincial Steward, while the rest was furnished by Bros. M. S. Wilson and P. Tanner, of the Lansdowne Lodge, No. 626, Chippenham.

Three of the 15 lodges in

#### WORCESTERSHIRE

are entered in Tuesday's Returns, the sum of their lists being £131 5s. Last year the Province was represented at the Benevolent and Boys' School Festivals, to the extent of £379 1s. at the earlier gathering, and for £36 15s. at the later. In 1898 the year produced a total of £1231 13s., of which £1136 2s. was raised by a contingent of 40 Stewards for the Boys' Centenary. In 1897 the total was £753 18s.; in 1896, £653 2s.; in 1892, £489 5s., of which £243 12s. was subscribed to the Jubilee of this Institution, and in 1888, including £695 18s. subscribed to the Girls' Centenary, the year yielded £848 3s.

As regards

#### YORKSHIRE (WEST RIDING)

its achievements are so well-known that it is hardly necessary to do more than mention that in 1898 it headed the roll of the Provinces at the Boys' Centenary with £6136 3s. 6d., being the highest sum raised by a single Province at a single Festival, the contributions for the whole of the year being £7956 3s. Last year the aggregate made up off £700 to this Institution; £582 5s. to the Girls' School; and £131 5s., as announced, to the Boys' School, reached £1413 10s. On Tuesday the Province furnished a strong array of 98 Stewards, whose lists totalled up £1800. In raising this sum, 27 out of the 81 lodges took part, Lodges 154, 306, 974, and 1311, furnishing each of them several representatives, there being also three brethren who were Unattached.

#### FOREIGN STATIONS.

There were three of these represented, their lists amounting to £31 10s., among the Stewards being Idris Bey Ragheb, G. Master of Egypt, on whom, in recognition of his zeal for Freemasonry, his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master has been pleased to confer the rank of Past G. Warden of England.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS.

In accomplishing our laborious task of analysing the Returns on Tuesday, we trust we have avoided giving offence to any of the Provinces, lodges, and brethren to whom we have had occasion to refer.

### SIXTH ANNUAL SUPPER AND LADIES' NIGHT OF THE CITADEL LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 1897.

The above lodge of instruction, whose members hold their weekly meetings on Friday evenings at the Farleigh Hotel, Amhurst-road, Stoke Newington, held their Sixth Annual Supper and Ladies' Night at the Holborn Restaurant, on Friday, the 24th ult. Bro. Fred Dunstan, P.M. and Sec. 1326, and P.A.G.D.C. Middx., the highly esteemed Preceptor, presided, and was supported by Mrs. F., and the Misses Dunstan; Bro. and Mrs. Geo. Clark, P.M.; Bro. and Mrs. U. B. Ladler; Bro. and Mrs. Whiteside; Bro. and Mrs. Baron; Bro. T., and the Misses G. and F. Feistel; Bro. Gordon Larnier and Mrs. Larnier; Bro. Tom Alderman and Mrs., and the Misses Alderman; Bro. and Mrs. Russell; Bro. and Mrs. Purle; Bro. and Mrs. Reed; Bro. and Mrs. Jeanes; Bro. and Mrs. Harry Willsmer; Bro. and Mrs. G. D. Fraser; Bro. J. Bartlett and Mrs. Dominey; Bro. A. Wyatt, Bro. Herbert, Mr. Frank Willsmer and Miss F. Pink; Bro. and Mrs. M. Strang; and others.

A very enjoyable evening was spent, and an excellent programme of music was contributed by the following: Mrs. G. and F. Feistel, F. Pink (violin solo), G. Dunstan, Mrs. W. Whiteside, Bros. T. Feistel and M. Strang, humorous and dramatic recitals, and J. Bartlett (bassoon solos.) Miss Gertrude acted as the accompanist during the evening.

The toast of "The Citadel Lodge of Instruction" was proposed by Bro. U. B. LADLER, an indefatigable worker in connection with the lodge.

Bro. HARRY WILLSMER, Hon. Sec. and Treas., responded.

The toast of "The Ladies and Visitors" was proposed by Bro. GORDON LARNER, another staunch supporter, and responded to by Bros. A. WYATT and GEO. D. FRASER, 2310.

The toast of "The Chairman" was in the able hands of Bro. W. E. JEANES.

The toast of "The Treasurer and Secretary" was proposed by Bro. GEORGE CLARK, P.M., and responded to by the brother in question.

The toast of "The Artists" was proposed by Bro. H. WILLSMER, and replied to by Bro. T. Feistel.

Each lady was presented with a choice box of confectionery previous to leaving as a souvenir of the occasion.

Bros. Jeanes, Feistel, Larnier, and Willsmer acted as Vice-Chairmen.

### THE FIFTH ANNUAL LADIES' BANQUET OF THE LODGE OF TEMPERANCE, No. 169.

The fifth annual ladies' banquet and musical evening in connection with the above lodge took place at the Tower Bridge Hotel, on St. Valentine's Day, and proved a most enjoyable evening, and reflects great credit on the W.M., Bro. F. A. Wilmott, and his able Stewards. A reception was held at 6 p.m. at which the W.M., Mrs. and Miss Wilmott did the honours.

After the reception, the company proceeded to the banqueting hall, where a magnificent dinner was served under the personal superintendence of Bro. C. J. Brown.

The toast list consisted of "The Queen and the Craft;" "T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other members of the Royal Family;" "The Ladies;" "The Worshipful Master;" "The Visitors;" and "The Lodge of Temperance."

Bro. TOM BEST most eloquently responded on behalf of "The Ladies."

Bro. ROSENSTOCK, P.M., Treas., responded for "The Past Masters."

Dr. HALL responded for "The Visitors."

The company afterwards adjourned to the spacious Pillar Hall, where the musical programme was carried out.

Some capital songs were rendered between the dances by Bro. Wilton, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Carr, Bro. Mitchell, Bro. Smith H. Burgin, Mr. Llyod Edger, Mr. Cyril Davies, Mr. Ted Jenkins, Mr. Blaker, Miss M. Glenn, Miss Scott, Mrs. Carpenter, Miss Elsie Manktelow, and the Empire Glee Singers.

Amongst those present were Bro. Burgin and Mrs. Burgin, S.W.; Bro. Woodland, J.W., and Mrs. Woodland; Bro. Cobon, I.P.M., and Mrs. Cobon; Tom Best, P.M., Sec., and Mrs. Best; Bro. Wilton, P.M., D.C., and Mrs. Wilton; Bro. Cripps, P.M., and Miss Cripps; Bro. Murray, P.M., and Mrs. Murray; Bro. Gundry, P.M., and Mrs. Gundry; Bro. Nicholson, S.D., and Mrs. Nicholson; Bro. Smith, J.D., and Mrs. Smith; Bro. Newman, I.G., and Mrs. Newman; Bro. Hudson, J.W. 958, and Mrs. Hudson; Bro. Holst and Mrs. Holst; Bro. Carpenter and Mrs. Carpenter; Bro. Knight and Mrs. Knight; Bro. Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell; Bro. Withycombe and Mrs. Withycombe; Bro. Edwards, S.W. 2562, and Mrs. Edwards; Bros. Norton and Lambert; Bro. Murray, Mrs., and Miss Murray; and Bro. Capt. Campbell and Mrs. Campbell.

### MARK GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business to be transacted on Tuesday next, the 6th instant:

1. Read and, if approved, confirm minutes of Quarterly Communication of 5th December, 1899.
2. Election of the M.W. Grand Master for the ensuing year.
3. Election of the Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year.
4. Report of the General Board.
5. A motion will be made that the Report be taken as read.
6. A motion will be made that the Report be received and entered on the minutes.
7. That the sum of £25 be voted to the widow of a brother of Lodges 43 and 107.
8. A motion will be proposed that the Report be adopted.

Since the last report five warrants have been granted for new lodges, viz.:-

- No. 531, Orient, Howrah, Bengal.
- 532, Wythenshawe, Northenden, Cheshire.
- 533, Empress, London.
- 534, Rose, Camberwell.
- 535, Brontë, Haworth, West Yorkshire.

Warrants for three Royal Ark Mariner lodges have been granted, viz.:-  
Elmete, to be attached to the Copley Lodge, No. 111, Leeds.  
Wilbraham, to be attached to the Wilbraham Lodge, No. 523.  
Courtenay Luck, to be attached to Courtenay Luck Lodge, No. 526.

### ANNUAL LADIES' NIGHT OF THE CHISWICK LODGE, No. 2012.

On Thursday, the 22nd ult., the above lodge gave a very successful ladies' banquet and concert at the Criterion, Piccadilly, when about 90 guests sat down to an excellent repast.

After the toasts of "The Queen" and "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" had been given by the W.M., Bro. D. D. HEATH, the tables were cleared, and a most enjoyable and varied musical programme was presented, under the direction of Bro. Lunnon, Organist of the lodge.

During the evening the W.M. proposed "The Health of the Ladies," which was responded to by Bros. H. CLARK and R. STEEL.

In proposing "The Health of the W.M., together with that of Mrs. and Miss Heath," both of whom were present, Bro. WOOD expressed the esteem in which Bro. Heath is held by the members of the lodge, and the thanks due to him for having taken the initiative in promoting so enjoyable a gathering.

In responding to the toast, the W.M. thanked the Banquet Committee for the great assistance they had rendered him in the arrangement of the entertainment, and, in proposing their health, coupled with it the name of Bro. J. W. Blaydes, who had acted as their Hon. Secretary, and who briefly replied.

Amongst the numerous guests present we noticed Bro. D. D. Heath, W.M., Mrs., and Miss Heath, Bro. and Mrs. Hunt, Bro. and Mrs. Liddington, Bro. and Mrs. H. Clark, Bro. and Mrs. Steel, Bro. and Mrs. Bishop, Bro. and Mrs. Fincham, Bro. and Mrs. Wood, Bro. and Mrs. Rhodes, Bro. and Mrs. Musk, Bro. and Mrs. Williams, Bro. and Mrs. Press, Bro. and Mrs. Harrison, Bro. and Mrs. Leuten, Bro. and Mrs. Geo. Cursons, Bro. and Mrs. Portch, Bro. and Mrs. Barrett, Bro. and Mrs. Blaydes, Bro. and Mrs. Roper, Mrs., and Miss T. Morris, Bro. and Mrs. Bamford, and Bro. and Mrs. White.

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Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-first  
Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1900.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies  
issued during the year was 65,470, assuring the sum  
of £3,355,850, and producing a new Annual  
Premium Income of £352,003.

The Premiums received during the year were  
£3,144,464, being an increase of £176,963 over  
the year 1898.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,225,806.  
The number of Deaths was 5,899 and 3,963  
Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the  
year was 570,414.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums re-  
ceived during the year were £5,168,958, being  
an increase of £208,202.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,059,340.  
The number of Deaths was 209,807, and 2,239  
Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the  
year to those Policyholders of five years' standing,  
who desired to discontinue their payments, was  
72,611, the number in force being 663,250. The  
number of Free Policies which became Claims during  
the year was 14,533.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of  
the year was 13,433,785: their average duration  
exceeds eight and three-quarter years.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as  
shewn in the Balance Sheet, are £36,832,059, being  
an increase of £3,232,351 over those of 1898. A  
supplement, shewing in detail the various investments,  
is published with this Report.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded two  
years since for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shews  
a very satisfactory increase for the year, the total  
amount standing to the credit of the Fund being  
£73,085.

Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co. have  
examined the Securities, and their certificate is  
appended to the Balance Sheets.

THOS. C. DEWEY, } Joint  
WILLIAM HUGHES, } General  
FREDERICK FISHER, } Managers.

W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

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cras at 12.15 a.m., to Leicester, Loughborough, Stockport,  
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Warrington, and Liverpool; and at 4.0 p.m., to Leicester,  
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**TRANSVAAL BRETHREN**  
RELIEF FUND.

The following Contributions to this Fund have been  
received, namely:—

	£	s.	d.
R.W. Bro. George Richards, Dist. G.M.	100	0	0
Transvaal	21	0	0
Empire Lodge, No. 2108	21	0	0
Logic Club of Freemasons, per Bro. Robt. D. Cummings	21	0	0
Cheerybles Lodge, No. 2466, per Bro. J. S. Recknell	10	10	0
Haven Lodge, No. 2022	10	10	0
St. John's Lodge, No. 761	5	5	0
" " by the Brethren	5	5	0
Derby Allcroft Lodge, No. 2168, per Bro. Robt. D. Cummings, Sec.	10	10	0
Bro. Sir Olley Wakeman, Bart., Prov. G.M. Shropshire	10	10	0
Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan	10	10	0
Dinner Collection, Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2075, per Bro. Glaeser	6	6	6
R.W. Bro. Hamon le Strange, Prov. G.M. Norfolk	5	5	0
Girls' School General Committee Dinner Club, per Bro. F. R. W. Hedges	5	5	0
Old King's Arms Lodge, No. 28	5	5	0
Eyre Lodge, No. 2742, per Bro. Jas. Stephens, P. Dep. G.D.C.	5	5	0
Dorking Lodge, No. 1149	5	5	0
Globe Lodge, No. 23	5	5	0
Bro. W. Russell, c/o Bedford, Darnley Pond, Gravesend	5	5	0
W. Bro. W. Smithett, P.G.D.	5	5	0
Committee Dinner Club, R.M.I. for Boys, per J. M. McLeod, Secretary	5	5	0
University of London Lodge, No. 2033	5	5	0
Tyndall Lodge, No. 1363	5	5	0
St. Anne's Lodge, No. 593	5	0	0
Tyldesley Lodge, No. 2572	5	0	0
Bro. J. M. McLeod and Family, Christmas Dinner Collection	3	3	0
East Medina Lodge, No. 175	2	4	0
St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 1046	2	2	0
Chine Lodge, No. 1884, per Bro. F. Newman	2	2	0
St. Bede, No. 1119	2	2	0
Liberty of Havering Lodge, No. 1473	2	2	0
Ellesmere Lodge, No. 730	2	2	0
St. Mary's Lodge, No. 1312	2	2	0
Elias de Derham Lodge, No. 586	2	2	0
W. Bro. F. R. W. Hedges, Sec. R.M.I.G. P.G. Sword Bearer	2	2	0
Lady Warren	2	2	0
Northcote Lodge, No. 2659	2	2	0
Bro. Rev. Henry B. Tristram, Dep. P.G.M. Durham	2	2	0
Royal Clarence Lodge, No. 976, Bruton (Somersetshire), per Bro. W. P. Buckley, P.M., Treas.	2	1	0
Engineer Lodge, No. 2599	2	0	0
Brighthouse Lodge, No. 1301	1	15	0
Brotherly Love Lodge, No. 329, per Bro. S. R. Baskett	1	11	2
Military Jubilee Lodge, No. 2195	1	11	0
Ealing Lodge, No. 2662, Contents Charity Box	1	10	0
Yarborough Lodge, No. 422	1	3	0
St. Martin's-le-Grand Chapter, No. 1538, per Comp. E. M. Money	1	1	0
Horwich Lodge, No. 2324	1	1	0
Bro. Rev. H. Lansdell, D.D., P.G. Chap.	1	1	0
Bro. S. R. Baskett	1	1	0
Bro. W. F. Lamony	1	1	0
Beaminster Manor Lodge, No. 1367, per Bro. S. R. Baskett	1	1	0
Bro. the Rev. H. G. Morse, P.G. Chaplain	1	1	0
Bro. E. R. Parr, P.G. Chaplain	1	1	0
Vale of White Horse Lodge, No. 1770	1	1	0
Whitwell Lodge, No. 2104	0	10	6
" " per Bro. J. M. Ring-	0	10	6
guist, 2nd donation	0	10	6
" " per Bro. A. W. Fenny	0	10	6
Bro. J. F. H. Woodward	0	5	0

Cheques, Post-office Orders, &c., to be made payable to the "Proprietor" of the *Freemason*, London Joint Stock Bank, Ltd., Chancery-lane Branch; or to GEORGE RICHARDS, 3, Kensington Palace Gardens, London, W.

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of the whereabouts of ISIDOR WEIL, P.M., who was born at Schwerin (Germany) in 1842, and was some years since in business at Knightsbridge as a Cigarette Manufacturer.—Apply, J. P., 16, Great Queen-street, W.C.

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### To Correspondents.

P.J.J.—We cannot do better than refer you to Article 152, Book of Constitutions, which provides as follows: "No Brother who has ceased to be a subscribing member of a Lodge shall be permitted to visit any one Lodge more than once until he again becomes a subscribing member of some Lodge."



SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900.

### Masonic Notes.

The Quarterly Communication of United Grand Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Hall, at the usual hour, on Wednesday, the 7th instant, when a lengthy and interesting programme of business will be dealt with. As Bro. Harry Manfield is the only nominee for the office of Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year, there will be no contested election, and, therefore, none of the excitement and turmoil which characterised last year's and previous elections for that office. The principal item among the Agenda will be the consideration of a message from his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master, and certain motions arising therefrom, which have reference to the brethren in the several Districts into which South Africa is Masonically divided, who have suffered by the war there raging.

For some time past our R.W. Bro. George Richards, Dist. G. Master of the Transvaal, has been appealing firstly by circular to the lodges on the English Register and then through the medium of our columns for aid for those members of the lodges forming his District who, being of English nationality, have been under the necessity of abandoning their homes and occupations in the Transvaal and seeking safety in Natal or Cape Colony. These brethren and their families were among the thousands of refugees who fled south when war was declared, and it is easier to imagine than describe the sufferings they have since been compelled to undergo. At the outset they were loyally assisted by the Natal brethren, but the latter must now have enough on their hands in helping their own members who have suffered from the same cause, and in addition there must be a large proportion of the brethren in the other Districts who are in a similar plight.

Thus, leaving for the moment the Transvaal lodges out of our consideration, we find that, as regards those in the other four Districts generally which either have suffered by the operations of the war or have had their means for rendering help by this time pretty well exhausted, there must be quite a number of them that have been directly affected, and are probably well nigh *hors d'existence*. Among these we include the lodges at Barkly West, Kimberley (three), Mafeking and Vryburg, in the Central Division; and those at Aliwal North, Barkly East, Bloemfontein, Dordrecht, Indwe, Molteno, Queenstown, and Umtata, in the Eastern. In the District of Natal are the lodges at Dundee, Greytown, Kokstad, Ladysmith, Newcastle, and Richmond; while of those which are not included in any District, those at Eshowe in Zululand, Harrysmith and Philippolis, in the Orange Free State, and Umtali, in Rhodesia, may be mentioned. The Western Division will, no doubt, have suffered the least; but the demands upon its lodges for help will have been proportionately greater. In short, all our lodges in South Africa have suffered, but some of them only indirectly.

Under these circumstances, his Royal Highness the Grand Master recommends (1) that a Fund be raised to assist the District Grand Lodges in South Africa in their task of relieving the distresses occasioned directly by the war to their loyal members; (2) that the management of the Fund be entrusted to the Board of General Purposes; (3) that a grant of money be made from the funds of Grand Lodge towards the Fund; and (4) that the Provincial and District Grand Lodges and the private lodges under the jurisdiction of United Grand Lodge be invited to contribute. Motions on these and the other recommendations of the Grand Master will be made from the Chair, and then it will be proposed—also from the Chair—that a grant of 1000 guineas be made to this "South African Masonic Relief Fund."

The question naturally arises—What in these circumstances should be done in respect of the "Transvaal Brethren Relief Fund" as already opened in our columns by R.W. Bro. Richards. Our own opinion is that, if it can be managed, it should be merged in the general Fund now proposed to be raised for the relief of all the loyal brethren in South Africa, to whatever Districts they may happen to belong. Our principal reasons are (1) that as the war is the cause of the calamities from which all the English brethren are suffering in common, the Fund raised for their relief should be applied to them all in common; and (2) that anything like a clashing of appeals should be avoided. There is a community of suffering among the English brethren in South Africa; let there be a corresponding community in the measures adopted for their relief.

As for the rest of the Agenda, we would call the attention of our readers to the letter of Bro. Sir Albert W. Woods, P.G.W., G.D.C., in the Report of the Board of General Purposes. The point is a very proper one to have raised, and we doubt not the course adopted by the Board in causing copies of Sir Albert's letter to be circulated among the lodges "with a request that the strictest regard be paid to the contents," will have the desired effect. We notice, also, with satisfaction, that the Board has made a new departure by expressing its "very deep and sincere regret" at the losses sustained last year by death, the names of the brethren "who had filled high office in the Craft as officers of Grand Lodge" being included in the Report. We trust this course may continue to be followed in future years. It is also good news to hear that the room intended for the Library and Museum belonging to Grand Lodge will shortly be

completed. Let us hope that with the increased accommodation there will be a corresponding increase in the thirst for knowledge experienced by the brethren.

As regards the recognition of the "Grand Lodge of Western Australia recently formed by lodges under the District Grand Lodge," it seems to us that, unless there are sufficiently strong reasons of which we have heard nothing, the motion in favour of the proposal is, to say the least, premature, at all events until the course that may be adopted by the 28 or 30 Scottish lodges and the two Irish lodges already established in the Colony has been ascertained. In the event of the motion, which will be made from the Chair, being adopted, and the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland continuing the opposition we understand they have hitherto offered to the movement, the position will be a somewhat difficult one. It is quite possible that, as mentioned by the District G. Master (E.C.) at the meeting referred to in our recent article, the members of the Scottish and Irish lodges may sympathise with their English brethren in the steps they have taken for the formation of a Grand Lodge of Western Australia; but we consider it would be better to wait until the views of their Grand Lodges have been ascertained. There can be no doubt about our English brethren being practically unanimous in favour of the proposal, but these are only about one half of the whole Masonic body in the Colony.

Warrants for the constitution of 10 new lodges have been granted by his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master since the December Communication. Of these two—the Commercial Travellers Lodge, No. 2795, and the L'Entente Cordiale Lodge, No. 2796—will be located in London; and two in the Provinces, namely, the John Brunner Lodge, No. 2799, Over Wensford, in Cheshire; and the Alston, No. 2794, Alston, in Cumberland. Of the remaining six four are for the District of Western Australia, the Lathom and Australia Lodges, Nos. 2797 and 2801 respectively, being located in Perth; the John Hutt, No. 2802, Guildford; and the Toodyay, No. 2803, Newcastle. The Rokill Lodge, No. 2798, will have its quarters at Freetown, in Sierra Leone, and the Rajputana Lodge, No. 2800, at the town of the same name, in the District of Bombay.

The Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales, &c., will be held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday, the 6th inst. The paper of Agenda is not heavy, the principal business having reference to the Report of the General Board, which is, generally, of a satisfactory character. Since the last report warrants have been granted for the constitution of five Mark lodges, of which the Empress, No. 533, is located in London; the Wythenshawe, 531, Northenden, Cheshire; the Rose, No. 534, Camberwell, Surrey; and the Brontë, No. 535, Haworth, West Yorkshire, in the Provinces; and the Orient, No. 531, Howrah, Bengal, in one of the Districts Abroad. The number of Mark certificates issued during the quarter to 31st December last was 304. One warrant—that of the Moira, No. 412—has been returned to Grand Lodge through the District Grand Master of Victoria.

As regards the Degree of Royal Ark Mariners, warrants have been granted for three new lodges, all of them being located in the Provinces, namely, the Elmete, attached to the Copley Lodge, No. 211, Leeds, in West Yorkshire; the Wilbraham, to be attached to the Mark lodge of the same name, No. 523, Widnes, in Lancashire; and the Courtenay Luck, to be attached to No. 526 of the same name. The number of R.A.M. Certificates is 70, raising the total number of registered R.A.Ms. to 6126.

Sundry changes are also mentioned as having been made by his Royal Highness the M.W.G. Mark Master among the District G. Masters in India, Bro. Col. J. Graves Kelly, C.B., A.D.C., having been appointed District G. Mark Master of the Punjab, in succession to Bro. Col. C. F. Massy, whose term of office has expired; and Bro. the Hon. Sir Lawrence H. Jenkins, Chief Justice, Bombay, District G. Mark Master of Bombay, *vice* Bro. Lord Sandhurst, returned to England. It is also formally announced that the Annual Festival in behalf of the Mark Benevolent Fund will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday, the 11th July, under the presidency of the Earl of Euston M.W. Pro G. Mark Master.

We have been requested to correct a mistake in Bro. W. F. Lamonby's letter on the Grand Lodge of Western Australia in our last week's issue. The first word in the sixth line of the third paragraph should read "none," not "more" as printed.

## Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish, in a spirit of fair play to all, to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.

MASONIC CLOTHING.  
To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

In number seven of the very interesting series of articles now appearing in the *Freemason*, headed "Masonic Clothing," the writer says, "It may be remarked that it is not good form for the officers of a private lodge to wear aprons suitable for Grand or Provincial Grand Lodge while engaged in their own lodge work." I have the honour to hold P.P.G. rank, and am also a member and officer of a London lodge. I invariably wear my Prov. Grand apron, and the light blue collar of my office. I should be sorry to show bad form, and should be glad to have the opinion of yourself or any other authority on this matter.—I am, yours fraternally,

26th February.

P.M.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read with much interest the very instructive article in your last week's paper on "Masonic clothing."

There are, however, certain preliminary observations in regard to a recent circular issued by the authorities of Grand Lodge which leads one to infer that the writer of the article is not quite so well acquainted with the rules and practice in regard to dispensations for wearing Masonic clothing as he is in regard to the clothing itself.

I would, firstly, point out that Rule 206, Book of Constitutions, prohibits the wearing of any "jewels, clothing, or badges of the Craft in any procession, or at any funeral, ball, theatre, public assembly, or meeting unless the Grand Master, Provincial Grand Master, or District Grand Master, as the case may be, shall have previously given a dispensation for brethren to be there present in Masonic clothing."

It will, therefore, be seen that in provinces in this country and in districts abroad it still rests exclusively with the Provincial or District Grand Masters to exercise their own discretion in determining what dispensations shall be granted.

The circular issued by the Grand Secretary, at the instance as it appeared of the Grand Master's advisers, could, therefore, apply only to such cases as might arise within the London district, and consequently it must be only to that district that the observations of the writer of the article can apply.

"Up to a very recent date," he observes, "there scarcely seemed to be any place or any occasion, where, subject to an easily-procured dispensation, it was not fit and proper to appear clothed as a Freemason."

'What with Masonic funerals, church parades, foundation-stone layings, banquets, and balls, Masonic clothing and jewels were becoming common spectacles to the profane.'

As a somewhat old Mason, and one who for many years has kept a keen eye, on such matters, I would respectfully ask the writer of the article to name a single instance within, say the last 30 years, when Masonic clothing has been worn within the London district at either a funeral or foundation-stone laying, or where Masonic clothing has been worn at what is known in the Army as "a Church Parade."

I have myself had to do with the arrangements for more than one Masonic service in a place of worship within the London district, and I can testify to the fact that it was useless to apply for a dispensation to wear Masonic clothing unless a stipulation were inserted in it that no procession or parade should take place outside the church, and that the clothing of the brethren should take place within its walls.

I am prepared to admit that for some years past it has been a very common custom for many Masonic lodges once a year to invite ladies and others to entertainments given by the lodge, and on such occasions the members have been grateful to the M.W. Grand Master for permitting Masonic clothing to be worn.

The privilege so accorded was highly valued, and I have not heard that it was ever abused. It afforded enjoyment to the younger members of the Craft who were excusably proud of their Masonic paraphernalia, and I am told that the gracious permission of the Grand Master was most highly appreciated by the ladies, who derived gratification in contemplating the Masonic splendour of their relatives and friends. It strikes me that the writer of the article has, with imperfect knowledge, gone a little out of his way in characterising the granting of such dispensations as "an abuse which had attained such dimensions as to call for special legislation."

I know that the intimation that dispensations to wear Masonic clothing on such occasions in London would be discontinued, has occasioned more disappointment and heart burning than possibly those responsible for the decision may be aware of.

Whether the decision was a wise one or not I have no desire to discuss, the object of this letter being only to set the writer of the article right on a subject on which, as I have shown, he was imperfectly informed.—Yours fraternally,

A PAST MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

February 27th.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Sir,

It is peculiarly gratifying to me to be able to inform you that, notwithstanding the severe demands made upon the purse of the charitable public at the close of last year in consequence of the war, the friends of the crippled children rallied round me as usual, and, indeed, their liberality enabled me to extend the operations considerably.

The usual banquet at the Guildhall, by the permission of the Corporation, was given to poor children, and the Lord Mayor, Lady Mayoress, and the Sheriffs and their ladies attended in State.

In connection with this festivity we were enabled to distribute 5252 hampers, which is positively a record, exceeding the number sent on any previous occasion.

I am glad to say that our subscription list owed its length to the fact that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as he has done for some years, headed the donations. A small balance is left in hand as a nucleus of a fund which I hope to raise for the same purpose in the autumn of the present year.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Deputy W. H. Pannell, F.C.A., and

show, including a balance of £41 17s. 3d. brought forward from 1899, a total receipt of £1267 9s. 1d. The cost of the hampers was £1050 8s. 9d., and of the banquet £95 10s., and the other expenses were limited to printing, stationery, advertising, postage and receipt stamps.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you and the readers of your journal for the hearty support which has been accorded to me in this effort, and to express the hope that they will in due season again enable me to give to so many thousands of children, five-sixths of them cripples, an enjoyable Christmas-tide treat.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

W. P. TRELOAR.  
Alderman and Sheriff.

69, Ludgate Hill, E.C.  
February 26th.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

The following is the business to be transacted on Wednesday next, the 7th instant:—

1. The minutes of the Quarterly Communication of the 5th December for confirmation.

2. To consider the following message from His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master:

The Grand Master, feeling that one effect of the present serious war in South Africa must be to throw upon the local Masonic funds a pressure which they cannot possibly bear, ventures to appeal to the Craft under the Grand Lodge of England to come to the assistance of the sorely tried loyal brethren in that distant part of the world.

The Grand Master is aware of the noble response which the Order has already made in favour of the general Patriotic and Refugee Funds, and is loth to make any further call upon its generosity. But while the civil duty has been so excellently fulfilled, there yet remains unsatisfied that peculiar claim which the principles of Freemasonry inspire its members to have regard to. The Grand Master therefore desires that the sense of Grand Lodge shall be taken upon the following resolutions:

1st Resolution. "That a fund be raised from which the several District Grand Lodges under the English Constitution in South Africa may be assisted to relieve the distresses of their loyal members occasioned directly by the war in that quarter.

2nd Resolution. "That the appointment and general management of such fund be entrusted to the Board of General Purposes of Grand Lodge.

3rd Resolution. "That a sum of money be granted from the funds of the Grand Lodge towards the said fund.

4th Resolution. "That each Provincial and District Grand Lodge, and each private lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be invited to subscribe to the fund; subscriptions to be sent to the Grand Secretary.

5th Resolution. "That it is earnestly hoped that subscriptions to the Fund will not be allowed to interfere with intended contributions or donations to the established Scholastic and Benevolent Institutions of the Order.

6th Resolution. "That a copy of the Most Worshipful Grand Master's Message and the foregoing Resolutions be sent to the several Provincial Grand, District Grand, and Private Lodges, with a request that the Message and Resolutions may be read and acted upon at the first meeting after their receipt."

3. Motions from the Chair thereon.

4. Motion from the Chair—"That the sum of 1000 guineas be voted from the funds of Grand Lodge to the 'South African Masonic Relief Fund,' in accordance with the foregoing message of his Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master."

5. Announcement from the Chair—"That the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been graciously pleased to confer the rank and dignity of Past Grand Warden (Junior) on the Most Worshipful Bro. the Hon. C. E. Davies, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania, and on the Most Worshipful Bro. his Excellency Idris Bey Ragheb, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Egypt."

6. Election of M.W. Grand Master.

7. Election of Grand Treasurer.—W. Bro. Harry Manfield, P.M. of Lodges 1764 and 1911, Northampton, the only candidate.

7. Report of the Board of Benevolence for the last quarter, in which are recommendations for the following grants:

A brother of the Henry Muggeridge Lodge, No. 1679, London...	£50 0 0
A brother of the Newall Lodge, No. 1134, Manchester...	75 0 0
The widow of a brother of the St. David's Lodge, No. 366, Milford...	50 0 0
A brother of the Lodge of Agriculture, No. 1199, Yatton...	50 0 0
A brother of the New Concord Lodge, No. 813, London...	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Mersey Lodge, No. 477, Birkenhead...	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the New Cross Lodge, No. 1559, London...	50 0 0
A brother of the Finsbury Park Lodge, No. 1288, London...	100 0 0
A brother of the St. James's Lodge, No. 1579, Enfield...	50 0 0
The widow of a brother of the Southern Star Lodge, No. 1158, London...	100 0 0
A brother of the St. John the Baptist Lodge, No. 39, Exeter...	50 0 0

9. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board begs to report that pursuant to a resolution passed by Grand Lodge at the last Quarterly Communication, it has very fully considered the proposal of V.W. Bro. the Rev. F. N. Bethune Norman Lee, Grand Chaplain, that the following addition be made to Rule 165, Book of Constitutions:

"And if in any Lodge it should become impossible to hold the regular meeting upon the day named in the By-Laws for that purpose, the Grand Master, and in Provinces and Districts the Provincial and District Grand Master, may grant a Dispensation for the holding of such meeting upon a day not more than seven days before or after that day fixed by the By-Laws, which day shall for all purposes be deemed the regular day of meeting."

The Board beg to recommend that the proposed addition be made to Rule 165, and that Rule 130, Book of Constitutions, be amended by expunging that portion of it, commencing with the word "If" in the fifth line on page 65, and

ending with the word "meeting" in the 15th line. The provision contained in such portion of the rule being no longer necessary.

The Board has further to report that it has received the following communication from R.W. Bro. Sir Albert Woods, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Garter, P.G. Warden, Grand Director of Ceremonies:

"TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

"V.W. Sir and Brother,

"Will you kindly bring before the Board with the view of the matter being authoritatively dealt with, a growing practice of some English brethren who have been accorded honorary rank in Foreign or other Grand Lodges wearing the clothing of such foreign or other Grand Lodges while attending the meetings of English Lodges. The irregular practice leads to confusion and irritation by reason of precedence being given to the offending brethren which they are not entitled to, and this constitutes a distinct invasion of the prerogative of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of England. By Rule 282 of the Book of Constitutions, 'no Brother shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge or any subordinate Lodge without his proper clothing,' and the subsequent rules prescribe what that proper clothing is. If His Royal Highness the Grand Master desires to give Masonic precedence to any Brother, the rank in Grand Lodge of England is accorded, and no foreign or other Grand Lodge can, by appointments made by it, disturb the order of our Grand Master's appointments within this jurisdiction. In other words, Foreign or Colonial appointments conferred on English Masons give no rank in England, and while the clothing may be appropriate for those who are members of the conferring Body even while visiting here, it is not the 'proper clothing' prescribed by the Constitutions for English Masons.

"I have already given instructions to prevent the admission into Grand Lodge of English members who infringe Rule 282, and if the Masters of Private Lodges were reminded of the Law upon the subject, they would doubtless take care that its provisions are respected. If the Board were to authorise the issue of a notice to the Lodges, no doubt the duties of Directors of Ceremonies would be lightened, and the appointments of our Most Worshipful Grand Master preserved in their integrity.

"I remain,

"Faithfully and fraternally yours,

"ALBERT W. WOODS, G.D.C.

"69, St. George's Road, S.W.,

"23rd December, 1899."

The Board being of opinion that the complaint of the Grand Director of Ceremonies was a very proper one, has given directions for copies of his communication to be sent to the W. Masters of all Lodges under the English Constitution, with a request that the strictest regard be paid to the contents of it.

The Board further desires to direct the attention of Lodges throughout the Craft, to the provisions of Rule 283, Book of Constitutions, and to request that due attention may be paid thereto.

It is with a feeling of very deep and sincere regret that the Board has to report the removal by death, during the year 1899, of the following Brethren who had filled high office in the Craft as Officers of Grand Lodge.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE YEAR 1899.

R.W. Bros. Col. Le G. N. Starkie, Prov. Grand Master Lancashire, E.; His Excellency Sir Charles Mitchell, G.C.M.G., District Grand Master Eastern Archipelago; Lieut.-Col. Macglashan, C.M.G., P.G.W., Past District Grand Master Jamaica; the Lord Herschell, G.C.B., P.G.W.; and the Earl of Strafford, K.C.V.O., C.B., P.G.W.; V.W. Bro. Asher Barfield, P.G. Treas.; W. Bros. E. J. Turner, P.G.D.; E. K. Bailey, P.G.D.; Lt.-Col. A. B. Cook, P.G.D.; Lt.-Col. Newton, P.G.D.; L. Gordon Robbins, P.G.D.; Jabez Hogg, M.D., P.G.D.; Henry Maulesley, P.G.D.; George E. Lake, P.G.D.; Major-Gen. Hay, C.B., P.G.D.; S. Leith Tomkins, P.G.D.; John Clayton, P. Asst. G.D.C.; Dr. Hayball Paul, P. Asst. G.D.C.; Raymond Thrupp, P. Asst. G.D.C.; E. Monteuis, P.G.S.B.; Col. James Peters, P.G.S.B.; Major-Gen. Gadsden, P.G.S.B.; Arthur Stubbs, P.G. Std. Br.; E. L. P. Valeriani, P.P. Std. Br.; and H. L. D. Montmorency, G. Stwd.

The Board also submit a statement of the Grand Lodge accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 16th day of February instant, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £10,379 5s. 4d., and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for petty cash £100, and for servants' wages £100.

In acknowledging the following presentations, the Board takes the opportunity to report that the capacious and handsome room in course of erection for the reception of the Library and curiosities belonging to Grand Lodge will very shortly be completed, when the Board will be most happy to receive any additions thereto, which the generosity of members of the Craft may place at its disposal.

TITLE OR OBJECT.	BY WHOM PRESENTED.
Full-length Oil Portrait of George, Prince of Wales, afterwards King George IV. ...	Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.
The Degrees of Freemasonry and the Royal Arch ...	C. Letch Mason, P.P.G.H.
Two Masonic Aprons and Collars ...	Hendon Lodge of Instruction, No. 2206.
Centennial Celebration of the North Star Lodge, No. 5, Lancaster, New Hampshire, U.S.A. ...	M. D. Richardson, Secretary.
A Valuable Old Picture of Freemasons' Hall, London ...	Seymour Bell, P.P.S.G.W.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Arizona, 1882-1898 ...	Geo. J. Roskrug, Grand Secretary.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, 1826-1881 ...	Jefferson S. Conover, Grand Secretary.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, 1860-1899 ...	
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New York, 1793-1883 ...	A. A. Clark, G. Librarian of New York.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Delaware ...	James H. Price, Grand Secretary.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts from 1798 ...	Gen. S. C. Lawrence, Past G. Master.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, 1876-1899 ...	W. H. Whyte, G.S.E. Quebec.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Delaware (Various) ...	B. F. Bartram, G. Secretary Delaware.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (Various) ...	Sereno D. Nickerson, Grand Secretary.
Printed Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, 1858-1877 ...	T. H. R. Redway, Grand Secretary.
Printed Address of the Grand Master of New York ...	The Grand Secretary of New York.
The Masonic Journal, Vol. 2 ...	John Armstrong, P.P.G.W.
The Wrights of Glasgow (a Reprint) ...	W. Jas. HUGHAN, P.G. Deacon.
Engraved Portrait of John Lane, P.A.G.D.C. ...	Gen. Samuel C. Lawrence, Past Grand Master
Photo Souvenir of 26th Triennial Conclave of Knights Templar of the United States Centennial Celebration of St. Andrew's Chapter, Boston, Massachusetts ...	Abbott L. Aldrich, G.H.P.
Morgan's Freemasonry Exposed and Explained ...	Alfred Bannister, P.M. No. 1362
Masonic Clothing Box (inlaid) ...	Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap.

Freemasonry and the Tabernacle and Temple ... Robert W. Bowers, P.M. No 15.  
Two Photographs of Old Masonic Hall at St. John's, Antigua, W.I. ... R. H. Ko Dyett, P.M. 492.  
Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of North Dakota ... Frank J. Thompson, Grand Secretary.  
Souvenir of Centennial of the death of Worshipful George Washington, 1799-1899 ... The Grand Lodge of Virginia.  
(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND LOVELAND, President.  
Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,  
20th February, 1900.

Report of Bro. John Smith, Auditor of the Grand Lodge Accounts, of receipts and disbursements during the year 1899.

10. Motion from the Chair:—"That this Grand Lodge recognises and acknowledges the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, recently formed by lodges under the District Grand Lodge."

11. The Grand Registrar will move:—"That the application from an irregular body styling itself the Grand Lodge of Western Australia, requesting recognition as sole and supreme Masonic Authority in the Colony, be refused."

#### APPEALS.

1.—By Bro. WILLIAM HENDERSON, P.M. of Franklin Lodge, No. 2486, Windsorton, South Africa—

Against a decision of the Deputy District Grand Master and Board of General Purposes of Central Division, South Africa. (Postponed from last Quarterly Communication.)

2.—By W. Bro. Lt.-Col. E. P. FRENCHMAN (I.M.S.), P.M., D.S.G.W., and by Lodge Palm, No. 2645, Bassein—

Against rulings of the District Grand Master of Burma, as to an installation in the said lodge.

List of lodges for which warrants have been granted by the M.W.G.M. since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge:

No. 2794, The Alston Lodge, Alston, Cumberland.  
2795, The Commercial Travellers Lodge, London.  
2796, L'Entente Cordiale Lodge, London.  
2797, The Lathom Lodge, Perth, Western Australia.  
2798, The Rokill Lodge, Freetown, Sierra Leone.  
2799, The John Brunner Lodge, Over Wensford, Cheshire.  
2800, The Rajputana Lodge, Rajputana, Bombay.  
2801, Lodge Australia, Perth, Western Australia.  
2802, The John Hutt Lodge, Guildford, Western Australia.  
2803, The Toodyay Lodge, Newcastle, Western Australia.

#### CONSECRATION AND RE-CONSTITUTION OF THE ASHTON DISTRICT (MARK) LODGE (T.I.).

One of those rare occurrences in the Provinces—a Moveable Grand Lodge of England—was held on Saturday, the 17th ult., at the Crescent-road Board Schools, Dukinfield, to formally receive into the ranks of lodges the old, and until now, independent lodge of Mark Masons, which for at least 100 years has been popularly known as the Travelling Mark Lodge of Cheshire, and amongst its members, for at least 30 years, as the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of the Ashton-under-Lyne District. The occasion was a great one, and well worthy of the importance attached to it by Grand Lodge, as at last Mark Masonry, as far as England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown are concerned, is now one united whole under the Grand Mastership of H.R.H. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales.

The proceedings were commenced by Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Prov. G.M. Cheshire, opening, with the assistance of his officers, a Mark lodge, and afterwards re-obligating 53 old members of the Ashton Lodge. Grand Lodge was then announced and entered in procession. The Pro G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., &c., was supported by—

Bros. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, P.G.W., P.G.M., acting Deputy G.M.; C. Letch Mason, P.G.M. Yorkshire; Chas. Belton, P.G.M.O., as S.G.W.; A. H. Jefferis, D.P.G.M. Lancs., as J.G.W.; Rev. C. C. Atkinson, D.D., G. Chap.; C. F. Matier, G. Sec.; Col. Dean, D.P.G.M. Cheshire; Col. Angus, D.P.G.M. N. and D.; Wm. Goodacre, P.G.D., P.G. Sec. Lancs.; R. Newhouse, P.G.D., P.G. Sec. Cheshire; Dr. C. S. Brewer, G.D.C.; J. H. Barrow, A.G.D.C.; A. Middleton, P.G. Std. Br.; J. Brookes, G.S.B.; John Armstrong, P.P.S.G.W.; and Lilley Ellis, P.P.J.G.W., as G. Std. Brs.; E. J. Mills, G.I.G.; Westlake Morgan, G. Org.; and many other P.G. Officers.

Prominent amongst Prov. Grand Officers were—

Bros. F. Broadsmith, P.P.S.G.W.; J. Cookson, P.S.G.W.; F. Moore, P.J.G.W.; J. Kershaw, P.P.J.G.W.; T. D. Foreman, P.P.J.G.W.; W. Ramsden, P.P.G.W.; H. G. Small, P.P.S.G.W.; G. Hammond-Danby, P.P.G.W.; John Fletcher, P.P.G.M.O.; J. Clarke, P.P.S.G.O.; G. Poole-Poole, P.P.J.G.O.; J. C. Robinson, P.P.G.D.C.; Stuart-Edwards, M.A., P.G.I. of W.; Rev. J. Nunn, Prov. G. Chaplain; Sam Jones, P.P.G. Treasurer; J. H. Benyon, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Smith, P.P.G.S.B.; A. J. Thompson, P.P.G.D.; A. Rutherford, P.S. G.D.; Powell Jones, P.P.G.S.B.; W. Booth, P.P.G.O.; A. W. Siddall, P.P. S.G.O.; J. W. Hulley, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Wagstaffe, P.P.S.G.O.; J. Ferguson, P.A.G. Sec.; J. S. Derbyshire, P.G.D.C.; W. Dykes, P.P.G.S.B.; and John Yarker.

The Pro G. Master, on assuming the chair, at once opened G. Lodge in ample form, and after the usual salutes and preliminary business had been despatched, the Pro G. Master requested the G.D. of C to bring forth Bro. Dr. Foreman, on whom he conferred the past rank of a Grand Overseer of England for the services rendered by him in bringing about the happy events of that day.

The G. SECRETARY having stated the special objects on account of which G. Lodge was being held in Dukinfield, and there being no further business, G. Lodge was closed.

The Pro G. Master then proceeded to consecrate and dedicate the Ashton District Lodge, proving that he was a perfect master of the ritual in every detail.

The oration on the nature and principles of the Institution by the G. Chaplain, Bro. the Rev. C. Chetwynd Atkinson, D.D., was of the highest order, and the musical arrangements under the G. Organist, Bro. Westlake Morgan, were simply perfect.

The G. Secretary, Bro. C. F. Matier, assumed the chair after the consecration for the purpose of installing Bro. Dr. T. D. Foreman as W.M.; needless to say, his rendering of the beautiful ritual was a masterpiece, and worthy of the acknowledged greatest exponent of Mark Masonry in the kingdom.

The W.M. invested his officers as follows: Bros. Joseph Hulme, P.M., I.P.M.; Alderman Aaron W. Siddall, P.M., P.P.S.G.O., S.W.; Walter Newton, P.M., P.P.J.G.D. (Mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne), J.W.; J. W. Hulley, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., M.O.; Edwin Marshall, S.O.; John T. Hulse, J.O.; Allen Shaw, J.P., Treas.; James Fitton, P.M., Sec.; John Wagstaffe, P.M., P.P.S.G.O., S.D.; John Hanson, J.D.; George Holland, I.G.; Tom Cheetham, Org.; William Hulme, John Rowson, D. W. Pickering, and John H. Maxwell, Stwds.; and Dan Birkby, Tyler.

On investing Bro. Hulme as acting I.P.M., the W.M. reminded him that he (Bro. Hulme) was the last of a long line of Masters of the old lodge who for at least a century had maintained the high reputation of that lodge, as he (Dr. Foreman) was the first Master under the new order of things, and he felt little doubt he would have as many successors in the coming years as Bro. Hulme had had predecessors under the older regime.

Bros. Lord Euston, Egerton, Matier, Col. Dean, A. H. Jefferis, R. Newhouse, Wm. Goodacre, and Chas. Belton were elected hon. members, an honour the Pro Grand Master acknowledged on behalf of himself and the other hon. members.

The Pro Grand Master and his officers then retired, and the lodge was closed by the W.M.

The banquet was of the most *recherché* character, and was partaken of by a very large number of Grand and Prov. Grand Officers.

The loyal toasts were received with enthusiasm, after which the W.M. proposed "The Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, M.W. Pro G. Master."

His LORDSHIP, in responding, mentioned the recent difficulty, now happily arranged, between G. Lodge and that lodge, which was all owing to the latter calling itself a G. Lodge; and as there could only be one Grand Lodge of Mark Masons in England, that over which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales presided, they were bound to take strong measures. They could and did not interfere on any other ground, and he was delighted that any soreness was a thing of the past, their differences had that day been finally settled in a way honourable to all alike.

The W.M. proposed "The R.W. Prov. G. Master, the Hon Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P.," and referred to the long and intimate connection of the Egerton family, not only with Cheshire, but more particularly with Masonry in the province.

In responding, the PROV. G. MASTER spoke at some length on the connection between his brother and himself and Cheshire Masonry. He said they both fully recognised that placed as they were in a somewhat onerous position, they owed a duty in many public capacities to the county, but in none did they derive greater pleasure than when engaged in discharge of those connected with the Masonic fraternity.

Bro. C. F. MATIER, P.G.W., G. Sec., briefly responded for "The Grand Officers," and

Bro. Col. C. S. DEAN, D.P.G.M. Cheshire, responded for "The Prov. Grand Officers."

Bro. the Earl of EUSTON, Pro Grand Master, in a felicitous speech, proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and paid a high tribute to Bro. Dr. Foreman's efforts which had materially resulted in bridging over the difficulties which had hitherto existed.

Bro. Dr. FOREMAN most ably replied, thanking the Earl of Euston for the kind and eulogistic expressions he had used, and the brethren for the enthusiastic manner in which they received the sentiment. That it had been his earnest endeavour all through the correspondence and negotiations of the past to display a true Masonic spirit in adjusting the existing difficulties with the view of effecting union, honourable alike to all, and whilst not attempting to conceal errors of commission on his part or that of his lodge, he now felt that by their kind and considerate action and candid explanations a perfect unity of sentiment existed between them, and that his lordship's words in conjunction with those of the Provincial Grand Master had smoothed every asperity of feeling and that complete harmony and unity now existed, which it would be his endeavour to foster for the good of the Order and the prosperity of the lodge in its new dispensation under the Grand Lodge of England.

Other Masonic toasts followed, and this most memorable day was brought to a happy close, and will long continue to be associated in the minds of the brethren with pleasant recollections of the past.

The meeting was large and representative, comprising the most prominent and influential Mark Masons of Cheshire, Lancashire, and neighbouring provinces, there being 20 Grand and upwards of 40 Prov. G. Officers, besides several Worshipful Masters, many Past Masters, and brethren of surrounding lodges.

### CONSECRATION OF THE BERNARD DE TREMELAY PRECEPTORY, No. 170.

The consecration of this new preceptory at the Dragon Hotel, Walsall, Staffordshire, by the M.E. and S. Grand Master, the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., took place on Thursday, the 22nd ult. The M.E. and S. Grand Master entered the room under the arch of steel, followed by his

Great Officers, viz., V.E. Sir Knight J. W. Woodall, Prov. Prior N. and E. Yorks; E. Sir Knights C. F. Matier, G.V.C.; C. Belton, G. Marshal; T. P. Dorman, G. Capt. of G.; C. W. Carrell, K.C.T.; and the Rev. Trevor Parkins, Prov. Chap., who officiated in the absence of E. Sir Knight the Rev. Russell Finlay.

The ceremony of consecration was most impressively performed by Lord Euston and his officers, all the sir knights present viewing with the deepest interest the magnificent and unusual ceremonial.

An eloquent oration on the nature and principles of ancient chivalry was then delivered by the Prov. Chaplain, Sir Knight the Rev. TREVOR PARKINS.

The V.E. Sir Knight CHARLES FENDELOW, Prov. Prior of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, &c., with some very appropriate remarks, then placed in the chair of E.P. the E. Sir Knight Frederick W. Willmore, P.E.P. 79, P. Prov. Marshal, who, after being duly saluted, proceeded to appoint his officers as follows: E. Sir Knights Abraham Green, P.E.P. 52, Prov. Sub-Prior Worcestershire, 1st Constable; and Capt. C. L. N. Wilson, E.P. 79, 2nd Constable; Sir Knights W. W. Doughty, 79, Treas. and Reg.; D. Power, 79, Marshal; Alfred Dewesbury, 79, Chap.; and Frederick Gnosill, 79, Capt. of Guard; and Frater F. Dalley, Guard.

The EMINENT PRECEPTOR then proposed that the hearty thanks of the founders be accorded to the M.E. and S. Grand Master and his officers for the honour they had conferred in coming down to perform the important ceremony of consecration, and he hoped that each one of them would consent to becoming honorary members of the preceptory. This was seconded and carried unanimously, upon which, Lord Euston, on behalf of himself and his officers, was pleased to signify his acceptance. The M.E. and S. Grand Master and his officers then left the room under the Arch of Steel, and then some formal business being despatched, the Preceptory was duly closed.

A banquet subsequently took place, at which the Em. Preceptor presided, being supported on his right by the M.E. and S. Grand Master, and on his left by the Prov. Prior of Staffordshire and N. and E. Yorks., and the other great officers, together with a number of sir knights from various parts of the province.

The usual loyal and other toasts were duly honoured, and at a later period of the evening the M.E. and S. Grand Master was pleased to propose the health and welfare of the Em. Preceptor of the Bernard de Tremelay Preceptory, and also its future prosperity.

In responding to the toast, the EM. PRECEPTOR alluded at some length to the name which had been chosen and which had excited some curiosity and interest on the part of many of the visitors. He explained that Bernard was the fourth Grand Master of the Templars, having been elected as such on the death of Everard de Barri in 1151. After playing an heroic part in the siege of Ascalon, he was slain, together with 40 of his knights, in a daring attempt to capture that city in 1153. In perpetuating his name, they wished to honour the memory of one of the most valiant knights of the Order, and it was also an additional element of interest to note the fact that he was a relative of the celebrated Saint Bernard, who in 1128 was chosen to draw up the statutes for the Order of the Templars, to whom also he bequeathed a body of wise counsels the "Exhortatio ad milites templi."

The occasion will long be remembered by those who were privileged to take part in it, and the future successful career of the new preceptory will, we feel sure, be watched with considerable interest by the Knights Templar of South Staffordshire.

There were present

V.E. Sir Knights the Earl of Euston, G.C.T.; Fendelow, Prov. Prior; and Woodall, Prov. Prior N. and E. Yorks.; E. Sir Knights F. W. Willmore, E.P.; Matier, G.V.C.; Dorman, G. Capt. of Guard; the Rev. Trevor Parkins; Belton, G. Marshal; Carrell, K.C.T.; Shepley, Prov. Reg. Worcestershire; Green, Sub Prior Worcestershire; Wilson, E.P. 79; Howson, Mallard, Percy Smith, Roberts, Dewesbury, Tollady, Kent, Power, Hart, Marson, Loveridge, Doughty, Walker, Newnham, Taylor, Baker, and Gnosill.

## Royal Arch.

### Royal Alfred Chapter, No. 777.

The regular convocation of this chapter was held at the Angel Hotel, Guildford, on Wednesday, the 21st ult. Present: Comps. E. Miles, M.E.Z.; Alfred Gibbs, H.; Francis Dowse, I.P.Z.; Rev. J. A. Arnan Tait, P.S.; W. Macklin, 1st A.S.; J. H. Robinson; R. F. Gould, P.A.G.S.; C. T. Tyler, A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Scribe E.; Charles Pulman, P.A.G.D.C.; and G. J. Hoare, Janitor.

A ballot was taken for Captain Gerald C. M. Rouse, 3rd King's Own Yorkshire L.I., of the Worthing Lodge of Friendship, No. 851, which proving favourable, he was exalted into the mysteries and privileges of Royal Arch Masonry. The Three Principals' chairs during the ceremony were filled by Comps. C. T. Tyler, as M.E.Z.; R. F. Gould, as H.; and Alfred Gibbs, as J., respectively. Comp. J. B. S. Lancaster, P.Z., the esteemed and popular S.E. of the chapter, to whose indefatigable exertions it owes so much of its success, was unfortunately precluded by illness from attending, and a hearty vote of sympathy, coupled with a hope that he would be present with them at the next convocation, was unanimously passed by the companions.

The companions afterwards dined together, and spent a very pleasant evening.

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## Science, Art, and the Drama.

### CHINA SILK TRADE.

It is worth while to remember that, however hopeful European exporters may be of finding in China increasing outlets for their goods, the fundamental condition for a brisk import trade is an increasing export trade, and that lately some very alarming statements have been made respecting one of the most important of China's industries—the production and reeling of silk. The alleged decadence of this industry appears the more serious, as similar reports have for some time past been current with regard to another Chinese industry—that of tea cultivation and preparation. Mr. Rocher, the Commissioner of Customs for Shanghai, made some statements in his report on the trade of that port during last year, in which he called attention to the inferiority of last year's cocoons in China, the spread of disease amongst the worms, and the general lowering of the vitality of the breeds. Mr. Rocher has followed up this warning by a letter to the Viceroy—which has been published in the *Chinese Gazette*—in which he makes some very emphatic statements respecting the extent and reality of the evil. Nine years ago, when the question of Chinese silk culture was taken by a predecessor of Mr. Rocher, many of the silk growing districts were still free from disease; but, in consequence of the neglect of the warning then given, the disease has since made enormous progress, and China seems to be threatened with that general extermination of the silkworm, which had almost been completed in France and Italy when Pasteur began his memorable researches into its causes, and succeeded in arresting its march, and reconstituting the industry in both countries. It may now be said, Mr. Rocher urges, that almost all the silkworms in China are diseased, and the effect on the silk-producing capacity of the worm is very marked. Formerly one picul of silk was obtained from three piculs of cocoons, but last year five piculs of cocoons, on the average, only yielded one picul of silk, and this year six-and-a-half piculs of cocoons have been consumed in obtaining the same result. Owing to bad and short crops, the cocoons have been dear as well as poor, and it is in consequence of this fact that so many of the steam filatures, or silk spinning mills, in the Shanghai district have been closed, the total number of these establishments at work having been reduced from 24 last year to 11 this year. It is now stated that not a single district in China, where silk culture is carried on, remains quite free from the disease. This condition of affairs implies a large loss of revenue for both the central and provincial governments, and the Kiangsu and Chekiang provinces, hitherto made rich by the silk industry, are likely to be impoverished, more and more every year if the ravages of the disease are not arrested. Under these circumstances, Mr. Rocher, who two years ago made suggestions to the Viceroy for checking the decay of the tea trade of China, appears to have succeeded in awakening the Viceroy's interest in the silk question, and in obtaining official financial support for organised methods of re-establishing healthy breeds of silk worms throughout China. His plan consists in the adoption of the methods recommended by Pasteur—the selection of healthy moths by the aid of the microscope, for the production of healthy eggs. Two "nurseries" are to be established in the provinces of Kiangsu and Chekiang respectively, each of these stations to be under the charge of a foreign assistant, and the two stations to be under the control of a foreign director. Mr. Rocher estimates that, in three years' time, a sufficient number of pupils will have been trained, and native breeders educated, to enable the growers to go on without further external assistance. Expensive buildings, he has pointed out, are not necessary for the experimental stations. The necessary expenditure, he estimates, will be fully provided for by a payment of 6000 taels per annum, during the three years by each of the two provinces mentioned. It is stated that provision has already been made by the Viceroy, for the payment of these subventions, which in comparison with the enormous importance of the work to be done, may well be regarded as extremely moderate. No little importance may also be attached to the educational influence of this latest attempt to introduce Western Science into China. The proposed "nurseries" may prove not merely instrumental in regenerating the Chinese silk industry, but influential aids in the regeneration of the Chinese Empire itself. A great difficulty is the apparent unwillingness of the Chinese to pay for experiments, with a view to a future reward. It is by a demonstration of the practical benefits to be ultimately reaped, that Mr. Rocher hopes to convert the native growers and merchants.

### JOHN MABUSE OR MABEUGIUS.

As there are several specimens of this old painter now being exhibited, it may be interesting to give a few details respecting him. He was born at a little town of the same name, in Hainault, about 1470, and is supposed to have died 1532. He had the two defects of his contemporary countrymen—stiffness in his manner and drunkenness. Yet his industry was sufficient to carry him to great lengths in his profession. His works were clear and highly finished. He was a friend rather than a rival of Lucas of Leyden. After some practice at home he travelled into Italy, where he acquired more truth in treating nude subjects than freedom of expression. Indeed, Raphael himself had not then struck out that majestic freedom which has since animated painting, and delivered it from the servility of coldly copying motionless nature. A much admired work of Mabuse was an altar piece at Middleburgh (Holland), a descent from the cross; Albert Durer went on purpose to see it, and praised it. Indeed, their style was very like; a picture of Mabuse now at St. James's is generally called Albert's. The piece at Middleburgh was destroyed by lightning. A great number of Mabuse's works were preserved in the same city. But one of his most striking performances was the decollation of St. John, painted in the shades of a single colour. The Marquis de Veren took him into his own house, where he drew the Virgin and Child, borrowing the ideas of their heads from the Marquis's lady and son. This was reckoned his capital piece. While he was in this service, the Emperor Charles V. was to lodge at the house of that lord, who made magnificent preparations for his reception, and, among other expenses, ordered all his household to be dressed in white damask. Mabuse, always wanting money to waste in debauchery, when the tailor came to take his measure desired to have the damask, under pretence of inventing a singular habit. He sold the stuff, drank out the money, and then painted a suit of paper so like damask that it was not distinguished as he marched in the procession, between a philosopher and a poet. Other pensioners of the Marquis, who, being informed of the trick, asked the Emperor which of the three suits he liked

best: The Prince pointed to Mabuse's as excelling in the whiteness and beauty of the flowers, nor did he, till convinced by the touch, doubt of the genuineness of the silk. The Emperor laughed much—but though a lover of the art, seems to have taken no other notice of Mabuse, whose excesses some time after occasioned his being flung into prison at Middleburgh, where, however, he continued to work. Vermander had seen several good drawings by him in black chalk. At what time Mabuse came to England is not exactly known. Vermander says, expressly that he was here, and the portraits drawn by him are a confirmation. The picture of Prince Arthur, Prince Henry, and Princess Margaret, when children, in the china closet at Windsor, was done by him.

### HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

"A Midsummer Night's Dream," now represented with such great success at the above theatre, is supposed by Malone, the learned critic of Shakespeare's works, to have been written about the year 1594. Of all the plays of Shakespeare there is none more entirely harmonious than "A Midsummer Night's Dream." All the incidents, all the characters are subservient, and in perfect subordination to the will of the poet. Throughout the whole piece the more exalted characters are dependent on the interests of those beneath them. An unpractised author, when treating Theseus and Hippolyta of the heroic ages, would have made them ultra-heroical. They would have commanded events instead of moving with the supernatural influence around them, in harmony and proportion. Theseus, the associate of Hercules, is not engaged in any adventure worthy of his rank or reputation, nor is he in reality an agent throughout the play. An immature poet, if the marvellous creation of Oberon and Titania, and Puck, could have entered into such a mind, would have laboured to make the power of the fairies produce some strange and striking events. But the exquisite beauty of Shakespeare's conception is that under the supernatural influence the mortals move more precisely according to their respective natures and habits. Malone says, "That a drama of which the principal personages are insignificant and the fable meagre and uninteresting, was one of our author's earliest compositions, does not seem a very improbable conjecture; nor are the beauties with which it is embellished, inconsistent with this supposition." The beauties with which it is embellished include, of course, the whole rhythmical structure of the versification. The poet has here put forth all his strength. If any single composition were required to exhibit the power of the English language, for purposes of poetry, that composition would be the "Midsummer Night's Dream." Of the interpretation of the play, as arranged by Mr. Tree, we speak with unqualified praise. As in the case of King John, the previous revival, he has done wisely in compressing it into three acts, it is thereby rendered more briskly, and saved from becoming tedious. The scenic effects are fine; we would especially draw attention to the Exterior of Theseus's Palace, which, with its varied architectural details, is most interesting. The woodland pictures, where the fairies resort, are full of grace and beauty; the groupings and dances are in consistent harmony with Mendelssohn's music which inspired them. The characters of Oberon and Titania are admirably played by Miss Julia Neilson and Mrs. Tree. Puck is depicted by Miss Louie Freear with much humour. Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, has a worthy exponent in Miss Miriam Clements, who well sustains, in conjunction with Mr. William Mollison, as Theseus, the dignity of her position. The characters of Lysander and Demetrius are well contrasted, by the skill of Messrs. Lewis Waller and Gerald Lawrence, who undertake them, while the rival beauties, Hermia and Helena, are intelligently given by the Misses Sarah Brooke and Dorothea Baird. The rustics with their interlude, and Mr. Tree by his artistic representation of Bottom, the Weaver, most pleasantly serve to heighten the interest of the play.

### GENERAL NOTES.

As a result of a visit by Herr Lan-Imark to the United States a new departure has been made in connection with the artificial hatching of salmon in Norway. Formerly, the young fry were allowed to escape as soon as they began to require food, and, therefore, when in a very delicate and defenceless condition. They are now retained in captivity, and fed four times a day upon the raw liver of slaughtered animals until the autumn, after the system used in America. According to Consul Nelson, of Bergen, the results of the first year's experiment at the Government hatchery on the Drammen were satisfactory; on 280,000 ova treated the loss was only two per cent., and in the middle of October about 211,000 fry were turned out, while the percentage of loss has been still further reduced of late years. A belief is prevalent among the coast fishermen that salmon and sea trout spawn successfully in salt water, and in this connection a series of experiments were conducted under proper supervision, from which it appears that (1) roe taken from salmon captured in a river or from sea trout which have remained until spawning time in sea water cannot be successfully developed in salt water; and (2) salmon and sea trout roe impregnated in fresh water may be hatched out in brackish water containing a small percentage of salt up to eight or nine mille, i.e., rather less than one-third of the salt contained in the sea water on the Norway coast.

One of the effects of the war upon amusements is illustrated by the case of one popular vocalist, who has had 13 engagements cancelled within three weeks, and in the same period received 71 applications for his free services at entertainments for the various war funds.

A widely-circulated rumour from South Africa states that some of the Boer ammunition was shipped from Europe to Delagoa Bay as Steinway pianos. The instruments weigh from 638 lbs. to 1027 lbs., and it is supposed that the Boer ammunition was contained in one or some of the largest orchestral grand concert pianofortes. We have not heard of any denial of the report, which is quite likely to be true, for pianos being such heavy articles, should the mechanical part be removed and replaced by other weighty materials, no notice would be taken during exportation.

"Cinderella," the posthumous ballet of the late Johann Strauss, has been prepared for performance, and will shortly be produced at the Imperial Opera, Vienna. Some of the music is said to be in the composer's happiest and freshest style, a waltz illustrating Cinderella's dream and an intermezzo preceding the last act being especially charming. The intermezzo has already been performed successfully at a Vienna Conservatoire Concert.

## Craft Masonry.

### Salisbury Lodge, No. 435.

The installation meeting of this old-established and distinguished lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, W.C., on the 20th ult., when a great many attended to honour Bro. Charles Loram, S.W., the W.M. elect, a very popular and esteemed member of the lodge. Bro. William Curry, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. Charles Loram, S.W.; N. H. Walker, G. Paxton, William T. Ball, P.M., Sec.; C. Simmonds, E. H. Jones, E. L. H. Davis, G. Michael, P.M.; A. Scherzel, P.M.; E. Harris, P.M.; T. C. Stanley, P.M.; J. W. Harding, P.M., Tyler; and many others. Visitors: Bros. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; Prince Harman Singh, B. Stockman, A. P. Richardson, W. H. Glazier, P.M.; G. Lichtenfeld, P.M.; A. B. Kent, S. W. Hunt, A. W. Briggs, S. Jamieson, J. C. Steiner, G. H. Phillips, J. Horncastle, P.M.; J. King, P.P.G.D.C.; H. Stocker, P.P.G.T.; H. Comfort, R. Lake, P.M.; G. Hall, R. Manuel, P.M.; C. Davis, P.M.; J. T. Murray, C. J. Grove, P.M.; R. Shears, B. T. Angle, F. Spicer, P.M.; E. Berg, J. W. Pritchard, J. L. Syme, R. Cave, P.M.; R. T. West, and others.

The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. Curry, initiated Messrs. C. H. Stewart and A. M. Faulkner. The W.M. elect, Bro. C. Loram, was then presented by Bro. W. T. Ball, P.M., and installed into the chair by the outgoing Master. The new W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers and addressed them in very appropriate terms as to their respective duties, but made special mention of the indefatigable and genial Secretary, Bro. W. T. Ball, P.M. They were as follows: Bros. W. Curry, I.P.M.; N. H. Walker, S.W.; G. Paxton, J.W.; G. Pratt, P.M., Treas.; W. T. Ball, P.M., Sec.; C. Simmonds, S.D.; E. Harris Jones, J.D.; E. L. H. Davis, I.G.; G. W. Stanley, Stwd.; and J. W. Harding, P.M., Tyler. All the new officers were in attendance with the exception of Bros. G. Pratt, P.M., and G. W. Stanley. The delivery of the usual addresses was ably rendered by Bro. Wm. Curry, and the installation ceremony could not have been better performed. During its progress the beautiful anthem "Be thou faithful" was given by Bro. James Horncastle with marked effect. It was resolved that the sum of 10 guineas be taken from the lodge funds and placed on the W.M.'s list, who was going up as Steward at the forthcoming Festival of the Boys' Institution. "Hearty good wishes" were tendered by Bro. H. Stocker, P.P.G. Treas., on behalf of the Province of Devonshire and by the other visiting brethren.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a sumptuous banquet, which was well served under the personal superintendence of the manager, Bro. Gérard.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

The W.M., Bro. Loram, gave, in very eloquent and earnest terms, "The Queen and the Craft."

In giving "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," the W.M. stated that he was unable to coin sentences to do justice to the toast. They all loved him and he was honoured and respected by everyone. He was a real hard worker in Freemasonry and had given many proofs of his usefulness in the Craft.

The W.M. proposed "The Grand Officers, Present and Past," and said that his experience was limited as he had only attended a few meetings of Grand Lodge, when he was very much impressed with the working he witnessed. That night they were graced with two Grand Officers, and he and the lodge were much honoured with their presence and he thanked them for their kind support. It was not necessary to call attention to Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., as he was so well-known to them, as was also Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., and both were very earnest workers in the Craft. All the Grand Officers deserved homage from the members, and he had much pleasure in associating with the toast the names of the two Grand Officers present, and might he suggest to Bro. McLeod that in his reply he should touch upon the Boys' Institution, for which he was going up as Steward.

The Grand Officers on rising to respond were enthusiastically received.

In response, Bro. J. J. Thomas, P.G.S.B., tendered his best thanks for the way the toast had been given and received. He intended to have seen the W.M. installed, but he was prevented by having to attend to other duties connected with the Boys' Institution. All the Grand Officers were animated to carry out the good work of the Craft.

Bro. J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., also acknowledged the toast, and said it was the duty of Grand Officers to visit lodges, but he regretted not being at the installation, for the same reason assigned by Bro. Thomas. The W.M. had asked him to confine his remarks to the Boys' Institution, which he had the honour to represent. Usually he spoke on behalf of the Institutions, but as he was commanded by the W.M., he gave many interesting details of the Boys' Institution, and he hoped the W.M.

would have a good list, large in amount, and one that would break the record in the lodge, and he earnestly urged the members to show their appreciation of their good W.M. by giving liberally to his list as Steward for the Boys. The list was then taken round, and it was afterwards announced that it amounted to nearly £90, when one of the brethren remarked that it was something on account.

Bro. W. Curry, I.P.M., gave "The W.M., Bro. Loram," and said that he had been through the chair, and as it was very hard to please everybody, it was not a bed of roses, but still they should all aspire to that happy position, and he would urge upon them to prepare to make themselves perfect in the ritual. The W.M. had prepared, as they had seen from his good work that evening; he would be a great success, make them all happy and comfortable; they were all proud of him, and he would not, he felt certain, forget the Masonic Charities.

The toast was received with much enthusiasm, and

Bro. Charles Loram, W.M., on rising to respond, had an ovation. He said he scarcely thought that a few words of flattery would make him so uncomfortable as he was at hearing the remarks of the I.P.M., and dismayed because he had to reply. He appreciated the great honour of being Master, and he was pledged to do all that in him lay to give satisfaction to all the members, and he hoped they would never have cause to regret appointing him to his high position, but if he failed in any way during his year of office, he trusted they would not think ill of him, as he had the interests of the lodge thoroughly at heart.

In submitting the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Wm. Curry," the W.M. stated that they were well acquainted with him, and that few Masters could have passed through the chair with greater honour, and no one more deserved the Past Master's jewel which he had the honour to pin upon his breast. Both in the lodge and at the banqueting table he was perfect as Master, a most trustworthy and honourable Mason, and he had been, and ever would be, an ornament to the lodge, and might he long be spared to wear the jewel. (Applause.)

The toast was enthusiastically received, as was Bro. Curry, I.P.M., on rising to respond. He thanked the W.M. for his kind words, and said that during his year of office he had rehearsed all parts he had to appear in, but he had not rehearsed the part of replying as I.P.M. He was particularly pleased with the great assistance he had had from his officers, and he hoped his successor, the W.M., would have similar treatment from those he had appointed. Although he had just vacated the chair, he would if he had health and strength, do, as he hoped he had done in the past, his utmost for their good lodge. The "Omega" of Freemasonry was Charity, and intended to help those who, through calamity and misfortune, were unable to help themselves, and he urged the members to give liberally to the three grand Institutions, and not to forget the W.M.'s list as Steward for the Boys. He appreciated the handsome Past Master's jewel, and he hoped the Great Architect would give him health to wear it for many years and to guide him in the right path.

The jewel bore the following inscription: "Presented by the members of the Salisbury Lodge, No. 435, to Bro. Wm. Curry, P.M., in acknowledgment of the eminent services he has rendered to the lodge as W.M. 1899."

In giving "The Initiates," the W.M. observed that it was the toast of the evening. They had both taken an important step, and he would ask them to reflect on what they had gone through that evening, and ask themselves what was the position asked of them. There was in the lodge an open road before them, and he hoped they would go steadily along that road and aspire higher. He (the W.M.) would follow their career with much interest, and on behalf of all present he offered them sincere congratulations, and hoped that some day they might be installed as W.M. in that, their mother, lodge.

The initiates on rising were accorded an ovation. In response, Bro. C. H. Stewart said that he approached the ceremony of his initiation with much anxiety; but he would promise them an honest endeavour to become a good Mason; and to do everything they would expect of him. They had tried to kill him that evening with their cordiality and kindness, which he should never forget.

Bro. A. M. Faulkner also responded, remarking that he had not the power of speech his co-initiate had, but he was delighted to meet many there as brothers who were his friends outside. He hoped to be able to carry out all they expected of him and might he add that he hoped some day to be W.M. and also a Grand Officer.

The W.M. proposed "The Visitors" and said that he was indeed proud of the members who were able to bring together such a grand array of visitors. The provinces were represented by Bro. H. Stocker, P.P.G. Treas., a very old friend of his, who had come all the way from Exeter to see him installed. The lodge held out the hand of true friendship to their guests and might the Great Architect give them health and strength to advance in Freemasonry, and he hoped they would all go away with kind remembrances of the lodge. The W.M. associated with the toast the names of Bros. H. Stocker, P.P.G. Treas.; Walter Glazier, P.M., and R. Manuel, P.M.

Bro. Stocker said it was a great honour to be called upon to respond, but he felt at a disadvantage in having to do so at a moment's notice. On behalf of the visitors he thanked the W.M. and the members for their hearty welcome. He had known the W.M. for many years and he was honoured to have the privilege of being present at his installation. The Salisbury Lodge he thought could not be excelled, and the members were to be congratulated on having such an able Master as Bro. Loram had shown himself that night to be. He did not regret his 200 miles journey that day to get there as he was well repaid by the perfect working he had witnessed.

Bros. W. Glazier, P.M., and R. Manuel, P.M., also acknowledged the toast in eloquent terms, both testifying to the excellent working of the W.M. and the I.P.M., and thanking the members for their hospitality and the way the visitors had been received and entertained.

The W.M. gave "The Past Masters," and said they were a real support, and had the interests of the lodge thoroughly at heart, and they should be paid the great respect their seniority and past services entitled them to, and he coupled with the toast the name of Bro. A. Scherzel, P.M.

In responding, Bro. Scherzel observed that the W.M. would ably carry out the duties of Master of their good lodge.

In giving "The Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. stated that they were both very worthy members, and he could not speak too highly of the Treasurer, Bro. G. Pratt, P.M., and he regretted that he was not able to be present that evening. Then as to the Secretary, Bro. W. T. Ball, P.M., he was their guiding star, and the members could not credit all he did for the lodge, but having him as Secretary, the lodge was bound to be a continued success, and would go forward. It would be impossible to have a better Treasurer and Secretary, and might the lodge have their services for many years to come.

Bro. W. T. Ball, P.M., Sec., on rising to respond, was received with acclamation. In thanking them for the very hearty manner the toast had been received, he said he would like to complete 20 years' service in the lodge, and then he would ask them to appoint someone else, but until that time arrived he was their obedient servant to command.

The W.M. gave "The Officers," remarking that he was proud of them; they would go forward and the outcome would be that they would be found perfect. He joined with the toast the name of the J.W., Bro. George Paxton, who responded in eloquent terms.

The Tyler's toast ended a night of nights, and it is pleasing to record that the whole of the proceedings were carried out without the slightest hitch.

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The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Sydney Jamieson, assisted by Bros. James Horncastle and Roland Henry, Miss Emily Rasey, and Miss Masie Riversdale. Bro. Arthur W. Briggs, P.P.G. Org. Bucks, ably presided at the pianoforte, and during the banquet played some beautiful selections, and his efforts were much appreciated.

The W.M., Bro. Charles Loram, was initiated in the Salisbury Lodge in 1894, and immediately after he was initiated he was given a collar, as at that time the lodge had very few members, and he has since filled all the positions up to the chair. Our brother has been an ardent supporter of the three Institutions from the date of his initiation, and he is going up as Steward for the forthcoming festival of the Boys' Institution with a substantial sum. As a member of the Craft, he possesses a sound knowledge of his duties, perfection in the ritual, an impressive style, geniality of manner, and readiness of speech, which mark him as one of the successes in the annals of the Salisbury Lodge, and, in conclusion, we beg to tender our hearty congratulations to the members upon their good fortune in securing the services of so eloquent a W.M., and the lodge, we feel sure, is quite safe in his hands.

### Strong Man Lodge, No. 45.

#### LADIES' NIGHT.

The regular meeting was held on Monday, the 5th ult., at the Holborn Restaurant. There were present Bros. T. C. Taylor, W.M.; John Briggs, acting S.W.; T. J. Burgess, J.W.; G. G. Symons, P.M., Treas.; W. G. Mills, P.M., Sec.; E. J. Vidler, S.D.; F. Bristow, I.G.; J. J. Berry, A.D.C.; S. W. Heaton, Org.; A. Hall, J. F. Selmes, and Bromley Hall, Stewards; D. A. Langdon, P.M.; J. Leith Leslie, M.A., M.D.; A. G. Peckham, J. George-Powell, J. H. Phillips, C. Helby, and T. Williams, Tyler.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and a ballot taken for Mr. David Dixon Marshall, who was duly initiated.

All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed, and the brethren joined their guests—Miss Cooper, Mrs. Kingsbury, Mrs. Dibb, Mrs. Linney, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Leslie, Miss Dennis, Mrs. A. Hall, Mrs. Bromley Hall, Mrs. Payfie, Mrs. Evendon, Mrs. Vidler, Mrs. Coote, Miss Barnett, Mrs. Peckham, Mrs. George Powell, Mrs. Hutt, Miss Bristowe, Mrs. Guernsey, Mrs. Starnes, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Helby, H. Cooper, A. Wallis, P. H. Kingsbury, J. H. Dibb, C. Crayson, A. Linney, H. Troner, A. Payne, J. Evendon, C. Hutt, H. B. Guernsey, G. S. Starnes, and A. Helwood.

The dinner was served in the Caledonian Salon.

The toast of "The Queen" was given by the W.M. and duly honoured. Reference was made to the gracious and sympathetic interest her Majesty had evinced in the work of her soldiers.

The toast of "H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" was received with enthusiasm truly Masonic.

An excellent musical programme was in the hands of Bro. J. J. Berry, A.D.C., to which the following contributed: Miss Ethel Winn, Miss Ella M. Johnstone, Mr. Arthur E. Webb, Bro. J. J. Berry, Bro. J. Briggs, Bro. Gurney Russell, Bro. Tom Burgess, and Bro. W. Amies King.

The toast of "The W.M., the Chairman," was ably dealt with by Bro. G. G. Symons, P.M. He pointed out the good work Bro. Taylor had done for the lodge and his popularity was only what might be expected.

The W.M. suitably replied.

At this juncture a telegram was received from Bro. W. Briggs, I.P.M., who was on the Continent, wishing all present a happy evening, and regretting his absence.

Bro. Symons seized the opportunity to speak of the virtues of the I.P.M., and the health of Bro. W. Briggs (*in absentia*) was enthusiastically drunk.

In proposing the toast of "The Ladies," Bro. W. G. Mills, P.M., Sec., said he felt relieved in some measure of his responsibility by the knowledge of the fact that no one could propose so important a toast in a satisfactory manner. No doubt many ladies present that night expected to gain some light upon the nature of Freemasonry; ladies' ideas on this subject were naturally very vague, but he could tell them that though Freemasonry was not a religion it was calculated to minimise the baser side of man and to develop and cultivate the better qualities. On behalf of the W.M. and officers and other members of the lodge he wished to say how exceedingly pleased they were to have the ladies with them that night. A good deal had recently been said about woman's rights. On this point he felt tempted to say like Mr. Choate, the American Ambassador, who, when proposing the toast of the ladies a short time ago, with uplifted glass, exclaimed, "Woman, formerly our superior, now our equal."

Bro. John Briggs, D. of C., congratulated the ladies upon the speaker selected to propose their toast. Perhaps the brethren were a little disappointed that night that they were not able, as on previous occasions, to greet the ladies resplendent in their colours and decorations, but somehow the point seemed to have been forcibly driven home that no colours, no ornaments, could compare with those round them that night. They would, no doubt, be glad to hear that this was to be the last toast of the evening, but this was not due to lack of courtesy; they were rather animated by the spirit which inspired the poet when he wrote these lines—

"So, as at English feasts we do regret

The daintiest last—to make the end most sweet."

He had been assured by many of the ladies present that they had spent a pleasant evening, and he, therefore, felt justified on behalf of the ladies in thanking the brethren for their welcome.

The meeting dispersed shortly after 11 o'clock, and the W.M. and brethren are to be congratulated upon a highly pleasant and successful gathering.

### St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211.

The installation meeting of this ancient lodge took place on Tuesday, the 13th ult., at the Albion, Aldersgate-street, E.C., when Bro. Ernest C. Collings installed his successor, Bro. Frederick William Berry, as W.M. The following officers were appointed and invested for the ensuing year: Bros. G. F. Johnson, S.W.; Howard E. Mullins, J.W.; A. B. Spawforth, P.M., Treas.; William Radcliffe, P.M., Sec.; C. J. Pinnell, S.D.; William M. Sutton, J.D.; J. Loverseed, I.G.; P. J. King, Stwd.; and Orton Cooper, P.M., D.C. There were also present Bros. G. Cockerill, P.M.; Albert H. Collings, P.M.; Spawforth, and E. E. Berry. A Past Master's jewel of the value of £5 5s. was unanimously voted to Bro. Alfred Green, P.M., who has been compelled to relinquish the position in consequence of ill-health. The new Master next proceeded to initiate Mr. James Boyce and Mr. Charles Horatio Owen, and proved his capacity for his position by the very able manner in which he performed the ceremony.

After the business of the evening had been disposed of, the brethren and visitors were invited to partake of the banquet, which was excellently provided by Bro. W. G. London.

The visitors present were Bros. W. Smales, 2591; A. W. Battey, 141; J. Scarlett, J.W. 141; J. H. Prior, 1287; Arthur E. Mullins, P.M. 1446; T. Teeke, I.G. 901; G. Beament, P.M. 2318; H. Kemp, P.M. 862; T. H. Daily, 1671; W. G. Jennings, J. A. Collings, 1693; J. Bannister Howard, 2705; A. Oliver, P.M. 820; A. Loveridge, 860; G. C. Brightling (late of the lodge); S. L. Isaacs, J.D. 2265; C. S. Genese, P.M. 2265; F. Newman, 834; Umberto Saloi, 1687; John Eberstein, 2562; T. E. Roberts, J.D. 1672; and E. J. Hiscock, 1602.

The toasts of "The Queen and the Craft," "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and "The Grand Officers" having been duly honoured,

The W.M., in responding to the toast of "The Health of the W.M.," which was

proposed by the I.P.M. in a very neat manner, said he thanked the brethren for electing him to the position of W.M. to preside over the destinies of the old lodge of St. Michael's, and he was proud to be able to add his name to the long list of Masters, which had been in existence for 105 years.

The toast of "The Visitors" was given by the W.M., and ably responded to by Bros. A. E. Mullins, G. Beament, and H. Kemp.

After the toast of "The Officers," which was responded to by the S.W. and Steward, Bros. Johnson and King, the evening was brought to a pleasant ending.

During the evening an excellent musical programme was gone through under the direction of Bro. J. A. Collings, which added largely to the enjoyment of the evening.

### Kennington Lodge, No. 1381.

A meeting was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 6th ult., when among those present were Bros. T. Davies, W.M.; Wolsey, S.W.; W.M. elect; Hopkins, J.W.; J. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; A. Harris, S.D.; Brading, I.G.; H. Linwood, Org.; George Everett, P.M., P.G. Treas. Eng.; H. Higgins, P.M.; Major T. C. Walls, P.M., P.G. Std. Br. Eng.; C. H. Kohler, P.M.; J. La Feuillade, P.M.; Foale, P.M.; A. Lundie, P.M.; Dr. Millsom, P.M.; J. Barry, P.M.; W. W. Westley, P.M. (Hon. Member); and among the visitors were Bros. F. R. W. Hedges, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.G.; Swash, W.M.; Cannon, W.M.; Carrington, W.M.; Priest, P.M.; Robinson, P.M.; Almond, P.M.; and Batton, 72.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. H. A. Lassom was passed to the Second Degree. The ballot was taken on behalf of Mr. F. Wm. Sharp, and it being unanimous, he was duly initiated by the W.M. Bro. W. H. Wolsey having been presented, was installed by the W.M. into the chair of K.S., assisted by Bros. G. Everett, as S.W.; Higgins, J.W.; Major Walls, D. of C.; and Lundie, I.G. The following officers were appointed and invested: Bros. R. B. Hopkins, S.W.; A. Harris, J.W.; R. C. F. La Feuillade, P.M., Treas.; J. N. Hearn, P.M., Sec.; H. Linwood, S.D.; R. W. Brading, J.D.; G. Reddish, I.G.; J. La Feuillade, P.M., Org.; W. Hacker, D.C.; F. T. Clay and J. W. Monk, Stwds.; H. F. Farmer, A.D.C.; and C. Plant, P.M., Tyler. A vote of thanks was passed to the Installing Master, and he was presented with a Past Master's jewel. The report of the Audit Committee, a very satisfactory one, was received and adopted, after which the lodge was closed.

A banquet followed.

Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts received full justice.

Bro. George Everett responded on behalf of "The Grand Officers." In the course of his speech he referred to the number of distinguished brethren who were serving their country in South Africa, and he could only hope that they would achieve success and return unhurt to England. He alluded also to the fact that the lodge had been favoured with a visit from the painstaking Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, who was also a Past Grand Officer. He hoped that the brethren would well support the W.M. as Steward for the forthcoming festival of that worthy Institution.

The I.P.M. gave "The Health of the W.M." in flattering terms. He said that Bro. Wolsey, like himself, was an initiate of the lodge, and had done well in the minor offices. He augured for him a prosperous year of office.

"The Health of the Installing Master" followed, and was warmly drunk.

Bro. T. Davis having replied, the toast of "The Initiate" followed, and was duly acknowledged by the recipient.

"The Health of the Visitors" came next in order, and was responded to by Bros. Swash, Carrington, and others.

The toast of "The Past Masters" was coupled with the names of Bros. Kohler, Westley, and Lundie, who briefly acknowledged the compliment paid to them.

In giving "The Health of the Treasurer and Secretary," the W.M. alluded to the absence of Bro. R. La Feuillade that evening, which was caused by the recent sad bereavement he had sustained by the death of his wife. He was a careful Treasurer, which was shown by the audit report that had been received and adopted that night. The Secretary was also to be congratulated upon the manner in which he discharged his onerous duties.

Bro. Hearn having replied to the toast, "The Health of the Officers," coupled with the names of Bros. Hopkins and Harris, terminated the proceedings.

During the evening an excellent programme of music under the direction of Bro. Herbert Linwood was given, the artistes being Mesdames Annie Scull, Jenny Atkinson, and Bros. H. Corryn, R. B. Hopkins, F. W. Stephens, and Saunders, and Mr. Hugo Hundt. The last-named created a *furor* by his talented violin selections.

### St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 2259.

The monthly meeting was held in the Masonic Rooms, Thorne, on Wednesday, the 21st ult. Present: Bros. E. Hirst, W.M.; G. Eland, I.P.M.; E. Simpson, S.W.; E. Donkin, Treas.; J. Constable, Sec.; B. Maskill, S.D.; W. W. Peacock, J.D.; W. P. Robotham, Org.; J. H. Bletcher, P.M.; J. H. Hardy; and F. Pine, Tyler. Bro. T. W. Turner, W.M. 242, was a visitor.

The lodge having been opened, letters of apology were read from several brethren, and the serious question how to prevent arrears was fully discussed, after which the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards adjourned for light refreshment.

### Londesborough Lodge, No. 1681.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Café Royal, Regent-street, W., on Wednesday, the 21st ult. There were present Bros. E. Head, W.M.; J. Freer, S.W. and W.M. elect; J. F. Plows, J.W.; T. Kelly, S.D.; J. Hewett, J.D.; F. Shipton, D.C.; W. E. Hill, I.G.; George Read, P.M., P.G.S.B., Sec.; D. Wetherill, P.M., Treas.; F. J. Oliver, Org.; R. W. Edgeley, Tyler; George Wood, P.M.; H. Robinson, P.M.; J. H. Vant, E. Callard, E. G. Wood, S. Tettamanti, G. Doughty, B. H. Springett, Rev. W. B. Springett, J. Green, G. W. Smith, A. J. Kingston, F. Everett, G. Quelch, A. Moss, W. Dunscombe, F. B. Mills, C. P. Leatherby, W. J. Righton, E. J. Clarke, W. H. Sherring, S. Brooks, F. Measor, G. Price, W. H. Pullin, J. Peschek, T. A. Marks, R. Elwin, T. Fielding, H. P. Usher, W. Gunn, and D. W. Doughty. The visitors were Bros. McVery, W.M. 1310; G. B. Spicer, P.M. 1891; E. C. Mulvey, P.M. 179, F.G. Purst. Eng.; W. E. Reeve, P.M. 720; J. Watts, P.M. 179; E. Weavell, P.M. 2521; A. H. Noble, S.D. 1227; W. Cannon, D.C. 2308; W. Smith, 1668; J. Baker, 1227; A. H. Gale, 2521; J. W. Kriegbaum, 1159; J. C. Hunting, 1987; J. Collins, 192; J. S. Berryman, 860; A. Castle, 175; R. Hamilton, 781; J. S. Ross, 1310; H. Budd, 2521; and W. Pearson, 2432.

Lodge being opened, and the minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed, the W.M. raised Bros. D. W. Doughty, A. J. Kingston, and E. G. Wood to the Degree of Master Mason in a most impressive manner, and then proceeded to install his successor, Bro. J. Freer, S.W., in the chair of K.S. This ceremony was carried through by the Installing Master in the most able and faultless manner, the three addresses especially being given in a style that must have impressed every brother present. The new W.M. then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. J. F. Plows, S.W.; T. Kelly, J.W.; G. Read, P.M., Sec.; D. Wetherill, P.M., Treas.; Rev. Dr. Springett, Chap.; J. Hewett, S.D.; W. E. Hill, J.D.; F. Shipton, I.G.; F. B. Mills, E. J. Clarke, and G. W. Smith, Stwds.; and R. W. Edgeley, Tyler. A ballot having been taken for Messrs. F. C. Jacob and E. W. Miller, they were initiated by the W.M. in a



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very able manner, and the impressions left on the minds of the new brethren were amply testified in the reference made thereto in their replies to their toast at the banquet.

A handsome jewel was presented to the I.P.M., who has held a most successful year of office, in which he has still further increased the already high esteem in which he was held by all the members of the lodge, and he is to be congratulated also on the financial condition in which he leaves the lodge, the report of the Audit Committee showing that there is a most satisfactory balance in the hands of the Treasurer, after which the lodge was closed.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts at the subsequent banquet were interspersed with some exceedingly well-rendered songs by the I.P.M. and other musical members and visitors, in addition to which Bro. Hewett, S.D., kindly provided a cinematograph exhibition, with some excellent films, some of which he had specially procured from Paris for the occasion.

#### Alleyn Lodge, No. 2647.

The installation meeting of this young, but prosperous, lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, S.E., on Saturday, the 24th ultimo. There were present Bros. J. Joel, W.M.; W. H. Stone, S.W.; T. C. Stanley, J.W.; C. J. Axford, P.M.; P.P.G.D.C. Middx., Treas.; C. H. Phillips, P.M.; P.G.D. Herts, Sec.; E. J. W. Scott, S.D.; F. H. Henley, J.D.; R. Omash, I.G.; J. W. Stevens, P.M.; D.C.; W. J. Mars and A. D. Jollye, Stwds.; and Mitchell, Tyler. The visitors present were Bros. W. N. Bate, P.M. 87; J. Webb, I.P.M. 92; A. W. Shonfeld, I.P.M. 1539; C. Russell, W.M. 92; H. S. Croker, P.M. 190; H. T. Ahern, P.M. 2353; and several others.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and Bro. James Kahn, 1287, was balloted for and elected a joining member. Bro. W. N. Stone, S.W., W.M. elect, was then presented to Bro. J. Joel, W.M., to receive from his hands the benefit of installation, which ceremony was performed in a Board of Installed Masters in a very exemplary manner. Bro. W. H. Stone invested Bro. J. Joel as I.P.M., and the officers for the ensuing year as follows: Bros. T. C. Stanley, S.W.; E. J. Scott, J.W.; C. I. Axford, Treas.; C. H. Phillips, Sec.; F. H. Henley, S.D.; R. Omash, J.D.; W. J. Mars, I.G.; J. W. Stevens, D.C.; A. D. Jollye, Stwd.; and Mitchell, Tyler. The W.M. then presented the I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherché* banquet, which was thoroughly appreciated.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly given and responded to.

A choice selection of vocal music under the direction of Bro. F. Cozens greatly added to the enjoyment of the evening.

#### Guardian Lodge, No. 2625.

The above lodge met on Thursday, the 22nd ult., at the Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, for, among other purposes, the installation of a new W.M. The lodge was consecrated in 1896, and had for its first Master Bro. James Tollworthy, who, by his excellent working of the Masonic ceremonies and his experience in the conduct of lodge business, set a fine example for succeeding Masters to emulate. The example has been very well followed, and Bro. T. A. Bullock, P.M., Past Grand Standard Bearer and W.M. of the lodge, who presided at Thursday's meeting and performed the work of principal officer, showed himself a worthy third Master of the lodge. He was very strongly supported, there being a numerous company of both members of the lodge and visitors.

Lodge having been opened, Bro. Bullock, W.M., passed Bro. Charles Goldfinch to the Second Degree, and afterwards installed Bro. Robert Harvey Barton as the W.M. of the lodge in succession to himself. Bro. Tollworthy, P.M., Treas., acted throughout as D. of C. Bro. Bullock was invested with the collar of I.P.M. The other officers appointed for the year were Bros. the Rev. P. Clementi-Smith, Chap.; J. Tollworthy, C.C., P.M., Treas.; W. R. Caldwell Moore, C.C., P.M., Sec.; A. E. Pridmore, C.C., P.M., S.W.; H. W. Brown, J.W.; W. Shurmur, P.G. Std. Br., D. of C.; C. Farris, S.D.; W. Chapman, J.D.; J. A. Priddle, I.G.; P. A. Greenaway and E. Chisnall, Stwds.; and E. L. Partridge, P.M., Tyler. After Bro. Bullock, I.P.M., had delivered the addresses, propositions for initiation and joining were given in, and then the lodge was closed.

A banquet followed, and the usual toasts were duly honoured.

An exceedingly pleasant programme of vocal and instrumental music was beautifully performed by Miss Florence Ogilvy, Miss Emily Foxcroft, and Messrs. Fred H. Cozens, Albert Pearce, and Charles F. Frood, under the direction of Bro. F. W. Stephens.

#### Old Masonians' Lodge, No. 2700.

A well-attended meeting of the above lodge was held on Saturday, the 24th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C., at 4.30 p.m., when there were present Bros. R. S. Chandler, W.M.; E. Roehrich, S.W.; H. Bowler, J.W.; R. Harold Williams, Treasurer; Patrick O'Doherty, Secretary; R. E. Barnes, S.D.; G. Allison, J.D.; R. H. McLeod, I.G.; J. Sarjeant, Org.; W. J. Packer and E. A. B. Gough, Stwds.; G. S. Cummings, Stephenson, Lee, Bingham, Wyatt, Pow, Wain, Lewis, and Crew. Visitors: Bros. C. B. Jones, 3 (Australia, N.S.W.); R. D. Cummings, P.M. 2417; Dunnett, 2523; D. Harlow, P.M. 65; and H. Williamson, 172.

The lodge was opened and the minutes of the last regular meeting read and confirmed. Bros. Lee and Cummings were both raised to the Degree of Master Mason, the W.M. giving the traditional history in a very impressive manner. Bro. Crew having been passed to the Degree of F.C., a ballot was taken for the W.M. elect for the ensuing year, when Bro. E. Roehrich, S.W., was unanimously elected. A ballot was also taken for the Treasurer, and Bro. R. Harold Williams was again unanimously re-elected. A resolution from Grand Lodge re the Hiram Lodge of London, was read by the Secretary and ordered to be entered on the minutes. Bro. Keyser, P.G.D., I.P.M., being unfortunately unable to be present, the Secretary was instructed to forward the first Past Master's jewel of the lodge to him, together with a resolution from the brethren, expressing their thanks to Bro. Keyser for the very valuable services he had rendered to the lodge during his year of office as the first W.M. It was also unanimously resolved that a Past Master's jewel be presented to Bro. Chandler at the installation meeting in recognition of his services as Master during the past year. Bro. J. A. M. Barnes (Old Masonian), P.D.G. Supt. of Wks. District Grand Lodge, Argentine Republic of Rosario de Sante Fe, Argentine, was proposed as a joining member, and Mr. William Renwick Watson (Old Masonian) was proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Bro. J. Morrison McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B., having offered his services as a Steward for the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and Bro. G. Allison, J.D., also offering for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, the Treasurer gave notice that at the next meeting he would propose that the sum of 10 guineas be voted to each list in the name of the W.M.'s chair. Letters of apology were read from Bros. Sir Augustus Godson, M.P., Prov. G. Master Worces.; Edward Letchworth, G. Sec.; Richard Eve, P.G.T.; Charles E. Keyser, P.G.D., I.P.M.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B., Sec. R.M.I.B.; W. P. Brown, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.G. Chap., Chap.; H. Mansfield, G. Treas. elect; J. Renton Dunlop, P.G. Stwd.; and W. B. Tyler. All business being ended, the lodge was closed.

At the dinner following the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

## Royal Arch.

#### Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 19.

A convocation of this ancient chapter was held at Anderton's Hotel on Tuesday, the 20th ult., Comp. Hooker, M.E.Z., presiding. Other companions present were Comps. Redman, H.; Toye, J.; Heath, P.Z., Treas.; Cambridge, P.Z., S.E.; Stauffer, S.N.; Hewett, 2nd A.S.; Gillard, P.Z.; Cossett, P.Z.; Pound, P.Z.; Pulverman, and Springett.

The chapter having been opened, the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The officers for the ensuing year were then elected as follows: Comps. Redman, M.E.Z.; Toye, H.; Gillard, P.Z., J.; Heath, P.Z., Treas.; Cambridge, P.Z., S.E.; Pearce, S.N.; Blackburn, P.S.; Hewett, 1st A.S.; and Pulverman, 2nd A.S. All business being ended, the chapter was closed.

#### Magdalen Chapter, No. 262.

The annual installation meeting of this chapter was held in the Masonic Rooms, Doncaster, on Friday, the 23rd ult., when there were present Comps. John Fitzgerald, M.E.Z.; H. A. Fenton, H.; F. J. Forth, J.; W. Langbridge, S.E.; C. E. Boomer, S.N.; J. Constable, A.S.; W. Mason, Janitor; C. Goldthorpe, P.Z.; A. W. Fretwell, P.Z.; S. Pegler, P.Z.; and J. H. Pawson, P.S.E. Visitors: Comps. W. Harrison, P.Z.; and W. Boulton, H. 458.

After the opening of the chapter, Comps. H. A. Fenton was installed into the chair of M.E.Z. by Comp. A. W. Fretwell, P.Z., P.A.G.D.C.; Comp. F. J. Forth into the chair of H. by Comp. J. Constable, P.P.G.S.N.; and Comp. W. Langbridge into the chair of J. by the newly-installed M.E.Z. The following officers were invested: Comps. J. H. Pawson, S.E.; C. E. Boomer, S.N.; J. Constable, P.S.; J. W. Chapman, 1st A.S.; F. H. Buckland, 2nd A.S.; and W. Mason, Janitor.

A banquet followed the ceremony, with the usual Masonic toasts and songs, and a very happy evening was spent.

#### All Saints' Chapter, No. 422.

The bi-monthly meeting of this chapter was held on Tuesday, the 20th ultimo, in the Masonic Rooms, Gainsborough. Present: Comps. B. T. Adlard, M.E.Z.; W. Hanson, H. elect; J. Constable, J.; Caldecott, S.E.; Middleton, Baines, P.P.G.H., and others.

After the minutes had been confirmed, Comp. Constable installed Comp. Hanson into the chair of H., that companion having been unavoidably absent at the regular installation.

## Instruction.

#### EARL'S COURT LODGE, No. 2765.

A meeting of the above lodge was held on Wednesday, the 28th ultimo, at the Greyhound Hotel, Kensington-square. There were present Bros. P. Howard, W.M.; H. Webster, S.W.; J. H. King, J.W.; J. Worth, Preceptor; J. Cox, Dep. Preceptor; J. W. Facey, Treas.; Albert J. Taylor, Sec.; J. W. Facey, S.D.; J. Cox, J.D.; R. Dixon, I.G.; W. S. Lyon, Stwd.; Lieut.-Col. Blunt, P.M.; F. Langford, P.M.; J. Davis, R. Young, H. S. Cox, H. O. Sanders, W. James, and T. Leete. Visitors: Bros. H. Robinson and J. Hallam.

The lodge was opened in the First Degree, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. R. Young being the candidate. Bro. Langford offered himself as a candidate for passing, and having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired. Lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Langford being the candidate. Lodge was resumed to the First Degree, and the dues were collected. Bro. H. Webster was unanimously elected to occupy the chair as W.M. on Wednesday, the 14th instant (next Wednesday being reserved as officers' night for members of the Earl's Court Lodge). The Secretary read a letter from the Grand Secretary approving of the by-laws for this lodge of instruction. A Committee met to frame by-laws for a Masonic Benevolent Association in connection with the lodge, a number of brethren giving in their names as joining members of the same. Bros. H. Robinson and J. Hallam were unanimously elected joining members. There being no other communications, the lodge was closed.

#### ISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1471.

The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, the 27th ult., at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, when there were present Bros. C. Nicole, W.M.; J. E. Thomas, S.W.; W. A. Evans, J.W.; W. Hancock, P.M., Preceptor; A. F. Hardyment, Asst. Preceptor; C. M. Coxon, P.M., P.P.G.D. Herts, Treas.; M. Relph, S.D.; D. Taylor, J.D.; T. A. Spencer, I.G.; J. Birks, P.M.; H. B. Harding, P.M.; H. J. Kimbell, jun., R. E. Maskall, A. Williams, J. Horstead, A. Noel, F. H. Johnson, F. Henderson, H. J. May, G. Mortlock, C. Bone, E. P. Fischer, H. King, H. J. Kimbell, sen., and W. Horseman.

The lodge was opened, and the minutes read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was then rehearsed, Bro. Williams being the candidate. The ancient charge was given. The ceremony of raising was afterwards rehearsed, Bro. Henderson being the candidate. The traditional history was given. Bro. Horseman was elected a member of the lodge. Bro. Thomas was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and appointed his officers in rotation. The lodge was then closed.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

The results of the Cambridge Local Examinations of last December have reached Miss Redgrave, the Head Governess, and as is usually the case in this excellently managed Institution, are very satisfactory; 45 of the Girls entered—two for the Senior, both of whom passed; 20 passed in the Junior and 20 in the Preliminary; three only failed. Nine honours were awarded, and many distinctions.

#### ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

Results of the Cambridge Local Examinations held in December, 1899 (received 28th February, 1900):

"Seniors" (Age 16 to 19).—16 boys entered, and 15 passed, three with honours in third class, one "distinction" for French. Average age 15 years two months—a very low one.

"Juniors" (Age up to 16).—35 boys entered, and 30 passed, two with honours in second class and four with honours in third class. Average age 14 years two months.

"Preliminary" (Age up to 14).—33 boys entered, and all passed. Average age 13 years one month. Three "distinctions" for geography and religious knowledge.

Total.—78 certificates, nine "honours," and four "distinctions."

During the last 10 years 50 candidates from the School have passed the "Senior," 244 the "Junior," and 180 the "Preliminary" Cambridge Local Examinations. Of this total of 474, 102 have gained "honours," and there have been 44 "distinctions."

## Obituary.

#### BRO. ROBERT HILL CROWDEN, P.M., P.Z.

We have heard with much regret of the death of Bro. Crowden, of Sydenham, which took place suddenly on the 21st ult., at Bristol, where he had gone on business. Bro. Crowden had been suffering for some time from affection of the heart, and his general health was impaired by a severe attack of influenza which he had a month or two since. His death will be heard of with much regret in the locality, and more especially by the congregation of Holy Trinity, Lennard-road, of which church he had been a warden for about 11 years. Bro. Crowden was formerly a member of the Beckenham Local Board. His kindly genial disposition won him many friends both locally and in the City, where he was a member of the firm of Crowden and Garrod, of Southwark-street.