

THE FREEMASON.

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

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

VOL. XXXIX. NO. 1645]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

[PRICE 3d.]

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THE OCTOBER SCHOOL ELECTIONS.

It will be seen from the lists accompanying the voting papers that have just been issued for the School Elections next month that the prospects of the several candidates are somewhat brighter than usual, there being as many as 44 vacancies to be filled from approved lists—taking the two Schools together—of 60 children; the number for the Girls' School being—34 candidates, reduced to 33 by the removal of a Kentish girl, who has been admitted under the Jubilee Perpetual Presentation belonging to that Province since the list was compiled, and 24 vacancies; while for the Boys' School there are 20 vacancies to be filled from an approved list of 27. Thus of the 60 who will enter for the ballot—of whom, by the way, there is only one boy who, if he fails this time, will have his name removed—there will only be 16 who are not elected. Such a favourable chance as this has not often presented itself.

At the election into

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS

there are, as we have said, 24 vacancies to be filled from a list of 33 children, of whom 14 were candidates at the April Court and 19 are new cases that were approved in July. Towards this list London furnishes seven and has a part interest with one or other of the Provinces in four; while the Provinces and Districts or Lodges Abroad are responsible for the remaining 22. Five of the London seven have already had one or more experiences of the ballot, namely, No. 1, who brings forward 1995 votes; No. 5, with 3286 votes; No. 6, with 542 votes; and Nos. 13 and 14, who will start with 203 and 3688 votes respectively; Nos. 18 and 33 are new cases. Of the four partly London and partly Provincial cases, No. 7, with claims on London and Essex, has 1952 votes in hand; No. 11, from Northants and Hunts and London, 2684 votes; and No. 12, from Hants and the Isle of Wight and London, 1091 votes. No. 25, from Kent and London, is a new case. Towards the 22 girls from the Provinces and Abroad, Hertfordshire, Kent, and West Yorkshire contribute two each—Nos. 21 and 30 from Hertfordshire; No. 28 from Kent; and Nos. 23 and 29 from West Yorkshire, being all new cases; while the other Kentish girl, at No. 9, has 2103 votes in hand. As for the rest, No. 2, from Essex, has 77 votes to her credit; No. 3, from Cheshire and Lincolnshire, 13 votes; and No. 4, Sussex and Staffordshire, 413 votes. No. 8, from Constantinople, has 981 votes to the good, and No. 10, from East Lancashire and Cumberland and Westmorland, 12 votes. No. 16

(Somersetshire), No. 17 (Oxfordshire and Suffolk), No. 19 (S Africa, E.D.), No. 20 (Dorsetshire), No. 22 (Suffolk), No. 24 (Hants and the Isle of Wight), No. 26 (Bombay), No. 27 (West Lancashire), No. 31 (S. Wales, E.D.), No. 32 (Middlesex), and No. 34 (Lincolnshire), had their cases approved and their names placed on the list at the July Court. No. 15 is the girl who has been withdrawn for presentation. Of the whole 33 children 29 are fatherless, two have lost both parents, and two have them both living. Be it added that the election will take place at the Quarterly General Court of Governors and Subscribers, which will be held at Freemasons' Tavern on Thursday, the 11th October.

The election into

THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS

will be held at the Quarterly Court of Governors and Subscribers at Freemasons' Tavern, on Friday, the 12th October. At this 20 vacancies will be filled from an approved list of 27 candidates, of whom 11 remain from the election in April last, and 16 have had their cases approved since. London has six candidates, of whom Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, and 9 bring forward votes from last April, and No. 15 is a new case; No. 1 having 2368 votes to her credit; No. 4, 2362 votes; No. 5, 1915 votes; No. 6, 2906 votes; and No. 9, 1381 votes. No. 22 (London and Madras) and No. 24 (Hants and Isle of Wight and London) are candidates for the first time. Of the 19 boys hailing from the Provinces and Abroad, East Lancashire sends up three new candidates at Nos. 14, 20, and 21, and the Western Division of South Wales, No. 11, who brings forward 1892 votes, and a new case at No. 19. The others are distributed as follows: No. 2 (Auckland, N.Z.), with 323 votes; No. 3 (Cambridgeshire), with 2801 votes; No. 7 (Sussex), with 2183 votes; No. 8 (Buckinghamshire), with 2244 votes, and 13 to be added; No. 10 (South Wales, W.D., and Monmouthshire), with 115 votes. No. 12 (Gloucestershire); No. 13 (Norfolk and Suffolk); No. 16 (Bermuda, Hong Kong, and South Wales, E.D.); No. 17 (Staffordshire and Derbyshire); No. 18 (Bristol); No. 23 (Hants and the Isle of Wight); No. 25 (Northumberland); No. 26 (Middlesex); and No. 27 (Shropshire) are new to the experience of the ballot, and will figure in the poll for the first time—and in the case of No. 17 for the last time also—on this occasion. Of the whole array of 27, there are 23 who are fatherless and one motherless, while one boy has lost both parents, and two have both parents living. On this list, as on that of the Girls' School, the number of those whose fathers contributed towards the support of our Institutions or helped them as Festival Stewards is very small.

We are pleased to say that there is only one of the 60 children who are on these lists of candidates that if he fails at the election next month will have his name removed on the score of age and he, as already pointed out, is No. 17 on the Boys' List, and has claims upon the Provinces of Derbyshire and Staffordshire. On his behalf, however, we make our usual earnest appeal to the brethren who are not interested in any particular case or cases to give him the benefit of their votes and influence, so that he may not lose the chance of securing those educational advantages, of which he has been adjudged worthy.

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The appendices to the bye-laws of Provincial Grand Lodge generally comprise, first of all, a list of Past Provincial Grand Officers, then extracts from the Book of Constitutions detailing the ceremonial appropriate to foundation stone layings, consecrations, &c., with such modifications as are exacted by local

conditions; and, last of all, certain schedules showing the form in which returns are to be made and certificates to be granted. Too much importance cannot be attached to the correct and conscientious filling up of the quarterly form, as, speaking generally, it constitutes the only available—or, at all events, the only official—record of the Masonic career of each member of the lodge. In order to save a certain amount of handwriting it is not unusual for Secretaries to make the entries showing dates of initiation and joining only *once* in the case of each member. The practice is to be deprecated, inasmuch as it adds considerably to the labours of those who may in the future desire to make reference, and moreover the saving of labour is only small.

It is distinctly laid down, Article 175, that brethren who are in arrears of payment shall have that fact noted against them when the return is made. The Article is not a permissive one, but lays down a distinct duty, and the reason is probably that the Provincial Grand Master may see at a glance whether lodges are acting up to their bye-laws as regards defaulting brethren. The Worshipful Master is responsible for the accuracy of this return, not the Secretary. The latter's responsibility does not extend beyond the lodge, although, as a matter of convenience, communications may be addressed to him directly.

With regard to the form of certificate, the Constitutions do not prescribe any particular form of words, but merely state what should be embodied in it (Articles 203 and 213). These are, first, the fact that all dues have been paid, and second, the circumstances under which the brother has left the lodge. It is of course, obvious that a certificate to the former effect may be given by itself, and that the latter certificate practically involves a statement regarding the dues.

But it is generally found that a particular form of language is prescribed by each Provincial Grand Lodge, and it is in such general terms that we should imagine no lodge can take exception to it. It is necessary to speak precisely on this subject, because there is occasionally to be found, a sort of idea that the certificate is a testimonial or a "letter dimissory," carrying with it the lodge's recommendation of the brother concerned.

When, therefore, an unpopular brother withdraws from the lodge, possibly in order to anticipate his exclusion for un-Masonic conduct, the lodge which regards the certificate in this light, hesitates to commend him to another lodge. But the certificate which every brother, however unworthy, is entitled to under Article 213 is simply a bare statement of fact, and carries with it no expression of the lodge's opinion. We quote the form generally found.

"This is to certify that Brother A (*insert rank*) has (1) on this date (2) satisfied all demands of the lodge and is in possession of every Masonic privilege arising from his membership of it."

(1) or "previous to withdrawal."

(2) or "been excluded for non-compliance with the lodge bye-laws (*here specify*)."

By adhering to the printed form and employing the actual language of the Book of Constitutions the lodge clears itself from any possible suspicion of animus.

Anything further must ensue under the provisions of Article 183, which throws the onus of admitting an unworthy brother upon the lodge he proposes to enter, and in the majority of provinces printed forms of inquiry are provided, the replies to which are considered confidential. The onus is not only upon the lodge but upon "all members of lodges," and, therefore, if any brother possesses information on this head which might affect the candidate's chances of admission, he is bound to disclose it, and in so doing he is acting in a thoroughly Masonic way. Unfortunately, brethren hesitate to act in this manner for fear of their conduct being described as un-Masonic.

The following interesting case came under the writer's notice quite recently. Brother A. was excluded for non-payment of dues. He did not apply for a certificate showing the circumstances under which his connection with the lodge was severed, and, therefore, none was issued. Some time elapsed, and he then wrote to ask what his arrears amounted to, in order, as he said, that he might liquidate them, and thus be supplied with the no-dues-certificate to enable him to join a lodge elsewhere. But the brethren, since his exclusion, had been put in possession of information which led them to consider he was not a fit and proper person to join any lodge, and they, therefore, declined either to tell him what his arrears were or to receive them if he paid them. In this way they practically succeeded in permanently cutting him off from any further connection with Freemasonry. (See Article 212.)

The lodge is acting perfectly within its rights. It can decline to receive money proposed to be paid to it from any source

(other than in the case of a member paying his dues), and especially can it decline to receive payments from a non-member. All the aggrieved brother can do is to tender the amount of arrears—or give security—to the lodge he proposes to enter, which lodge will then have to refund the amount to the brother's original lodge—in the rather improbable event of their accepting him.

We now come to a consideration of the bye-laws of private lodges. Let us, first of all, see what is absolutely necessary. The Constitutions allow the utmost freedom, and the compilation of bye-laws is entirely in the hands of the lodge. Certainly they have to undergo the scrutiny of the Provincial Grand Master and of the Grand Master, but all they claim the right of doing is of striking out anything "inconsistent with the regulations of the Grand Lodge," and inferentially with the bye-laws of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

They should contain the name and number of the lodge, place, days and hours of regular meetings, dates of election and installation, regulations for the ballot, scale of fees, regulations affecting charity and refreshment funds, and, if a "class" lodge, definition of qualification for membership. Nothing more is necessary, and in the writer's opinion the fewer bye-laws the better. In 1895 the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania took into consideration the variety and contradictory character of bye-laws of lodges holding under that Constitution, and a suggestion was made in an American Masonic journal at the time—and worked out by a writer in the *Indian Masonic Review*, that a schedule of bye-laws should be adopted for compulsory use, leaving, of course, blanks where necessary. Such a proposition might be considered revolutionary, but it would not be without its recommendations.

What we said about a great proportion of the provisions of provincial bye-laws, applies to fully one-half the contents of those of any private lodge—in that they are but reprints of the Book of Constitutions.

It should be remembered that any addition or alteration, or amendment of any kind, must go through exactly the same process as the original bye-laws, and has no validity until it has received the last official *imprimatur*.

An alteration in the name of the lodge is, of course, an alteration in the bye-laws, and so is an alteration in the place of meeting. As this latter, however, is not infrequent, special notices of the Constitutions 167-8-9 have been drawn up to deal with it.

Under these any change in the place of meeting can only be decided upon by two-thirds of the members voting on the question at a special meeting. There are also two other Articles referring to the place of meeting.

The proprietor or manager of the tavern or house where the lodge meets may not, without dispensation, hold any office in it, although he may be a member.

Article 171 says that he shall have no lien on the property under penalty of the lodge being erased.

This Article does not, of course, affect the landlord's right in common law to exact such security as is lawful for the payment of arrears of rent. But the lodge has to see that the rent is paid, and that such lien does not accrue.

Nor can a lodge borrow money on the security of its property by bill of sale or otherwise.

Such occurrences are, of course, unlikely; but still Article 171 must have some meaning, and the penalty of erasure would not be suggested without very excellent reason.

Craft Masonry.

St. Cuthbert's Lodge, No. 1902.

The annual meeting of the members of the above lodge was held in the new Masonic Hall, Bedlington, on the 4th instant, Bro. S. Hare, W.M., presiding. There was a good attendance of Prov. G. Officers and others, including Bros. A. E. Burdon, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.; R. Foggan, P.M., P.P.G. Std. Br.; John Charlton, P.M., P.P. G. Std. Br.; John Swann, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; Philip Gibson, P.M., P.P.A.G.P.; L. Carr, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; T. Guthrie, P.M., D.C. 559; A. A. Askwith, I.P.M. 659; A. Tinwell, and J. Parson.

The lodge having been opened, after the transaction of the preliminary business of the lodge, Bro. Edward W. Carr, W.M. elect, was installed into the chair of W.M. for the ensuing year, the impressive ceremony being ably given by Bro. G. R. Turner, P.M., who was assisted by Bros. J. Swann, P.M., and P. H. Gibson, P.M. The newly-installed Master then invested the following brethren as his officers for the coming year: Bros. S. Hare, I.P.M.; R. Absalom, S.W.; R. Johnson, J.W.; Rev. P. Rudd, B.A., Chap.; John Charlton, P.M., Sec.; P. H. Gibson, P.M., Treas.; G. Hudson, P.M., P.P.G.S.B., Almshouse; Peter Dickinson, S.D.; Isaac Barker, J.D.; T. W. Barker, P.M., D.C.; R. Beadnall, Org.; T. J. Croudace, I.G.; H. Goldsmith, Dixon, J. Wilson, and H. Patterson, Stewards; and R. Newsome, Tyler. Bro. Charlton, on behalf of Bro. Newsome, Tyler, made an interesting presentation of useful articles to the lodge, which was thankfully received by the Master on behalf of the lodge.

The meeting shortly afterwards terminated, and adjourned to Bro. Metcalf's, the Turk's Head Hotel, where the annual banquet was held. After the removal of the cloth, the new W.M., Bro. E. W. Carr, presided.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and enthusiastically received, songs and recitations being given at intervals by several brethren.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

LIVING BAROMETERS.

Amongst recent advances in weather-lore, one branch of this subject has received but scant attention. There is a widespread belief in the delicate powers possessed by some animals and plants of predicting the approach of weather changes; it is even said, in some cases, these natural barometers seem to be more sensitive than the meteorological instruments in ordinary use. Nor could it be wondered at if the instinct which the lower animals have acquired, throughout long periods of natural selection, of foretelling the coming of the storm that robs them of their food, or destroys their home and young, should prove more unerring than the more laborious observations of man. The power of adaptation to circumstances, which man alone enjoys to its full extent, has rendered it unnecessary that he should know, by intuition, what the weather of the next few hours may be. But with the lower animals the case is altogether different. Defenceless as they are against the ravages of the storm, and powerless to combat the fury of the elements, it is often to them a matter of life or death should their instinct fail to warn them of approaching danger. This gift has, no doubt, been an important factor in determining the survival of the fittest; it has given its possessors an advantage over their less fortunate competitors. The gift may, however, be less mysterious than it at first sight appears. The President of the Royal Meteorological Society, in a long discourse on "Weather Fallacies," printed in the Society's *Quarterly Journal*, while not affirming that all indications derived, as to the future, from plants and animals are fallacious, practically asserted that most of those examined by scientific experts had broken down. The actions relied on, as indication of future changes, indicate directly only what the animals at that moment feel, not what they feel is coming. If they act in a special way, before rain comes, that is simply, he believes, because they feel uneasy, by reason of actual chilliness, or dampness; but in fact, may precede still wetter weather. So with plants; they act in accordance with the weather conditions, actually prevailing conditions, which, in many cases, precede greater changes, so that valuable hints may be derived from these sources. The restlessness of domestic animals on the approach of rainy weather has given rise to many a well-worn household proverb. Cats and dogs are given to scratching and other uneasy movements, while their fur looks less bright and glossy; horses and cattle stretch their necks and sniff the air; sheep become frolicsome, or turn their backs to the wind, with frequent quarrels; goats bleat incessantly, and leave the hill-tops for more sheltered spots; pigs run uneasily about, carrying straw to the sty, and no longer wallow in the mud and mire; fowls huddle together in the farm yard, with drooping wings, and the air is filled with the clamorous cackle of geese and ducks. When Louis 11th, astonished at the remarkable accuracy of the charcoal-burner's weather predictions, curiously asked the cause, he learned that the real prophet was the man's donkey, which always hung his ears forward and rubbed his back against the wall on the approach of rain. But although domestic animals are undoubtedly sensitive to changes, present or coming, in the weather, it is among the wilder creatures that we find this power in its fullest extent. Moles become more active in digging; stoats and weasels are unusually restless and uneasy; rats and mice run noisily about in the house walls; and the hedgehog fortifies his cave against the coming storm, with an unerring precision, which has earned for this strange little animal, quite a reputation amongst weather prophets. Wild birds suffer much from inclement seasons, and might, therefore, be expected to have an unusually delicate perception of unfavourable conditions. In addition to the accurate knowledge of the changes of seasons, which is indispensable to habits of migration, keen sensitiveness to weather conditions is abundantly shown in the daily habits of birds, both large and small. Rooks and swallows, instead of taking their customary distant flight, remain near home, when a tempest is brewing; sea gulls no longer venture out to sea, but hover over the fields or fly inland when wind and rain are near; swallows and martins fly low, and skim the water; herons seem doubtful where to rest; and the robin broods melancholy in the bush or seeks the shelter of a neighbouring roof. Stormy petrels have long established their claim to consideration by mariners as weather-guides, owing to their invariable habit of collecting in the wake of ships before a storm. There are some, however, who ascribe this behaviour of Mother Carey's chickens rather to the superstitious imagination of sailors than to the weather wisdom of the bird itself. Even aquatic animals are alleged to be affected by the approach of atmospheric changes. It is said that porpoises and dolphins swim to windward on the approach of rough weather, and sailors look with misgivings upon the sports and gambols of these unwieldy creatures as they circle round their ships when the sea is calm. The variable prospects of the angler according to the height of the barometer is, in itself, sufficient proof of the effect of the weather upon the inhabitants of our lakes and rivers. It is an interesting fact that the earliest suggestion of storm warnings for our coasts was that of Dr. Merryweather at the Great Exhibition of 1851, where he showed a living barometer consisting of bottled leeches, which rang little bells, by an ingenious contrivance, when a storm was at hand.

(To be continued.)

PAINTERS IN THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH.

(Continued.)

The next painter of whom we shall speak is Cornelius Ketel. He was born at Gouda in 1548, and early prosecuted his art with great ardour under the direction of his uncle, a tolerable painter, and a better scholar. At 18 he went to Delft, and placed himself with Anthony Blockland, with whom he remained a year. From thence he travelled to Fontainebleau, where he worked with great applause in competition with three of his

countrymen, but the Court coming to Fontainebleau, they were ordered to leave the palace. Ketel went to Paris, where he painted some histories, but an edict obliging the subjects of the King of Spain to quit France, Ketel returned to Gouda, and remained there six years. The troubles in his own country continuing, and consequently little encouragement being given to the arts, Ketel embarked in 1573 for England, and was entertained at London by a sculptor and architect there, a friend of his uncle. Here he married a Dutch woman, and his works growing into esteem, he was much employed by the merchants in painting portraits, but was seldom engaged on history, to which his inclination chiefly led him. However, having painted an allegorical piece of Strength vanquished by Wisdom, it was purchased by a young merchant, and presented to Sir Christopher Hatton, afterwards Lord Chancellor. This incident introduced Ketel to Court; he drew a good length of Sir Christopher, now at the Earl of Lichfield's, at Ditchley; the portrait of Edward Vere, Earl of Pembroke, and of several others. At last, in 1578, he had the honour of painting the Queen herself, at the request of the Countess of Hertford; this, we may suppose, was Frances Howard, second wife of the Earl, and sister of the Lord Admiral Nottingham, a favourite. The Earl of Hertford had been in disgrace, for his first marriage with the Lady Catherine Grey. Elizabeth, at this time, was being entertained at Hanworth, by the famous Anne Stanhope, widow of the Protector, and mother of the Earl of Hertford. The duchess died nine years afterwards, at the age of 90. Ketel left England in 1581, and settled at Amsterdam, where he painted a large picture of the trained bands, with their portraits and their captain, Herman Rodenburgh Beths, at their head. In this picture, too, he introduced his own portrait. The disposition, resemblances, and the different stuffs of the habits, well imitated, were much admired in this piece. It was placed in the gallery of the Mall, at Amsterdam. In 1589, he undertook another picture of the same sort, for the company of St. Sebastian, in which was the portrait of their captain, Didier Rosencrans. It was reckoned not inferior to the former, and was neither confused nor unanimated, notwithstanding the number of portraits it contained.

(To be continued.)

OUR VISIT TO PARIS.

During the middle of last month we visited the ever gay and fascinating city. Although the Exhibition chiefly engrossed our attention, we managed to find time to visit the leading theatres, &c., of Paris. We have much pleasure in saying that in every case we were most courteously received and as the representative of the *Freemason*, the Dramatic Critic was warmly welcomed wherever he presented his professional card.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT'S THEATRE.

The play here, which has had a long and uninterrupted run up to the present time, is entitled "L'Aiglon." It is the production of the dramatic poet Rostand. The story revolves around the leading character of the piece, the Duke de Reichstadt, the son of the Emperor, Napoleon I. The plot is fanciful, and utterly improbable—there is beautiful writing in some of the lines, for it is in verse. The chief rôle is undertaken by the famed M^{me}. Sarah Bernhardt. She, with her consummate genius, invests the character of "L'Aiglon," the unhappy young duke, with an interest which would fail to be awakened by a less distinguished artiste. We have always had a great admiration for M^{me}. Sarah Bernhardt—in "Ernani," "La Dame aux Camélias," and, above all, in "Adrienne Lecouvreur," which we consider her masterpiece, she has not had, and need not fear, any rival, but we must confess we were not so well pleased with the rôle she has lately taken up; this, however, is a matter of individual taste. The great actress is well supported by her own selected company, especially by the actor who takes the character of Zephyrine Flammeau.

LE NOUVEAU THEATRE.

This is the temporary home of Le Theatre Français—the late theatre having been burnt down comparatively recently. Here we saw "L'Avare," the well-known comedy of Molière, revered by the French in much the same manner as Shakespeare is by us. All the actors, thoroughly trained for their respective parts, rendered a complete and efficient performance. The comedy was supplemented by a play of domestic interest entitled "Le Filibuster," which was interpreted with much feeling by those who took part in it.

"LE JARDIN DE PARIS"—"LES AMBASSADEURS."

The above are Cafés Chantants, on the Champs Elysées. In the evening these Variety Theatres are brilliantly illuminated, and are the great resort of Parisians and "strangers within the gates," who while away there the evening hours. With one or two exceptions we saw and heard nothing which might shock the sensitive ears of Mrs. Grundy. Some of the musical *morceaux* were from well-known classical authors, and were beautifully rendered.

MUSÉE GREVIN.

This, which holds in Paris much the same position as M^{me}. Tussaud's in London, is a great attraction not only to visitors, but also to Parisians themselves. There are well-modelled groups representing scenes in the life of Napoleon I., as, for instance, "An Evening at Malmaison," "The Death-bed of Napoleon at St. Helena." Many interesting relics are to be seen in connection with the first and second Empires—"The Assassination of Marat by Charlotte Corday," also "Charlotte Corday condemned to death by the Revolutionary Tribunal," "Some Domestic Scenes of Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette in the Prison of the Temple," "The poor young Dauphin (Louis XVII.) and his brutal goler, Timon," and a series of groups—seven in number—entitled a "History of a Crime," from its conception (murder) to that of its expiation at the guillotine. At different parts of the rooms in most natural positions are figures which are apt to deceive (at first sight) visitors passing by. We were not surprised to learn that the "Musée Grevin" is a continued attraction. It is well deserving of it.



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EVERY SATURDAY during September (for 3, 8, 10, 15 or 17 days).

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

12.0 noon for Grimsby, New Clew, Cleethorpes, Chester (Northgate).

4.0 p.m. for Douglas (Isle of Man), via Liverpool.

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 (for 3, 6 or 8 days).

8.0 a.m. for Bridlington, Filey, Middlesboro', Newcastle, Scarborough, York.

10.0 a.m. for Knutsford, Northwich, St. Helens, Southport, Widnes, Wigan.

11.20 a.m. for Barnsley, Bradford, Dewsbury, Halifax, Huddersfield, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham (Victoria), Sheffield (Victoria), Wakefield.

12.0 noon for Cleethorpes, Doncaster, Gainsboro', Grimsby, Hull, Retford, Worksop.

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FRIDAYS, September 14th and 28th (for 4, 10 and 16 days), to NORTHALLERTON, DARLINGTON, RICHMOND, DURHAM, NEWCASTLE, ALNWICK, BERWICK, EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, PERTH, DUNDEE, OBAN, ABERDEEN, INVERNESS, and OTHER STATIONS IN SCOTLAND.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

Masonic Notes.

We have not received copy of the Address which
Bro. C. F. Matier was deputed by the Board of
Stewards for the recent Festival of the Mark Benevo-
lent Fund to present—and presented in open Mark
Grand Lodge on the 4th instant—to the Earl of

Euston, M.W. Pro G.M.M., as a mark of their sincere
appreciation of his services on that occasion. But it
is not necessary that we should have a precise verbal
knowledge of its contents in order to realise either the
thoughtful kindness of the 297 Stewards or the nature
and extent of his lordship's services both generally
and particularly to the Mark Degree. Lord Euston
has been the ruling spirit of the Mark for the last 10
years. He served as Deputy G.M.M. from 1890 till
1893, when he had conferred upon him the still higher
and more responsible office of M.W. Pro G.M.M., and
in that position he has since remained to his own great
honour and to the manifest advantage of that branch
of our modern Masonry.

But this by no means represents the complete record
of his Mark services. On the death of Bro. William
Kelly, Prov. Grand Mark Master of Leicestershire,
Northants, Derbyshire, and Rutland, a rearrangement
was made of that Province, and his lordship was
appointed, in 1894, Prov. Grand Mark Master of
Northants, Hunts, and Beds, and to a like position in
Leicestershire, while Derbyshire was placed as a
separate Province under Bro. A. Woodiwiss as Prov.
G.M.M.

Again, his lordship has taken a deep interest in
the work of the Mark Benevolent Fund, and has
uniformly brought to bear in its behalf both the high
influence of his official position and his personal
sympathies in advancing its interests. Twice has he
presided in person at the annual Festival, namely, in
1890, when, with the help of a Board of 169 Stewards,
his lordship had the pleasure of hearing announced
what was then the record total of donations and sub-
scriptions to the extent of £2354; and again on the 11th
July last, when a Board of Stewards numbering 297
ladies and brethren compiled the record sum of £5113.
Such work as this merits the honour which has just been
shown his lordship by the presentation of this address
in album form, in circumstances of publicity which
naturally must enhance its value in his lordship's eyes;
and we trust he may be spared for many years to
confirm, and if possible extend, his claims to the
affectionate regard of the Mark brethren.

As regards Lord Euston's general services to Free-
masonry and its Charitable Institutions, there is ample
evidence forthcoming from all sides. His lordship
came into prominence in 1887, when his Royal
Highness the M.W. Grand Master was pleased to
appoint him to the Provincial Grand Mastership of
Northants and Hunts, which had just become vacant
by the resignation of the late Duke of Manchester,
and in 1888 he was chosen to succeed his Grace as
Grand Superintendent for the same Province. In the
following year he presided as Chairman at the Festival
of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, when
under his auspices a Board of 351 Stewards raised a
total of donations and subscriptions amounting to
£13,508. Later in 1889 Lord Euston was invited to
accept the position of Chairman of the Provisional
Managing Committee of the Royal Masonic Institution
for Boys; while in 1890—on Lord Mayor Isaacs finding
himself prevented at the last moment by illness from
fulfilling his engagement to preside as Chairman at
the Benevolent Institution—his lordship very kindly
stepped forward and filled the gap, the Board of 330
Stewards compiling amongst them a total of contribu-
tions amounting to £13,841. In 1893 he occupied the
chair at the 105th Anniversary Festival of the Royal
Masonic Institution for Girls, when there was raised in
all £14,011.

But our record of service is still unexhausted. His
lordship is Grand Master of the Grand Council both
of the Royal and Select Masters and of the Allied
Masonic Degrees. He is Lieut. G. Commander of the
Supreme Council, 33°, of the Ancient and Accepted
Rite, Prov. G. Master for London and the Metro-
politan Counties in the Royal Order of Scotland
M.E. and S. Grand Master of the Great Priory of
England and Wales and Grand Cross of the Order of
the Temple, and M.I. Grand Sovereign of the Order
of Rome and the Red Cross of Constantine. In all
these various offices his lordship has exhibited the
greatest energy and activity, nor is there an occasion
on which no matter what personal inconvenience it
may entail, he does not undertake a task which is
calculated to promote the interests of any of them.
There are not many, even among the most distinguished
members of our Order, whose duties are so multifarious,
or who, in the discharge of those duties, acquit them-
selves so brilliantly.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge
of Warwickshire will be held at the Church Schools,
Solihull, on Wednesday, the 26th instant, under the
auspices of the St. Alphege Lodge, No. 1431. Prov.
Grand Lodge will be opened at 2.45 p.m., and the
usual banquet will follow at 5 p.m.—tickets, exclusive
of wine, 5s. 6d. each, for which application must be
made to the Chairman of the St. Alphege Board of
Stewards, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham, on
or before Saturday, the 22nd instant. The business
will be of the usual character, and in the course of the
proceedings the brethren will go in procession to St.
Alphege Church, where a sermon will be preached by
the Rev. Lloyd Evans, M.A., Prov. G. Chaplain, and
the offertory devoted to the Warwickshire Masonic
Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund, the report of whose
successful Festival in Stoneleigh Park in July is the
chief feature in the paper of Agenda.

On Tuesday, the 9th October, there will be a
meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of War-
wickshire, held in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, at which
the St. John's Lodge, No. 2811, will be consecrated,
the W.M. designate installed, and the officers for the
ensuing year invested. The ceremony will be per-
formed by Bro. Edward Letchworth, G. Secretary,
assisted by Bro. Frank Richardson, Past G. Deacon,
and the officers of the Prov. Grand Lodge of War-
wickshire. When the ceremonies and other duties of
the day are concluded, a banquet will be served at the
Queen's Hotel, tickets for which—at 5s. each, exclu-
sive of wine—must be applied for to Bro. J. W. Mills,
Queen's Hotel, Coventry, not later than Saturday, the
6th October.

We have to acknowledge receipt of Part 2 of Volume
XIII. of the *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, being the
Transactions of the Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No.
2076, and shall take an early opportunity of reviewing
its contents. These are varied in character, and quite
up to the standard of merit for which the Transactions
of the lodge are noted, the principal contribution
being, appropriately, that of the W. Master—Bro. T. B.
Whytehead, P.G.S.B.—entitled "The Relics of the
Grand Lodge of York." The paper is not only
admirable in itself, containing as it does much inter-
esting and readable matter, but has the additional
advantage of being embellished with quite a number
of illustrations, including a portrait of Bro. Francis
Drake, G.M. in 1861, and several facsimile reproduc-
tions of minutes, &c.

The Committee of Management of the Royal
Masonic Benevolent Institution held its regular
monthly meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday
under the presidency of Bro. H. A. Tobias, P.G.
Std. B. The Secretary reported the deaths of three
male annuitants and one widow, and also of one widow,
receiving half her late husband's annuity, and one
male candidate, and six petitions (five male and one
widow) were considered and four accepted, the names
being ordered to be placed on the lists for the elections
in May, 1901, while those of two men were deferred.

We have received copy of the proceedings of the
Quarterly Communication of the Dist. G. Lodge of
Burma, held at the Masonic Hall, Rangoon, on the
25th June last, under the presidency of Bro. Dr. N. N.
Parakh, Dep. Dist. G.M., acting as Dist. G.M., in the
unavoidable absence of the Dist. G.M.—Bro. J.
Copley Moyle. Considering the difficulties which
lodges in India have to contend with, the Craft in
Burma appears to be in a comfortable position, nor did
anything of a regrettable nature present itself at the
meeting except the report of the death of Bro. E. G.
Barron, Dist. G. Secretary, to whose sterling worth
a just tribute of respect was paid and ordered to be
entered on the minutes. Moreover, steps were taken,
and are being taken, throughout the District, to educate
the two boys he has left to mourn his loss, a sum of
200 rupees having been voted towards that object by
the Dist. G. Lodge, while Lodge Victoria, in Burma, of
which the deceased was a member, has already raised
780 rupees.

As regards the state of the Craft, both numerical
and financial, everything appears to be going well.
There are 10 lodges on the District roll with an
aggregate of subscribing members on the 31st March
last of 373 as compared with 354 on the 31st Decem-
ber, 1899, the bulk of the increase having occurred in
Lodge Victoria in Burma, No. 832, Rangoon, which
can boast of an accession of one initiate and 13 join-
ing members during the quarter. No returns had
been received from two of the lodges, and in their case
the numbers for the previous quarter were carried on.
On the General Fund there was reported a balance of
1174 Rupees, while on the Benevolent Fund the
balance was 1153 Rupees. We trust that future
accounts and Returns may prove as satisfactory.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

1131]

A CURIOUS CERTIFICATE.

Bro. C. Bamfylde Warre, the courteous Secretary of the Brighton Masonic Library and Museum, has sent me a certificate for examination and report, and being unusual, I have copied and had it reproduced, so as to make its character known. It will be noted that its issue was at Messina, and yet under the wing of the "Lodge of Edinburgh," No. 1, Scotland.

[COPY.]

To all and Sundry
to whose knowledge these presents shall come Greeting, these are to Certify that the Bearer, Brother Peter Grieve, was duly entered an apprentice, passed Fellow Craft and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason by a dispensation from No. 1: Mary's Chapel, holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In testimony whereof these presents are subscribed by the Master, Past Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, at Messina, the 18th Day of November, In the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight hundred and nine, and of Light 5809.

John Otto Bayer, Master.
Jno. Simpson, Past Master.
H. Whalley, Senr. Warden.
Wm. B. Kerstiman, Jun. Warden.

It is wholly written on parchment, 8½ inches long by 6½ inches wide, and is endorsed *Diploma in favour of Brother Peter Grieve*, and in the S.W. corner, a sky ribbon is introduced, with a circular seal attached in a tin box, having in the centre, as a crest, a hand holding a trowel, with the letters X. and R. (apparently) on either side respectively, and *Scotland, No. 1*, below. Enclosing these are two circles bearing therein the words "DISPENSATION . FROM . MARYS . CHAPPEL." It was the custom a century (more or less) ago to permit of brethren entering candidates residing at long distances from their lodges, and then reporting the fact, so as to be duly inscribed in the minutes and acknowledged. In Bro. D. Murray Lyon's invaluable "History of the Lodge of Edinburgh (Mary's Chapel) No. 1" (1873), there will be found several instances of such a Scottish custom, and described as "private lodge commissions or dispensations." My esteemed friend, the Grand Secretary of Scotland, states (p. 105)—that, notwithstanding Grand Lodge condemned the practice, "the system to which it refers continued in active operation, chiefly among west country lodges, up till the second decade of the present century." He cites one at Greenock in 1814, but evidently was not aware of the Lodge of Edinburgh having (apparently) empowered the brethren at Messina to make Masons out of lodge. The existence and use of a special seal would tend also to show that the usage had been for some years prior to 1809, when the existing diploma was signed, sealed, and delivered. There was an English lodge at Messina (Italy) from 1778, but it had ceased to exist, according to Bro. Lane's "Masonic Records," long before it was removed from the Roll in 1813, in consequence of "the Royal Edict, circa 1783."

W. J. HUGHAN.

Reviews.

"TORQUAY BY THE SEA."—This charming souvenir has been prepared, as respects the text, and the character and arrangement of the numerous illustrations by Bro. W. Eliot Thomas, M.J.L. (No. 1402), who has done his part most admirably. Many of the choice photographs were taken by Bro. J. C. Dinham and reproduced for the work, and beyond question, nothing superior to the kind has ever been published in the county. Of course, Bro. Thomas is lavish in his praise of lovely Torquay, and no wonder, for where is it to be surpassed, with "its miles of drives and walks, beautiful well kept pleasure grounds—filled with flowers all the year round—pine woods and rockeries, fountains and promenades, sands and coves for bathing, marine and moorland excursions, golf, cricket, tennis, croquet, cycling, bowling, and yachting clubs, and excellent facilities from fishing?" It is within five hours of Paddington, and through carriages are provided from large towns and cities still further removed. This handsome book may be obtained from Messrs. Smith and Son, Fleet-street, or of the author "Dunraven," Torquay, for one shilling net, or 3d. more for postage, as it makes a fine volume.

PROVINCIAL GRAND MARK LODGE OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

CONSECRATION OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT MARK LODGE, No. 541.

The annual meeting of the Prov. G. Mark Lodge of Staffordshire, to which is attached the Shropshire Mark Lodge, No. 444, was held at the Oddfellows' Hall, Stafford, on Friday, the 7th instant. The Dep. Prov. G. Mark Master, Bro. J. F. Pepper, presided, who, in his address, referred to the increase of Mark Masons and consecration of the new lodge. The roll of lodges in the province was called over, the accounts presented and passed, and officers for the ensuing year appointed and invested.

After the conclusion of Prov. G. Lodge a large number of distinguished brethren assembled for the purpose of constituting and consecrating the new lodge, under the style and title of the Staffordshire Knot Lodge of Mark Master Masons, No. 541. A like ceremony has not before been performed in Stafford, and naturally it aroused a good deal of enthusiasm amongst those who were entitled to witness the same. It may be mentioned that there are only four Mark lodges in the county, and these are held at Hanley, Handsworth, and two at Wolverhampton, so that the Stafford brethren are particularly fortunate in having their petition granted by Mark Grand Lodge, and thus being the means of another lodge being added to the province. It is beyond question that excellent work has been done in the Craft and Royal Arch, and this additional advantage is mainly attributable to a few enthusiastic brethren, including Bros. Dr. Freer (Rugeley), G. Wormal, J. T. Marson, J. E. Evans, and F. Amies.

The visitors present were the M.W. the Earl of Euston, Pro G. Master; Bros. C. Belton, P.G.W.; Gordon Miller, G.M.O.; the Rev. W. Trevor Parkins, P.G. Chap.; C. F. Matier, P.G.W., G. Sec.; C. A. Newham, A. D. Tomlinson, W. Tecton, J. H. Cooksey, J. Jervis, H. Byolin, W. Baxter, W. A. Godson, J. J. Smith, T. E. Chain, E. Booth, C. J. Morris, J. Warrilow, J. Leese, C. P. Perry, H. R. Strange, and H. Winder.

The M.W. the Earl of Euston addressed the meeting, reminding the brethren that they had assembled for establishing a new lodge, adding that

he had no doubt the founders would do their utmost to preserve the interests of the Craft, and make the new lodge worthy of its name.

The Grand Chaplain offered prayer, after which the founders were arranged in order, and Bro. Matier read the petition and warrant. A brief but very eloquent oration was delivered by the Grand Chaplain. Then followed the sublime ceremony of consecration, with the sacred elements of strewing corn, pouring wine and oil, and sprinkling salt, solemn music being played at intervals. The interesting and instructive ceremonies were very beautifully performed. The Pro G.M. then dedicated and constituted the lodge. Other necessary formalities followed, and the proceedings of consecration and the Patriarchal Benediction brought a most impressive ceremony to an end.

Then followed the installation of the new W.M., Bro. J. F. Pepper, who subsequently invested the following as his officers for the year: Bros. Lieut.-Colonel Murray, S.W.; R. Freer, J.W.; G. Wormal, M.O.; J. E. Evans, S.O.; J. T. Marson, J.O.; F. Amies, Treas.; L. W. Potts, Sec.; R. J. Bowen, S.D.; G. Dean, J.D.; J. Jackson, Org.; W. N. Landor, I.G.; and Riccalton, Stwd.

The proceedings concluded, the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet provided by Mrs. Hastings, the capable and popular manageress of the Swan Hotel, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts being proposed and honoured.

Several of the brethren gave valuable assistance in the musical portion, Bro. Jackson presiding at the pianoforte in his usual masterly style.

FREEMASONRY IN TORQUAY.

MEMORIAL TO BRO. LANE.

The Jordan Lodge, No. 1402, celebrated its annual festival on Monday last, at the Masonic Temple, Tor Hill-road, when the "John Lane Memorial Library" was unveiled. There was a very large attendance of members and visitors, who evinced great interest in the proceedings.

Bro. W. J. HUGHAN, who had kindly attended by request of the W.M. and the Committee to unveil the Masonic Memorial Library in memoriam of the lamented Bro. Lane, F.C.A., P.M. of the lodge, and P.A.G.D.C. of England, delivered a suitable address, referring briefly to his deceased friend and the decision of the lodge to so commemorate his valuable services to the Craft generally and the Jordan, No. 1402, Torquay, in particular. Bro. Hughan considered no other form of memorial could be so appropriate, as the works had been purchased and collected by Bro. Lane at considerable expense. They were very valuable, especially for reference, and because of the rarity of several of the choice and ancient tomes; and not a few were either unique copies or most difficult to procure. In the collection were many Books of Constitution, including the premier edition of 1723, and the still scarcer issues of 1738-1746, numerous histories of lodges—almost a complete set—and quite a number of privately printed books, which, owing to their not being for sale, were frequently never sent to the British Museum, and so were often absent from even large libraries of the kind. If any brethren wished to follow in Bro. Lane's footsteps (and Bro. Hughan did not see why they should not, as he was an initiate of the lodge), there was abundant material on the shelves for the purpose, without going outside their handsome hall, and he hoped some would be found to utilise such a wealth of literary matter for the benefit of the Craft. He was very pleased that the brethren had so heartily fallen in with his suggestion to acquire this collection of Masonic works, and he would like also to add that Mrs. Lane and the family were wholly satisfied and gratified with the destination of the library, and sincerely appreciated the motives which had led them to select that form of exhibiting their fraternal love for their zealous and distinguished member, who, as they sadly remembered, had been called away from labour so suddenly just as the past year was expiring. So soon as time permitted, Bro. Hughan proposed to compile a catalogue of the collection, and have it printed and circulated amongst the members, with bibliographical notes appended, so as to inform non-experts of the character of the works, &c.

Bro. HUGHAN then, as the curtains were drawn aside, declared the "John Lane Masonic Memorial Library" duly unveiled for the use of the members, and, with certain restrictions doubtless, for the province and the Craft generally, and congratulated the W.M. and brethren on the acquisition of such an important and representative collection of Masonic works.

After the unveiling ceremony, and a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Hughan for his very interesting address, Bro. Richard Dutton Scholes, of Victoria Parade, was ably installed by Bro. John Taylor, P.P.G. Reg., assisted by the following Board of Masters: Bros. W. J. Hughan, P.M. 70, 131, 2076, P.S.G.D. Eng.; T. H. Wills, P.P.D.G.D.C.; W. P. Roberts, P.M. 1358, P.G. Reg.; H. Gillard, P.M. 248; J. W. Daw, I.P.M. 1358; E. Pike, P.M. 707; H. R. Beer, P.M. 328; S. Wills, P.M. 1402; W. Hersey, P.M. 1402; J. W. McKellar, P.M. 1402; G. West, P.M. 1402; T. J. Crossman, P.M. 1402; and C. Hill, P.M. 1402.

The installation over, the brethren duly saluted the new W.M., who then proceeded to invest his officers as follows: Bros. J. D. Beer, I.P.M.; J. Glanfield, P.M., S.W.; W. Grist, J.W.; C. Hill, P.M., Chap.; S. Wills, P.M., Treas.; John Taylor, P.M., P.P.G.R., Sec.; W. Eliot Thomas, S.D.; Tom Berry, J.D.; J. G. Turle, P.M., D.C.; J. Heaton Bailey, Org.; R. C. Bishop, I.G.; H. C. Goss and J. J. Browne, Stwds.; J. E. Newton, Tyler; and T. H. Wills, P.M., P.P.D.G.D.C., Charity Steward and Representative on Committee of Petitions.

Bro. HUGHAN then rose, and having to leave, asked permission of the W.M. to express his warm appreciation of the excellent manner in which their esteemed Secretary, Bro. John Taylor, had installed the new W.M. He did so on behalf of himself and the visitors, who would all agree with him that it could not be better done. (Applause.)

The retiring W.M., Bro. J. D. Beer, was presented by the lodge with a beautiful gold Past Master's jewel, in recognition of his services during his year of office.

The Treasurer's statement of accounts was read and adopted, and showed a very prosperous state of affairs, 100 guineas having been paid off the building fund in two years, besides £125 for furnishing, &c., at the

opening in 1898. During the past year £27 had been contributed to the Red Cross Relief Funds in connection with the South African War.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to the banqueting hall, where about 50 sat down to an excellent spread provided by Mr. Lintern.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were given and responded to, and some songs were excellently rendered by various brethren, accompanied on the piano by Bro. J. Heaton Bailey, Org., whose musical service for the lodge, which has recently been printed, has met with unqualified approval by musical experts and Masonic students of the Craft, all of whom consider it very suitable and appropriate for the purpose.

PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF DORSETSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the above Prov. G. Lodge was held at the Mowlem Institute, Swanage, on the 6th instant. The Prov. G. Master, Bro. Montagu John Guest, presided, supported by the Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Colonel Brymer, M.P., and a large number of Prov. G. Officers and brethren.

At the conclusion of the business the Prov. G. Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|--------------------|
| Bro. J. M. Burt ... | ... | ... | Prov. S.G.W. |
| " B. Morris ... | ... | ... | Prov. J.G.W. |
| " Rev. F. Salmon ... | ... | ... | Prov. G. Chap. |
| " R. D. Thornton ... | ... | ... | Prov. G. Treas. |
| " Robert Case ... | ... | ... | Prov. G. Sec. |
| " A. H. Yeatman ... | ... | ... | Prov. G. Reg. |
| " F. P. Oakley ... | ... | ... | Prov. S.G.D. |
| " W. J. Dick... .. | ... | ... | Prov. J.G.D. |
| " I. Vye | ... | ... | Prov. G.S. of W. |
| " O. G. Barrow ... | ... | ... | Prov. G.D.C. |
| " H. C. Burt | ... | ... | Prov. A.G.D.C. |
| " J. I. Courtenay ... | ... | ... | Prov. G.S.B. |
| " J. T. Hillier, jun. ... | ... | ... | Prov. G. Org. |
| " H. B. Vincent | ... | ... | Prov. G. Purst. |
| " R. O. Boon... .. | ... | ... | |
| " G. F. Bignall | ... | ... | |
| " J. N. Luff | ... | ... | |
| " R. E. S. Clark | ... | ... | Prov. G. Stewards. |
| " H. G. Terry... .. | ... | ... | |
| " H. J. Whadman | ... | ... | |
| " S. C. Vye | ... | ... | Prov. G. Tyler. |

The Provincial Grand Lodge duties being concluded, the brethren afterwards adjourned to the Ship Hotel, where a sumptuous banquet was served.

The Provincial Grand Master presided, and most of the brethren who had attended the Provincial Grand Lodge were present.

Craft Masonry.

Lodge Montagu, No. 665.

A better day than Monday, the 10th instant, climatically, could not have been chosen for the above lodge to celebrate its 45th anniversary at Lyme Regis, Dorset, since the geniality of the day's weather savoured of summer on the one hand and bespoke the "season of mellow fruitfulness" on the other. That very fact, coupled with fraternal "zeal for the Institution," inspired the attendance of a fair number of visitors when the lack of easy communication with this 13th century borough is considered. Lodge was called for four p.m., and previous to opening the following brethren subscribed their names to the signature book as visitors, viz.: Bro. Rev. R. Peek, P.G. Chap. Eng.; Sir C. E. Peek, Bart., P.P.S.G.W. Dorset; the Rev. Rowland Hill, P.P.G. Chap.; C. Hann, 1367, P.P.G. Purst.; C. Toleman, 1367, P.P.G.D. of C.; F. P. Kitson, P.P.G. Reg.; H. W. Chatterton, P.P.G. Reg. Middx.; G. Brooks, 1367; F. W. Kerbey, 11; and the local brethren.

After lodge had been opened, and minutes and apologies read, the Auditors reported that, notwithstanding special calls during the year, the funds had increased by about £10, and that the books had been excellently kept by Bro. Sprackling. Of the work done during the year there had been four ceremonies, each tracing board had been given twice, the charge rehearsed once, and eight papers contributed on Masonic topics by the brethren. Besides this there had been ten private rehearsals of official work. In matters of charity the lodge had returned its record amount to the D.M.C. £12 12s., £15 15s. had been collected for a distressed provincial brother, £2 2s. voted to the War Fund, and almost enough to purchase a vote (£4 odd) made by the monthly charity box and refreshment department. For two years past no brother had been returned in arrears. It had been a year of sound and steady work. The W.M. had been so assiduous in his duties that the brethren unanimously desired him (a month previously) to continue in office. Such being agreed to, the W.M. at this point handed over the gavel to the oldest P.M. of the lodge, viz., Bro. W. H. Kerbey, P.P.G.S. 1 Wks. Dorset, P.P.J.G.D. Hereford, to repeat the installation, which was done with expression and sincerity born only of zeal and experience. It is no flattery to say that the ceremony in its entirety was admirably performed by this venerable brother, and hearty indeed were the congratulations at the closing of the lodge. For the ensuing year the officers invested were Bros. H. R. Morgan, P.P.G.O., W.M.; Rev. R. Hill, P.P.G. Chap., I.P.M.; J. Radford, P.P.J.G.D., S.W.; J. Spurr, J.W.; A. T. M. Bond, Chap.; E. Sprackling, Treas.; R. C. Radford, P.P.G.S. of W., Sec.; D. T. Chapman, S.D.; C. W. Bloye, J.D.; E. H. Wallis, P.P.J.G.D., D.C.; J. L. Rumsey, P.P.G.O., Org.; F. Paul, I.G.; F. Britton and F. W. Kerbey, Stewards; and G. Legg, Tyler. As is usual, the W.M. handed each brother present a calendar of work for the ensuing year. It promises work of some kind for each lodge meeting, and the subjects set down for orationists are—"The P. Ps. of my E.," "The Triangle," "The Key," "The Badge," "The Compasses," "The Hope of Reward sweetens Labour," "The Acacia," "The V.S.L.," "The Objects and Ends of Masonry," and "The Temple." A short oration or paper is expected from some brother upon each of the foregoing during the year, and the full number has been allotted.

After lodge was closed the brethren adjourned to Bro. Host Grove's Royal Lion to participate in refreshment of a *recherche* nature. [By the way, Bro. Host John Grove is the senior member of the lodge, and Bro. John Grove (nephew) is the junior member.]

As to the toast list—that of "The Queen and the Craft" was loyally received. In responding for the toast of "The Grand Lodge," Bro. Rev. R. Peek testified to its zeal and to the unique extension of Freemasonry under the rule of their exalted and beloved Grand Master.

Bro. Sir Cuthbert Peek also responded, and said he admired the vitality of Craft work in Dorsetshire, and also alluded to the universality of the science by giving a bit of his fraternal experience as a "globe trotter." Some years ago, while in the wilds of Australia, the Postmaster was able to "ring up" a number of Freemasons some hundred miles apart, and by the help of the wire to allow himself (Bro. Sir Cuthbert) and other distinguished "globe-trotters" present to carry on a pleasing interchange of fraternal greetings. The unique fact assuredly impressed the bond of friendship and the brotherhood of man.

The I.P.M. gave "The W.M." in eulogistic terms. He was an instance of "*Ne varietur*" indeed, for as at first so now, Bro. Morgan was a thoroughly good man and Mason. The proposer could not recall anything he had said of the W.M.'s excellencies last year—his vocabulary would have been exhausted entirely had not his good friend on the left (Bro. Hann) given him a pointed "*Dosset*" word which would be exactly applicable. He (Bro. Morgan) was a "*jonic*" fellow. (Hear, hear.)

Bro. J. Radford, S.W., next gave "The Installing Master," who had worked most assiduously for 16 years in fair weather and foul, had held every office, in times of lodge vicissitude had administered that distinctly Masonic cordial—"Hope," was the mainspring of our charity effort, and one who, without flattery, had proved merit to be title to our privileges, and certainly one on whom "our favours had not been undeservedly bestowed."

"His praises due, who could rehearse,
In nervous prose or flowing verse."

Long may his example be an inspiring influence in Lodge Montagu. (Hear, hear.)

In eloquent terms Bro. Chatterton painted the virtues of "The Charities," great ones and local. Charity was the backbone of the Fraternity, and the vast amounts contributed by the Order to relieve the distressed was ample testimony to answer any occasional reproach of Freemasonry.

Happy was the mover of "The Visitors," and equally happy were some half-a-dozen brethren who replied.

Bro. the Rev. R. Peek pronounced an encomium upon the lodge officers, whose work was careful and thorough, and characterised, moreover, by healthy emulation.

"The Future Year's Work" and "The Host" being duly honoured, the Tyler's toast brought the happy anniversary to a close.

THE METROPOLITAN OF INDIA ON FREEMASONRY.

Bishop Welldon delivered an address at Simla on the 25th July last on "The Grave and Gay Side of Freemasonry." The large room in the Town Hall was crowded. The Commander-in-Chief occupied the chair, and among those present were the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and the Military Member.

The CHAIRMAN introduced the Bishop as not only Metropolitan of India but as W. Bro. Welldon.

The METROPOLITAN, after a few introductory remarks, said his address was a substitute for a sermon which at one time he hoped he might deliver in Christ Church. It was not his thought at first to address a large audience, many of whom were not Masons. In the presence of such an audience he was debarred from dwelling upon some points and aspects of Masonic doctrine or ritual. The Masonic Brotherhood was undoubtedly a secret society, but he could assure his listeners it was an innocent and beneficent institution, speaking of it as he knew it in Great Britain and in India. After touching upon the real and imaginary history of Masonry, and tracing its transition from Operative Masonry, his lordship said that Masons had converted the signs and symbols of the art of building to a moral and spiritual significance. As to the gay side of Masonry, which was sometimes exposed to the laughter of the multitude, there was a predilection of Masons for high-sounding titles, distinctive dresses, and dinners, which sometimes erred in the direction of prolixity, and amusements such as dances to which the outer world was invited. All this gay side was regarded by Masons as a vestibule to the solemn temple of Masonic doctrine. In itself it was harmless, if not particularly useful. The gay side of Masonry was only its shell, its kernel was the symbolism by which Masons aspired to impress lessons of moral and spiritual significance upon men's hearts. It was by the use of symbolism that Masonic teaching differed from others. The lessons taught were above all others charity and piety. Masons had ever been foremost in good works, they had received sums of unparalleled amount for Masonic Charities, and he who entered into the Masonic brotherhood was sure of finding friends all the world over. Dr. Welldon concluded: "In India, where the division of races and religions is more acute, perhaps, than anywhere in the world, it is the wisdom of good citizens to seek rallying points. Such a rallying point is found in the cult of Masonic doctrine. To myself, though the most convinced of Christians, the opportunity of meeting men of other beliefs than my own upon the common ground of faith in God and immortality has been a privilege of great utility and pleasure. So long as it is impossible that anyone shall become a Freemason without professing his intellectual and spiritual adhesion to sublime religious doctrines, and so long as no one can live worthily as a Freemason without developing the fruit of his doctrines in charity and philanthropy, Freemasonry will deserve the confidence of thoughtful and virtuous citizens, and will play a great and salutary part in human life."

The address was listened to with the closest attention, and applause was frequent, while the humorous allusions were fully appreciated.—*Madras Mail*.

Scotland.

A CANADIAN IN NORTH SCOTLAND.

A CANADIAN PAST GRAND MASTER VISITS HIS GRANDFATHER'S MOTHER LODGE.

Bro. J. Ross Robertson, proprietor of the *Toronto Evening Telegraph*, member for the Dominion Parliament for the East Division of the City of Toronto, Ontario, and Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Mason of Canada, arrived by the mail boat on Monday night under arrangement to visit the Fortrose Lodge, No. 101, of Freemasons, of which his grandfather, Bro. Hector Sinclair, was a member, being initiated 102 years ago.

A special meeting of the lodge was convened on Tuesday night to receive Bro. Robertson. The lodge room was tastefully decorated, and there was a large attendance of the brethren, including Bro. Provost Anderson, P.M.; Bro. Tucker, P.M.; and Bro. Hector Smith, P.M. Bro. John Smith, R.W.M., presided, and all the office bearers were present. Bro. Robertson delivered an interesting lecture on the "Origin of Freemasonry," and afterwards gave a description of the conduct of the Order in Canada.

The lodge was thereafter called off to harmony, when, after the usual loyal and patriotic toasts,

