

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
H.R.H. THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT, K.G., ETC., THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND;
HON. JAMES HOZIER, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND; AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES

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THE BOYS' SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

The 103rd Festival in behalf of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, which, in the order of time, is the last of the three great Anniversary Festivals of the year, was held at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the 26th instant, under the presidency of Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. BEACH, M.P., Prov. G. Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. There was a very large attendance of ladies and brethren; and it is needless to say that everything passed off most satisfactorily. Our usual ample report will be found in another column, but we cannot allow the opportunity to pass without offering our most sincere congratulations to the distinguished brother who occupied the chair, and who has always exhibited so great an interest in this and our other Institutions; to the Board of Stewards who laboured so strenuously and so successfully to promote the financial interests of the School; to the Donors and Subscribers, who gave so generously of their means in order to strengthen those interests; and, lastly, to the Institution, which has benefited so largely by their efforts, and will be encouraged to discharge its duties, if possible, more effectually than in the past. We trust that future Festivals may, at least, equal that of Wednesday in the splendid measure of success with which it was attended.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

103RD ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.

The 103rd Anniversary in connection with the above Institution was held at the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, the 26th instant, when about 600 brethren and ladies sat down to dinner, Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. Beach, M.P., Prov. G.M. for Hants and the Isle of Wight, Trustee of the Institution, in the chair. There were present a large number of Grand Officers and Provincial Grand Officers from all parts of the country.

At the conclusion of the dinner,

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Health of his Most Gracious Majesty the King," took the opportunity of announcing that his Majesty had consented to become Grand Patron of the Institution.

The announcement was received with loud and prolonged applause.

Miss Annie Bartle led the singing of the National Anthem.

The customary loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed by the CHAIRMAN, who, in proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers," referred to the fact that he had himself initiated the Pro Grand Master, the Earl Amherst.

Bro. the Right Hon. Viscount TEMPLETOWN, S.G.W., responded on behalf of the Grand Officers, and gracefully acknowledged the honour that had been conferred upon him and the Masons of Ireland, whom he represented, in being called upon to respond to this toast. He tendered them his own congratulations and those of the Grand Lodge of Ireland on the King having become their Grand Patron.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the toast of the evening—"Success to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys." The Institution had been formed in 1798, with only eight boys receiving the benefit of education from it. In 1809, when the Jubilee of King George III. was celebrated, the number of boys had increased to 50. In 1832 King William IV. became Patron, this being the first occasion on which Royalty became associated with the Institution, and the Duke of Sussex became their President, an office he continued to hold till his death. In 1841 there were 70 boys in the School, but in 1848 the School attracted great attention from the whole of the Craft. Till then the School had been supported by London lodges, but since then Masons in all parts of England had rallied round the School. The original project of the founders to have a building of their own was at length realised, and in 1857 a house was purchased at Wood Green, which accommodated 25 boys at first, but later on was enlarged so as to accommodate 70. In 1862 the first stone of the present building was laid, and in 1873 the School had 173 boys, a number which



THE CHAIRMAN.

had since increased to 295. Great exertions had been made, and of late years a marked advance had taken place in the management and curriculum of the Institution. Sixty-five boys had received the benefit of higher education, and 55 had passed the Senior Cambridge Local Examination, and eight had passed the University of London Matriculation Examination. The development of the physique of the boys was not neglected; and on Monday, when attending the distribution of prizes, he had been pleased with the excellent way in which the boys acquitted themselves in their display of gymnastics. He would couple the toast with the name of the Treasurer of the Institution, Bro. Chas. Keyser.

Bro. C. E. KEYSER, P.G.D., Treasurer and Patron of the Institution, said he felt he had an easy task in responding to the toast, since the Chairman had told them everything there was to tell in connection with the Institution. Their thanks were due to the Chairman and Mrs. Beach, that lady having distributed the prizes for them on Monday. His task as Treasurer the brethren had made an easy one; but they had now nearly 300 boys in the School, so money was continually required. At the centenary of the Institution £141,000 had been raised, but since then they had provided another establishment, so money would still be required, and he hoped the brethren would very soon forget that £141,000—(laughter)—and subscribe liberally to the Institution seeing they had no more centenaries coming on till the Old People had theirs in about 40 years' time. The new School at Bushey had a narrow escape of being destroyed by fire about a fortnight ago, but the catastrophe had been averted, and he hoped that success would always attend them in their new home.

The Secretary of the Institution was then called upon to read the lists. Before doing so, he observed that 553 Stewards had come forward, of whom 33 were ladies. London sent 249 Stewards, the provinces 294, and foreign stations 10. Twenty-two of the lists were for £100 or over. The Lion and Lamb Lodge had contributed £333, and the Eccentric Lodge £368, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight contributed the record sum of £4000. The lists totalled £23,020, the largest amount subscribed to this School with one exception, apart from the Centenary offering.

The SECRETARY then read the following

STEWARDS' LISTS.

Table with columns for Lodge, Name, and Amount (£ s. d.). Includes sections for LONDON, STEWARDS' LISTS, and various lodge names like Bro. B. W. Levy, F.S.A., Alfred H. Thornton, etc.

Table with columns for Lodge, Name, and Amount (£ s. d.). Includes sections for CAMBRIDGESHIRE, CHESHIRE, CORNWALL, CUMBERLAND AND WEST-MORLAND, DERBYSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, DURHAM, ESSEX, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY, THE PROVINCES, BEDFORDSHIRE, BERKSHIRE, and BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Table with columns for Lodge, Name, and Amount (£ s. d.). Includes sections for CAMBRIDGESHIRE, CHESHIRE, CORNWALL, CUMBERLAND AND WEST-MORLAND, DERBYSHIRE, DEVONSHIRE, DORSETSHIRE, DURHAM, ESSEX, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY, HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT, and BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Lodge	£	s.	d.
1903 Bro. Capt. H. G. Giles ...			
1958 " W. J. Bone ...			
1971 " Rev. F. B. N. Nor-			
man-Lee ...			
1971 " F. Stroyan ...			
1990 " George Williams ...			
2068 " George Williams ...			
2074 " W. J. Bone ...			
2153 " Lt. and Qr.-Mr. W.			
J. Pawsey ...			
2158 " D. J. A. Hosker ...			
2169 " Charles Brown ...			
2203 " Major H. Pidcock			
Henzell ...			
2208 Lodge (per Bro. F. T.			
Cutler) ...			
Prov. G. Chapter			
Comp. Major J. E. Le			
Feuvre, J.P. ...			
Chapter			
35 Comp. Charles Brown ...			
175 " E. R. Ratcliffe ...			
195 " Fred T. Cutler ...			
309 " Robert Clover, J.P. ...			
903 " Thomas Taylor ...			
2074 " W. J. Bone ...			
Mark Lodge			
2 Bro. Alex. N. Y. Howell			
Rose Croix Chapter			
41 Bro. Major Le Feuvre ...			
Unattached			
Bro. Norman Clinton ...			
" John W. Gieve, J.P. ...			
" Edgar Goble ...			
Lewis			
F. H. Buck ...			
HEREFORDSHIRE.			
Collected List ...	26	5	0
HERTFORDSHIRE.			
Lodge			
403 Bro. J. L. Gregory ...	21	0	0
404 " W. T. Boydell, jun. ...	10	10	0
1757 " J. S. Hassell ...	31	14	6
2086 " A. E. F. Lander ...	39	7	6
2323 " E. L. Heseltine ...	42	0	0
2353 " J. Heilbrun ...	43	16	6
2518 " C. E. Keyser, J.P. ...	63	0	0
2786 " F. Crocker ...	150	0	0
2786 " *L. Beale ...			
2786 " *W. M. Wilson ...			
2786 " *H. Burkett ...			
2786 " *J. T. Matthews ...			
2786 " *W. Metcalfe ...			
Unattached			
Bro. W. H. Williams ...	10	10	0
Lodge KENT			
2041 Bro. A. A. Frigout ...	40	15	0
Unattached			
Bro. H. F. Whyman ...	21	0	0
" Frank Stanger ...	10	10	0
LANCASHIRE (E.D.).			
Unattached			
Bro. Capt. J. Barlow ...	42	0	0
" W. Forrest ...	10	10	0
LANCASHIRE (W.D.).			
Lodge			
148 Bro. Roger C. Parr, B.A. ...	52	10	0
920 " F. J. Thompson ...			
1313 " William Morecroft ...	42	19	0
1501 " Thos. Baxter ...	10	10	0
2051 " Roger C. Parr, B.A. ...			
2714 " Richard Owen ...	10	10	0
Unattached			
Bro. Capt. C. H. Garnett ...	31	10	0
LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.			
The Province			
Bro. R. B. Starkey ...	600	0	0
" *Giles Eli Barton ...			
" *F. W. Billson ...			
" *H. J. Grace ...			
" *Isaac H. Harrison ...			
" *John Hassall ...			
" *C. F. Oliver ...			
LINCOLNSHIRE.			
Lodge			
985 Bro. Herbert Garthwaite ...	10	10	0
MIDDLESEX.			
The Province			
Bro. Rear-Admiral W. H.			
St. Clair (see also			
Lodge London) ...	60	8	0
382 Bro. A. A. Hardy ...	10	10	0
1293 " P. Collings ...	37	5	6
1310 " J. Williams ...	10	10	0
1415 " T. Whittingham ...	42	0	0
1549 " Major F. S. Winkley	50	0	0
1579 " H. W. Dobb ...	10	10	0
1691 " E. Leonard ...	19	19	0
2024 " J. R. Thomson ...	36	15	0
2087 " E. J. Reid ...	55	13	0
2103 " A. A. Hardy ...			
2183 " E. J. Reynolds ...	50	8	0
MONMOUTHSHIRE.			
The Province			
Bro. F. Phillips ...			
Lodge			
457 Bro. F. A. Powell ...			
471 " F. J. Roberts ...			
683 " W. H. Le G. Cham-			
bers ...			
818 " H. C. Evans ...			
1258 " D. G. Longher ...	525	0	0
1429 " W. Gibbs ...			
1562 " Thomas Acland ...			
2186 " R. Nancarrow ...			
2226 " Thomas Edwards ...			
2556 " Nestor L. Wilputte			
Unattached			
Bro. S. G. Homfray ...			
" Lieut.-Col. C. R.			
Lyne ...			

NORFOLK.			
Lodge	£	s.	d.
52 Bro. W. P. Eversley ...	58	16	0
100 " Alf H. Bateman ...	100	0	0
Unattached			
Bro. A. F. Hardymont ...	31	10	0
NORTHANTS AND HUNTS.			
The Earl of Euston,			
Prov. G.M. ...			
	10	10	0
Lodge			
737 Bro. John J. Coulbeck ...	40	8	6
1911 " H. W. K. Markham ...	105	0	0
Prov. Grand Chapter			
Comp. Harry Manfield ...	21	0	0
NORTHUMBERLAND.			
Lodge			
393 Bro. G. S. Riddle ...	73	10	0
393 " T. Martin ...	10	10	0
NORTH WALES.			
Lord Harlech, P.G.M.			
The Province			
Bro. J. Porter ...			
Lodge			
755 Bro. Rev. W. E. Scott			
Hall ...			
755 " J. Haworth ...			
159 " J. G. Tuxford ...			
1849 " H. A. Stenning ...	276	3	0
1988 " J. C. Hughes ...			
2569 " W. A. Tuxford ...			
2569 " C. M. Lees ...			
Unattached			
Bro. C. K. Benson ...			
" E. Roberts ...			
" J. R. William ...			
Lady			
Mrs. J. Haworth ...			
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.			
The Province			
Bro. His Honour Judge			
Masterman (see			
also London) ...			
	366	14	0
Unattached			
Bro. Alfred Page ...	10	10	0
OXFORDSHIRE.			
Lodge			
478 Bro. H. Collison ...	10	10	0
1895 " H. R. Blaker ...	9	3	6
SHROPSHIRE.			
Lodge			
117 Bro. S. Withers, jun. ...	10	10	0
262 " L. J. Godson ...	63	0	0
1621 " W. L. Southwell ...	10	10	0
SOMERSETSHIRE.			
Lodge			
53 Bro. A. E. Fuller ...	145	8	6
1222 " R. J. Dart ...	75	12	0
2390 " W. Ludlow ...	67	1	0
Unattached			
*Bro. J. S. Haddon ...			
" Colonel A. Thrale	10	10	0
Perkins ...			
SOUTH WALES (E.D.).			
*Lord Llangattock, Prov.			
G.M. ...			
The Province			
Bro. W. A. Beer ...	400	0	0
Lodge			
2453 Bro. G. S. Giller ...			
SOUTH WALES (W.D.)			
The Province			
Bro. Henry Studt ...			
	420	0	0
STAFFORDSHIRE.			
Lodge			
347 Bro. J. Pasfield ...			
347 " W. G. Cumming ...			
347 " Luke Taylor ...			
451 " Walton Stanley ...			
482 " J. F. Pepper ...			
539 " Alfred Dewsbury ...			
539 " Sydney B. Wheway ...			
539 " F. Gnosill ...			
539 " John Moseley ...			
546 " G. C. Kent ...			
624 " John Gretton, M.P. ...			
624 " Francis Thompson ...			
624 " W. H. Bailey ...			
726 " J. Parker Cater ...	425	15	0
1838 " H. Percy Smith ...			
2149 " Thomas Taylor ...			
2149 " Arthur Fogg ...			
2149 " Arthur Baines ...			
2487 " H. A. Frewer ...			
2756 " J. F. Pepper ...			
Chapter			
482 Comp. Frank Hughes ...			
Unattached			
Bro. Charles Richards ...			
Ladies			
Mrs. W. H. Bailey ...			
Mrs. Hughes ...			
Mrs. Charles Richards ...			
SUFFOLK.			
Lodge			
81 Bro. Major R. J. Carthew ...	121	16	0
332 " E. R. Gayford ...	89	5	0
555 " Edward W. Lynch ...	121	16	0
936 " J. C. Ryder-Richard-			
son ...	63	0	0
1224 " David Ward ...	68	5	0
1452 " Major Hugh W. H.			
Cary-Elwes ...	94	10	0
1603 " Arthur Flatman ...	10	10	0
1823 " Rev. B. B. Syer ...	63	0	0
Unattached			
Bro. C. J. N. Row ...	34	2	6
SURREY.			
Lodge			
410 Bro. R. S. Armstrong ...	11	0	6
416 " Donation ...	20	9	6
1826 " Thomas A. Polson ...	21	0	0

Lodge			
£	s.	d.	
1872 Bro. E. C. Haram ...	10	10	0
1892 " W. D. Stewart ...	37	5	6
1981 " George Alderton ...	30	19	6
2120 " A. G. Hutchins ...	28	17	6
2502 " William Dawson ...	50	0	0
Unattached			
Bro. George R. Saunders ...	10	10	0
" T. H. Griffiths ...	10	10	0
SUSSEX.			
Lodge			
1110 Bro. J. H. Maryan ...	10	10	0
1797 " Dr. Henry Pearce ...	32	11	0
1797 " H. Webb ...	15	15	0
1821 " V. W. Burden ...	21	0	0
1842 " Palmer ...	26	5	0
1842 " *Major Hugh W. H.			
Cary-Elwes ...			
1947 " Sydney Johnson ...	21	0	0
2201 " Frank J. Sawyer ...	10	10	0
2450 " John Wood ...	21	10	6
2676 " D. M. Smith ...	10	10	0
2692 " James J. Wright ...	37	16	0
Unattached			
*Mrs. James Wright ...			
WARWICKSHIRE.			
Lodge			
74 Bro. John Foster ...	65	2	0
74 " *B. Hunn ...			
74 " *J. Coulson Nicol ...			
74 " *Henry J. Sayer ...			
74 " *John W. Bint ...			
74 " *F. W. Harris ...			
395 " Arthur P. Cohen ...	12	0	0
794 " Arthur J. Abrahall ...	10	10	0
794 " Felix Jones ...	12	12	0
1031 " A. Rodway ...	42	0	0
1031 " John Bowen ...	10	10	0
2804 " E. J. Charles ...	10	10	0
WILTSHIRE.			
The Province			
Bro. Fred. S. Hancock ...			
	490	0	6
Unattached			
Bro. H. Bevir ...	10	10	0
WORCESTERSHIRE.			
Lodge			
573 Bro. E. Lowe ...	116	11	0
1204 " J. Ransome Corder ...	63	0	0
1874 " G. F. Bennett ...	36	15	0
1874 " C. H. Clark ...			
1874 " J. A. Hughes ...	36	15	0
2034 " W. H. Steeley ...			
2724 " T. A. Bayliss ...	10	10	0
Unattached			
Bro. E. J. Chambers ...	26	5	0
YORKSHIRE (N. AND E.).			
The Province and Lodge			
1848 Bro. Rev. Chas. S. Steel ...			
	31	10	0

YORKSHIRE (W.R.).			
Lodge	£	s.	d.
Bro. Wm. Blackburn, J.P. ...			
" H. S. Childre ...			
Lodge			
458 Bro. William Boulton ...			
495 " Thomas Horner ...			
521 " Jas. Ashton Riley ...			
652 " James Graham ...			
904 " F. Cleaves ...			
904 " H. P. Gough ...			
1102 " Thomas G. Howell ...	300	0	0
1102 " Walter Bailey ...			
1311 " A. W. Robson ...			
2268 " Chas. F. Longden ...			
2321 " J. W. Bland ...			
2491 " W. D. Foxon ...			
2530 " Harry H. Bridgens ...			
Lady			
Mrs. W. Boulton ...			
FOREIGN STATIONS.			
BENGAL.			
Lodge			
2726 Bro. J. C. Horne ...	10		

ANALYSIS OF THE RETURNS.

We are now sufficiently ahead of the Centenary Festival of 1898 for the Donations and Subscriptions at the Boys' School Anniversary to have resumed its average level. In 1899 the Returns were under £9000; last year they reached to close on £17,000; this week they just turn £23,000, and compare not unfavourably with the totals of £26,000 and upwards, which were realised at the Benevolent and Girls' School Festivals in February and May respectively. Wednesday's actual figures were: London, with 249 Stewards, £9150; the Provinces and Foreign Stations, with 304 Stewards, £13,870; total, 553 Stewards, £23,020.

Turning to

LONDON,

which, as we have said, subscribed £9150 by the medium of 249 Stewards, we have much pleasure in drawing particular attention to the following lists, which, one and all, exceeded £100, the place of honour being taken by Bro. Thomas Fraser, of the Eccentric Lodge, No. 2483, with the handsome total of £368 4s. Bro. A. Fergusson, of the Lion and Lamb Lodge, No. 192, was a capital second with £333, nine of the donors on his list being Stewards as well; and Bro. E. Rutherford, representing the City of Westminster Lodge, No. 1563, and including the donations of 17 of the members, who also acted as Stewards, stood third, with £328 13s. Bro. J. J. Linton, Clarence and Avondale Lodge, No. 2411, and Bro. C. F. Wahl, Felicity Lodge, No. 58, were fourth and fifth with £220 15s. and £213 3s. respectively, and then followed a group of three, comprising Bros. J. H. Davidson, Unattached, with £189; Bro. A. G. Neville, of the Verity Lodge, No. 2739, with £186 18s.; and Bro. T. F. Marson, of the Friends-in-Council Lodge, No. 1383—who has acted before in the same capacity with marked success—with £184 1s. Bro. W. H. Wilson, of the Committee Dinner Club, came next in order with £156 9s., and then there appeared another group of three, all close together, and consisting of Bro. E. A. Smith, of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, with £145 19s.; and Bros. A. E. Pridmore, of the Guardian Lodge, No. 2625, and U. B. Ladler, Crusaders Lodge, No. 1677, each of whom had the satisfaction of returning £140. Bro. E. P. Moore, of the Tivoli Lodge, No. 2150, is entered for £129 13s. 6d., and Miss McLeod, Unattached, and Bro. N. Robinson, of the Derby Allcroft Lodge, are bracketed next with £126 to their credit. Bro. G. Paxton, of the Salisbury Lodge, No. 435, compiled a list of £110 5s., and Comp. James Cook, All Saints R.A. Chapter, No. 1716, £106 1s.; while Bros. W. A. Bowser, Mornington Lodge, No. 2000, and W. Chambers, of the Nelson Lodge, No. 703, with Comp. J. J. Bergmann, Mizpah Chapter, No. 1671, tied with £105 each. Bro. R. C. Halford, of the Loyalty Lodge, No. 1607, returned £103 8s. 6d., and Bro. A. Greenwood, St. Leonard's Lodge, No. 1766, £101 16s., while Bro. A. B. Hopkins, of the Empire Lodge, No. 2108, brought up the rear of the three-figure lists with a level £100. There was also a goodly proportion of lists ranging from £70 to within £100, the compilers of which deserve *kudos* for their successful efforts on the occasion.

Turning our attention to

THE PROVINCES,

we consider it a piece of good fortune for the Institution and at the same time a mark of respect to the Chairman that the claims of this School should have been recognised over so large an area. As a rule we are content if about three-fourths of the Provinces are represented, but on Wednesday 43 out of 46 sent up Stewards. Consequently there are only three absentees, namely, BRISTOL (nine lodges) which did its duty splendidly by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February, (when it subscribed towards it funds £732 7s.), and the remote Provinces of JERSZY (seven lodges) and the ISLE OF MAN (nine lodges), which are included in these Returns from time to time, and generally to very good purpose, the former of the two having subscribed £183 15s. to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls as recently as last month. The number of Stewards from the 43 represented Provinces was 304, and the total raised by their combined efforts £13,870. In February, 37 Provinces and a Foreign Station by the medium of 320 Stewards compiled a total of £14,239 17s. for the Benevolent Institution, while in May, 410 Stewards from 35 Provinces and three Foreign Stations, returned £16,252 19s. 9d. Thus during the current year the Provinces have distributed the large sum of £44,362 16s. 9d. among our Central Institutions, irrespective of what they may have done or are preparing to do for their own local Charities and the Mark Benevolent Fund.

BEDFORDSHIRE,

which is the first in alphabetical order of the represented Provinces, had one of its seven lodges represented at the Benevolent Festival in February, the list raised by Bro. Daniel as its Steward amounting to £40 19s., while on Wednesday the Province as a whole and another of its lodges had a Steward in the person of Bro. F. W. Williams, who is entered for £48 6s. Last year the Province distributed £237 11s. among the three Charities, of which the Girls' School secured £153 11s., and in 1899 the same School was supported to the extent of £133 17s. 6d., while in 1898 the Province subscribed in all £321 16s. 6d., including £288 4s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary. It has also done well in previous years, but so far its "record" year is 1898.

BERKSHIRE,

though it has just had the misfortune to lose its Prov. G. Master, has not broken through the rule it appears to have adopted of being represented at the three Festivals of the year. In February, four of its 17 lodges sent up Stewards, who, with Bro. C. E. Keyser and his son and another brother Unattached, compiled a total of £323 6s. for the Old People. In May seven lodges, represented by eight brethren, of whom Bro. Keyser was one, together returned £320 5s. On Wednesday, as many as 11 lodges, with the R.A. Chapter attached to one of them, were represented by 14 brethren, lodge and chapter No. 414 having the same Steward acting in their behalf. There were also two Unattached Stewards, including Bro. C. E. Keyser, who is the Treasurer of the Institution; the sum total of the lists being £525, and the total for the year £1168 11s. The principal items in Wednesday's Returns were £99 15s. raised by Capt. H. H. Tasker, of Lodge No. 795, and £79 6s. by Bro. Keyser.

Similarly

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,

whose record achievement was in 1900, when Lord Addington presided at the Benevolent Festival, and the Province subscribed £1495 10s., out of a total during the year of £1606 19s., has done duty at all three Festivals. In February it raised £122 7s. 6d. for the Old People, four of its 22 lodges, represented by half-a-dozen Stewards, taking part in the proceedings. Last month six lodges and the chapter attached to a seventh, with two brethren Unattached—the number of Stewards being 17—compiled a sum of £375 3s., the lists of Bro. W. Yeo, of No. 2421, and Bro. F. S. Priest, of No. 2816, being for £105 and £101 17s. respectively. On Wednesday three lodges gave their assistance, and their four representatives, including the same Bro. W. Yeo, of No. 2421, together with Bro. James and Miss Lily Stephens, and Bro. and Mrs. W. G. Cannon—who must be experienced bombardiers by this time—compiled a Return of £137 0s. 6d., which, added to the Benevolent and Girls' School figures, places the aggregate for 1901 at £634 11s.

Though there are only seven lodges in

CAMBRIDGESHIRE,

it has bravely borne its part in all three Festivals, having raised £102 19s. 6d. for the Old People, when three of its lodges sent up Stewards; £31 10s. for the Girls' School last month, and £134 for this Institution on Wednesday. In compiling the last-mentioned Return, there were three lodge representatives,

of whom Bro. A. E. Chaplin, of Scientific Lodge, No. 83, did duty for the whole Province as well as for his lodge; while Bro. Major O. Papworth, Prov. G. Secretary and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Management was Unattached. Thus the year's contributions from Cambridgeshire amount to £268 9s. 6d., and in compiling this the St. Audrey, No. 2727, Ely, has been the most prominent, having raised £81 19s. 6d. at the Benevolent Festival, and £50 per Bro. J. C. Laxton for this Institution.

CHESHIRE,

with its imposing array of 55 lodges, has done but little in the opening year of the new century. The Stewards of two of its lodges together subscribed £21 in February for the Benevolent Institution, and on Wednesday Bro. James Cookson, Unattached, handed in a list of £10 10s. These are poor Returns from so large a Province, but we must not lose sight of the fact that Cheshire has an Educational and a Benevolent Fund, both of which are well furnished with capital, and do good work locally, while on special occasions it has contributed on a scale worthy of its rank and fame. Thus in 1891, 1895, and 1898 it supported this Institution, giving £1050 in 1891; £2000 in 1895, when Earl Egerton took the chair; and £2753 12s. to the Centenary; while in 1892 it raised £1988 for the Benevolent Jubilee.

There is evidently a strong feeling in

CORNWALL,

with its roll of 31 lodges, in favour of our central Charities; or, perhaps, we ought to say, such a feeling has existed for many years, but has been more conspicuous latterly. In 1892, when the Earl of Mount Edgumbe, D.G.M. England, and G.M. of the Province, occupied the chair at the Benevolent Jubilee, Cornwall subscribed £776 15s., and again in 1895, when his lordship presided at the Girls' School Festival, it figured for £750, while in 1898 it raised in all £924 5s., of which £554 19s. was subscribed to the Centenary of this School. In 1899 it distributed £516 6s. among the three, and last year £378, of which all but £21 fell to the share of "Our Boys." In February it raised £434 3s. 6d., of which £398 18s. appeared on the lists of Bro. E. M. Milford, as the Steward for the whole Province, and the rest on that of Bro. Sholto H. Hare, representing No. 1954. In May the sum of £131 5s. was subscribed, £115 10s. being on the list of Bro. R. Faull, representing the Province and Lodge No. 510, and £15 15s. to the credit of Bro. Sholto H. Hare, Unattached. On Wednesday Bro. Col. G. J. Parkyn did duty as Steward for the Province, handing in a list of £47 5s., and Bro. Hare, Unattached, supplemented this with £11 11s., making the total for Wednesday £58 16s., and for the year £624 4s. 6d.

One of the 23 lodges in

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND

was represented at the Benevolent Festival in February, and another at that of the Boys' Institution on Wednesday, the list reaching £15 15s. on the former occasion and £42 on the latter. But in 1897, when Bro. Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., its P.G.M., presided at the Festival of this School, the Province raised £1260 in honour of the event, while the following year it contributed £222 1s. to the Centenary. It has also figured satisfactorily at previous Festivals, and notably last year, when it subscribed in all £197 12s. 6d., of which all but 10 guineas was for this Institution.

After subscribing £764 6s. 6d. to the Girls' School last month, it was hardly to be expected that

DERBYSHIRE,

though it numbers 27 lodges, would figure largely on the occasion. Still one of its lodges with two Stewards acting on its behalf, and Bro. I. N. Woodiwiss Unattached, were entered for £110 10s., which, with the aforesaid contributions to Our Girls and £10 10s. subscribed by Bro. I. N. Woodiwiss to the Old People in February, places the year's total at £885 6s. 6d. The Province has shown up well at many previous Festivals, but never so well as in 1898, when it raised in all £2784 10s. 6d., of which £2419 2s. was in respect of the Centenary of this School.

DEVONSHIRE,

would seem of late to have adopted the same view as to the claims of our Central Charities to support as its neighbour Cornwall, and as it now comprises 60 lodges, the new view is most creditable. In 1898, its total reached £1061 4s. 10d., including £1875 2s. 10d. to the Boys' Centenary, while in the two following years it raised £274 11s. (in 1899), and £519 15s. (in 1900). This year it has done better still, having given most of its attention to the Benevolent Institution, which it supported in February most handsomely with £779 2s., of which £740 11s. was entered in the list of Bro. John Stocker, Prov. G. Secretary, as the representative of the Province. It supplemented this last month with £31 10s. to the Girls' School, while on Wednesday the Stewards from two lodges, with Bros. H. L. Schuster, F. B. Westlake, and J. R. Wilson compiled a Return of £300, making the total for the whole year £1110 12s.

There were two Stewards from

DORSETSHIRE,

of whom one acted for one of the 15 lodges and one was Unattached, the total of the two lists being £59 6s. 6d. In February, Bro. J. H. Whadcoat, acting independently, figured for £105, while in May a lodge Steward and a Steward Unattached returned lists together amounting to £52 10s. Thus the year has produced a sum of £216 16s. 6d. Last year the Province was represented at all three Festivals, the sum of its contributions being £263 16s. and in 1899 £336 11s., while in 1898 it reached what for so moderate a Province must be described as the immense sum of £2127 10s. 6d.

DURHAM,

which has 38 lodges on its roll, appears to have come to the conclusion that Stewards are both useful and ornamental personages, and that as it makes a point of contributing to each of our three Institutions annually, it may as well do so by the medium of one or more of these brethren. Thus in February two members of Lodge No. 1862 compiled a list of £189, and, in May, Bro. W. H. Cochrane, representing the Province, took up a sum of £288 15s. On Wednesday Bro. C. T. Johnson, for the Province, and Bro. Sir George H. Phillipson, for the Universities Lodge, No. 2352, returned lists amounting together to £273, and placing the year's total at £750 15s. Last year the sum of £332 7s. was apportioned among the Institutions, and in 1899, when the Province had a Festival all to itself, and subscribed about £2500 for its Educational and Hudson Benevolent Funds, only £157 10s.; while in 1898 it raised in all £643 7s., of which £533 2s. was in behalf of the Centenary of "Our Boys."

There is little need to dwell on the splendid work which

ESSEX

has done this year. In February the Earl of Warwick, Dep. G. Master of England and Grand Master of the Province, presided as Chairman at the Benevolent Festival, and Essex contributed £4000, including his lordship's personal donation of 50 guineas. Last month, notwithstanding this great and successful effort, it entered an appearance at the Girls' School Festival eight Stewards, of whom six were representatives of three of its 44 lodges and two Unattached, compiled a total of £359 7s., while on Wednesday, Stewards to the number of 11, of whom 10 acted for five of the lodges and a chapter returned in all £189, the total for the whole year being £4548 7s. There is no need to go into further details in the case of a Province which has so recently distinguished itself.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

has shown up well, considering that this is an off-year, and that it is not more interested than usual in the Festivals. In February it subscribed £242 16s. to the Old People, there being six Stewards from five of its 17 lodges, while in May eight Stewards, of whom two brethren and a lady were Unattached and the other five hailed from four lodges, made up a total of £219 9s. On Wednesday seven Stewards, of whom two acted independently, and five did duty for four lodges, together returned £262 10s., the total distributed during the year among the three Institutions being £724 15s. Last year the total was £551 14s. 6d., of which the Girls' School had the good fortune to secure £378 9s. 6d., and in 1899 it was £524 19s. 6d., the Old People taking the lion's share in the shape of £331 16s. In 1898, the total stood at £2850 2s., of which £2723 12s. fell to this Institution on the occasion of its Centenary Festival. It has done famously at other Anniversaries, but never so well as in the year just mentioned.

There were two Stewards for the Province of

GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY,

one being the P.G.M., Bro. J. Balfour Cockburn, and the other Bro. Gervase F. Peek, doing duty for the Province as a whole and also for one of its seven lodges—No. 2805, and bearing the name of Balfour Cockburn. The lists of these two brethren amounted to £136 10s., and with the £94 10s. raised by the Prov. G. Secretary and the late Bro. Pengelley, of Lodge No. 168, for the Old People in February, and the £76 9s. subscribed, per Bros. Henley and Livesey, to the Girls' School last month, makes the very respectable total for the year of £307 9s. In 1898 it distributed £240 9s. among the three, of which £151 4s. fell to the share of this Institution.

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

HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT,

which, ever since these Anniversary Festivals have assumed such considerable proportions, has figured among the most regular and generous supporters of our Institutions. On very special occasions, as when its respected chief has taken the chair at one or other of these gatherings, or when there has been some unusual event in the history of one of the three Charities, the celebration of which it has been resolved to invest with more than the usual importance, the Province has performed its part in a manner worthy of its strength and reputation; while it has made it a rule to be represented at all the ordinary Festivals and has frequently contributed to them on a large scale. The most recent of its greater achievements belongs to the year 1898, when it subscribed no less than £3238 13s. 6d. to the Centenary of this School, the total raised during the year amounting to £3343 13s. 6d. In 1899, it distributed among the three Institutions £983 19s., and last year £665 2s. 6d. This year, too, notwithstanding that its Prov. Grand Master had arranged to preside at this Festival, it showed that it was not unmindful of the claims upon its goodwill of the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions, and subscribed £99 16s. to the Festival of the former in February, and £329 17s. to that of the latter last month. On this occasion it has not belied our hopes and expectations, and by the medium of a body of 45 Stewards headed by the Prov. Grand Master, of whom three brethren and a Lewis were Unattached, and the rest were representatives of 37 out of its 48 lodges, the Prov. Grand Chapter and four private chapters, and one of its Mark lodges, raised a grand total of £4000, the total of the year's contributions being thus placed at £4429 13s. Thus the first year of the new century supplants 1898 as the "record" year of this Province. In every way, indeed, we may look upon 1901 as a record one in the annals of our Institutions. Not only has the aggregate subscribed for our three Charities far exceeded what has been raised for them in any previous ordinary year, but—and this is particularly worthy of remark—the "Chairman's Provinces" at the three meetings have by themselves exceeded what only a few years ago was looked upon as a handsome Return for a single Festival, and what, in the days preceding 1875, would have about equalled the aggregate of the Returns at all three Festivals put together. We most heartily congratulate the Province and its respected Grand Master on the success thus achieved.

For the second time since 1898 the small Province of

HEREFORDSHIRE—

the smallest in England—has figured in our Festival Returns. Last year a "collected list" of £15 15s. represented its contribution to this School, and on Wednesday another "collected list" of £26 5s. is included. At the Centenary of this Institution the Province subscribed £330 15s.

We now come to

HERTFORDSHIRE,

which, as we have so often had occasion to point out, is one of the most consistent and generous supporters of our three Institutions, with, it may be, a not unnatural leaning towards the Old People, whose Secretary has been an officer of its Prov. Grand Lodge for upwards of 30 years. In 1892 it raised £2135 6s. 6d., of which £1883 6s. 6d. was for the Benevolent Jubilee; in 1893 £2106 14s., of which £1455 18s. 6d. was given to the same Institution in honour of Bro. C. E. Keyser's chairmanship at its annual Festival. In 1898, out of a total of £2126 3s., it gave £1614 5s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, and in 1899, as in 1893, it generously supported Bro. Keyser as Chairman at the Boys' Festival by contributing £1151 4s. 6d. out of a total for the year of £1714 15s. Last year it also did exceedingly well, the total of its contributions being £1323 10s., while this year it has done better still. In February it raised £1170 9s. for the Old People; £458 for the Girls' School last month; and on Wednesday £422 8s. 6d. for this Institution; making the year's aggregate £2050 17s. 6d. On this occasion the number of its Stewards, including Bro. Keyser, who is also entered under Berkshire, was 11, there being seven of the 24 lodges that gave their help on the occasion, and the principal lists being those of Bros. F. Crocker, of Lodge No. 2786, for £150, and C. E. Keyser for £63.

It is matter for congratulation that notwithstanding the great and successful efforts made by

KENT

in behalf of the Girls' School, at which Festival its Prov. G. Master, Earl Amherst, M.W. Pro G. Master, presided last month, one of its 65 lodges should have furnished a Steward on this occasion who, with another Steward Unattached, made up a Return of £72 5s. In February, too, it subscribed £94 10s. to the Old People, so that with its large Return of £6275 3s. 6d. last month at the 113th Girls' Festival, the total for the opening year of the 20th century stands at £6441 18s. 6d. The best previous year was 1898, when it raised in all £5671 16s., of which £5542 3s. 6d. was subscribed for the Boys' Centenary.

LANCASHIRE (E.D.),

though it has 113 lodges on its roll, was represented on Wednesday by only two Unattached Stewards—Bros. Captain John Barlow and W. Forrest, whose lists amounted together to £52 10s. In February, it raised £378 for the Old People, and last month £273 for the Girls' School, the brethren who acted on Wednesday having taken part in all three Festivals of the year. But it must not be forgotten that on the same day on which the Boys' Festival was celebrated at the Crystal Palace, East Lancashire was doing what it could for its Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution, and that at the gathering held for the

purpose at Manchester under the presidency of Lord Stanley, M.P., Prov. Grand Master, it raised no less than £9379, of which 1550 guineas (£1627 10s.) will be appropriated to the purchase of a Perpetual Presentation to the Benevolent Institution as a memorial of the respect entertained for the late Bro. Colonel Le Gendre N. Starkie, Prov. Grand Master.

LANCASHIRE (W.D.),

furnished a compact little contingent of seven Stewards, of whom Bro. Captain C. H. Garnett was Unattached, and the others represented five of the 127 lodges on the Provincial roll, the result of their efforts appearing in the shape of a sum of £169 19s. In February, the Province subscribed £42 to the Benevolent Institution, and £131 15s. last month to the Girls' School, so that the total for the year is only £343 14s. However, in 1891, when the late Earl of Lathom presided for this Institution; in 1894, when the present Earl—then Lord Skelmersdale—was the representative of his father at the Girls' School Festival; and in 1898, at the Centenary of this Institution, the Province did its duty admirably. Moreover, it has four Institutions of its own, which it supports most generously, so that though the two Lancashires may not always appear to advantage at these Anniversary meetings, we know well that they are thoroughly imbued with the true spirit of Masonry.

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND

is one of those medium-sized Provinces which make it a rule to give their support annually to each Institution in turn, and as it subscribed £429 19s. 6d. to the Benevolent Institution in 1899, and £362 5s. to the Girls' School last year, it figures, as we expected, in Wednesday's Returns to the extent of £600, the Steward for the whole Province being Bro. R. B. Starkey, while half-a-dozen other brethren gave their services independently. This is one of the best Returns the Province, which numbers 14 lodges, has made, and Bro. Starkey and all who have had a hand in compiling deserve great credit for the trouble they have taken.

There are 25 lodges in

LINCOLNSHIRE,

and one of them is entered for a list per Bro. Garthwaite, its Treasurer, for £10 10s. It took no part in the Benevolent Festival, but last month another of its lodges contributed £54 12s. per Bro. F. G. W. Godhard. Its greatest success was in 1896, when its Prov. G.M., the Earl of Yarborough, occupied the chair at the Girls' School Festival, and the Province supported his lordship to the extent of £1500. It also did well in 1898, when it raised £1354 for the Centenary of this School.

MIDDLESEX,

with its roll of 42 lodges, invariably makes a brave show. In 1896, when Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. G. Master, presided at the Benevolent Festival, the Province subscribed £3705 15s. 6d., while the contributions for the year reached £3967 15s. 6d. In 1898 it took a foremost place among the supporters of this Institution, to the Centenary of which it gave £2835 16s., the total for the year being £3587 6s. 6d. In 1899 there was naturally a sort of respite, and the subscriptions during that period only totalled £876 5s., while last year there was a return to bigger figures, the total being £1415 4s. 6d., of which £1010 11s. fell to the Girls' School. In February eight lodges were represented at the Old People's Anniversary, the number of Stewards being 12 and the amount they obtained £399 6s. In May, the Girls' School was favoured with £715 4s., the number of lodges represented, with the chapter attached to one of them, being 13, and the number of Stewards 24. On Wednesday, 11 lodges each represented by a single Steward, with the D.P.G.M., were included in the Returns, the sum total of their lists being £315, and the principal item being the £60 8s. of Bro. Rear-Admiral St. Clair, the Deputy.

There are but 11 lodges in

MONMOUTHSHIRE,

which, like other Provinces of about the same strength, confines its attentions wholly or principally, to one of the Institutions, but giving each of them a just share of its support. In 1898, it raised £1088 8s., including £525 for a Life Presentation in memory of the late Bro. Captain Homfray, D.P.G.M., for the Boys' Centenary. In 1899, it figured in the Benevolent Returns for £477 15s., and last year in those of the Girls' School for £498 15s. This year it has taken part in all three meetings, a Steward from one of its lodges being entered for £10 10s. at the Benevolent Festival, and an Unattached brother for a like sum at the Girls' meeting last month. On Wednesday, however, it gave its main support to this Institution, the Province being represented by Bro. F. Phillips, while 10 of its lodges had each a representative of its own, and there were two brethren Unattached. The total reached the level sum of £525.

The Province of

NORFOLK

was not represented at the Benevolent Festival in February, but in May three of the 16 lodges and the chapter belonging to one of them had the pleasure of returning the goodly sum of £226 to the Girls' School. On Wednesday the Stewards from two other lodges, with Bro. A. F. Hardymeat, Unattached, made up a total of £190 6s., so that the Province has contributed during the present year £416 6s. Last year it raised £328 16s. for the Old People and the Girls' School, Bros. Eversley and Hardymeat, two of the brethren who gave their services for the latter, having the credit of raising between them £254 10s., while the remaining £73 10s. was obtained by Bro. G. W. G. Barnard, the P.G. Secretary, for the former. In 1898 it figured in the Boys' Centenary Returns for £818 8s., its previous best having been in 1892, when it subscribed £516 10s. to the Benevolent Jubilee.

There were five Stewards from

NORTHANTS AND HUNTS,

among them being the Earl of Euston, P.G.M., and Comp. Harry Manfield, representing the P.G. Chapter, the other three representing two of the 16 lodges. The total reached £176 18s. 6d., and, added to the £62 16s. 6d. subscribed to the Benevolent Institution and the £230 7s. which last month fell to the lot of the Girls' School, places the year's total at £470 2s. Last year it was only £278 15s., and in 1899, £539 1s. 6d., while in 1898 it reached £1784 2s., of which £1621 7s. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary.

One of the 33 lodges in

NORTHUMBERLAND

had a brace of Stewards whose lists totalled £84, and with the £47 5s. raised by Bro. C. Pulman and another last month for the Girls', makes the year's total £131 5s. Its record subscription belongs to 1895, when it contributed £2315 5s. to the Girls' School and £186 18s. to this Institution. It also showed up well at the Boys' Centenary in 1898, when it figured for £1290 10s., the bulk of which was on the list of Bro. Sir M. White Ridley, Bart., now Lord Wensleydale.

As many as 13 Stewards, including Lord Harlech, the Prov. G. Master, Bro. James Porter, representing the Province, Bro. J. G. Tuxford, Steward for the Madoc Lodge, No. 1509, and Bros. C. K. Benson, E. Roberts, Prov. G. Secretary, and another with a lady Unattached do duty for the Province of

NORTH WALES,

there being five of the 25 lodges directly represented. The total obtained by these brethren stands at £276 3s., and is one of the best Returns from this Province. In February the Province, which had Bro. Benson for its representative, and a Steward from one of its lodges, had £79 16s. to its credit, while last month with three Stewards, of whom two were Unattached, it figured for £51, so that the total raised during the year is £406 19s. In 1898 it distributed among the three Institutions £1394, of which £1089 10s. was subscribed to the Boys' Centenary, £294 to the Benevolent Institution, and the small balance of £10 10s. to the Institution for Girls.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

with its roll of 18 lodges, acquitted itself successfully in 1898, when it raised £777 for this Institution, its highest previous total for the year having been in 1896, when it apportioned £397 6s. between the Schools. In 1899 it subscribed £199 10s. to the Girls' School, and last year £10 10s. each to the Benevolent and Girls' Institutions, and £71 6s. to this. In February it figured for £210 in the Benevolent Returns, and last month for £10 10s. in those of the Girls' School; while on Wednesday it had two Stewards acting independently, his Honour Judge Masterman, Dep. P.G.M.—who was also Steward for the Jerusalem Lodge, No. 197, London—and Bro. Alfred Page, P.P.G.W., the amount to the credit of the Province being £377 4s., and the total for the year £597 14s.

Two of the 12 lodges in

OXFORDSHIRE

took part in Wednesday's proceedings, the lists compiled by their Stewards reaching £19 3s. 6d., and as the Province subscribed £208 13s. 6d. in February, there being eight lodges and 10 Stewards concerned in the work; while in May seven of the lodges, represented by nine brethren, followed up this success by subscribing £258 10s., the present year will be found to compare very favourably with previous ordinary years. Last year, for instance, the total was £380 15s., and in 1899 it amounted to £516 14s. 6d.; while, as showing what it is capable of doing in extraordinary years, we may state that in 1893, it raised in all £917 13s. 6d., of which £505 12s. 6d. was subscribed for the Old People in honour of the Earl of Jersey, Prov. G.M., who was chairman at their Festival, and £338 7s. to the Centenary of this School.

During the whole of its career as a separate Province,

SHROPSHIRE,

albeit it musters only a dozen lodges all told, has acquitted itself with honour. In 1887, when as yet it had barely time to settle itself down, it subscribed £1022 to the Girls' School Festival at which Bro. Sir Osmey Wakeman, Bart., its Prov. Grand Master, occupied the chair, and in the following year it raised £770 15s. for the Centenary of the same School. In 1892, the year of the Benevolent Jubilee, it also showed to advantage, while in 1898, it surpassed all it had previously done by contributing £1199 15s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary out of a total subscribed during the year of £1325 18s. 6d. Last year its contributions, including £288 15s. to this Institution, reached £357, or at the rate of nearly £30 per lodge, while during the present year, though its figures are on a smaller scale, it has been able to spare a something for each of our three Charities; the contribution to the Old People in February being £31 10s., and to the Girls' School last month £73 10s. On Wednesday, three of its lodges sent up Stewards, the sum of whose lists was £84, so that the total for the whole year is £189.

SOMERSETSHIRE,

with its 26 lodges, has done good service both on the special occasions when its services have been more particularly in request and also at the ordinary run of Festivals. Thus when Viscount Dungarvan, P.G.M., was Chairman at the Benevolent Festival in 1895, the Province backed up his lordship by subscribing £1057 17s. 6d. out of a total during the year of £1745 3s. 7d., and again in 1899, when he rendered a similar service to the Girls' School, its contributions were on a larger scale, and totalled up no less than £2191 17s. In 1898 it figured in the Boys' Centenary Returns for £1187 19s. Last year it not unnaturally took a rest, but in February it subscribed £262 12s. 6d. for our Old People, and on Wednesday the Stewards from three of its lodges, with Bros. James S. Haddon and Col. A. Thrale Perkins, compiled a Return of £295 11s. 6d., placing the total for this year at £558 4s.

Neither of the Divisions of South Wales were represented at the Benevolent and Girls' School Festivals, and hence their presence on this occasion is all the more welcome. There were three Stewards from

SOUTH WALES (E.D.),

namely, Lord Llangattock, P.G.M.; Bro. W. A. Beer, representing the Province; and Bro. G. S. Gilder, of the Duke of York Lodge, No. 2453, Cardiff; the total subscribed or obtained by these brethren amounting to £400. The Province, which comprises 23 lodges, had three heavy years following consecutively, namely, 1897, when the P.G.M. was Chairman at the Girls' Festival, and it subscribed a sum of £1050; 1898, when it contributed £605 6s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary; and 1899, when his lordship presided at the Old People's Festival, and South Wales (E.D.) was to the fore with £631. Rest after such efforts as these is most desirable.

SOUTH WALES (W.D.)

is a far smaller Province with but 10 lodges on its roll, but rarely a year elapses without its contributing to at least one of the Institutions. Thus in 1893, it raised £161 7s. for the Boys' Centenary, in 1899 £141 15s. for the Old People, and last year £75 12s. for the Girls' School. On Wednesday Bro. Henry Studt acted as Steward for the Province, and handed in a splendid list of £420.

STAFFORDSHIRE

has invariably done good work in behalf of our Central Charities, and last year rendered a service to the Girls' School which will not be soon forgotten. It had already in 1898 shown its regard for this Institution by subscribing £3845 8s. to its Centenary, the number of Stewards who took part in raising this sum being 204, while the total raised during the year was £4023 8s. Even in 1899, after so strenuous an effort as we have described, it distributed £767 11s. among the Charities, while last year, when the Earl of Dartmouth, Prov. G. Master, was Chairman at the Girls' Festival, it subscribed in honour of his lordship's presidency £3800 14s., or only a little short of its record Return in 1898. This year it has also done well. In February three of its 34 lodges, with Bro. W. H. Bailey, Past G. Treasurer, Unattached, compiled a sum of £178 7s. Last month a group of 13 Stewards—there is evidently no ill-luck to "Our Girls" in this supposed ill-fated number—raised £525, one of the Stewards being Unattached, while the other 12 did duty for seven lodges. On Wednesday there was again a goodly muster of 24 Stewards, of whom a brother and three ladies were Unattached, and 20 represented 11 lodges and the chapter attached to one of them. The sum obtained by these was £425 15s. Thus the total raised by Staffordshire during the present year is £1129 2s., and we congratulate both the Province and the Stewards who have done it this service.

What

SUFFOLK

has done in the past for all our Institutions is so well known and so widely appreciated that it is unnecessary to do more than cite a few examples of its work. In 1888—the year of the Girls' Centenary—it raised £1105 12s.; in 1889, when Lord Henniker, Prov. G. Master, presided at the Girls' Festival, £1048 17s. 6d.; in 1892—the Benevolent Jubilee year—£1449 14s.; and in 1898, when the Boys' School held its Centenary Festival, £1563 7s. 6d. Last year, too, its Returns, though smaller, amounted to £841 16s. But on this opening year of the 20th century the Province has surpassed all its former achievements. At the Benevolent Festival in February the Province, with 10 of its lodges and two R.A. chapters represented, together subscribed £1023 11s., the number of Stewards being 10; and last month, 10 Stewards, representing 10 lodges, and a brother Unattached, compiled a total of £886 4s. Here, then, at these two Festivals alone we find a larger sum raised than in any previous year. Yet, on Wednesday, nine brethren from eight lodges raised amongst them £666 4s. 6d., thus augmenting still further the year's total, and placing it at £2555 19s. 6d. The principal items in this latest Return are two of £121 16s. each by Bros. Major Carthew, of No. 81, and E. W. Lynch, of No. 555. Well done, Suffolk.

SURREY

invariably takes a part, and an honourable part, in the Festivals of our Institutions. We should have to scrutinise the Returns very closely to find one during the last 25 or 26 years at which some of its lodges—which now number 45—were not represented and generally to good purpose. Thus to go no further back than 1894, when the late Bro. Colonel G. Noel Money, C.B., Prov. Grand Master, was Chairman at the Benevolent Festival, and the Province supported him to the extent of £1399 2s., the total for the year reached £1673 4s. 6d. In 1893, it raised £3968 2s., of which £3499 16s. was in behalf of the Boys' Centenary. In 1899, the total was £1288 5s. 6d., and last year £1428 9s. In February of the present year, 18 Stewards, of whom one was Unattached, and 17 did duty for 14 of its lodges, compiled a Return of £643 19s. 6d., while in May, eight Stewards from six lodges raised £264 7s. 6d. On Wednesday, seven lodges were represented in the Returns, the number of Stewards, including one Unattached, being nine. The total amounted to £231 2s. 6d., and places the aggregate for the year at £1139 9s. 6d. Thus the opening work for the new century augurs well for the continued loyalty of this influential Province towards our Central Charities.

There are but 33 lodges in the Province of

SUSSEX,

but under the auspices of the late Sir W. W. Burrell, Bart., and the Duke of Connaught, it has played its part admirably in supporting our Institutions. To go no further back than 1892, it contributed in that year £1155 6s. to the Benevolent Jubilee, and £1026 5s. to the Girls' School in honour of the Duke's Chairmanship at its Festival; in 1897, it raised in all £1497 3s. 6d., of which £1263 2s. 6d. was subscribed to the Old People in support of his Royal Highness's Chairmanship; and in 1898 it gave £2869 15s. to the Boys' Centenary out of a total for the year of £2932 15s. In 1899 it acquitted itself by raising £969 15s., while last year it more than doubled this sum with a total of £1945 2s., of which £1365 fell to the share of this School, at whose Festival the Prov. G. Master had arranged to preside. In February a contingent of 22 Stewards, of whom 20 were representative of 11 lodges and two Unattached, compiled a Return of £436 3s. 6d. for the Benevolent Institution, and in May, when 18 brethren—15 as representing 13 lodges and a chapter, and three Unattached—gave their services, £435 19s. 3d. was raised for the Girls' School. On Wednesday, 11 brethren hailing from nine of the lodges and a lady Unattached increased the year's total to £1079 10s. 3d., by compiling a return of £207 7s. 6d.

WARWICKSHIRE,

with its 34 lodges, has been doing well this year. In February 11 brethren, of whom five hailed from the Bedford Lodge, No. 925, raised £162 15s. for the Old People, and in May, thanks to the efforts of 18 Stewards, of whom one was Unattached and four belonged to the Athol Lodge, No. 74, the sum of £309 4s. 6d. was subscribed to the Girls' School. On this occasion five lodges assisted, the Athol Lodge having seven representatives out of the 13 brethren who, with an Unattached lady, did duty as Stewards, with the result that this Institution is the better by £163 4s., of which £65 2s. was subscribed, per Bro. Foster, by the Athol Lodge. Thus the Warwickshire total for 1901 stands at £635 3s. 6d. Last year the amount subscribed to the central Charities was small, owing to the very successful Festival held in behalf of the Warwickshire Benevolent and Pupils' Aid Fund, to which about £3150 was subscribed; but in 1899 it reached £572 5s., and that, notwithstanding the contribution by the Province of £5079 14s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary.

There was a Steward from one of the 12 lodges in

WILTSHIRE

included in the Benevolent Returns in February, whose lists amounted to £408s., but the rule of the Province is to give its main support to each Institution in turn. Thus in 1898 it raised £539 for the Boys' Centenary, with a supplementary £71 for the Girls' School; in 1899, £288 for the Girls' School, with £10 10s. for "Our Boys;" and last year £194 5s. for the Old People, with £10 10s. for the Boys. On Wednesday Bro. F. S. Hancock, for the Province, with Bro. H. Baver, Prov. G. Sec., Chairman of the Board of Management, returned £410 10s. 6d., of which all but 10 guineas was contained in the former's list.

Five of the 15 lodges in

WORCESTERSHIRE

took part in Wednesday's proceedings, the sum raised by their seven representatives and Bro. E. J. Chambers, Unattached, being £300 6s. In February six lodges, represented by nine brethren, made up a Return of £266 16s. 6d.; and last month Bro. W. T. Page, D.P.G.M., and Steward for the Province, placed £63 at the disposal of the Girls' School; the proceeds of the year being £630 2s. 6d. Last year it subscribed in all £1160 16s., of which £908 10s. fell to the share of the Girls' School; and in 1899 £415 16s., of which £379 1s. was for the Old People, and £36 15s. for "Our Boys." In 1898 its Returns, including £1136 2s. to the Centenary of this Institution, reached £1231 13s.

As regards

YORKSHIRE (N. AND E. RIDINGS),

Bro. the Rev. C. H. Steel, as Steward for the Province and Ferrum Lodge, No. 1848, Middlesborough, compiled a list amounting to £31 10s., and this added to the £197 8s. obtained by the seven brethren who represented the Province at the Benevolent Festival in February, and the £86 16s. raised for the Girls' School by Bro. the Rev. E. Fox-Thomas as Steward for the Province, the Stewards from two of its 34 lodges, and an Unattached brother, make the total subscribed during the year £315 14s. The Province has done well at previous Special and Ordinary Festivals, but never—as far as our memory serves us—so well as in 1896, when its total subscription reached £1022 10s.—unless, indeed, we except last year, when it raised £1254 for its own Educational Fund, and £53 11s. for the Girls' School.

There is no need for us to go much into detail as to what

YORKSHIRE (W. RIDING)

does regularly for our three Institutions. On special occasions it contributes largely, but it is always ready and willing to give what is both just and generous. In February, it subscribed, by the hands of 35 Stewards hailing from 20 of its 82 lodges, £715 for the Old People. Last month, with 100 Stewards to represent it, it gave £1650 to the Girls' School, and on Wednesday, its 16 Stewards, of whom 13 acted for 10 lodges, compiled a total of £300, placing the aggregate for the year at £2665. Its record year is 1898, when, including £6136 3s. 6d. to the Boys' Centenary, it contributed in all £7956 3s.

FOREIGN STATIONS,

to the number of 10, and scattered all over the world, are entered for a total of £158 11s., this Institution showing to great advantage as compared with the Old People which received only one list of £8 14s. from a South African lodge, and the Girls' School, which had £31 10s., the number of represented Stations being three.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

It only remains for us in bringing our task to a close, to express the hope that in what we have said, we have had the good fortune to avoid offending Provinces, lodge, and brother.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the above School was held at the Institution, Wood Green, on Monday, the 24th instant. Prior to the commencement of the proceedings, the large assembly hall was almost filled with visitors, friends of scholars, and the boys themselves, the company being entertained with selections on the organ by Mr. Pascal Needham.

It had been arranged that the prizes were to be distributed by Mrs. W. W. Bramston Beach, who, accompanied by her husband, Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. Bramston Beach, M.P., Prov. G. Master Hants and Isle of Wight, and Trustee of the Institution, was received on arrival at the main entrance by the Treasurer, Chairman, and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Management, Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, the Secretary, and the Head Master. Mrs. Beach, having been presented by the Matron with a very handsome bouquet, the distinguished visitors were escorted to the dais erected at the far end of the assembly hall, which had been tastefully decorated with pot plants and flowers for the occasion.

Bro. BEVIR, Chairman of the Board of Management, having formally welcomed Bro. and Mrs. Beach and the other visitors, referred in feeling terms to the death of his predecessor, Bro. Richard Eve. Out of 350 boys between 260 and 270 were inmates of the School, while nearly 30 were receiving the higher education for boys of promise over 15 years of age, a system of education they desired to see extended. The speaker then made reference to some of the many excellent results achieved by the School in late years, and quoted from the examiners' report to show that last year had in many respects exceeded those of any previous year. In conclusion he appealed to the boys to work well for themselves and for the School that did so much to enable them to be worthy subjects of a good King and citizens of a great Empire.

Rev. H. A. HEBB, M.A., the Headmaster, dwelt at some length on the improvement manifest in the School in nearly every direction, and paid a graceful tribute to the assistance he received from his teaching staff, Messrs. Crane, Roberts, Pinhorn, Francombe, and Needham. He reviewed the progress being made in shorthand and music particularly, and referred to the educative influences of the Natural History Society. In gymnastics they had an excellent instructor in Sergt. Willmott, who had recently returned from serving his country in South Africa. Improvement had been manifest in games generally, and especially in cricket.

PRIZE LIST.

Mrs. Beach then distributed the prizes among the following successful students:

FORM PRIZES.

- Form IB.—A. L. Strickland, 1; V. H. Forman, 2.
- „ IA.—H. Stafford, 1; J. H. Bury, 2.
- „ IIC.—H. M. Sherman, 1; L. W. Cox, 2.
- „ IIB.—W. H. Edridge, 1; M. S. Corswell, 2.
- „ IIA.—B. F. Webb, 1; V. J. Buchan, 2.
- „ IIC.—O. Flint, 1; E. H. Stutely, 2.
- „ IIB.—F. J. Button, 1; W. Blott, 2.
- „ IIA.—J. H. Wilton, 1; W. J. Tunnicliffe, 2.
- „ IVC.—J. C. Stacey, 1; N. Mostyn, 2.
- „ IIB.—Honours in Preliminary Cambridge Local Examinations.—R. W. Cooper, A. E. Dover, C. W. Chetseman, R. Hirst, and R. Sarjant.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

- Best Copy Books.—M. S. Carswell; C. A. Ward.
- Model Drawing (Presented by Bro. E. Gerson).—C. W. Walker.
- Drawing Books (voluntary) (Presented by Bro. Gerson).—C. W. Walker.
- Painting.—C. Morton.
- Singing (Presented by Bro. A. J. Thomas).—T. B. Armstrong, 1; G. H. Oldham, 2.
- Pianoforte (Presented by Bro. A. J. Thomas).—(Senior) W. D. Wales; (Junior) Z. P. Hillyard.
- Theory of Music (Trinity College, London).—W. D. Coales.
- Mathematics.—J. A. Goode.
- Latin.—(Presented by Bro. H. Mansfield).—1, A. D. Rogers; 2, T. C. Stacey.
- French.—(Presented by Bro. O. Philippe).—C. W. Walker.
- French.—(Presented by Lodge L'Entente Cordiale, No. 2796), V. IVA.—W. L. Dallas; IVB., J. C. Stacey; IIB., R. Eagle.
- Scripture.—(Presented by Bro. J. W. Elvin).—W. D. Coales.
- English Composition.—(Presented by the "Old Masonians' Association").—A. W. Huskinson.
- Geography.—(Presented by the Old Masonians' Lodge, No. 2700).—A. Taylor.
- Knowledge of the Australian Colonies.—(Presented by Bro. W. F. Lamony and Bro. W. Russell).—1, A. Skilleter; 2, D. Collins.
- Shakespeare Recitation.—(Presented by Bro. Sholto Hare).—1, W. F. Read; 2, J. W. W. Tunnicliffe.
- Wood Carving. (Presented by Bro. C. H. LeMaistre).—W. L. Dallas.
- Manual Training—Woodwork.—(Presented by Bro. C. E. Keyser).—IIB., C. A. Ward; IIC., G. Garbert; IIA., A. Woodhead; IIB., H. R. Richmond; IIC., H. E. Harvey.
- Printing.—1, L. Cunat; 2, C. E. Green.
- Bookbinding.—(Presented by Bro. James Stephens).—1, C. W. Walker; 2, A. S. Miller.
- Gardening.—(Presented by Bro. Sholto Hare).—T. F. Chipp.

- Natural History Society.—(Presented by the Richard Eve Lodge, No. 2772).—To be awarded after the holidays.
- Swimming.—(Presented by Bro. Sholto Hare).—To be awarded after the holidays.
- Photography.—for six Bromide Prints.—(Presented by Bro. Thomas Taylor).—H. D. Maidment. Special Prize.—J. Roy.
- Gymnastics.—(Presented by Bro. Dr. W. H. Kempster).—E. C. Pickles, J. A. Goode, T. E. Grant.

FUNDED PRIZES.

- Canonbury Gold Medal for the most popular Boy (elected by his comrades).—A. E. Skilleter.
- Bowyer Prize for Shorthand.—A. S. Miller.
- The William Masters Prize for Knowledge of Railways.—H. R. Ainsley.
- Escott Prize for Mathematics.—H. D. Maidment.
- Raymond Thrupp Prize for History.—A. D. Rogers; S. W. Hughes and L. W. Dallas, equal.
- Fox Prize for English Literature.—A. W. Huskinson.
- Winn Prizes for Boys who have gained Certificates in the Cambridge Local Examination in 1900:
 - Senior. Class 3.—W. L. Dallas, H. D. Maidment, A. D. Rogers.
 - Passes.—S. W. Hughes, A. W. Huskinson.
 - Junior.
 - 1st Division Class 1.—W. D. Coales.
 - 2nd „ Class 1.—D. L. Collins, T. F. Chipp.
 - Class 2.—J. A. Goode, A. S. Miller, T. P. Tremlett, C. W. Walker.
 - Class 3.—D. Brown, L. C. Cunat, C. H. Hitchen, R. B. Jiy, C. Morton, A. E. Skilleter, J. C. Stacey, A. R. Taylor.
 - Passes.—H. R. Ainsley, H. S. Aston, P. G. Bradford, C. W. Britten, R. S. Brown, P. S. Coleman, F. G. Cooper, F. H. Gabbutt, T. E. Grant, R. G. Hibbs, G. H. Johnson, B. Lowick, R. Mallett, W. W. Marsden, N. A. Mostyn, J. Roy, E. O. Salomonski, W. M. Sherwood, W. J. Tunnicliffe, V. G. Venables, J. H. Wilton, R. T. Woodward, L. J. Worsell, H. G. Fanning, F. N. Morgan.
- Cama Memorial Prize, for the youngest Boy passing the Cambridge Local Senior Examination.—S. W. Hughes.
- Greenwood Memorial Prize.—H. D. Maidment.
- Supreme Council's Prize.—W. L. Dallas.
- Institution Silver Medal, for the Head of the School.—A. D. Rogers.
- Victoria Diamond Jubilee Scholarship.—H. D. Maidment.
- Grand Lodge Scholarship.—L. W. Croft.

PRESENTATION OF HOUSE CUPS.

- Football.—Headmaster's House.
- Cricket.—Mr. Pinhorn's „
- Fives.—Headmaster's „
- Gymnastics.—Mr. Crane's „
- Swimming.—(Not yet awarded).

A vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Beach for distributing the prizes on the motion of Bro. BEVIR, being carried with hearty acclamation, and duly acknowledged on her behalf by Bro. the Right Hon. W. W. B. BEACH.

A programme of recitations and music was then given, in which the Choral Society and individual boys took part, notable features being a scene from Molière's "Le Malade Imaginaire," in which Dallas and Salomonski gained well-deserved applause, and the drill scene from "The Rivals," in which Insull, the *victor ludorum* at the recent sports, seemed quite at home in the part of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, and Sherwood tackled the difficult part of Bob Acres with no little success.

After ringing cheers had been given by the boys for Bro. and Mrs. Beach, an adjournment was made to the gymnasium, where tea was dispensed to the visitors, who subsequently inspected the work done by scholars, exhibited in the reading-room, or watched the gymnastic display given by the boys of the various forms under Sergt. Willmott in the inner playground.

Royal Arch.

Urmston Chapter, No. 1730.

INSTALLATION OF COMP. JAMES ORMROD.

The installation meeting of this chapter was held on Monday, the 24th instant, at King-street, Stretford, when there were present Comps. R. Swindells, M.E.Z.; James Ormrod, H.; Evans Jackson, J.; J. Walton, jun., S.E.; J. S. Whitley, S.N.; John Slyman, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., Treas.; J. Ridsdale Bowley, P.S.; R. Cochrane, 2nd A.S.; J. H. Marsh, P.Z., Prov. G.S.E.; D. C. G. Metcalf, Janitor; W. Goodacre, P.Z., P.G. Std. Br., Prov. G.S.E.; T. W. Bone, P.Z., P.P.D.G. Std. Br.; R. E. Strengleman, P.Z.; and W. S. Whitefield. Visitors: Comps. Arthur C. K. Smith, H. 317, Prov. D.G.R. East Lancs.; Bridge Hopkinson, O.G. 1375, P.P.G. Org.; Charles Shaw, H. 999, P.P.G. Org. East Lancs.; W. Coffey, M.E.Z. 2109; and W. Broughton, M.E.Z. 1345.

The minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The report of the Auditors was received and adopted, and a vote of thanks was carried to the Treasurer, Comp. John Slyman, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., and he was congratulated on the healthy aspect of the chapter funds, the balance in hand being the highest for many years. A new feature in this chapter this year was that each outgoing Principal installed his successor, viz., Comp. R. Swindells, M.E.Z., installed Comp. James Ormrod as M.E.Z.; Comp. James Ormrod installed Comp. Evans Jackson as H.; and Comp. Evans Jackson installed Comp. John Walton, jun., as J. The following officers were invested by the M.E.Z.: Comps. J. S. Whitley, S.E.; J. Ridsdale Bowley, S.N.; John Slyman, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., Treas.; R. Cochrane, 1st A.S.; J. H. Marsh, P.Z., Prov. G.S.N., D.C.; W. S. Whitefield, Std.; and G. Metcalf, Janitor. Comp. T. W. Bone, P.Z., P.P.D.G. Std. Br., gave the addresses to the three Principals, also the addresses to the officers generally, and Comp. John Slyman, P.Z., P.P.G.S.N., delivered the address to the chapter at large.

We hear that only in one other chapter in East or West Lancashire, viz., the Affability Chapter, No. 317, East Lancashire, is it the custom for each outgoing Principal to install his successor, and we congratulate these two chapters on having such able companions, and other chapters would only do the same, Royal Arch Masonry would be in a more flourishing and popular condition than at the present time.

After "Hearty good wishes" were given from Grand and Provincial Grand Officers and companions generally, the chapter was closed, and the companions adjourned to the Brooklands Hotel to have the annual game of bowls.

At 6.30, the companions sat down to a well-served banquet, under the presidency of Comp. James Ormrod, M.E.Z.

The usual toasts were subsequently honoured and replied to by the companions. Comp. Bridge Hopkinson presided at the pianoforte, and Comps. Charles Shaw, Ridsdale Bowley, R. Cochrane, and J. H. Marsh, contributed to the harmony of the evening.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by all the companions singing "God save the King."

A most wonderful band will play at the Crystal Palace on 6th July, when a military concert, under Royal patronage, will be given in aid of Service Charities. The performers will number 600 musicians, including the bands of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, 10th Hussars, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Grenadier, Coldstream, Scots, and Irish Guards. The tickets are one guinea each, and considerably over 2000 have already been sold. Several most eminent singers are also engaged.

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2.0. HUSBANDS' BOAT to MARGATE and back, EVERY SATURDAY AFTERNOON, calling at Tibury only. Train from Fenchurch-st. at 2.54.

3.0. TRIPS ROUND THE NORE every SATURDAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY and THURSDAY, calling at River Piers and Gravesend (Town Pier) and at Southend on Saturdays on the down journey.

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EVERY WEDNESDAY.—To Shrewsbury, Welshpool, Pwllheli, ABERYSTWYTH, Llangollen, Corwen, Bala, Festiniog, DOLGELLEY, Barmouth, Rhyl, LLAN-DUDNO, Bettws-y-coed, Carnarvon, Llanberis (for SNOWDON), &c.; and to TAUNTON, Tiverton, &c.

EVERY WEDNESDAY NOON and THURSDAY.—To MINEHEAD (for LYNTON and LYNMOUTH).

EVERY WEDNESDAY NOON & FRIDAY NIGHT.—To WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Bridgwater, &c.

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT.—To Monmouth, Newport, CARDIFF, SWANSEA, Llanely, Llandoverly, Carmarthen, Newcastle, Emlyn, TENBY, Cardigan, Goodwick, MILFORD, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY.—To LYNTON, LYNMOUTH, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING, THURSDAY NIGHT & FRIDAY NIGHT.—To Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, Dawlish, Teignmouth, TORQUAY, Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, Tavistock, Launceston, PLYMOUTH, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING and FRIDAY NIGHT.—To Bodmin, Wadebridge, Newquay, Truro, FALMOUTH, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c.

EVERY THURSDAY MIDNIGHT.—To CHESTER, BIRKENHEAD and LIVERPOOL.

EVERY FRIDAY.—To Newbury, Savernake, MARLBOROUGH, Patney and Chilton, DEVIZES, TROWBRIDGE, Warminster, &c.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT.—To the SCILLY ISLANDS.

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT and SATURDAY.—To DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN).

EVERY TUESDAY (during JULY and AUGUST).—HALF DAY TRIP to Culham, Radley, ABINGDON, OXFORD and BLENHEIM and WOODSTOCK.

EVERY THURSDAY.—HALF DAY TRIP to STRATFORD-ON-AVON, BANBURY, and LEAMINGTON.

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.—THURSDAYS, JULY 4, 13, AUGUST 1st, 15th, 29th, SEPTEMBER 12th and 26th.—For CORK, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, &c.

FRIDAYS, JULY 5th, 19th, AUGUST 2nd, 16th, 30th, SEPTEMBER 13th and 27th.—For WATERFORD, Dungarvan, Lismore, Clonmel, Tipperary, Kilkenny, KILLARNEY, &c.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1901.

Masonic Notes.

The Earl of Lathom must have been highly gratified not only by the very cordial reception which he personally met with at the hands of his West Lancashire brethren at the recent annual meeting of his Provincial

Grand Lodge, but also with the evidence which was forthcoming on that occasion of the prosperous state of the Craft under his government. There was, to begin with, a very large attendance, and of the 127 lodges on the roll of the Province only one was unrepresented. The Provincial Grand Secretary was able to report that all returns had been sent in and all dues paid, while the funds were in such a condition that before the meeting was over £100 was voted to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association and 150 guineas to be apportioned equally among the Educational, Hamer, and Alpass Institutions.

The statistics furnished by Bro. W. Goodacre, P.G.S.B., Prov. G. Secretary, show clearly enough how marvellous has been the progress made by Freemasonry in this particular Province of West Lancashire. In 1875 the number of lodges on the roll was 69, and the number of subscribing members 4400, being at the rate of nearly 64 per lodge. Ten years later the lodges had increased to 82, and the roll of members to 4600, the rate per lodge being a fraction over 56, so that while the number of lodges was greater, the average lodge membership was reduced by eight. At the present time there are 127 lodges on the roll of the Province, with an aggregate subscribing membership of 8500, being at the rate of 67 per lodge. Thus, as Bro. Goodacre remarked, in the 15 years since 1885 West Lancashire can point to an increase of 55 per cent. in the number of its lodges and of 85 per cent. in its roll of members.

Again as regards the Charitable Institutions which the Province maintains for the benefit of its own reduced or deceased members and their families. These are four in number, the oldest being the Educational, which 20 years ago had an income of £1280, with invested funds amounting to £15,000, and was educating 93 children at a cost of £671. Now its income is, or rather last year its income was, £3044, its invested funds £25,600, and it is educating 210 children at an annual cost of £1580. Thus, in this comparatively brief space of time, the income is between two and a half times as great, the invested capital has been increased by rather more than 60 per cent., while the number of children on the establishment, and the amount expended on their education, is considerably more than doubled. An Institution must be exceedingly well managed which can furnish such evidence of progress as is afforded by these statistics.

Of the other Institutions, the Hamer, which provides grants and annuities for distressed brethren, had 15 years ago an annual income of £490, and paid to distressed brethren £45. Last year its income was £1374, and £408 was paid away in grants and annuities to 21 poor Masons, while its invested capital was £6800; and the Alpass, which was founded in 1885, had last year an income of £3250, and paid £1120 in grants and annuities to 70 widows, its invested capital being £5900. The Victoria Fund of Benevolence, which was founded in 1897 as a memorial of the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee, for the purpose of benefiting those who were not eligible to receive the benefits of the Funds already existing, has also done some good work. No particulars were given except that grants amounting to £100 had been made to 13 daughters of Freemasons. With this information before us, we must not wonder that our strongest Province does not always figure impressively in our Festival Returns. It gives to them largely when it does give, but it holds that its own poor brethren and their families have the first claim upon their benevolence.

There is one other matter to which the Prov. Grand Secretary referred, namely, that the sum of £3500 had been raised for the Lathom Memorial Fund, that this sum had been allocated to the Benevolent Institutions of the Province and that presentations had been granted by the Prov. Grand Master in return for the sums given. The announcement that such a sum had been raised as a memorial of the love and respect entertained for the late Earl of Lathom must have been particularly gratifying to his son, the present Earl and his father's successor in the Grand Mastership of the Province.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, Prov. Grand Master of Essex, has arranged that the annual meeting of his Provincial Grand Lodge shall take place at Loughton on Thursday, the 18th July. Full particulars as to the business that will come before the brethren, &c., will be issued in due course.

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man—the report of which we regret to say we are compelled to hold over till next week—was held on Tuesday, the 18th instant, under the presidency of Bro. John A. Brown, Deputy Prov. Grand Master, Lord Henniker, Prov. Grand Master, being prevented at the last moment by the serious illness of his daughter from taking the chair. In the course of the proceedings, a vote of sympathy with his lordship on the recent death of his eldest son and the illness of his daughter was unanimously adopted. A resolution was also passed expressing deep regret at the death of Bro. the Rev. Charles J. Martyn, M.A., Past G. Chap., Dep. P.G.M. Suffolk, who, in June of last year, had crossed over to the island for the purpose of installing Lord Henniker as Prov. Grand Master. When our report appears it will be seen that the Province has fared well during the past year.

It was a happy idea, that of the Empress Lodge, to hold a special meeting and banquet for the purpose of commemorating the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia, and, better still, the idea was as successfully carried out as it was happily conceived. It is not often that the festive board of one of our lodges has been graced by the presence of such distinguished brethren as the Lord High Chancellor of England, P.G.W.; Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., Town Clerk of, and Sir J. C. Dimsdale, Bart., P.G. Treas. one of the M.Ps. for, the City of London; Sir M. Bhowanagree, K.C.I.E., a native of India; Viscount Templetown, S.G.W. of the Grand Lodges, of England and Ireland; the Dist. G. Masters of the Transvaal (Bro. Geo. Richards); and the Argentine Republic (Bro. C. T. Mold); the Agents-General for Queensland, New South Wales, and South Australia, with representatives from Victoria, New Zealand, and other parts of the British Empire. The Empress Lodge, which was founded only some half-dozen years since, has held many an important gathering under its banner, but it is doubtful if any of its previous functions will compare in importance with that which took place at the Café Royal on the 13th instant to celebrate what there is every reason to believe will be about the grandest event of our time in the annals of the British Empire. We congratulate the lodge on the brilliant success of its latest meeting, and trust its members may have many other opportunities of rendering similar services to Freemasonry and the Empire.

For the second time our East Lancashire brethren have held a Festival in behalf of their Systematic Educational and Benevolent Institution. The first was in 1895, under the presidency of their late lamented Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie, when a sum was raised amounting to about £4500. The second was on Wednesday, the 26th instant, when the chair was taken by Col. Starkie's successor, Lord Stanley, M.P., and the Donations and Subscriptions amounted to £9379. Thus the Province will be able, not only to strengthen its own Charitable Institution, but will also have the satisfaction of benefiting the Benevolent Institution, and at the same time commemorating the many and great services rendered to Freemasonry by the late Bro. Col. Starkie.

In the presence of a large gathering of brethren from all parts of the North of England, Bro. Lord Barnard was installed Prov. G. Master of Durham, in succession to our late Bro. Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart. The ceremony was performed by Earl Amherst, M.W. Pro Grand Master, assisted by other distinguished Masons. Afterwards the brethren proceeded to the Cathedral, where a service was held, and a sermon preached by the Rev. the Hon. G. H. F. Vane, brother of the new Prov. G. Master.

The June number of the *Canadian Craftsman* has reached us within the last few days, and from its opening note we gather that with it our respected contemporary completes its 35th volume, and at the same time the 35th year of its long and useful career. In congratulating the *Craftsman* on this auspicious event, we can say no more than we have said on many successive occasions before—that it is one of the best-edited and best-informed of our exchanges. Its articles are always well and carefully written, nor is there a Masonic journal that we are acquainted with which is better able or more eager to promote the interests of Freemasonry. We trust that for many, many years we may enjoy the pleasure and privilege of perusing the pages of our enlightened and enlightening *Craftsman*.

Correspondence.

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

RE BRO. ELLIOT GALER.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

I have seen this evening in the old supper room—now clothing and committee room—at our local Freemasons' Hall our late Bro. Galer's portrait. It is signed "Elliot Galer (two lls and one t—no other Christian names), Lodge No. 279—which is St. John's, mother of the province—1856." There were then only three lodges in the province, viz., No. 279, St. John's, Leicester, founded 1790, centenary; No. 50, Knights of Malta, Hinckley, founded 1764, and which came to Leicestershire from Cheshire, I think, but I do not remember when—*vide* Kelly's "History of Freemasonry in Leicestershire;" and No. 523, John of Gaunt, Leicester, founded 1846 (installation this evening). All the others are more modern, and I hear of a new one to be called East Goscote, at *Syston* (*vide* *Syston and Peterbro' Ry.*). East Goscote is the name of a "Hundred" of Leicestershire, and a very suitable name.

I can give you no accurate particulars of Elliot Galer's operatic career, nor of his charming wife—in my early days Miss Fanny Reeves. Consult your old operatic friends, and please write a par to his memory. He took no active part in Masonry in my day, and I never met him in lodge.—Yours fraternally,

CHAS. HENTON WOOD,

Leicester, June 24th.

P.G. Chap.

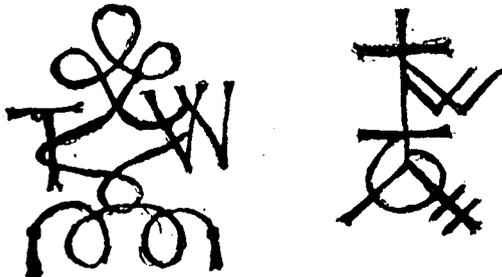
Reviews.

Bristol. The Cathedral and See. (George Bell and Sons, 1901).—

This is the 24th charming monograph of the series published by this well-known and respected firm of York-street, Covent Garden, and will be very heartily welcomed by the subscribers to the previous artistic volumes. The Cathedral Church of Bristol has been ably written by Mr. H. J. L. J. Massé, M.A., and in a most interesting manner, the text being enlivened and enriched with quite a number of beautiful illustrations, which add much to the value of the work. There is not a dull line from the first page to the last, and the author has done his subject justice. Mr. Massé is already well known to the patrons of this remarkable and very handy series by *Gloucester* (already in a second edition) and *Tewkesbury Abbey, with Dechurst Priory*.

Another of the additional series of churches, &c., making the fifth now issued, is devoted to "The Abbey Churches of Bath and Malmesbury and the Church of Saint Laurence, Bradford-on-Avon." The gifted author is the Rev. T. Perkins, M.A., F.R.A.S., &c., who is also responsible for *Wimborne Minster and Christchurch Priory*, and the recently-issued "Itinerary and Description of the English Cathedrals," originally compiled by Dr. Gilchrist. Considerably over 40 of the finished illustrations are from photographs by Mr. Perkins, who is thus author and artist, and acquits himself in the double capacity most admirably. The whole of the monographs, now numbering 31, may be had through any booksellers, or from the publishers direct, for 1s. 6d. each net, and we feel assured the latest of the "Cathedral Series" by the Rev. T. Perkins will not prove the least interesting.

The following initials and monogram of Thomas Wright (Receiver to the Chapter [Bristol] on its first foundation), is an illustration deserving of reproduction beneath, as the monogram at the right is suggestive of a Mason's mark. The sketch is only roughly done from the original spandrels of the doorway in the choir.



Craft Masonry.

St. George's Lodge, No. 140.

A lodge of emergency of this old lodge was held on Thursday, the 20th inst., in consequence of the decease of the respected Secretary, Bro. George Brown, P.M., P.Z., to pass a vote of sympathy and condolence with the widow and family, and to appoint his successor. Several Past Masters, all the officers, and many brethren were present, and the lodge met in mourning as a mark of respect. The brethren assembled entered the lodge, and took their places, while the Organist of the lodge, Bro. J. Shepherd, P.M., assisted by Bro. E. Shalless, P.M., played Beethoven's Funeral March.

The W.M., Bro. W. Eardley Holding, opened the lodge, and read letters and telegrams of regret of inability of being present from Bros. W. C. Burney, P.M., H. Howard, H. S. Harris, and others. The W.M. then referred in feeling terms to the great loss the lodge had sustained by the unexpected decease of Bro. George Brown, who was so greatly esteemed and loved by all the brethren, and moved the following resolution: "That the brethren of St. George's Lodge desire to place on record the loss they have sustained by the death of their esteemed and beloved Bro. George Brown, P.M. and P.Z., who has filled the office of Secretary so efficiently for the past 18 years, and they desire to express their earnest sympathy and condolence with his widow and family in their bereavement; and that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Brown to express their great sorrow and regret at his lamented decease." Bro. W. Bradley, S.W., seconded the resolution, expressing his great regret at his decease, and the hope that yet it might be for the best, as he was, perhaps, spared some years of lingering illness. Also his remembrance of the many kindnesses received from Bro. Brown, and that he was sure all the members would remember him with very great affection. Bro. J. Shepherd, P.M., spoke in a feeling manner of Bro. Brown being the Junior Warden of the lodge when he was initiated, and of the great friendship which always existed between them, and his repeated calls upon him which enlivened the day's work. His great personality and little ways always endeared him to every member of the lodge, and the members would always keep his memory green. His great value and worth in the lodge of instruction was inestimable and he would be greatly missed. Meeting him a few days before his illness, an appointment was made for the very afternoon Bro. Brown was buried. Bro. Shepherd concluded by suggesting that some memorial of him should be placed in the lodge room. Bro. Warcup, P.M., spoke of Bro. Brown and himself having been boys together at the same school and their lifelong friendship. He would miss him very much, as not a week elapsed but they met; and he strongly supported the suggestion of Bro. J. Shepherd, P.M. Bro. E. Johnson, F.M. and Treasurer of the lodge, said the first impression of such a

melancholy occasion was certainly serious, but they sorrow with hope. Some men always shrank from human dissolution; but that was a mistaken delusion, and those who had seen the light through the portals of a Masonic lodge need have no fear. From a Mason's initiation the principle inculcated is the uncertainty of life, and he is taught how to live, but he is also taught how to die. Twenty-five years ago their Bro. Brown was figuratively placed where he was actually placed last week. Freemasonry taught them how to live and how to die. The Volume of the Sacred Law is not the only method of teaching, the example we leave behind us is teaching. For 25 years he had known their Bro. Brown, and one could not but think that the world was the better for his work. In every position of life in which he was placed he carried out his duties faithfully, efficiently, and zealously. In his public duties he acted to the entire satisfaction of his superiors. In his private life he was a beloved husband and a dear father, and they felt sure the family did not sorrow without hope. His idiosyncracies and peculiarities endeared him to them all, more particularly that of their departed brother thinking that no one could do wrong. And, although at times it had been his duty to express an adverse opinion on any one, he always tried to find an excuse for an erring brother. He was a man without guile; his amiable disposition could not admit the presence of evil; and, as regards the uncertainty of life, for some years Bro. Tattershall was the Secretary, and Bro. Moak the Treasurer, of the lodge, old and tried, and when they resigned, in 1883, Bro. Brown was appointed Secretary and he (Bro. Johnson) was appointed Treasurer, and so brought in closer communication with him; and he found it very difficult to express the affection he felt for his memory. His singular fidelity and accurate book-keeping was pre-eminent, and it was very rare that anything required adjustment. Only recently, on April 18th, he suggested a balance of the accounts, and he wrote: "Figures quite right; hope to meet soon." How significant that in less than two months all that was mortal of him should lie in the grave. His last message was "hope to meet soon;" let them hope that in the Grand Lodge above they might all meet. Whatever his hand found to do he did with all his might. He did his best both for the lodge and for the lodge of instruction. He was earnest at the end as at the commencement; and let them hope that would ever be a lasting and useful lesson to all the brethren present. Bro. W. Shepherd, J.W., said that as a constant attendant at the lodge of instruction since he had been a Mason, he wished to testify to the ability and genial manner in which Bro. George Brown acted as Preceptor. Hail, rain, or snow, he was always there, and his absence was practically nil. His kind disposition endeared him to all, and the lodge of instruction would miss him for a very long while. The resolution was carried unanimously, the brethren all standing. The W.M. then announced that he appointed Bro. H. Richardson, P.M., as Secretary, who was presented by Bro. E. Johnson, Treas., and invested. Bro. H. Richardson briefly acknowledged his sense of the honour conferred upon him by the W.M., and the difficulty of following so admirable a predecessor, and said that the spirit of emulation was strong upon him, and that his best efforts would always be at the service of the lodge; at the same time expressing his sorrow at the loss of so kind a friend of many years standing. The W.M. then closed the lodge with prayer and hymn, and the brethren silently left the lodge while Chopin's Funeral March was played by Bros. T. Shepherd and E. Shalless, P.Ms.

Acacia Lodge, No. 2321.

LADIES' NIGHT.

The members of this lodge were *en fete* on the 23rd ult., the occasion being the ladies dining with the brethren at the invitation of the W.M., Bro. John W. Bland, for the second time during his term of office. In order to clear off some of the arrears of work an emergency meeting was convened at 6.15, when Bro. W. W. Symons was raised to the Sublime Degree of a M.M. by Bro. Fearnley, P.M., the working tools were explained by Bro. Bedford, J.W., and the charge in the Third Degree delivered by Bro. Hedley, S.W.

The lodge was closed, and at 7.30 the ladies dined with the brethren, upwards of 80 assembled to enjoy the generous hospitality of the W.M.

After the cloth had been removed, the W.M. gave the toasts of "The King and the Craft," "Her Majesty the Queen, and T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall," and "H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, M.W.G.M."

The only other toasts submitted were "The Ladies," "The Masonic Guests," "The W.M.," "The Masonic Charities," and the Tyler's toast.

The rest of the evening was devoted to a most enjoyable concert contributed to by the brethren and Miss Docksey, whose careful singing was much appreciated. Mr. Leopard also gave a couple of solos on the violin.

In submitting the toast of "The Masonic Benevolent Institutions," Bro. Fearnley, P.M., the Charity Member of the lodge, took the opportunity of referring to the prizes recently obtained by Mary Jowett, a daughter of a late member of the lodge, at the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. After the toast the Charity-box was well patronised.

In responding to the toast of his health, Bro. Bland, the W.M., expressed the pleasure it had afforded him a second time during his year of office to welcome the ladies to join them at refreshment, and to see such a happy party around the lodge social board. He hoped they would all enjoy themselves.

"The Masonic Guests" was proposed by Bro. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., and responded to by Bros. Danziger, 2455, and Moore, 2491.

"The Ladies" was proposed by the W.M., and suitably acknowledged by Bro. Durrance, Asst. Sec.

As the hour of 11 approached the Tyler's toast was the signal for the termination of a very happy party. Undoubtedly the Craft would be more popular with our lady friends if the practice of inviting them to join the brethren at refreshment were adopted by more of our lodges.

The following were visitors: Bros. Thos. Denby, P.M. 387, P.P.G.D.C.; H. E. Cocksion, 600; F. Driver, 510; D. Darcy Danziger, 2455; and E. Moore, 2491.

A regular meeting of the lodge was held on Thursday, the 6th inst., when, in the absence through illness of Bro. J. W. Bland, W.M., Bro. R. S. Hird, I.P.M., presided, and was supported by Bros. A. Stephenson, P.M., P.P.G.D.; C. H. Ellis, P.M.; J. Morton, P.M.; J. S. Hedley, S.W.; J. A. Drake as J.W.; F. Betteridge, B.A., Chap.; S. A. Bailey, P.M., Treas.; J. T. Last, P.M., P.P.G. Reg., Sec.; W. Shaw Smith, S.D.; J. L. Turner as J.D.; W. H. Townend, I.G.; J. S. Cooper, Tyler; J. Wood, Org.; W. Durrance, Asst. Sec.; J. Hardy and H. W. Whitley, Stwds.; and a goodly number of the members. Visitors: Bros. W. O. Hinchliffe, P.M. 1018, P.P.G.D.; G. P. Sunderland, P.M. 1736, P.P.G.D.C.; Otto Schultz, W.M. 1018; Geo. H. Field, P.M. 1018; F. Romfeldt, P.M. 1018; G. W. Iveson, 1018; H. I. Milnes, 1018; F. Webster, 1018; M. Robertshaw, 1018; J. E. Barker, 1018; J. H. Turton, W.M. 2330; T. B. Salthouse, Sec. 2330; John Nicholson, S.W. 2330; Geo. H. Hodgson, S.D. 2330; W. H. Rhodes, 333; E. Moore, 2491; Whitby Norton, 2669; and S. H. Peltz, I.P.M. 1736.

After the minutes of the last regular lodge and of the emergent lodge held on the 23rd ult. had been confirmed, Bro. A. Rushforth was passed to the Second Degree by Bro. Bailey, the working tools being explained by Bro. Hedley, S.W., who also delivered the charge. Bro. F. F. Rhodes was raised to the Third Degree by Bro. Last, P.P.G.R., the working tools of a M.M. were explained by Bro. Hird, I.P.M., and the charge in the Third Degree delivered by Bro. Hedley, S.W. Due notice, as required by the custom of the lodge, was given of proposition of two candidates at the next regular meeting of the lodge, and after "Hearty good wishes" from the visitors the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to refreshment, where the numerous visitors were entertained at dinner, after which the customary loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Bro. Last, P.P.G.R., and in the name of the W.M. (who had hoped to have presided, but who, acting under medical advice, was obliged to absent himself as the result of a chill), he gave the brethren from the seven different lodges who had honoured the Lodge Acacia with their presence that evening a very hearty welcome.

The toast was very heartily received by the brethren, and was responded to by Bros. O. Schultz, W.M. 1018; J. H. Turton, W.M. 2330; and G. P. Sunderland, P.M. 1736, P.P.G.D.C. The latter in his remarks stated the gratification it had afforded him to again be the guest of the lodge, he was delighted with the procedure both at labour and refreshment, and, indeed, he had spent a most pleasant evening.

The other toasts were "The W.M.," "The Past Masters," "The Officers of the Lodge," and the Tyler's toast.

Bros. Drake, Townend, Hinchliffe, P.M.; Norton, Edwards, Wood, Webster Iveson, Barker, and Rushforth contributed songs, recitations, and solos to the harmony of the evening.

LION AND LAMB LODGE, No. 192.

SUMMER OUTING.

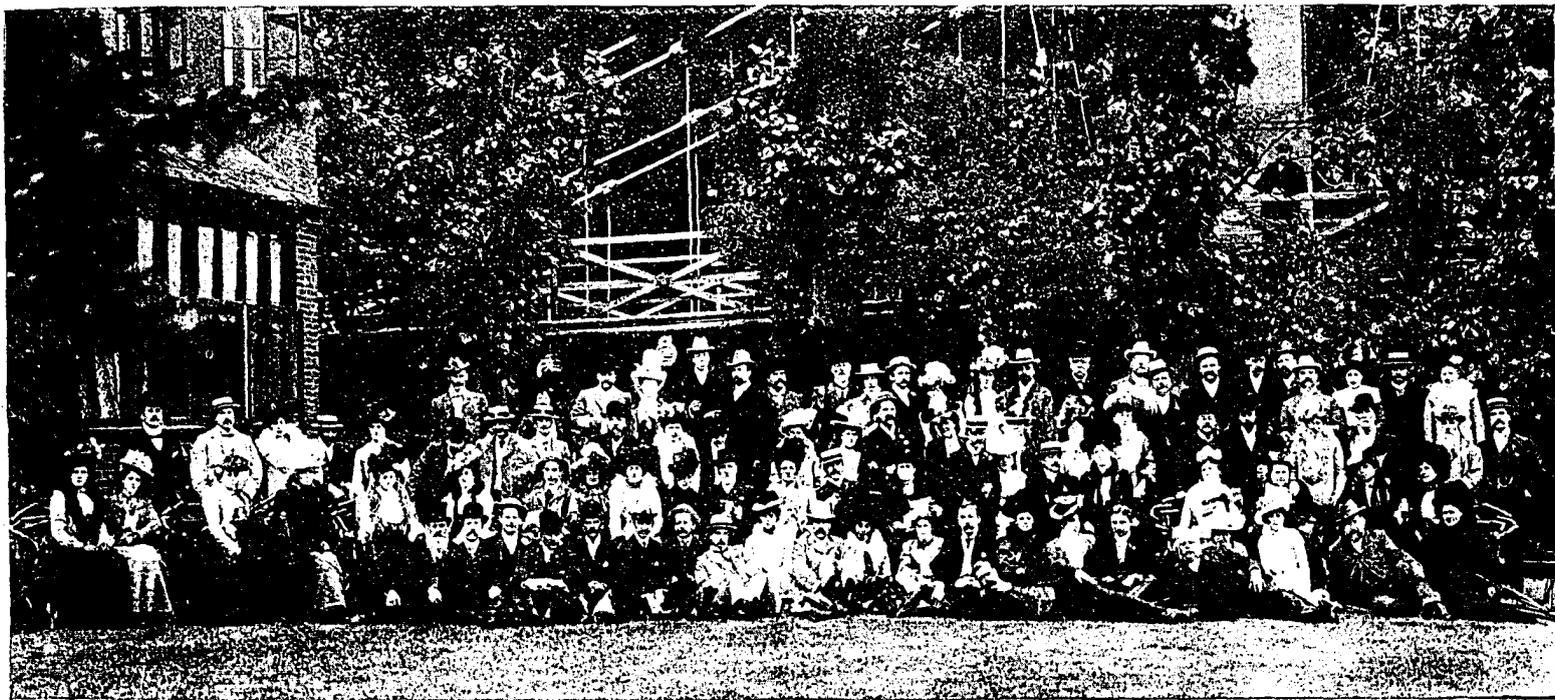
The summer outing in connection with the above lodge took place on Thursday, the 20th instant, and resulted in an unqualified success, thanks in great measure to the forethought displayed by the committee, who had anticipated every possible requirement necessary to the enjoyment of the brethren and visitors.

Exclusive of the W.M., Bro. Albert Fergusson, the committee consisted of Bros. Thomas Stokes, I.P.M.; A. J. Rippin, S.W.; A. F. Roche, J.W.; Thos. Cohe, P.M., Treas.; Jas. Smith, P.M., Sec.; W. J. Lockett, S.D.; W. J. Fishleigh, J.D.; J. Collins, I.G.; William Baker, P.M., D.C.; F. H. Farr and W. Lloyd, Stwds.; F. Hughes, P.M.; J. G. Robeson, P.M.; W. H. Brough, F. J. Doody, G. B. Bayley, T. E. Fergusson, J. J. Bassett, and A. Carter.

The brethren, visitors, and lady friends to the number of about 120, assembled at Paddington Station in time to catch the 10 a.m. train to Henley, saloon carriages having been reserved for the convenience of the party. A swift run down to picturesque Henley, where the brethren and visitors detrained, and proceeded to the river where, alongside of the Red Lion Hotel, the favourite launch Bonafide was moored. The Lions and the Lambs promptly embarked, their embarkation serving to remind a facetious brother who was not the Chaplain of the lodge, of the historic occasion on which the lions and lambs, under the captaincy of Noah of old, toured the

Lunch being ended, an adjournment was made to the lawn, where it had been arranged that the party should be photographed in a group. All the morning Bro. Jupiter Pluvius, of the ancient lodge of classic Olympus, possibly envious at not being invited to a party at which his presence was decidedly not wanted, had been fuming in a threatening manner, at intervals. But now, just as the company were arranged in a group, prepared to "Keep still and look pleasant," while Bro. Percival, of the well-known Edgware-road studio, manipulated the camera, he vented his spite by a downpour which he, apparently, hoped would spoil the picture, but the morning's pleasure, and the excellence of the lunch from which they had just risen had put the Lions and Lambs into the best of humours, so they merely laughed heartily at the comical effect produced as the individual units that composed the group hoisted umbrella in unison as the camera was being prepared, and dropped them, in perfect time, as soon as it was ready.

Some music and singing in one of the drawing-rooms, and afternoon tea all over the place, wheresoever two or three ladies were gathered together, and a start was then made for Maidenhead, and Marlow, with its beautiful church and steeple, choice specimen of the operative Masonic art, disappeared gradually from view. The rain fell steadily throughout the afternoon, but was powerless to quench the spirits of the jovial Lions and the genial Lambs, who exchanged merry greetings with passengers on other launches, or the *dolce far niente* occupants of gaily-painted and flower-adorned house boats. Sometimes the Lions winked and the Lambs smiled knowingly as



GROUP OF LIONS AND LAMBS.

floods till the voyage terminated on Mount Ararat. The Book which records this unique voyage also prognosticates a time when lions and lambs shall lie down together, a prophecy which the facetious brother alluded to above considered to have been frequently fulfilled already, the only drawback to such fulfilment being the invariable propensity displayed by the lambs to lie down inside the lions. It was the same brother who, when the moorings had been cast off, and the Bonafide commenced to steam down the river to a musical accompaniment provided by the string band on board, attempted the classification of the company into lions on the one hand and lambs on the other. A young brother gallantly suggested that the ladies present were the lambs, but the humorist told him that was all he knew about it, and that when he was older he would find they were a lot more like lionesses than lambs. However, it is pleasing to be able to record that lions and lambs fraternised in unalloyed good

the launch passed a row-boat containing a young couple, who were taking shelter under the leafy branches of a tree growing on the river bank, and who appeared to be tolerant enough of the weather, but devoutly hopeful that the Bonafide wasn't going to cast anchor just opposite their arbour of refuge.

By six o'clock Boulter's Lock, resplendent with roses all ready for "Ascot Sunday," on the 23rd, had been negotiated and Maidenhead safely reached, where the party disembarked opposite Cliveden's lovely woods, and entered the picturesque grounds of the Raymead Hotel, where it had been arranged that they should dine. No pains had been spared to make the dinner a success, and the numerous guests after their long trip did full justice to the viands provided by the host for their delectation.

After dinner, "The Health of H.M. the King" was drunk, and also those of "The Worshipful Master" and "The Ladies."

The W.M., who had proved himself most solicitous for the enjoyment of each and all of his brethren and visitors, fully deserved the compliments paid him by the proposer of the toast, and that the ladies merited the compliment paid them goes without saying.

Dinner over, the party proceeded in carriages to Maidenhead Station, and thence, in the saloon carriages reserved for them, returned to town by train, Paddington being reached at about 10 p.m., after a pleasurable outing, memories of which will long linger beneath the shaggy mane of the Lions and the woolly fleece of the Lambs.

It may be mentioned that this lodge has contributed during the year the sum of £543 to the Masonic Charities, viz., £210 to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution and £333 to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys.



RAYMEAD HOTEL

humour throughout a most enjoyable day, the lambs displaying not the slightest trepidation at the proximity of their leonine friends, and the lions behaving like lambs, and roaring "as gently as a sucking-dove," as Bottom the Weaver, in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," considered all well-bred lions should in the presence of ladies.

Before Henley had been left behind, it was noted that preparations for the great aquatic carnival next month were proceeding apace. Tents already line the river-banks, and there is an air of bustle at the clubs and boat-houses, while four-oars, eight-oars, and single skills enable crews or individual oarsmen to practise for the events to be decided in the near future. Henley and its long stretch of river left astern, the Bonafide steamed steadily ahead, following the meanderings of the stream through reaches and locks, and on either side the unrolled panorama of unrivalled beauty, which has made the Thames valley famous throughout the land.

Strawberries and cream, wine, ices, and other light refreshments were dispensed, and helped the time to pass merrily until Marlow was reached about 1 p.m., and the Bonafide discharged her passengers into the beautiful flower gardens of the Compleat Anglers' Hotel, where they subsequently sat down to an excellent lunch that would have reflected credit on the reputation of the best of London caterers.

CONSECRATION OF THE NORFOLK LODGE,
No. 2852.

A BRILLIANT CEREMONY.

On Wednesday, the 19th instant, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, the centre of that mysterious Craft which is universally extended in its operations, there was added to the roll of lodges of Antient Free and Accepted Masons the Norfolk Lodge, No. 2852. In November last a similar lodge was consecrated for Devonshire Masons, of which Bro. the Lord Chancellor was installed first Master, and the success which has attended that venture inspired the idea of forming the Norfolk Lodge, which is intended to afford a means for reunion amongst Norfolk Masons in London. It will be admitted amongst the Craft in the home county that it was a happy thought which led to providing an opportunity for promoting in the metropolis those sentiments of fraternal regard and relationship which association in Masonry so largely promotes. At anyrate it is exceedingly appropriate that amongst Masons hailing from a county where generous and cordial feelings beat in every heart, the design of county lodges should be so early emulated. There are, to our knowledge, but four of these lodges already established—the White Rose of York, the Northern Counties, the Cornish, and, as we have indicated, the Devonian. The design of the Norfolk Lodge was conceived whilst his Majesty the

King was still Prince of Wales and M.W. Grand Master, and it embraced the ambition that H.R.H. should have been asked to accept the Mastership of a lodge drawn from the county in which his favourite home is situated, a home so intimately associated with the domestic life of the Prince and Princess of Wales; where he had been nursed through an illness well nigh unto death, and where passed away his firstborn son, himself a Freemason, the late Duke of Clarence. With this aim in view, the Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk, Bro. Hamon le Strange, was communicated with in January last, and in response a cordial letter was received, in the course of which it was stated that although there might be difficulties in the way of providing a continuous stream of new blood, he would very much like to see such a lodge established; he contended, however, that until it was certain that there would be a goodly number of founders, it would not be wise to approach the Prince of Wales. The Dep. Prov. G. Master, Bro. Harry J. Sparks, too, considered the project favourably, and signified his intention of joining the lodge. Bro. Lord Amherst of Hackney expressed willingness to support the venture, and undertook, if a warrant for the foundation of the lodge was secured, to accept the office of I.P.M. Bro. Sir Forrest Fulton, K.C., and Bro. the Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich also wrote in favourable terms, and accepting offices. After some further initial proceedings, the promoters were in a position to summon the founders to sign the petition for the lodge.

The names of the following brethren appear upon the list of founders: Bros. Lord Amherst of Hackney, P.G.W., P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Charles A. Bathurst Bignold, P.G.D., P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Wm. G. Brighten, P.P.G.O. Essex; George Moore Chamberlin, P.P.G. Reg. Norfolk; Sydney Monckton Copeman, M.D., F.R.C.P. London; Edward J. Dodd, P.P.G.D. Kent; Dr. H. Work Dodd; Col. Robert W. Edis, P.G. Supt. of Works; William Pinder Eversley, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Sir Forrest Fulton, K.C., P.D.G. Reg., Recorder of London; Sir Charles R. Gilman, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Arthur D. Hansell; Ferneley Cozens-Hardy; Sir Kenneth H. Kemp, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Hermann Klein, P.G. Org.; William J. Lancaster; the Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich, P.G. Chap. Norfolk; Hamon le Strange, P.G.M. Norfolk, P.G.D.; Frederick Miller; John Moore, P.P.G.D. Norfolk; Bruce Morrison; Charles Edwin Noverre; William Reginald Palgrave; Capt. William Patrick, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; Arthur George Russell; C. H. Scriven, P.P.G.W. Suffolk; Edward Palgrave Simpson, P.P.G.W. Norfolk; James T. Southgate; Harry J. Sparks, D.P.G.M. Norfolk, P.D.D.G.M. Bengal; Robert J. Symonds, P.P.G.D. Suffolk; Walter Wellsman, P.A.G.D.C.; Prof. Ernest W. White, Herbert Winder, and Wm. Henry Wyon.

The resolution, which was adopted, was to found a lodge called "The Norfolk Lodge," of which there will be eligible for membership Masons residing in or visiting London, who are by birth, descent, residence, or otherwise, connected with the county of Norfolk. Unfortunately the idea of obtaining the co-operation of the Prince of Wales in the undertaking was frustrated by the lamented demise of the late Queen, his Royal Highness's accession to the throne, and his resignation of the Grand Mastership of the Order. In these circumstances the compliment and distinction was paid to the Grand Master of the Province of Norfolk of asking his acceptance of the Mastership of the lodge in the first year of its existence, a request which, to the delight of the founders, he cordially accepted. The initiatory proceedings, throughout, were conducted by Bro. C. E. Noverre, whose connection with our county needs no indication, and to him is due a large share of the credit for the successful issue which was brought about on Wednesday last. Unhappily the formation of the lodge has been attended with one regrettable circumstance, in the death of one of its founders, Bro. Sir Courtenay Boyle, K.C.B., to which circumstance, and to his connection with Norfolk Masonry, reference was made at the time of his death in these columns.

The jewel which has been chosen to be worn by the founders is of effective design. It bears the arms of the cities of Norwich and London, with those of the first Master, Bro. Hamon le Strange, in recognition of his unwearied interest in promoting the success of the lodge, whilst the motto, "Amore Uniti," fittingly represents the feeling which has prompted the foundation of the lodge.

The consecration of the lodge was fixed, as we have said, for the 19th inst., and the interesting and impressive ceremony was conducted in the presence of most of the founders and the following brethren: Bros. Sir J. B. Monckton; Sir Reginald Hanson, P.G.W.; the Hon. R. S. Freemantle, 10; Col. John Davis, P.G.M. Surrey; Major R. L. Badham, W.M. 21; Capt. A. C. Seton Christopher, 10; J. Copley Moyle, Dist. G.M. Burma; H. L. Florence, 10, P.G.S. of W.; T. W. Allsop, 2492, P.P.G.D.C. Bucks; J. W. Small, 10, P.P.G. Sec. Middx.; G. J. North, J.W. 2272; S. Willis, S.W. 21; H. W. Brooke, 21; C. M. Hammerton, 2650; T. Powell, W.M. 2182; W. H. Jones, P.M. 1808, P.J.G.W.; C. E. Smith, S.W. 2182; H. Reynolds, J.W. 2182; C. Strong, 2182; F. Deutch, 2108; A. Cohn, 2108; B. Schonberger, 2108 and 1635; H. O. Goldstein, 2108; W. A. Harrison, W.M. 10; W. E. Hansell, 52; E. Armitage, W.M. 2851, P.P.S.G.W. Cumberland and Westmorland; J. C. F. Tower, P.D.G.D.C.; J. G. Harris, W.M. 222; O. W. T. Stain, 21; W. H. Wellsman, P.M. 1589; J. Roy Lancaster, 21; Henry Sadler, G. Tyler; R. Harrison, 5; T. H. Gardiner, 76, P.A.G.D.C.; and A. S. Wilde, P.M. 1500, P.P.G.O.

Invitations had been extended by the founders to the following brethren, who were unable to be present: Bros. Lord Suffield, P.P.G.M. Norfolk; T. H. Morse, W.M. of Union Lodge, representing the senior lodge of the Province of Norfolk; and the Mayor of Norwich (Bro. J. J. Dawson Paul).

The ceremony was performed in a singularly impressive manner by Bro. Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Sec., assisted by the following officers of Grand Lodge: Bros. J. V. Vesey-Fitzgerald, K.C., Dep. G. Reg., as S.W.; Philip A. Scratchley, J.G.D., as J.W.; the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Barking, P.G. Chap., as Chap.; Frank Richardson, P.G.D., as D.C.; and G. W. G. Barnard, P.A.G.D.C., as I.G.

During the ceremony the odes and anthems were beautifully sung by the Lyric Vocal Quartet, accompanied on the organ by Bro. Hermann Klein, P.G. Org.

The CHAPLAIN also delivered an eloquent and appropriate oration upon the nature and principles of Freemasonry, which was much appreciated by the brethren.

Thus was consecrated "to God and His service" a lodge which will, it is hoped, enjoy a long and prosperous career.

At the close of the ceremony of consecration, Bro. Letchworth assumed the position of Installing Master, and in customary and ancient form installed in the chair of the lodge Bro. Hamon le Strange as its first Master, who immediately proceeded to appoint and invest his officers for the ensuing

year as follows: Bros. Lord Amherst of Hackney, P.G.W., I.P.M.; Sir Forrest Fulton, K.C., P.D.G. Reg., Recorder of London, S.W.; the Very Rev. William Lefroy, D.D., Dean of Norwich, J.W.; William J. Lancaster, Treas.; Charles E. Noverre, Sec.; H. J. Sparks, D.P.G.M. Norfolk, S.D.; S. Monckton Copeman, J.D.; Walter Wellsman, P.A.G.D.C., D.C.; H. Work Dodd, I.G.; Hermann Klein, P.G.O., Org.; William G. Brighten, Asst. D.C.; Prof. Ernest W. White, Asst. Sec.; and Arthur D. Hansell and James T. Southgate, Stwds.

In the course of the lodge business, the Consecrating Officers were elected honorary members of the lodge, as also was Bro. Lord Suffield, P.P.G.M. of Norfolk.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren repaired to an elegant repast, served by Messrs. Spiers and Pond, at which the W.M. presided.

The toast list comprised "The King and the Craft," "The W.M. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught," "The M.W. the Provincial Grand Master, the R.W. Dep. Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," "The Consecrating Officers," proposed as were the foregoing toasts, by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. E. LETCHWORTH; "The Health of the W.M.," proposed by Bro. LETCHWORTH, and acknowledge in felicitous terms by Bro. HAMON LE STRANGE; "The Visitors," proposed from the chair and responded to by Bro. JAMES SMALL, P.M. 10, Prov. G. Sec. Middlesex, and Bro. W. H. JONES, P.M. 1808, Prov. J.G.W. Norfolk; and "The Officers of the Lodge," responded to by Bros. SIR FORREST FULTON, S.W., and the Dean of NORWICH, J.W.

The Tyler's toast brought the evening's most pleasant proceedings to a conclusion.

During the evening the Lyric Vocal Quartet, accompanied by Bro. H. Klein, and assisted by Miss Ruth Vincent, who was announced by the W.M. to be a native of Norfolk, added to the enjoyment of the proceedings by producing a charming selection of music.

The usual requisites were manufactured by Bros. George Kenning and Son, London.

Craft Masonry.

Quatuor Coronati Lodge, No. 2076.

This lodge met at Freemasons' Hall on Monday, the 24th instant, at five p.m. There were present Bros. E. Conder, jun., W.M.; G. Greiner, S.W.; W. H. Rylands, P.A.G.D.C., Sec.; R. F. Gould, P.G.D., D. of C.; E. Armitage and F. H. Goldney, P.G.D., Stwds.; Dr. Chetwode Crawley, P.G.D. Ireland; Dr. W. Wynn Westcott, P.M.; W. M. Bywater, P.M.; C. Kupferschmidt, P.M., A.G.S.G.C.; and C. Purdon Clarke, C.I.E., P.M.; also 38 members of the Correspondence Circle and four visitors.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Bros. Admiral Markham, P.D.G.M. Malta; G. L. Shackles, Hull; W. J. Hughan, Torquay; E. J. Castle, K.C., London; J. P. Rylands, Birkenhead; J. F. Thorp, Leicester; E. Macbean, P.M., Glasgow; and S. T. Klein, P.M., Reigate.

Bro. Robert Hovendon, Croydon, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and Treasurer of the Royal Historical Society author of "Registers of Canterbury Cathedral," and many other archaeological works, was admitted a member of the lodge.

Two lodges and 25 brethren, as follows, were admitted to the membership of the Correspondence Circle: Lodge St. Lodewijk, Nymegen, Holland; St. John's Lodge, Olaf Kyrre til den Gylde Kjoede, Christiana, Norway; Bro. Rev. P. Macfarlane, 454, and W. H. Dieffenbach, 454, New York; W. S. Greene, 4, Providence, Rhode Island; A. Soley, 617, W. J. Hodge, D.S.G.W., H. J. Marrs, P.M. 2459, R. Mold, P.D.G. Sec., G. J. Hide, 617, and A. Grant, P.M. 617, all of Buenos Aires; W. A. De Wolf Smith, P.D.D.G.M. New Westminster, Canada; W. J. C. D. Proudfoot, P.D.A.G. Sec. St. Vincent; C. R. J. Glover, J.G.D. Adelaide, South Australia; G. E. Junius, 533, Paris; H. Junius, Lodge Victoria zur Morgenröthe, Hagen, Germany; Dr. A. L. Nordström, Wexjö, Sweden; Dr. V. Klein, Copenhagen; J. H. Hansen, Oxtöl, Denmark; C. H. Fordham, P.M. 561, Guisborough, Yorks; P. Robinson, 1221, Leeds; T. Granger, 323, Stockport; A. G. Luon, 317, Sale, Cheshire; E. England, P.M. 2242, Southend; G. R. Saunders, Sutton; and J. R. Hosker, 2528, and M. Montesole, 1766, both of London.

The Secretary referred to the last meeting of the lodge, on the 3rd ult., when no other thought was in their minds, than the severe loss they had suffered by the death of the esteemed and valued Secretary, Bro. Speth. The lodge now met again, but a few weeks later to deplore the heavy blow that had fallen on them by the death of their distinguished Treasurer, Bro. Sir Walter Besant. These two brethren, he pointed out, were both founders of the lodge, and had held office since its foundation. Bro. Rylands then submitted a slight memorial notice of Bro. Besant, and after sketching out his connection with Masonry and the lodge, paid a just tribute to his courtesy and kindly generous nature. The lodge then expressed its recognition of the heavy blow that had fallen upon it, and its sincere sympathy with Lady Besant and her family in their hour of sorrow. Two papers bearing on the same subject were read, entitled "Naymus Grecus and Marcus Grecus, pro and con." They had been prepared, the Master stated, as a friendly discussion between the two writers. The first being the last literary effort of Bro. Speth, and completed only a short time before his death, contained all that could be said of the possibility of identifying Naymus Grecus with the semi-mythical personage, Marcus Grecus. The second, from the pen of Bro. Dr. Chetwode Crawley, taking the opposite side, brought forward the points which prevented such an identification. Out of respect for the late Bro. Speth there was no discussion.

The lodge being in mourning, there was no banquet afterwards.

AN "EMULATION" PICNIC.

On Monday last the brethren of the Lodge of Emulation, No. 1163 (Masonic Hall, Birmingham), held their annual picnic. The party, which mustered about 120, including visitors, left Snow Hill Station, Birmingham, at 8.10 a.m., by special saloon train, for Wallingford, where they arrived at 11 a.m. After a stroll in the town, the brethren and friends proceeded on board the steam launch, the England, and at once partook of a light luncheon, laid in the commodious saloon, while steaming down the Thames to Goring. At this pretty village a halt was made, and most of the party visited the church and other interesting spots, greatly admiring the beautiful roses adorning nearly every villa and cottage. At 2.30 they again embarked, and continued the journey to Caversham, the lovely scenery formed by the river cutting through the chalk escarpment, the weirs roughly built of stones and stakes, and overgrown with furzy vegetation, over which the water pours in a foaming cascade, the picturesque eyots, and the variegated green of the trees of Hark Wood, closely fringing the river-side, and densely clothing the wooded heights, eliciting continuous expressions of admiration from all on board.

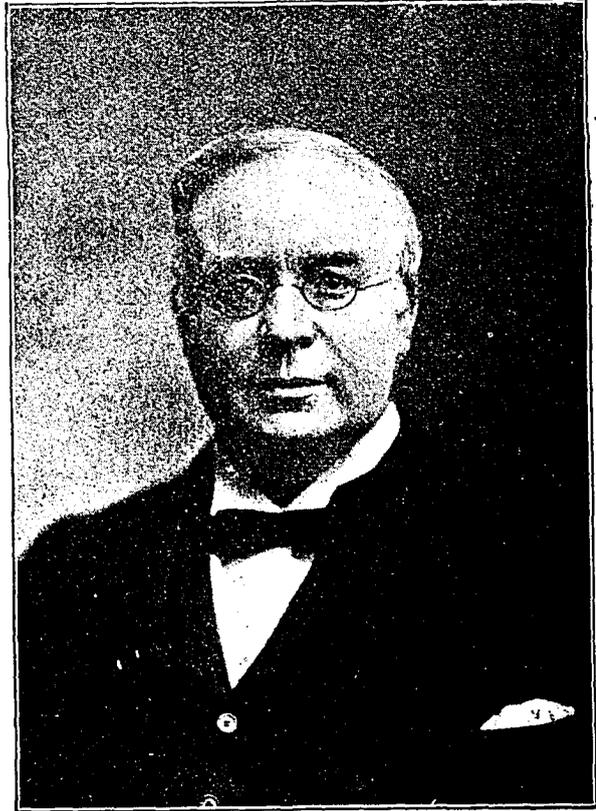
Arriving at Caversham Bridge at 4.30 p.m., the party landed, and were soon seated in the large dining-hall recently erected there, at a capital banquet, under the presidency of the W.M., Bro. Joseph Matthews, supported by the I.P.M., Wardens, and a large array of Past Masters, including the "father of the lodge," Bro. T. E. Shaw, P.P.G.D.

In due course the W.M. proposed "The Health of the King," and the S.W. that of "The Worshipful Master."

In responding to the latter Bro. MATTHEWS read letters of congratulation



BRO. JOSEPH MATTHEWS, W.M.



WOR. BRO. A. W. BEASLEY, I.P.M.



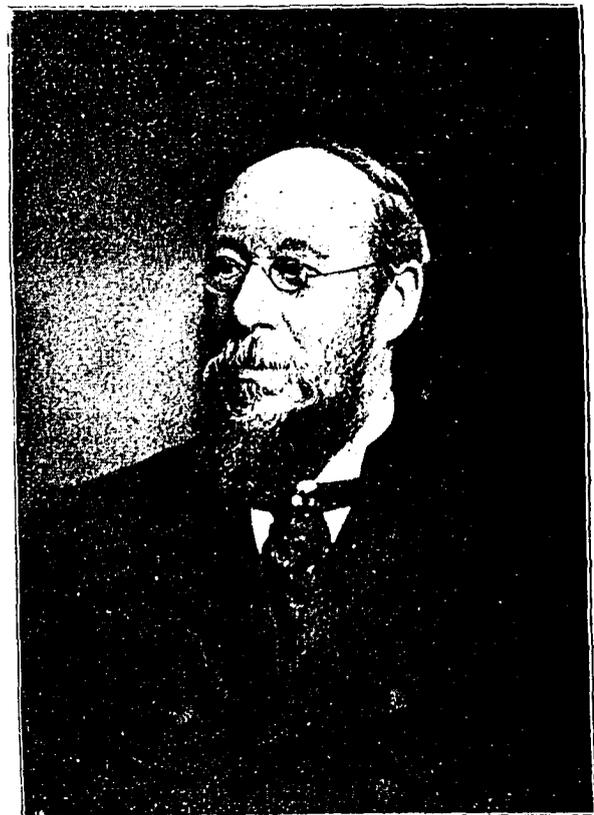
BRO. THOMAS HOOPER, S.W.



BRO. E. A. ROBINSON, J.W.



BRO. A. R. VINCENT DAVISS, J.D. (Hon. Picnic Secretary).



WOR. BRO. T. E. SHAW, P.P.G.D. (Father of the Lodge).

and best wishes from the Dep. Grand Master of Warwickshire, Bro. Geo. Beech, and Bro. Swinden, the Prov. Grand Sec.; also letters of apology were announced from a long list of absent brethren.

Bro. SHAW proposed "The Visitors," to which Bro. SLAUGHTER, P.P.J.G.W. Berks, suitably replied.

At seven o'clock the brethren and visitors entrained at Reading, having spent a most enjoyable day, to which the weather contributed as far as could be desired.

While *en route* on the launch the picnic Secretary, Bro. Vincent Daviss, distributed as a souvenir to each of the brethren an album containing photographs of the Grand Master of Warwickshire, the Right Hon. Lord Leigh; the Worshipful Master, Past Masters, and officers of the lodge of Emulation; all of which were specially provided for this work.

MASONIC SERVICE AT ACCRINGTON.

On Sunday, the 23rd instant, the Eve of St. John the Baptist, the brethren from lodges in Accrington and neighbourhood, as well as many unattached brethren, attended Divine service at St. James' Church. The service was of a shortened form of evensong, and included special prayers for the good of the Order, and reference was made in the prayers to the family trouble which has befallen Bro. Tennent, of Clayton. The special lessons were I. Chronicles, xxix, 10-21, and Romans xii. The proper Psalms were xv, xxiv, and cxxxiii.

The clergy officiating were Bros. the Rev. W. H. Healey, 2529, P. Prov. G. Chap. E. Lancs., and the Rev. J. T. Lawrence, P. Dist. G.W. Madras, who preached.

After explaining that the present gathering was but the renewal of an ancient and picus custom observed by Masons of old time, and that he hoped it might be an annual function, the preacher said that Freemasons were, more than anything else, a religious body. Every ceremony they performed was prefaced with prayer; the Holy Bible occupied an honourable place in their midst, and no lodge was perfect in which the Bible did not lie open. It was the chief of the three great lights of Freemasonry, and it was the first thing that met the eye of the neophyte. And there was not a word said or an action performed from beginning to end of Masonic work which was not based on the sacred words. Freemasons also, by their conspicuous and splendid Charities, displayed the great characteristic of pure and unfeigned religion, "to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction." What, then, was there lacking? Did they do all this "for Christ's sake?" The preacher then spoke of the quality of self-sacrifice as being necessary to complete a perfect character. Self-sacrifice was a necessary law of existence, and the usefulness of anything in the world depended on its capacity for sacrifice. The ground on which we stood was only useful to the extent it could obey this law. It had to give us foundations for our buildings, or give up its minerals, or be put to other purposes, and until it did so it was called "waste land." Similarly the products of the ground, whether vegetable or mineral, were only useful when sacrificed. The minerals had to be twisted and tortured into a thousand shapes, the fruit and vegetables were no use until eaten. When the mineral had lost its capacity for sacrifice it was heaped up and people paid to cart it away, and the fruit and vegetables were described as refuse and burnt on the rubbish heap. And what animals were there we most prized? Were they not those most capable of sacrifice in some form or another? Either they gave us their flesh to eat, or assisted us with their labour, or clothed us with their skin. If not these or similar things then there was no room for them. Again, what men were those most esteemed, and who held the highest places in the hearts of their countrymen, were they not those men and women who had shown themselves most unselfish and displayed the quality of self-devotion. It was not brilliance alone that won a permanent place in the affections of a people. The preacher said he had been following the several links of a chain, illustrating a newer kind of evolution. Darwin had laid down that doctrine, and also had followed the several links, but, unhappily, he followed it to its wrong end. Darwin searched for what he called the "missing link;" but he sought for it amid the slime and the dirt, and was satisfied to prove man's connection with what was ignoble. But there was also a link missing at the other end, that was to unite man with God. Christ supplied that link, and in proportion as we rose to and emulated the life of Christ, we united ourselves with the Godhead. It was in this quality of devotion and self-sacrifice that the Saviour was supreme, and it was just in this quality it was open to all mankind to most completely imitate him. It is the ideal of every right-minded man to banish misery from the world, and make his surroundings happier and make the world better for his having lived in it. The only way to do this was to follow out the laws of self-sacrifice. "He that is greatest among you let him be your servant," "he that will save his life must lose it," were only two of many similar injunctions of our Saviour which went to show that he most nearly approached the highest type of life who thought least of self.

The offertory, after payment of expenses, went to the East Lancashire Systematic Benevolent Fund.

Instruction.

HORNSEY CHAPTER, No. 890.

A supper meeting of the above chapter was held on the 21st inst. at the Prince of Wales' Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, Bishop's-road, Paddington, W. Present: Comps. J. Bailey, P.Z. 1602, M.E.Z.; C. M. Challender, P.Z. 1004, H.; E. Lloyd, H. 890, J.; H. Dehane, P.Z. 890, P.P.G.P.S. Essex, Scribe E.; R. N. Larter, H. 186, Scribe N.; H. Foskett, M.E.Z. 185 and 890, Treas.; W. J. Lewis, S.N. 890 and P.S. 173, P.S.; A. L. Butters, J. 890, 1st A.S.; H. J. Dunaway, 59, 2nd A.S.; A. F. Hardyment, J. 1489, D.C.; G. E. Gratton, M.E.Z. elect 2501, P.P.G. Org. Essex, Org.; E. Stevens, 733, Stwd.; W. Hallett, 733, Janitor; W. Smith-Rose, 1st A.S. 890; G. Mogford, 1321; H. H. Bagnall, P.S. 733; H. Armfield, P.S. 1642; C. Webster, J. 1642; J. Rowe, 1614; A. Callman, 753; and W. Wood, 186.

The companions having supped, The M.E.Z. proposed "The King," and "The Grand Officers, Present and Past."

Comp. Hardyment proposed the toast of "The Three Principals," giving them the due credit they were entitled to. Comp. Bailey, M.E.Z., had always done his work in the most efficient manner, was an excellent worker, and was one of the nicest of fellows, and the essence of good fellowship. Comp. Challender, H., was also a good companion, and had been duly rewarded by having Provincial Grand honours conferred upon him in the Isle of Man, and he trusted the chapter of instruction would continue to have the benefit of his support and Masonic knowledge. Comp. Lloyd has also done good suit and service, and is now H. of the mother chapter, where he is highly esteemed by the companions.

Comp. Bailey, in reply, expressed himself as being highly delighted with R.A. Masonry, and with the progress of the chapter of improvement in which, under the able tutoring of Comp. Dehane, he had learnt the beautiful ritual, and felt it a great compliment that the companions had chosen him to preside on this festive occasion.

Comp. Challender said he loved Royal Arch Masonry and the kind spirit it evinced and was always pleased to attend the chapter of instruction, where the work was always done to his entire satisfaction, and concluded by expressing his thanks to all.

Comp. Lloyd returned thanks and felt it a great privilege to be a member of the chapter of improvement, and the great advantage he derived from attending the meetings, which clearly impressed on his mind the whole scheme of the Royal Arch and enabled him to do his work.

The W.M. gave the toast of "The Visitors," giving them a hearty welcome and also invited them to attend and witness and hear the working, &c.

Comp. Gratton, in reply, said his part of Essex was notorious as being agricultural and did not get much in the way of meetings like the present, but they did their best as was testified by their much loved and respected Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick, having been appointed to so high an office by the King, and concluded by congratulating the members on having so good a chapter of instruction which he had previously visited.

Comp. Ward was also pleased at his reception and would most certainly become a member and profit by the instruction he would receive.

The M.E.Z., in proposing "Prosperity to the Chapter of Improvement," coupled with the toast Comps. Dehane, S.E.; Foskett, Treas.; and Butters, trusting they would long remain the executive to carry out the business and other arrangements for the comfort of all concerned.

Comp. Dehane, S.E., briefly replied, and said he would not trouble them with statistics as those who were members were quite aware of its prosperity, and those who were not would have ample opportunity of doing so when they became members, but he was pleased at such a good gathering on the first occasion of this kind attempted by the chapter of improvement. He might say he had little or no trouble, as those present responded promptly. Comp. Dehane read several communications, among which was one from Comp. Speller, who had been selected for Grand Office, and also one from Comp. Marchant, who was staying at Falmouth, and concluded by thanking the M.E.Z. for the very kind and too flattering remarks he had made about him personally. (Applause.)

Comp. Foskett also responded, and hoped the chapter would be a continued success. He himself personally always reserved Friday evenings to attend, and was pleased to see the visitors present, and trusted they would make a point of joining, and obtain the instruction they required, and also acquire that familiarity with the ceremonies which would enable them to be a credit to their chapters and a recommendation of those by whom they were instructed. (Applause.)

The M.E.Z. next proposed the toast of "The Host," and said his place and rooms were always at the disposal of the chapter of improvement, and he was ever ready to help the good cause, and his kindness was proverbial. He hoped they would meet in larger numbers and repay him.

Comp. E. Stevens thanked the companions, but he thought too much had been said about him. He ought to do more for Freemasonry, and should like to do so, but found it was quite out of the question, as he was, he considered, getting old; but he should be pleased to continue to do what he could for the companions.

The Janitor's toast concluded the proceedings.

The musical arrangements were under the direction of Comp. Gratton, who presided at the piano, and an excellent programme was carried out consisting of songs by Comps. Mogford, Hardyment, Dunaway, Hallett, and Smith-Rose; Comp. Dunaway (trombone solos); and recitations by Comps. Challender, Butters, and Gratton.

Science, Art, and the Drama.

SOME NATIONAL AIRS AND THEIR ASSOCIATIONS.

Richard Wagner has somewhere said that the first eight bars of "Rule Britannia" contain the whole character of the English people. And if this be true of our famous national song, a similar remark might, with equal truth, be applied to many airs of the Continent, which, at different times, have summed up the hopes and aspirations of a whole people. Many of these gathering round them, in process of time, a wealth of associations, have become part and parcel of the national life to a greater extent than in our own country. More especially has this been the case in France, whose ancient government is said to have been absolute monarchy tempered with songs. Many of these gained a fame out of all proportion to their intrinsic merits, as a result of some historical association. Thus the simple ditty, "Vive Henri Quatre," with its three verses, came to be of Royalist importance after its introduction into Colle's play, "La Partie de Chasse de Henri Quatre," in the year 1766. During the Revolution it formed one of the many prohibited songs, but took a fresh lease of life at the restoration of the Bourbons, and was performed amidst great enthusiasm at the Opera in the presence of the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia on the evening of their arrival with the allied armies at Paris. Another well-known air, that of "Partant pour la Syrie," dates from the year 1809, shortly before the battle of Wagram. The words are attributed to a poet—Count de Laborde by name—and the story is that one evening Queen Hortense showed him a picture of a knight clad in armour cutting an inscription on the shore with the point of his sword, and, at the request of the company, the poet illustrated this on the spot by a little romance. Subsequently Queen Hortense set the verses to music, and "Partant pour la Syrie" became the national air of the Second Empire, during the reign of her son. Of wider interest is the famous air, "Malbrook s'en va-t-en Guerre," never more familiar in England than since the publication of the novel of "Frlby" by George du Maurier. There is hardly a fact about it that has not been made the subject of dispute. Chateaubriand, hearing the tune sung by Arabs in Palestine, went so far as to suggest that it had been carried there by the Crusaders, either in the time of Godfrey de Bouillon, or in that of Louis IX. and Joinville. It was sung by Marie Antoinette, and was used, as a lullaby, for the infant Dauphin in 1781. The most probable account of its origin is that it was composed in the bivouac of Marshal de Villars, at Quesney, three miles from the field of battle, on the night after Malplaquet. The soldier who composed it was probably acquainted with the lament on the death of the Duke de Guise, published in the middle of the 16th century. However this may have been, the air became wonderfully popular throughout France, and was introduced by Beaumarchais into his comedy, *Le Mariage de Figaro*. It figures as the symbol of the French Army in Beethoven's *Battle Symphony*. Bourrienne tells us, in his memoirs, that Napoleon was wont to whistle this air when about to join the army, and that his valet always knew when he heard him that a campaign was imminent. The tune was adapted to the words of "For he's a jolly good fellow," and a story is told of Janiewicz, the Polish violinist, when in London, in the closing year of 1799. One day he lost himself, and could not remember the name of the street in which he lived, but calling a coach, he hummed the tune of "Malbrook" to the coachman, who, recognising it, drove him to Marlborough-street, the required place! The story is, doubtless, the product of a lively imagination, for cabby, though, perhaps, familiar with the convivial strains, would hardly have associated them with the name of Marlborough. With regard to the majority of famous French songs it may truly be said that they were the outcome of civil dissensions and party conflicts, and, therefore, hardly "national" in the best sense, though some of them

attained a wide celebrity. Such were the songs inspired by the Great Revolution and its outcomes, whether on the Royalist or opposite side. The touching air, for instance, "O Richard, O mon Roi," became one of the most celebrated of Royalist songs, and was played at the historic banquet at Versailles, in October, 1789. During the first Republic this play was prohibited, but was restored to the stage by the first Napoleon. In contrast to this song we have the "Ca Ira," probably first heard when the Parisians marched to Versailles, the words being suggested to a street singer by General Lafayette. The words recall Benjamin Franklin's favourite saying at each step of the American insurrection. The tune is said to have been the production of a certain Récour, a side-drum player at the Opera, and, as a contre-danse, was very popular under the title of *Carillon National*. The "Carmagnole," associated with so many sinister memories, was originally a popular dance tune of Provence, or, according to Grétry, a sailor song often heard in Marseilles. Another once popular song was Joseph Chénier's "Chant du Depart," composed for the concert celebrating the fourth anniversary of the fall of the Bastille. This is said to be the only patriotic song written during the Reign of Terror; the music is by Méhul. After much controversy experts seem inclined to accept the tradition that Rouget de Lisle actually composed, at Strasburgh, and in one night, both words and music of the famous hymn known as "The Marseillaise." In dealing with airs of historic interest one must, perforce, omit many of the most beautiful songs of every nation breathing-of country sights and sounds, the fond vows of lovers, the peaceful joys of home—such as the Volkslieder of Germany.

(To be continued.)

PAINTERS AND OTHER ARTISTS IN THE REIGN OF JAMES I.

(Continued.)

Nicholas Stone built the great gate of St. Mary's Church, Oxford, where he has introduced the twisted columns (the original of which is said to have been brought from Jerusalem to Rome), with the worst effect. Also the stone gates for the physic garden, designed by Inigo Jones for the Earl of Danby, by whom (or by some other persons) he was employed even as an architect. The Earl ordered Stone to design a house for him at Cornbury, and to direct the workmen, for which he was paid £1000. In 1638, he built Tarthall, near Buckingham House, for the Countess of Arundel, and had paid to him at different times to pay workmen £634. He executed many works at Windsor for King Charles, particularly three cartouches to support the balcony, the star and garter. The figure of the Nile on the stairs at Somerset House was of his work; the other statue was done by Kerne, a German, who married Stone's sister. Nicholas Stone died in 1647, and was buried in St. Martin's, where on the north wall within the church is the following inscription, with a profile of his head: "To the lasting memory of Nicholas Stone, Esq., master mason to his Majesty, in his life time esteemed for his knowledge in sculpture and architecture, which his works in many parts do testify, and, though made for others, will prove monuments of his fame. He departed this life on 24th August, 1647, aged 61, and lyeth buried near the pulpit in this church. Mary his wife and Nicholas his son lye also buried in the same grave." Stone had three sons, Henry, Nicholas, and John. The two eldest were sent to Italy to study; the youngest was educated at Oxford, being designed for a clergyman; but in the Civil War he entered into the army on the King's side. During that period this John Stone published a book on fortification, called *Euchiridion*, with many small cuts, etched by himself, but without his name. The king's forces being routed, young Stone and a companion made their escape; the latter was taken, and hanged before his father's door in Smithfield; but Stone hid himself in his father's house in Long Acre for above a twelvemonth without the knowledge, says Vertue, of his father, whence we may conclude he had either offended the old man by quitting his studies for arms, or the father was too prudent to risk the emoluments of his profession by engaging in party dissensions. John at last found means of retiring to France, where he lived some years.

(To be continued.)

THE DESERVING POOR.

Unfortunately, it is too often the deserving poor who starve. They are too proud to make their needs known even to those who would willingly help them. There are societies which search out cases of "poor gentlemen," and many have been saved from hunger and permanent penury by

their aid. Considering the vast sums we disburse in poor-rates, we do not seem to succeed in alleviating distress to anything like the extent the expenditure should accomplish. In thousands of cases, while the deserving poor get no assistance, confirmed loafers, tramps, idlers, and worthless vagabonds obtain free board and lodging. In France a Board of Guardians, or such an institution as corresponds to it, has very special duties, which we might well introduce into England. This is the idea. To be elected a guardian of the poor is to be greatly honoured by the State. A given district is mapped out into sections. Each section is in charge of one guardian. He has to make himself personally acquainted with every individual in it, or certainly with every person likely to need eleemosynary assistance. A shopkeeper comes to grief; a working man is laid up; the breadwinner of a family dies; a struggling tradesman is threatened with the bailiffs. The guardian reports each case, and the deserving are promptly assisted. They are not threatened with "the house." The tradesman is helped with a loan; the family of the dead breadwinner get food and money; the workman is helped to tide over his troubles. They have all paid taxes, they are all decent citizens, every man is liable to misfortune, and so the money of the ratepayers is mercifully and wisely spent.

GENERAL NOTES.

Mr. Eugène d'Albert has composed a new comic opera, which he has not yet named. The young composer has, however, had the good fortune to have his work accepted for performance at the Imperial Opera, Berlin, next season.

* * * * *

All good wishes will go with Miss Annie Hughes in her latest enterprise—the production at Croydon of a dramatised version of "Vanity Fair." She herself will play the part of Becky Sharp, and she cannot fail making it womanly, and, therefore, sympathetic.

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Mr. Cecil Raleigh has been commissioned by Mrs. Langtry to write a new play, for production by her at the Imperial Theatre next Easter.

* * * * *

Mr. J. H. Barnes, now playing at the Lyceum, has been further engaged by Bro. Sir Henry Irving for his next tours in America and England.

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APPLY TO MANAGER.

Masonic and General Tidings.

THE LADY MAYORESS will hold a musical reception at the Mansion House on Tuesday, the 2nd prox., from three to six o'clock.

THE GLASGOW EXHIBITION.—The attendance at the Glasgow Exhibition on Saturday numbered 88,982, making a total of 2,882,810 since the opening.

OF THE 11,000,000 Jews in the world, 6,000,000 live in Russia, 2,100,000 in Austro-Hungary, 600,000 in the German, and 235,000 in the British Empire. Of the last, 140,000 belong to London.

THE YEOMANRY.—The King has been pleased to approve the formation of a Regiment of Imperial Yeomanry for the county of Glamorgan, to be designated the Glamorganshire Imperial Yeomanry.

A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL DINNER was held at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole last night, Bro. Chas. E. Keyser, J.P., in the chair, to commemorate the 143rd anniversary of the Orphan Working School.

THE REEDHAM ORPHANAGE, PURLEY.—The general meeting and the Midsummer election of this Charity will be held at the Cannon-street Hotel on July 2nd. Mr. H. Cosmo O. Bonsor, the Treasurer, will preside.

THE LORINERS' COMPANY.—At the invitation of the Master (Bro. Alderman Sir William Treloar), who presided, and was accompanied by Lady Treloar, the annual ladies' banquet of the Loriners' Company was held at the Crystal Palace on Thursday, the 20th instant. Bro. the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were the principal guests.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE (Duchess of Argyll) has consented to allow her name to be added to the list of Royal Patrons of the Naval and Military Concert at the Crystal Palace, on Saturday afternoon, the 6th prox., in aid of service charities. The concert already has the patronage of the King and Queen Alexandra and the other members of the Royal Family.

BRO. GEORGE DABBS, the Isle of Wight physician, who periodically writes plays, has copyrighted an original five-act drama called "The Dreamers," the gist of which can be gathered from the fact that among its characters are seven members of the central committee of the Brotherhood of Labour, an institution which apparently has its headquarters at Venice.

LICENSED VICTUALERS' SCHOOL.—The 98th anniversary dinner of the school was held at the Crystal Palace on the 25th instant, under the presidency of Mr. Samuel Whitbread, when the Concert Hall was well filled with diners, and the galleries with wives and sisters looking on. During the proceedings subscriptions were announced to the amount of £8896.

THE FUND collected to purchase annuities for the two aged daughters of the late John L. Hatton, the renowned composer of songs and part-music, is about to be invested. The amount received is a little over £700. Any persons desirous of giving donations should forward the same to Bro. Dr. William H. Cummings, at the Guildhall School of Music, as soon as possible.

THE LATE BRO. SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN was first surnamed Arthur by his father, but his mother at baptism added the name of Seymour. The unhappy combination of initials and the maternal thoughtlessness were not brought home to him until he began to be chaffed for initialing his "royalty" songs "A.S.S." He therefore bought a rubber stamp with the name "Arthur S. Sullivan."

LEWISHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL.—The Works Committee reported that they have considered applications from the Ravensbourne and Lewisham Masonic Lodges for permission to hold their meeting at the Town Hall, and had granted permission during the Council's pleasure, and subject to the meetings being held at such times as the rooms are not required by the Council, at a charge of £2 10s. for each meeting.

SONS OF THE CLERGY.—Bro. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Vice-President of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, presided on Monday at a Court of Assistants at the Corporation House, Bloomsbury-place. Sir Paget Bowman presented a list of 76 applications from clergymen in need of help, some of them disabled by age or illness, and some with clerical incomes wholly inadequate for maintenance, and grants amounting to £1165 were made from the funds at the disposal of the Governors, besides £350 voted towards the education or outfit of clergy children.

BRO. PASSMORE EDWARDS' SAILORS' PALACE.—The British and Foreign Sailors' Society signed the contract for the Passmore Edwards' Sailors' Palace this week. On the same morning there came by post a gift from a lady of £1000 towards its endowment fund. The builder took possession of the site on Monday, the 24th inst. The foundation-stone is to be laid by Bro. the Duke of Fife, as vice-patron of the society, and the Lord-Lieutenant of the County of London on the 11th prox. Bro. the Lord Mayor of London will at the same time lay a memorial stone, and thus link on the City of London.

THE PROGRAMME of meetings in connection with the 32nd session of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, I.O.G.T., which is to be held in the City Hall during the first week of July, has just been issued. The meetings in connection with the session extend from June 15th to July 4th, and include open-air demonstrations, processions, a sermon in the Barony Church by the Rev. Principal Hutton, D.D.; conferences and breakfasts, in addition to the business meetings. A reception is to be tendered to the Grand Lodge by the Corporation on 2nd July, and on the day previous an outing takes place to Rothesay. The programme extends to 78 pages, and contains a number of portraits of the speakers at the various meetings, and a guide to Glasgow, which is illustrated with views of the city's Municipal Buildings, and a map. The reports to be presented to the session show that Good Templary is in a healthy condition in Scotland, the total membership being 89,422 in 1174 lodges, an increase of 1111 adults and 247 juveniles.

THE MILLENNARY OF KING ALFRED.—A Successful Movement.—Meetings of the Executive Committee for the National Commemoration of King Alfred the Great have recently been held at the Mansion House, under the presidency of Bro. the Lord Mayor, and the announcement made that the King had graciously consented to become Patron of the movement. The commemoration will be held in either the second or third week of September, at Winchester, on which occasion the colossal statue executed by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft, R.A., will be unveiled. The Committee have decided to hold at the time of the commemoration a meeting of learned societies in Winchester, and the Royal Societies of England and the leading Universities of Great Britain, America, and the Colonies have been invited to be represented by delegates on that occasion, the majority of whom have already most cordially accepted the invitation. The sum of £1500 is still required in order to complete the permanent memorial and the work already undertaken, and among recent subscribers are the University of Pennsylvania £100, and the Colonial Dames of America (first instalment) £20.

IT WAS IN a part of England, peculiarly rich in both literary and artistic associations, that, as was only natural under the Mastership of a well-known representative of illustrated newspaperdom—Bro. Lionel Gowing, of the *Daily Graphic*—the journalistic Freemasons of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1923, held their annual summer picnic on the 23rd instant. Their route was identified with the three greatest story-writers in the English language, for they passed through Stratford-at-Bow, which Chaucer has immortalised for its pronunciation of French, and Colchester, which was the scene of the first critical event in the life of Defoe's "Moll Flanders," to Ipswich, where their temporary resting-place was the Great White Horse, which will always be associated with the adventure of Mr. Pickwick and "the lady in the yellow curl-papers." They had passed through "Constable's country" as they had gone by the Stour; and, in a special Great Eastern Company's steamer, they proceeded down the Orwell through "Ginsborough's country" into the open sea, finding their old friend of the geography books, "the North Sea or German Ocean," so calm in the bright sun, shine as to make the grim guns of the historic Landguard Fort and the black stills of half-a-dozen torpedo-boat destroyers lying at Harwich a more than usually striking contrast. From Harwich to London proved a pleasant after-dinner run; and the round trip from Liverpool-street, with the steamer connection between Ipswich and Harwich, which they thus enjoyed, may be considered likely to prove increasingly popular.—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

THE KING has been pleased to approve the appointment of Bro. the Earl of Warwick and Brooke to be Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Essex, in the room of Lord Rayleigh, resigned.

THE KING, has, through Sir Dighton Probyn, signified his intention of presenting a silver challenge cup for competition at the Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society's Exhibition, and also of subscribing a sum of £10 towards the Society's funds.

M. ALBERT SALEZA, having sung the number of performances for which he was engaged for the present season at Covent Garden, has left town for his home in the Pyrenees. He has decided that he will not return to America for the opera season, which opens there in October, but it is probable that he will accept an invitation which he has received to sing at the Grand Opera in Paris next November.

ELECTION OF CITY SHERIFFS.—Monday being Midsummer Day, the annual election of Sheriffs of the City of London took place at the Guildhall, Bro. the Lord Mayor presiding. The only candidates were Bros. Alderman Bell and Councillor Horace Brooks Marshall, J.P. These were duly elected, and returned their thanks. The retiring Sheriffs, who will go out of office on Michaelmas Day next, are Bros. Alderman Vaughan Morgan and Joseph Lawrence, M.P.

THE HOSPITAL SUNDAY FUND.—The fund now totals about £34,000. The latest contributions include: Christ Church, Lancaster Gate, £13 17; St. Jude, South Kensington, £557; St. Mary Aldermary, £89; Christ Church, Newgate-street, £50 1s. 3d.—compared with £48 4s. 6d. last year; Mr. W. Mann Cross, C.C., £20; St. Giles, Cripplegate, £4 12s.; St. Andrew, Holborn, £5 0s. 2d.; St. Botolph, Aldgate, £3 6s. 9d.; Sermon-lane Mission, £2; and Gray's Inn Chapel, £50.

BRO. LORD KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM, the Commander-in-Chief in South Africa, was 51 on the 24th instant. He has completed more than 30 years' service, for he joined the Royal Engineers in January, 1871, in his 21st year. Bro. Lord Kitchener is the bearer of several academic honours. Oxford conferred a degree upon him some two years ago, and about the same time the University of Edinburgh made him an LL.D., while on the same day the northern capital presented him with the freedom of the city.

TRIPS TO THE NEW FOREST.—A series of day excursions to the New Forest has been arranged by the London and South Western Railway in connection with Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son. Passengers leave Waterloo by special train at 9.25 a.m. every Thursday. At Brockenhurst carriages are in waiting to convey the party to Beaulieu to inspect the Abbey ruins, and thence to Lyndhurst-road. Luncheon is followed by a drive through the heart of the New Forest, via Beldrewood, Mark Ash, and Rhinefield, returning to Brockenhurst. London is reached on the return journey shortly after eight o'clock. The charge, including rail fare (first-class only), carriage drive, and luncheon, is 20s.

THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY inform us that in addition to the important alterations already announced in connection with their summer trains, the service (to Yorkshire will, from the 1st prox., be considerably improved. The luncheon and dining car expresses, now leaving London (King's Cross) for Leeds at 9.45 a.m. and 5.45 p.m., will be accelerated to reach Leeds at 1.24 p.m. and 9.35 p.m. respectively; whilst the 1.30 p.m. from London (King's Cross), now due to arrive at 5.22 p.m., will reach there 5.7 p.m. A new express will be timed to leave Leeds (Central at 2.0 p.m., calling at Wakefield (Westgate) and Grantham, and reaching London (King's Cross) at 5.35 p.m.

THE SHERIFFS' FUND SOCIETY.—Bro. Alderman Sir Joseph Savory, Bart., presiding, a special meeting of this society was held at the Sessions House, Old Bailey, on the 24th instant. There were also present: Colonel Martin Frohisher, Mr. Under-Sheriff Gardiner, Mr. ex-Sheriff Cooper, J.P., Mr. W. C. Capper, Mr. Clarence Halse, Mr. F. W. Smith, Sir Clarence Smith, Mr. F. Kynston Metcalfe, Colonel Milman, and the Rev. A. W. Baldwin (hon. secretary). Bro. Alderman Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P., and Mr. F. Kynston Metcalfe, solicitor, 92, Great Tower-st., were elected additional trustees. A resolution was passed authorising the investment of the funds of the society in such securities for the time being authorised by law as investments for trust funds as should be directed from time to time by the committee of the society.

NEWSVENDORS AND THEIR CLAIMS.—On Tuesday Bro. the Lord Mayor, presiding at the festival dinner of the Newsvendors' Institution, at Stationers' Hall, drew attention to the hardships which newsboys suffered, and appealed for increased support to an admirable institution, which had carried on its useful work for 60 years. It helped those, he said, who had never contributed to its funds, but its permanent benefits were reserved for those who had paid the modest annual subscription of five shillings. The committee, unfortunately, had reason to deplore the apathy of the great mass of news-vendors, who numbered at least 100,000 in the United Kingdom, with regard to the benefits conferred by the institution. Bro. H. B. Marshall proposed "The Chairman and the Worshipful Company of Stationers," and the reply of the Lord Mayor brought the proceedings to a close.

REVISED AND IMPROVED EXPRESS SERVICES BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND BY THE MIDLAND ROUTE.—The July time tables of the Midland Railway will be found to be of more than usual interest. During the past few weeks we understand the Company has had under review the whole service between England and Scotland, with the result that material improvements will take effect from the 1st prox. in the service to and from Edinburgh, Glasgow, the North of Scotland, and London and the principal provincial English towns. Several entirely new trains will be introduced which will perform the journey in much less time than has previously been the case by this route, and additional dining and sleeping cars will form a welcome feature of the service, not to mention increased facilities in respect to through carriages and infrequent changes. In the case of the down service, i.e., from England to Scotland, a perusal of the time table discloses four new expresses between London (St. Pancras) and Edinburgh (Waverley), with a corresponding service to Glasgow, which, broadly speaking, will accomplish the journey in about 8½ hours. A close examination of the arrangements which the Midland Company has made gives fair promise that in point of increased service, quick transport with new engines, comfortable travelling by means of new dining and sleeping cars, and numerous through carriages, a complete justification will have been made to the claim that "the most interesting route between England and Scotland" is via Settle and the Eden Valley and North thereof through the Waverley district on the east side and the land of Burns on the west side.

LA MARGUERITE'S FIRST TRIP TO BOULOGNE AND BACK IN A DAY.—On Wednesday last the New Palace Steamer La Marguerite made her first trip of the season to Boulogne and back, performing the journey in her usual expeditious manner. The special train left Fenchurch-street at 6.15 a.m. and punctually at 7.10 a.m. La Marguerite started from Tilbury and proceeded on her journey down the river, calling at Southend, where the Mayor and some of the Corporation came on board, and a speedy run brought her alongside Margate Jetty at 10 a.m., where a goodly number of passengers embarked for the cross channel trip. The weather and the well-known sea qualities of La Marguerite dismissed any thoughts of *mal de mer*. The 53 miles to Boulogne were quickly covered and almost before luncheon was finished the grim headland of Cape Grisnez hove in sight. Notwithstanding that La Marguerite's arrival is now an established feature of the Boulogne season, almost the whole of the populace headed by their Mayor and Corporation and Chamber of Commerce were on the quay to bid welcome to the first trip of the New Century of this favourite vessel, showing that as far as Boulogne and La Marguerite were concerned the feeling of the two nationalities was of a most cordial and friendly nature. After having allowed her passengers about 2½ hours on shore to visit the numerous places of interest, La Marguerite left Boulogne at 3.30 p.m. for the homeward journey and reached Tilbury well within her advertised time of arrival, viz., 9.15 p.m., a special fast train bringing her passengers to Fenchurch-street Station. The catering on board the boat being entirely in the Company's own hands, even the most fastidious had no cause for complaint. La Marguerite will repeat this trip every Monday and Wednesday during the season, and every Thursday will make a trip from Tilbury to Calais and back. On Fridays she goes to Ostend and back.

ANGLO-INDIANS AND OTHERS seeking genuine Indian-manufactured condiments, currie stuffs, chutneys, preserves, puddings, Bombay ducks, Nepaul pepper, &c., send to the original firm, C. Stenbridge and Co., 13, Glean-street, Leicester-square, London; and Calcutta. Established 1821. Write for price list. Removed from 33, Leicester-square.