

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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SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900.

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THE BENEVOLENT ELECTIONS.

There was a full attendance at the Annual General Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution on Friday, the 18th instant. There was also during the time the poll for the election of candidates was open a good deal of excitement, and the polling, as may well be imagined, was very heavy, more particularly in the case of the Men's Fund, for which the last successful candidate obtained his place with only a few votes short of 5000, while of the two highest unsuccessful, one was only six votes behind, and the other 43. For the Women's Fund there were more candidates, and more to be elected, so that there the voting was spread over a larger area, and a total of 2182 votes sufficed to carry the 29th vacancy.

For the

MALE FUND

there were 46 candidates and 20 annuitants, including the three deferred, to be elected, London, which furnished nine of the former, being able to secure the election of only four; while the Provinces and Districts Abroad had the satisfaction of electing 16 out of 37. The place of honour at the head of the poll was taken by an applicant from Egypt, who obtained 7023 votes at his first attempt, the next in order being also a new case from the District of Bengal, who scored 6886 votes. The third vacancy fell to a London candidate, who brought forward 4039 votes from May, 1899, and had no great difficulty in increasing his total to 6068 votes. One of the two brethren from Warwickshire, who had to his credit only 10 votes from his three previous ballots, was fourth, with 6014 votes, while London supplied another of its candidates with 5934 votes, and thereby secured for him the fifth place. The next in order was one of three candidates from Kent, who started with 655 votes in hand, and finished the day with 5857, while No. 7, a new case from London, polled 5717 votes. The Cheshire brother, who brought forward 78 votes, polled in all 5665 votes, one of three candidates from West Yorkshire being close up at his first attempt with 5621 votes. The brother from West Lancashire, who was also a candidate for the first time, won the 10th vacancy with 5576 votes, and the Western Division of South Wales carried the next place with 5552 votes, of which 2168

votes were already in hand from three previous attempts, and 3384 were polled on this occasion; another London brother, who had 4258 to his credit, securing a total of 5541, and thus winning the 12th place. The two remaining West Yorkshire brethren were placed 13th and 15th, and polled 5535 and 5516 votes respectively; and two of the three candidates from E. Lancashire were the 14th and 16th, the former obtaining 5530 votes, and the latter 5487, of which 265 already stood to his credit. The Middlesex brother, with 2240 votes in hand, increased his poll to 5333, and one of the Suffolk candidates, who brought forward 659, was next with 5208 votes. Devonshire, which furnished two candidates, carried one with 5106 votes, of which 2558 were brought forward; and Somersetshire, which was also responsible for two candidates, brought up the rear with 4987 votes, and of these 3961 were brought forward from the election in May, 1899. The two highest Unsuccessful, who each obtain a share of the John Hervey Memorial Fund, polled 4981 and 4944 votes respectively, the former being one of the four candidates from Sussex and the latter from Oxfordshire, while the third Unsuccessful, who takes the £5 given by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, was also Sussex, and polled 4594 votes. There were two others from London and Cornwall, who obtained 3179 and 3237 votes respectively, and three others whose poll exceeded 1000 votes. The votes brought forward from the previous election numbered 25,275, and those issued for Friday 142,027, making a total of 167,302 available, but only 119,056 of the new votes passed the Scrutineers, so that there were 22,971 that were unused or spoilt.

Of the 59 candidates approved in February last for the

WIDOWS' FUND,

two died before the appointed day, and one was withdrawn, so that only 56 went to the poll, and of these 29 were elected, namely, 26 to immediate and three to deferred annuities. No. 1 on the list hailed from Malta, and polled at her first attempt 6075 votes; Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 all with claims on London, receiving 5910, 5715, 5620, 5545, and 5394 votes respectively, the highest of the group being a new candidate, while the other four had each of them a considerable number of votes already standing to their credit from May, 1899. Of the four widows with claims on Suffolk, one stood seventh on the poll with 5310 votes, of which 1725 were obtained at the last election, and another with two votes in hand secured the 19th vacancy with 4233 votes. London supplied the eighth in order who increased his 915 from last year to 5281, and Nottinghamshire the next with 5250 votes. No. 10 hailed from Victoria and totalled 5113 votes, of which 4189 were brought forward; No. 11, from London, with 1699 to the good, finishing up the day with 5077 votes, and No. 12, from Hertfordshire, polling at his first attempt 5026 votes. North and East Yorkshire furnished the next successful candidate, who scored 4957, and London the two next who polled 4932 and 4587 votes respectively, the former having 2635 and the latter 712 to her credit at starting. The Gloucestershire widow with two votes to the good polled 4534 votes, and the candidate from Leicestershire and Rutland 4529 votes, while West Yorkshire polled 4331 votes for its one candidate. One of four candidates from Kent was placed 20th on the list with 4105 votes, of which all but 271 were cast on this occasion, an Essex widow with 1317 votes to the good, being next with 4039 votes, and two Londoners, of whom one brought forward 1757 votes, and one was a new candidate came next in order

with 3388 and 3231 votes respectively. The second Essex widow secured the next vacancy with 2808 votes and was followed by the British Guiana widow with 2554 and another Londoner with 2254 votes; these two completing the number of 26 who obtain immediate annuities. The three deferred annuities, which will be filled up as they fall vacant, were all secured by London widows, who polled respectively 2220, 2187, and 2182 votes, the second and third having votes in hand at starting. The two highest unsuccessful candidates who share in the John Hervey Memorial Fund hailed also from London, and polled 1822 and 1468 votes respectively, and a Suffolk candidate, with one of two from Cumberland and Westmorland tied for the £5 from the Emulation Lodge of Improvement with 1266 votes, the second of the two who headed the list of candidates having now been 17 years before the electors. The Middlesex widow polled 1263, or only three votes less than the two just mentioned. Originally, as we have said, there were 59 candidates, of which 19 were furnished by London and 40 by the Provinces and Districts Abroad. But by the two deaths and the withdrawal, there were only 56 went to the poll, namely, 18 London and 38 Provincial, and it is worthy of remark that 15 of the former obtained vacancies, and only 14 of the latter, while two London widows take between them the JOHN HERVEY Fund. Be it added that the votes brought forward were 35,445, and those issued for this election 132,811, making the total available. Of the new votes, however, only 88,637 were polled, the numbers unused or spoiled reaching the formidable figure of 44,174.

It must have been exceedingly gratifying to the friends and supporters of the Institution to know that, thanks to the great success of the last two Festivals, the Committee of Management had felt themselves justified in augmenting the number of annuitants on the two Funds by eight men and eight widows, five male and three widow annuitants having been added to the establishment in May, 1899, and three male and five widow annuitants on this occasion. Hence, too, the Unsuccessful list is reduced, there being only 26 men and 27 widows who will go forward to the elections in May, 1901.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Whilst the questions we have discussed in the preceding articles are matters of public interest, they are not questions which exercise, to any great extent, either the private lodge or the private brother; and we now propose to bring into the arena of discussion such points as more intimately affect both. Let us begin with the subject of voting.

A Freemason's vote is given either by show of hands or by ballot, all elections being, as a rule, conducted in the latter method. The Tyler, however, need not be balloted for. He is "chosen" (Article 136). A simple majority decides most cases. The most important exception is the case of a brother being excluded. In such case the majority must be two-thirds of the members *present*. This limitation ought to be clearly understood, as difficulties have frequently arisen by reason of the Master in the chair being satisfied with a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting. But Article 210 is very explicit, and inferentially the Constitutions contemplate the possibility of brethren being present and not voting.

This point has actually been before Grand Lodge on appeal, and was also before a District Grand Lodge, or, rather a District Grand Master, some five years ago, and the cases are interesting enough to deserve narration. The appeal before Grand Lodge in June, 1880, was based on the following facts:

A candidate was about to be balloted for, and, suspecting an unfriendly attitude on the part of some of the members, the Worshipful Master made a special appeal to the lodge on the subject, and then the ballot was taken, two black balls appearing. Acting within rights conferred upon him by the lodge by-laws, the Worshipful Master at once ordered a second ballot, and intimated to the lodge that voting was quite optional. Acting upon this hint the majority of the brethren held aloof from the ballot-box, and four balls only were cast, namely, the proposer and seconder, and two other brethren. Again two black balls appeared, and as it was quite clear that the former two brethren would not black-ball their own candidate, the objecting members

were identified, and the Worshipful Master excluded them from the lodge. This in itself was wrong, as the Worshipful Master can only exercise powers of this kind in respect of visitors (Article 151). Exclusion, even for the remainder of a meeting, can only be inflicted by a vote of the lodge (Article 209), temporary exclusion, however, requiring only a bare majority. The two brethren appealed on the ground that the Worshipful Master, in making the intimation aforesaid, had tampered with the ballot. The District Grand Master ordered their reinstatement, and an appeal by the Worshipful Master to Grand Lodge was dismissed.

From whatever point of view it be regarded, the Master's action was utterly wrong and inexcusable. It cannot be too often impressed on brethren that a black ball is quite as constitutional and as legal as a white one, and a brother who exercises his constitutional right of voting against a proposal, whether by ballot or otherwise, has a right to be protected from abuse.

The second case alluded to is probably unique, besides being eminently instructive. The circumstances were as follows: On the ordinary night of election in a colonial lodge everything was prepared in the usual way for the election of Worshipful Master. The ballot box was passed round, and voting papers put in, and the result showed 10 votes for Brother A., and nine for Brother B., in addition to which there was a blank paper, rightly surmised to have been put in by Brother B., who was Senior Warden, and expected election. This result came as a complete surprise to Brother B.'s friends (among whom the Worshipful Master was to be numbered). He proceeded to rule from the chair that the presence of a blank paper vitiated the ballot, and ordered a second one. This time Brother Senior Warden voted for himself, and the numbers were 10 and 10, and the Worshipful Master, giving his casting vote to Brother B., declared him elected. Brother A. was an old P.M., and had no wish to serve again, and, moreover, being absent, knew nothing of what was going on, and expressed his indignation, when he heard of it, at the use made of his name by a number of brethren, who wished to pass a slight on Brother B. As these brethren felt a little ashamed of themselves, the W.M.'s extraordinary ruling was not challenged. That he himself felt doubtful on the subject can be surmised from the fact that he asked that if any brother wished to appeal he should lose no time in doing so.

The incident, however, got into a local Masonic journal, and attracted the attention of the District Grand Master, and, after inquiry, he annulled the second ballot, and Brother A. was declared elected. It is satisfactory to add that, Brother A. declining, Brother B. was unanimously elected at the next meeting.

These two incidents serve to show that abstention from voting is quite permissible and that it is not necessary, as many suppose even now, that if a brother desires to refrain, he must temporarily withdraw from the lodge.

All the same it is an abuse that the Worshipful Master should direct all assenting brethren to abstain from voting, and were it to become a common practice, it would doubtless lead to special legislation.

It may here be remarked that the second or casting vote of the presiding officer, is in the nature of a trust, committed to him for the express purpose of rescuing the lodge from a possible deadlock. It is not given him for the purpose of doubling the vote he has in his private capacity, in fact, circumstances may demand that it shall be used in a manner opposed to his private convictions. He must not use it in such a way as to create a precedent, *e.g.*, he would not use it to carry a new by-law. In the case already quoted, where the Senior Warden and another brother obtained equal votes in the election of the Worshipful Master, Masonic tradition dictated to the presiding officer the direction in which he should use his second vote. The S.W. naturally expects election, and again, a brother who has not passed the chair, has claims superior to those of a brother who has, other things, of course, being equal. He very rightly, therefore, voted for Brother B. Where he went wrong was in what happened previously.

The ballot is rightly held to be a very sacred thing, and Grand Lodge has, very properly, always discouraged any attempts to violate its secrecy.

Masters and Secretaries have from time to time displayed great ingenuity in trying to trace adverse votes, but when appealed against, they have invariably come to grief.

On the other hand, it has equally been held to be a violation of the ballot when the dissenting members have publicly announced their intention, or have, at a later period, publicly announced what they have done. A previous intimation of their intention, made privately to the Worshipful Master, is, of

course, in accordance with Masonic tradition; but it has been held that a public, or an indiscriminate announcement, that a black-ball was going to be, or had been used, is conduct which brings the offender within the scope of Article 210. This Article says that a lodge may exclude one of its members "for sufficient cause," subject to certain formalities, and such conduct as that described will, we imagine, be readily admitted to be sufficient cause.

Speaking generally, all elections to office, excepting the Grand Master and the Tyler, must be made by ballot. This includes membership of the Boards of Benevolence and of General Purposes, and it, of course, includes admission to lodge membership. All other differences of opinion, questions of debate, and so on are decided by show of hands, a bare majority sufficing in every case but that of exclusion and proceedings under Article 167. The ingenuity of an Indian brother, however, found a ground of appeal even in such a simple matter as this. The election of an honorary member was one of the items on the agenda of a Madras lodge, and the Worshipful Master proposed that he should be elected by show of hands, and not by ballot. No doubt the Worshipful Master had an excellent reason for his proposal; but an appeal against it was heard and dismissed in March, 1886. Grand Lodge ruled, in effect, that honorary membership of a private lodge was unknown to the Constitutions, and was a compliment on a par with the voting of a jewel. The mode of election was therefore immaterial. Something like it, however, is referred to in Article 7, but that refers to membership of Grand Lodge.

With regard to Article 167, which describes the procedure when it is desired to change the place of meeting, a two-thirds majority of those *voting only* is required to carry the motion.

The ballot for a candidate for initiation is a particularly important function, and it should be carried out in a manner so as to distinguish it from votes of lesser importance, such, for instance, as the election of Treasurer. In the matter of admission to our ranks, the ballot box is almost a landmark of the Order, inasmuch as what is done then, can never be undone. In order to "save time" it sometimes happens that several candidates are balloted for collectively. This practice involves the necessity of balloting for each singly, should adverse votes be given. And it is not in any case to be commended, though its legality has not been officially questioned as far as the writer can recollect. In any case the ballot for joining members and for initiates should be conducted separately, as the motives which govern the voting in each case are absolutely distinct. The question in the former case is whether a brother is desirable as a member of that lodge. In the latter, is it desirable he should be a Freemason at all?

A certain amount of ritual is desirable when an initiate is balloted for, and nothing should be left undone which may impress the junior brethren with a sense of the importance of the transaction. The formal announcement from the chair, in which the name, age, and style of the candidate are given out, is, for instance—or ought to be—an assurance that the necessary inquiries have been made, and that such information has been elicited as justified the candidate being "put up."

The formal placing of the ballot box, the approach and retirement of members in regular order, and in the manner usual among Masons, all go to show that balloting is not the light-hearted proceeding many brethren conceive it to be.

We have yet to discuss the question of who are entitled to vote, but this must be held over to another issue.

GREAT PRIORY OF THE UNITED RELIGIOUS AND MILITARY ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE.

A Great Priory was held at Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Friday, the 11th inst. Present:

The M.E. and Supreme G.M., the Right Hon. the Earl of Euston, G.C.T., on the throne; V.E. Prov. Priors—V.E. Knights J. Woodall Woodall, K.C.T., N. and E. Yorkshire; John Dunning Kay, West Yorkshire; Lieut.-Gen. John Fletcher Owen, R.A., K.C.T., Mediterranean; and the Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., Lancashire; Great Officers—V.E. Knights Rev. A. W. Oxford, G. Prelate; R. Loveland Loveland, G.C.T., G. Chancellor; Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., K.C.T., as 1st G. Con.; C. L. Mason, as 2nd G. Con.; R. Clutton, G.C.T., G. Treasurer; Frank Richardson, G.C.T., G. Registrar; C. F. Matier, K.C.T., G. Vice-Chancellor; E. Knight Edward Armitage, as G. Marshal; V.E. Knight Rev. Canon Brownrigg, G.C.T., as G. Almoner; E. Knights Col. G. Walton Walker, G. Herald; Col. Clifford Probyn, as 1st G. Std. Br.; A. F. Church, 2nd Gt. Std. Br.; A. Conyers Haycraft, G. Master's Br. Br.; Capt. H. G. Giles, R.N., G. S.B.; Hubert S. Clutton, 1st G. Aide-de-Camp; John Taylor, G. Chamberlain; W. J. Ebbetts, 1st G. Captain of Guards; and H. R. Rose, G. Organist. Past Great Officers—V. E. Knights the Rev. J. Studholme Brownrigg, G.C.T., the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, and the Rev. C. C. Atkinson, D.D., G. Prelates; and Richard Clowes, G. Cons.; E. Knights J. E. L. Le Feuvre, Frederick Lawrence, and J. Reynolds Green, G. Heralds; J. C. Fitz-Roy Tower, G. Std. Br. (V.B.); H. E. Cousans, G. Master's B.B.; S. G. Kirchhoffer, R. A. B. Preston, and Col. Clifford Probyn, G.S.Bs.; Capt. R. Gresley Hall and Gordon Miller, G. Aides-

de-Camps; A. Woodiwiss, K.C.T., G. Chamberlain; James Hillhouse and T. P. Dorman, G. Cpts. of Guards; the Rev. W. Oswell Thompson, G. Provost (G. Conclave); J. R. Poulter, G. Herald (G. Conclave); and Major C. W. Carrell, K.C.T.

There were also present the following knights:

(London): Sir Knights Harold Burke, E. Preceptor, Harry Nicholls, P. Preceptor, R. J. Maitland Coffin, Chap., Herbert Wright, Reg., W. J. Songhurst, F. A. Powell, and Walter Lawrence, of Bard of Avon; Major E. S. Stillwell, Faith and Fidelity; the Rev. W. Russell Finlay, E. Preceptor, Major-General Astley Terry, P. Preceptor, Edward Terry, P. Preceptor, Ashton Godwin, M.D., Thomas Fraser, E.P. elect, and Lieut.-Col. Henry M. Hozier, C.B., of Holy Palestine; the Ven. W. M. Sinclair, Archdeacon of London, P. Preceptor Holy Sanctuary; John R. Carter, P. Preceptor Mount Calvary; R. A. Gowan, P. Preceptor, Harry Tipper, P. Preceptor, and John Smith, of New Temple; B. A. Smith, P. Preceptor, Capt. F. Gordon Watson, and G. Berton Preston, of Oxford and Cambridge University; G. W. Marsden, E. Preceptor, Thomas Henry Gardner, Colonel N. Newnham-Davis, and J. Dundas Grant, M.D., of St. George's; John Strachan, E. Preceptor St. Michael; Gordon P. G. Hills, Almoner Shadwell Clerke; and Thomas F. Marson, Studholme; (in the Province of Cheshire): T. Westlake Morgan, Grosvenor; A. Rutherford, Geoffrey de Bouillon; (in the Province of Devon): Rev. R. W. J. Smart, P. Preceptor, Trinity in Unity; (in the Province of East Anglia): C. Winlove Smith, Capt. Guards, Cabbell; J. A. Robinson, P. Preceptor, Temple Bruer; (in the Province of Hampshire): W. G. Whittam, E. Preceptor, Royal Naval; (in the Province of Kent): John Dimsdale, P. Preceptor, Black Prince; A. H. Bateman, P. Preceptor, Lullingstone; (in the Province of Lancashire): R. Pintner, P. Preceptor; A. W. Siddall, P. Preceptor; Joseph Leech; and A. B. Wilkinson, of the Loyal Volunteers; C. Morton Challenger, P. Preceptor, Hugh de Payens; (in the Province of Somerset and Monmouth): George Norman, P. Preceptor, Antiquity; (in the Province of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Leicestershire): George C. Kent, P. Preceptor, Godefroi de Bouillon; John Walker, Peveril; (in the Province of West Yorkshire): John Barker, P. Preceptor, Hope; F. S. Knyvett, P. Preceptor; and Millner Jutsum of the Stuart.

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

The Great Officers being seated, the trumpets sounded, and the knights once more formed the arch of steel, the following deputation from the Great Priory of Ireland was admitted and conducted to seats on the dais, &c., on the left of the throne: From the Great Priory of Ireland: V.E. Sir Knights Col. A. V. Davoren, G.C.T., Great Chancellor; and Sir James Creed Meredith, K.C.T.; and E. Sir Knight R. H. Walker, Vice-Chancellor. Other E. Sir Knights Rev. A. J. Fuller, D.D., No. 25, P. Preceptor; Oliver Fry, Victoria, P. Preceptor; and H. A. Auchinleck, Palestine, P. Preceptor.

The trumpets again sounded, and the arch of steel was once more formed, when the following deputation from the Chapter General of Scotland was admitted and conducted to seats on the right of the throne: V.E. Sir Knights Sir James Buchanan, Bart., K.C.T., Grand Mareschal; Col. James T. Stewart, K.C.T., Grand Almoner; Major F. W. Allan, K.C.T., Grand Chancellor; Lindsay Mackersy, G.C.T., Grand Secretary; Herbert B. Ezard, K.C.T., Grand Chamberlain; Walter W. Robertson, K.C.T., Grand Beaucennifer; and Robert K. Inches, K.C.T., Great Steward.

A chapter of Great Priory was opened in ample form.

The GREAT REGISTRAR called the muster roll.

The Grand Master was saluted with nine, under the direction of the acting Great Marshal.

The minutes of the meeting of Great Priory of the 8th December, 1899, were read by the GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR, and declared to be correctly recorded.

The acting Great Marshal then formally presented the deputation from the Great Priory of Ireland.

The GRAND MASTER, addressing the deputation who had risen to salute him, said: Brethren, I greet you, and I am only too happy to do so, remembering how pleasant are our relations and in what perfect accord we are one with another, working together in love and harmony.

The Very Eminent Knights were saluted with seven.

The deputation from the Chapter General of Scotland was next presented by the acting Great Marshal.

The GRAND MASTER again addressing the deputation which had risen to salute him, said: Most Eminent Knights, I greet you most heartily, coming as you do from Scotland, and thank you for the honour you have done us in coming to visit this Great Priory. I am only too pleased to know that we are working in harmony and peace together.

The deputation was saluted with seven.

The V.E. Knight Col. A. VESKY DAVOREN, G.C.T., addressing the Grand Master, said: In the name of my brethren present and of the Great Priory of Ireland I beg to thank you for the reception you have given us.

The V.E. Knight Sir JAMES BUCHANAN, Bart., K.C.T., speaking on behalf of the Chapter General of Scotland, said: I thank you for receiving us in this Great Priory.

On the motion of the GREAT CHANCELLOR, seconded by the GREAT TREASURER, it was agreed to take as read the following:

REPORT OF COUNCIL.

Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master,

Your Council have the honour to report the continued success and prosperity of the United Orders, which they have the satisfaction of knowing are yearly increasing in numbers and in influence.

The annual conference of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital will be held in London under the auspices of this Great Priory on Thursday, 10th May, and it is hoped will be attended by a numerous and influential deputation from the Chapter General of Scotland and the Great Priory of Ireland, who have also promised to be present at the half-yearly meeting on Friday, 11th May.

You have been pleased to direct that all Knights Grand Cross and Knights Commander of the Order of the Temple shall in future enjoy the concurrent rank of Knights Commander of Malta with precedence according to the date of their several patents.

You have also been pleased to direct that they shall be entitled to wear from the right shoulder to the left hip a ribbon 4 inches wide of equal parts of black, red, and white, with the Cross of Malta suspended from a bow, and a silver star on the left breast of a prescribed pattern, sealed in the Chancery of the Order.

You have been pleased by patent, dated St. George's Day, 1900, to appoint the V.E. Knight John Robertson, District Prior of Victoria, Australia, to be a Knight Commander of the United Orders (K.C.T.).

You have been pleased to appoint the V.E. Knight Gen. John Corson Smith, K.C.T., to be your Representative and the Representative of the Great Priory near the General Grand Encampment of the Temple for the United States of America, and the patent has been duly forwarded to him.

You have also been pleased to appoint the V. Eminent Colonel A. Vesey Davoren, G.C.T., to be your Representative and the Representative of this Great Priory near the Great Priory of Ireland, and you have been pleased to approve of the V. Eminent the Viscount Dungarvan, G.C.T., who has been appointed the Representative of the Great Priory of Ireland by the following patent :

MILITIA TEMPLI.

ARTHUR,

GRAND MASTER.

[SEAL.]

THE GREAT PRIORY OF IRELAND

OF THE UNITED RELIGIOUS AND MILITARY ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM, PALESTINE, RHODES, AND MALTA.

H.R.H. PRINCE ARTHUR WILLIAM PATRICK ALBERT, DUKE OF CONNAUGHT AND STRATHEARN, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.C.T., Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master.

In the Name of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity,
To All the Faithful in Christ,

GREETING.

WHEREAS,

desiring a closer Knightly relation and friendly correspondence between the Great Priory of England and Wales and the Great Priory of Ireland in order to promote to a greater extent the principles of our beloved Order,

THEREFORE BE IT KNOWN that we, reposing especial trust and confidence in our Very Eminent Sir Knight the Right Honourable the Viscount Dungarvan, D.L., G.C.T., do by these presents nominate, constitute and appoint our said Sir Knight to be our Representative near the Great Priory of England and Wales, with full power, warrant, and authority to act and appear for us in all laudable endeavours to promote the prosperity of our Orders, and the principles of Christian Knighthood.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we have ordered These Letters Patent to be sealed with the seal of our Orders.

Given at Dublin on the Seventh day of February, A.D. 1900,
A.O. 782, and registered in the Chancery of the Great Priory of Ireland.

A. V. DAVOREN, G.C.T.,

GREAT CHANCELLOR.

R. H. WALKER,

VICE-CHANCELLOR.

JOSHUA FAYLE,

GREAT REGISTRAR.

[SEAL.]

Certain members of the United Orders in the town of Walsall having petitioned for authority to hold a preceptory, you were pleased to grant the prayer of the petition, and on the 22nd February attended by many of the Great Officers, you were pleased to consecrate and constitute the new preceptory in ancient form.

The V. Emt. Knight the Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., having fixed the 6th April for his Installation as Provincial Prior for Lancashire, you were pleased to instal him in that high office, and from the large numbers present and the enthusiasm shown, your Council have every confidence that an increased interest in the United Orders will speedily be felt in Lancashire.

The preceptories whose returns are still outstanding are: Albert, Restormel, Royal Veterans, and United.

The following preceptories abroad are in arrears :

	Years.
Celestial ...	6
Calpe ...	5
Connaught and Strathearn ...	3
Diamond of the Desert ...	1
Himalaya ...	1
Johannesburg ...	1
Melita ...	2
Royal Deccan ...	3
Royal Mysore ...	1
Vasco de Gama ...	2
Westralia ...	1

Your Council recommend that the Celestial Preceptory (six years in arrear) and the Calpe Preceptory (five years in arrear) be erased from the roll.

Your Council desire to wish you every success on your taking the chair at the Annual Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund on the 11th July, and have great pleasure in recommending a donation of 100 guineas from the Benevolent Fund of Great Priory.

The Great Treasurer's accounts have been audited up to 28th February, 1900, and show the following balances, which are in the London and Westminster Bank, Limited, Bloomsbury Branch:

General Fund ...	£710 6 3
Benevolent Fund ...	141 18 8
	£852 4 11

By Order of the Council,

R. LOVELAND LOVELAND,

GREAT CHANCELLOR.

G. FITZGERALD MATIER,

GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR.

9th April, 1900.

The GREAT CHANCELLOR moved, and the GREAT REGISTRAR seconded, a motion that the report be received and entered on the minutes.

This being carried, it was also resolved that the report be adopted.

The GREAT CHANCELLOR : The report having been adopted, I beg to move, as a matter of form, that a donation of 100 guineas from the Benevolent Fund of this Great Priory be placed on your lordship's list as Chairman of the approaching Festival of the Mark Benevolent Fund.

The GREAT TREASURER seconded the motion.

The GRAND MASTER : I suppose, brethren, I must put the proposal to the meeting. I am really very much obliged to you. As you know, I take a great deal of interest in this Fund, and I shall be pleased if Great Priory will confirm the vote recommended by the Council. I can assure you it will be faithfully applied. I ask you, brethren, to now confirm it. (Cries of "All.")

The ACTING GREAT MARSHAL announced that the V.E. Knight the Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., was in attendance, and desired to perform homage on his appointment as Provincial Prior for Lancashire. The M.E. and Supreme G.M. directed that he should be admitted.

The trumpets having sounded, the V.E. Provincial Prior for Lancashire entered, attended by his Banner Bearer and Sword Bearer, and was conducted to the foot of the throne. After the M.E. and Supreme G.M. had received his homage he was conducted to his stall, and proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom.

The ACTING GREAT MARSHAL announced that the V.E. Knight Lieut.-General John Fletcher Owen, K.C.T., was in attendance for the purpose of paying homage on his appointment as Provincial Prior for the Mediterranean. The M.E. and Supreme Grand Master directed that he should be admitted.

The trumpets having sounded, the V.E. Provincial Prior for the Mediterranean entered Great Priory, attended by his acting Banner Bearer and Sword Bearer, and was conducted to the foot of the throne.

After the M.E. and Supreme Grand Master had accepted his homage, he was conducted to his stall, proclaimed and saluted according to ancient custom.

The GRAND MASTER having announced that the next business was the election of a Great Treasurer,

The GREAT REGISTRAR said : I have much pleasure in proposing that the V.E. Knight Ralph Clutton be re-elected. He has served us faithfully and for many years past, and during that period he has brought our funds from a very small amount to a very considerable sum of money. I do not think we can do better than re-elect him.

The GREAT CHANCELLOR : I beg to second that motion.

The GRAND MASTER : Before I put this proposition I should like to add a word of my own. I am sure we ought to congratulate ourselves on being able to secure the services of our brother Ralph Clutton. I remember in times past when he used to complain that he had not—to use his own expressive phrase—two sixpences to rub together. (Laughter.) Now our funds are in a prosperous state, and that they are in such a flourishing state is largely owing to the exertions of our Brother Clutton. (Applause.)

The motion was agreed to amid great applause.

The GRAND MASTER, addressing the Treasurer elect, said : I thank you for your services in the past, and hope you will be able to continue them for many years.

The TREASURER ELECT : Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, I thank you very much for all the kind words you have spoken about me, and all present for the way in which they have received them. I can only say that I will do all I can, and to the best of my ability, to secure the improvement of this Order.

The ACTING GREAT MARSHAL announced the V.E. Knight the Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., who had been nominated by the G. Master as Great Seneschal, was in attendance.

A deputation was then appointed and requested to retire and attend his lordship.

The trumpets having sounded, the V.E. the Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., attended by the following knights, then entered G. Priory : V.E. Knights Sir Reginald Hanson, K.C.T., bearing the sword ; A. Woodiwiss, K.C.T., with the baton ; J. W. Woodall, K.C.T., with the mantle ; W. W. B. Beach, G.C.T., with the cross ; F. Richardson, G.C.T., with the Statutes of the United Orders ; and Ralph Clutton, G.C.T., with the banner.

The Earl of Lathom, G.C.T., having taken the oath as Great Seneschal, was invested and enthroned, and at once did homage.

Whereupon the GREAT HERALD proclaimed in the East, South-West and North-West as follows : By the authority and in the name of the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, I proclaim Edward George, Earl of Lathom, Baron Skelmersdale of Skelmersdale, County Palatine of Lancaster in the United Kingdom, Justice of the Peace for Lancashire, Captain, Lancashire Hussars, Major retired, late Royal Horse Guards Blue, Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, Provincial Prior for Lancashire, Provincial Grand Master and Superintendent for the Western Division of Lancashire, Provincial Grand Master of Mark Master Masons for Lancashire, &c., &c., &c., has this day been appointed Great Seneschal of England and Wales and the Colonies and Dependencies of the British Crown.

The other Great Officers were then nominated and invested as follows :

Sir Knight Rev. Canon Walker ...	G. Prelate.
" R. Loveland Loveland, O.C., G.C.T....	G. Chancellor.
" Sir Edwd. Stock Hill, K.C.B., M.P. ...	1st G. Constable.
" John Strachan, O.C. ...	2nd G. Constable.
" Ralph Clutton, G.C.T. ...	G. Treasurer.
" Frank Richardson, G.C.T. ...	G. Registrar.
" C. F. Matier, K.C.T. ...	G. Vice-Chan.
" Charles Belton, K.C.T. ...	G. Marshal.
" Ven. Archdeacon Wm. McDonald	
" Sinclair ...	G. Almoner.
" Edward O'Connor Terry ...	G. Herald.
" F. Sumner Knyvett ...	G. Std. Br. (B.)
" B. A. Smith ...	G. Std. Br. (V.B.)
" W. S. Sutton ...	Gd. Master's B.B.
" E. Coulton Rogers ...	G.S.B.
" A. W. Siddall ...	1st G. Aide-de-Camp.
" John Barker ...	2nd G. Aide-de-Camp.
" Dr. W. H. Kempster ...	G. Chamberlain.
" Harry Nicholls ...	1st G. Capt. of Gds.
" G. C. Kent ...	2nd G. Capt. of Gds.
" H. R. Rose ...	G. Organist.

The Grand Master appointed the following as members of the Council :—Sir Knights Ralph Gooding, K.C.T.; Charles Belton, K.C.T.; Maj. C. W. Carrell, K.C.T.; and T. P. Dorman, Past Preceptor.

Sir Knight ARMITAGE proposed and Sir Knight COUSANS seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the following be elected to serve on the Council :—Sir Knights Rev. Canon Brownrigg, G.C.T.; Gordon Miller, K.C.T.; Sir George Harris, K.C.T.; A. Woodiwiss, K.C.T.; and J. Balfour Cockburn, K.C.T.

Alms amounting to £5 18s. were collected.

The GRAND MASTER : Before we close this Great Priory I have a motion to bring before you which I am quite sure you will agree to in the most hearty manner, and that is to ask this Great Priory to pass a vote of congratulation to the Sovereign of our Order on his providential escape from assassination. (Cheers.) It needs no words of mine to ask you to prove your affection for our Most Eminent Sovereign or to induce you to pass this vote, and I am quite certain that he will feel that it comes from you unanimously and heartily as it has hitherto done from every Free-

mason. Brethren of the Temple, we all know how much the Prince of Wales does for us in Freemasonry, and how much generally for the people of these realms. I ask you to pass a resolution congratulating his Royal Highness on his escape. I may say that I have already taken upon myself to have a letter drawn up which expresses these views, and which I will ask you to allow us to send to his Royal Highness. I will ask Bro. Matier to read the letter.

The GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR read the letter as follows:

To his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., G.C.T. &c., &c., &c., Most Eminent Sovereign of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital in the United Kingdom,

May it please your Royal Highness,

We, the Grand Master and Knights of the United Religious and Military Orders of the Temple and Hospital in England and Wales, in Great Priory assembled, do humbly beg to offer to your Royal Highness the assurance of our heartfelt gratitude to the Most High, that He has been mercifully pleased to protect and preserve your Royal Highness upon the occasion of the recent dastardly attack upon your life, and our earnest prayer is that His Divine Protection may ever guard your Royal Highness from all evil and danger.

EUSTON,

GRAND MASTER.

C. F. MATIER,

GREAT VICE-CHANCELLOR.

Dated at Mark Masons' Hall, this 11th May, 1900.

The GREAT SENESCHAL: I claim the privilege of seconding this motion. This I do most heartily.

The motion was agreed to amid great enthusiasm and loud cries of "all."

Great Priory was then closed in ample form.

ORDER OF MALTA.

Great Priory of Malta was opened in due form.

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

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

The Great Officers took their seats as follows:

At the East Table—V.E. Knights R. Loveland Loveland, G.C.T., G. Prior; Frank Richardson, G.C.T., as Captain-General; A. Woodiwiss, K.C.T., as Lieut.-General; E. Knights G. Walton Walker, First Lieutenant; and John Taylor, as Second Lieutenant. At the Octagon Table in the West—E. Knights E. Armitage, as Mareschal; F. Lawrance, as Hospitaller; J. B. Green, as Admiral; Knight W. G. Whittam, as Conservator; E. Knights Capt. H. G. Giles, Bailie; James Hillhouse, as Turcopolier; V.E. Knight John Strachan, as Chancellor; Knight Charles Wells, M.D., as Treasurer; V.E. Knight Rev. C. E. L. Wright, as Prelate; and E. Knight H. E. Cousans, as Captain of Outposts.

The following were Guards to the Banners: Knight Col. Gordon Watson, Banner B.; E. Knights Major E. S. Stillwell, Banner L.; and A. W. Siddall, Banner D.; Knight Richard Pintner, Banner R.; and E. Knight Harold Burke, Banner A.

The following knights of the Order of the Temple then received the Mediterranean Pass, and were admitted into the Order of Malta, the accolade being given by the M.E. and S. Grand Master: Knights Walter Lawrence, Bard of Avon Preceptory; Cecil Henry Holden White, Faith and Fidelity Preceptory; Thomas Westlake Morgan, Grosvenor Preceptory; Alexander Rutherford, Geofroy de Bouillon Preceptory; Col. Hy. Montagu Hozier, C.B., Holy Palestine Preceptory; Thos. H. Gardiner, Col. Nathaniel Newnham-Davis, and James Dundas Grant, M.D., of St. George's Preceptory; and Thomas Fish Marson, Studholme Preceptory.

The M.E. and Supreme G. Master, the Earl of Euston, afterwards presided at the banquet, supported by the Great Seneschal, the V.E. Prov. Prior for N. and E. Yorkshire, the V.E. Prov. Prior for the Mediterranean, the G. Officers, many Past G. Officers, Preceptors, and other knights, and the distinguished visitors from Scotland and Ireland.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Friday, the 18th instant, in the large hall of Freemasons' Tavern. Bro. John Albert Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., Treasurer of the Institution, presided. There were also present supporting him Bros. Dr. Strong, C. E. Keyser, J. W. Burgess, James Stephens, G. Everett, W. Russell, Dr. Mickley, W. H. Spaul, A. C. Spaul, W. F. Smithson, Capt. H. Green, W. C. Lupton, J. Hawkins, E. Letchworth, E. M. Money, H. Nuding, W. H. Saunders, Major Woodall, H. A. Tobias, H. Lovegrove, W. H. Whadcoat, G. Graveley, E. Nightingale, J. S. Cumberland, and J. Terry (Secretary). The meeting were very fully attended.

On the motion of Bro. Major WOODALL, P.G.D., the minutes of the annual meeting of May 17th, 1899, were taken as read.

The Auditors' report was read by Bro. JAS. TERRY, and on the motion of Bro. C. E. KEYSER, seconded by Bro. H. A. TOBIAS, the statement was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. TERRY next read the following report of the Committee of Management of the Institution:

The Committee of Management of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution has very great pleasure in laying before the Governors and Subscribers a Report of its proceedings during the past year.

The Anniversary Festival in behalf of the Institution was held by direction of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, K.G., Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Patron, and President, on Tuesday, the 27th February last. The Right Honourable the Lord Addington, Provincial Grand Master of Buckinghamshire, occupied the chair, and was supported by a Board of 617 Stewards, of whom 13 were ladies. The total amount of the donations and subscriptions obtained by the members of this Board was announced by the Secretary as £20,220 16s, but this sum has since been augmented by the receipt of outstanding lists—of which there was a greater number than usual—and additions to lists, to £22,013 10s., this being, with the exception of the total sub-

scribed at the Jubilee Festival in 1892, the highest ever obtained at a Benevolent Anniversary. London, which was represented by 286 Stewards, furnished towards this splendid result £12,596; the Provinces, by the medium of 328 Stewards, £9385; and Foreign Stations, with three Stewards, £31 10s.

Under these circumstances the Committee gladly avails itself of the opportunity of expressing its deep sense of gratitude to the Right Honourable the Chairman, who so ably presided and pleaded the cause of the Institution so earnestly and with such signal success; to the ladies and brethren who voluntarily gave their services as Stewards, and by whose efforts the amount was obtained, and lastly to the lodges, chapters, and individual brethren by whom it was so generously subscribed.

London, with its formidable array of Stewards, the Chairman's Province of Buckinghamshire, which in its whole career has never figured to such advantage, West Yorkshire, Essex, indeed the whole of the lodges and provinces that took part in the celebration, deserve, each and every of them, a special record of thanks for their services on this occasion; and the Committee trusts that just as the handsome total of 1899 has been exceeded by the total of the present year, so the latter, in its turn, will be surpassed by the Returns obtained at future Anniversary gatherings.

At the election in May, 1899, there were on the two Funds of the Institution 455 annuitants, the Committee having felt itself justified in recommending the increase of the number in 1898 by the creation of five annuities on the Male Fund and three on the Female Fund. Of these 455 annuitants, 207 were on the Male Fund and 248, including three nominated by the holders of as many perpetual presentations on the Widows' Fund, the number of candidates for election being 122, of whom 55 were men and 67 widows. To-day, thanks in great measure to the adoption of the Committee's recommendation, the number of candidates is smaller, comprising 46 men and 59 widows, or, in all, 105.

The Committee is naturally desirous of still further reducing the list of applicants, so far as this can be done consistently with a due regard to the careful administration of the funds at its disposal, and when at its regular meeting in February it learned that the Festival, then imminent, promised a success as great, or nearly as great, as that of last year, it resolved on still further enlarging the establishment by the creation of eight additional annuities, namely, three on the Male and five on the Widows' Fund. It therefore declared the numbers to be elected to-day to be 18 men and 23 widows, inclusive in each case of the three elected to deferred annuities. Since then, however, there have died two men and six widows, and the Committee is of opinion that these vacancies should also be filled up, and in the event of this recommendation being adopted there will be elected at this meeting 20 men and 29 widows, including, as already stated, the three who will be held in reserve for the deferred annuities. Thus, the Institution will for the future provide for 210 annuitants on the Male Fund of £40 per annum each, and 253 annuitants on the Widows' Fund at £32 per annum each, the total amount distributable among these 463 old people being £16,496. To these must be added the 26 widows of recently deceased male annuitants, to each of whom is paid annually for a term of years £20, being the half of her late husband's annuity, the amount thus distributed being £520 and raising the total to be expended on the three classes of annuitants to £17,016.

With the view, however, of bringing more immediately home to the minds of the brethren the nature and extent of the benefits conferred by the Institution, the Committee is desirous of laying before them the following interesting particulars: During the 12 months ending to-day, there have died 18 male annuitants who received amongst them £4200, and 22 widow annuitants to whom have been paid in the aggregate £8840. Of the former, one received upwards of £800 during the period he was an annuitant; two between £600 and £700 each; and three between £500 and £600 each; while of the widows, three received over £700 each; two between £600 and £700 each; and four between £500 and £600 each. The total expended amongst these male and widow annuitants reached £13,040, and it is owing to this expenditure that these old people were enabled to pass their declining years comfortably instead of in comparative or absolute poverty.

The Committee desires to express its grateful thanks to United Grand Lodge for the renewal of its annual grant of £70 towards providing the inmates of the Asylum at Croydon with fuel during the winter months; to the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for its gifts of periodicals and comforts for the residents; to the trustees of the John Hervey Benefaction Fund for the dividend on the £1000; and to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement for its renewed grant of £10, to be divided equally between the three highest unsuccessful candidates at to-day's election.

The Committee is also desirous of publicly recording its heartfelt thanks to the Honorary Surgeons of the Institution, J. Wayte, Esq., and R. Percy Middlemist, Esq., for their kind and unremitting attention to those of the annuitants, whether resident at Croydon or non-resident, who have been unfortunately compelled during the past year to seek their advice and assistance; and also to H. J. Strong, Esq., M.D., Honorary Consulting Physician, who has at all times exhibited the utmost readiness to give to those who needed it the benefit of his long professional experience.

The Committee cannot allow this opportunity to pass without recording its sincere appreciation of the zeal and ability with which the Secretary and his staff have discharged their very responsible duties, and heartily congratulates the former on the continued success of his efforts to promote the welfare of our Institution, with which he has been so closely connected for upwards of five-and-thirty years.

The Committee report that the premises at Croydon will this year require to be put into repair.

Appended is the audited statement of account for the year ending the 31st December, 1899. As in previous years, it has been prepared with the greatest care by the Finance Committee, and passed and approved by the Auditors only after the most rigorous examination of the several items. The Committee, under these circumstances, both hopes and believes that the Governors and Subscribers, on scrutinising the figures, will arrive at the conclusion that during the past, as in preceding years, the duty of administering the affairs of the Institution has been performed with the utmost possible regard for efficiency and economy combined.

Lastly, the Committee expresses its unabated confidence in the generosity of the Craft, and is firmly persuaded that so long as it pursues the line of conduct it has marked out for itself, so long will the brethren manifest the same readiness to contribute towards the maintenance of the Institution.

Subjoined is the statement of the receipts and expenditure during the year 1899 already mentioned, together with the necessary particulars of the permanent income.

On the motion of Bro. A. C. SPAULL, seconded by Bro. H. A. TOBIAS, the Report was ordered to be received and entered on the minutes.

Bro. CHARLES E. KEYSER then rose, and said the next business the brethren had before them was the election of the Treasurer, and they would all anticipate the proposition he (Bro. Keyser) was about to make. Bro. John Albert Farnfield, P.A.G.D.C., had filled the position of Treasurer of the Institution for many years; he believed the present year was the twentieth year Bro. Farnfield had been their Treasurer. He was sure they would all be most anxious to see him remain in that high and honorable office for many years to come. His services to the Institution had been

invaluable, and it was therefore unnecessary for him (Bro. Keyser) to dwell upon his merits further in proposing that Bro. Farnfield be again elected.

Bro. W. H. SPAULL seconded the proposal, and observed that after what Bro. Keyser had said it was needless for him to add any words.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD: Brethren, I thank you most heartily. (Cheers.)

The following brethren were elected the Committee of Management: Bros. H. W. Clarke, P.M. 1625; F. Dangerfield, P.M. 1260; A. G. Duck, P.M. 898; Wm. Fisher, P.M. 834; Robt. A. Gowan, P.M. 2029; John Hattersley, P.M. 1697; Wm. Lawrence, P.M. 2412; Alfred Moore, P.M. 173; Robt. Jas. Tucker, P.M. 933; and William Vincent, P.M. 1194.

Bros. Kenpton, Attenborough, and Cleghorn were elected Auditors.

Bro. J. S. CUMBERLAND, P. Dep. G.S.B., brought forward the following motion, amid cries of "Withdraw." He said he should not withdraw; he was not in the habit of insulting the Craft by making a fool of it, asking them to pass an opinion on a certain point and then not bringing it before them. His motion was "That the name of any brother, or widow of a brother, who has not been elected after four applications shall be struck off the list of candidates, and cannot again be replaced." At the last meeting a motion was made that certain candidates after being unsuccessful a certain number of times should be struck off, and should not be eligible to be placed on the list again for 12 months. He protested against it, but there was a very melancholy aspect of certain cases being 17 years on the list and only obtaining a small number of votes. (Bro. Cumberland then read a selection from a list of both men and women who had been candidates for many years, and were still candidates). The organisation of the provinces was that cases were taken by the charitable associations and the Stewards supported the candidates. But sometimes when they found what they considered a more deserving case the other was left out. Some lodges in their desire to do a kindly action would recommend a case and then take no further steps with regard to it. The proposition which he made would do no harm to anybody, and might do a great deal of good. He would ask some brother to second it.

Bro. J. A. FARNFIELD: Does any one second the motion. (There was no reply.)

Bro. E. W. NIGHTINGALE: I should think not; it is the most unmasonic resolution I ever heard of.

Bro. CUMBERLAND said he was perfectly satisfied; he had brought the subject before the brethren, and their opinions had been taken upon it.

The election of candidates for the annuity of the Institution then took place.

Votes of thanks to the Scrutineers and to the Chairman of the day closed the proceedings.

The successful candidates will be found in our advertisement columns.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF EAST LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Prov. G. Lodge of East Lancashire was held on the 16th instant, in the Co-operative Hall, Radcliffe. Bro. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, Dep. Prov. G. Master, presided, the Prov. G. Master, Bro. Lord Stanley, M.P., being on military service with Lord Roberts in South Africa. Bro. Capt. John Barlow, P.P.G.W., acted as Dep. Prov. G. Master, and among those on the platform were the following G. Officers of England: Bros. Col. Dean, P.G.D.; J. D. Murray, P.G.T.; John Chadwick, P.G. Std. Br., P.P.G. Sec. East Lancs.; W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B.; and J. Kenyon, P.G. Std. Br.

Red Rose of Lancaster, No. 1504, Padiham, was the only lodge out of 113 in the province which was not represented.

The acting PROV. G. MASTER in the chair reminded the brethren that their chief was away from England doing his duty to his Queen and his country, and proposed that they should despatch to Lord Stanley, to care of the Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, a telegram expressing "Heartly good wishes from your Provincial Grand Lodge." Such a message, said Bro. Royds, would be esteemed an honour by its recipient, for it would show that he was not forgotten by those over whom he had been appointed to rule. (Cheers.)

The acting DEP. PROV. G. MASTER seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously, with cheers.

Bro. J. CHADWICK presented his accounts as Prov. G. Treasurer, and mentioned with pleasure the fact that all the lodges in the province had paid their fees and dues before the end of the year.

The accounts were adopted on the motion of the acting PROV. G. MASTER, seconded by Bro. W. GOLDTHORPE, P.P.G.R.

Bro. C. D. CHEETHAM, P. Prov. J.G.W., in moving the adoption of the report of the Charity Committee, said the Relief Board had on several occasions recently received petitions for the relief of old men or women by their provincial systematic charity whose cases they had had to decline. This was for lack of proper inquiry into the circumstances of applicants on the part of lodges and brethren recommending the cases, and he was asked by the Relief Board to suggest to the brethren of the province that they should be rather more particular in these matters in the future. With regard to elections upon the London Masonic Foundations, there was an improvement in the marshalling of the voting power of the province, for at the recent elections to the Boys' School and the Girls' School only two votes belonging to the lodges of the province were missing. Replying to a question, Bro. Cheetham said that no voting papers had been necessary so far in connection with the work of their own Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, because it had been found practicable to help all the cases recommended that were reasonably deserving. There might come a time when a selection from candidates for assistance would have to be made, and then the votes of the subscribers would be invited.

Bro. J. HOOPER, P.P.G.T., seconded the motion, and it was carried.

The Acting P.G.M. proposed, in accordance with notice, "That 50 guineas be contributed from the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge to

the relief of the loyal brethren in South Africa who were sufferers by the war." He mentioned that the subject had already been submitted by his Royal Highness the Grand Master to Grand Lodge, and that body had contributed 1000 guineas to the fund, and many private lodges in the country had sent smaller sums.

Bro. BARLOW, in seconding the motion, said he knew something of the loyal South African brethren. They could not give too much to help such as had suffered through the war, for they were Masons to the bottom of their hearts. (Applause.)

Bro. S. MOORE moved, and Bro. ALCOCK seconded an amendment to make the grant 100 guineas.

Bro. BARLOW asked the brethren to remember that they had a big year before them, and also that East Lancashire was contributing its share through the private lodges as well as through the Provincial G. Lodge to the South African loyalists.

The amendment was, therefore, withdrawn, and the motion was carried.

On the motion of Bro. T. LAWRENSON, seconded by Bro. BARLOW, Bro. J. H. Heap, P.M. 344, was unanimously elected Provincial Grand Treasurer.

Bro. Heap was subsequently invested along with those who had been appointed officers.

Before proceeding with the ceremony of investiture, Bro. ROYDS said that in appointing Bro. Cheetham, P.P.J.G.W., to the office of P.S.G.W., he was recognising most valuable services to Masonry and its Charities by granting the highest honours it was within his power to bestow. (Applause.)

The following were appointed Provincial Grand Officers for the ensuing year:

Bro. C. D. Cheetham, 993	...	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" R. Norris Midwood, 1253	...	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. Geo. Cranston, 999	...	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" Rev. J. C. Webb, 345	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" F. A. Janion, 62	...	...	Prov. Dep. G. Reg.
" W. F. Chambers, 210	...	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" James Newton, 37	...	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" Thomas Knott, 1030	...	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" Robert Thomson, 44	...	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" Robert Hilton, 78	...	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" William Charlton, 2554	...	...	Prov. Dep. G.D.C.
" Jno. W. Mellor, 2702	...	...	Prov. A.G.Ds. of C.
" Samuel Newton, 430	...	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" George Graham, 2447	...	...	Prov. Dep. G.S.B.
" Robert Pollitt, 191	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" Henry Grimshaw, 2464	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Richard Anderton, 1775	...	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" Max Weigenthaler, 645	...	...	Prov. G. Purst.
" Wm. Sutcliffe, 1064	...	...	Prov. A.G. Purst.
" Ellis C. Boardman, 2701	...	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" Jas. Eckersley, 348	...	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" Geo. Whewell, 344	...	...
" Philip Worrall, 934	...	...
" Albert Whipp, 854	...	...
" Jas. Lee Wood, 350	...	...
" Edmund Lord, 363	...	...
" Wm. Ormerod, 462	...	...
" Roger Woodward, 344	...	...
" Harold Smith, 344	...	...
" Edward Bakewell, 2701	...	...
" Wm. Orrell, 2701	...	...
" Josh. Jackson, 934	...	...
" Wm. Hampson, 934	...	...
" Edward Roberts, 1459	...	...

A collection taken on behalf of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution realised £38 4s.

The new PROV. G. SENIOR WARDEN moved, and the PROV. G. JUNIOR WARDEN seconded, a resolution, which was heartily carried, recommending the province to support the election in March next year of Bro. Captain J. Barlow to the office of Grand Treasurer of England.

Bro. Barlow is nominated by the London District, and it was hoped, said Bro. CHEETHAM, that, as a Lancashire man whom they all esteemed, he would receive the entire support of all the Northern Provinces. (Applause.)

Bro. Colonel DEAN said he could promise Bro. Barlow the unanimous vote of Cheshire.

The Prov. Grand Lodge was afterwards closed.

LOGIC CLUB.

At the last meeting before the summer vacation, at 11 a.m., on Sunday, the 27th instant, at the Home of the Club, Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer-street, W., it has been arranged to rehearse the ceremony of installation. I.M., the Preceptor, Bro. Robert Manuel, P.M. Urban Lodge, No. 1196; S.W. and M.E., Bro. J. Percy Fitzgerald, Founder and Secretary Logic Club; S.W., after presentation, Bro. Albert G. Neville, M.E. Lodge of Verity, No. 2739; J.W., Bro. J. H. Barnes, S.W. Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127; I.P.M., V.W. Bro. Richard Eve, Past Grand Treasurer; S.D., Bro. Albert Craddock, W.M. Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150; J.D., Bro. Alexander W. Watson, P.G. Std. Br. (Bucks.); D.C., Bro. Harry Nicholls, P.M. and Sec. Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127; I.G., Bro. George Paxton, M.E. Salisbury Lodge, No. 435; and Tyler, Bro. Edward Gatliff, Sir Hugh Myddelton Lodge, No. 1602.

A special programme of music has been arranged.

It is hoped that the Preceptor's List, as Steward for the R.M.I. for Girls, announced at the Festival on Wednesday, the 16th instant, at 80 guineas, will be made up to 100 guineas before the adjournment for the vacation.

It is anticipated there will be a large gathering of members and visitors on this interesting occasion.

THE FOUNDATION-STONE of the Passmore Edwards' Hall will be laid by the Bishop of London during the last week in June. The building, the site of which is close to the new street between Holborn and the Strand, will furnish a home in connection with the University of London for the School of Economics and Political Economy. It will be established at a cost of £30,000, towards which amount Bro. Passmore Edwards has contributed £10,000.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

EXCURSION TRAINS will leave PADDINGTON as under:

THURSDAY, May 31st.—To CORK, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Giant's Causeway, &c., allowing a fortnight.

FRIDAY, June 1st.—To BATH, BRISTOL, &c., returning June 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 15th, or 18th; to WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, Minehead, Tiverton, &c., returning June 4th, 8th, 11th, 15th, or 18th; to CHELTENHAM, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, &c., returning June 7th; to Cirencester, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, &c., returning June 3rd, 4th, 8th, 11th, 15th, or 18th; to WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Tipperary, Limerick, Tralee, KILKENNY, &c., for a fortnight or less; to Market Drayton, Manchester, &c., returning June 4th, 6th, or 8th; to SHREWSBURY, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Aberystwyth, Llangollen, Barmouth, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-Coed, Carnarvon, &c., returning June 4th, 8th, 11th, or 15th.

FRIDAY NIGHT, June 1st.—To EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, Bodmin, Wadebridge, NEWQUAY, Falmouth, PENZANCE, &c., returning June 4th, 8th, 11th, 15th, or 18th; to Chepstow, Newport, CARDIFF, Swansea, Llanelly, Llandilo, Llandovery, CARMARTHEN, &c., returning June 4th or 8th; to Newcastle Emlyn, TENBY, Milford, &c., returning June 8th; to Chester, Birkenhead and LIVERPOOL, returning June 4th, 6th or 8th; and to DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN), returning June 4th, 8th, 11th or 15th.

SATURDAY, June 2nd.—To NEWBURY, Savernake, MARLBOROUGH, Devizes, Trowbridge, Frome, Wells, Yeovil, Bridport, Dorchester, WYMOUTH, &c., returning June 4th, 11th or 18th; to Minehead, LYNTON, LYNNOUTH, Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Torquay, Dartmouth, PLYMOUTH, Launceston, Bodmin, Wadebridge, NEWQUAY, Falmouth, PENZANCE, &c., returning June 4th, 8th, 11th, 15th or 18th; to OXFORD, Leamington, Stratford-on-Avon, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &c., returning June 4th, 7th or 8th.

SATURDAY NIGHT, June 2nd.—To GLOUCESTER, Chepstow, Newport, CARDIFF, Swansea, Llanelly, Llandilo, Llandovery, CARMARTHEN, &c., returning June 4th or 8th; and to BATH, BRISTOL, &c., returning June 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 15th or 18th.

WHIT SUNDAY.—To Swindon, CIRENCESTER, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c., returning same day or June 4th, 8th, 11th, 15th or 18th.

WHIT SUNDAY MIDNIGHT.—To OXFORD, returning June 4th, 7th or 8th; and to Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &c., returning June 4th, 5th, 7th or 8th.

WHIT MONDAY.—To READING, Newbury, Savernake, MARLBOROUGH, Devizes, Pangbourne, Goring, Wallingford, &c., returning same day; and to BATH, BRISTOL, Weston, &c., returning same day or June 5th, 8th, 11th, 15th or 18th.

WHIT TUESDAY, 11.55 a.m.—HALF-DAY TRIP TO SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY. — To Stratford-on-Avon, returning at 7.20 p.m. Return Fare 4/-. Passengers also booked to Banbury and Leamington.

CHEAP THIRD CLASS RETURN TICKETS are issued daily by certain trains to Windsor 2/6, Burnham Beeches 3/6, Maidenhead 3/6, Henley 3/6, Goring 5/6, &c.

Tickets and pamphlets can be obtained at the Company's Stations, and the usual Receiving Offices.

J. L. WILKINSON, General Manager.

GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON (Marylebone, near Baker-street and Edgware-road).

On **THURSDAY, 31st MAY** (for 16 days), To Ireland (via Liverpool), calling at Harrow. See pamphlet.

On **FRIDAY, 1st JUNE** (5, 8, and 16 days). 7.45 p.m., for Northallerton, Darlington, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Oban, Fort William, &c., calling at Harrow and Aylesbury. 10.30 p.m., for Douglas (via Liverpool), for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days).

On **FRIDAY MIDNIGHT, JUNE 1st** (3 days), and **SATURDAY MIDNIGHT, JUNE 2nd** (2 days). 12.15 Friday midnight, and 12.45 Saturday midnight, for Rugby, Lutterworth, Leicester, Loughboro', Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, &c., calling at Harrow.

On **SATURDAY, JUNE 2nd**. 12.15 Friday midnight, for Douglas (via Liverpool). Passengers returning any day up to and including Monday, June 11th.

On **SATURDAY, JUNE 2nd** (3, 6, or 8 days). 8.0 a.m. for Bridlington, Filey, Middlesboro', Newcastle, Scarborough, York, &c. 10.0 a.m. for Knutsford, Northwich, St. Helen's, Southport, Wigan, &c. 12.0 noon for Cleethorpes, Doncaster, Hull, Retford, &c. 1.35 p.m. for Rugby (Central), Loughboro', Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Guide Bridge, Manchester, &c. 5.40 p.m. for Bulwell Common, Chesterfield, Pilsley, Staveley, &c. 6.0 p.m. for Brackley, Culworth, Finmere, Helmdon, Woodford, and Hinton.

7.25 p.m. for Nottingham, Sheffield, Penistone, Stockport, Liverpool, and Manchester.

7.45 p.m. for Rugby, Loughboro', Lutterworth, and Leicester.

On **SATURDAYS 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 JUNE** (3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days).

8.0 a.m. for Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Saltburn, Redcar, and Douglas.

10.0 a.m. for Liverpool, Southport, Blackpool, St. Ann's, Lytham, and Fleetwood.

12.0 noon for Cleethorpes, Newdee, Grimsby, and Chester.

4.0 p.m. for Douglas (via Liverpool).

On **MONDAY, 4th JUNE**.

8.15 a.m. (for 1, 2, or 3 days), 11.30 a.m. (for 1 day, and 2 or 3 days), to Finmere, Brackley, Rugby, Lutterworth, Leicester, Loughboro', and Nottingham, calling at Harrow and Aylesbury.

For full particulars, see printed pamphlet, which can be obtained at any of the Company's Receiving Offices, or Marylebone Station, and from Messrs. DEAN & DAWSON, 55, Charing Cross, Trafalgar Square, London.

WILLIAM POLLITT, General Manager. Manchester.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

THE CHEAP WEEK-END TICKETS usually issued each Friday and Saturday will be issued on Friday, June 1st, and Saturday, June 2nd, available for return on Sunday (if train service admits), Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, June 3, 4, 5, or 6.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS.

FRIDAY, June 1st (for 5, 8, or 16 days), to Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Fort William, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland, will leave Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E. and C.), Victoria (S.E. & C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c. Passengers holding 5 days tickets return Tuesday, 5th June, 8 days tickets, Friday, 8th June, and 16 days tickets on any day up to and including Saturday, 16th June.

SATURDAY, June 2nd, and each Saturday until September 20th (for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days), to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Grimsby, New Cleve, Cleethorpes, Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Whitby, Robin Hood's Bay, Saltburn, Redcar, Tynemouth, Whitley, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southport and Douglas (isle of Man), from Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c.

SATURDAY, June 2nd (for 3, 6, or 8 days), to the principal stations in Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, North Eastern District, &c., &c., from Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E. & C.), Victoria (S.E. and C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), and suburban stations.

SATURDAY, 2nd June (for 1, 3, or 4 days), and **Whit Monday, June 4** (for 1 day), to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), Finsbury Park, &c., &c.

WHIT MONDAY, June 4th (for 1 day), to St. Alban's, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Baldock, Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterborough, from Victoria (S.E. and C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c.

THURSDAY NIGHT, 7th June (for 2 days), to Sheffield, Stockport, and Manchester (Races), from Moorgate, Aldersgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c.

For fares and full particulars see bills, to be obtained at Company's stations and town offices.

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Special Trains from Fenchurch Street Station, 9.45 and 10.28 a.m., St. Pancras, 9.50 a.m.

Return Fares, London to Margate, 6/- 1st Saloon, 5/- 2nd Saloon. St. Pancras 6d. extra.

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MIDLAND RAILWAY.

WHITSUNTIDE EXCURSIONS.

FROM ST. PANCRAS AND CITY STATIONS, also from Woolwich, Greenwich, &c.

IRELAND. May 31st, June 1st and 2nd.

To DUBLIN, CORK, KILLARNEY, Ballina, Galway, Sligo, on May 31st, via Liverpool, and on June 1st, via Morecambe; BELFAST, LONDONDERRY, &c., on Thursday, May 31st, to LONDONDERRY via LIVERPOOL, and via Morecambe on Saturday, June 2nd. See Special Bills for times, fares, &c.

SCOTLAND. Friday, June 1st.

* To GLASGOW, Greenock, Avr, Kilmarnock, and the G. & S.W. Line, also to EDINBURGH and GLASGOW (N.B.), leaving St. Pancras at 10.10 p.m., and to Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Inverness, &c., for 5, 8 or 16 days, leaving St. Pancras at 9.15 p.m.

* PROVINCIAL TOWNS AND SEASIDE.

Friday Midnight, June 1st, for 3 days, Saturday Midnight, June 2nd, for 2 days, to Leicester, Loughboro', Nottingham, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, &c.

* SATURDAY, June 2nd, to

PRINCIPAL MIDLAND TOWNS AND HOLIDAY RESORTS, including: — MATLOCK, BUXTON, EDWINSTOWE, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, Blackpool, MORECAMBE, THE LAKE DISTRICT, SCARBORO', and the North Eastern District, for 3, 6 or 8 days.

* Tickets will be issued from Woolwich, Greenwich, &c., in connection with the Excursions marked *.

WHIT-MONDAY, June 4th, to

ST. ALBANS, HARPENDEN, LUTON, BEDFORD, KETTERING, LEICESTER, Loughboro', NOTTINGHAM and BIRMINGHAM, returning as per bills.

FRIDAY, June 8th (Thursday Midnight).

MANCHESTER (for the Races), also to NOTTINGHAM, SHEFFIELD, and Stockport, from St. Pancras and Kentish Town, as per bills.

SOUTHEAST-ON-SEA.

CHEAP DAY AND WEEK-END EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued to SOUTHEAST-ON-SEA during the Whitsuntide Holidays, as announced in Special Bills.

NEW WEEKLY SUMMER EXCURSIONS.

EVERY SATURDAY until further notice (commencing June 2nd) to MATLOCK, BUXTON, LIVERPOOL, SOUTHPORT, BLACKPOOL, Lytham, St. Anne's on Sea, the Isle of Man, MORECAMBE, LANCASTER, THE ENGLISH LAKE DISTRICT, Bridlington, SCARBORO', Whitby, &c., for 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 days.

CHEAP WEEK-END TICKETS

are now issued every Friday and Saturday from LONDON (ST. PANCRAS) and other principal Midland Stations to the CHIEF SEASIDE AND INLAND PLEASURE RESORTS, including the "Peak" District of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, the North East Coast, Scotland, and other parts, available for return on the following Sunday (where train service permits), Monday or Tuesday. Tickets issued on June 1st and 2nd will also be available for return on Wednesday, June 6th.

APPLY FOR TICKETS, PROGRAMMES & BILLS at the MIDLAND STATIONS AND CITY BOOKING OFFICES, or at the various offices of Messrs. T. COOK and SON.

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Deputy Ruler of the Order:

HIS HONOUR JUDGE F. A. PHILBRICK, Q.C.

Grand Chancellor:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF HALSBURY.

Grand Chamberlain:

C. E. KEYSER, ESQ., J.P., &c.

GRAND FESTIVAL, 1900.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the GRAND FESTIVAL of the ORDER will be held at THE HOTEL CECIL, STRAND, W.C., on

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30th, 1900,

GRAND COUNCIL will meet at Five o'clock precisely.

WHEN THE RIGHT WORTHY BRO.

The Rt. Hon. the EARL OF WARWICK,

Supreme Ruler of the Order,

Will be again proposed as Supreme Grand Ruler, and

BRO. CHARLES LUCIUS NELSON,

Will be proposed as Grand Treasurer for the year.

At Six o'clock.

THE GRAND OFFICERS AND GRAND STEWARDS for the Year will be invested and proclaimed.

All Princes of the Order are entitled to be present at GRAND CONCLAVE, which meets at Six o'clock, and all Bro. Secret Monitors are invited on this important occasion.

Brethren belonging to any other jurisdiction, and desiring to be present, should apply to

BRO. W. J. SPRATLING,
Grand Recorder,
74, Wickham-road, Brockley, S.E.

The Grand Festival will be followed by a BANQUET at Seven o'clock, for which Tickets (price One Guinea each, inclusive), may be obtained of the Grand Stewards attached to the various Conclaves, or of the Grand Recorder.

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GRAND PATRON AND PRESIDENT:

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES,
K.G., M.W.G.M.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Institution held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, May 18th, 1900, W. Brother J. A. FARNFIELD, Patron, P.A.G.D.C., Chairman, after the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the Election of 20 Male Annuitants from an approved list of 46 candidates, and 29 Female Annuitants from an approved list of 59 candidates, when the following were declared duly ELECTED:

No. on Poll.	MALES.	Votes.
1.	Bro. F. L. T. Bowden...	7023
2.	" J. H. Clarke ...	6886
3.	" C. S. Jenkins ...	6068
4.	" J. Waring ...	6014
5.	" C. W. Smith ...	5934
6.	" R. Blake ...	5857
7.	" G. Bird ...	5717
8.	" J. Beech ...	5685
9.	" J. Dewhurst ...	5621
10.	" D. Jackson ...	5576
11.	" M. Nicholson ...	5552
12.	" J. Darton ...	5541
13.	" G. Hirst... ..	5535
14.	" W. Templer ...	5530
15.	" E. F. L. Linck ...	5516
*16.	" W. Nicholl ...	5487
*17.	" G. Rowles ...	5333
18.	" J. Frew (deferred) ...	5208
19.	" T. Perry (deferred) ...	5106
20.	" W. B. Wood (deferred) ...	4987

WIDOWS.

1.	Mrs. H. A. Turner ...	6075
2.	" H. Parkes ...	5910
3.	" L. White ...	5715
4.	" C. Oberdoerffer ...	5620
5.	" M. M. Giles ...	5545
6.	" E. Pooley ...	5394
7.	" B. Meek ...	5310
8.	" S. A. Hughes ...	5281
9.	" Alice Maud ...	5250
10.	" S. E. Fauvel ...	5113
11.	" H. Masey ...	5077
12.	" J. Hendry ...	5026
13.	" M. Thompson ...	4957
14.	" S. A. Wise ...	4932
15.	" K. E. S. Dyer ...	4587
16.	" Fras. Fomes ...	4534
17.	" E. Smith ...	4529
18.	" E. M. Dixon ...	4331
19.	" Mary Nunn ...	4233
20.	" E. Bourdeaux ...	4105
*21.	" L. Lewis... ..	4039
*22.	" M. A. Simmons ...	3888
*23.	" A. Brindley ...	3231
*24.	" E. Humphreys ...	2808
*25.	" G. Jacobs ...	2554
*26.	" E. C. Ware ...	2254
27.	" M. Geyder (deferred) ...	2220
28.	" M. Warr (deferred) ...	2187
29.	" E. Letton (deferred) ...	2182

The votes of the Unsuccessful Candidates will be carried forward to the next Election.

Those marked * are elected to fill vacancies occasioned by death since the voting papers were issued.

The three lowest on the poll (both male and female) will be placed on the list of annuitants as vacancies occur.

By order.

JAMES TERRY,

Patron and Secretary.

May 18, 1900.

The next ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL will be held on February 27th, 1901, under very distinguished presidency. The services of Brethren and of Ladies to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

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SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900

Masonic Notes.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland at its recent Quarterly Communication passed unanimously, and amid the greatest enthusiasm, a resolution expressive of the brethren's abhorrence of the dastardly attack made upon H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., Patron of Scottish Freemasonry, some time ago at the railway terminus in Brussels. The resolution was moved by the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., M.W.G. Master, who was in the chair, the standing orders being suspended in order that the motion might take precedence of all other business.

The annual meeting at Radcliffe on Wednesday, the 16th instant, of the Prov. Grand Lodge of East Lancashire was a most successful one. The presence of Lord Stanley, Prov. G. Master, who is with Lord Roberts in South Africa, was greatly missed, more especially as this was the first annual meeting held since his lordship's installation in succession to the late lamented Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie. However, his able Deputy, Bro. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, presided in his stead, and carried out the duties of the chair most admirably, his first act being to propose that a telegram—"Hearty good wishes from your Provincial Grand Lodge"—should be sent to Lord Stanley just to show that his lordship was not forgotten on such an occasion by those he had been appointed to rule over.

The reports of the Provincial Grand Officers were of a most satisfactory nature, the Provincial Grand Treasurer being able to announce that every one of the lodges in the Province had paid their fees and dues before the end of the year. The report of the Charity Committee, which was submitted by Bro. C. D. Cheetham, also gave every satisfaction, and the acting Provincial Grand Master proposed, in accordance with notice given, that a sum of 50 guineas should be voted to the South African Masonic Relief Fund. This was adopted unanimously, an amendment to increase the sum to 100 guineas being withdrawn on its being pointed out that the Province had a big year before it, and was contributing its share to the Fund through its private lodges as well as through the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Before the proceedings, which included the appointment and investiture of the Prov. Grand Officers for the ensuing year, terminated, it was unanimously agreed to support the candidature of Bro. Captain J. Barlow for the office of Grand Treasurer of England for the year 1901-2, as he was "a Lancashire man whom they all esteemed," and the hope was expressed that Bro. Barlow, who would be "nominated by the London district," would receive "the entire support of all the Northern Provinces." If this hope is realised, we may look forward to a keen contest in March, 1901 between Bro. Captain Barlow and Bro. Horace B. Marshall, M.A., C.C., who has also offered himself as a candidate for this much coveted position.

Guernsey and Alderney is one of the smallest and most distant of our Provinces, but that it has fared prosperously since it was erected into a Province under Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn as Prov. G. Master, has been abundantly shown at its successive annual meetings, and at none more so than at that which was recently held, and of which a full report was published in our columns last week. On this occasion a new lodge, named after the respected Prov. G. Master, was consecrated, and when the ceremony was over Bro. Cockburn was installed its first W. Master by Bro. Dr. Le Cronier, Dep. Prov. G. Master of Jersey. There appears to have been an exceptionally large attendance of brethren, not only from the lodges in the Province itself, but also from those in Jersey, and in a few cases from England. The new lodge raises the number under the genial rule of Bro. Cockburn to seven, and we hope, as we believe, that the Balfour Cockburn Lodge will extend the influence of the Province as well as add to its numerical strength.

A new Royal Arch chapter—the Cavendish, No. 2620, attached to the lodge, which bears the same name and number—was consecrated at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday, the 22nd instant. The ceremony was performed as usual by Comp. Edward Letchworth, Grand Scribe E., and when the chapter was constituted, the Principals designate—Comps. Frederick Lawrance, Woodhouse Braine, and William J. Walsham—were installed as M.E.Z., H., and J. respectively. There are in all 16 Founders, so that the chapter starts under the most encouraging auspices. Needless to say, we wish it a long and prosperous career.

Circulars have been issued containing an announcement that the proposed "Warwickshire Masonic Benevolent Festival" will, by kind permission of Lord Leigh, Provincial Grand Master, be held in Stoneleigh Park, on Tuesday, the 3rd July, and will take the form of a garden party as well as a Festival. There will be a luncheon at 1.30 p.m., at which his lordship will preside, and tea will be served between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m., while other refreshments will be obtainable at

moderate charges during the day. Tickets for luncheon and tea, with admission to the Park and Gardens, price 7s. 6d. The whole of the proceeds will be handed over to the Fund.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Bro. R. Hudson, Prov. G. Secretary Durham, for a list of the contributions voted by the Prov. Grand and Private Lodges and the R.A. Chapters to the Grand Lodge South African Masonic Relief Fund. The total including 50 guineas from the Prov. Grand Lodge, amounts to £256, and what enhances its value is that the whole of the 37 lodges and 13 chapters in the Province have taken part in the subscriptions.

A glance at the list of votes polled for the unsuccessful Widow candidates at the recent elections of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, discloses the fact that two ladies obtained precisely the same number of votes, namely, 1266, and thus tied not only for the third place, but also for the £5 given by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement. This *solatium*, therefore, has necessarily been divided equally between them, each receiving £2 10s. May we take the liberty of suggesting that, in view of the glorious total of over £22,000 obtained at the Festival in February last, the Committee of Management direct the Secretary of the Institution to present each of the two with a further £2 10s., so that they may enjoy to the full the benefit of the gift so generously bestowed annually by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement? The boon will be appreciated by the recipients, and the outlay will not be felt by the Institution.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Annual Athletic Sports of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys will take place on the School grounds at Wood Green to-morrow (Saturday) at 3 p.m. The Boys' Band of the Strand Union Schools will, by permission of the Guardians, be in attendance and play a selection of music from 2.30 p.m., while tea will be served in the Hall between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m. The train service, by the Great Northern and Great Eastern lines, both out and home, is frequent and convenient, so that intending visitors will have no difficulty in reaching and returning from the Institution. We hope the weather will be favourable, in which case we have no doubt the meeting will, as it invariably does, prove a great success.

We regret exceedingly the two omissions from our report of the recent Grand Lodge function at Bushey, to which Bro. Frank Richardson has drawn attention. As regards the first—"the omission of the name of Bro. the Rev. Henry Hebb, M.A., P.G.D., the respected Head Master of the School, from the list of those whom, with the Duke of Connaught's gracious permission, I had the honour to present to his Royal Highness"—we can do no more than plead in extenuation that the whole of the latter part of our report, from "The following Grand Officers and distinguished visitors were present at the ceremony," to the end, was furnished by Bro. McLeod, the Secretary of the Institution, and formed a valuable, and, as we naturally assumed, a complete, record of those leading Masons who attended the meeting.

As regards the second, what preceded this list or record was furnished by our own representative, and, therefore, the responsibility for omitting to report the fact—"that the prayer at the close of the ceremony and before the blessing was most impressively offered by the Head Master"—rests with us, and we can only reiterate our regret that it should have occurred.

At the same time, we thank Bro. Richardson for thus courteously drawing our attention to these omissions. Our Rev. Bro. Hebb, as Head Master during the last 10 years, has rendered such signal service to the School—service, be it remarked, which, as his recent appointment as a Past G. Deacon of England shows, is fully recognised by his Royal Highness the M.W.G.M. and President of the Institution—that anything in the nature of a slight to our reverend brother—for these omissions constitute a slight, though an unintentional one—must be deplored by all considerate members of our Society, and we are satisfied that none will more deeply lament the two omissions than Bro. McLeod, to whose oversight the first is due, and who has so often spoken in the most eulogistic terms of the splendid results achieved by the Rev. Bro. Hebb during his Head Mastership.

Correspondence.

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

THE RECENT GRAND LODGE FUNCTION AT BUSHEY, HERTS. To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother

As Acting Grand Director of Ceremonies at the recent ceremonial of laying the foundation-stone of the new School Buildings at Bushey, I must ask you to pardon my calling your attention to two omissions in your excellent report of the proceedings in last week's *Freemason*. I refer to the omission of the name of Bro. the Rev. Henry Hebb, M.A., P.G.D., the respected Head Master of the School, from the list of those whom, with the Duke of Connaught's gracious permission, I had the honour to present to his Royal Highness. I notice also the further omission of any reference to the fact that the prayer at the close of the ceremony and before the blessing was most impressively offered by the Head Master.—I remain, yours faithfully and fraternally,

FRANK RICHARDSON, P.G.D.

28, Golden-square, W.,
May 21st.

SUPREME COUNCIL, 33°, AND DISPENSATION TO WEAR A. AND A. CLOTHING AT CHURCH PARADE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I am desired to inform you, with reference to a suggestion which appeared in the *Freemason* of the 19th instant, that the Supreme Council, 33°, will not grant a dispensation for members of the A. and A. Rite to appear in the clothing of their Degrees at a church parade.—I am, dear Sir and Brother, yours very fraternally,

W. PORTLOCK DADSON,
Sec. to Supreme Council, 33°.

33, Golden-square, W.,
May 22nd.

SOUTH AFRICAN RELIEF.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I herewith beg to send you a copy of a letter received by me yesterday from the acting Secretary of Lodge 2401, Ladysmith, Natal.

If, on reading, you think you could find a place for it in the *Freemason* I should be glad; and if anyone who reads it has a few shillings to spare I should be happy to forward to Bro. W. H. Miller, either for the partially destroyed Temple or for the lodge Charity box.

I should mention that as brethren would not care to send funds to an unknown man, I think Bro. G. W. Speth, of No. 2076, would assure you that I am worthy of that confidence.

I am the local Charity representative of my lodge, No. 1151, also Chaplain, and am a member of the C.C. of No. 2076.—Yours fraternally,

GEORGE WORMALD WHITE.

St. Blazey, Cornwall.
May 14th.

[PART COPY OF LETTER.]

Klip County Lodge, 2401.
Ladysmith,
Natal.
18th April, 1900.

To Bro. G. Wormald White,
My dear Sir and Brother,

Regarding our siege meetings, I am sure that every one who attended looks back upon them with satisfaction. Only upon one occasion was the attendance sparse, but, alas, this was caused by the damage done in the Volunteer camp by the enemy's shell fire, killing a brother amongst many others.

I regret that I cannot give you a good account of our brethren of the lodge; some have been killed in action, some (two) died of disease, one is wounded and a prisoner, and a great many have come to the verge of ruin, both in health and property.

Before the war the lodge was in a prosperous condition, and we were building a new temple; we are now in a very awkward position; the work had to stand during the siege, and the building was greatly damaged by shell fire from the enemy.

I am sure that should the war come to its rational termination, viz., "One flag for all South Africa," everything will yet be well with us; and though at times we are somewhat downhearted when we look at our losses, yet our spirits are raised and the blood flows more freely through us all when we receive such a letter as yours, showing that our efforts are not in vain and unappreciated in the dear old country.

Again thanking you, Sir and Brother, in the name of my lodge and self, and with very "Hearty good wishes" to yourself and your lodge brethren,

Believe me to be,

Yours fraternally,

W. H. MILLER, Natal Mtd. Police,
Acting Sec. and Hon. Treas. Lodge 2401.

Reviews.

"INDIAN FREEMASONS' ALMANACK AND DIARY FOR THE YEAR 1900." (Calcutta, Victor Printing Works, 4, Esplanade-row, West).—This is one of the largest Directories of the kind published, and was started, and has been edited from the beginning, by Bro. P. C. Dutt. Besides over 200 pages of closely printed matter, this time some 68 pages are added, giving a detailed account of "How Hindus were admitted into the Mysteries of Freemasonry, and a short Masonic Career of the first Hindu Mason." Bro. Prosono Coomarr Dutt has the honour of being the first Hindu initiated into the Craft in an English lodge in India. At first the difficulties seemed almost insuperable, as there was a By-Law of the Prov. G. L. of Bengal against the admission of "Mohomedans or other Asiatics." On Mr. Dutt appealing to the G.M. of England direct, this regulation was removed, and eventually he was initiated in the "Anchor and Hope" Lodge, No. 234, Calcutta, in 1872, so that some nine years were involved in the preliminary arrangements. Bro. Dutt has since been most successful, has taken any

number of Degrees, and been D. Dist. G.M. of his own Province. The Directory gives full particulars of all the Masonic bodies in India, including those of Scotland, thus embracing over 170 lodges, besides the other Degrees, so that the work is both complete and reliable. There is a Calendar, which includes the meetings of the lodges in Calcutta (F.M.H.), and another as a Diary, that contains those of all the lodges in India, as well as the R. A. chapters, &c. It is really a very able compilation.

THE racy "Keystone" of Philadelphia, U.S.A., is always to the fore with something good. This time it is the well known and most useful "Manning's Masonic Register for the State of Pennsylvania for 1900." It is a wonderful compilation, running to some 350 pages, in a waistcoat pocket edition (4 in. by 2½), and simply "charged" with information from the first page to the last. It must be seen to be appreciated, and is simply indispensable in the State of Penn'a, where, doubtless, its merits are duly valued. Over 430 lodges are duly detailed, having 53,000 members, for each of which is given the place of meeting, the principal officers; name and address of Secretary, and roll of Past Masters and Trustees. Similar particulars are afforded of the 123 Royal Arch chapters, having over 18,000 companions, the 74 commanderies of the K.T., the councils of the Royal and Select Masters, the various Bodies of the A. and A. Rite, &c.; so that the publication is a veritable *multum in parvo*. There is also abundant information as to the Grand Lodge, the Grand Chapter, and other governing Organisations, so that it is well named a *Masonic Register*.

QUEBEC MASONRY.

NON-ASSIMILATION IN THAT PROVINCE.

THE OPINION OF A PROMINENT P.M. OF ST. PAUL'S LODGE (E.C.) ON JOINING THE GRAND LODGE OF QUEBEC.

The subject of Quebec Masonry in connection with the affiliation of the three English lodges—St. Paul's, St. Lawrence, and St. George's—with the Grand Lodge of Quebec has again been brought to the front by a suggestion contained in a circular recently issued by David R. McCord, P.M. of St. Paul's Lodge, Montreal. It is well known that at the time of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in 1855, one of the conditions of its recognition by the Grand Lodge of England was that the three lodges in Montreal should be allowed to work under their charters from England. Subsequently the Grand Lodge of Quebec was formed, and it was thought that the English lodges would come in; but they maintained their right under the agreement between the Grand Lodges of England and Canada to stay out, and they are still in that position. Every effort has been made to bring them in, so far without success. Some weeks ago, W. Bro. McCord sent the circular given below to prominent Masons in Montreal. His suggestions are his own. They have not emanated from anyone in connection with the Grand Lodge of Quebec, and, coming as they do, from a well-known Mason, they seem to be entitled to some weight. The hope is expressed that the suggestions of Bro. McCord may have some effect, and that possibly the Grand Lodge of England, through its Board of General Purposes, may take some action that will assist in bringing these three English lodges into the fold of the Grand Lodge of Quebec. The circular reads:

Montreal, 5th April, 1900.

Dear Sir and Wor. Bro.,

I am prompted to send this circular, which I do entirely on my own responsibility, and based on what I humbly conceive to be in the present best and widest interest of Masonry.

If you were present at a meeting I had the honour of calling you would have heard much of what I now place in writing as my individual views. If you were unavoidably absent, this will afford me an opportunity of communicating them to you.

I called the meeting in consequence of what appeared in the last Annual Pronouncement of the Grand Master of Quebec, regarding English Masonry.

While that body has not been officially recognised by England, it is to all intents and purposes a *de facto* Grand Lodge. The relation of our Mother G.L. with it and its G. Officers are of the most cordial description.

It is perfectly clear that we are not going to have another G.L. representative to replace R. W. Bro. the Hon. Mr. Justice Badgley, and not only that, but the amendment to the constitution of 1897, by the G.L. is the plainest intimation to us, that while no steps will, or could be, taken to induce us to join the G.L. of Quebec, it would be most pleasing to the Mother Grand Body should we so do.

The trend of colonial self-government points in this direction, and at this time when the colonies are occupying a larger space in the Imperial eye than ever before, does it not appear to be opportune to unite Masonic interests in the Province?

Our personal relations with the members of the G. L. of Q. are most fraternal, as exemplified in the working of the A. and A. S. Rite with them. I have been long enough in the Craft to remember the friction at an earlier stage of the existence of the G. L. of Q. It does not now affect my present action. It was painful, but it is a thing of the past. From this experience I know how unpleasant it would now be if anything looking to non-intercourse were shortly to follow from the G. L. of Q.

We would be legally right, as our position is an impregnable one, but it would be painful, hurtful to Masonry, and to be deprecated, all the more so, as it can be prevented—as I hold it can—with self respect.

We are in a position to obtain any fair terms we like to ask, but what is of far more value is, a position to give a practical object lesson in the principles of the Craft which are so dear to us—peace and unity.

Understand me clearly, as an English Mason, should unfortunately any measures of a coercive nature be invoked, I would be among the first to resist, but in a spirit of deep sadness, and vote to return our time-honoured warrants to England and terminate the record of three fine centres to which we could look back with pride as homes in which some of the purest and happiest days of our lives have been spent.

There should be no necessity on our part for such a thought, as I trust there is no such antagonistic intention on the part of the G. L. of Q.

We hold in our own hands the happy solution.

If this, as one brother P.M. suggested be not an opportune moment, when will such be?

Are we to continue indefinitely, as we are now?

In that case, let us consider the prospective vital power of the three Lodges and their recruiting possibilities.

On this, each of you is as well able to decide as the writer. As a P.M. of St. Paul's, I think it has, perhaps, the unique possibility of an indefinite longevity as an independent English lodge, but what of the question of the thereby limitation of our influence in aiding to build up a higher standard of Masonry in this new country?

I do not propose becoming a Quebec Mason alone. I will abide by the decision of the English Masons; but I wish my humble voice to be heard with no uncertain sound, that I think the time has come to cast in our lot with the local Grand Lodge.

We are not less English in our views because, in my humble judgment, we are more Masonic in our action, and I think that England will be the first to applaud this decision.

Fraternally and respectfully,
DAVID R. MCCORD,
Past Master,
St. Paul's Lodge.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF SUFFOLK.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was held at Sudbury, on Friday, the 18th instant, Comp. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, P.S., Prin. Soj. Eng., G. Supt., presided, and he was supported by a goodly number of Past and Present Prov. G. Officers and companions.

The proceedings commenced with a luncheon at the Four Swans Hotel, after which the party adjourned to the Sudbury Masonic Temple, where the Prov. G. Chapter was opened.

The minutes of the last convocation were read by the PROV. G. SCRIBE E., and on the roll being called, it was found that the only absentees were a few military companions, whose service to their country necessitated their absence.

The report of the Board of General Purposes showed a slight increase, and a generally satisfactory state of affairs in the province. Comp. J. George, 1224, was elected Prov. G. Treasurer, after which the Grand Supt. proceeded to invest his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Comp. F. Wheeler, P.Z. 1224, P.P.G.S.	...	Prov. G.H.
" A. R. Trew, P.Z. 959, P.P.G.S.	...	Prov. G.J.
" N. Tracy, P.Z. 959, P.G. Std. Br. Eng. (reappointed)	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" A. W. Cobbold, M.E.Z. 81	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" J. George, P.Z. 1224	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" C. Oliver, P.Z. 1008	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" G. Stephenson, M.E.Z. 376	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" B. Peart, M.E.Z. 1651	...	Prov. 1st A.G.S.
" K. Rix, M.E.Z. 71	...	Prov. 2nd A.G.S.
" E. M. U. Adnams, H. 1983	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" E. Hills, M.E.Z. 959	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" J. M. Franks, P.Z. 376 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G.D. of C.
" T. Shillitoe, M.E.Z. 1008	...	Prov. A.G.D. of C.
" Harry Cockrell, M.E.Z. 225, P.P.G. Std. Br.	...	Prov. A.G.S.E.
" F. J. Jennings, Janitor 1224	...	Prov. G. Janitor.

The Grand Superintendent afterwards addressed the companions with his usual geniality and ability, and the Prov. Grand Chapter having been duly closed, a number of the companions repaired to the residence of Comp. A. J. Grimwade, P.Z. 1224, P.P.G.H., where they partook of his hospitality.

Craft Masonry.

De Grey and Ripon Lodge, No. 1171.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 19th inst. (by dispensation), at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, when the following brethren were present. Bros. J. Schofield, W.M.; Walter Cockerham, S.W.; J. T. C. Blackie, J.W.; H. M. Massingham, I.P.M.; S. Richards, Sec.; J. Brownhill, S.D.; A. Bentley, J.D.; Buckley Carr, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C.; S. Dixon, I.G.; J. R. Fletcher, Tyler; E. Zobel, P.M.; R. Dottie, P.M.; O. M. Jones, P.M.; J. M. Moss, P.M., P.P.D.G.S.B.; S. J. Lewis, P.M.; J. R. Ashworth, P.M.; Jas. Burgess, P.M.; Chas. G. Balls, Geo. H. Tyler, A. Griffith, Geo. J. Critchley, and F. O. Taylor. Visitors: Bros. C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds, P.G.D., D.P.G.M.; J. Selby, P.P.G.D.C.; Peter Lawton, P.P.G.D.; W. T. Allitt, P.P.G.P.; W. Dumville, P.M. 2156; J. S. Whitley, P.M. 1730; F. Long, P.M. 1496; H. Ogden, P.M. 1387; J. Mee, W.M. 1387; F. Hughes, W.M. 1083; C. Coatman, 2464; A. Rushworth, 325; and P. Davison, 1083.

The lodge was opened by the W.M., and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. J. M. Moss, P.M., P.P.D.G.S.B., having taken the chair, then installed Bro. Walter Cockerham in very able style, he being assisted by Bros. Buckley Carr, P.M., P.P.G.D.C., D.C., and J. Schofield, I.P.M.

After "Hearty good wishes," the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banqueting room, where a sumptuous dinner was partaken of.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to. The W.M., Bro. Walter Cockerham, in proposing the toast of "The I.P.M.," said he felt sure that Bro. J. Schofield would feel proud at the very successful year he had just passed through. He could assure him that he had earned the deepest respect and esteem of the brethren, and it was his very pleasing duty to present to him (Bro. Schofield) that handsome gold Past Master's jewel on behalf of the brethren of the lodge, and he hoped that it would please the G.A.O.T.U. to grant him a long life to wear it.

Bro. Schofield, in a brief, but eloquent, speech thanked the brethren for their kind mark of esteem.

During the evening songs, &c., were sung by Bros. Dunville, Richards, and Coatman. Bro. R. Dottie gave several recitations. Bro. Batchelder presided at the piano. Miss Cockerham rendered two songs—"The Swallow" and "My Dearest Heart"—in a beautiful manner, the treat being highly appreciated by the brethren.

The gold Past Master's jewel was designed and manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, Manchester and London.

Scientific Lodge, No. 88.

At the meeting on Monday, the 14th inst., at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, Bro. F. J. Mcden, W.M., in the chair,

Bro. W. P. Spalding, P.M., in submitting the toast of "The Visitors," spoke of the universality of Masonry, and mentioned that he had recently been in correspondence with (1) Bro. Sharpe, well known in Cambridge, who had made a fortune in Yokohama, Japan, and was District Grand Secretary out there; (2) a brother in the Argentine Republic; and (3) Bro. R. Whichello, a Cambridge man, and a member of No. 88 Lodge, now resident in Rio Janerio. The speaker then referred to the interest taken in Freemasonry by Bro. Sultan Mahommed Khan, remarking that there was no telling how far-reaching might be the influence resulting from the Afghans taking up with the Craft. It was pleasing to know that the Sultan had given two gold medals to the Masonic Boys' School for the two boys who excelled in the Cambridge Local Examination. He coupled with the toasts the names of Bros. Sultan Mahommed Khan; Kempton, W.M. St. Andrey Lodge, Ely; L. Hosegood, I.P.M. 441; and Klenck, P.M., London.

Bro. Sultan Mahommed Khan said he rose with pleasure and with sorrow to respond to the toast so eloquently proposed by Bro. Spalding; pleasure at being with the brethren again, and sorrow that it would be his last opportunity of meeting them, as he was leaving England before the lodge would meet again in October. He thanked Bro. Spalding for putting the matter straight as to the gold medals which he presented to the Masonic Boys' School. In the accounts of the proceedings at Bushey the other day, the *Times* had recorded the fact all right, but the *Morning Post* was in error in saying that the medals were presented by the Ameer of Afghanistan. The Ameer knew nothing about them. Referring to the spread of Freemasonry in distant parts of the world, and more particularly in Afghanistan, the speaker said that the heir to the throne in that country (who was his pupil) had an earnest desire to visit England, in which case it was possible he might be initiated into Freemasonry by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. There were those in authority who believed that this young Prince would be a greater friend to England even than his father, the present Ameer. The speaker went on to talk of his affection for the Craft. He was called to the Bar on the 9th May, he was looking forward to taking a degree at Cambridge in June, and he had written a book about Afghanistan in the English language. But he was better pleased still to have become a brother in Freemasonry, because nothing gave the same feeling of brotherhood, which was the greatest worship of God. Freemasonry had in it the principles of all religions, in that it inculcated the theory of brotherhood; but whilst they limited and restricted the principle, Freemasonry adopted it in the most liberal way. It was a noble institution. He was proud to find himself in the oldest lodge in Cambridgeshire (No. 88), which was established in 1754—that was 146 years ago—and he should have been pleased to join, but that their membership was limited to the lodges number. His only chance seemed to lie in the hope that the wife of one of the Past Masters would prevail upon him to resign. (Laughter.) With regard to Cambridge, he would like to express his opinion. Considering its population, it was the greatest university in the world; whilst in a comparatively small town they had four Masonic lodges flourishing. And side by side with all this higher education, and with flourishing Freemasonry, there were few places where there was so much gaiety. He regretted he had to leave it.

Bros. Kempton, Hosegood, and Klenck also suitably responded.

Samson Lodge, No. 1668.

The installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Cafe Royal, Regent-street, on the 8th instant, when a great many attended to honour Bro. S. J. Heilbron, S.W., the W.M. elect, a very popular and esteemed member of the lodge. Bro. T. M. Lamble, W.M., presided, supported by Bros. S. J. Heilbron, S.W.; J. Cohn, J.W.; E. Hahn, P.M., Treas.; Baron D. Barnett, P.M., Sec.; W. Smith, S.D.; E. J. Potter, J.D.; A. Kahn, I.G.; B. Marcus, P.M.; A. H. Marks, P.M.; B. Fuld, A. F. Casperd, J. Nash, G. Levin, J. D. Hood, J. Silverstone, T. D. Cortine, L. Ginsberg, J. Bayne, A. H. Palmer, J. C. Edwards, C. D. Mitchell, A. Berlinger, M. Weinberg, M. Radstone, A. Tibbitts, L. Rolfe, J. Hill, L. Lewis, W. Grove, J. N. Kopelowsky, J. Collier, J. R. Cole, H. Hausmann, S. Fuld, J. L. Silver, J. Hess, G. E. Johnstone, J. Goodman, E. H. Goldberg, N. Hart, J. C. Smith, H. Baron, B. Goldberg, M. H. Van Omme, H. Collett, B. Jaffa, J. Morell, M. Rotholz, S. B. Goldhill, S. H. Tashov, M. Simson and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler. Visitors: Bros. S. V. Abrahams, P.G.P.; W. Digby Owens, W.M. 1017; J. Trenner, W.M. 205; T. Cohen, W.M. 188; A. J. Myers, P.M. 185; H. J. Phillips, P.M. 205; H. A. Campbell, P.M.; Joseph Levy, P.M. 205; C. M. Holland, P.M. 1804; M. Taylor, P.M. 1563; J. D. Myers, P.M. 2020; H. J. Carroll, P.M. 1227; D. M. Davis, P.M. 1017; W. Craig, S.W. 2319; F. Harwell, 1541; S. M. Cohew, 1017; M. Benscher, 1017; T. H. Beach, senr., 1563; A. Pyke, 218; J. J. Franklin, 1602; A. E. Cooper, 901; H. Percy, 2190; and R. T. West, 1744.

The minutes of the last lodge and emergency meetings having been read and confirmed, the W.M., Bro. T. M. Lamble, initiated Mr. Joshua H. Levy, who is staying here from South Africa. The W.M. elect, Bro. S. J. Heilbron, was then presented and installed into the chair by Bro. Baron D. Barnett, P.M. During the ceremony the beautiful anthem "Be thou faithful" was given by Bro. Jacques D. Myers, P.M., who was in splendid voice, with marked effect. The new W.M. afterwards appointed and invested his officers and addressed them in very appropriate terms as to their respective duties, but made very special mention of the indefatigable and genial Secretary, Bro. Baron D. Barnett, P.M., who had held his office for 23 years. They were as follows: Bros. T. M. Lamble, I.P.M.; J. Cohn, S.W.; J. Bayne, J.W.; E. Hahn, P.M., Treas.; Baron D. Barnett, P.M., Sec.; W. Smith, S.D.; E. J. Potter, J.D.; A. Kahn, I.G.; A. F. Casperd, P.M., D.C.; P. T. Lamble, Assi. D.C.; J. Silverstone and A. H. Palmer, Stewards; and L. G. Reinhardt, Tyler. The delivery of the customary addresses was ably rendered by Bro. Baron D. Barnett, and the installation ceremony could not have been better performed, for which he was heartily congratulated.

After other business the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to a *recherche* banquet.

The W.M., Bro. S. J. Heilbron, gave, in very eloquent terms, "The Queen and the Craft" and "The W.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

In giving "The R.W. the Pro Grand Master, the Dep. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the W.M. stated that the Craft was ably represented by very eminent men, who would do everything for Masonry. That evening they were honoured and graced with the presence of Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.G.P., who was well known to them, and he had attained Grand honours, which he richly merited, for his hard work in the Craft, and he had much pleasure in associating his name with the toast.

Bro. S. V. Abrahams, P.G.P., said that one of the most difficult tasks of a Grand Officer was to respond to the toast in such a good lodge as the Samson. The task he had to perform was somewhat increased because their good W.M.'s remarks were personal towards him, but on behalf of the Grand Officers he tendered his sincere thanks for the way the toast had been given and received, and might he add that the Grand Lodge was at all times ready to give liberally to every deserving cause, Masonically or otherwise.

Bro. T. M. Lamble, I.P.M., said that it was his privilege and great pleasure to propose "The W.M., Bro. S. J. Heilbron," but he was sorry it had not been placed in more able hands, as he felt he could not do it justice. They all knew that after-dinner speaking was not in his line, but what he lacked in words, he had in feeling. The W.M. was well known to them; he took a great interest in the lodge and the Craft, and he would carry out his duties and perform the ritual in such a way that would stamp him as a great success in the annals of the lodge. Bro. Baron D. Barnett, P.M., who they all loved, was a very old friend of the W.M., and he (Bro. Lamble) gave way for Bro. Barnett to have the pleasure of installing the W.M., and right well had he carried out the whole of that beautiful ceremony.

Bro. S. J. Heilbron, W.M., met with an ovation on rising to respond. He said, in returning thanks for the enthusiastic manner in which you have honoured the toast, permit me to offer you my grateful and heartfelt expressions of sincerity and faithful response to all my brother members of the lodge. I am cognisant of the duties and responsibilities that devolve upon me, and shall strive the utmost in my power to make the lodge worthy of those who have willingly given their efforts for the love and teaching of Masonry. I am aware of the nature of my duties that every thought and action should be thoroughly consecrated towards the great object of a raising a moral structure to the greater glory of God the Giver and Preserver of Life, and to endeavour to show the brethren that Masonry must be loved for its own sake. The teachings and aims of this Masonry, its tenets and principles are welcome to all creeds and nationalities, for our Great Light is the Holy Bible. I particularly refer to this on account of what I consider a painful incident taking place in the lodge, which is specially constituted for the convenience of Jewish brethren. An out-going Master—a non-Israelite—and, perhaps, the most earnest Mason we have in the lodge—felt it to be his duty to conclude his vacating the chair by giving a panegyric on the religion of the Jewish members, and gave a praiseworthy *resumé* of what Masonry owes to them. Brethren, there should be no need for this in Freemasons' lodges. Freemasonry is one universal and benevolent brotherhood, ignoring altogether sectarian differences of opinion, but promulgating ever most distinctly the Bible lessons of morality, duty, honour, truth, and responsibility. We are all one, one in peaceful unity, one in brotherly concord, one in goodwill to our fellow-men, one in giving glory to our Father in Heaven. We have one principle, one faith, one heart. One principle of love to all mankind, one faith in the Father, T.G.A.O.T.U., one heart that can feel for another.

In proposing "The I.P.M., Bro. T. M. Lambie," the W.M. said: A very pleasing duty now devolves upon me. It is to present our I.P.M. with a jewel, in substantial testimony of the goodwill we entertain for him. Bro. Lambie, on behalf of the members I present you with this gift, testifying to the general attention you paid to your duties when in office and how faithfully you discharged them. The jewel will always remind you of the many hours you have devoted to Masonry, and will as an incentive to further acts of Charity, in its widest sense of Charity of thought, to all people of whatever nationality and whatever creed.

Bro. T. M. Lambie, I.P.M., acknowledged the toast and jewel in appropriate words.

The W.M. gave "The Initiates," and said the ceremony that took place in the lodge was no doubt impressed on their newly-made brethren, and let them hope the sacred dictates they had listened to would never be effaced from their memories. Freemasonry implied cosmopolitan brotherhood, and the initiation ceremony was copied from a Benedictine consecration, and as those ancient brethren were noted for their piety and good deeds, so let them hope that those they had initiated would make their mark on the world's banner of good deeds and good actions.

Bro. J. Henry Levy—who is a son of Bro. Henry H. Levy, a distinguished Mason in South Africa, Mayor of Bloemfontein, and was among those who heralded the entry of Lord Roberts, handing him the keys of the city—suitably responded.

The W.M. in proposing "The Visitors," the hour being very late, could only cursorily refer to their many guests who had assembled and honoured the lodge with their presence.

Bros. Trenner, W.M. 205, and Alexander Pyke responded, testifying to the kind manner the visitors had been received and entertained.

The Tyler's toast brought to a close a most successful and happy meeting, for which the W.M., Bro. S. J. Heilbron, is to be congratulated.

The musical arrangements, which were of the very best, were under the able direction of Bro. D. M. Davis, P.M. The following contributed to the harmony of the evening: Miss Nellie Afriat, Miss Edith Afriat, the Béjou Glee Singers, Bro. Jacques D. Myers, P.M., and Mr. David Barone gave some excellent character sketches from popular novels in addition to some humorous songs. A special word of praise is due to the two ladies, the Misses Afriat, for their sweet and exquisite singing, which was much appreciated by the large gathering.

Ubique Lodge, No. 1789.

The installation meeting of this lodge at the Criterion, Piccadilly, attracted a numerous gathering on the 14th instant. The members, who number 179, are connected with the Royal Artillery, and many of them are now serving their country in distant lands. Two members attained the distinction of G. Office during the past year—Bro. Col. Knight Prescott, P.A.G.D.C., and Bro. Major Murdoch, D.G.S.B. Bro. Major-General F. T. Lloyd, C.B., was installed as W.M. on the occasion under notice, in succession to Bro. Sergt.-Major Russell Prewer, who retires after a very successful year of office, in which his excellent working of the ritual was the most noticeable feature. The Secretarial duties—which are unusually onerous in a lodge of this description—are in safe keeping in the capable hands of Bro. Lieutenant Learmont. The brethren present included: Bros. Sergeant-Major Russell Prewer, W.M.; Major-General F. T. Lloyd, C.B., S.W.; Major A. C. T. Boileau, P.D.G.M. Nova Scotia, Treas.; Capt. C. E. Reynolds, P.G.S.B. Hong Kong; Lieut. J. Learmont, Sec.; Major R. H. Murdoch, D.G.S.B.; Col. A. Prescott, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; Capt. F. M. Rickard, Lieut. Caddington, Capt. Reynolds, Col. H. M. Hozier, C.B.; Lieut. Stretton (Director of Army Music); Capt. H. Coningham, Capt. Elton, Capt. Delaforce, Capt. H. W. Iles, Capt. H. D. Nichols, Major Vane Stowe, Capt. H. G. Lloyd, Major J. W. Ormiston, and many others. Visitors: Bros. Capt. T. Barlow, P.M. 1260; E. W. Sinnett, P.G. Std. Br.; Rev. H. W. Turner, G. Chap.; Lieut.-Gen. J. F. Owen, D.G.M. Malta; A. J. R. Trendell, P.A.G.D.C.; Gen. J. W. Lawrie, P.G.M. Nova Scotia, Prov. G.M. South Wales; R. Eve, P.G. Treas.; G. C. Spinks, 1428; J. W. Taylor, W.M. 913; J. T. Lea, W.M. 2484; G. Whibley, P.M. 891; A. W. Martin, P.M.; A. Simmonds, W.M. 1536; H. Vane Stow, P.M. 2578; H. Bertram, P.M. 256; L. G. W. James, P.P.G.S.B. Berks; J. Rose, 2094; and W. W. Lee, P.P.G.D. Middx.

Lodge was opened, the minutes confirmed, and the reports of the Audit and Reference Committees were adopted. Bros. Capt. W. D. Nichol, Capt. H. Wilson Iles, and Capt. H. G. Lloyd were elected joining members, and Staff-Sergeant C. A. Howe was initiated. Bro. Major-General F. T. Lloyd, C.B., was next installed as W.M. by Bro. Sergeant-Major W. Russell Prewer, whose rendering of the ritual was much appreciated, and the following officers were invested: Bros. Sergeant-Major (W.O.) W. H. Russell Prewer, R.A., I.P.M.; Major A. C. T. Boileau, R.A., P.M., P.D.G.M. Nova Scotia, S.W.; Major T. W. Marsden Newton, R.A., J.W.; Capt. C. E. Reynolds, late R.A., Treas.; Lieut. (R.M.) J. Learmont, R.F.A., Sec.; Col. H. M. Hozier, C.B., late R.A., S.D.; Capt. F. M. Rickard, R.G.A., J.D.; Major J. W. Ormiston, R.A., I.G.; Gar. Quartermaster-Sergeant W. Shackleton, R.A., P.M., D.C.; Capt. H. Coningham, R.G.A., A.D.C.; Major B. Lewis-Barned, Kt. Arty., Org.; Quartermaster-Sergeant W. H. Cameron, R.A., Lieut. (R.M.) T. G. A. Caddington, R.F.A., and Quartermaster-Sergeant E. W. Gainher, R.E.R.A., Stewards; and C. Warren, late R.A., Tyler. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the I.P.M., Bro. Russell Prewer. A sum of £56 11s. 6d. was voted to the Boys' School to complete the qualification of the lodge as Patron. Bro. Lieut.-Col. J. T. Ritchie, P.D.G.S.B., was unanimously elected an honorary member, having rendered excellent service as Treasurer of the lodge.

Other business was transacted, and the lodge was closed.

After banquet the W.M. gave the usual loyal toasts.

Bro. Lieut.-Gen. Lawrie, Prov. G. Master S. Wales, acknowledged "The Grand Officers," and said the W.M. was justified in speaking of that body in complimentary terms, for they were the pick of the private lodges. When there was nothing more a lodge could do for a brother who had served it well and faithfully it was right and proper that Grand Lodge should step in and promote him to what was the House of Lords in Freemasonry. He trusted the Grand Officers would continue to do good service, not merely in Grand Lodge, but wherever there was work to be done.

"The Health of the W.M." was then proposed by Bro. Sergt.-Major Russell Prewer, I.P.M., who said they were proud to have such a W.M. as Bro. Major-Gen. F. T. Lloyd. On behalf of the large body of members he could say they were proud to have so able a gunner and so good a Mason to preside over them. They hoped the W.M. would have a successful year, with plenty of work. He hoped that many members would be back from South Africa before their next installation meeting to see the W.M. perform his work.

Bro. Major-General F. T. Lloyd, C.B., W.M., in reply, said it was with a good deal of hesitation he came before them, and he wished to inform them confidentially that he was utterly unworthy for the position in which they had placed him. Being still actively employed in the service, he feared very much whether he should have sufficient time to devote himself to Freemasonry as much as he could wish. He had a glorious example before him in their respected I.P.M., who had found time to do the work of the lodge perfectly, and to the satisfaction of the members. He would, however,

devote his best energies to carrying out the duties of his office. He recognised his great difficulties, and was almost appalled at the dangers and perils of the coming year, but he would give his best exertions, and use such tact as might be at his disposal to overcome these difficulties. There was one great comfort and support, for he felt he had the confidence of his officers and the brethren. He had had a long acquaintance with some of his officers, and was perfectly sure they would advise, comfort, and support him. He expressed his thanks to the I.P.M. for his very kind expressions, and he felt deeply the enthusiasm with which the brethren had drunk his toast.

The W.M. then proposed "The Visitors," to which Bros. Capt. Barlow and T. H. Lea responded.

"The Past Masters" was replied to by Bro. Russell Prewer, I.P.M., who said that his year of office had been a successful one. He had had four initiates, and the lodge had given 60 guineas to Charity. He was glad his rendering of the installation ceremony had met with the approval of so many distinguished Masons.

Bro. Capt. Wishart, P.M., gave "The Masonic Charities," to which Bro. R. Eve, P.G. Treas., responded in an excellent speech.

"Our absent brethren in South Africa" was next submitted by the W.M. and naturally met with an enthusiastic reception.

Bros. Major Jenkinson and Capt. Elton, both of whom recently returned from South Africa, effectively replied.

"The Officers" concluded a very interesting and enjoyable evening.

During dinner the band of the Royal Artillery played a choice selection of music under Quarter-Master-Sergt. Mansfield, and subsequently the students of the Royal Military School of Music rendered several glees and solos.

Cathedral Lodge, No. 2741.

This lodge completed its first year of existence at the installation meeting, held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel on the 12th inst., and the members have every reason to be satisfied with the progress made. The V.W. Bro. the Archdeacon of London, P.G.C., after a very prosperous year of office as the first W.M., was succeeded by Bro. Charles E. Tinney.

The members in attendance included Bros. the Archdeacon of London, P.G.C., W.M.; C. E. Tinney, S.W.; A. Kenningham, J.W.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W.; Rev. Canon J. S. Brownrigg, P.G.C.; W. H. Cummings, G. Org., acting I.P.M.; Prebendary Ingram, Archdeacon J. W. Diggle, E. E. Cooper, P.P.G.W. Middx.; V. Taylor, Sec.; R. De Lacy, Treas.; H. J. Dutton, S.D.; Geo. May, J.D.; W. G. West, Org.; W. H. Pocklington, Stwd.; R. Buller, P. R. Johnston, Rev. T. P. Brocklehurst, and others. Visitors: Bros. W. Ganz, P.G. Org.; F. Dillon, 252; P. Gillam, SS9; T. E. Scott, 1716; J. Roberts; G. H. Elphick, S.W. 11; F. E. Howard, P.M. 11; H. Appleford, P.M. 190; E. Barnes, Sec. 2611; R. Greenwood, P.M. 1641; W. Farington, P.M. 1589; J. E. Hambleton, P.M. 1319; J. Beeby, P.P.G.C. Surrey; F. H. Macklin, P.M. 1319; J. Vesey Fitzgerald, P.M. 502; B. G. Emery, 1928; G. Tarran, P.M. 1928; W. A. Frost, 1728; J. H. Kearton, 1920; C. Ackerman, 1706; C. J. Dale, P.P.J.G.W.; W. H. Brereton, P.M. 1920; G. Liebling, 1319; W. W. Lee, P.M.; and others.

Following the opening of the lodge, Rev. T. P. Brocklehurst was initiated into Freemasonry, and Bros. Archdeacon Diggle and Morris were raised to the Third Degree. Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., then took the chair, and installed Bro. C. E. Tinney as W. Master. The following officers were invested: Bros. A. Kenningham, S.W.; Vernon Taylor, J.W.; R. De Lacy, Treas.; E. E. Cooper, P.P.G.W., Sec.; H. J. Dutton, S.D.; Geo. May, J.D.; W. H. Cummings, G. Org.; D. of C.; Rev. F. Ingram, Chap.; W. G. West, Org.; W. H. Pocklington, I.G.; and R. Bullen and F. Wilkinson, Stwds. Past Masters' jewels were presented to Bros. the Archdeacon of London, P.G. Chap., I.P.M., and W. H. Cummings, G. Org., acting I.P.M.

Lodge was closed, and after the banquet the usual toasts were given.

Bro. Rev. Canon J. S. Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., replying for "The Grand Officers," said they were always glad to come to this lodge, which had made wonderful progress. It had not, however, yet reached its limit, and he hoped it would not only be a lodge for London, but a place of union for all the Cathedrals.

Bro. W. H. Cummings, G. Org., said that as a choir boy in St. Paul's 50 years ago he was delighted to find himself associated with this lodge, which he hoped would increase in wisdom and strength.

The Archdeacon of London, P.G. Chap., I.P.M., proposed "The Worshipful Master." Having taken a very deep interest in the origination of this lodge, he congratulated them on the very steady and satisfactory progress made. They began as a small body, and were advised to do so by the authorities, and there had been a steady increase in their numbers. The lodge had turned out a little different to what they expected. They now had two archdeacons, one prebendary, and six rectors or vicars. It was, therefore, strongly clerical, and they thought it would have a professional and musical element, but that would doubtless increase. It was a very great delight to him to find his own personal friends in the clerical profession joining this lodge. He was delighted to see Prebendary Ingram, who was associated with him in very many ways. Also Archdeacon Diggle and Bros. Poynder Morris Roberts. They had 27 members, and were increasing steadily and would soon be as numerous as they desired to be. They ought to include all the members of the choir and more particularly those two very distinguished musicians who joined them at the beginning but had not been since. Sir George Martin began his Masonic experience in a way known to the lodge, and if he had been present at all their meetings would have found them congenial. He hoped the members would tell him how deeply they missed his presence. They had had some very delightful music and that would always be a feature. In no other lodge probably could they obtain such delightful musical entertainment. He thought that St. Paul's was more likely to produce a good Masonic lodge than perhaps any other institution. They had all the traditions of Wren to give dignity to it and all the choir to give music and Brotherhood at their meetings. The question had arisen whether they should admit members of other Cathedrals and he left it to the members to consider. It would be a delightful rendezvous and would be an enormous boon to those brethren who came to London. In the first year of this lodge a good tradition for work had started and he thanked Bro. Cummings—to whom they owed a debt of gratitude—for bringing his great ability in Freemasonry into the lodge. He also wished to thank the manager of the hotel for the kind way in which he had met their wishes. He now came to the subject of the toast who was the actual originator of the lodge, and who had shown himself earnest and painstaking, most experienced and anxious to meet them on the happiest terms. It was fortunate that, as the second Master, Bro. Finney should have been Master of another lodge. He congratulated Bro. Finney and asked them all to sincerely wish him a very happy year of office.

Bro. C. E. Tinney, W.M., thanked the I.P.M. and brethren most heartily, and expressed his regret at his inability to make an eloquent speech. He considered this was a red letter day in his life, and promised them he would do his best for the dignity of the lodge.

The W.M. then briefly proposed "The I.P.M.," and Bro. the Archdeacon of London replied, thanking the brethren for the beautiful jewel presented to him.

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Bro. Sir John Monckton, P.G.W., replying to the toast of his health as "Installing Master," said it had given him great pleasure to follow that master of Freemasonry, the Grand Secretary, and install the second W.M. of this lodge. He congratulated the lodge on the progress made, and on getting exactly the right sort of recruits.

"The Initiate" was duly honoured, and Bros. Appleford, Barnes, and Macklin answered for "The Visitors."

Other toasts followed before the proceedings closed.

The musical programme was naturally a very strong feature of the proceedings, and included the Westminster Singers, Bros. George Lieblich (piano), J. E. Hambleton (violin), and F. H. Macklin (recitations).

Royal Arch.

Mount Sinai Chapter, No. 19.

The installation meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel on Tuesday, the 15th inst., when Comp. E. E. Redman, H., was installed in the chair of Z., the ceremony being performed by Comp. George Read, P.Z., in his usual most impressive manner. Comps. S. Toye and G. P. Gillard, P.Z., were then installed in the chairs of H. and J. A ballot was then taken for Bro. G. F. Mounter, 1559, and, the result being favourable, he was exalted, Comp. Gillard, P.Z., conducting the ceremony in his customary able manner, while the important duties of P.S. were kindly undertaken by Comp. Orlton Cooper, in the unavoidable absence of several members of the chapter. A ballot was also taken for Comp. T. Collard, 1329, as a joining member, which proved favourable. The newly-installed M.E.Z. then invested those of his officers who were present: Comps. Cambridge, P.Z., as S.E.; Pearce, S.N.; and J. Hewett, 1st A.S. The report of the Audit Committee was received and passed. Other companions present, in addition to those named, were Comps. B. Hooker, I.P.Z.; Baker, P.Z.; Corderoy, P.Z.; Heath, P.Z.; Stauffer, and Springett.

The chapter being closed with due solemnity, the companions adjourned to a banquet.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, Comp. B. Hooker, I.P.Z., in proposing "The Health of the M.E.Z." in his usual felicitous manner, alluded with regret to the loss the chapter had sustained since his own installation by the lamented deaths of four of its Past Principals—Comps. Hopwood, P.Z.; Barfield, P.Z.; Birch, P.Z.; and Crowden, P.Z., whose sudden death whilst engaged in his customary business avocations had removed a regular and valued attendant at the Mount Sinai meetings. It was some satisfaction, therefore, to find that two new members were that evening joining this ancient chapter, with such inducements to emulate the worthy example of so many honoured Present and Past Principals, some of whom were still, he hoped, to be spared to them for some time yet.

A musical treat was afforded the companions by the M.E.Z. in kindly inviting Comp. Schartau, who rendered several humorous songs in a most refined and charming manner; while Miss Venning delighted those present with some Irish melodies, her voice being one of great power and sweetness. Comp. Collard also proved that he was a valuable acquisition to the chapter by some excellent and well-chosen songs.

The toast to the health of the exalte, and its accompanying speeches, had, unfortunately, to be postponed, Comp. Mounter having to hurry off to an important appointment before this stage of the proceedings could be reached.

Comp. Orlton Cooper, Gallery Chapter, No. 1928, replying with Comp. Schartau to the toast of "The Visitors," expressed his gratification at the reception he, like other visitors to the Mount Sinai, had been accorded, and the pleasure it had given him to take part in an exaltation in such a respected chapter, one he had long wished to visit, and now earnestly wished for a speedy opportunity of re-visiting.

Panmure Chapter, No. 720.

The installation meeting of this well-known chapter was held at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel, on the 14th inst. Present: Comps. Arthur E. Mullins, M.E.Z.; A. E. Remington, H. and M.E.Z. elect; J. W. Stevens, P.Z., H. elect; W. John Songhurst, P.Z., J. elect; F. A. Powell, P.P.G.R. Monmouth, S.E.; J. Parsons, S.N.; Howard E. Mullins, P.S.; Walter J. Mass, 1st A.S.; L. G. Hammond, 2nd A.S.; John Read, P.G. Org., D.C.; J. G. Gregory, Janitor; C. Castell, C. H. Gibbs, S. Caney, J. Husbards, E. T. Clarke, F. G. Miller, W. H. Hammond, and F. Smee. The visitors were Comps. Hy. Carman, P.A.G.D.C. Eng., (who assumed the chair of H. in the unavoidable absence of Comp. J. W. Stevens, P.Z., H. elect); Walter Lawrence, 1st A.S. 2416; Thos. Gibbs, P.Z. 439 (S.C.); R. J. Hennings, P.Z. 2182; H. E. Herman, P.Z. 1293; Wm. Llewellyn, 2395; and Chas. Hy. Stone, P.Z. 1275 and 1901.

The minutes of the previous convocation were read and confirmed. Comp. John Read, P.Z., assumed the chair of M.E.Z. and Comp. A. E. Remington, M.E.Z. elect, was presented by Comp. F. A. Powell, P.Z., to the M.E.Z. for installation into the First Principal's chair, which ceremony was performed in a most exemplary manner. Comp. J. Wm. Stevens, P.Z., was inducted into the chair of H., and Comp. J. Songhurst, P.Z., into the chair of J. The officers were invested by Comp. A. E. Remington, M.E.Z., as follows: Comps. F. A. Powell, P.Z., S.E.; Chas. Castell, S.N.; August Laisen, P.S.; T. G. Miller, 1st A.S.; Edmund T. Clarke, 2nd A.S.; John Read, P.Z., D.C.; and J. G. Gregory, Janitor. A ballot was taken for Bros. Wm. Hammond, Burgoyne Lodge, No. 901, and Fred. F. Sinec, Globe Lodge, No. 23, which proved unanimous, and they were exalted in a very perfect and impressive manner by Comp. A. E. Remington, M.E.Z. The lectures were rendered most ably by Comp. Songhurst, J., the historical, and symbolical, and the mystical by the M.E.Z. The report of the Auditors was presented, received, and adopted, and showed the lodge to be financially sound. The next business of the M.E.Z. was, as he stated, the most important and pleasing duty of presenting the P.Z.'s: well to Comp. Arthur E. Mullins, I.P.Z., for his efficient service rendered to the chapter during the past year and which had been so unanimously voted to him. It was their earnest desire that he would long live to wear it. In reply, Comp. Arthur E. Mullins very greatly appreciated the very many kindnesses always received at the hands of the companions and none more so than that mark of their testimony and appreciation of the service he had rendered. He hoped to live many years to wear the same, and he most cordially thanked them.

The business of the chapter ended, it was closed, and the companions adjourned to an excellent dinner, which gave immense satisfaction.

The customary loyal and Royal Arch toasts were ably proposed by the M.E.Z., who specially remarked upon the happy deliverance of the M.E.G.Z. from the hands of the assassin, which called forth the deep gratitude of all to the Great I Am, for His kind protection.

The toasts were received most cordially.

That of "The Pro G.Z., G.H., G.J., and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," the M.E.Z. said was always most favourably received, and rightly too, for they were ever ready to devote their valuable time and ability for the advancement of Freemasonry. The chapter was honoured by the presence of Comp. H. Carman, P.A. G.D.C., with whose name he coupled the toast.

In reply, Comp. Carman said it was indeed a great privilege to respond for the G. Officers, and also to temporarily take the chair of H. in that chapter. As a member of Grand Chapter it was an honour to respond for such worthy companions, who to the utmost of their power maintained the dignity of R.A. For such a cordial reception he

most thoroughly appreciated the same, on behalf of himself and also the other Grand Officers.

Comp. A. E. Mullins, I.P.Z., in proposing the toast of "The M.E.Z.," said he was one who would prove himself worthy of the exalted position, as he was a most enthusiastic and hard-working companion. He had had the honour of proposing him as an exalte into the chapter, and he certainly was proud of him, as were also the companions of the chapter, for he had proved his worthiness. He asked them to rise and drink to the health of the M.E.Z. in bumpers.

In reply, the M.E.Z. (who was most cordially received) most heartily thanked the I.P.Z. for his kind remarks, and the brethren for such a cordial reception of the same. It was certainly very gratifying to him to know his services both in the Craft and R.A. were appreciated, and it was an incentive to him to do his utmost for the welfare of the chapter, which was, and always would be, very dear to his heart. For so cordial a greeting he most heartily thanked them.

The toast of "The Co-Principals H. and J." was most ably proposed by the M.E.Z., who said they were both most distinguished Masons, and had done excellent service to the chapter.

Comps. H. and J. most cordially responded, and congratulated the M.E.Z. on his occupying so proud a position, and that they would most ably support him in the chair.

Comp. A. E. Remington, M.E.Z., next presented the toast of the evening, that of "The Exaltees," who had been so ably and strongly recommended, and from their rapt attention showed their high appreciation. The companions of the Panmure Chapter most heartily received them, and he trusted they would ever take an interest in R.A. Masonry to the welfare of the chapter.

Comps. Hammond and Smee most ably replied.

The toast of "The Visitors" was presented by the M.E.Z. with that cordiality which ever distinguishes the First Principal of any chapter, and responded to in most appreciative terms by Comps. Herman and Gibbs on the excellent work and hospitality given.

In presenting the toast of "The Past Principals and Officers of the Chapter," the M.E.Z. said that the I.P.Z. had shown them during the past year the interest that he and also the other Past Principals ever exhibited towards the chapter. He knew the welfare of the chapter was their constant care, and he could rely upon their support as also the other officers.

In reply Comp. A. E. Mullins, I.P.Z., most heartily endorsed the remarks of the M.E.Z. as to the welfare of the chapter, which was very dear to all their hearts, and promised their utmost support. For their testimony of him in presenting such a splendid jewel, he again most gratefully thanked them, and hoped to be spared long to be with them, and wear that token of their esteem.

Comps. F. A. Powell, S.E.; Castell, S.N.; and August Laisen, P.S., also most heartily thanked the M.E.Z., and promised their most cordial support.

The Janitor's toast closed a very successful and happy meeting.

An excellent programme of music was arranged. The artistes "The National Part Singers," Messrs. Frank Mettrop, J. G. Blanchard, Vernon Grant, and Conrad Formes.

Mr. Vernon Grant very ably accompanied.

BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

The monthly meeting of the Board of Benevolence was held on Wednesday evening at Freemasons' Hall, London. The General Committee of Grand Lodge was first held, Bro. J. H. Matthews presiding, and the paper of business for the next Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was submitted to the brethren. At the Board of Benevolence Bro. J. H. Matthews, President; Bro. D. D. Mercier, Senior Vice-President; and Bro. Henry Garrod, Junior Vice-President, occupied the three chairs. Bros. W. Lake, Assistant Grand Sec.; W. Dodd, G. S. Recknell, and H. Sadler, G.T., represented the Grand Secretary's department. There were also present:

Bros. W. Fisher, George Graveley, R. W. Ker, J. Boulton, W. M. Bywater, W. Kipp, W. H. Caton, E. W. Nightingale, Major John W. Woodall, L. Edis, Charles Pulman, J. H. Goldschmidt, C. D. Hoblyn, James Block, Henry Wright, Charles Henry Stone, Thomas Minstrell, C. H. Webb, W. H. Turner, Sidney Martin, J. W. Burgess, H. Massey, Thomas Berry, J. W. Taurance, G. Masters, W. P. Robinson, John Crossley, H. A. Badman, James Grose, Edward George Easton, J. Billings, Thomas J. Burgess, F. J. Cumine, D. Edward Radcliffe, Joseph Trenner, George Herbert Burne, W. H. Bullock, F. J. Stohwasser, John Freer, John K. Gwyn, Thomas F. Strutt, R. D. Wellman, G. Labron Crow, W. J. R. Littlewood, George Fagg, S. G. Bonner, and George May.

The brethren first confirmed recommendations to the Grand Master made at the April meeting, to the extent of £415. There were forty-one cases on the new list, which were qualified through lodges in the London district, and at Liverpool, Southend, Ivybridge, Woolston, Gravesend, Kingston (Jamaica), Swansea, Watford, Royal Irish Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion, Hampton Court, Widnes, Wallsend, Malta, Newark, Bristol, Plymouth, Barrow-in-Furness, Harleston, Plumstead, Totnes, Carmarthen, Johannesburg, Jarrow, and Brighton. Thirty-seven of these cases were relieved with a total sum of £1070, two petitions were dismissed, one was deferred, and one withdrawn. Grand Lodge was recommended to sanction a grant to one petitioner of £150, and to another of £50. The Grand Master was recommended to sanction gifts of £40 in each of six cases, and £30 in each of nine cases. Sixteen grants of £20 each were made, one of £15, two of £10 each, and one of £5.

THE GOLD AND SILVER WYRE DRAWERS' COMPANY will hold a banquet at the Cannon-street Hotel on Thursday, the 31st instant, under the presidency of the Master, Major Roper Parkington, J.P. Bro. the Lord Mayor, Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Sir William Treloar, Mr. Alderman Truscott, Alderman Sir Marcus Samuel, Alderman Sir J. T. Ritchie, Sir Howard Vincent, M.P., Admiral Field, M.P., General Sir Henry Norman, G.C.B., Sir Francis Jeune, the Hon. Alban Gibbs, M.P., and other distinguished guests have accepted invitations.

THE CITY LIEUTENANCY.—On Monday last a special meeting of her Majesty's Lieutenants of the City of London was held at the Guildhall, for the election of a clerk to the Lieutenancy, in the room of Mr. H. Grose-Smith, J.P., who has recently retired after filling the position, in which he succeeded his father, nearly 30 years. There were about 200 members present, and Sir Reginald Hanson, M.P., presided. The election fell by a large majority on Mr. Charles Falkland Monckton, Clerk of Special Sessions at Guildhall, and Registrar of the London Chamber of Arbitration, which offices he will continue to hold. Mr. Monckton is a son of Sir John Monckton, the Town Clerk, and was admitted a solicitor in 1837. He was educated at the Charterhouse.



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THE SARGASSO SEA.

(Continued.)

The region of perpetual calm to which hydrographers have given the name of the "Sargasso Sea," bears a strong resemblance to a vast lake placed in mid-Atlantic, and girdled, not by *terra firma*, but by running water. Humboldt speaks of it as "that great bank of weeds, which so vividly occupied the imagination of Columbus, and which Oviedo calls the sea-weed meadows." The cause of this perpetual calm may be best explained by a humble illustration. Take a basin half-full of water, and put into it some chips of wood, cork, and other flotsam. Then impart a circular motion to the water with a sweep of the hand, and watch the result. The chips, cork, and whatever else may have been thrown in will almost directly gather into the very centre of the basin, where the movement is, of course, the slightest, while the outer edge of the whirl, where the water is racing at its fastest, will be left completely clear. The same phenomenon is very often produced by children when they stir the tea in a teacup to collect the bubbles in the centre, and form what is known as "a kiss." This is precisely what happens in mid-ocean. The ocean currents form the outer whirl, the Sargasso Sea is the smooth and almost motionless centre, and the great Atlantic is the basin. But this is not all. The metaphor of the teacup and the basin is carried out exactly, and the greater part of the drift and seaweed which is swept along by the currents, is gradually whirled to the right, until they slip out of the whirl, and are left in the smooth waters of the Sargasso Sea. This process has been going on for centuries, and the result is that the surface of the sea is thickly covered with dense masses of a marine plant, which is indifferently known to us as varech, gulf weed, or the tropical berry plant, and is called the Spaniard's *sargazo*. Hence the name of the Sargasso Sea, for the surface of it seems, as above quoted, like a perfect meadow of seaweed. It is supposed that this enormous mass of gulf-weed may have been partly grown at the bottom of the shallower parts of the sea, and partly torn from the shores of Florida and the Bahama Islands by the force of the Gulf Stream. It is then swept round by the same agency into the Sargasso Sea, where it lives and propagates, floating freely in mid ocean. And the store is ever-increasing, both by addition and propagation, so that the meadow grows more and more compact, and no doubt, at the inner parts, extends to a considerable depth below the surface. Nor is this all, for at least two-thirds of all the infinite flotsam and jetsam, which the Gulf Stream carries along with it in its course, sooner or later, finds a resting place in the Sargasso Sea. Here may be seen huge trunks of trees torn from the forests of Brazil, by the waters of the Amazon, and floated down far out to sea until they were caught and swept along by the current; logwood from Honduras; orange trees from Florida; canoes and boats from the island, staved in, broken, and bottom upwards; wrecks and remains of all sorts, gathered from the rich harvest of the Atlantic; whole keels or skeletons of ruined ships, so covered with shells, barnacles and weed, that the original outline is entirely lost to view; and here and there a derelict ship, transformed from a floating terror of the deep into a mystery, put out of reach of man, in a museum of unexplained enigmas. It is only natural that ships should carefully avoid this marine rubbish heap, where the Atlantic shoots its refuse. It seems doubtful whether a sailing vessel would be able to cut her way into the thick network of weed, even with a strong wind behind her. Besides, if the effort were rewarded with a first delusive success, there would be the almost certain danger that in the calm regions of the Sargasso Sea, the wind would suddenly fail her altogether, leaving her locked hopelessly amid the weed and the drift and wreckage without hope of succour or escape. With regard to a steamer, no prudent skipper is ever likely to make the attempt, for it would certainly not be long before the tangling weed would altogether choke up his screw, and render it useless. As it happens, moreover, the Sargasso Sea does not lie on the direct route of the main lines of communication between Europe and the two Americas, but within the triangle so formed. A skipper who keeps straight on his course, with a strict eye to his compass and his dead reckoning, has no reason to fear that he may run his prow by night into the thick web of the Sargasso weed. The most energetic explorer of land or sea will find himself baffled with regard to the Sargasso Sea by the fact that it is neither the one nor the other. It is neither solid enough to walk upon nor liquid enough to afford a passage to a boat. At the same time any one who fell into it would certainly be drowned without being able to swim for his life. Of course, it is quite conceivable that a very determined party of pioneers might cut a passage for a small boat, even to the centre. The work would take an immense time, however, and the channel would certainly close up behind them as they proceeded. They would have to take with them provisions for the whole voyage, and a journey over a space equalling the Continent of Europe would probably require larger supplies than could be conveniently stowed away in a small boat. Besides, there is no reason to suppose that the expedition would be worth the making, or that the inner recesses of the Sargasso Sea would exhibit any marked differences from the outer margin. The accumulation of weed would be thicker and more entangled, and the drift and wreckage would lie more closely pressed together, but that would be all. There is no possibility of the existence of any but marine life in this strange morass unless the sea birds have built their nests in the masts or hull of some derelict vessel. It is a curious problem, to conjecture what will become of this vast accumulation of vegetable matter, which is continually increasing, decaying, and propagating, while the outer whirl of the ocean currents presses it all inexorably together into a more and more compact solidity. One great writer on Physical Geography has given it as his opinion that the ultimate result of the increasing pressure will be that in the course of thousands of years the whole mass will gradually solidify into coal, and form a bountiful store of fuel for future generations when the existing resources are exhausted.

OUR EARLY ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE.

(Continued.)

It is certain that the Gothic taste remained in vogue till towards the end of the reign of Henry VIII. His father's chapel at Westminster, and the chapel called Wolsey's tomb-house, at Windsor, previously erected, were noble examples. But soon after the Grecian style was introduced; and no wonder, when so many Italians were entertained in the king's service. They had seen that architecture revived in their own country in all its

purity; but whether they were not perfect masters of it, or that it was necessary to introduce the innovation by degrees, it certainly did not, at first, obtain full possession. It was plastered upon Gothic, and made a barbarous mixture. Regular columns, with ornaments, neither Grecian nor Gothic, and half embroidered with foliage, were crammed over frontispieces, acaques, and chimneys, and lost all grace by wanting simplicity. This mongrel species lasted till late in the reign of James I. The beginning of reformation in building seems owing to Holbein. His porch at Wilton, though purer than the works of his successors, is of this bastard sort; but the ornaments and proportions are graceful and well chosen. Where he acquired this taste it is difficult to say; probably it was adopted from his acquaintance with his fellow-labourers at Court. Henry had actually an Italian architect in his service, to whom, without scruple, may be assigned the introduction of regular architecture, if it was clear that he arrived here as early as Holbein. He was called John of Padua, and his very office seems to intimate something novel in his practice. He was termed *Devizor of His Majesty's buildings*. Who he was? what was his real name? how and where educated? and what were his works, previously to his arrival in England? no research has hitherto discovered with any satisfaction. But here he acquired a title, not before that patent (1544) given to any architect, as "*Devizor of His Majesty's buildings*," which implies likewise that he had the sole and exclusive appointment. Henry VIII. had then completed his palaces, and little more could have been done before his death in 1547. In one of the office books there is a payment to him of £36 10s. John of Padua is mentioned again in Rymer's *Foedera*, on the grant of a fee of two shillings per diem. This grant was renewed to him in the third year of the reign of Edward VI. From the first warrant it appears that John of Padua was not only an architect, but musician—a profession remarkably acceptable to Henry VIII. Henry had another architect of much note in his time, but who excelled chiefly in Gothic (from whence it is clear that the new taste was also introduced). This was Sir Richard Lea; master-mason and master of the pioneers in Scotland. This Sir Richard Lea was, with greater probability, excellent as an engineer or military architect. He was certainly so employed by his royal master. Henry gave him the manor of Topewell, in Hertfordshire, and he himself bestowed a brazen font on the church of Verulam, or St. Albans. The font was taken in the Scottish wars, and had served for the christening of the royal children of that kingdom. This font was stolen in the Civil Wars.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

There is no more ardent student of the actor's art than Mr. Beerbohm Tree. Whatever he does has the impulse of sincerity. In his management of Her Majesty's Theatre he has rivalled that of the classic example of Irving's Lyceum. We are glad to know that "*A Midsummer Night's Dream*" has been a financial, as well as an artistic, success. If his "*Rip*" in the present production cannot possibly eclipse the public memory of Jefferson's remarkable impersonation, he may easily give the romantic story a better setting than that which satisfied Boucicault and the great American actor. We can hardly conceive of any play that lends itself more consistently to stage decoration. In the meantime, for the benefit of the sufferers by the Ottawa fire, Mr. Tree played a scene from *Othello*, he as the Moor, and Mr. McLeay as Iago. A reversal of the parts would promise greater success. We have seen Mr. Tree's Iago in the country. It was marked by the actor's fine artistic sense of "make up," and was full of merit. In our time, however, there has been only one Iago, and that was Henry Irving's with Edwin Booth as the *Othello*. Mr. Tree has made such marked advances in his profession, that we should look forward with satisfaction to a revival of the Shakespear tragedy at her Majesty's, but with Mr. Tree as Iago.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

"*Ib and Little Christina*," is the second piece of the triple bill, which Mr. Martin Harvey has presented at his theatre, and it has more than one point of interest. It is in three scenes, the second separated from the first by a supposed interval of 15 years, and the third from the second by a supposed lapse of seven years. Miss Mary Rorke will appear in all three sections, as Ib's mother, and the passage of time in the action, will give her an opportunity of showing her skill in "make up." Again, little Miss Dare will figure as the child Christina, in the first scene, Miss Eva Moore will be the grown-up Christina of the second scene, and, in the third, little Miss Dare will re-appear as the adult Christina's child.

GENERAL NOTES.

Every now and then an actress is able to be her own manager, and then she can make opportunities for herself. This is what has happened to Miss Janette Steer, who is about to start a three months' season at the Comedy Theatre. But Miss Steer is no novice at the work. She has served a pretty long apprenticeship. It is some years now since she made her London debut. Besides playing prominent parts at the Criterion, Haymarket, and Terry's, she has had considerable experience in the suburbs and the provinces. She can claim to be taken seriously as an artist—as a player with a method of her own.

A still more interesting management will be that on which Miss Marie Tempest (Mrs. Cosmo Gordon-Lennon) is about to enter. And for this reason—that the lady proposes to appear before playgoers as an actress solely, not as a vocalist. It is well that she has cut herself adrift from "musical comedy," but we should have liked to see her at the head of an operatic organisation. We consider her to be the most brilliant of our singing actresses. However, she elects to appear in the meantime in non-musical pieces, and her Nell Gwynne should be a very winning performance. We are pleased to learn that Miss Tempest does not intend to desert the concert platform.

There has been some talk in influential quarters about the hours of West-end theatres. One manager has expressed an aspiration to start his performances at seven instead of eight. The whole problem centres on the fashionable dinner hour. So long as "Society" dines late West-end entrepreneurs will have to raise the curtain late, for it is upon "Society" that most of our West-end theatres chiefly depend. It is the half-guinea stall which renders possible our brilliant metropolitan productions, and it is "Society" that pays the half-guinea. Should it become fashionable to make supper the chief evening meal then (but not till then) we shall have the theatres opening at seven and closing somewhere about half-past ten.

SOUTH AFRICAN MASONIC RELIEF FUND.

A FUND 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.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	566	13	0
Province of Durham—			
Provincial Grand Lodge	52	10	0
Lodge—			
48 Industry	5	5	0
80 St. John's	5	5	0
94 Phoenix	5	5	0
97 Palatine	5	5	0
111 Restoration	5	5	0
124 Granby	5	5	0
240 St. Hilda	5	5	0
375 Lambton	5	5	0
424 Borough	5	5	0
509 Tees	5	5	0
531 St. Helens	5	5	0
764 Harbour of Refuge	5	5	0
949 Philanthropy	5	5	0
949 Williamson	5	5	0
1119 St. Bede	5	5	0
1121 Wear Valley	5	5	0
1274 Earl of Durham	5	5	0
1334 Norman	5	5	0
1379 Marquis of Ripon	5	5	0
1389 Fenwick	5	5	0
1643 Perseverance	5	5	0
1650 Rose of Raby	5	5	0
1862 Stranton	5	5	0
1932 Whitworth	5	5	0
1970 Hadrian	5	5	0
2019 Crook	5	5	0
2039 Londonderry	5	5	0
2135 Constance	5	5	0
2415 Tristram	5	5	0
2418 Hedworth	5	5	0
2462 Clarence	5	5	0
2674 Ravensworth	5	5	0
Chapter—			
240 St. Hilda	3	3	0
48 Industry	1	1	0
80 St. Johns	1	1	0
94 De Lambton	1	1	0
97 Strict Benevolence	1	1	0
111 Vigilance	1	1	0
124 Concord	1	1	0
509 Tees	1	1	0
531 St. Helens	1	1	0
764 Fawcett	1	1	0
949 Williamson	1	1	0
1119 St. Bede	1	1	0
1230 Baliol	1	1	0
Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16	21	0	0
Zetland Lodge, No. 1157	20	0	0
Midland and Oxford Bar Lodge, No. 2716	11	12	0
Jerusalem Lodge, No. 197	10	10	0
Lodge of Asaph, No. 1319	10	10	0
Bro. Holloway, P.M.	1	1	0
W. Lestock, P.M.	1	1	0
Medway Lodge, No. 1678	10	10	0
Priory Lodge, No. 1000	10	10	0
St. Clair Lodge, No. 2074	10	10	0
St. Peter's Lodge, No. 481	10	10	0
Royal Standard Lodge, No. 398 (50)	10	5	4
Queen Victoria Lodge, No. 2584	6	0	0
Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1003	5	10	0
Border Lodge, No. 2475	5	5	0
Cabell Lodge, No. 807	5	5	0
Cadogan Lodge, No. 162	5	5	0
Bro. R. A. Danvers	5	5	0
W. H. Read	3	3	0
A. De C.	1	1	0
Barton Kent	1	1	0
Nias	1	1	0
F. H. Ramsden	1	1	0
J. Ramsey	1	1	0
F. M. Smith	1	1	0
Theodor	1	1	0
A. T. Angell	0	10	6
T. Burne	0	10	6
King Furlow	0	10	6
H. T. Hare	0	10	6
W. Haynes	0	10	6
Geo. Schofield	0	10	6
Chorlton Lodge, No. 1387	5	5	0
Dalhousie Lodge, No. 865	5	5	0
Collected	3	15	0
Eleanor Lodge, No. 1707	5	5	0
Ixion Lodge, No. 2501	5	5	0
Lodge St. John, No. 191	5	5	0
Mariners Lodge, No. 249	5	5	0
Palatine Lodge, No. 2447	5	5	0
Percy Lodge, No. 1427	5	5	0
Stodholme Brownrigg Chapter, No. 2421	5	5	0
Talbot Lodge, No. 2231	5	5	0
United Pilgrims Lodge, No. 507	5	5	0
J. W. Watts, P.M.	1	1	0
W. T. Moreton	0	5	0
Bro. James Smith	1	1	0
Urban Lodge, No. 1195	5	5	0
Weyside Lodge, No. 1395	5	5	0
Inhabitants Lodge, No. 153	5	0	0
Stour Valley Lodge, No. 1224	4	4	0
Perseverance Lodge, No. 455 (collected)	4	2	6
Belvedere Lodge, No. 503, per W. Bro. F. Kite, G. Purst	3	3	0
Franklin Lodge, No. 838	3	3	0
Bro. William Smart Barrett	0	10	6
William Henry Gane	0	10	6
Tom Kitwood	0	10	6
John James Reading	0	10	6
Henry Shepherd	0	10	6
William John H. Wood	0	10	6
John Henry Bates	0	5	0
Alfred James Clark	0	5	0
George Clarke	0	5	0

Franklin Lodge, No. 838 (con.)—	£	s.	d.
Bro. Archibald Alexander Crabtree	0	5	0
George Herbert Gregory	0	5	0
William Henry Hopkins	0	5	0
George Wood Ingram	0	5	0
Walter Kitwood	0	5	0
Benjamin Frederick Parker	0	5	0
Joseph Pauley	0	5	0
Alfred Henry Read	0	5	0
Edward Richardson	0	5	0
Harry Austen Sherwin	0	5	0
Thomas Slater	0	5	0
Thomas William Steel	0	5	0
Charles Thompson	0	5	0
Tom Waltham Burton	0	2	6
Edwin Henry Shepherd	0	2	6
Godson Lodge, No. 2385	3	3	0
Lodge Fidelity, No. 230	3	3	0
Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1012	3	3	0
St. John's Lodge, No. 325	3	3	0
Egerton Mark Lodge, No. 165	2	10	0
Brooke Lodge, No. 2005	2	2	0
De Table Lodge, No. 941	2	2	0
Farnborough & North Camp Lodge, No. 2203	2	2	0
Limestone Rock Lodge, No. 369	2	2	0
Lodge Fidelity, No. 445	2	2	0
Lodge Sincerity, No. 292	2	2	0
Lodge Unanimity and Sincerity, No. 261—			
Voted from Funds of Lodge	2	2	0
Special Collection	2	0	4
Bro. C. P. Clarke, Treas.	1	1	0
George H. Kite, W.M.	1	1	0
P. Broomhead	0	10	6
E. Saunders	0	10	6
F. W. Baker, S.W.	0	10	0
J. G. Price, P.M.	0	10	0
G. Speller, J.W.	0	10	0
A. P. French, Chap.	0	5	0
J. G. Loveday	0	5	0
H. Maynard	0	5	0
W. H. Westlake, P.M. 1966	0	5	0
T. Wood	0	5	0
Rock Lodge, No. 1289	2	2	0
St. Matthew Lodge, No. 1447	2	2	0
Stour Lodge, No. 2305	2	2	0
Travellers Lodge, No. 2609	2	2	0
Unanimity Lodge, No. 102	2	2	0
Thornhill Lodge, No. 1514	1	3	0
Nelson of the Nile Lodge, No. 264	1	1	0
Rev. J. Henning	1	1	0
Starkie Chapter, No. 935	1	1	0
St. John's Chapter, No. 328	1	1	0
Lodge Loyalty and Charity, No. 1584, per			
Bro. J. J. Saunders	0	10	6

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

Amount previously acknowledged—	Shillings
Lodges	59,014
Lodges of Instruction	19,023
Chapters	4529
Mark	3227
Knights Templar	373
A. & A. Rite	2100
Allied Masonic Degrees	210
Red Cross of Rome and Constantine	42
Great Priory of England and Wales	2100
Rose Croix	147
Secret Monitor	30
Royal Masonic Institution for Girls	120
No. LODGE.	Shillings
1361 United Service, proceeds of a Concert	204
1178 Perfect Ashlar, Collected at a Dinner	195
2271 St. Pancras, per W. Bro. Scurrah	105
2622 Beach, Collected by Miss Spooner, the	
W.M.'s Daughter, after the Banquet	105
1206 Cinque Ports, portion of funds collected at the Banquet	40

THE MANSION HOUSE TRANSVAAL WAR FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged—	£	s.	d.
Lodges	2049	11	6
Chapters	32	9	0
Mark	8	8	0
Instruction	30	0	0
Rose Croix	1	1	0
Cryptic Masonry	10	10	0
No. LODGES.	£	s.	d.
1068 Bulwer Lodge	40	0	0
" District Grand Lodge of Barbadoes	67	16	11
Lodge of Union	21	0	0
2041 West Kent Volunteer	10	10	0
CHAPTER.			
1526 Faith, Jumalporc	7	15	6
1526 Faith, Jumalporc	50	0	0

THE MANSION HOUSE REFUGEES FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged—	£	s.	d.
Lodges	265	0	0
Chapters	10	10	0
Rose Croix	6	6	0
Lodges of Instruction	2	10	0

LORD PROVOST FUND.

Masonic Service in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, not including several special donations £585 0 0

MASONIC MEETINGS (METROPOLITAN)

For the week ending Saturday, June 2, 1900.

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

SUNDAY, MAY 27.

Logic Club, Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer-street, W., at 11.15 a.m.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

RAFT LODGES.

4, Royal Somerset House and Inverness, Freemasons' Hall.
182, Unity, Ship and Turtle Tavern.
766, Florence Nightingale, Royal Mortar Hotel, Woolwich.
302, Burgoyne, Anderton's Hotel.
905, De Grey and Ripon, Freemasons' Hall.
1615, Bayard, 33, Golden-square.
1632, Stuart, Frascati Restaurant.
1745, Farrington Without, Holborn Viaduct.
1828, Shepherd's Bush, Bush Hotel.
2397, Columbia, Hotel Cecil.
2503, Justicia, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

188, Joppa, Guildhall Tavern.
255, Iris, Greyhound Hotel, Richmond.
1708, Plucknett, Woodside Hall, N. Finchley.

MARK LODGES.

4, Prince of Wales, Mark Masons' Hall.
226, Excelsior, Star and Garter Hotel, Richmond.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

No Meetings.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

GRAND FESTIVAL OF SECRET MONITOR, at Hotel Cecil.

RAFT LODGE.

898, Temperance-in-the-East, Assembly Rooms, Poplar.

THURSDAY, MAY 31.

House Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution at Croydon, at 3 p.m.

General Committee Girls' School at Freemasons' Hall, at 4.30.

RAFT LODGE.

1524, Duke of Connaught, Anderton's Hotel.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1.

RAFT LODGES.

1275, Star, Ship Hotel, Greenwich.
1480, Marquis of Ripon, Holborn Restaurant.
2511, St. John at Hackney, South Place Hotel, Finsbury.
2772, Richard Eve, Freemasons' Hall.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

250, Prince of Wales's, Whitehall Rooms.
2502, Papyrus, Freemasons' Hall.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2.

RAFT LODGE.

2763, Harringay, Salisbury Hotel, Green-lanes.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTERS.

173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
975, Rose of Denmark, Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge.

FREEMASONRY and JESUITRY.

THE PITH AND MARROW

OF THE

CLOSING AND COMING CENTURY.

This remarkable pamphlet by an American 33° Mason has created a great sensation in the United States. In view of the future Brotherhood alliance between Great Britain and the United States, the pamphlet should be read by every British Mason.

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47, Bridge-st., Manchester; 9, West Howard-st., Glasgow.

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Words and Music composed by F. J. STEIN. Price 1s. 6d. net.

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Masonic and General Tidings.

BANK-RATE REDUCED.—The directors of the Bank of England, at their meeting on Thursday, reduced the Bank-rate from 4 per cent., at which it has stood since 25th January last, to 3½ per cent.

A PARTIAL ECLIPSE of the sun will take on Monday afternoon next between three and five o'clock.

FOR THE purpose of a central day school for blind children, the School Board for London has purchased Elm Court, Court-road, in the West Lambeth Division, of Sir Albert Altman for the sum of £4600.

BRO. THE LORD MAYOR AND LADY MAYORESS have consented to perform the opening ceremony at a bazaar to be held on Monday, the 25th prox., in the newly-erected schools of the parish of St. John, Clapham, in aid of the school building fund.

BRO. EMMA HOLMES has received, "by command," the thanks of her Majesty the Queen for her verses on the attempted assassination of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M. He has also received a graceful letter from Miss Knollys conveying the thanks of H.R.H. the Princess of Wales.

WE ARE pleased to learn that Bro. Sir Alfred Bevan, Past G. Treas., Sheriff of London has so far recovered from his recent illness as to enable him to attend to his official duties during the daytime; but his medical advisers absolutely prohibit his attendance at any dinners or evening functions for the present.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.—Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught will drive to Wood Green on Friday afternoon, 1st June, to distribute the prizes to the boys of this Institution. A limited number of tickets will be issued by the Board of Management on application to Bro. J. M. McLeod, Secretary.

ALDERSGATE PAST OFFICERS' CLUB.—The monthly meeting was held at the Manchester Hotel last week. Bro. T. Briggs, O.C., president, occupied the chair, and there were present: Bros. Deputy Gooding, T. Murray Jones, W. T. Roberts, and J. Mayhew (hon. secretary). It was settled that the summer outing should take place on Thursday, the 21st prox., at the Abercorn Arms, Stanmore, starting by coaches from the Manchester Hotel.

BRO. W. R. MABY, the eminent Bristol musician, who lately had the honour of being presented to her Majesty the Queen, completed his 86th anniversary on Wednesday last. Besides the best of all good wishes from many relatives, he was the recipient of hearty congratulations from numerous musical and Masonic friends. Some brethren of his lodge have just given our venerable brother a suit of Provincial Grand Lodge clothing, which they and we trust our venerable brother will live long to wear.

SOUTH AFRICAN SHARES.—During the past week interest in the South African market has centred almost entirely in Rhodesian shares, and there has been a rise in the price of nearly everything Rhodesian. Things are ripe for a boom in Rhodesian shares, and those in Dewar's Matabele Reefs, Limited, should be well worth the attention of the speculative investor who can afford to buy, pay for, and hold them. The total capital of the company is only £60,000, in shares of £1 each, of which 43,000 are issued and fully paid, the remaining 17,000 being working capital reserved for future issue if required. Dewar's Matabele Reefs, Limited, own 14 miles of gold reefs, containing 510 duly registered claims, equal to an area of about 1200 acres. A number of the claims contain ancient workings, and the whole of the reefs are fortunately situated within 15 miles of Bulawayo, in the best-known and most important gold-mining districts of Rhodesia. Careful surveys have been made of each of the reefs, and every claim has been registered and marked out in accordance with the British South Africa Company's regulations. Questions of title cannot, therefore, arise, and as the claims themselves have in a great many instances been proved to be of a very high grade indeed, many elements of risk have been eliminated. The sale of one set of 20 claims will give enough to pay a sum, in the way of dividends, equivalent to the entire capital of the company. Probably in a few months, when the extent and richness of the property owned by Dewar's Matabele Reefs, Limited, are realised, and its value reckoned at a standard of price governing similar great land and exploring companies, this company's shares should be quoted at a far higher price than that of about £1 each, at which they are now dealt in on the London Stock Exchange.

FOR THE WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS the Great Central Railway Company announce a series of excursions from London (Marylebone, near Baker-street and Edgware-road). On Thursday, 31st May, an excursion for 16 days will be run to Ireland *via* Liverpool. On Friday, 1st June, to Northallerton, Darlington, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Oban, Fort William, for 5, 8, and 16 days, and to Douglas (Isle of Man), for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. On Friday midnight, 1st June, and Saturday midnight, 2nd June, to Rugby, Lutterworth, Leicester, Loughboro', Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, &c., for 2 and 3 days. On Saturday, 2nd June, to Bridlington, Filey, Middlesboro', Newcastle, Scarborough, York, Knutsford, Northwich, St. Helens, Southport, Wigan, Cleethorpes, Doncaster, Hull, Retford, Rugby (Central), Loughboro', Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Guide Bridge, Manchester, Bulwell Common, Chesterfield, Pilsley, Staveley, Brackley, Culworth, Finmere, Helmdon, Woodford, Hinton, and Penistone, for 3, 6, or 8 days. Every Saturday during June to Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Saltburn, Redcar, Douglas, Liverpool, Southport, Blackpool, St. Anns, Lytham, Fleetwood, Cleethorpes, New Clew, Grimsby, and Chester, for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. On Monday, 4th June, to Finmere, Brackley, Rugby, Lutterworth, Leicester, Loughboro', and Nottingham, for ½ day and 1, 2, or 3 days. For full particulars see our advertisement columns.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.—Whitsuntide Holiday Arrangements.—The Midland Railway Company will run cheap excursion trains from London to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, &c., 16 days, *via* Liverpool, on Thursday, May 31st, and *via* Morecambe on Friday, June 1st; also to Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush for Giant's Causeway, *via* Barrow and *via* Liverpool, on Thursday, May 31st; to Londonderry, *via* Liverpool, or *via* Morecambe, on Saturday, June 2nd, to return within 16 days as per bill of sailing; on Friday night, June 1st, to Carlisle, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Helensburgh, Edinburgh, Greenock, Glasgow, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, Inverness, Ballater, &c., returning the following Tuesday or Friday, by which third class return tickets at about a single ordinary fare for the double journey will also be issued, available for returning on any day within 16 days; on Friday midnight, June 1st, for 3 days, and Saturday midnight, June 2nd, for 2 days, to Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, &c.; on Saturday, June 2nd, to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Oldham, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Scarborough, Newcastle, the Furness and Lake Districts, Carlisle, &c., returning the following Monday, Thursday, or Saturday. On Whit-Monday, June 4th, to St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, Bedford, and Kettering, for 1 day; to Leicester, Loughbrough, and Nottingham, for 1, 2, or 3 days, and to Birmingham for 1, 2, 4, or 6 days. To Manchester (for the Races), and to Stockport, Nottingham, and Sheffield on Thursday (Midnight), June 7th, returning Saturday, June 9th. Tickets for these trains for starting from St. Pancras Station can be obtained on the two days previous to the running of the trains at the company's City and West-end Booking Offices. Cheap daily and week-end excursions to Southend-on-Sea, as announced in time tables and bills. The season excursions from London (St. Pancras) to Matlock, Buxton, Liverpool, Southport, Blackpool, Lytham, St. Annes-on-Sea, the Isle of Man, Morecambe, Lancaster, the English Lake District, Scarborough, Bridlington, Whitby, &c., will commence on Saturday, June 2nd. The tickets are available for passengers to return in either 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days. Cheap week end tickets are now issued every Friday and Saturday from London (St. Pancras) and other principal Midland Stations to the chief seaside and inland holiday resorts, including the "Peak" district of Derbyshire, Yorkshire, the Lake District, the North-east Coast, and Scotland. The tickets are available for return on the following Sunday (where train service permits), Monday, or Tuesday. For the Whitsuntide holidays these tickets will also be available for returning up to and including Wednesday, June 6th. Cheap excursion trains for 5 or 8 days will also be run to London from Carlisle, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Lincoln, Newark, Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, &c., on Saturday, June 2nd, and for 3 or 6 days on Monday, June 4th.

THE SHAH has left Teheran on his European tour, in the course of which he will visit the Paris Exhibition and London.

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES will lay the foundation-stone of the Diamond Jubilee Memorial Hospital at Newcastle-on-Tyne on June 20th.

THE NEW JENNY LIND INFIRMARY FOR SICK CHILDREN, Norwich, which has been erected at a cost of £12,000, on a site given by the late Mr. J. J. Colman as a memorial of his wife, will be opened by H.R.H. the Princess of Wales on Saturday, the 30th prox.

THE COUNTESS OF WARWICK, who presided at a meeting of the Agricultural Association for Women, said a very large number of women were now desirous of devoting themselves to the minor branches of farming, and the three houses of the Hostel at Reading were full to overflowing with young ladies successfully studying the subject. Lady Warwick said she was quite sure such well-trained and practical ladies would enjoy far better matrimonial chances than their sisters who took up clerkships or the work of governesses.

THE URBAN CLUB.—The members closed their formal meetings for the season on the 18th instant, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street. Bro. Thomas Catling (the editor of *Lloyd's*) presided, and was supported by Bro. Alderman and Sheriff Sir William Treloar (the special guest of the club), Dr. John Pnnet, F.S.A., Dr. Appleby Stephenson, Mr. Fisher (editor of the *Daily Chronicle*), the Rev. T. W. Wood, the Rev. G. B. Doughty, Mr. J. Edward Cockett, Mr. J. Northcott, Mr. A. H. Hance, Mr. John Hollingshead, Mr. John Coleman, and Mr. R. N. Fairbanks, of Vermont.

BRO. SERGEANT-MAJOR BRADFORD, of the Eldon Lodge, No. 1755, was, on Saturday last, the recipient of a pleasing mark of distinction. For many years he has been associated with the Royal Artillery in various parts of the globe. He is now Drill Instructor to the 1st Gloucestershire Artillery Volunteers, and those brethren who knew him in Canada and in the Channel Islands will be pleased to note that at the recent inspection at Clifton he was presented with a silver medal for long service and good conduct. Lieut.-Col. A. Mansell, D.S.O., R.G.A., commanding the Northern Section, Plymouth, congratulated Bro. Bradford on securing the medal, and reminded his hearers that such decorations were not easily won.

TWO OF THE birthday honours will give especial satisfaction to those who take an active interest in civic life. I refer to the knighthoods conferred upon Bro. H. Home-wood Crawford, who since the year 1885 has held office as City Solicitor; and Mr. John Watney, who for a long course of years has been the clerk of the Mercers' Company. In each case the honour is well bestowed. Bro. Crawford not only has served with loyalty and ability the great municipal body whose office he is, but in various ways—notably by his membership of the late Unification Committee, and by the part he has played in unravelling crime—has rendered distinguished services to the community at large. Sir Home-wood Crawford is numbered amongst the most popular officers of the Corporation, and on all hands he will certainly be the recipient to-day of congratulations heartily expressed and thoroughly meant.—*City Press*.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY announce excursions on Thursday, May 31st, to Cork, Killarney, Belfast, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, &c.; on Friday, June 1st, to Gloucester, Cheltenham, Worcester, Hereford, Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Aberystwyth, Bala, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Manchester, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bangor, Carnarvon, Waterford, Tipperary, Limerick, Bath, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, Taunton, Minehead, &c.; on Friday night, to Exeter, Plymouth, Falmouth, Penzance, Chepstow, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Carmarthen, Milford, and other stations in South Wales, Chester, Liverpool, Douglas (Isle of Man), &c.; on Saturday, June 2nd, to Newbury, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, Minehead, Lynton, Lynmouth, Ilfracombe, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Penzance, Oxford, Birmingham, &c.; and on Saturday night to Swindon, Bath, Bristol, Gloucester, Chepstow, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Carmarthen, &c. On Friday and Saturday, June 1st and 2nd, excursion tickets, at a return fare of 2s. 6d., will be issued to Guernsey and Jersey, by trains leaving Paddington at 9.20 a.m., and Waterloo at 9.50 p.m. The service to and from the Islands being now worked jointly by the Great Western and London and South-Western Railway Companies, passengers travelling on the former journey *via* Paddington and Weymouth may, if they so desire, return *via* Southampton and Waterloo, and those proceeding *via* Waterloo and Southampton may return *via* Weymouth and Paddington. On Whit Sunday a cheap train will run to Swindon, Cirencester, Stroud, Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c., and at Midnight an Excursion will leave Paddington for Oxford, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c. On the Bank Holiday cheap trains will be run to Reading, Newbury, Devizes, Pangbourne, Goring, Wallingford, Bath, Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare, &c., and on Whit Tuesday an Express half-day Excursion will be run to Banbury, Leamington, and Stratford-on-Avon. Excursions will be run to London from most of the principal stations, and cross country trips have also been arranged. Cheap tickets are issued daily from London and many suburban stations to Staines, Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Henley, Goring, Wallingford, and other riverside resorts. These tickets can be obtained throughout the Whitsuntide holidays, and, in fact, during the whole of the summer months. The train service to and from the riverside stations has also been considerably improved. The booking offices at the Paddington Station will be open all day on May 30th, 31st, June 1st and 2nd, so that passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the Great Western Railway can do so at their convenience. Ordinary tickets will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.—The Great Northern Railway Company announce that on Friday, June 1st (for 5, 8, and 16 days) cheap excursions will leave London (Woolwich Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E. and C.), Victoria (S.E. and C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), Finsbury Park, &c.), for Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Dumbarton, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Dalnally, Oban, Fort William, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland. Passengers holding 5 days tickets return on Tuesday, 5th June; 8 days tickets on Friday, 8th June; and 16 days tickets on any day up to and including Saturday, 16th June. On Saturday, June 2nd, cheap fast excursions for 3, 5, or 8 days will leave London (Woolwich Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E. and C.), Victoria (S.E. and C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), and suburban stations, for Accrington, Bacup, Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Burton, Bradford, Boston, Cromer, Chesterfield, Cleckheaton, Darlington, Darwen, Derby, Doncaster, Durham, Edwinstowe, Eggington, Elland, Filey, Grantham, Grimsby, Halifax, Harrogate, Hartlepool, Huddersfield, Hull, Horncastle, Ilkeston, Kimberley, Keighley, Leicester, Lincoln, Liverpool, Lynn, Leeds, Manchester, Mirfield, Melton Mowbray, Middlesboro', Mundesley-on-Sea, Newark, Norwich, Nottingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Oldham, Pontefract, Preston, Pudsey, Peterboro', Retford, Richmond, Ripon, Rochdale, Rotherham, Scarborough, Sheffield, Stamford, Stoke, Stockton, Stockport, Sunderland, Spalding, Sleaford, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Thirsk, Todmorden, Thornhill, Thornton, Tynemouth, Wakefield, Whitby, Warrington, Wigan, Worksop, Yarmouth, York, and other principal stations in the Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and North-Eastern Districts. Saturday, 2nd June, and each Saturday until September 30th (for 3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days), to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, Grimsby, New Clew, Cleethorpes, Bridlington, Filey, Scarborough, Whitby, Robin Hood's Bay, Saltburn, Redcar, Tynemouth, Whitby, Cullercoats, Liverpool, Southport, and Douglas (Isle of Man), from Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c. Saturday, 2nd June, for 1, 3, or 4 days, and Whit Monday, 4th June, for 1 day, to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, Mablethorpe, from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), Holloway, Finsbury Park, &c., &c. Whit Monday, 4th June (for one day), to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Baldock, Royston, Cambridge, Biggleswade, Sandy, Tempsford, St. Neots, Huntingdon, and Peterboro', from Victoria (S.E. & C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., &c. Thursday night, 7th June (for two days), to Sheffield, Stockport, and Manchester (Races), from Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross. The cheap week-end tickets usually issued each Friday and Saturday will be issued on Friday, June 1st, and Saturday, June 2nd, available for return on Sunday (if train service admits), Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, June 3, 4, 5, or 6. The double line to Skegness is now opened and the train service has been improved and accelerated. The additional summer trains commence on June 1st. To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the Company's principal terminal station, King's Cross, tickets dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (S.E. and C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and suburban stations.