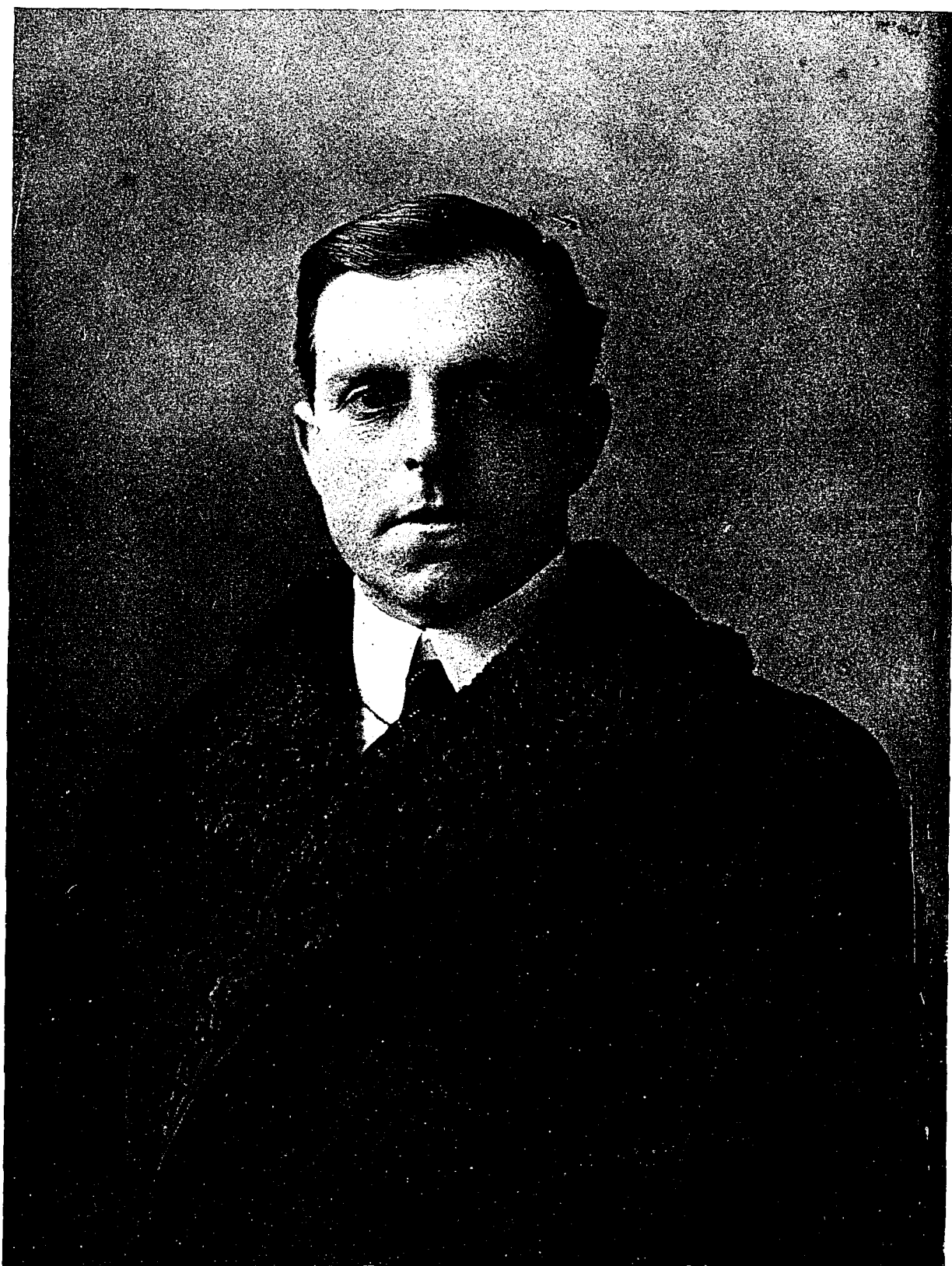


**THE**  
**MASONIC**  
**ILLUSTRATED**

A MONTHLY JOURNAL  
for FREEMASONS

OFFICES, 15, GREAT QUEEN ST LONDON, W.C. (Opposite Freemasons' Hall)

Vol. III., No. 28. JANUARY, 1903. Price 6d.



*R.W. Bro. the Earl of Shaftesbury,  
Provincial Grand Master of Dorsetshire.*

## *The City's Sheriffs.*

THAT the historical offices of the Sheriffs of London should be represented by men of the type of Bros.

Sir George Wyatt Truscott and Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitching is not, we believe, an unimportant factor in the continued maintenance of the cherished institutions of the



BRO. SIR GEORGE TRUSCOTT.

City at a time when every department of municipal government is under review. It is to us a pleasing circumstance that both the present holders of these civic offices have been initiated into Freemasonry and continue subscribing members of her lodges.

Bro. Alderman Sir G. W. Truscott, the Senior Sheriff, who is, as is well-known, the son of the late Bro. Sir Francis Wyatt Truscott, P.G. Warden, was fortunate in inheriting Masonic not less than civic traditions. Entering his father's business in 1875, at the age of eighteen, he gradually obtained, by actual experience of the different departments, a thorough knowledge of the practice as well as the theory of the printing craft. On the retirement of his father, the Alderman entered into partnership with his brother, whose subsequent death left him, at a comparatively early age, the senior partner in the firm of James Truscott and Son. It was not, however, until some years afterwards that his municipal career commenced, when he became, in 1882, a member of the City Corporation. On the lamented death of Bro. Sir Francis Truscott in 1895, the representation of the Dowgate Ward became vacant, and his son was elected in his place. It was in this same year that our distinguished brother was initiated into Freemasonry in the Grand Master's Lodge, No. 1, in which his late father had twice filled the office of Master.

In 1900, not inappropriately, Bro. Sir George Truscott, who has subsequently been elected Master of the Stationers' Company, became a founder of the St. Bride Lodge,

No. 2817, established for members of the Order connected with the printing trades. With characteristic zealourness our worthy brother has not scrupled to fill the minor offices in this lodge, being its present Senior Deacon. In addition to the Mastership of the Stationers' Company, the Senior Sheriff holds the position of Chairman of the Controlling Committee of the City of London Asylum, is a member of the Court of the Haberdashers' Company and a Liveryman of the Vintners' Company. It may not be unreasonable to anticipate that with additional leisure Bro. Sir George Truscott will be still further heard of in connection with the Masonic Order, of which, by position and heritage, he is so distinguished a member.

The Junior Sheriff, Bro. Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitching, also entered commercial life in his father's business, but, finding it uncongenial, experimented in the business of perambulator making, in which he effected many improvements, notably the adaptation to the baby-carriage of the bicycle wheel. The experience thus gained led eventually to the founding of what is now the well-known firm of Hitchings, Limited, with which, as managing director, Sir Thomas still retains his connection. It was in 1884, eight years previous to the commencement of his municipal life, that our distinguished brother, introduced by Bro. Klingenstein, was initiated into the mysteries of our Order in the Chaucer Lodge, No. 1540, subsequently filling the highest office in that lodge. In 1892 his election as a representative of the Ward of Farringdon Without took



BRO. SIR THOMAS BROOKE-HITCHING.

place, a position which he stills retains. As a member of the Corporation, Bro. Sir Thomas Brooke-Hitching's energies have been many. It is interesting to observe that his Masonic connections not inadequately illustrate his activity in other spheres, for it was while filling the office of Chairman of the

Guildhall School of Music that he became a member of the lodge bearing that name. As representative of the City on the London School Board, and as a member of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, he joined, and in the latter case was a founder, and became the present Treasurer, of the lodges formed in connection with those bodies. The list of our worthy brother's Masonic activities would be incomplete did we not add that he is a member of the Chine Lodge, No.

1884, Shanklin, where his marine residence is situated, and that he is a P.Z. of the Chaucer Chapter, No. 1540.

It is not in the nature of idle prophecy to remark that still higher honours may in due time probably await acceptance by such representative members of the Craft, remembering in this connection that the highest offices in Freemasonry have been not infrequently filled in the past by the City's chief magistrates.

## *United Grand Lodge of England.*

THE Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge was held on the 3rd December at Freemasons' Hall, and was presided over by the Pro Grand Master, Earl Amherst, while the two Provincial Grand Masters of Jersey and Guernsey occupied the chairs of Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Master respectively.

The business paper contained little of special interest beyond the reference in the report of the Board of General Purposes to the Grand Registrar's report on the New Licensing Act and its effect on Masonic lodges. The Pro Grand Master announced that the M.W. Grand Master had been pleased to confer on Bro. W. E. Brymer, M.P., Past Grand Deacon, Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Dorsetshire, the rank and dignity of Grand Warden (Junior). The Grand Secretary, Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, read a communication from the Home Secretary in reply to the address to the King, congratulating His Majesty on his restoration to health and on their Majesties' Coronation. The nomination of a Grand Master for the ensuing year was the next business, and the honour of nominating His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught for that office fell to the lot of Bro. Major Badham, Past Grand Steward. The nomination, it is needless to say, was received with acclamation.

Much interest is usually evinced at the December meetings on the nomination of a Grand Treasurer, but on this occasion, as on the last, the brethren had wisely agreed to avoid a contest by accepting a candidate whose excellent qualities and world-wide popularity precluded opposition. The name of Bro. W. S. Penley was received with unanimous approval, and no other name was submitted.

Bro. J. H. Matthews was re-appointed and invested as President of the Board of Benevolence, with Bro. David

D. Mercer, Past Grand Standard Bearer, and Bro. Henry Garrod, Past Grand Pursuivant, as Senior and Junior Vice-President respectively. The nominations of twelve Past Masters to serve on the Board followed, and as only the requisite number were submitted, they were declared duly elected.

On the motion, by the President, that the report of the Board of General Purposes be received and entered on the minutes, a discussion arose on the item in the report calling attention to the provision of the New Licensing Act as affecting Masonic lodges.

Questions were asked and observations offered by Bros. J. E. Le Feuvre, P.G.D.; W. F. Lamont, P.A.G.D.C.; and others, which elicited from the Grand Registrar a reply to the effect that this was not a question of Masonry at all, but a question of the law of the land, and after describing the usual practices in regard to refreshments at provincial meetings and private lodges and the requirements of the Act with regard to Masonic clubs, concluded by reminding them that they should help the authorities by keeping the undertaking which he, as representing the Masonic body, had given to the Home Secretary. In the course of the Grand Registrar's remarks he strongly deprecated the practice of introducing refreshment into the lodge room at any time as being unseemly and un-Masonic, and trusted it would be entirely discontinued.

Before closing Grand Lodge, the Pro Grand Master observed that the discussion had been rather an irregular one; but it had elicited much valuable information, and he was certain that every brother in Grand Lodge would agree with him in thanking the Grand Registrar for the time and trouble he had expended on that most important subject.

Grand Lodge was then closed.

## *Consecration of the Richard Clowes Lodge, No. 2936.*

WE have recently had to chronicle instances of Masonic activity in the Province of Essex, and it is now our duty to place before our readers a further instance of Masonic vitality in that important province, namely, the consecration of the Richard Clowes' Lodge, which took place on Tuesday, December 16th (by dispensation), at the Great Eastern Hotel, London, in the presence of a large assembly of distinguished brethren, including the following Grand Officers:—Bros. the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master; Rowland Plumbe, P.S.G.W.; J. Woodall Woodall, P.G.T.; Col. Clifford Probyn, P.G.T.; Commander Giles, P.G.D.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; Claude Egerton-Green, P.D.G.D.C., Deputy P.G.M. Essex; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; R. Clay Sudlow, P.A.G.D.C.; T. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C.; J. M. McLeod, P.G. Swd. Br.; Major Hearn, P.G. Swd. Br.; J. Percy Fitzgerald, Grand Swd. Br.; Richard Clowes, P.G. Swd. Br.; and Albert Lucking, P.G.P.

As a compliment to the distinguished Essex Mason after whom the lodge was named, the ceremony was performed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master, who was for many years Prov. Grand Master of Essex, assisted by Bros. Commander Giles, as S.W.; J. D. Langton, as J.W.; the Rev. C. E. Barnes, Prov. Grand Chaplain, as Chaplain; T. J. Ralling, Prov. Grand Secretary, as Secretary; Albert Lucking, Prov. Grand D.C., as D.C.; and Dr. W. H. Cummings, P.G.O., as I.G.

The manner in which the ceremony was rendered by the Deputy Grand Master was convincing proof to all present that his lordship takes a keen interest in the ceremonies of the Craft.

In the course of an interesting oration, the Chaplain impressed upon the founders the religious nature of Freemasonry, and that, from the initiation onwards, it was one perpetual invocation to the Almighty, and that we were taught to the full our duty to our God and to our neighbour,

and if we carried out the precepts of the Order, it would be impossible for discord to find a place there. In a large body of men, as in Masonry, many would succeed and some would fail, and it was our duty, whenever possible, to take those brethren by the hand and give them a fresh start, and as a charge to the officers he would remind them that their candidates would be attracted or repelled by the manner in which they performed the duties of their office.



BRO. RICHARD CLOWES.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of installation, the Worshipful Master Designate, Bro. Gregory Hast, S.W. 1706, was installed into the Master's chair by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Egerton-Green. The Officers were invested as follows:—Bro. Richard Clowes, Acting I.P.M. and Treasurer; Henry Billingham, S.W.; J. O. Notcutt, J.W.; Charles Lewis, P.G.D. Essex, Secretary; J. A. Wood, S.D.; Arthur H. Smith, J.D.; J. C. Lyell, I.G.; M. B. Cassal, D.C.; P. M. Ibbs, Organist; and Bros. Heaton, Barnes, Pitman, and Bates, Stewards. Bro. J. W. Freeman was elected Tyler.

The Consecrating Officers and the Prov. S.G.W. and J.G.W. of Essex were elected hon. members. A vote of thanks was passed to the Deputy Grand Master for having honoured the lodge by himself consecrating it. Bro. Hubert Ivan Clowes was proposed as a joining member.

Master Richard Norman Clowes (age three-and-a-half years), grandson of Bro. Richard Clowes, was elected Steward to represent the lodge at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the sum of ten guineas, voted from the funds, to be placed upon his list. A founder's jewel, with suitable inscription, was presented to his father upon his behalf.

A letter was read from the M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, accepting hon. membership of the lodge, and placing five guineas upon the list of Bro. Clowes' grandson.

It was proposed that a letter be sent to the M.W. Grand Master thanking him for his kind interest in the lodge.

A letter was read from V.W. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, regretting his inability to attend, and placing five guineas upon the list of Master Clowes.

Bro. Percy Clowes thanked the brethren on behalf of his little son for the honour conferred in making him first Steward, and for the jewel.

Many handsome presents were made to the lodge, including a rich silk velvet cushion embroidered in gold, from the Countess of Warwick; a handsome embroidered

banner, designed by Bro. Charles Lewis; a bible, by Bro. Richard Clowes; a box of working tools from the Clowes family; a set of silver mounted gavels by Bro. Woodall Woodall, P.G.T.; a set of ivory gavels presented by Bro. Ward in memory of his father, the late Bro. Horatio Ward; and many other useful presents.

The lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to a banquet.

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Master," the Worshipful Master alluded to the signal honour done to the lodge by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught having accepted hon. membership.

In proposing "The Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master said the lodge felt highly honoured by being consecrated by the Deputy Grand Master, and those who had witnessed his work would realise what a splendid Mason he was, and the compliment he had paid them by being present that evening.

In the course of an eloquent speech, the Earl of Warwick, Deputy Grand Master, in reply, regretted that he was suffering from influenza, a condition not conducive to oratory. They all realised the longer they were associated with Freemasonry what a power it was in the world, for good or evil, according to how that power was wielded. It was in the reach of every Master to exercise that power for good, and he believed they invariably did so. Although bound by the strongest of bonds they yet were free. They were loyal to the King and to the ruling powers, and the King had recently marked his appreciation of Freemasonry by conferring the honour of knighthood upon that splendid Mason, the Grand Secretary, with whom he had been so frequently associated on behalf of the Craft. He was delighted to find himself among Essex Masons, in whose midst he had spent many pleasant years, and amongst whom he had never had a more real or energetic worker than Bro. Clowes. He therefore wished the lodge which bore his honoured name many years of success.



BRO. GREGORY HAST.

The next toast was "The Provincial Grand Master of Essex, Colonel Lockwood, M.P., and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," which, in the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, was coupled with that of Bro. Claude Egerton-Green, Deputy Provincial Grand Master.

Bro. Egerton-Green, replying, regretted that the Provincial Grand Master had not been present to see the Earl of Warwick consecrate the lodge, but it had been a great pleasure to him to take his place in installing the first



Worshipful Master. He sometimes chaffed Bro. Clowes for deserting Essex for Sussex, but his services to their province had been long and faithful, and he was glad the Provincial Grand Master had allowed the lodge to be named after him, thus handing down to posterity a memento of his magnificent services. He would leave the remainder of the reply to that mainspring of Freemasonry in Essex, Bro. Thomas Ralling, Provincial Grand Secretary.

Bro. Thomas Ralling said it had done their hearts good to hear the voice of their late Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Warwick, again, and the province was to be congratulated that they had that day added a lodge bearing the name of their veteran Essex Mason, Bro. Richard Clowes, who had been his lordship's first Provincial Senior Grand Warden upon his appointment to the Province of Essex.



MASTER RICHARD NORMAN CLOWES, AGED 3½ YEARS,  
FIRST CHARITY STEWARD OF THE LODGE.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was then proposed by the Acting I.P.M., Bro. Clowes, who wished him, on behalf of all present, good health and a prosperous year as their Master. He congratulated him upon being so ably installed and upon being the first Master of the lodge, in

which the Most Worshipful Grand Master and his Deputy had accepted hon. membership, and informed them that the Worshipful Master, he knew, was thorough and earnest.

The Worshipful Master, Bro. Hast, said, in reply, that he would thank them briefly but none the less sincerely for their reception of the toast. He was greatly pleased to be the first Master of a lodge named after his friend and kinsman, Bro. Richard Clowes, and he appreciated the particular honours which had been showered upon the lodge. With the assistance of his officers, he would now endeavour to make the lodge worthy of the name it bore.

In proceeding to the next toast, that of "The Visitors," the Worshipful Master hoped they would visit the lodge at its Broxbourne home, where they would receive a hearty welcome.

Bro. White, Worshipful Master of the Eccentric Lodge, in the course of an eloquent response, suggested that the welcome offered should be sufficiently elastic to cover fishing, for which Broxbourne was so famous.

In presenting the toast of "The Officers" to the brethren, the Worshipful Master could assure them that the heavy work of founding the lodge had fallen upon two solid Masons, who were Bros. Richard Clowes and Charles Lewis, and well they had discharged their labours. One evidence of Bro. Clowes' energy was the interest taken in the lodge by the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. Charles Lewis had thrown his whole energies into the work, and it would be impossible to over-estimate the value of what he had done to make the lodge a success.

Bro. Clowes, replying, said that he had received during his Masonic career, extending over twenty-five years, many honours, but none greater than when Bro. Thomas Ralling told him that several Masons in the old province would like to name a lodge after him, and he afterwards discovered that the chief mover was Bro. Charles Lewis. He thanked them all for the compliment, and the Earl of Warwick for his great personal kindness to him, and hoped that one of his descendants would be for ever connected with the lodge.

Bro. Charles Lewis, Secretary, whose name met with a very hearty reception, could assure them that his labours had been rewarded by the enthusiasm he had met with among the founders.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was given, and responded to by Bro. J. M. McLeod, Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, who eloquently pleaded the cause of that institution, and welcomed the unique Steward they would have in the grandson of their respected Bro. Richard Clowes.

Other toasts followed, and the Tyler's toast brought the pleasant evening to a close.

## *Consecration of the King Alfred Lodge, No. 2945.*

AN addition to the Middlesex roll of lodges was made on the 16th December by the consecration of this lodge, the future meetings of which will be held at Enfield. To meet the convenience of the Consecrating Officers and others who attended, dispensation was secured to allow of the consecration taking place at the Holborn Restaurant, and the meeting proved most successful.

The ceremony was undertaken by the Provincial Grand Master of Middlesex, the Right Hon. Lord George Francis Hamilton, M.P., P.G.W., who was assisted by his Deputy and other Provincial Grand Officers. The new lodge having been formally constituted, the Worshipful Master nominated in the warrant—Bro. Col. H. F. Bowles, M.P., P.P.G.W.—was installed, this part of the day's work being undertaken by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. A hearty vote of thanks to the Consecrating Officers was passed, and the Provincial Grand Master, in acknowledging the compliment, said it had given him great pleasure—and he was

sure it had been the same with the officers of Provincial Grand Lodge who had attended—to assist in the consecration of the lodge. The past services of the founders were evidenced by the decorations they wore, and he felt the new lodge would become a valuable acquisition to the Province of Middlesex. He hoped all the brethren associated with it would unite in the work of maintaining the lodge in the highest position possible in the Craft.

The Consecrating Officers were elected as honorary members of the lodge in recognition of their services.

Lodge was then closed, and the company adjourned to the banquet room, where the customary toast list was afterwards honoured, the name of Bro. E. R. Bartley Denniss, P.J.G.D., being coupled with that of "The Grand Officers of England."

Bro. Bartley Denniss, in replying, congratulated the members on the selection made for first Worshipful Master, and felt that if that brother was as energetic, able, and

devoted in the lodge as he was on the County Council and in other spheres, its success under his direction was assured. They often read in the papers of what Col. Bowles did in Parliament, but much of his work in connection therewith was done in the Committee Room, and was not publicly recorded; if only he could find time to devote to the lodge it must progress under his rule. Among the Grand Officers of England were some of the most distinguished men of the age and of the country, and one of the most characteristic traits of Freemasonry was that a man might wear the simple apron of an Entered Apprentice Freemason without in any way dimming the lustre of his personal attainments, no matter how high his rank or station in the nation. Such a man they had among them that day in Lord George Hamilton, their Provincial Grand Master. For many years First Lord of the Admiralty, he was now the head in England of some two or three hundred millions of the peoples of the great dependency of India, and yet found time to interest himself in the work and mission of Freemasonry. It was an honour to their newly consecrated lodge, and a great honour to Freemasonry in general, that it could attract such men as Lord George Hamilton. Then he might mention, among others interested in the Craft, Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener, and, with bated breath, perhaps his Majesty the King himself, who had so recently shown his very grateful recollection of his long connection with the Craft by conferring the honour of knighthood upon their Grand Secretary. Not only was this a compliment to Sir Edward Letchworth, and one that he fully deserved, but it was a compliment to the Craft also, as showing that his Majesty did not forget Freemasonry, even though he now felt compelled to formally dissociate himself from it. The Grand Officers were the pillars and the foundation of Grand Lodge and of Freemasonry itself, and the great men he had specially referred to were the corner stones and the ornaments of our Brotherhood. He concluded by wishing the members of the new lodge and their visitors a very happy and prosperous new year.

The contents of the Charity-box—which had been passed round among the company—was announced as totalling £2 5s.

The toast of "The Provincial Grand Master" was proposed by the Worshipful Master, who regretted the inability of his lordship to be present at the banquet that evening.

In proposing the toast of "The Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," the Worshipful Master referred to the lively interest displayed by Admiral St. Clair in the new lodge, and the good work performed by him and the other officers who had assisted in the consecration.

Admiral St. Clair replied, referring to the particular events of the day, the prospects for the future of the lodge, and the general efficiency thus far displayed. He urged the members of the new lodge to be particularly careful as to whom they admitted as members, and spoke of the trying ordeal it was to attend the meetings of the Board of Benevolence, where very many of the applicants were brethren who, where proper care displayed, ought never to have been admitted members of the Craft.

The acting I.P.M. proposed "The health of the Worshipful Master," eulogising his many qualifications and predicting success for the lodge under his rule.

The Worshipful Master, in acknowledgment, admitted many shortcomings, which he feared would prevent his adequately discharging the duties of his high position. He tendered some excellent advice as to the admission of new members, and warned the founders that they had to make a name for the lodge, and in doing so it would be well to bear in mind that while an older lodge might not suffer from any small indiscretion, a young one might do so to a considerable extent. He hoped to have the assistance of all the founders, and referred to the pleasure he felt in having around him so many personal friends.

Other toasts followed, and the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

## *Consecration of the Lambeth Borough Council Lodge, No. 2941.*

THE consecration of the above lodge (which is formed mainly of members of the Borough Council of Lambeth), took place on Friday, December 12th, at the Holborn Viaduct Hotel. The ceremony was performed in his inimitable way by V.W. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. Edward Terry, P.G. Treasurer, as S.W.; Dr. Sandberg, P.A.G.D.C., as J.W.; the Rev. Sir Borrodaile Savory, P.G.C., as Chaplain; Edward Armitage, P.G.D.C., as D.C.; and Fred. A. Powell, P.G. Std. Br., as I.G.

The oration by the Chaplain was very short, but perhaps the more effective. He asked what does the consecration of a new lodge mean? The formation of a new centre of light for the dissemination of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. Brotherly Love, one of the foundations of Freemasonry; Relief, a proof of their Love; and Truth, the very foundation of the whole. Speaking to the founders as councilmen, he said they had the care of the inhabitants of a very large borough, to supply their wants, to look after the sanitation and homes of the poor; a noble work indeed, and who better qualified than Freemasons? He begged them to remember that Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth had to be applied to all, rich and poor alike. To have the Great Architect as their guide, so the lodge would prove to be an inestimable blessing to the council.

The Grand Secretary then installed Bro. Alderman J. G. Albert, P.M. 227, 1922, 2395, as Worshipful Master, who invested his officers as follows:—Bros. Councillor T. M. Richards, I.P.M. 857, acting I.P.M.; Councillor

J. J. Longhurst, P.M. 2157, S.W.; Councillor G. E. Arnold, W.M. 681, J.W.; Councillor E. Johnson, P.M. 140, Treasurer; Councillor J. J. Chapman, P.M. 657, I.P.M. 2893, Secretary; Councillor F. B. Wood, 1539 S.D.; Councillor G. Dean, 1539, J.D.; Councillor A. J. Newton, P.M. 186, I.G.; Councillor R. Weller, P.M. 1967, D.C.; and H. C. J. Edwards, W.M. elect 186, Councillor R. W. Cartwright, P.M. 1986, and Councillor J. Williams 862, Stewards.

The Worshipful Master, in presiding at the banquet, was supported by the Consecrating Officers and many other Grand Officers and visitors.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, Bro. Edward Terry, in replying for "The Grand Officers," said that until that moment all had had a very pleasant time and he would not spoil it by inflicting a speech upon them, but would merely express a hope when he returned from other fields to visit them again to find them happy and prosperous.

The Worshipful Master, in proposing the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," said they were greatly indebted to Bro. Sir E. Letchworth for so honouring the lodge, and hoped he would come again. He took the opportunity to congratulate him on the honour the King had bestowed on him, and he asked him to accept a founder's jewel.

Bro. Sir E. Letchworth, in reply, sincerely thanked the Worshipful Master for his kind remarks and for the jewel, which would be one more to add to his already large collection. The honour he had received from the King he

was sure was meant as an honour to the Craft, of which he was a representative.

Bro. Richards next proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," and congratulated him on being the first Master of so promising a lodge, and he had no doubt in selecting him they had done well. Being a good man, both in private and public life, he could be relied on to introduce the true principles of Freemasonry into the lodge.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said the founders did not know what he could do, they had taken him on trust; but he hoped they would think and speak of him as well at the end of his year as the I.P.M. had done at the beginning.

Bro. Dr. Cummings, P.G. Organist, in replying for "The Visitors," had great pleasure in finding himself among Lambeth Freemasons, as eight years ago he had built himself a house in the parish.

Bro. Major Isaacs said the Worshipful Master had been likened to a round peg in a square hole. He believed him to be the right man in the right hole, the square man in the square hole, so they had in him a true fit, for there was not any squeezability in him. He would be as firm in the lodge as he had been on the council.

Bro. Smith also replied.

In proposing "The Officers of the Lodge," the Worshipful Master said he did not know much of their capabilities in Masonic work, but was sure, from the way they worked on the council, they would do their duties well.

Bro. Johnson replied: They would show their appreciation by the way they carried out the work of the lodge, so proving stability and usefulness. He maintained if they only carried out the true principles of Freemasonry, then all forms of slavery, war and wrong would cease, and we should then see the whole brotherhood of man in its truest sense.

Bro. Chapman said he would do his best to carry out the

duties of Secretary, a position which did not require eloquence, but none the less work.

Bros. Wood and Dean also briefly replied.



BRO. ALDERMAN JOHN G. ALBERT.

A musical programme, under the direction of Bro. G. F. Smith, P.G.O., added to the evening's enjoyment.

The Tylor's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

## *Installation Meeting of the Piccadilly Lodge, No. 2550.*

THE above more than usually interesting ceremony took place at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, on Thursday, 4th December, more than usually interesting because the outgoing Master, Bro. James Leigh, was the last of the founders to occupy the chair, and the incoming Master, Bro. George William Hayward, was the first initiate.



BRO. GEORGE WILLIAM HAYWARD.—(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

To mark the event, the founders presented the lodge with a large and beautifully embroidered banner, bearing, in addition to the usual symbols, a representation of the fountain in Piccadilly Circus and the names of the founders.

The ceremony of installation was performed by Bro. Leigh in a manner which told of careful preparation. The Worshipful Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. F. H. Scroggie, S.W.; C. H. Dancocks, J.W.; Charles Arnold, Treasurer; Josiah Russell, P.M., Secretary; H. Burkett, S.D.; H. C. Barnes, J.D.; R. W. Robinson, I.G.; C. J. Rickards, Organist; Fred. Arnold, P.M., D.C.; T. B. Tipton, P.M.; J. Claxton, and R. B. Brass, Stewards; and G. A. Ball, P.M., Tyler.

After the closing of the lodge, the members and visitors, the latter outnumbering the former by two to one, adjourned to a banquet, in the course of which the Worshipful Master caused considerable merriment by taking wine first with the married brethren and then with the unmarried, the latter making a ludicrously poor display in point of numbers.

After the usual loyal and Masonic toasts, the I.P.M., Bro. Leigh, proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," whose distinguishing characteristics were, he said, his large heartedness and his zeal for charity in all its forms.

Replying, the Worshipful Master, who throughout the whole proceedings was commendably brief in his remarks, thanked the brethren for their reception of the toast, and promised to make it his aim to perform his duties successfully, as his predecessors had done.

The Worshipful Master, in a few well chosen words, proposed the toast of "The Visitors," giving them a hearty welcome, and called upon Bros. Beck and Welsford to respond.

Bro. Beck, P.M., was highly gratified to see such excellent working in the lodge, and was certain it would continue under the Master, who had Freemasonry so thoroughly at

heart. He appreciated the opportunity of being present at the installation of his friend, Bro. Hayward, whom he had known in business life for so many years. He thought the name of the lodge—the Piccadilly—most appropriate, as it represented some important Masonic virtues. Charity was represented at one end by the hospital, temperance at the other by the drinking fountain, and science and art in the academies and galleries which lay between. He could testify to the thoroughness of Bro. Hayward in business and in everything he undertook.

Bro. Will O. Welsford, P.M., could promise the Piccadilly Lodge a careful and impressive rendering of the ceremonies during the coming year, as Bro. Hayward was one of the most careful and conscientious workers in the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction, of which he (Bro. Welsford) and their second Worshipful Master, Bro. Bates, had the honour of being Preceptors.

In proposing the toast of "The Immediate Past Master, Bro. Leigh," the Worshipful Master congratulated him upon his excellent work during the past year and on his perfect rendering of the installation ceremony that evening. He

well deserved the Past Master's jewel voted him by the lodge, and it afforded him great pleasure to pin it upon his breast, and he echoed the wish of every member that he would wear it as a memento of a happy year and a promise of valuable assistance in the future.

The I.P.M., in reply, thanked the Worshipful Master for his kindly remarks, and hoped he had fulfilled the promise made at his installation, that he would assist the Worshipful Master through the year, as well as his successors.

Replying to the toast of "The Past Masters," Bro. Fred. Arnold, first Master of the lodge, was proud to see his first initiate installed into the Master's chair. He admired the Worshipful Master for his perseverance and regularity in attending the lodge of instruction.

Bro. W. F. Bates, P.M., also replied. It was very gratifying to him and to Bro. Welsford to see the Master invest his officers so perfectly, and he invited members and visitors to come to the Emblematic Lodge of Instruction, where the Worshipful Master had learnt his work.

After a very enjoyable evening and lengthy programme, the Tyler's toast brought the proceedings to a close.

## *Installation Meeting of the Cannon Lodge, No. 1539.*

THE first meeting of this popular south London lodge, which is the Surrey Masonic Hall Lodge under a new name, was held on Wednesday, 19th November, at the Masonic Hall, Camberwell, and was an interesting and enjoyable assembly, both from a Masonic and social point of view, it being the installation of the new Master and the annual ladies' festival.

The lodge meeting started promptly at four o'clock, and the outgoing Master, Bro. W. J. Alford, installed his successor, Bro. H. A. Leighton, into the Master's chair. The following officers were then appointed and invested:—Bros. A. Court, S.W.; R. R. Pickering, J.W.; W. G. Cannon, P.M., Treasurer; T. H. Barker, P.M., Secretary; A. Doig, P.M., D.C.; A. Cook, S.D.; J. Cocks, J.D.; C. A. Webb, I.G.; E. Davies, Organist; and T. R. Vernon, N. Dalling, and J. Allen, Stewards. The Worshipful Master then initiated two candidates in such a manner as to give promise of future excellent work in the various ceremonies. A Past Master's jewel was presented to the outgoing Master, Bro. W. J. Alford, for his services during the past year.

The presentation of the new warrant next took place, when Bro. Perceval Nairne, P.G.D., after an eloquent and graceful speech, presented the warrant of confirmation to the newly-installed Master, the reason for the issue of such a warrant being that the original was destroyed when the basement of the Masonic Hall was flooded some years ago,

and the members of the lodge, when petitioning Grand Lodge to grant them a warrant of confirmation, also asked to be allowed to change their name to that of the Cannon Lodge, in honour of their much respected Treasurer, Bro. W. G. Cannon, the present father of the lodge, he having been the first initiate on its formation in 1875, from which time his zeal for Freemasonry has never relaxed, and the high compliment paid him by the members of his lodge was one well deserved.

As a token of appreciation of the compliment paid him, Bro. W. G. Cannon presented the lodge with a very fine portrait of himself painted in oils.

The initiates of the past year presented the outgoing Master, Bro. Alford, with a Past Master's collar and silver jewel as a memento of his year of office.

After the closing of the lodge, the brethren adjourned to a reception room, where a vast number of ladies had assembled, and to each of whom Bro. Cannon presented a handsome brooch with the name of the lodge and a cannon in rich enamel, to commemorate the festival of the re-organisation of the lodge under its new title.

The ladies and brethren then adjourned to a banquet, and a most enjoyable programme of music and toasts was got through.

The evening is likely to be long remembered by those who had the pleasure of being present.

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## THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED

*The Roman Catholic Hierarchy and  
Masonry from Early Times to 1814.*

IT is a commonly received opinion that the Church of Rome is opposed to all secret societies. However widespread the opinion may be, it does not seem to be supported by history or by the practice of the Roman Church. One notable instance of a secret society which for many years controlled the Papacy and met with the approval of that Church is the Society of Jesus, whose members, under the name of Jesuits, have played so important a part in the development and introduction of many of her doctrines and methods.

The researches of Findel have established that the Steinmetzen associations, the operative Masons of Germany, were branches of a secret society, with objects as clearly defined as those of speculative Masonry in the present day. Yet we know that these societies were under Papal protection in the fifteenth century. The Bulls of Alexander VI., 1502, and of Leo X., 1517, in support of Freemasonry, have often been referred to by Masonic historians, though it must be admitted that a careful search through the Archives of the Vatican has failed to discover any trace of their existence. This much, however, is certain, that with Papal approval, or at any rate without expression of disapproval from the ruling members of the Roman Hierarchy in the year 1279, Archbishop Sifrid, of Cologne, promised full absolution to all who should, for the furthering of the cathedral building operations, present to him any wrongfully acquired goods.

The cause of the hostility of the Roman Hierarchy to Freemasonry is not due therefore to the mere fact of its being a secret society. What then could have caused this hostility? The Bull of Benedict XII., 1738, does not allege any offences against Freemasons, it condemns them merely on the ground that "their impregnable secret" may be used for improper purposes.

This reasoning would have applied much more forcibly to the Jesuits, who were then in favour at Rome, than to the Freemasons.

The real reason of this sudden enmity was the discovery that men of different faiths could unite in the brotherhood of Freemasonry.

It was in 1737 that, at the lodge of Livorno, Roman Catholics, Protestants, and Jews enrolled themselves as members. The inestimable advantages of the institution in promoting tolerance and bringing within the bounds of possibility the establishment of a nearly universal human brotherhood, were, in the eyes of the Roman Catholic Church, dangerous tendencies and irreligious doctrines.

This church attacked Freemasonry not because it was a secret society, not because she had any real belief that the science aimed at the subversion of established governments or religion, but because she feared the intercourse of her adherents with persons of other religions, and dreaded that the kind of study recommended by the science would weaken the influence and authority of her priests.

Accordingly, in countries where the Pope had supreme control, Freemasonry was put down with a strong hand. In Portugal, "that paradise of the monks, that seat of ignorance and superstition," the tortures of the inquisition were invoked to suppress the Brotherhood. In Spain the same means were resorted to. In Austria Freemasonry was practically suppressed. In France, though Freemasonry was for a short time discouraged, the authorities never really attempted to suppress it; and not long after 1737 we find many of the chief men of the kingdom serving under its banner.

In England the Papal policy adopted towards Freemasonry was different. It is quite clear that the Roman Catholic authorities for many years after 1737 did not really forbid the members of their Church from joining the Society. We find among the Grand Masters the names of the Duke of Norfolk, 1730, Lord Petre, 1772-1776, and other well known members of that faith. It is hardly likely that the less illustrious members of that Church were prohibited from joining the Order.

It is, at first sight, difficult to understand the exceptional indulgence extended to English and Scotch Freemasons. It may be that for some years the Papacy hoped to convert the institution into a society friendly to the Stuarts, and to use it in attempting to replace a Roman Catholic dynasty on the throne of Britain. Indeed, one authority has gone so far as to assert that some of the higher degrees were established to effect this very purpose. Possibly Roman Catholics in Britain were allowed to join on the chance that they would be able to influence the Order in case of any attempted revolution. However this may be, no serious attempt to discourage Freemasonry in Britain was made by the see of Rome until the 19th century.

The Bull published by Benedict XIV. in 1751 did not affect the view taken in Britain by the Roman Catholic authorities on the practice of Freemasonry. This precious document gives six reasons why Freemasonry should be held accursed. First and foremost, it is laid down that the fact that all sorts of sects and religions are allowed to join the Order proves how pernicious such an association must be "to the purity of the Catholic Religion." The fact that Masonry is a secret society is only thrown in as a sort of makeweight. It appears to have had some effect on the Continent, and was finally the means of suppressing Freemasonry in Austria.

After this date, the hostility to Freemasonry, though undoubtedly still existing, appear to have gradually become less insistent, till 1814, when the flames of intolerance were again fanned into renewed activity.

We will deal with the cause of this and the present attitude of the Papacy towards our Society in our next issue.



The proposal that on the retirement of the Earl of Warwick from the post of Provincial Grand Master of the Freemasons of Essex, after twenty years' service, he should be presented by the brethren with some mark of the esteem in which he is held, has been taken up with great enthusiasm by the Essex lodges. On Wednesday, December 3rd, the Board of General Purposes of the Province met at Freemasons' Hall, London, to consider and determine what form the presentation should take. After a brief discussion, it was unanimously agreed to invite Lord Warwick to accept a portrait of himself, and it was decided to commission Mr. Milbank, R.A., to carry out the work.

The ever-flowing tide of prosperity which it has been the good fortune of our three Masonic Charities to experience for many years past has shown no sign of an ebb in the year which has just closed, although at the first glance it might appear that a slight check had been experienced. It is true that the total receipts amount to some £5000 less than in the previous year, but that deficiency is explained by the fact that exceptional items of income came into the 1901 account in the shape of annuities and perpetual presentations, which augmented the total by £7971, thus showing an increase in the annual donations and subscriptions, which, after all, is the most permanent and reliable source of income.

We will not weary our readers with a long array of figures, analysing and comparing the various items. This information will be duly communicated to the Craft in the reports of the respective Institutions, but simply give the total receipts of each for the year, which are as follows:—  
 Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, £35,687 9s. 7d.;  
 Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, £29,079 10s. 2d.;  
 Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution £34,673 17s. 2d.  
 Aggregate receipts of the three Institutions, £99,440 16s. 11d

The dinner given in honour of Bro. Sir Alfred Cooper, F.R.C.S., and his connection with hospital work, at which Bro. His Grace the Duke of Devonshire presided, was one of those events which, though not purely Masonic in their object, cannot fail to have been of interest to members of our Order. Bro. Sir Alfred Cooper, who received a well-earned knighthood in the recent Coronation honours, was created a Senior Grand Deacon in 1897.

We are pleased to see that the Jubilee Masters' Lodge, No. 2712, which is the only Installed Masters' Lodge in London, is becoming better appreciated by Metropolitan Masons, five new members being admitted at their last meeting, Friday, December 19th. This was the last meeting under the presidency of their genial Master, Bro. F. C. Van Duzer, P.A.G.D.C., who, as previously mentioned in these pages, was the first American citizen to receive Grand Lodge honours in England, a fact highly appreciated, we understand, among our brethren in the United States.

Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, that highly popular master of Masonic ceremonial, whose portrait we shall shortly reproduce in connection with the "History of the Lodge of Emulation," was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and we can prophesy another year of success. He signalled his election by bringing forward, on behalf of the permanent committee of the lodge, a motion for the establishment of a Charity organization among London

lodges, a proposition which we commend strongly to our London readers, as it is calculated to prevent that lamentable loss of votes, which the present state of disorganization is responsible for. The organization is intended to be purely representative and every London lodge will have equal chances of bringing forward its candidates. We think it quite in the fitness of things that this proposition should have originated at a lodge occupying the unique position of the Jubilee Masters, and we wish them every success.

Bro. Edward O. Farrer, whose portrait is given herewith, is a well-known and much respected tradesman in the prosperous county borough of Reading, of which he is a native. He was initiated in the Greyfriars Lodge, No. 1101, at Reading, in 1889, and was for nine years successively in office. On Wednesday, November 12th, he was installed as Worshipful Master of the lodge, in the presence of a very large and representative assemblage of Masons. Bro. Farrer holds rank in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Berkshire. He was one of the founders of the Aldermaston Lodge, No. 2760. He is an experienced Mark Master Mason and a



BRO. EDWARD O. FARRER.

Past Master of the Leopold Lodge, at Reading; also Past Provincial Junior Grand Overseer. Bro. Farrer bore the leading share in the formation of the lodge of Royal Ark Mariners in connection with the Leopold Lodge, and has been its Recorder ever since its consecration. Our respected brother also takes an active interest in other Degrees, and at the present time is Principal Sojourner in the Union Royal Arch Chapter, No. 414; Senior Warden of the Veran Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees; Steward of the Albert Victor Rose Croix Chapter; and an energetic member of the Reading United Lodge of Improvement.

Amongst those who have recently declared their intention of seeking Parliamentary honours who are members of the Craft may be noticed Bro. R. C. Lehmann, the famous rowing coach and sometime editor of the *Daily News*, who is a member of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10; and Bro. Hesketh Lever, the head of the well-known firm at Port Sunlight, where a lodge has recently been formed bearing his name.

The list of the present Ministry contains the names of a large proportion of members of our Order, including many Grand Officers. Lord Halsbury, the Duke of Devonshire, the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord George Hamilton, Lord

Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Ashbourne, Lord Stanley, Lord Onslow, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Long, Mr. Akers Douglas, Mr. Hayes Fisher, and Mr. Macartney may all, we believe, be included in the list.

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There are few more joyous sights than to witness the enjoyment and to hear the hearty laughter of children, and when were they more hearty than on Saturday,



BRO. THOMAS ELLIOTT.—(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

December 20th, at the Hotel Cecil, when the Commercial Travellers' Lodge, No. 2795, gave their second "Childrens' Party"? It was a moot point as to whether the grown-ups or the children enjoyed themselves the most. In any case the latter's appreciation of the performance of Punch and Judy, living marionettes, sleight of hand, &c., and the parents' delight in the childrens' enjoyment were



BRO. JOHN IRWIN, SECRETARY.

undoubted. Speeches on such an occasion were not in the programme, the Worshipful Master, Bro. T. Elliott, contenting himself by giving them a hearty welcome.

A complimentary Masonic banquet to Bro. G. Jackson, P.M. 1353, P.P.A.G.D.C. (Mayor of Lancaster), was held at the County Hotel recently, with Bro. J. Roughton, W.M. 1353, as chairman. Sixty-one brethren attended from the Fortitude, Rowley, Duke of Lancaster, Morecambe, and Garstang Lodges. The function was peculiar in its way, and unique in the annals of Masonry in that town. Everything passed off with *eclat*. The following toast list was given, with songs interspersed, the various speeches being short and to the point, and the music, in addition to being appropriate, was well rendered:—The loyal toasts, proposed by the Chairman; "The Earl of Lathom and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers, Present and Past," by Bro. J. E. Oglethorpe, responded to by Bro. C. Gibson; "The Guest of the Evening," by the Chairman, responded to by the Mayor; "The Craft," by Bro. W. Duff, responded to by Bros. J. Heald and A. L. Price; "The Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary of the banquet committee," by Bro. J. R. B. Pilkington, responded to by Bros. R. Nicholson, P. Dutton, and J. L. Barrow; and "The Chairman," proposed by the Mayor, and responded to by Bro. Roughton.

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Bro. W. J. Bone was initiated in the St. Clair Lodge, No. 2074, Landport, in September, 1897, and installed as Worshipful Master in April, 1901. He is also at present the Second Principal of St. Clair Royal Arch Chapter and Senior Warden of the Carnarvon Mark Lodge, No. 62, as well as



BRO. W. J. BONE.

Preceptor of the St. Clair Lodge of Instruction. Bro. Bone has served seven Stewardships for the Charitable Institutions and is a Vice-Patron of the Boys' School and a Life Governor of both the Girls' School and the Benevolent Institution. Truly an excellent record for five years' membership of the Order.

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There was a large gathering of Masonic and other friends at the funeral of the late Bro. H. Baber, on the 27th December, at Croydon. Bro. Baber was a member of the Old England Lodge, No. 1790, and had twice filled the Master's chair. He had also held office in Provincial Grand Lodge. Deceased had been engaged for twelve years in the County Courts Department of the Treasury, Whitehall, and was held in high esteem by his colleagues as well as by his brethren in Masonry.

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The Christmas Number of that excellent periodical *The Connoisseur*, a handsome set of which has recently been presented to the Grand Lodge Library, has, we are pleased

to notice, been embellished with a number of interesting illustrations of Craft Masonic jewels, a description of which has been written by our well-known Bro. Robert Manuel, P.M. 1196, and a member of the Board of General Purposes.



Our Masonic ancestors of the eighteenth century were very prone to fall into poetry, or more frequently doggerel, in describing the virtues and high ideals of the brethren of the mystic tie, as well as in presenting the lighter and more frivolous aspects of the Freemasonry of that day. Volumes of verse of every degree of merit, except perhaps the highest, were issued from time to time, many, it must be confessed, of a sort that would not pass the severe criticism of the Mrs. Grundy of to-day. But in this the Masonic poetaster merely shared the methods of his contemporaries. The following reproduction from a newspaper of the year 1735 may be taken as a fair sample of the style of such compositions, and although the play at which the prologue was to have been spoken was apparently not performed, the writer evidently thought it too good to be lost to the world, and finding an editor of the same opinion, it has secured nearly two hundred years of immortality by being reprinted in a nineteenth century journal. What more could its author have hoped for?



“PROLOGUE intended to have been spoken at the PLAY for the entertainment of the ancient and honourable order of FREEMASONS.

“Ha!—what a noble show of aprons here!  
Well!—who wou’d not such glorious badges wear?  
Lo! undistinctly blended under these\*  
Peers, commoners, and men of all degrees;  
Who in strict bonds of amity conjoin  
Of masonry to reach the grand design—  
Wit, virtue, learning, harmony divine.

This the great order where mankind is blest  
With all the soul can know, or sense shou’d taste;  
Whose science truly noble and sublime  
Is known t’ have bore the test of searching time.

Free-mason’s art, which nothing can destroy,  
Ancient as that creation we enjoy,  
That down from Adam’s to our present age  
Stood proof ’gainst wars, floods, fire,—nay—pious rage.

Discord has never once presum’d t’ intrude  
Into one lodge throughout the brotherhood.  
There no religions, parties, nations, men  
Attempt each other’s freedom to restrain;  
But (all distinctive titles laid aside),  
Peace is their aim, and virtue their chief pride.

Not that we are of peace so meanly fond  
(When honour calls to war) that we’d despond.  
No—Each true mason here wou’d drain his blood  
For king, or country, or his brethren’s good.

For you, fair circle, too, we’d do as much,  
Spite of whatever idiots may reproach,  
For tho’ some dames suspect: we hate their sex;  
Those dames who’ve tried us, own—they’re gross mistakes.

Then—wou’d I might (methinks) our myst’ries tell!  
Our art wou’d o’er the universe prevail.  
The world shou’d then admire our moral lessons;  
And kings aspire to be accepted—*masons*.

But vain my wish! where is the earthly crown  
That can new lustre add to our renown?  
For tho’ since Solomon grand master reign’d  
From each grand master we’ve new splendour gain’d.  
The craft from Weymouth’s dayes henceforth may date  
Its glorious, blest, unalterable state;  
Whence masons glory, grandeur, happiness  
Shall ne’er diminish, as they can’t encrease.

“F. BLYTHE.”

\* Pointing to the Aprons.



Bro. W. J. Crawley, LL.D., S.G.D. (I.C.), has contributed to the pages of “Ars Quatuor Coronatorum” a highly

interesting and important article dealing with the family of the Wesleys or Wellesleys and its connection with Irish Freemasonry. The origin of the family from which our great Duke sprung is traced from Anglo-Norman times, and in the hands of Bro. Crawley the story is of fascinating interest; but the most attractive feature in the article to Freemasons is the fact that the future Duke of Wellington, then the Honourable Arthur Wesley (for so at that time he spelt his name), a subaltern of the 12th Light Dragoons, was initiated in the Trim Lodge, and was the third of the Wesleys of Dangan to sign the roll book. No date was appended to the signature, but the corresponding entries in the Treasurer’s book show that the admittance fee was paid on the 7th December, 1790, and the traditions of the lodge places the scene of the ceremony at Dangan Castle.



We cannot claim, however, that our renowned fellow Craftsman ever showed any special interest in Freemasonry; indeed, his admittance into the Order took place in the month when he was seeking the suffrages of the electors of the borough in which the lodge was held, and as Dr. Crawley remarks, “what could be more natural than that he should seek to ingratiate himself with the local Freemasons by joining the local lodge? That he did ingratiate himself is plain enough. He was returned for the Session opening 20th January, 1791. It must be confessed,” our author goes on to say, “that the verb ‘ingratiate’ is not easily conjugated with Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington as its subject, the more so as the Iron Duke some fifty years later declined to associate himself with the lodge or with Freemasonry—but that was fifty years later. The newly-appointed aide-de-camp, the young Parliamentary hand, the entered apprentice Freemason plunged into the boisterous gaiety of the Viceregal Courts and sowed his wild oats after the manner of the generation. Who shall say that the process was not a necessity for the education, nay, the emancipation of ‘the slender, blue-eyed, hawk-nosed and rather sheep-faced boy’ whom his mother believed to be hopelessly deficient in ability?”



There could be little doubt that to a young man of his habits the idea of joining the lodge presented itself rather as a social event in an electioneering campaign—and the Parliamentary Mason has since had many representatives—than as a solemn and serious covenant. It appears, however, that the Hon. A. Wesley continued a subscribing member of the lodge from December, 1790, to December, 1795, when his Indian campaigns severed his connection with Trim.



On the removal of the old lodge to Dublin in 1838, the new Secretary, Bro. Edward Carlton, an eminent Dublin attorney, wrote to the Duke of Wellington soliciting his patronage, and asking permission to call the lodge by his Grace’s name, but the Duke was not in a compliant mood, and the application elicited the following reply:—“London, August 13th, 1836. The Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. Carlton. He perfectly recollects that he was admitted to the lowest grade of Freemasonry in a lodge which was fixed at Trim, in the county of Meath. He has never since attended a lodge of Freemasons. He cannot say that he knows anything of the art. His consent to give the lodge his name would be a ridiculous assumption of the reputation of being attached to Freemasonry, in addition to being a misrepresentation. The Duke of Wellington hopes, therefore, that Mr. Carlton will excuse the Duke for declining to comply with his suggestion.”



These extracts are of interest in establishing the fact that the Duke had become a member of the Fraternity, which for many years had been denied, although it must be confessed that the Craft gains little lustre from the connection, and that his association with it possesses no features of interest beyond the bare historic record.



## Consecration of the Queen Alexandra Lodge, No. 2932.

AT the Alexandra Palace on the 28th December the consecration of the above lodge was performed by Bro. Sir E. Letchworth, Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. P. Colville Smith, P.G.D., as S.W.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., as J.W.; the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; Frank Richardson, P.D.G. Registrar, as D.C.; and A. Constable, P.P.G.D. Essex, as I.G. Bro. Sir R. D. M. Littler, C.B., K.C., P.M., P.D.G. Registrar, P.S.G.W. Middlesex, was then installed as the first Worshipful Master. The Board of Installed Masters consisted of a large and influential gathering of representatives of the neighbouring lodges. The following founders were then appointed and invested as officers of the lodge for the ensuing year, viz. :—

special toast in acknowledgment of their gratitude for the great honour conferred on the new lodge.

The following telegram was then dispatched to Her Majesty at Sandringham :—"To Her Majesty the Queen. The Queen Alexandra Lodge of Freemasons, which you have graciously permitted to bear your name, has just been consecrated. The brethren send their most respectful and hearty greetings."

The Worshipful Master then proposed "The Health of the Consecrating Officers," paying them a well merited compliment, and expressing the approbation of the members of the Queen Alexandra Lodge for their services at the interesting ceremony.



THE BANQUET.

Bros. E. Kirby, P.M., S.W.; Jesse T. Davies, P.M., J.W.; Frank Todman, P.M., I.P.M.; Edwin Slatter, Treasurer; Alfred L. Sargood, P.M., Secretary; Thomas Leake, S.D.; A. T. Richardson, P.M., J.D.; Herbert Neeld, I.G.; A. Constable, P.M., acting D.C.; Dale Cooke, Organist; Arthur V. Gifkins, Henry W. Jack, and Dudley Cory Wright, Stewards; and H. Hill, P.M., Tyler.

The brethren afterwards adjourned to a banquet, at which the Worshipful Master presided.

Bro. Sir R. D. M. Littler is well known as one of the best of chairmen, and the toasts were in good hands. In proposing the toast of "The King," he made a very graceful allusion to the Birthday of our most gracious Queen Alexandra, whose name the lodge had been highly privileged to bear, and he desired to propose that on that occasion, contrary to the usual formula, it should be made a

This was responded to by Bro. P. Colville Smith, P.G.D., who remarked that he was deeply sensible of the honour which had been conferred upon him, that being the first time it had been his privilege to assist at a consecration of so important a lodge since his appointment to Grand office.

Bro. James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., also expressed the high appreciation and pleasure it had afforded him to be present on such an auspicious occasion.

Bro. P. Colville Smith then proposed "The Health of the Worshipful Master" in a very complimentary and humorous speech. It is scarcely necessary to say the mentioning of the name of the Worshipful Master was the signal for the heartiest greetings and applause. He congratulated the founders on having secured so distinguished a Freemason as their head.

The Worshipful Master briefly replied, and stated that having to keep an important engagement, he had to vacate the chair, which was then occupied by the I.P.M.

Other toasts followed, that of "The Officers of the Lodge" being responded to by the Senior and Junior Wardens and the Secretary, Bro. Sargood, who remarked that whatever it had been his privilege to do in assisting to found the Queen

Alexandra Lodge, it had been a labour of love, and he trusted he might be spared to carry out the Secretarial duties in a manner that would be acceptable to the brethren and creditable to the lodge.

Bro. Neeld, I.G., and the Stewards also responded.

An excellent musical programme was carried out, and the proceedings throughout were of a highly satisfactory character.

## Old Tracing Boards.

BRO. T. M. Woodhead, an earnest Masonic student, of Bradford, Yorkshire, has lately acquired eight quarto pages, mounted on old leather book covers, which, so far as my knowledge and enquiries extend, are unique.

One of the pages is devoted to a portrait of the author, *John Browne*, editor of the singular publication known as the "Master Key" (partly in cypher), of A.D. 1798 and 1802, 2nd Edition, who is described as "Editor of the General Law List, London Conductor, &c."

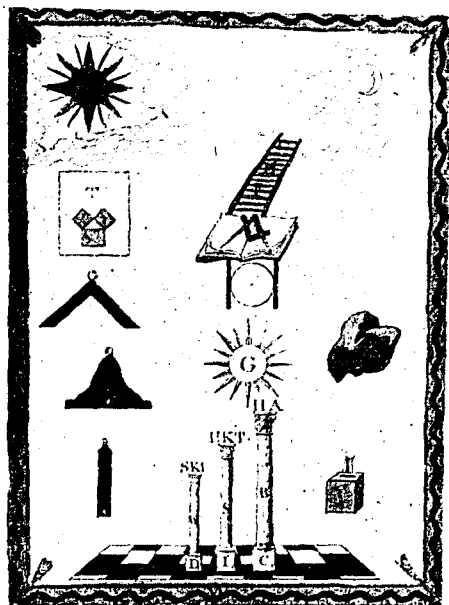


*W. John Browne*  
Editor of the General Law List, London Conductor, &c.

There are four pages of closely printed matter, all being in cypher, the first having as title "The Ne Plus Ultra of the Craft." By Br. J. Browne, P.M. of six Lodges, M.A., and Editor of Browne's Masonic 'Master Key,' 'Through the Three Degrees, by way of Poliglot,' under the sanction of the Craft in general."

The second page has at foot, *Typ., 60, Snowhill*; the third has the same note at foot, and at the head "Hic labor, hoc opus," the fourth of the set being headed "Sit Lux et Lux Fuit. Origin of Hieroglyphics, with their explanation. In the First Degree."

The first Tracing Board is light, artistic, and suggestive, some of the emblems being well known.



The second Tracing Board differs in some respects from the regular series, especially in relation to the prominent Keystone of the rather heavy and cumbersome Arch.



The third Tracing Board is, to my mind, of an interesting character, especially for reasons not to be described here. The casket was a feature of the earliest Tracing Boards known, of French usage (1730-1745), but our present 3° Tracing Board is only about 60 years old, for which see THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED for July (Bro. Sadler's valuable History of the "Emulation").



The photographs have been taken for this article by my friend, Bro. John Taylor, J.P. (Mayor of Torquay), who has had great difficulty with the third of the set, having taken it some six times. The capital letters on the square are H.A.—M.B.—T.C. 581—130. I cannot feel sure as to the figures, as though 581 would do to add another to and make say 5812, that would still leave 130 unexplained.

Bro. Woodhead and I are anxious to know if these pages are really unique.

W. J. HUGHAN.

## *A Veteran Knights Templar.*

THE subject of our portrait, Illustrious Bro. Sir Richard Howard, of Greenhill House, Weymouth, deserves more at our hands than a short paragraph in this our January number, and it is with sincere regret that we have to chronicle his resignation as Provincial Prior of Dorset, after having, with distinction, filled that important position since the 31st July, 1891, Sir Richard at that time following as Provincial Prior that most worthy Mason, John Montague Pulteney Montague.



EMINENT KNIGHT SIR RICHARD HOWARD.

Knight Templary in Dorset suffers a distinct loss by the resignation we now chronicle, and it will indeed be difficult to follow such a Prior, for Sir Richard has shown by his zeal and interest that no sacrifice of time or ability was too great when spent in the cause of Knight Templary. Up to quite recently, the Preceptories in Dorset were regularly visited by their Provincial Prior, who thus kept himself in intimate touch with the illustrious brethren and sir knights of the province. The Knight Templars of Dorset will also miss those annual gatherings at the mansion of their

Provincial Prior, which overlooks the magnificent Bay of Weymouth, and where, at those annual banquets, everyone attending was made so truly welcome to the princely hospitality of Greenhill House.

In every Degree in Masonry Sir Richard has taken an active interest and prominent part, and the valuable services rendered by him have been constantly recognised. Sir Richard is a member of Supreme Council Ancient and Accepted Rite, 32°, and is a Past Most Wise Sovereign of Weymouth Rose Croix Chapter, No. 4.

In the Craft, the Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed him in 1888 to the position of Junior Grand Deacon, and the Grand Superintendent the same year appointed him to distinguished rank in Grand Chapter, Sir Richard having, previously to this, held the offices of Senior Grand Warden of Dorset and Past Master in All Souls Lodge, No. 170, Weymouth, also Grand H. in Provincial Grand Chapter of Dorset and M.E.Z. of All Souls Chapter.

The Mark Degree also had his sympathy and warm support, and from 1882 to 1894 we find him filling the important post of Deputy Provincial Grand Mark Master of Dorset.

Sir Richard holds considerable voting power in all the great Masonic Charities. He is a Vice-Patron to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, a Vice-President to the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, a Life Subscriber to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and a Vice-President of the Dorset Masonic Charity.

With such a Masonic record, it is not a matter of surprise to find in Sir Richard a worthy citizen, and one who has given both time and talents for the benefit of his town and all that concerns its best and truest interests. He was seven times elected Mayor of the ancient Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and was for many years an Alderman of the Borough, and is also a Justice of the Peace. Sir Richard is one of the very few still remaining whose knowledge is often sought for in matters affecting Weymouth in the olden times, and perhaps it may not be too much to say he is *the* authority on these matters.

On the 29th May, 1886, Her late Majesty Queen Victoria of honoured memory marked her appreciation of Sir Richard's worth by conferring upon him the honour of knighthood, and in 1894 we find Sir Richard resigning his position as an Alderman of the Borough, and at the same time its Mayor for the seventh time, in order to fill the honourable and responsible post of Town Clerk, the duties of which office he still continues to discharge.

Although our illustrious Bro. Sir Richard Howard is retiring from the position of Provincial Prior of Dorset, we trust it may be many years before we shall have to miss him from the Masonic gatherings in London and the provinces, and we pray the Most High to grant that he may enjoy a well-earned rest in his partial retirement from the more active duties of this ever-busy age.

## *Installation Meeting of the Port Natal Lodge, No. 738.*

THE installation meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Hall, Smith Street, Durban, Natal, on the 11th December, when there was a large gathering of members and visitors. The installation ceremony was performed in an efficient manner by Bro. A. N. Scott, I.P.M., D.G.D. of C., who also gave the customary proclamations. Bro. T. J. Harding, P.M., having been installed, in lucid terms explained the jewels to each officer on his investment, and the usual addresses to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and brethren were given by Bro. W. J. Marriott, P.M., D.G.D.

The following officers were invested by the Worshipful

Master :—Bros. T. Wallace, S.W. ; A. V. Bulstrode, J.W. ; A. N. Scott, I.P.M., Treasurer ; H. Heydeman, Secretary ; T. T. Poynton, S.D. ; J. Swan-Young, J.D. ; S. H. James, P.M., D.C. ; F. Winfield, I.G. ; P. C. Culver and S. C. Smith, Stewards ; and E. Laverach, Tyler.

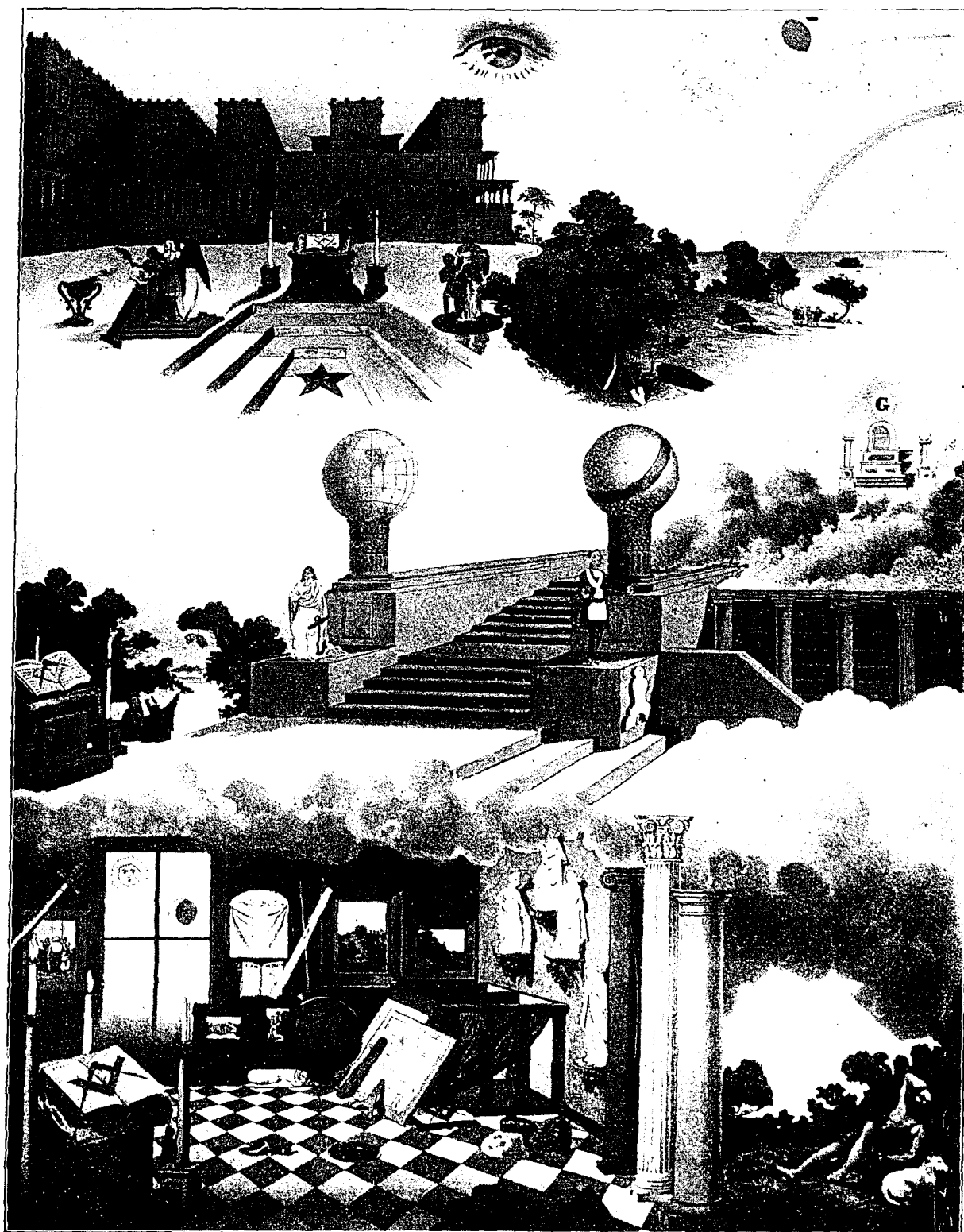
After the closing of the lodge the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, under the genial presidency of the W.M., where covers were laid for over 100 guests.

The customary loyal toasts were given and cordially received. A musical programme was provided, and the Tyler's toast closed a most successful and enjoyable evening.

## *Lodge Summonses.*

**A**MONG the many objects of antiquarian interest cherished by the Masonic student we think a more prominent place might well be given to the lodge summons. Many still in use date from a very early period in the history

there is generally a seriousness of treatment which evidences a desire on the part of the designer to put his best into the work. We give below a reproduction of a somewhat elaborate American production which possesses no claim to antiquity



of the Craft, and would more than repay the trouble of reproducing. Much ingenuity and artistic skill have been expended on these more or less prosaic documents, and although in many cases the designs are crude and simple,

but which the Lodge of Fidelity, No. 289, Leeds, prints in conjunction with its own more venerable design on the lodge summons. The interpretation of the symbolism we will leave our readers to work out.

The magnificent ball given recently at Easton Lodge by the Earl and Countess of Warwick, in honour of the coming of age of Lady Marjorie Brooke, and of the return home of Lord Brooke from South Africa, is an event which will not have been without its interest to Masons, whose congratulations to their R.W. Deputy Grand Master on the two-fold event will be heart-felt and sincere.

The Betterment of London Association deserves the cordial support of those desiring a better—that is to say, a quieter, cleaner and safer—London. Its President, Bro. Sir William B. Richmond, R.A., is certainly the right man for such a movement, and with Bro. T. Bowden Green for Hon. Secretary and Editor, the Association promises to be a most useful institution.

## *History of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement,* *No. 256.—(Continued).*

(By Bro. HENRY SADLER, Sub-Librarian to the Grand Lodge of England).

IN responding to the toast, Bro. Fenn said: Bro. Lord Cremorne and Brethren—It has been the custom for some years past for the brother who has the honour of responding to this toast to give a short history of the Lodge, and our reasons for claiming the highest authority for the ritual that it teaches, but I have been asked to change the subject this evening, and as the Emulation work has become so general, and its pre-eminence is now almost universally acknowledged, it does seem unnecessary to repeat the oft-told tale. But as I believe I am expected to say something respecting our Lodge, I do not know that I can do better than avail myself of this opportunity to answer the question which has often been put to us, "Why we work the lectures on these occasions and not the ceremonies?"



HIS HONOUR JUDGE PHILBRICK, K.C., P.G.W.,  
*Chairman of the Festival in 1884.*

Formerly the sections were occasionally worked in private lodges, but whether it be from the increase of ceremonial duties, whether it be from indifference or some other cause, the lectures have apparently been relegated to lodges of instruction, and the work in private lodges seems now generally confined to the ceremonies. The brethren have therefore so many opportunities of hearing these ceremonies that we doubt if a repetition of them on these nights would prove sufficient attraction to bring together so large a gathering as we desire to see. But a brother newly-admitted into our mysteries naturally feels some degree of curiosity to learn more of the meaning and design of the various ceremonies through which he has passed. He has heard that Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols, but when he seeks an explanation of those symbols, when he asks why he was required to do this or that, or the meaning of any particular part of the ceremonies, he is told that he must go to the Emulation Lodge of Improvement and hear the lectures, where he will have all these matters fully explained.

On these occasions he may possibly hear for the first time that Masonic Charity, in its true and extended sense, is to envy not our neighbour; to believe not a tale reported to his prejudice; to forgive the injuries of men; and endeavour to blot them from our recollection; not only to relieve the distressed (which is a duty incumbent on all men), but to soothe the unhappy, sympathise in their misfortunes, compassionate their miseries, and restore peace to their troubled minds; and that to communicate happiness to others is the truest and surest source of happiness to ourselves.

We are taught in these lectures that in the Masonic interpretation of brotherly love is comprised that grand principle of universality which is one of the peculiar and distinguishing features of our Institution, which embraces in its fraternal arms the high and low, the rich and poor, and men of every country, whatever may be their religious or political opinions. We are here told that to be a good Freemason is to lead an upright life, to be scrupulously honourable in all his dealings, to look down with scorn and contempt on meanness and deception as something that is beneath him, to render to every man his just due, and that without distinction, whether he be his equal or his servant. And while maintaining and practising impartial justice, to exercise to the fullest extent that Divine attribute, mercy, even as he hopes for mercy hereafter himself. These lectures, in fact, expatiate on that grand system of morality shadowed forth in our ceremonies, that firm and enduring foundation of our glorious Masonic edifice, which has enabled it to stand the test of ages, to survive the wreck of mighty empires, and resist the destroying hand of time. Opinions may alter, manners change, creeds rise and fall, but the moral law, the foundation of Masonry, is graven on the tablets of eternity.

To preserve, in their integrity, our lectures which embody these sublime truths, and to hand them down to their successors as they have received them from those who have gone before, is one of the duties of the Committee whom I have the honour to represent, and in thanking you, in their names, for the compliment you have paid them I can safely assure you that they are deeply sensible of the responsibility which this trust imposes upon them. For my own part I am now only a consulting member of the Committee, but while such brethren as Bro. Sudlow, who, I am pleased to see, has received the honour of the purple since we last met; Bro. Frank Spaul, our late Secretary, who has done such good service for the Lodge, and whose absence to-night from a severe accident we must all deplore; Bro. Kentish, our present indefatigable Secretary, to whom the success of this great gathering is mainly due; and Bro. Rushton, who has lately been elected on the Committee in consideration of his efficiency and zeal for the interests of the Lodge—while such brethren are intrusted with that duty, we may rest assured that it will be faithfully and earnestly discharged.

While the brethren were assembling and dispersing, Bro. J. H. Maunder played a selection on the organ of the Grand Lodge.

1892. The Committee and executive officers were unanimously re-elected to their respective positions.

At the Festival on the 26th of February, Bro. Thomas Fenn again presided as Worshipful Master, having Bro. R. C. Sudlow as I.P.M., Bros. W. H. Kirby and F. T. Rushton as Wardens.



The Second Lecture was worked by the W.M. and the following brethren:—

1st Section by Bro. H. Pritchard.	
2nd „ „ J. C. Mortimer.	
3rd „ „ W. H. Kirby.	
4th „ „ J. J. Black.	
5th „ „ W. P. Reynolds.	

About 375 members and visitors attended, 37 of whom were distinguished by the purple of Grand Lodge. A record number of propositions for joining were received, no less than 121, the candidates being all elected at the following meeting.

At the conclusion of the labours of the evening Bro. Fenn informed the brethren that Viscount Dungarvan, P.G.M. Somersetshire, who was to have presided at the supper, was regretfully compelled through illness to be absent; but that Sir John B. Monckton, P.G.W., had kindly consented to fill the vacancy caused by his lordship's absence.

On this occasion, Bro. Edward Cutler, Q.C., Grand Organist, favoured the Lodge by an appropriate performance on the organ while the brethren were assembling, and also at the closing of the Lodge.

The genial Chairman, in proposing the first toast of the evening, set an example of brevity which the speakers who followed him might well have imitated.

"The Queen who's the pride of us all, and the Craft that we practise and love."

**1893.** No alteration was made this year in the Committee nor the executive officers.

On the 3rd of February, "Bro. Henry S. Wellcome offered for the Lodge's acceptance, in token of his appreciation of the great services the Lodge had rendered to the Craft in general and to himself in particular, a most handsome and curious Abyssinian poniard mounted in silver.

"In accepting the gift on behalf of the Lodge, Bro. Sudlow expressed his thanks for this token of Bro. Wellcome's devotion to Masonry generally, and moved that the best thanks of the Lodge be given to Bro. Wellcome for his handsome presentation.



THE EARL OF MILTOWN, K.P., P.G.W.,  
Chairman of the Festival in 1887.

"This was seconded by Bro. F. T. Rushton, and carried unanimously."

The Festival was held on the 24th of February, when upwards of 400 brethren, including 44 Grand and Past Grand Officers, attended.

The veteran Bro. Thomas Fenn presided as W. Master, being the last occasion on which he filled that exalted position in the Lodge.

Bro. R. C. Sudlow sat as I.P.M., Bros. W. H. Kirby and F. T. Rushton filling the Wardens' chairs. The brethren who assisted the W. Master in working the First Lecture were Bros. Temple C. Martin, D. D. West, Henry Pritchard, J. C. Mortimer, J. J. Black, W. P. Reynolds, and W. G. Kentish; 102 brethren were proposed for joining and subsequently elected members.

The R.W. Bro. William Wither B. Beach presided at the banquet table in the large Hall, and Bro. R. C. Sudlow in the overflow room.

Bro. Edward Cutler, Q.C., Grand Organist, with his customary kindness and well-known ability, undertook the musical portion of the programme. We believe that Bro. Cutler has officiated in like manner at every Festival of the Lodge down to the present time, with one exception, when the Lodge was indebted to Bro. J. H. Maunder.

We find no mention in the minutes of the repeated and gratuitous services so freely rendered by these talented brethren, probably owing to the extra work devolving upon the Secretary, but we venture to suggest that official recognition in the shape of a vote of thanks, either on the Festival night or at a subsequent meeting, would doubtless be appreciated.

The preceding toasts having been given and responded to, the Chairman proposed that of "The Emulation Lodge of Improvement," coupled with the name of Bro. Thomas Fenn. We have been compelled by want of space, sometimes reluctantly, to omit several good Masonic speeches; others, although possessing more or less merit as oratorical efforts, have been omitted because they have no bearing on the history or working of the Lodge, but as this was the last occasion on which Bro. Fenn addressed the Emulation Lodge of Improvement at any length, no apology will be needed for reproducing in its entirety his latest effort in support of his favourite Lodge. Much of the information therein has already appeared in these pages, notably the two very important letters referring to the Masonic qualifications of Peter Gilkes, yet in view of the peculiar circumstances under which the address was delivered, and the rapt attention with which it was received, the writer would feel himself guilty of something like sacrilege were he to attempt to mutilate or subject it to alteration.

We are greatly indebted to the *Freemason* of March the 4th, 1893, for having found space for what, to the best of the writer's recollection, is a full report.

Bro. Thos. Fenn, in replying to the toast, said: R.W. Bro. in the chair,—In former years it was the custom for the brother, whose duty it was to respond to this toast, to give an account of the origin of this Lodge of Improvement and some justification for our claiming that the ritual it teaches is that which received the authority of Grand Lodge after the Union, and which was ordered to be used throughout the Craft. I have had the honour of representing the Committee on these occasions for some years, and I followed the custom up to three years ago, when I was advised to discontinue it on the ground that the reputation of this Lodge was so firmly established, and the excellence of its work was so generally recognised, that a repetition of the story was unnecessary. I am, however, this evening about to revert to the old custom for two reasons, first, because I have been asked to do so by a provincial brother, present here to-night, who is desirous of introducing our mode of working into his province, and wishes to be armed with the means of combating opposition, and secondly, because, while I have a retraction to make, I have a new story to tell, and some further proofs, in support of our claim, to bring under your notice, which, to my mind, are incontestable.

I must premise that at the Union of the two rival Grand Lodges in 1813 the method of working the ceremonies was found to differ materially, and it became necessary that a uniform system should be agreed to, which would be acceptable to both parties, and which could, without sacrifice of principle, be universally adopted. In accordance, therefore, with a special provision in the Articles of Union, a warrant was issued for the formation of the "Lodge of Reconciliation," to consist of an equal

number of so-called "Moderns" and "Ancients" under the presidency of Bro. Rev. Dr. Samuel Hemming. The duty assigned to this Lodge was to construct from the elements of both systems a ritual which should receive the sanction and authority of the United Grand Lodge.

Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, as many of you doubtless recollect, used to relate that the work was interrupted by Dr. Hemming becoming afflicted with mental incapacity, that it was left by him uncompleted; that the Duke of Sussex appointed Bro. Williams (the compiler of the new Book of Constitutions adopted at the Union) to carry on the work; that Bro. Williams undertook to do so, on the condition of his being permitted to start *de novo* from the same elements; that the work thus completed by Bro. Williams, was approved by Grand Lodge; and that Bro. Peter Gilkes became the acknowledged teacher of this work.

Now comes my retraction. I have frequently repeated this narrative on Bro. Wilson's authority, but I have now good reason to doubt its authenticity, so far at least as relates to the ceremonies. The minutes of the Lodge of Reconciliation tell us very little, not one word of the ritual agreed upon being permitted to be written; but there is a record of the names of the members, and of those who attended, and also of its labours having been completed in 1816. And we find in the written minutes of Grand Lodge of that year that the ceremonies were rehearsed by members of the Lodge of Reconciliation at two special meetings of Grand Lodge, presided over by the Duke of Sussex, and were, after some few alterations, approved and adopted, and that a vote of thanks was given to Bro. Hemming, so that there can be no doubt that it was Dr. Hemming's work that was adopted, and not Bro. Williams's. It is also on record that Dr. Hemming constantly attended Grand Lodge until 1821, frequently acting as S.W., so that his mental incapacity must have occurred long after the ritual was settled.

Some light has been thrown on the story by a letter from Bro. Broadfoot, which our indefatigable Sub-Librarian, Bro. Henry Sadler, has brought to light, a copy of which he was good enough to send me two days ago. Bro. Broadfoot was one of the members of the Lodge of Reconciliation, and the founder of the Stability Lodge of Instruction, and it is clear from this letter that the story must have referred to the lectures which were not settled for some time afterwards, for he says Bro. Hemming, after arranging the first lecture, could not be induced to go on with the second and third, and his mind after some time becoming enfeebled, he (Bro. Broadfoot) was obliged to arrange them himself. These were not our lectures, but those practised at the Lodge of Stability. This is corroborated by the fact that Bro. Peter Gilkes, in 1819, brought a complaint before the Board of General Purposes against Philip Broadfoot and others for working unauthorised lectures.

The Emulation Lodge of Improvement was founded in 1823, and was shortly after joined by many eminent working Masons who had been members of the Lodge of Reconciliation or had attended its meetings, notably Bro. Edwards Harper, Grand Secretary, who had acted as Secretary to the Lodge of Reconciliation, and Bro. Peter Gilkes, who had attained the highest eminence as an instructor, and who afterwards became Preceptor of this Lodge, and continued to hold that office until his death in 1833. He was succeeded by his friend and pupil, Bro. Stephen Barton Wilson, who presided over the Lodge until his death in 1866. It was from him many now living received their instruction in Masonry, and we have frequently heard him say, and he has repeated it from this place, that while admitting having made a few additions to the lectures, he had made no alteration whatever in the ritual taught him by Bro. Gilkes, which he always told him was the exact work of the Lodge of Reconciliation which he had been authorized by that Lodge to teach. That Bro. Gilkes was so authorized, I can now give you the further proofs with which I have recently become acquainted. They consist of two letters only, but they appear to me to settle the question without a

doubt. I must tell you that at the Union two Grand Secretaries were appointed, one of whom had been Grand Secretary of the "Modern," and the other of the "Ancient" Grand Lodge. Bro. W. H. White was one, and Bro. Edwards Harper the other, the former acted as Treasurer, and the latter as Secretary of the Lodge of Reconciliation, and attended all its meetings. The first letter is to be found in Bro. Sadler's "Notes on the Ceremony of Installation," a book which specially commends itself to all who are interested in this Lodge. It is from Bro. White, and is dated in 1843.

He says, "In reply to your letter enquiring whether any alterations have been made in the ceremonies of initiation, &c., since the late Peter Gilkes was in the country, I beg to say (without knowing at what period that visit took place) that no alterations have been made since the Grand Lodge formally approved and decided on them in the year 1816. Bro. Gilkes was fully Master of all the ceremonies, and, I believe, most strictly observed them." The next letter I found in an interesting history of Freemasonry in Shropshire by Bro. Graham, and it is, perhaps, more conclusive than Bro. White's, having been written as far back as 1818, two years after the Lodge of Reconciliation had completed its labours. It is from Bro. Edwards Harper, who was, you will bear in mind, not only Grand Secretary, but Secretary of the Lodge of Reconciliation; he says . . . "In referring you to Bro. Gilkes, I mentioned he would instruct you in the correct method adopted since the Union. It is quite useless to enquire of me 'which is correct?'; more I cannot say by this mode of communication."

You will observe that the oral tradition by which the ritual reaches the present generation from the Lodge of Reconciliation comes through only Bro. Gilkes and Bro. Wilson, many of Bro. Wilson's pupils being still alive. It is important to bear in mind that these two brethren were both possessed of a remarkably retentive memory; that they were in constant communication with each other, and were continuously engaged in working and teaching in the same Lodge and in the presence of each other, so that it is impossible to believe they could have varied the work by inadvertence. Having therefore established the authority of Bro. Peter Gilkes, I submit we have proved our case. It is a characteristic of Freemasonry which is perhaps worthy of note, because it does not seem to exist, at least to the same extent, in any other institution that at all times and in regular succession men have been found who, without unseemly canvas, have been noiselessly selected by their fellows, and as if by general consent recognised as leaders—men who, in this Lodge week after week and year after year, out of pure love of Masonry, give up their time to its teaching without remuneration or the expectation of reward, save only that of the approval at these annual gatherings of the distinguished Grand Officers and eminent leaders in the Craft who are wont to honour us with their presence and support.

For myself, I have no longer the right to pose as one of the Committee, having for some years ceased by reason of my many Masonic engagements and my increasing years to take any other part than that of a consulting member, but in returning you thanks in the name of the Committee for your cordial reception of this toast, I may, I am sure, say that they feel greatly gratified at seeing themselves supported by so large a number of Grand Officers this evening, and their gratification is enhanced by being presided over by one of the oldest, of the ablest, of the most popular, aye! I will add with a certainty of an echo from the hearts of you all, one of the most beloved of our Provincial Grand Masters. I am sure that Bro. Sudlow and the other active members of the Committee are fully sensible of their responsibility for the maintenance in its integrity of the great trust to which they have succeeded, and that they highly appreciate your good wishes as a recognition of their past, and as an incentive to future exertions."

(To be Continued).