

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 HIOZIER, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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NEXT YEAR'S FESTIVALS.

It is gratifying to know that in one important particular the authorities of our Institutions have every reason to be satisfied with the progress which has thus far been made in respect of their next year's Festivals. Naturally, one of the chief difficulties in making arrangements for these annual celebrations is that of enlisting the services of influential brethren as Chairmen. The number of these is necessarily restricted, and in the course of a very few years the list of those whose assistance may with advantage be invoked and who may feel themselves justified in accepting the grave responsibility is exhausted, and all the Secretaries can do is to make further appeals to those who have already done our Institutions good suit and service as Chairmen. However, as regards our 1901 Festivals, all three Institutions have their anxieties already set at rest. The Earl of WARWICK, Dep. Grand Master, Prov. Grand Master of Essex, has kindly undertaken to preside at the Benevolent Festival in February next; Earl AMHERST, the Pro Grand Master, who is also Prov. Grand Master of Kent, will take the chair at the 113th Anniversary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls; and last week we were able to announce that Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, has arranged to act as Chairman at the 103rd Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.

This is indeed good news, not only because, when the lodges resume their meetings after the summer holidays, the Secretaries will be able to appeal for support with all the greater force, but more particularly because it would be difficult to find three Masons of distinction who are better qualified by experience and the influence they are able to command to undertake so important a duty. Thus, when Lord WARWICK—then Lord BROOKE, M.P.—presided at the Girls' School Festival in 1884, his Province of Essex, which was far weaker then than it is now, raised £1000 in support of his Chairmanship, while in 1893, when he rendered a similar service for the Boys' School, Essex, with a larger contingent of lodges, raised £2155. At the Girls' and Boys' Centenaries in 1888 and 1898, respectively, and at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, Essex acquitted itself well, its record achievement belonging to 1898, when it subscribed £4122 in honour of the Boys' Centenary. It can boast of a roll of 45 lodges, and has been doing some excellent work in a quiet kind of way, more particularly for the Old People.

Kent is the strongest of our Southern Provinces, having 65 lodges on its roll. It stands in the front rank of the supporters of our Institutions, and its chief, who has held office for 40 years, has done splendid service as Festival Chairman. In 1861, he took the chair at the Old People's Anniversary, while in 1891, he presided for the second time, the total of the subscriptions reaching £15,879, towards which Kent contributed £3484. He has also presided twice for the Boys' School, namely, in 1862—the first Festival held during the Secretaryship of Bro. FREDERICK BINCKES—when the Returns, though amounting to only £3682, were twice the total of the previous year; on this occasion his lordship acted for Lord LEIGH, who was prevented by unavoidable circumstances from fulfilling his promise to preside. In 1883 he presided for the same Institution, when the principal effort was made in respect of the Preparatory School, and the Returns exceeded £23,000, for £2315 of which Kent was responsible. It also signalled itself at the Girls' Centenary in 1888, when, including £1050 for a Perpetual Presentation, it subscribed £3059; at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892; and, last of all, at the Boys' Centenary in 1898, when it ranked third among the Provinces with contributions amounting to £5542. As this will be his lordship's first appearance as Chairman at a Girls' School Festival, we have no doubt that Kent will lay itself out to support his lordship with its accustomed loyalty and generosity. As regards the respected Prov. Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., he, too, has done duty as Chairman on four different occasions, namely, for the Girls' School in 1870, and again in 1883, his Province backing him up at the latter Festival to the extent of £1307 out of a total of £10,510. In 1877 he acted as Chairman at the Boys' Festival, when the Donations and Subscriptions reached a total of £13,249, while in 1887—the year of the QUEEN'S Jubilee—he occupied the chair at the Benevolent, when out of a grand total of £19,220 Hants and the Isle of Wight subscribed £1785. At the Girls' Centenary in 1888 it contributed £1150; at the Benevolent Jubilee in 1892, £1346; and at the Boys' Centenary in 1898, £3238. We may, therefore, look to Bro. BEACH receiving a loyal measure of support from his Province as on the occasions we have specified, and that generally in 1901 the support that will be forthcoming to our three Institutions will be on a generous scale.

FREEMASONRY IN CANADA (PROVINCE OF ONTARIO).

The 45th annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario) was held in the Opera House, London, on the 18th and 19th ult., under the presidency of Bro. E. P. MALONE, M.W. Grand Master, who was supported by a large gathering of Present and Past Grand Officers and lodge representatives, together with a fair sprinkling of visitors, foremost amongst whom was Bro. SUTHERLAND, Past Grand Master of New York, who was received not only with the honour due to his exalted rank in Masonry, but with such an enthusiastic welcome as is rarely accorded even to brethren of his distinction, while in the course of the meeting he had the honour conferred upon him of Past Grand Master of Canada. At these annual gatherings the interest centres for the most part in the address in which the Grand Master reviews the events of the year, and

renders a faithful account of the several acts he has done; and Bro. MALONE'S address—from the description given of it in the *Canadian Craftsman*—appears to have been on a level with the best of those delivered by his predecessors in office. Naturally, most of the matters referred to are of local interest only, but a few of them are worth noticing, more particularly as regards the applications made for dispensations, nearly all of which, we learn, were refused by the Grand Master. In one case a dispensation was asked for to wear regalia at a dance which was to follow certain games and horse racing, which had been organised by the lodge for the purpose of raising funds, while in another case one was applied for on the ground that a subscribing candidate for Freemasonry stood a very fair chance of being rejected by the lodge in the vicinity of his residence, "on account of political bias." They were refused and so, with a single exception, were all applications for conferring degrees out of time, the Grand Master being of opinion that the Craft has not been benefited thereby. Bro. MALONE also reported that in the course of the visitations he had paid to private lodges he had met with cases in which "ward politics" were introduced into the election of officers, and that on two occasions on remonstrating with the lodges on the irregularity of such a course, was met with the rejoinder that what was done by Grand Lodge ought not to be condemned in the private lodge, evidence being produced that this kind of electioneering on the part of candidates for Grand Office had been openly adopted. He had also put his veto on the wearing of decorations and jewels of degrees not recognised by Craft Masonry, and recommended that they should, in this matter, follow the example of the Grand Lodge of England. But perhaps his severest criticism was directed against the distribution of begging circulars and "chain letters," his remarks as regards the latter being to the effect that "the brethren have been imposed upon, and the privileges of Masonry abused," and, further, that "no greater fraud was ever invented by the mind of mortal than the 'chain letter.'" The fraud, however, has been exposed by the Grand Secretary of Michigan, into the jurisdiction of whose Grand Lodge many of these letters had found their way, the result being that this disgraceful abuse of Masonry has ceased.

Among other matters to which Bro. MALONE referred was the attempted assassination of the Prince of WALES—to whom he had sent a telegram of congratulation on his escape—and the benefits resulting from the Masonic Relief Association, whose action rendered it impossible for an unworthy Mason or impostor to obtain relief, and he recommended that Grand Lodge should continue its affiliation with the Association. As regards his decisions, the most important would seem to have been in respect of an inquiry as to what constituted "improper solicitation" to become a Mason, his reply being that any and every kind of solicitation was improper. He also referred to the assistance rendered by the Canadians to the Empire in the South African War, said he had forwarded a cheque for 1000 dollars as a donation to the National Patriotic Fund, and suggested that further aid should be given if necessary.

Before the proceedings terminated a resolution, showing appreciation of the services rendered by Bro. Lord ROBERTS and his army, and of sympathy with the bereaved, was passed amid every demonstration of enthusiasm, the whole assemblage rising and singing "Soldiers of the QUEEN." The Grand Lodge Officers were elected and installed, and Hamilton having been chosen as the next place of meeting, Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren dispersed.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF CHESHIRE.

PENDING RESIGNATION OF EARL EGERTON.

The above Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Mechanics' Institution, Stockport, on the 8th instant. Since the last time—now 10 years ago—the good old Borough of Stockport was so honoured, the principles of the Craft have become more widely known, and as a result a large number of lodges have been opened, and although this does not so much apply to Stockport, where facilities for joining the Brotherhood have long been sufficient, the number of members has increased and an enthusiasm has been thrown into the Craft lodges which warrants the conclusion that in no centre are the principles of Freemasonry better understood or more actively appreciated.

The P.G.M., Earl Egerton, presided at the meeting, which was attended by brethren representing all the lodges in the county. There was a very large attendance.

The Provincial Grand Officers who signed the roll, included—

Bros. his Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, D.P.G.M.; T. Bowers, P.P.S.G.D.; L. White, P.P.D.G.D.C.; Lilley Ellis, P.P.J.G.W.; Mark Oliver, P.P.A.G.D.C.; John Beech, P.P.G.P.; T. Eyre Mason, P.P.G. Treas.; Wm. Peers, P.G. Treas.; Wm. Booth, P.P.G.D.C.; James Cookson, P.P.G.W.; Samuel Davies, P.P.G. Std. Br.; G. W. Bebbington, P.M. and Sec. 941, P.G. Org.; Phillip H. Lockwood, P.P.G. Stwd.; Alfred Huxley, P.G. Tyler; William Barker, P.P.A.G.P.; Henry Greenhalgh, P.G. Stwd.; Thomas Browne, P.P.A.G.S.; Charles E. Forsdick, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. Hayward Belyse, P.P.J.G.W.; Thomas W. Edutilly, P.P.G.S.; T. H. Armitt, P.P.G. Treas.; Wm. Dunn, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; Wm. Slack, P.P.G.S.; Jonathan Bailey, P.P.J.G.D.; Thos. Perrin, P.P.A.G.P.; J. P. Bardsley, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Geo. R. Brady, P.P.G. Std. Br.; J. J. Tinker, P.P.J.G.D.; J. Kellett Smith, P.P.G. Reg.; Charles Vickers, P.P.A.G.D.C.; Dean Sutcliffe, P.G.S.; Hugh Lowndes, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; F. R. Clarke, P.G.S.; Ralph Andrews, P.P.S.G.D.; Thomas D. Simcox, P.P.G.S.B.; R. C. Blakehurst, P.A.G.P.; Thos. H. Drinkwater, P.P.G. Reg.; John Bottomley, P.P.G.S.B.; John Cliffe, P.P.G.D.C. East Lancs; John Lewis, P.P.D.G.D.C.; J. W. Hulley, P.G.S.B. East Lancs; William Runsey, P.P.G.P.; Tom Simpson, P.P.G.S.B.; J. D. Penney, P.D.G.D.C.; A. Sidebotham, P.J.G.D.; John R. R. Jeffrey, P.M. 321; Wm. Harris, P.P.G.D. East Lancs; Alfred Horton, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Wm. Warmley, P.P.S.G.D.; John Wakefield, P.P.G.S.; Edward Furnivall, P.P.G. Std. Br.; Samuel Sherratt, P.P.G.D.C.; George Boothby, P.P.G. Std. Br.; George Holland, P.P.G.D.C.; George McClelland, P.P.J.G.D.; John Nicholson, P.P.A.G.D.C.; T. Lockitt, P.P.S.G.D.; J. Fred May, P.P.G.R.; S. May, P.P.A.G.P.; C. Hordern, P.P.S.G.D.; James Stevens, P.P.G.D.; Thomas D. Foreman, P.P.S.G.D. East Lancs; A. H. Whittaker, P.G.S.; E. Fountain, P.P.G.S.B.; J. Crompton, P.S.G.D.; William Pritchard, E. Russell Taylor, P.A.G.D.C.; Charles S. Brewer, P.S.G.D.; William Williams, P.G.S.B.; C. H. W. Bennett, P.P.G.S.B.; R. Robinson, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; J. Davenport, P.P.A.G.D.C.; W. Whiston, P.P.S.G.W.; A. Walker, P.G.R.; George F. Bird, P.P.A.G. Sec.; Frank Coveney, P.G. Stwd.; Henry Lomas, P.P.G. Supt. of Works; T. Steele Sheldon, P.P.J.G.W.; Wm. Johnson, P.G. Stwd.; John Leigh, P.P.G.P.; Wm. Wood, P.S.G.D.; W. Harrison, P.P.G.S.; James Mobey, P.P.G.S.; Thomas M. Draper, P.G. Stwd.; Seth Flitcroft, P.P.A.G.P.; J. Armstrong, P.P.G.W.; Thomas Winstanley, P.P.G.S.; George F. Bird, P.P.A.G. Sec.; Joseph Clarke, P.P.G.W.; Wm. Hardy, P.P.S.G.W.; J. A. Armstrong, P.P.G.W.; Wm. Cole, P.P.G.O. West Lancs; Joseph Fox, P.P.G.S.; T. W. Markland, P.P.G. Reg.; R. Fidler, P.P.G. Stwd.; A. E. Coveney, P.P.J.G.D.; C. S. Dean, S.G.D. Eng.; Henry Jackson, P.G.W.; N. W. Davies, P.P.G.S.B.; and J. Grant Bird, P.P.G.C.

Among the brethren present were

Bros. Joseph Potts, W.M. 2386; William Taylor, W.M. 1576; Alfred Leech, W.M. 320; T. Hart Davies, Treas. 2386; G. J. Plimmer, I.P.M. 1565; Thos. Nicholson, J.W. 1045; Edward Brooks, Stwd. 323; J. S. Derbyshire, S.W. 1565; Charles Gibson, P.M. 1088; E. S. Haughton, 293; W. Adams, I.P.M. 830; J. T. Boyd, J.D. 267; Benjamin Pownall, I.G. 295; W. Brocklehurst, 295; Thomas Heapy, 295; W. F. Barton, 317; John Rudd, J.W. 2688; G. Metcalfe, Tyler 2688; F. Johnson, 2791; W. S. Hadfield, P.M. 320; George Sykes, P.M. 320; Joseph Slack, S.W. 323; Joshua Preston, P.M. 287; Wm. Barlow, 323; Wm. Severs, W.M. 1565; G. F. Shaw, S.W. 533; C. Campion, S.W. 287; W. Mellor, 267; H. Riley, S.W. 320; W. O. Cailow, P.M. 2657; Edward Dunn, W.M. 322; T. E. Forster, Stwd. 322; John Lakin, Stwd. 322; Chas. A. Swift, J.D. 322; A. Hattersley, 322; Isaac Adshead, Stwd. 322; Robert Sutcliffe, S.W. 322; J. Baron, S.D. 322; J. W. Broadhurst, P.M. 1952; E. Hadley, 336; John Jackson, W.M. 320; H. Cheetham, P.M. 163; William Schofield, 477; H. G. Porter, 1289; Thomas Charlton, 1957; D. Walmsley, I.P.M. 287; G. A. Eyre, J.W. 287; Thomas Leicester, W.M. 428; John Kelly, 428; E. Pritchard, P.M. 428; Edwin Chandley, 287; Thomas H. Dean, 941; Edwin Moreton, W.M. 533; Joseph Gidman, W.M. 941; James Hulme, 941; W. Bennett, J.W. 322; Alex. Saunders, P.M. 477; John Hill Good, Org. 287; Rd. S. Venables, 323; Byron Atkinson, 323; S. Holt Dawson, Stwd. 323; J. Briscoe, 323; J. W. McLaughlin, 322; James Henry Walker, I.P.M. 361; George Naylor, St. John; Alfred A. Stevens, 323; T. R. Burgess, 287; R. L. Bourne, P.M. and Treas. 2368; J. A. Dearden, 361; William Dykes, 1045; Henry Lord, S.W. 2144; J. A. Lord, I.P.M. 2144; J. M. Southam, S.D. 2144; Alfred Barton, 2144; F. E. Baggeley 2144; Edgar Blanter, 323; G. R. Hill, 979; John T. Barnett, 287; Walter E. Crawshaw, 104; Walter Ackroyd, S.D. 104; E. Chorlton, 1166; John H. Laybourne, 721; F. H. Mentha, W.M. 1357; James Rosser, W.M. 1126; H. J. Linaker, W.M. 758; George Bellamy, 758; Geo. J. Critchley, 1161; W. Fielding, P.M. 336; W. Gibson, W.M. 979; J. White, 89, P.P.D.G.D.C.; C. Beardsworth, W.M. 89; W. H. Mundy, S.W. 89; J. B. Illingworth, J.W. 89; A. E. Kinder, 89; T. Cheetham, P.M. 89; J. A. Barlow, P.M. 89; J. N. Noden, 89; A. S. Chew, S.D. 89; H. Rausch, 89; John Moss, 89; W. Roe, P.M. 89; John W. Norris, J.W. 1408; James C. Stockton, 1408; Arthur Cartwright, 295; S. Forrest, 267; E. Edmondson, P.M. and Org. 323; Benj. Fletcher, 323; Wm. Moores, 323; John Bradburne, 295; John Waine, W.M. 336; Frederick T. Maurice, 267; Joseph Grime, I.G. 320; T. Lee, J.D. 320; Peter Davenport, P.M. 295; W. J. Boler, W.M. 1289; J. McLeavy, P.M. 477; J. Ward Dale, 1276; J. R. Nuttall, 320; William Alcock, 322; Edward Briggs, 322; David Jones, 344; George Fairbairn, W.M. 1957; Charles Dawson, P.M. and Treas. 287; G. F. Blatherwick, 322; Robert Taylor, 104; G. Alister, P.M. 1276; Robert Booth, 320; Martin Middleton I.P.M. 336; S. S. Morris, I.P.M. 477; J. Whalley, 323; William Loose, P.M. 645; Samuel Hall, 324; John Marland, P.M. 830, P.P.A.G.P.; George William Healey, W.M. 287; James Alfred Cookson, P.M. and Sec. 287; John Matthews, W.M. 293; John Bebbington, 293; John Plant, P.M. 2389; Fred Gregory, P.M. 461; James Kemp, J.W. 461; James E. Lord, Org. 461; Joshua G. Mills, 2690; J. Taylor Davies, 2690; John Smith, Sec. 2690; Frank A. Lidbury, W.M. 2389; Benjamin C. Bradley, P.M. and Treas. 461; Alfred Huxley, 1045, P.G. Tyler; John Knott, P.M. 323; George J. Hufton, J.D. 323, Sec. 1126; Edward Taylor, W.M. 2690; Harry Binns, P.M. 1088; H. H. Royle, 322; James W. Higginbotham, P.M. and Tyler 1957; P. D. Hayes, P.M. and C.R. 104; T. Johnson, J.W. 1957; D. P. Morgan, W.M. 2609; Edwin Goodwin, 526; J. W. Evason, S.W. 2386; B. Taylor, 320; H. Wheeler Stafford, 336; James A. Birch, 320; L. Buckley, W.M. 324; Aaron Bradbury, 336; W. J. Etches, 320; Arthur Plant, W.M. 295; J. O. Wylde, P.M. 323; D. Holt, P.M. 324; William Gregg, P.M. 2144; Joseph Taylor, Tyler 336; John B. Fields, I.P.M. 322; Enoch Etches, J.W. 336; Joseph B. Duckworth, W.M. 537; Henry E. Osborn, W.M. 1276; J. Andrew, Stwd. 1957; Frank W. Hulme, W.M. 368; Richard Jackson, P.M. and Sec. 368; J. R. Whittaker, 295; Frank Eachus, J.W. 368; Edward L. Bruce, W.M. 2657; Edward Hadley, jun., 336; T. Albiston Daniel, jun., P.M. and Sec. 533; David Hickson, I.G. 533; W. T. Cartledge, 533; G. W. Stephenson, 336; John E. Walker, 361; Andrew Ellor, J.W. 104, 2464; Thomas Granger, 323; R. J. Williams, J.D. 425; Wm. A. Hall, 287; James H. Harrop, 2375; W. Hazlehurst, 2375; F. H. Williams, S.W. 2375; A. Mugeli, 323; Edwin

Okell, I.G. 425; John Mayers, P.M. 1576; C. Barrie Taylor, P.M. 1077 and 323; Alfred Taylor, P.M. 287; P. Chadwick, W.M. 1145; Wm. Darby, P.M. 1276; George Austin, J.W. 2375; John Craft, W.M. 1576; George Foulkes, S.D. 1276; J. H. Holland, 1276; D. A. Francis, S.D. 1276; A. J. Thompson, W.M. 2433; George F. Willis, P.M. 428; J. Brooke, 428; W. W. Lea, Sec. 1289; C. B. Catrall, 1289; Alfred G. Edwards, 1289; Alfred Frith, 267; J. W. Wrigley, W.M. 2688; R. Parry, P.M. 1276; W. E. Thorpe, 1289; Wm. Yates, 2375; W. Peers, 287; Henry Woodhead, W.M. 1408; Robert Stanley, S.W. 1408; J. W. Morrice, W.M. 2667; Arthur Charles Gronno, S.W. 1166; Edwin Hamlett, J.W. 979 and 2799; T. Ernest Leigh, J.W. 2799; J. Lightfoot, J.D. 2799; Prince Lewis, Treas. 2799; J. M. Dean, 2799; John Holford, 2799; J. C. Armitage, P.M.; Charles Higginbotham, P.M. 1957; Robert Brennan, S.W. 979 and 2799; James Hitchen, W.M. 979 and 2799; George Broad, W.M. 533; J. H. Bebbington, W.M. 941; Daniel Guymer, P.M. 633; Hy. Newton, P.M. and Sec. 323; James Chatterton, 1957; Wm. Reid, 1166; John B. Platt, 1957; Thomas Hulme, I.P.M. 1957; Walter Hudson, Stwd. 287; Moses Jackson, 1957; J. T. Leigh, 1957; Andrew Shaw, J.W. 320; J. M. Blackett, J.W. 295; Joseph Walker, Sec. 320; David Hudson, W.M. 320; Samuel John Benford, 1126; W. F. John Timbrell, I.G. 2690; John Clarke, Tyler 287; and J. R. Fletcher, Tyler 104.

The Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened by the Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, the roll of Prov. Grand Officers and the roll of the lodges were called over. Every lodge in the province was represented, the Stockport lodges in particularly pleasing strength.

Letters of apology were read from various brethren unable to take part, after which

The DEPUTY PROV. G.M. moved the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Provincial Grand Lodge held at Chester last year and the subsequent special meetings.

This was carried.

Bro. Col. DEAN, P.P.S.G.W., moved—"That the Prov. G. Treasurer's financial statement be adopted."

This was also carried.

Bro. Col. DEAN moved, Bro. H. JACKSON, seconded, and it was resolved—"That the annual reports of Committees be adopted."

The report of the Committee of Benevolence included the following:—"The Committee beg to state that the funds of the province are in a satisfactory condition, and show an improvement over last year. The amount standing to the credit of the fund is £161 3s. 11½d., of which £40 2s. 6½d. is credited to general purposes, and £121 1s. 5d. to the fund of benevolence. Petitions for relief have been considered by your Committee during the past year, and sums amounting to £60 have been granted from the Prov. Fund of Benevolence, and in addition to this £210 has been received from the R.M.B.I., London, and applied for the benefit of Aged Freemasons in Cheshire."

The Cheshire Masonic Benevolent Institution states: "The Committee of Management desire to thank the brethren of the province for their continued support. The amount of subscriptions to this Institution during the year is £130 os. 6d., and the special appeal for an extra donation of £2 2s. from each lodge has resulted in £81 18s., and the Treasurer reports that he has not received any return from 15 lodges to the appeal, but the Committee hope there will be no delay in such lodges forwarding their donations, as the necessity for their support is urgent in the interest of necessitous brethren and widows."

The 37th Annual Report of the Committee of Management of the Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution states: "The cost of educating and clothing the 47 children now on the books of the Institution during the past year was £424 17s. 1d., which is an increase on the amount expended last year. The income from investments is only £168, and therefore your Committee have to look for the subscriptions and donations from the brethren to meet the difference. Out of the 54 lodges in the province only 34 have sent in any contributions to our funds, and your Committee regret to observe that several of the non-subscribing lodges are drawing considerable sums for the maintenance of children. Your Committee would, therefore, wish to impress upon such lodges that it is their duty to support the Institution, which is rendering them such assistance in clothing and education."

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER proposed a vote of thanks to the Prov. G. Treasurer and the Auditors for their services, eulogising the work which all had rendered to the cause of Freemasonry.

This was seconded by Bro. the Rev. J. GRANT BIRD, P.P.G.C., and carried unanimously.

Bro. PEERS returned thanks, and expressed his gratification with the appreciation shown by the Prov. G. Lodge.

The PROV. G. MASTER moved "That the salary of the Prov. G. Secretary be increased by £25 per annum," and in doing so the noble Earl said the small proposal of increase very inadequately represented his feelings and theirs as to the value of the services that Bro. Newhouse rendered to Freemasonry. He was always constant in his attendance at the lodges, and ready to render aid to whatever branch of the Craft he was invited. His lordship then referred to the increase of lodges in the province during the term of Bro. Newhouse's Secretaryship, and he had no doubt the lodge would unanimously agree to this very little recognition of the work he did.

Bro. Col. DEAN, who spoke as Chairman of the Charities Committee, seconded, and the resolution was heartily carried.

Bro. NEWHOUSE suitably returned thanks.

Before proceeding further with business, the DEP. PROV. G. MASTER said he must take the liberty of intruding with a little special business. It was with regard to the appointment of their Prov. G. Master as Lord Lieutenant of the county in succession to the late Duke of Westminster, and in their name he asked his lordship to accept their warmest congratulations upon that distinguished honour. After a few further remarks of a complimentary character to Earl Egerton and his worth, Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd moved the following resolution: "That this assembly of Grand and Prov. Grand Officers and brethren desire to place on record the hearty appreciation of the choice which her Majesty has made in the new Lord Lieutenant of the county (in succession to the late lamented Duke of Westminster), and that this Prov. G. Lodge offers to Earl Egerton of Tatton, R.W. Prov. G. Master, their sincere congratulations on the high office to which the Queen has been pleased to appoint his lordship. They look upon the dignity conferred as an acknowledgment of the services freely and unstintedly given for the improvement of the intellectual, social, moral, and material prosperity of the country at large, and the county of Chester in particular." He (Bro. H. Lloyd) was quite sure he was expressing the feelings of all present when he said he hoped Earl Egerton would have a long and prosperous term of office.

Bro. Col. DEAN seconded, and said the opportunity of doing so afforded him a real pleasure. They were all honoured by the selection her Majesty had made in the appointment of Earl Egerton to the Lord Lieutenantcy of the county.

Bro. JAMES COOKSON, P.P.S.G.W., supported the resolution, saying they were all highly honoured in the presence of his lordship that day, and they ought to thank T.G.A.O.T.U. that so far they had been favoured with fine weather. On behalf of the Stockport lodges he hoped his lordship would long be spared to enjoy the high honour which her Majesty had conferred upon him.

The resolution was carried in Masonic form, and with ringing cheers.

Earl EGERTON OF TATTON, in his customary address, expressed his thanks for the compliment just paid him. Such an indication of the approval by the Masons of his appointment to the Lord Lieutenantcy was highly gratifying. He flattered himself that he was known to his brother Masons, and their approval was, therefore, doubly grateful and acceptable to him. He would endeavour to carry out the important duties of Lord Lieutenant of that large and populous county impartially and to the best of his ability, and he felt sure that he would be supported by all those who held office and who administered justice in the county as well as he had been by the brethren during his long tenure of office as Provincial Grand Master. He specially thanked the Stockport brethren for their kind welcome and their congratulations. His family had been for many years connected with a part of Stockport, and therefore it was particularly gratifying to find that his appointment was equally as acceptable in Stockport as it appeared to be in other parts of the county. (Hear, hear.) He, in turn, congratulated the brethren upon their large attendance of between 500 and 600 on that occasion, at a time of the year that many people chose for their holidays. It showed their interest in Provincial Grand Lodge. Masonry was still prospering. It was progressing, not by the leaps and bounds that some people wished to see, but in a steady way, such as during the last 13 or 14 years had given satisfaction to him, and in a way which, he trusted, would be satisfactory to the brethren. (Hear, hear.) About the time when he was appointed over the province there were 40 lodges and 1623 members in the province; now there were 54 lodges and one to be consecrated during the month, and an increase of 1106, namely, 2729 members. (Applause.) The province was well managed and well-officered, and the principles of Masonry were extending in the province. Last year he (Earl Egerton) suggested that subscriptions should be given to hospitals or convalescent homes by the Committee of Benevolence, so as to enable the province to send brethren to such institutions who were in need of their help. He did not know that the Committee had yet acted upon the suggestion or put forward means of carrying it out. He trusted there had been no immediate need for such form of assistance during the year. He would like to press the suggestion, and if the Committee of Benevolence would undertake to recommend what would be the best way of carrying it out, either by annual subscription or a lump sum in succession to different hospitals, he should be very happy as soon as they presented any scheme to him to give it his warm and pecuniary support. (Hear, hear.) In connection with the subject of benevolence, he mentioned that they, like all her Majesty's subjects, had given largely to various funds relating to the war and the Indian famine, and, further, that they had cheerfully responded to the special appeal of their Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on behalf of their distressed brethren in South Africa. From Cheshire they sent £150 to that special fund, which he regarded as one eminently worthy of support. He had received a communication regarding the appointment of Provincial Grand Officers, and in reply to this, he desired to say that it had been his practice to give every lodge in its turn representation in the Provincial Grand Lodge, and the practice was adhered to this year. But it must be remembered that they had now a large number of lodges, and that it was impossible for every lodge to receive honours in one year, or probably more frequently than once in three years. Happily, their number of Provincial Grand Officers had been somewhat increased recently, and they had more than was the case in many provinces. It was a satisfaction to him that Masonry had been a living engine for good in the province, and that the principles of Masonry with regard to benevolence had been carried out to a larger extent than before, and had shown to the outer world that, although Masonry was clothed in symbolism and ancient form, its moving spirit was for the benefit of the people at large, as well as for the Masons themselves. Yet although he looked back with satisfaction upon the progress of Masonry in the province, he felt that the time had come when his work should devolve upon someone with more leisure than he (Earl Egerton) had at present, and who was better able than he was to undertake it. He contemplated retirement from the office which he had held now practically for 15 years, ever since the lamented illness of the late Lord de Tabley prevented him from continuing the active performance of the duties of Prov. Grand Master. Other responsible duties of a different character which had just been placed upon him (Earl Egerton) would prevent him from giving the time which he had hitherto been able and willing to give to Masonry in the province, and he had come to the conclusion, after a good deal of hesitation and pain to himself, that he ought to place his resignation in the hands of the Grand Master. It had always been his practice in life never to undertake anything which he could not do thoroughly. One of the secrets of success lay in knowing what you could and what you could not do, and as, besides the new office to which allusion had already been made, he had undertaken a task, placed upon him by the Government, of conducting an important inquiry, which would occupy all his thoughts for some time to come, he had been led to the conclusion that he had announced. But, although he would not be able to take an active part in Masonry as he had hitherto done, Masonry would always have his constant and willing support, and he would be ever ready to help forward its benevolent institutions with which he had been associated. (Cheers.)

The DEP. PROV. G. MASTER said he could not tell which was his (Judge Lloyd's) predominant feeling, surprise or regret, that his lordship had come to such a conclusion. They appreciated the reasons that the Provincial Grand Master had placed before them, and he knew that his lordship had acted with much deliberation and thoughtfulness, but his (Judge Lloyd's) first impulse was to ask the brethren to join him in requesting his lordship to stay his hand for a time and re-consider his determination when the labours of the Royal Commission of which Earl Egerton was chairman was over. He would have the indulgence of the Masons of Chester during that time, and much would not be expected from him. There were small duties which he (Sir H. Lloyd) and others could do, and they would be most anxious and willing to relieve him of any of those duties which they could undertake. (Hear, hear.) At least, he hoped that Earl Egerton would not send in his resignation hastily, but would give them an oppor-

tunity of thinking it over, and ascertaining whether they could not, in spite of those extra labours which had been so wisely put upon him, make the office of Provincial Grand Master comfortable for him in the future. (Applause.) Let them ask their Provincial Grand Master to give them a little notice. They did not like summary evictions, and would be glad of, at least, 12 months' notice. (Applause.)

Bro. GEE, 830, who described himself as a Cheshire lad and a Cheshire Mason, said he remembered when their Prov. G.M. was installed Junior Warden of Provincial Grand Lodge. He was then known to them as the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, and he had watched his lordship's career with keen interest. He joined earnestly in the appeal that Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd had made to his lordship to reconsider his decision, being convinced with their Dep. Prov. Grand Master that Earl Egerton, as Prov. G. Master of Cheshire, was "the right man in the right place."

The next business was the election of Prov. Grand Treasurer. and in felicitous terms, Bro. GEO. R. BRADY moved the appointment of Bro. Harry Howard Royle. Bro. Royle, he said, was initiated in 1883, and passed on to the chair in 1887, and for the last seven years he had discharged the office of Treasurer to the lodge with fidelity and zeal. He was a good Mason and a sympathetic supporter of all its Charities.

Bro. WM. WOOD, P.J.G.D., seconded the appointment, and, he too, referred to the many appropriate qualities Bro. Royle possessed for the office. He was a man of the strictest integrity, and he would do the office credit.

Bro. JAMES COOKSON, P.P.G.W., also emphasised the many qualities that Bro. H. H. Royle possessed as fitting him specially for the position to which he had been nominated, and he might tell the lodge that the Reception Committee had unanimously agreed that Bro. Royle's appointment was to be recommended.

Bro. Brady's resolution was carried unanimously, and

Bro. ROYLE returned thanks for the honour conferred. He would do his best to discharge the duties as faithfully as any brother who had preceded him.

The Provincial Grand Master appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Bro. his Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd	...	D.P.G.M.
" J. Fred May, 207	...	Prov. S.G.W.
" W. Booth, 104	...	Prov. J.G.W.
" Rev. F. H. Mentha, 1357	...	Prov. G. Chaps.
" J. B. Sayer, 2657	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" H. H. Royle, 322	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" H. Taylor, 425	...	Prov. G. Sec.
" R. Newhouse (re-appointed)	...	Prov. S.G.Ds.
" J. R. R. Jeffrey, 321	...	Prov. J.G.Ds.
" W. Wood, 323	...	Prov. G.S. of Wks.
" B. C. Bradley, 461	...	Prov. G.D.C.
" E. Taylor, 2690	...	Prov. D.G.D.C.
" F. J. Duck, 2386	...	Prov. A.G.D. of Cs.
" H. Gordon Small, 2368 (re-appointed)	...	Prov. G.S.B.
" T. H. Davies, 2607	...	Prov. G. Std. Brs.
" C. W. Phillips, 758	...	Prov. Asst. G. Sec.
" J. T. Catlow, 1088	...	Prov. G. Org.
" Richard Parry, 1276	...	Prov. G. Purs.
" J. H. Whiteley, 293	...	Prov. A.G. Purs.
" A. Saunders, 477	...	Prov. G. Stwds.
" A. Frith, 267	...	Prov. G. Tyler.
" J. Ferguson, 1045	...	
" G. W. Bebbington, 941	...	
" J. Plant, 2389	...	
" W. Gregg, 2144	...	
" H. Greenhalgh, 111	...	
" W. Johnson, 323	...	
" J. Winter, 1957	...	
" T. Johnson, 104	...	
" F. Clarke, 322	...	
" G. W. Henley, 287	...	
" A. Huxley, 1045	...	

Bros. George Ibeson, James Cookson, Peter Davies, and J. W. Byson were elected Auditors for the ensuing year.

Bro. DAVIES returned thanks, and said the duty was always a pleasurable one, but he notified their new Prov. G. Treasurer that unless he was quite up to the mark at the year's end he would have a bad half hour with the Auditors. (Loud laughter, in which Earl Egerton heartily joined.)

A cordial vote of thanks was extended to Bro. Benson for his services as Representative of the Charity Board on the Boys' School Committee.

On the motion of the Prov. G. MASTER, it was decided to record and to transmit a vote of condolence from the Prov. G. Lodge to H.R.H. the G. Master of England. He could but very inadequately express the regrets that he was sure every Freemason in England felt that sorrow and death intruded into the Royal Family, and he had no doubt of the intensity of sympathy that was realised in that Prov. G. Lodge with his Royal Highness in his bereavement.

Bro. HORATIO LLOYD seconded the resolution, which was carried with significant feeling.

Two brethren from Runcorn gave the Prov. G. Lodge a cordial invitation to hold its next annual "conference" in that town, assuring the brethren of a cordial reception.

Bro. Col. DEAN said he was sorry to appear to throw the slightest discord into that happy and harmonious gathering. But he had to invite the Prov. G. Lodge to the Hoylake and West Kirby district next year. That honour had never yet been extended to the West Kirby district, and it was only under pressure that the brethren there held their hand last year in order that Stockport might have the honour this year. Col. Dean gave cogent reasons why the Hoylake district should have the preference next year.

Bro. KELLET-SMITH, another Prov. G. Officer, supported Bro. Dean's appeal, whereupon the Runcorn brethren withdrew their "application."

The Prov. G. MASTER then said he had pleasure in stating that the next Prov. G. Lodge would be held at West Kirby.

The West Kirby brethren hailed the announcement with cheers.

Bro. Sir HORATIO LLOYD moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar of St. George's for the use of the church, and said the pleasure in moving the vote was enhanced because his great grandfather was for many years rector of one of the churches in Stockport.

The vote was carried, and this concluded the business of the lodge, which was closed by the Prov. G. Master.

The brethren were then formed in order by the Prov. G.D. of C., Bro. Small, for procession to the church, their appearance in full regalia of the richest character being nothing less than attractively imposing. The Volume of the Sacred Law on cushion was borne by Harold Hayes, Anthony Burgess, Norman Harrow Newton, and George Fairbairn, and each of these boys (distinguished by the appellation of Lewis's) was presented by Earl Egerton with a copy of the Bible in beautiful case. The Mayor of Stockport (Councillor T. Webb) accompanied the brethren to the church.

The service in St. George's Church, which was well attended, was of a bright and interesting character. A special form of evensong was used, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Bro. George William Bebbington, Prov. G. Org., who was assisted by the choir of the church. The processional hymn was "Praise to the Holiest in the height," the hymn before the sermon "O Lord, how joyful 'tis to see," and that after the sermon "O Lord of Heaven." The anthem was Sir John Stainer's "I am Alpha and Omega," and a most effective solo was rendered by a treble voice.

Bro. the Rev. F. H. MENTHA delivered the following discourse from the text—

"For none of us liveth to himself."—Romans, xiv., 7.

These words form one of those frequent sayings which strike us from time to time in the Holy Scriptures, to startle us with their anticipation of what we sometimes think the enlightened conclusions of modern thoughts, to remind us, if we will accept their suggestion, that notwithstanding the intellectual and moral progress of to-day whatever we have of things that are true, and pure, and of good report, these things are given us from above. For when we engage, formally or informally, in that most interesting of all human studies, the study of ourselves, *i.e.*, the study of man, the study of human nature, we recognise that it is not enough to confine our attention to the individual with his faculties and powers, intellect, emotion, will, our study is incomplete if we isolate man from his fellows, unless we consider him in his relation with others, acting upon them, and acted upon by them; we have to study not only man the individual, but man the member of society, to use language with which every newspaper reader is familiar, we pass from the individualist to the collectivist standpoint. This is the point of view of modern science, and I say it is a striking fact that it is after all no way in advance of the point of view adopted 19 centuries ago by an inspired apostle, and contained in the words of my text, "None of us liveth to himself." This, then, is not merely a luminous suggestion, dependent for its acceptance on religious faith, but one of those great declarations of science which we call natural laws, and which appeal to experience for an attestation of their truth. "None of us liveth to himself." It is inevitable; you cannot escape from it. The slightest reflection shows you how we all depend one upon another; in trade, the consumer upon the distributor and the manufacturer, the manufacturer upon the workman; the skilled labourer upon the producer of the raw material; in our home life it is the same, we are all dependent on the service, on the good feeling, on the sense of duty one of another. Nay, take the man who will unblushingly confess to you that his whole aim in life is success in business, the acquisition of wealth by whatever means the law allows; even he must influence the life of the world. Through him national interests are served; the commerce he promotes feeds the hungry and clothes the naked, and serves to advance the general well-being of the world. The profligate, the drunkard, live not to themselves, but in the lower sense of the words not in the higher; in the evil they work, in the ruined home, in children destined to hand on to future generations the tainted blood, the weakened brain of the victim of excess. So likewise in the moral sphere, the power of personal influence, the power of example for good or evil, whether it be in the wide arena of public life, in the more restricted activity of the house of business or the club, or in the quiet circle of domestic life, these teach us with unmistakable accuracy that for weal or woe, for better or worse, whether we evade or accept the responsibility, "None of us liveth to himself." No man of reverent mind can recognise the existence of this law, can feel himself the possessor of this power without the added consciousness of responsibility as to its righteous and proper exercise. The wisest, the best, the most honoured, the most useful are those who feel this responsibility the most keenly. It is thus we find men of wealth and rank the most illustrious in the land renounce a life of luxurious ease to serve their country, on the battlefield, in Parliament, on the platform in the committee, in connection room, with the multifarious agencies, whose aim is to make the lives of other men happier and better. And surely on none can this sense of responsibility be more fittingly impressed than upon ourselves, upon us who have been solemnly associated in mutual fellowship and brotherhood. Surely the fundamental basis of Masonry is the thought that none of us liveth to himself. We proclaim it by our corporate action in the foundation and maintenance of scholastic and other benevolent institutions, managed as they are by the unpaid and devoted services of members of our Craft, evidence that the main object of our efforts is the welfare of others, the satisfaction of the claims of benevolence and charity. They are unworthy Masons, and I trust and believe very few in number, whose membership is connected with any thought of personal advantage or gratification. And let us remember, brethren, that if Masonry is to flourish and abound, and to continue to merit the respect of all men whose respect is worth having, it can only be because we continue to cherish the thought that we live, not each to himself, but to others; we must make it plain to our brethren first by habitual courtesy and graciousness of demeanour, and this no mere conventional politeness, but the outward sign of sympathy, ever ready and sincere with all members of the Craft, whatever position in the social scale, showing that the bond of Brotherhood is no mere figure of speech, but an inward reality to the mind of each one of us—by open-handed generosity according to the means with which the providence of God has blessed us, to every worthy object and every needy and deserving brother, or those depending on him—by gravity and seriousness of speech and action in all that concerns transactions of the Craft, lest our example may lead others to think lightly of its privileges and its obligations. In the second place we must make the outside world recognise that Masonry widens rather than narrows our sympathies and our sense of duty by a strict discharge of the obligations of citizenship, an observance of the ties of the home and family, an unselfish willingness to help those who need and claim our service not less but more scrupulous than before, so that when anyone is said to be a Mason the world may know that he is one to whom the burdened heart may pour forth its sorrows, to whom the distressed may prefer their suit, whose heart is guided by justice, and whose hand is extended by benevolence. While this is our ideal and our aim, we may pursue our course in our Order and as individuals in firm and unbroken confidence that our work will be blessed from on high to the welfare of man and the glory of Almighty God.

A collection was made on behalf of the Provincial Fund of Benevolence and the Stockport Infirmary.

In the evening the customary banquet (catered for in excellent style by Mr. Hampshire, of the Warren Bulkeley Arms Hotel) was held in the Volunteer Armoury, which had been tastefully decorated by Messrs. Jepson and Co. for the occasion.

The Deputy Prov. G.M. presided, and the following toast list was duly honoured:

"Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen;" "H.R.H. the Princess of

Wales and the rest of the Royal Family; "The M.W.G.M. of England, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Earl of Chester, &c.; "The M.W. Pro G.M., the Right Hon. Earl Amherst; the R.W. Deputy G.M., the Right Hon. Earl of Warwick; and the rest of the G. Officers, Present and Past; "The Right Hon. Earl Egerton of Tatton, of the County Palatine of Chester, and Viscount Salford, of the County Palatine of Lancaster, R.W. Prov. G.M. of Cheshire, &c.; "The W. Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. his Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd, and the rest of the Prov. Grand Officers, Present and Past; "The Visiting Brethren" (responded to by Bros. W. Goldthorpe, P.P.G. Reg. Lancashire, the Mayor of Stockport, and G. L. Vaughan); "The Sister Lodges of Stockport; "The Masonic Charities; "and "All Poor and Distressed Masons."

Songs were given by Bros. Pritchard, Bebbington, and Todd. The 4th V.B.C.R. band was also in attendance and gave selections.

The whole of the proceedings passed off in a most satisfactory manner, and the Committee having charge of the arrangements—Bros. J. Cookson, as Chairman; W. Walmsley, as Vice-Chairman; Wm. Slack, W. Booth, and P. D. Hayes, Sec.—are to be congratulated upon the success with which they were carried out.

Craft Masonry.

Era Lodge, No. 1423.

The above lodge held their 139th meeting at the Albany Hotel, Twickenham, on Saturday, the 11th instant, when there were present Bros. D. Hart Davies, W.M.; Anderson, P.M., acting S.W.; J. Wheatley, P.M., J.W.; Peckham, I.P.M.; Saunton, P.M., S.D. and D. of C.; Tallack, P.M., J.D.; Dowling, I.G.; J. Beresford, P.M., P.G.W. Herts, P.P.G.D. Middx., Treas.; Wingate, P.M., P.P.G. Reg. Middx., Sec.; Tallack, P.P.A.G.D.C.; H. T. Tallack, P.A.G.D.C.; Anning, Asst. D. of C.; F. G. Mitchell, Tyler; Enever, Conway, Skelding, and Stiles. Bro. Botley, P.M., 1996, was present as a visitor.

After the lodge had been opened, and the minutes read and confirmed, the Deputy Prov. G.M., Bro. Rear-Admiral William H. C. St. Clair, P.G.D., accompanied by Bro. H. F. Bing, P.M., P.P.G.D., P.G. Sec., entered the lodge, and were saluted in due form. This was one of the first lodges visited by them in the province. Bro. Stiles was then raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M., the traditional history being declaimed. The charges were ably given by Bros. Saunton, P.M., and Ryley, P.M. The W.M. made some severe comments on the absence of several of the officers without excuse and without having requested a Past Master to undertake their duties, and the Secretary was directed to write the absentees on the subject.

The lodge being closed, the brethren adjourned to the banquet, when the speeches in reply to various toasts, made by the Dep. P.G.M., the P.G. Secretary, Bro. Elliott, P.M., and others, were exceptionally worthy of the attention they received. Bro. Anning enlivened the evening with some of his amusing recitations.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

A regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Rawson-square, Bradford, on Thursday, the 2nd instant. Bro. R. S. Hird, W.M., presided. Owing to the holiday season, several of the officers were absent, but efficient substitutes supplied their places. Among those present were Bros. J. B. Fearnley, I.P.M.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Sec.; A. Stephenson, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C.; John Morton, P.M.; John W. Bland, as J.W.; T. P. Sykes, as S.W.; W. S. Smith, as S.D.; R. B. Nicholls, J.D.; W. H. Townend, as I.G.; J. S. Cooper, Tyler; T. H. Bedford, J. Lee, J. L. Turner, W. Sykes, W. Durrance, H. W. Whitley, and R. F. Crow. Visitors: Bros. Griff E. Jones, P.M. and Sec. 220; J. Tiley, I.P.M. 2669; T. H. Earnshaw, Org. 2669; and T. Walsh, 115 (Victorian Constitution, Australia).

After the lodge had been opened, and the minutes of the previous meeting read and approved, the ballot was taken for Mr. A. E. Edwards, Mus. Bac., F.R.C.O., and proving in his favour, he was duly initiated by Bro. Bailey, P.M., Treas., the working tools being explained by Bro. Bland, acting J.W., and the charge given by Bro. Sykes, acting S.W. Bro. Richard Crow was also passed to the Second Degree by the W.M., the working tools being explained by Bro. Bland, and the charge delivered by Bro. Fearnley, I.P.M. The Audit Committee was appointed for auditing the Treasurer's accounts for the current year. A candidate was proposed (due notice having been previously given) for initiation at a future meeting, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors, the lodge was closed.

The brethren afterwards dined together, and spent a pleasant social evening.

Obituary.

ILL. BRO. J. W. SMITH, 33°, P.M.W.G.M. ALL SCOTTISH FREEMASONRY IN INDIA.

(T. of L., 23, vii., 1900.)

The Masonic career of the deceased has been described in the following terms in the *Indian Freemason*: "This eminent F.M. was initiated in the Lewis Lodge, Ramsgate, in April, 1871. He came out to India in 1877, and, shortly after, joined Lodge St. George, No. 549 (E.C.), Bombay. In 1879 he was elected to the E. chair, which office he filled for two years. The following year (1882) he became W.M. of Lodge Hiram, No. 1784 (E.C.), a P.M.'s lodge. In 1881 he was appointed D.G. Warden of Bombay, and in 1882 was recipient of a

still greater honour in being invested as Dep. Dist. Grand Master, a position he held for two years. Bro. Smith was affiliated by Lodge Caledonia, No. 430 (S.C.), in August, 1888, and the next year joined Lodge Perseverance, No. 351 (S.C.), of which lodge he became R.W.M. the following year. The qualities our worthy brother had displayed during his period of service in the E.C. were not long in receiving recognition in Scottish Freemasonry, for we find him appointed G.M. Depute in 1890, and on the death of Capt. Sir Henry Morland, G.M., A.S.F.I., in 1891, he was chosen by the G.L. of Scotland to succeed him. As may be well understood, so energetic and enthusiastic a brother in Craft Freemasonry could scarcely fail to take an interest in other Degrees. He appeared to have lost no time in taking the Mark and Royal Arch, the former event occurring in October, 1871, in Lodge Holmesdale, No. 129, and the latter in July, 1872, in Chapter Thanet, No. 429. The same year he was elevated to the Degree of Ark Mariner in the Kent Lodge, London. He was Master of Mark Lodge Holmesdale in 1875-76. He subsequently joined Lodge Holmesdale in the East, No. 72, Bombay, and was Prov. and District Grand Mark Master of that district from 1881-1888. In January, 1892, he was affiliated by the Ararat Lodge, attached to Chapter Perseverance, No. 71 (S.C.), and was installed as Master in September of the same year. Reverting to the R.A. Degree, he joined Chapter Keystone, No. 757, Bombay, and became its First Principal in 1883. In July, 1889, he had the honour of installing R.W. Bro. H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Dist. Grand Master of Bombay, as J., H., and Z., of the same chapter, and was in turn appointed Deputy Z. by our Royal brother. In 1891, he joined Chapter Perseverance, 71 (S.C.), becoming Z. of the same in September of that year. In June, 1892, he was appointed Dep. P.G. Superintendent of R.A. Masons for Western India under the S.C. His connection with the Allied Degrees dates from May, 1874, when he was admitted to the Degrees of M.E. Master and Royal Select and Super Excellent Master in the Macdonald Council, No. 3 (E.C.). He was installed a Knight of Rome, and the Red Cross of Constantine in the Shirland Conclave, No. 92, in July, 1875. From the note before us, his connection with the Degrees in India commences in August, 1891, when he was received as E.M. in Chapter Perseverance, 71 (S.C.). In January of the following year he was installed a Knight of the Red Cross of Babylon in the council attached to that chapter, and was elected and installed Royal Grand Sovereign and Chief of the same council in the succeeding September. In the A. and A. Rite Bro. Smith's experience spread over a period of 14 years, having been perfected in Bombay Chapter, 18, under the Supreme Grand Council for England in July, 1880. He was installed M.W.S. of the chapter in February, 1882, receiving the 30° in May of the same year, and in October, 1884, the 31°. He was affiliated by St. John's Chapter, No. 3, under Scotland, and by the consistory of W.I., 30°, in March, 1892. He received the 32° in the following May, and in February, 1893, was appointed Sov. G.I. Gen. for India, 33°. Retracing our steps to 1883, we find him installed a Knight of the R.S.Y.C.S., Royal Order of Scotland, in the Prov. Grand Lodge of Western India. He was Dep. Prov. G.M. of the Order in Western India from January, 1885, to January, 1892, when he was appointed Prov. G.M. In some of the Degrees mentioned, Bro. Smith could claim a connection of a good number of years, in others the position of a veteran. He was, however, comparatively young in the Order of the Temple, having been installed a Knight Templar as recently as 1890, in St. Andrew's Priory (S.C.), Bombay. In September, 1891, he became a Prior of the same, in March, 1893, a Knight Companion, and the following month a Knight Commander. As will be readily acknowledged, M.W. Bro. Smith's Masonic career forms a remarkable instance of untiring energy and zeal. His acquaintance with the laws and usages of Masonry was very extensive, and this, added to a cordial and urbane disposition, eminently fitted him for the high position he had attained in every branch of the Order."

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There are some stirring war pictures by R. Caton Woodville now exhibited at the above Galleries. The first is "My Brave Irish," the sympathetic words used by our gracious Queen, who telegraphed to Sir Redvers Buller her deepest concern for the losses they had sustained at Pieter's Hill in South Africa. The second picture is "The Dawn of Majuba Day, 1900," Paardeberg. Cronje hoists the white flag. The third, perhaps the most stirring, is entitled "A Chip of the Old Block"—Charge of C Squadron, 5th Lancers, at the Battle of Elands-Lagte. In the limited space we have at our command it would be impossible for us to enter into full details of the masterly treatment shown in these remarkable pictures, which enhance the growing fame of the distinguished artist. We would refer visitors to the well-written pamphlet which is given them when they enter. We must confine ourselves to a few general observations. The first impression is that the pictures are full of life and action, the scenes represented seem to be in actual, present, existence, and at once appeal to our sympathy. As an instance, in "My Brave Irish," we may note a soldier bounding over a wall, the action is so natural that he appears to be leaping out of the picture. In "The Dawn of Majuba Day, 1900," there is a poetic treatment which is most appropriate. "Above the battle field, and all its mingled confusion of dying and dead, flame and smoke, rises the peaceful sky of early morning. A few faint stars are still visible in the clear ether, but their radiance is paling." What a striking contrast is here shown. In "A Chip of the Old Block," the central figure in the foreground is the boy trumpeter, Shurlock, who heading the C squadron of Lancers, with his revolver has made several of the Boers to bite the dust. Observe the dash of the powerful charger. We heartily commend these three pictures to the notice of patriotic English people, the appeal to their loyal national feeling will, we are sure, not be in vain.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1900.

Masonic Notes.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland makes a point of showing its appreciation of the services rendered to it by the distinguished brethren who successively occupy the chair of Grand Master. Accordingly, prior to the meeting held on the 2nd instant, a number of members assembled in the board room at Freemasons' Hall for the purpose of presenting Lady Saltoun with a bust of her husband in token of the Craft's appreciation of Lord Saltoun's services as Grand Master Mason during the preceding three years. The presentation was made by Bro. the Hon. James Hozier, M.P., the present Grand Master, in a graceful speech, in which he referred not only to the uniform kindness and courtesy as well as ability which his lordship had exhibited while occupying the chair of Grand Lodge, but also to the very great sympathy and support he had received from

Lady Saltoun in the discharge of his duties. The bust, of which a replica will be placed in Freemasons' Hall, having been unveiled, Lord Saltoun, on behalf of his wife, acknowledged the gift. Subsequently, Lord and Lady Saltoun entertained the brethren at luncheon and with this and several rounds of hearty cheers for "Lord and Lady Saltoun and their fireside," the pleasant little function came to an end.

There never has been, never can have been, any doubt as to the strength of the position which Freemasonry holds in the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Even if our brethren in this part of the country were less enthusiastic in their support of Masonry and its institutions, any indifference on their part would be overborne by the enthusiasm of Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., than whom no more sincere and fervent Mason is to be found in England, and who for more than 30 years has ruled his Province with such brilliant success. Hence it is not surprising that at the recent annual meeting of the Prov. Grand Lodge all the reports that were submitted—should have been of the most satisfactory nature, and all the speeches that were delivered instinct with gratitude to the chief for the progress that has been made under his auspices. The Prov. Grand Secretary reported the total membership of the Province at 3917, and as the number of lodges on the roll stands, as last year, at 48, the average number per lodge is slightly in excess of 81. The Prov. Grand Treasurer's accounts were also most encouraging, the balance in hand being within a fraction of £1670, and showing that the duties of the Treasurer could not be in better hands than those of Bro. J. W. Gieve, who has held the office for a long term of years, and had the honour of being re-elected.

One drawback there was from the general satisfaction that characterised the meeting, and this was due to the sorrow felt for the loss of Bro. Richard Eve, Past G. Treasurer of England, who had been connected with the Province for well-nigh 30 years, and during all that time had never missed an opportunity of doing what he could to promote the interests of Masonry both in the Province and generally. In proposing that a record of regret at the death of Bro. Eve should be entered on the minutes of their proceedings, the Provincial Grand Master referred to Bro. Eve's services, more particularly in connection with the Boys' School, of whose Board of Management he had been the Chairman since its formation, and expressed his fears that it was his zeal for that Institution which had cost him his life, Bro. Eve having risen from a sick bed in order to be present at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new School at Bushey by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Past Grand Master. It is needless to say that the motion, which was seconded by Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D., P.D.P.G.M., was adopted *nem. con.* in silence, the brethren present being all upstanding.

With this solitary exception, the proceedings at this annual meeting were most gratifying, and the day terminated with a conversazione at the Town Hall, to which Bro. H. R. Pink, the Mayor of Portsmouth, who is W.M. of the United Brothers Lodge, No. 1069, and had the honour of being appointed Prov. Senior Grand Warden, invited the brethren in the evening.

It will be seen from our report of the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire at Stockport, on the 8th instant, that our announcement as to the contemplated retirement of Earl Egerton of Tatton from the office of Provincial Grand Master which he has held with such dignity and so greatly to the well being of Cheshire Masonry for the last 14 years, was correct. In acknowledging the congratulations of the brethren on his appointment to the Lord-Lieutenancy of Cheshire in succession to the late Duke of Westminster, his lordship said that in consequence of that appointment and the other pressing duties now devolving upon him, he felt it incumbent upon him to tender his resignation as their Provincial Grand Master to his Royal Highness the M.W. Grand Master. He held it to be his bounden duty, he said, to do thoroughly and to the best of his ability whatever task he undertook, and he would no longer have the time and the leisure to bestow that attention upon Masonry which it deserved.

The announcement appears to have come upon the brethren somewhat as a surprise, and we feel confident that the Deputy—Bro. Sir Horatio Lloyd, P.G.D.—and Bros. Col. Dean and Gee correctly interpreted the

mind of the Province when they earnestly invited his lordship to reconsider his decision, and retain office for some time longer. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master, in particular, pointed out that it would be easy for him and the other executive officers of the Province so to arrange business matters as to render unnecessary any serious demand upon his lordship's time. Whether the appeal, by which Lord Egerton must have been greatly touched, will prove successful, remains to be seen; but there can be no doubt that his lordship's retention of office will be a benefit to Cheshire, which has already so greatly prospered under his rule.

A regular Quarterly Communication of the Dist. Grand Lodge of Canterbury (N.Z.), was held at the St. Augustine Masonic Hall, Christchurch, on the 19th April. Bro. Rich. Dunn Thomas, Dist. Grand Master presided, and five out of the eight lodges on the roll were represented. It was unanimously resolved that the congratulations of the Dist. Grand Lodge should be forwarded through the G. Secretary to the Prince of Wales, M.W.G.M., on his providential escape from assassination. It was also recommended that the Board of Benevolence should vote a sum of money to the South African Masonic Relief Fund, and when District Grand Lodge had closed, the Board met and voted a donation of 10 guineas. The balance on the General Fund was declared to be close on £60, with £225 on fixed deposit; while that on the Fund of Benevolence was £39, with £350 on fixed deposit. Letters of condolence were ordered to be sent to the widow and the Grand Lodge of New Zealand on the loss which they had severally sustained through the death of Bro. J. J. M. Hamilton, Grand Superintendent of the Canterbury District under the New Zealand Constitution.

The South African Masonic Relief Fund appears to be making slow, but steady, progress, and now amounts to upwards of £9000. Among the late noteworthy amounts which have found places in our weekly lists are 20 guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex and a like amount from that of Berkshire; 100 guineas from the District Grand Lodge of Queensland; 50 guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge of West Lancashire; several sums from the Provincial Grand Lodge and sundry of the private lodges in Gloucestershire, amounting together to £52 17s.; 25 guineas from the St. Nicholas Lodge, No. 1676, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; 50 guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Somersetshire; £28 6s. 6d. from the Phoenix Lodge of Namaqualand, No. 2082; £50 from the Zetland Lodge, No. 525, Hong Kong; 20 guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex; £20 from Adam's Peak Lodge, No. 2656, Ceylon; 10 guineas from the District Grand Lodge of Auckland (N.Z.); £110 14s. 7d. from the District Grand Master, the District Grand Lodge, Grand Chapter, and Grand Mark Lodge, and sundry private lodges in the Punjab; 34 guineas from members of the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712 (second list); and 10 guineas from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Norfolk. The contributions we have specified show that the Fund is being well supported throughout the jurisdiction of United Grand Lodge.

We learn from the statistics referred to by Grand Master Malone in his address at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of Canada (Province of Ontario) that during the past year the number of lodge subscribing members has increased from 24,957 in June, 1899, to 26,195 at the present time, the net increase being 1238. The funds also are in a stable position, the total of invested capital and cash balance at bank being 96,287 dollars, of which 80,405 dollars stand to the credit of the General Fund, and 16,082 dollars to the Asylum Fund. We are also told that during the same period nearly 26,000 dollars were dispensed in relief of deserving brethren, widows, and orphans, of which 14,085 dollars were paid by Grand Lodge, and 11,901 dollars by private lodges. These statements are most creditable to the brethren in this Province of the Dominion.

It has long been known that in New South Wales Royal Arch Masonry has been divided against itself. On the one hand, we have the Supreme Grand Chapter which appears to have been formed by the chapters attached to the lodges holding under the Grand Lodge of England prior to the formation of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. On the other hand, there is the Provincial Grand Chapter holding under the Grand Chapter of Scotland, the private chapters constituting which appear to have declined to have anything to do with establishing the Colonial Supreme Grand Chapter. Those who take an interest in these matters will find a long account of the origin and development of the dispute between the two bodies in the May issue of the *Freemasons' Chronicle of Australasia*. Though there are undoubtedly one or two points which cannot be arranged off-hand, we do not, after reading the account carefully, and bearing in mind that it does not give the whole of the circumstances as seen through English and Scottish R.A. spectacles respectively, consider there is any just cause or impediment why a settlement that shall be honourable to both parties, should not be arrived at. We certainly hope the day is not far distant when R.A. Masonry, like Craft Masonry, in the Colony will be constituted as a united body.

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—the discussion.

ERASURE OF WARRANTS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

The writer of the series of able and interesting articles now appearing in the *Freemason*, when he says "the usual plan is to return the warrants to the Grand Secretary, by whom they are cancelled," seems to be unaware of a very important fact.

At the present time there are between 200 and 300 English warrants in Australia and Tasmania that have never been returned to the Grand Lodge that issued them.

On the contrary, when the several Grand Lodges were constituted, these warrants were irregularly and unconstitutionally dealt with by the officials of the new Grand Lodges in South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania.

Thank goodness a procedure of this nature is now impossible, and, therefore, the rights and privileges of minorities are thoroughly safeguarded, which they certainly were not in the days that I refer to.—Fraternally yours,

W. F. LAMONBY.

August 11th.

ENGLISH MASONRY IN PARIS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I, through your columns, remind any brethren visiting Paris that the Anglo-Saxon Lodge—the only English-speaking lodge in that city—meets on the first Saturday in each month at No. 42, rue Rochecouart. The lodge opens at 8, and the brethren are prepared to extend the heartiest of welcomes to English Masons visiting Paris on pleasure or business. Thanking you in anticipation.—Yours faithfully and fraternally,

GEO. R. HAINES.

Gladesmuir, East Sheen, S.W.

August 13th.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have read with much interest the correspondence which has appeared in the columns of the *Freemason* during the past few weeks, and like your correspondent Comp. May, who, I believe, introduced the subject, I think that good will result from the discussion. I, however, fully expected that his immature or crude scheme for popularising the Degree would be severely criticised. Such an innovation as artificially created Past Masters with the object referred to would not be tolerated by the Craft, nor is it essential that such a course should be adopted, for, as a rule, in the towns where there are, say, two chapters, there are usually five or six or more lodges, so that there will be as many W.Ms. installed each year, and only two Third Principals' chairs annually available for them in such chapters. On reference to the interesting table or schedule of lodges and chapters working in this country, compiled by Bro. Green, Prov. Grand Secretary of West Yorkshire, which was published in your paper of June 16th last, it will be seen that in the somewhat compact Province of Derby, with 27 lodges and only eight chapters, every year there are three times as many additional Past Masters as there are Third Principals' chairs in the province available; in the Province of Shropshire the disparity is greater, and in each of the provinces referred to the ratio of the members of the Royal Arch is very small as compared with the members of the Craft; on the other hand, in the Province of Cambridge, where there are seven lodges and four chapters, more than one-half of the lodge members are Royal Arch Masons, which is even a larger proportion than in the Province of West Yorkshire, where the Degree flourishes. All who are interested in and appreciate the Royal Arch would be gratified at a large accession of membership, such increase, however, must be obtained by the only perfectly legitimate manner recognised by the Order.

Admittedly there are numerous chapters already established both in London and the provinces, many of which, from various causes, scarcely justify their continued existence, and with a declining rather than an increasing membership, have little hope of improving their position. The principal cause of a decaying chapter is not infrequently the death or removal from the district of those members whose zeal for the Order mainly supported the lodge to which such chapter was attached, which consequently suffers a period of stagnation. In such a case it would often be an advantage to the chapter were it removed and attached to another and more active lodge, where its membership would be increased, although the Constitutions provide machinery for such transfer, opposition would prevent its being carried out. I have noted with gratification the number of new lodges in the London district and elsewhere to which new chapters have recently been attached.

This is as it should be, a thriving lodge will usually make a prosperous chapter, as the zealous or active members of a lodge will join and support a chapter attached to or held in connection with their own lodge who would not feel the least interested in a chapter attached to another lodge with whose members they, perhaps, were unfamiliar. I am not sure that in the interest of the Royal Arch it would not be an advantage to allow some of the languishing chapters to be erased and grant new chapters in connection with flourishing lodges, where probably the bulk of the members would seek exaltation to the Degree.

An old lodge, meeting near my residence, has a membership of from 60 to 70, the bulk of whom are Royal Arch Masons, a chapter is attached to the lodge, it is worked on the same premises, the annual subscription of the members being nominal (only a few shillings annually), in such a chapter there is not the slightest necessity for the artificial creation of any Past Masters to qualify for the Principals' chairs, as usually a month or so after, the new W.M. is installed in the lodge, he proceeds to the Third Principal's chair in the chapter, and so promotion goes regularly on. The same result is not so readily obtained in a chapter which is supposed to do duty for several lodges, in such a case it frequently happens that a number of Past Masters of such lodges have to wait for years without having the opportunity of attaining to a Principal's chair in the chapter, with the result that they have grown weary of waiting and lost their interest in, and, finally, retired from the chapter.

Another custom prevails in the provinces which, in the writer's humble opinion, militates against the prosperity of the Royal Arch; it is that when a flourishing lodge, having, say, a dozen or more Royal Arch members on its register, with plenty more material available, decides to apply by warrant or

charter for a new chapter to be attached to their lodge, the provincial authorities, before entertaining or even encouraging such petition, feel constrained to consult any existing chapter or chapters in the same town or district whether their ranks are full up, or whether, in the opinion of the existing chapter or chapters, there is any occasion or requirement for such new chapter. Naturally, viewed from their standpoint, the answer to such an inquiry would probably be in the negative although there may be in the lodge seeking the charter 20 or 30 members who would readily join or be exalted in a chapter connected with their own lodge, yet only a small percentage of whom would ever be likely to apply for exaltation in any other chapter.

By the Book of Constitutions, the Royal Arch is recognised as a part of pure Masonry, and I venture to express the opinion that any flourishing lodge with a sufficient membership should have the privilege of working the Royal Arch Degree, as we read from the minute books of old lodges was originally the case. In a few of the old lodges in Yorkshire, the Mark Degree was worked by the Craft without any special warrant for the purpose, and, in the interest of Royal Arch Masonry, I would advocate the privilege of working the Degree should be conferred on the Royal Arch members of any active lodge where there is a reasonable probability that it can be advantageously worked. Like most mundane creations, lodges and chapters have their corresponding periods of youth, manhood and old age, some flourish and grow rapidly for several years, and, perhaps, from causes before referred to, they practically cease working and only live while they are practically dead. Be it so, but such a chapter has, nevertheless, done good work in its comparatively short day and exalted many good Masons, but that is no sufficient reason why the aspirations of a number of Royal Arch members of an active lodge and who are willing and feel competent to work a chapter in connection with their lodge should be restrained, nor should the objections of an existing chapter, or chapters, attached to other lodges be entertained as sufficient or reasonable ground for refusing assent to a petition for a new chapter in a proper and suitable case.

Like that of your correspondent, Comp. May, my letter may possibly meet with severe criticism; in writing it, however, I am trying to advocate increased membership of the Royal Arch Degree; admittedly there is room for improvement in that respect, and in my judgment it is through the active and flourishing lodges, and not by means of many of the semi-moribund existing chapters, that such a result can be obtained. Apologising for the length of my letter, I am, &c., yours fraternally,

J. T. LAST,
P.M. 2321, P.Z. 603.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

Your correspondent, "Masonic Jurisprudence," has quite understood my complaint, and I now give him the sequel.

Bye-laws which were in existence for over six or seven years before the present Secretary came into office, and which have been approved of by the late Grand Secretary—and there was never a question about revising them or altering them before the lodge—have been altered and reprinted by the Secretary without the knowledge of anybody. Only by chance was it that one day I took a copy of them from the Secretary's table, and, on reading them, I found them altered. I immediately put the question (privately) to the Secretary, and he replied, "When I came into office I submitted the old bye-laws to the Grand Secretary, and he pointed out to me certain irregularities, and, of course, I altered them, and had them reprinted."

According to your correspondent's advice the only course open to me is to say it is wrong and against the law of Freemasonry, or create a disturbance and make myself disagreeable.

As to the second point—"Cooking" the minutes—the Secretary gave notice of motion in the regular way in the Agenda for the meeting. The motion was properly printed and adopted without discussion. At the next meeting, the minutes were read for confirmation, and, to my astonishment, a whole line was added. I protested, but the Secretary said it was all right, and the minutes were carried. I don't believe my protest was entered on the minutes.

This is not a case of accuracy of recollection, the printed notice is in my possession, and the minutes will show the alteration.

Now, how would you like a brother to act? Am I, a Mason of 45 years' standing, to protest or be silent, and let him go on for the sake of harmony and good feeling?

These are matters which occurred about 12 years ago, and I could state many other such arbitrary cases. I resigned the lodge, and there it ends.

Should not Grand Lodge occasionally examine into the state of our lodges? No one likes to go before the Board of General Purposes for the purpose of making complaints. I should like to know how "Masonic Jurisprudence" would act.—Yours fraternally,

M. L. S.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1130]

INCORRECT WARRANTS.—I.

The present warrant by which the "Newcastle-upon-Tyne Lodge," No. 24, works contains some singular errors, some apparently being due to the document having been, in part, rewritten, the original calligraphy having become indistinct. A marginal note on the left side of the charter reads "Atholl Lodge, No. 13, late No. 131." The first number is wrong, as it should be 15, which was given the lodge at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in recognition of its Masonic zeal, and thus the previous No. 131 was exchanged for a very much higher position. It was a custom with the "Ancients," either as a gift or by purchase, thus to utilise the numbers of extinct warrants. The titles credited to the Grand Master are in several cases erroneous. They are as follows: "The Most Noble Prince John, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Atholl and Earl of Sullibarshire, Earl of Strathlay and Strathardle, Viscount Ballgunda, Glenalmond, and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belvany, and Cash, &c." These mistakes are suggestive of the ignorance of the transcriber, or rather writer over the original, and explains the remarkable error as to the number. The Senior Warden of the lodge is inserted as *Hill* instead of *Reed*, and other differences might be noted, but being of little importance really, I have not thought it worth while to mention them. Whatever may be left untouched on the present warrant, the number 13, at all events, should be changed to 15, and could be easily done.

W. J. HUGHAN.

THE AUSTRALIAN BANQUET to Bro. the Earl of Hopetoun will take place on October 3rd, as, according to present arrangements, Lord Hopetoun has determined to leave London on October 4th. His lordship expects to reach Sydney about December 15th, and the formal inauguration of the Commonwealth will take place on January 1st.

The Craft Abroad.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

A Special Communication was held at the Masonic Hall, Castlereagh-street, Sydney, on the 12th June. The G. Master, Bro. J. C. Remington, presided.

The business was the nomination of G. Master and G. Lodge Officers for the ensuing year.

The G. Master was re-elected unopposed, as was also Bro. Spencer as President of the Board of General Purposes, and some other officers.

Nominations were also received for the Boards of General Purposes and Benevolence.

No other business being on the agenda paper, G. Lodge closed at 9 p.m.

The Regular Quarterly Communication was held on Wednesday, the 13th June, with the G. Master in the chair.

The formal business being transacted, and the patronage of G. Lodge promised to the annual ball in aid of the Freemasons' Benevolent Institution, M.W. Bro. REMINGTON delivered the G. Master's address:

The past quarter has been an eventful one for the welfare of Freemasonry in this territory; and to-night I hope the voice of G. Lodge will be clearly expressed upon two questions which are important in the interests of the future of the Craft.

At the regular meeting of the Board of General Purposes held on the 29th March, Wor. Bro. Richards, pursuant to previous notice, attempted to move the following motions:

1. That the draft of all reports of the Board be submitted to the Board for approval before being submitted to Grand Lodge, and that no "explanatory note" as to the views of any individual member of the Board be permitted to appear in or at the end of any of the Board's Reports.
2. That in the event of the President being on any occasion unwilling to act as the mouth-piece of the Board, and to properly advocate the adoption of any of its Reports, some other member of the Board who is in accord with its decisions shall be entrusted for that occasion with these duties.

The President ruled them out of order; and, upon the mover endeavouring to move dissent from this ruling, he declared the meeting closed.

On the 12th April the following petition was forwarded to me through the Grand Secretary's office:

We, the undersigned, members of the Board of General Purposes under the Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, respectfully request that you will convene a Special Communication of Grand Lodge for the purpose of considering the action of the R.W. President of the Board of General Purposes in ruling out of order the following notices of motion appearing on the Board's Agenda Paper, and standing in the name of Wor. Bro. G. T. Richards.

The notices were quoted verbatim as above, and the petition was in the writing of, and signed by V.W. Bro. Shipway, Grand Registrar, and by 16 other members of the Board.

The petition was enclosed in a letter, also signed by V.W. Bro. Shipway, Grand Registrar, as follows:

The brethren, whose signatures are attached to the accompanying request have deputed me to forward such request to you, and to respectfully ask that you will be pleased to either favour them with a reply, or convene the Special Communication asked for, before the next meeting of the Board of General Purposes.

I would respectfully point out that the accompanying request is signed by 16 out of the 21 members of the Board of General Purposes, and of the remaining five, Bros. Beeston and Hockey have not been asked to sign, as their residence from Sydney meant delay, and Bro. Docker has resigned all offices in connection with the Craft.

After carefully considering the minutes of the meeting and the Agenda Paper, I wrote the following minute, which the Grand Secretary duly forwarded to V.W. Bro. Shipway:

This petition signed by the Grand Registrar and 16 members of the Board of General Purposes, being one for which I have found no precedent, could not be dealt with in the hurried way which the covering letter seems to expect.

The summoning of a Special Meeting of Grand Lodge is, according to Clause 12 of the Book of Constitutions, at the discretion of the Grand Master "whenever the good of the Craft shall in his opinion require it."

I do not consider that the action of the President of the Board of General Purposes in ruling out of order motions practically censuring his conduct in a matter with which Grand Lodge has already dealt, is one which complies with above condition.

But I do agree that the question of whether the President's Reports should in future be submitted to the Board before presentation to Grand Lodge or not, is one which deserves consideration. There is no constitutional law on the subject, and therefore the only guide at present is the custom established by Presidents in previous years, each of whom prepared his own Report, practically in the shape of verbatim extracts from the minutes of the Board as per Clause 86 Book of Constitutions.

I purpose, therefore, submitting this question at the meeting of Grand Lodge in June next, as a Special Communication, in terms of Clause 52 Book of Constitutions, taking precedence of all other business; so that the incoming President of the Board may know his exact position.

On the 25th April, at the regular meeting of the Board, the minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a motion for adjournment, moved by Wor. Bro. Richards, and seconded by V.W. Bro. Shipway, was carried by 11 votes to three; notwithstanding an appeal by the Grand Treasurer that the Board would at least authorise payment of the accounts which had been passed by their Finance Committee.

The immediate consequence being a slur upon the fair fame of Grand Lodge if its debts to tradesmen and others were left unpaid (including the salaries of the Grand and Deputy Grand Secretary), the Grand Treasurer next morning sought my decision. I would have been quite prepared to save the credit of Grand Lodge by authorising payment at my own risk; but, with true Masonic spirit, V.W. Bro. Scott, Grand Treasurer, declined to lay this charge upon me, and advanced the money out of his own pocket.

On the 28th April a second petition reached me through the Grand Secretary's office, signed by the Grand Registrar and 13 other members of the Board, as follows:

We, the undersigned, members of the Board of General Purposes under the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, have read your minute upon the petition forwarded to you on our behalf of the 12th instant, and regret that our request contained therein has not been granted by you. The notices of motion therein referred to are, we respectfully submit, motions concerning solely the regulation by the Board of its own proceedings and mode of procedure.

These notices of motion having been ruled out of order by the President of the Board, and your refusal to accede to our request, have resulted in the Board at its meeting last evening, by resolution, adjourning immediately after the confirmation of the minutes of the Board's previous meeting.

We would respectfully urge you to re-consider your decision and grant a Special Communication of Grand Lodge, to be held before the next meeting of the Board.

Viewing this as an attempt to coerce the Grand Master into a course of action which he was convinced would not be "for the good of the Craft," I wrote the following minute in reply:

I cannot see, in this second petition, any reasons adduced to vary the decision conveyed in minute of 20th April. I exceedingly regret to note the action of the Board in adjourning last week without authorising payment of the accounts passed by their Finance Committee. It is sure to arouse a heated state of feeling, during which a special meeting of Grand Lodge would certainly not be "for the good of the Craft."

I sincerely trust that ere the main question comes before Grand Lodge on the 13th June next, wiser counsels may prevail at the Board.

The Grand Secretary will forward a copy of this minute to the Grand Registrar, for the information of the signatories.

On the 30th May, at the regular meeting of the Board, the minutes of the previous meeting having been signed, a message from the Grand Master was read. It referred to the Board a petition from 28 brethren for a warrant for a new lodge at Mosman. Discussion ensued, and the consideration of the message was postponed, by 14 votes to 4.

The accounts postponed at previous meeting and some others were passed for payment; but all other business on the Agenda Paper was postponed to enable Wor. Bro. Richards to renew the motions ruled out of order on the 28th March.

The President repeated his former ruling. Wor. Bro. Millen moved that the Board dissent from it.

The President declined to put the motion, and declared the meeting closed.

I purpose to-night submitting two questions to Grand Lodge for their final decision; and I hope the result will be the satisfactory ending of this unhappy and unprecedented state of affairs.

On the 20th March, accompanied by 13 of the Grand Lodge Officers, I visited Richmond, on the occasion of the joint installation of the Worshipful Masters of Lodges Duke of Connaught, No. 150, and Richard Coley, No. 152, when there was a large and enthusiastic gathering of brethren of these and other lodges in the district.

On the 4th May I paid my long-promised visit to Newcastle, with 11 Grand Lodge Officers, when in the presence of brethren of the 17 lodges of No. 2 District, forming one of the largest Masonic meetings held outside the Metropolis, I was presented with a most artistic illuminated address, expressing loyalty to Grand Lodge, and personal esteem for myself.

Owing to the circumstances already alluded to, and the threatened sequences thereto, doubtless familiar to you all, I postponed *sine die* my promised visit to Nos. 11, 16, and 18 Districts; although the time and route had been arranged, to occupy from the 22nd May to the 4th June.

During that time I was to have laid the foundation stone of the new lodge room at Tenterfield, and that duty was consequently delegated to the Worshipful Master and duly performed by him.

On the 12th April, R.W. Bro. Spencer dedicated, on my behalf, the Masonic Hall, recently erected at Germanton by Lodge Hume, No. 212, and assisted at the installation of its Worshipful Master. He reports the building to be admirably adapted for Masonic work; erected upon land presented by Wor. Bro. John McLaurin, P.M., and is absolutely free from debt.

One hundred and forty-nine Master Masons' Certificates have been issued during the quarter, making a total of 719 for the year.

Grand Lodge dues and fees are £1658, as against £1409 in previous year; and I am happy to find our total funds at least exceed £10,000.

I hope the roll of members will also show a considerable increase when the statistical return is made up as usual.

Fifty-nine Dispensations were granted during the quarter, viz.:

Change of Night of Meeting (Clause 115)	...	12
To continue as W.M. a third year (Clause 118)	...	1
Change of time of meeting (Clause 135)	...	3
Change of place of meeting (Clause 140)	...	2
Emergencies (Clause 155)	...	18
Initiation of a L.c.wis (Clause 157)	...	1
Permission to wear regalia (Clause 178)	...	22



AMONG THE LEADING BRANDS OF

CHAMPAGNE
Blankenhorn's "SPORTSMAN" EXTRA DRY,

ENJOYS A REPUTATION OF A QUARTER-OF-A-CENTURY.

London Offices—18, CULLUM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

It will be interesting to the brethren throughout the territory to learn that our action in recognising the Grand Lodge of Western Australia seems likely to be generally endorsed. The Pro Grand Master writes me that the day after the installation of the Grand Master, viz., the 28th February, they telegraphed or wrote to all Grand Lodges in the world, asking for recognition, and received an immediate and encouraging reply from England, which was followed, I find, by complete official recognition in March. A similar promise has been made by Ireland. The P.G.M. of Scottish Freemasonry in Western Australia, with that genuine Masonic spirit which I fully anticipated from our previous correspondence, considers that the question of the legality of the new Grand Lodge was practically settled by our recognition. And from many of the Grand Masters in the United States of America I have had letters heartily approving our views, and promising to recommend similar action in their Grand Lodges.

I have the pleasure of presenting to Grand Lodge, on behalf of the artists, Messrs. Kerry and Co., a magnificent framed group of portraits of the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers for the year now closed, for which I think they deserve our hearty thanks, which I will ask you to accord.

I have only one more word to say before we proceed to the important business of the evening. In April last the civilised world was startled by the news of an attempt upon the life of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of England. I propose, with your approval, to cause a letter to be sent conveying the congratulations of this Grand Lodge to his Royal Highness upon his almost miraculous escape from the assassin, and will ask you to signify the same by giving the Grand or Royal sign three times.

The Grand Lodge unanimously assented to both these propositions.

V.W. Bro. SHIPWAY, G. Registrar, disclaimed any attempt to prevent the reading at the B.G.P. of the Grand Master's message covering the petition for a new lodge at Mosman; and the Grand Master accepted his Masonic word of honour that he had been wrongly reported.

W. Bro. RICHARDS desired insertion in the report of the B.G.P. proceedings on 25th April that, in reply to the Grand Treasurer, he had stated that "in the present state of affairs, he, for one, did not feel disposed to go on with any executive business."

COMMUNICATION FROM GRAND MASTER.

UNDER CLAUSE 52 BOOK OF CONSTITUTIONS.

The Grand Master submitted for consideration by Grand Lodge the following questions, which arose out of the unhappy difference of opinion between R.W. Bro. Spencer, as President, and a majority of the members of the Board of General Purposes:

1. Was the President right in ruling out of order on 28th March, and again on 30th May, notices of motion submitted by Wor. Bro. Richards?
2. Does Grand Lodge desire a change from the practice hitherto in force by which the President of the Board of General Purposes prepares the reports of the Board in the shape of almost literal transcripts of its minutes?

Discussion ensued.

Bros. RICHARDS, TEECE, and MILLEN argued that the first question should be answered in the negative, and the President of the Board of General Purposes, on the contrary, spoke in justification of his action.

The voting was—Ayes 167, Noes 134.

The GRAND MASTER then said that although R.W. Bro. Spencer's ruling had been upheld, there was such a substantial minority against it, that he recommended Grand Lodge to also answer the second question in the affirmative; so as to give the Board of General Purposes time to further consider it. This was agreed to, all but unanimously.

The Reports of the various Boards, &c., were ordered to be printed and circulated.

The election of Grand Lodge Officers and Boards then took place, but owing to the unprecedentedly large vote, the result was not declared by the Scrutineers till next day.

The Investment Committee were re-elected as follows: the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, the President of the Board of General Purposes, and R.W. Bros. Rofe and Teece.

The Auditors, Bros. Mackenzie and Salier, were re-elected.

The Auditors' Report, with Balance Sheets, having been adopted, will be printed and circulated as usual.

The question of providing for the travelling expenses of the Inspectors of Workings was referred to the Board of General Purposes for report.

Grand Lodge was closed at 10.40 p.m.

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Dr. Spark's Liber Musicus.

The Copyright of this valuable and useful Musical Work, which has for some time been out of print, has been purchased by Bro. GEORGE KENNING, and is republished in the same attractive form as hitherto issued.

DEDICATED BY EXPRESS PERMISSION TO

H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, Past & Present Grand Master of England & Wales.

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Science, Art, and the Drama.

GINSENG.

The most prized drug in the entire Chinese pharmacopœia—that medley of fearful and wonderful things—is the famous ginseng, the root of a plant belonging to the ivy tribe, which has, for centuries, been regarded as a very elixir of life, and supposed to be endowed with almost miraculous properties. While of prime importance in China and Japan, its use is by no means confined to these countries. It is the principal tonic used in Central Asia, and in Oriental countries generally, and indeed, was, at one time, introduced into Europe, where it met with some favour, until sarsaparilla supplanted it in popularity. So great is the demand for ginseng in China, that the finest kinds command enormous prices; the drug according to quality, selling at from six dollars to 400 dollars an ounce. Doubtless, its dearness contributes largely, with such a people as the Chinese, to raise its celebrity so high. The rich and the mandarins, probably use it mainly out of pure ostentation, as its cost puts it beyond the reach of the common people. To meet the wants of the poorer classes, many other roots are substituted, the most important of which is American Ginseng, the product of an allied species, which is largely imported from the United States. This American Ginseng is said to be much used in the domestic medicine of the States, to the west of the Alleghanies; but is regarded by regular medical practitioners as quite worthless. Notwithstanding the firm belief which the Chinese have in the extraordinary powers of the genuine native root, Europeans have hitherto failed to find any remarkable properties in it, and it has no active principle, and no medicinal action. Like the mandrake, which was accounted so potent in former days, it no doubt derives its virtues largely from the faith of the patient. Dr. Porter Smith, however, mentions having seen some cases, in which life appeared to have been prolonged for a time, by its use. Mons. Maack states that a Cossack of his party having accidentally chopped off a finger with an axe, applied an ointment made of Ginseng to the wound, which healed rapidly. The Chinese believe it to be a sovereign remedy for almost all diseases, and more particularly for exhaustion of body or mind. M. Huc says that "they report marvels of its curative powers, and no doubt it is for Chinese organisations, a tonic of very great effect for old and weak persons; but its nature is too heating, the Chinese physicians admit, for the European temperament, already, in their opinion, too hot." At one time the Ginseng grown in Manchuria was considered to be the finest, and it became so scarce in consequence that an Imperial edict was issued prohibiting its collection. All the supplies of the drug collected in the Chinese Empire are Imperial property, and are sold to those allowed to deal in it at its weight in gold. The ginseng obtained in Corea is now accounted the most valuable. The root of the wild plant is preferred to that of the cultivated, and the quality of the drug is supposed to improve with the age of the plant. The export from Corea is a strict monopoly, the punishment for smuggling it out being death. The total export is only about 27,000 pounds annually, but owing to its great value even this small quantity yields a considerable revenue, which is said to be the king's personal perquisite. Ginseng is also grown in Japan, where it was introduced from Corea; but as there the plant grows much more luxuriantly than in its native country the root is considered less active, and is not so much esteemed. Though the product of the wild Ginseng is most valued, the plant is carefully cultivated in some parts of Corea. It is raised from seed, which is sown in March. The seedlings are transplanted frequently during the first two or three years, and great care is taken to shade them from the sun and rain. Healthy plants mature in about four years, but the roots are not usually taken up until the sixth season. Ordinary Ginseng is prepared by simply drying the root in the sun or over a charcoal fire. To make red or clarified Ginseng the root is placed in wicker baskets, which are put in a large earthen vessel, with a closely fitting cover, and pierced in the bottom with holes. The whole is then set over boiling water, and steamed for about four hours. The ginseng is afterwards dried until it assumes a hard resinous translucent appearance, which is a proof of its good quality. That of the best quality is generally sold in hard, rather brittle, transparent pieces, about the size of the little finger, and from two to four inches in length. Its taste is mucilaginous, sweetish, and slightly bitter and aromatic. The greatest care is taken of the pieces of the finest quality. M. Huc says that throughout China no chemist's shop is unprovided with more or less of it. According to the account given by Lockhart (medical missionary in China), of a visit to a Ginseng merchant, it is stowed in small boxes, lined with sheet lead, which are kept in larger boxes, containing quicklime, for absorbing moisture. The pieces of the precious drug are further enclosed in silk wrappers, and kept in little silk-lined boxes. The merchant, when showing a piece bared of its wrappings to Mr. Lockhart for his inspection, requested him not to breathe on nor handle it while he dilated on its merits, and related the marvellous cures he had known it to effect. The root is covered, according to quality, with the finest embroidered silk, plain cotton cloth, or paper. In China Ginseng is often sent to friends as a valuable present, and in such cases there is usually presented, along with the drug, a small, finely-finished double kettle for its preparation. The inner kettle is made of silver, and between it and the outside copper vessel is a small space for holding water. The silver kettle fits in a ring near the top of the outer covering, and is furnished with a cup-like cover, in which rice is put with a little water. The Ginseng is placed in the inner vessel, the cover put on, and the whole apparatus set on the fire. When the rice in the cover is cooked, the medicine is ready, and is eaten by the patient, who drinks the Ginseng tea at the same time. The dose of the root is from 60 to 90 grains. During the use of the drug tea-drinking is prohibited for, at least, a month without any other change of diet. It is taken in the morning before breakfast and sometimes in the evening before going to bed. In India, Persia, and Afghanistan Ginseng is known as *chob-chini*, the "Chinese wood." In these countries it is prepared either as a powder, which is composed of Ginseng, with gum-mastic and sugar-candy, equal parts of each, about a drachm being taken once a day, early in the morning, or, as a decoction, in the preparation of which an ounce of fine parings is boiled for a quarter of an hour in a pint of water. There are two ways in which the tonic is taken. The first is a truly Oriental luxurious method, affected by wealthy people, and especially by Afghan princes. The patient retires to a garden, where his senses are soothed by listening to music, the song of birds, and the bubbling of a flowing stream, and enjoying the balmy breeze. He avoids everything likely to trouble and annoy him, and will not even open a letter, lest it should contain bad news, and the doctor forbids

anyone to contradict him. Some grandees of Central Asia go through a course of 40 days of this pleasant regimen every second year. The other and more common-place method of taking Ginseng requires no other precautions than the avoiding of acids, salt, and pepper, and choosing summer time, as cold is supposed to cause rheumatism.

PAINTERS IN THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH.

Continued.

It is observable that her Majesty thought enormity of dress a royal prerogative, for on 12th February, 1579, an order was made in the Star Chamber "that no person should use or wear excessive long cloaks (this might proceed from apprehension of their concealing arms under them), as of late be used, and before two years past hath not been used in this realm; no persons to wear such great ruffles about their necks; to be left off such monstrous undecent attyring." Also another against wearing any sword or rapier that shall pass the length of one yard and half a quarter in the blade, nor dagger above 12 inches in the blade, at most. In her father's time, who dictated in everything from religion to fashion, an Act of Parliament was passed in his 24th year against inordinate use of apparel, directing that no one should wear on his apparel any cloth of gold, silver or tinsel, satin, silk, or cloth mixed with gold or silver, any sables, velvet, furs, embroidery, velvet in gowns or outermost garments, *except persons of distinction*, dukes, marquises, earls, barons and knights of the order, barons' sons, knights, or such that may dispend £250 per annum." This was renewed in the second year of Elizabeth. Edward VI. carried this restraint still farther. In the heads of a Bill drawn up with his own hand, 1551 (though it never passed into a law), no one who had less than £100 a year for life, or gentlemen, the king's sworn servants, was to wear satin, damask, ostrich feathers, or furs of conies; none not worth £200, or £20 in living certain, to wear camel; no serving man under the degree of a gentleman to wear any fur, save lamb, nor cloth above 10s. the yard. Besides many pictures of Queen Elizabeth we are so lucky as to possess the portraits of almost all the great men of her reign; and though the generality of painters at that time were not equal to the subjects on which they were employed, yet they were close imitators of nature, and have, perhaps, transmitted more faithful representations than we could have expected from men of brighter imagination. The first painter who seems to have made any figure in this reign was Lucas de Heere, born at Ghent in 1534, of a family peculiarly addicted to the arts. John, his father, was a good statuary and architect; Anne Smitter, his mother, painted in miniature, and with such diminutive neatness, that she executed a landscape, with a windmill, millers, a cart and horse, and passengers, and half a grain of corn would cover the whole composition. The father went often to Namur and Dinant, where the son, Lucas, copied ruins and castles. It was soon found that he had an extreme facility in taking likenesses, and that his memory was so tenacious and faithful, that he could paint any face which he had examined but once. The young Lucas, under a good master, Francis Koris, made rapid progress, and drew many designs (which passed for his master's) for tapestry and glass-painters. From Ghent he went to France, and was employed by the queen and queen-mother in making drawings for tapestry; and residing some time at Fontainebleau, where he married Eleanor Carbonière, he contracted a taste for the antique by seeing the statues there, an inclination he showed less by his own works than by making a collection of bronzes and medals.

(To be continued.)

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.

One evening last week we paid a visit to the above theatre. Mr. Dundas Slater, the general manager, has provided for the delectation of his patrons a good varied programme; trapezists, gymnasts, comedians, vocalists, dancers, acrobats, parodists, &c., all, in their turn, have something to interest the audience. The Corty Bros., eccentrics, so well known, are as amusing as ever. The Niess Troupe, aerial gymnasts, make their first appearance, the smartness of their performance seem to be fully appreciated. An Australian dancer, Saharet, exhibited vivacity and grace in her saltatory exercise. A great feature of the evening is Houdini, king of handcuffs. He is not only secured by three handcuffs, but is also heavily fettered, and yet contrives, before the audience, to free himself from his bonds. His entertainment concluded with being handcuffed and fettered, and covered with a sack over his head, the mouth of which is sealed; he is then placed in a large box, which is fastened by three locks, and corded with strong rope, with a complication of knots. The box is placed in a small tent at the back of the stage. After a lapse of a few minutes the curtains are drawn back, the box brought out, uncorded and opened. Mr. Houdini is no longer there, but in his place his young lady assistant, who, over her fancy male attire, wears Mr. Houdini's coat. How this trick is done we are at a loss to imagine; it is certainly very clever. There is a Signorita Tortajada, a Spanish *chanteuse* and *danseuse*, who is deservedly a great attraction. There is a patriotic military display entitled "Soldiers of the Queen," in which there are dances for which tuneful and taking music has been written by Geo. W. Byng. Werner and Reider, Tyroleans, sing some national songs, accompanied by the inevitable Jodelling. A very pleasant evening may be spent at the Alhambra Theatre.

GENERAL NOTES.

Justice is, at last, being done to the memory of King Alfred the Great. The colossal memorial now in course of preparation, which is to be erected at Winchester, will probably be one of the most remarkable pieces of sculpture in the kingdom. Mr. Thorneycroft, R.A., who has been entrusted with the work, has already completed the full-sized model in clay, and the statue itself is expected to be finished somewhere about Midsummer next. The statue measures 14 feet from the crown to the feet, and represents the King standing, with one arm resting on his shield, and the other, with sword in hand, upraised. He is grasping it so that the hilt is held uppermost. The pedestal consists of a single block of rough hewn granite, weighing close on 40 tons, and is over 20 feet high. About £4450 has already been received or promised towards the cost of the memorial, and £2000 more is required.

It is no new idea of Sir Henry Irving's to produce "Manfred." We are led to believe that the accompanying music will be by Mr. Geo. Henschel,

Masonic and General Tidings.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF BATTENBERG have left Frogmore for Filey, Yorkshire.

THE SPEAKER of the House of Commons (Bro. W. C. Gully) and Mrs. Gully left London on Tuesday night for Inverness.

THE DUCHESS OF YORK is to visit Eden Hall, Cumberland, as the guest of Sir Richard and Lady Musgrave, towards the end of the month.

BRO. THE EARL OF LONDERSBOROUGH has been appointed Honorary Colonel of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment, with headquarters at Beverley.

THE HON. J. H. CHOATE, with the staff of the American Embassy, paid a visit to the American warship Baltimore, which is at present lying in the Thames, and lunched on board with Admiral Watson.

HAMPTON WICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL has resolved to inscribe on the walls of the Council Chamber the names of the 16 natives of the parish who have been serving with her Majesty's forces in South Africa.

BY ORDER OF Major-General Trotter, the band of the 2nd Life Guards will play selections of music in Green Park on Sunday evening next between six and eight o'clock, and that of the Coldstream Guards in Hyde Park from half-past seven till half-past nine o'clock.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by Princess Victoria, left Marlborough House on Wednesday evening for Harwich, where their Royal Highnesses embarked on board the Royal yacht Osborne for the Hook of Holland, en route for Germany. Miss Knollys, Bro. Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke, and the Hon. Sidney Greville were in attendance.

IN NORCLIFFE CHAPEL, Handforth, near Manchester, was solemnised on Wednesday the marriage of the Hon. Edward Gibson, third son of Bro. Baron Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, with Miss Mary Philips Greg, daughter of the late Mr. Henry Russell Greg and Mrs. Greg, of Lode Hill. The Rev. Enfield Dowson, of Hyde, officiated, and the Hon. Harry Gibson (brother of the bridegroom) acted as best man.

BRO. FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT WOLSELEY arrived at Pirbright on Wednesday on a visit to Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright. The Commander-in-Chief was accompanied by Sir Arthur Wheldon, General Turner, and Colonel Davidson. In the evening Bro. Lord and Lady Pirbright gave a dinner in honour of their distinguished guest, to which most of the officers commanding the various camps in the district, and many others, were invited.

BRO. LORD KINNAIRD'S TENANTRY on the Rossie Priory estates, in Perthshire, are preparing to celebrate with appropriate festivity the coming-of-age of his lordship's eldest son, the Hon. Douglas Arthur Kinnaird, who attains his majority on Monday next, having been born on August 20th, 1879. Rossie Priory is one of the most beautiful residences on the fertile Tayside country known as the Carse of Gowrie, and the tenantry are among the most prosperous in the county.

T.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES, accompanied by Princess Victoria, arrived at Marlborough House on Tuesday morning from the Royal yacht Osborne, Cowes. Miss Knollys, Bro. Major-General Sir Stanley Clarke, and Bro. Sir F. Knollys were in attendance. Prince Louis of Battenberg lunched with their Royal Highnesses. The Hon. H. Stonor represented the Prince of Wales at the funeral service at the Brompton Oratory of Lord Russell of Killowen (Lord Chief Justice of England).

THE QUEEN has sanctioned the following appointments to the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England: Chaplain, Bro. (the Venerable William Macdonald Sinclair, D.D., Archdeacon of London; Knights of Grace, Edwin Hanson Freshfield, Esq. (from Esquire), Lieut.-Colonel Richard Holbeche (from Esquire), the Marquis of Northampton, Lieut.-Col. W. Watts, and Robert John Collie, Esq., M.D. (from Honorary Associate); Lady of Grace, Hilda Burella, Miss Mitchell Campbell of Auchmannoch.

LIEUT.-COLONEL LORD BINNING, Commander of the Royal Horse Guards, met with a somewhat serious accident on Tuesday while out grouse shooting on Heckspath Moors, near Greenlaw, Berwickshire. One of the dogs knocked against his gun, accidentally causing it to explode, and the shot seriously injured Lord Binning's leg. His lordship was taken to Mallerstain House, near Kelso, where he received prompt medical attention. Lord Binning, who is the eldest son of Bro. the Earl of Haddington, is in his 44th year, is married, and has a son and daughter.

AN INTERESTING HISTORICAL RELIC associated with the occupation of Bloemfontein has reached London. It is the official "arms" of the late Orange Free State, taken down from the Volksraad after the entry of the British troops, and consists of a huge highly-coloured cast-iron device, in which the Dutch flags are prominently displayed on either side of the Republican emblem. This trophy has been added to the magnificent collection of South African war relics which may be seen in the museum of the Royal United Service Institution in Whitehall, its presence there, it is understood, being due to Major-General Pretymann, the Governor of Bloemfontein.

A COMPLETE set of Mafeking siege stamps sold at Stevens', King-street, Covent Garden, for the solid sum of £36, and two sets of Mafeking paper money for 20 guineas. In the same sale a Court sword in repoussé silver scabbard, pearl grip, with gold insignia, presented by the Great Napoleon to the Sultan of Turkey, who in turn gave it to an English Ambassador, went for 20 guineas; a walking-stick, made of oak taken from the Victory, Nelson's flagship, for five guineas; a table napkin of Charles II. for 10 guineas; and a Kruger sovereign for 25s. A number of carved human skulls from the Gulf of Papua, of remarkable shapes, sold at two guineas to £5 10s. per lot of four; and carved wooden "bull-roarers" from New Guinea, at from £2 to £3 per lot of three.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG visited on Tuesday morning the annual flower show, held in the grounds of Whippingham Rectory, near Osborne. The exhibitors were mostly resident on the Queen's estate. Her Royal Highness sent an assortment of beautiful peaches and other fruits, not for competition. In the afternoon, the Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, who was accompanied by her daughter, Princess Victoria, and Princess Henry of Battenberg, visited Netley Hospital, where they were received by Colonel Craigh and Lieut.-Colonel Webb. At the Queen's entrance to the hospital, Miss Norman, the lady superintendent, awaited the Royal visitors, who were attended by Sub-Lieutenant Sartorius, R.N. After a brief conversation with Miss Norman, the Princesses visited the wards, where they personally handed to the many sick and wounded soldiers invalided home from South Africa lovely flowers gathered from the Osborne conservatories. These, it was explained, were gifts sent by special desire of the Queen. The visit lasted some time, and was of a strictly private nature.

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY have sent a donation of five guineas to the Children's Country Holidays Fund, 10, Buckingham-street, Strand.

BRO. J. C. REMINGTON, General Manager of the Mutual Life Association of Australasia, has been re-elected, without opposition, Grand Master of New South Wales.

THE TOTAL OF THE *Daily Telegraph* Widows and Orphans Fund is now 4,231,847 shillings, the amount received since the last list was published being 3718 shillings.

SEAMEN and Royal Marines have a genuine friend in Miss Agnes E. Weston, who, writing from the Royal Sailors' Rest, Portsmouth, proffers assistance to men invalided out of the service and in distress of whose circumstances she is apprised.

UPON HIS retirement from the post of manager of the Manchester Hotel, Aldersgate-street, Bro. F. G. Newell has been the recipient of an illuminated address and a purse from the visitors and the staff as a mark of esteem. The presentation took place on Friday last.

KILLED BY THE SUN.—The coachman of Bro. P. Saillard was driving to Ruchan Hill, Crawley, when he is supposed to have had a sunstroke. At any rate, the horses arrived home without the coachman, who was afterwards found in the drive dead. The whip was firmly clenched in his hand.

THE PRINTING of companies' prospectuses, plans, illustrations of industrial works Masonic work of all description, &c., produced with rapidity. Fast machinery and every modern appliance for the production of large quantities at short notice. Freemason Printing Works, 16 and 16a, Great Queen-street, London, W.C.

HAMPERED in its benevolent work through lowness of funds, and anxious to extend its operations, the Distressed Gentlefolks' Aid Association issues, through its Chairman (Col. W. W. Knollys) an urgent appeal for assistance. At the present moment 45 families are receiving weekly grants, and occasional grants are made in special cases. Contributions may be sent to Miss Finn, 75, Brook Green, or to Messrs. Cox and Co., bankers, 16, Charing Cross, S.W.

DURING RECENT GALES the only stained-glass window left in the ancient tower of the Temple Church was loosened, with the unfortunate result that the upper part of the glass fell out on Thursday and was destroyed. The window represented the Saviour glorified, and it is understood that its restoration will be carried out so as to render it as much like the original as possible. The tower where the breakage occurred is upwards of 800 years old.

REHEARSALS AT DRURY LANE of Mr. Cecil Raleigh's new drama, "The Price of Peace," have already commenced under the direction of the author and Mr. Arthur Collins. One of the scenes of what is said to be a strikingly original play introduces the Ursuline Convent School, which occupied Harley House, at the corner of Marylebone-road. For many years prior to its occupation by the nuns it was the residence of the late Queen of Oude, mother of the late Maharajah Duleep Singh.

THE NEW ROYAL YACHT.—On the 16th instant the new Royal yacht left Portsmouth for another 48 hours' steam trial. She was in charge of Captain Parr and a navigating party from the Steam Reserve. The weather was fine, but there was a rough sea in the Channel. It is intended to do the 48 hours' run at 7,600 indicated horsepower, and the vessel is due back at Portsmouth to-morrow (Saturday) at noon. She leaves again on Monday for a trial at 9000 horse-power, and will then be tried at her full steaming strength of 11,000 horse-power.

ON MONDAY NEXT King Christian and the Danish Court will remove to Castle Fredensborg, which was the favourite residence of King Alexander III. There will be a gathering of all the Royal Family at Fredensborg, and they will stay there for six weeks. The Dowager-Empress of Russia, the Tsarevitch, and the Grand Duchess Olga will arrive on Monday on the Imperial yacht Pole Star. H.R.H. the Princess of Wales is expected in the beginning of the week. The King of Greece, the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland and their children, and Prince George, Governor of Crete, will also be of the party.

"THE LAMENTABLE DEATH of the late Lord Chief Justice (Lord Russell of Killowen) (writes Mr. H. F. Neale, solicitor, Liverpool), calls attention to the fact that the Northern Circuit has eminently distinguished itself as a Judge-maker during the last 35 years. It has sent from the Bar to the bench a Lord Chancellor, a Master of the Rolls, a Lord Chief Justice, two Lords Justice of Appeal, a Speaker of the House of Commons, eight Judges, and two chairmen of London Sessions—in addition to which many members of that circuit held Recordships and other influential and important judicial offices.

IN THE ANNUAL REPORT of the National Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children a remarkable instance of continued anonymous generosity is disclosed, and the name of the donor at last made public. It appears that the late Mr. Alfred Fennings, whose gifts to the charity had always been acknowledged under the anonymous title "Alf," gave £6188 8s. to the institution last year, and that from the year 1870 until the time of his death his total contributions to it amounted to the munificent sum of £86,377 10s. Mr. Fennings also made provision under his will whereby funds will be forthcoming to enable the committee to continue receiving a good many homeless boys.

SUMMER VACATION at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, terminated on Wednesday, when cadets left over from last term rejoined, and the new educational division of gentleman cadets entered. Among the latter is Prince Arthur of Connaught, for whom a military career has been selected. The Prince was accompanied from town by Bro. Colonel Alfred Egerton, Comptroller of the Household of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. Although Bagshot Park is within three miles of Sandhurst, Prince Arthur will reside at the College in the same way as the ordinary students. With the juniors who joined on Wednesday and the cadets left over from last term the strength of the College is about 320, or 40 below the usual strength.

THE LIVERYMEN of the various Guilds of the City of London will assemble in Guildhall on Saturday, September 29th, to elect the Lord Mayor for next year, in succession to Sir Alfred Newton, whose term of office will expire on November 9th. The Aldermen eligible for election are Bro. Alderman Frank Green, Bro. Sir Joseph Dimsdale, Sir Marcus Samuel, Sir James Ritchie, Mr. Alderman Pound, Bro. Sir Joseph Treloar, and Bro. Alderman Alliston. In the ordinary course, the election will fall on Bro. Alderman Frank Green, who has been a member of the Corporation since 1878 and an Alderman from 1891. He served the Shrievalty in Bro. Sir Horatio Davies's Mayoralty in 1897-8. By trade he is a paper maker, in Upper Thames-street.

DEATH.

FERGUSON.—On the 14th instant, Bro. W. J. Ferguson, P.M. Domestic Lodge, No. 177, Treasurer Viator Lodge, No. 2308, at his residence, 83, Chichele-road, Cricklewood, N.W., in his 71st year. Funeral Saturday, the 18th instant, at Highgate Cemetery, at 11.30.

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The *Freemason*, Sept. 9th, 1899.—"It is a splendid thing for Dress Shirts; it not only allows one to sit upright at table, but always keeps the front of the shirt in position. It is impossible for it to bulge outside of the waistcoat, whilst the comfort experienced is remarkable."



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