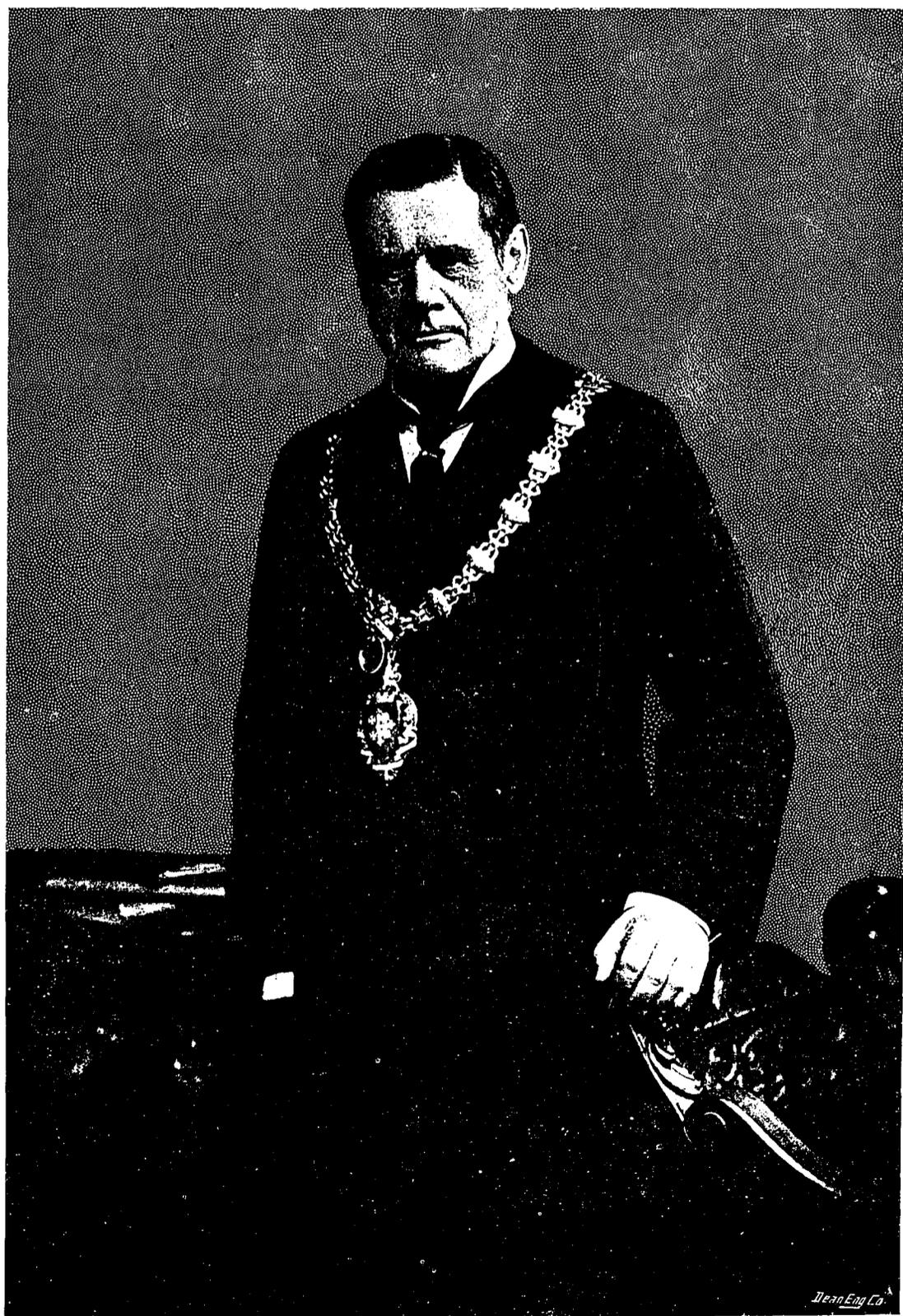


THE
MASONIC
ILLUSTRATED

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
 for FREEMASONS

Offices: 56, GT. QUEEN STREET, LONDON, W.C (Adjoining Freemasons' Hall).

Vol. IV., No. 42. MARCH, 1904. Price 6d.



*R. W. Bro. John Thornhill Morland, M.A.,
 Installed Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire, February 25th, 1904.*

Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution.

THE festival to celebrate the sixth-second anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution for Aged Freemasons and Widows of Freemasons, was held on Wednesday, February 24th, at the Hotel Cecil, and the R.W. Bro. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Provincial Grand Master for Dorsetshire, presided. His lordship was supported by a very large gathering of brethren, and also by ladies, the whole company numbering more than seven hundred.

P.G. Swd. Br.; Lieut.-Colonel George W. Dixon; V. P. Freeman; James Speller, P.G. Std. Br.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., Treasurer of the Institution; P. Colville Smith, P.G.D., Secretary; the Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Grand Deacon; Dr. Strong, P.A.G.D.C.; Thomas J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C.; Major Henry Wright, P.G. Swd. Br.; A. J. Thomas, and J. J. Thomas, P.G. Std. Br.

At the conclusion of the dinner the toasts were proposed and responded to.



R.W. BRO. THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, PROVINCIAL GRAND MASTER FOR DORSETSHIRE, CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman had a very large number of Present and Past Grand Officers on his right and left, among them being Bro. Colonel Brymer, M.P., his Deputy in the province, and Bros. Sir Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary; C. E. Keyser, P.G.D.; W. F. Smithson, P.G.D.; Major Herbert G. E. Green, P.G. Swd. Br.; F. R. W. Hedges,

The Earl of Shaftesbury, in proposing the toast of "The King," said His Majesty was the Protector of the Masonic Order, and the brethren were glad to feel that he still lent his sympathy and support to it. It was a matter of rejoicing to all the brethren and to the general public that he was enjoying robust health, and, moreover, it was a comfort to

feel that in him they had one who was imbued with strength, energy, and wisdom to preside over the destinies of the Empire in such critical times as these.

In giving "The Health of the Duke of Connaught, M.W. Grand Master," he said that brethren were fortunate in having so keen, zealous, and true a Mason to preside over the Craft, and long might he live to reign over them as Grand Master.

Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, responded to the toast of "The Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past." He said that in the absence of Lord Stradbroke and Lord Donoughmore, who were to have been present, he rose with no little diffidence as a very humble member of a most distinguished body to thank the brethren for the compliment they had just paid at the motion of the eminent brother in the chair in very kind words. It would be presumption in him to respond on behalf of the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, who shared with his Royal Highness, the Grand Master, the management of the Craft, but he said, for the Pro Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, that they were animated by every possible zeal to promote in all ways the best interests of Masonry. As to the other Grand Officers, they also tried to advance the good of the Craft, and he alluded particularly to the noble Chairman and those who like him adorned the Craft, and of whom they were all justly proud.

The Earl of Shaftesbury said it would now be his privilege to propose "Success to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution," a toast which overshadowed everything else that evening, and it overshadowed it because upon the success of this annual festival depended the provision for the comfort of their poor aged and distressed brethren and widows—those who relied on the brethren's benevolence for the comfort they would have in the latter years of their lives and for that of the widows they left behind them. It was a matter of no little surprise, while of great admiration to him, to note how great was the amount collected on behalf of these poor people at these annually-recurring Festivals. The number of brethren he now saw around him, and the amount of money in pounds, shillings and pence collected, went far to prove to him that the true spirit of Masonry was living and flourishing in the hearts of the brethren throughout the Kingdom. They must not allow it to diminish or grow dim in any way. The light that cheered must be kept burning and never allowed to fade. Charity was the essence of Freemasonry, and if men were all true and good Masons they must look to it that they were

not behindhand in responding to its call. The work that was done by the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was admirable in its quality and great in its quantity. The brethren might know that at the present time there were 226 poor and aged brethren receiving from the Institution £40 a year each, and 276 widows receiving £32 each per annum, besides 31 receiving £20 a year each for five years as half of their late husband's annuities. Therefore, to supply these amounts, a very large sum of money was required, and it was gratifying to find that at the annual festivals there was a larger field to work upon, and that more money was forthcoming for the purpose of distribution. He was sure that to-night, when the Stewards' list was read by the Secretary, the brethren would be pleased to learn that it had been accomplished. Indeed, it was an honour to be associated with such a festival, which he was sure would not fall behind the festivals which had preceded it. He felt that this result was, to a large extent, due to the untiring efforts of

Worshipful Brother Colville Smith and the brethren who had worked so hard with him that such a successful issue had been achieved.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm.

Bro. P. Colville Smith then read the list of subscriptions, announcing at the outset that there were 762 Stewards, including 44 ladies and 4 lewives, the largest Board of Stewards at any ordinary festival. The total amount was £25,425, or £14,448 16s. for London, and 30 guineas extra for London, and £10,914 15s. 6d. for the provinces. The total last year was £25,305. The Chairman's province of Dorsetshire sent £1411. The largest London total was £1,020, contributed by the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 2918. Lodge of Prosperity sent £524,

Lion and Lamb, No. 192, £315; Strong Man, £262 10s.; Old Union, No. 46, £242 11s. From the provinces West Yorkshire sent £925; Surrey, £905 15s.; Gloucester, £635 5s.; Sussex, £666; Essex, £693; Kent, £621; Middlesex, £431; Berks, £407; Somerset, £369; Staffordshire, £347.

Bro. James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C., Treasurer of the Institution, in responding to the toast, congratulated the Chairman on his province contributing £1411, and on the festival producing a record amount for an ordinary festival. He attributed the success to the Committee having taken on thirty extra annuitants last year, and their intention to take on an extra twenty-five at the next election.

Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D. (late Mayor of Greenwich), proposed the toast of "The Chairman."

The Earl of Shaftesbury, in reply, said words failed him to thank the brethren adequately for the reception

BRO. J. W. ELVIN. BRO. P. COLVILLE SMITH. BRO. DR. H. J. STRONG.



BRO. DR. J. WAYTE. BRO. JAMES TERRY. BRO. T. HASTINGS MILLER. BRO. JAMES STEPHENS.
VISIT OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO THE INSTITUTION ON MONDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 1904.
(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

they had given to the toast, but, as he said before, he considered it a great privilege to be allowed to preside on that important occasion. It was an honour he should

the Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Dorsetshire for his noble, generous, and loyal support on this occasion. The brethren would agree with him that £1411 was no



SOME OF THE ANNUITANTS AT THE INSTITUTION AT CROYDON.

(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

not easily forget being associated with a festival which would go down as a record festival. If in any small way

small achievement for a small and purely agricultural province like Dorset to send up.

Several other toasts followed.



MISS NORRIS (Matron).

MISS MARY NORRIS.
(Photo Elite Portrait Co.)

he was responsible for its success he heartily assured them he was amply repaid. He thanked Col. Brymer, M.P.,

Consecration of the Kentish Lodge, No. 3021.

THE latest addition to the roll of provincial lodges meeting in London, was made on Monday last, February 22nd, and as its name implies, is formed among Kentish men.

The ceremony of consecration was performed by the V.W. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, assisted by W. Bro. Alfred Spencer, P.G. Swd. B., P.D.G.M. Kent, as S.W.; W. Bro. William Russell, P.A.G.D.C., P.G. Treasurer Kent, as J.W.; V.W. Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; V.W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P.D.G.R., as D.C.; W. Bro. J. P. Fitzgerald, P.G. Std. B., as I.G., in a manner which made a great impression among those present.

Among the distinguished Masons present were the following:—W. Bros. Dr. Ralph Gooding, P.G.D.; James Stephens, P.D.G.D.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; Col. F. Frigout, G.S.B.; Kipps, I.P.M.; Scott Miller; H. Sadler; and Walter J. Fishleigh.

A very eloquent oration was delivered by V.W. Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., P.G. Chap.

At the close of the ceremony of consecration, the Wor. Master designate, W. Bro. Chas. F. Quicke, P.M. 1331, P.P.G.S. Wks. Kent, was installed Wor. Master by V. Wor. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, and he invested his officers as follows:—W. Bros. William Kipps, P.A.G.P. Eng., Acting I.P.M.; Aug. A. Frigout, P.M. 2041, P.P.G.S. Wks. Kent, S.W.; Bro. C. H. F. Barrett, 1531, J.W.; W. Bros. G. Procter, P.M. 1531, Treasurer; J. T. Baron, P.M. 1531,

Secretary; H. Pickett, P.M. 1602, S.D.; Bro. A. H. Fitz-Herbert, 1461, J.D.; W. Bro. W. G. Davenall, P.M. 1602, D.C.; Bro. G. Rutherford, 1531, I.G.; Bros. Thomas Woof, 1531; F. W. Barton, 1602; Alfred Jaray, 1531, Stewards.

The Consecration Officers and Wor. Bro. William Kipps, P.A.G.P., were elected hon. members.

A founder's jewel was presented to Sir Edward Letchworth, who, on behalf of the hon. members, returned thanks.

At the banquet which followed the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

In proposing the toast of "The Grand Officers," the Wor. Master expressed the pride Kentish Masons felt at having their own beloved Provincial Grand Master as the Pro Grand Master of England. Among those present that night they had the most perfect Director of Ceremonies in the person of V. Wor. Bro. Frank Richardson, whom he called upon to respond.

V. Wor. Bro. Frank Richardson, replying, congratulated the lodge upon their successful start, and for having for their Grand Master the Earl Amherst, who presided over Grand Lodge so well, and in such a business-like manner. He thanked them for the toast, and if Grand Officers gained the appreciation of the brethren they were perfectly satisfied.

Wor. Bro. Kipps, proposing the toast of "The Wor. Master," felt a particular pride in doing so, having seen him initiated in the "Chislehurst Lodge" twenty-five years ago. He was a Mason of great experience, and had been twice Master of that lodge, and always made charity and benevolence his guiding principles.

The Wor. Master briefly and feelingly replied, expressing his pride at being first Master of what he believed would speedily become an influential and prosperous lodge. He would advise all young Masons to be first good privates, as that would train them to be good officers. He would ask them all to rally round him, and he promised to do his utmost.

In proposing the toast of "The Consecrating Officers," the Wor. Master said that no words could be too eulogistic to describe the Masonic ceremony that evening. V. Wor. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth had performed his work with charming dignity, ably assisted by the other Consecrating Officers.

Replying, Sir Edward Letchworth expressed his appreciation of the kind manner in which the Wor. Master had introduced the toast. He felt quite satisfied the "Kentish Lodge" would have a great career. They had had a friend at court in the person of the Pro Grand Master in securing their warrant. They all appreciated the hon. membership, and he would place the pretty jewel they had presented to him among his rapidly increasing collection. He regretted that V. Wor. Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory had been obliged to leave somewhat early, and was, therefore, unable to reply to the toast.

The Wor. Master then proposed the toast of "The Acting I.P.M.," and felt gratified that a Grand Officer should have accepted the post. Wor. Bro. Kipps did his duties well, and was ever ready to lend a helping hand.

Wor. Bro. Kipps briefly replied, and remarked that his duties would be light, as their Wor. Master was a perfect adept at the ceremonies.

The toast of "The Visitors," of whom there were about sixty, followed, and was replied to by Wor. Bros. Col. F. Frigout, G.S.B.; William Russell, P.A.G.D.C., P.G. Treas. Kent; Henry Sadler, Sub-Librarian of the Grand Lodge of England; J. P. Fitzgerald, P.G. Std. B.; and Bro. Albion T. Snell.

The toast of "The Masonic Charities" was proposed, and Wor. Bro. August A. Frigout, Senior Warden, replying, made an urgent appeal for subscriptions for the R.M.I. Boys.

The toast of "The Officers" followed.

It will be of interest to record that this Kentish Lodge was formed entirely out of a club of instruction and from the members of the "Chislehurst Lodge." The former was established about fourteen years ago, and has had a useful and successful career, Wor. Bro. C. F. Quicke, the Master of the new lodge, being the Preceptor.

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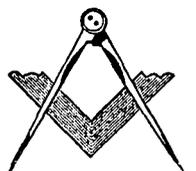
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Consecration of the Sheraton Lodge, No. 3019.

THE above lodge (which is formed mainly for brethren connected with the furnishing trades) was consecrated on Monday, the 15th February, in the handsome



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

Masonic Temple of the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London. The ceremony of consecration was most impressively performed by V.W. Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, F.S.A., Grand Secretary, who was assisted by W. Bro. H. J. Adams, P.G.S.B., as S.W.; W. Bro. Lieut.-Col. F. J. Stohwasser, P. Dep. G. Sword Bearer, as J.W.; V.W. Bro. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., P.G. Chap., as Chaplain; V.W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P. Dep. G. Registrar, as Director of Ceremonies; W. Bro. W. Kipps, P. Asst. G. Purst., as Inner Guard.

On the completion of the ceremony of consecration the Grand Secretary installed W. Bro. Roland Walter Nicole, P.M., P.P. A.G. Purst. Herts, as Worshipful Master, who invested his officers as follows: W. Bro. James J. Skellorn, Acting I.P.M.; Bros. Charles G. Dunk, S.W.; Thomas Harris, J.W.; W. Bros. Herbert J. Macfarlane, Treasurer; Amos Oakden, junr., Secretary; Bros. R. C. Lampard, S.D.; Edwin E. Salt, J.D.; Charles G. Flower, I.G.; Walter Leet, D. of C.; Alfred H. Botwright, Organist; Alfred Morris and Charles J. Thomas, Stewards. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Consecrating Officers, who were unanimously elected Honorary Members.

The Lodge was then closed and the brethren adjourned to a banquet, at which the Worshipful Master presided, supported by the Consecrating Officers and a large number of brethren. The toasts were proposed and replied to with commendable brevity. Great credit is due to Bro. Amos Oakden, junr., the energetic Secretary, for the excellency of the arrangements, which passed off without a hitch, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

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SIXPENCE.

Installation Meeting of the Pen and Brush Lodge, No. 2902.

AMONGST the numerous lodges which have been formed during the last few years in connection with the arts, literature, and the drama, the Pen and Brush Lodge may claim to have secured a prominent position. It was

fortunate enough to secure for its first Master the genial and popular Grand Treasurer, Bro. W. S. Penley. He is succeeded this year by Bro. Holmes Kingston, whose installation took place on the 20th January at the Trocadero Restaurant, the ceremony being performed by Bro. Penley.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

A banquet afterwards took place, presided over by the Worshipful Master.

The usual loyal toasts were duly honoured, and in responding for "The Grand Officers," Bro. Edward Terry, Past Grand Treasurer, said it gave him especial pleasure to be present. He regretted he had not had an opportunity of being with them during the year, having been away seeking fresh fields and pastures new; but he was glad to find on his return that the lodge had prospered, and he could imagine from the manner in which Bro. Penley had performed the installation ceremony what delightful meetings they had had under his mastership. He congratulated the lodge upon having so eminent a Past Master and so promising a second

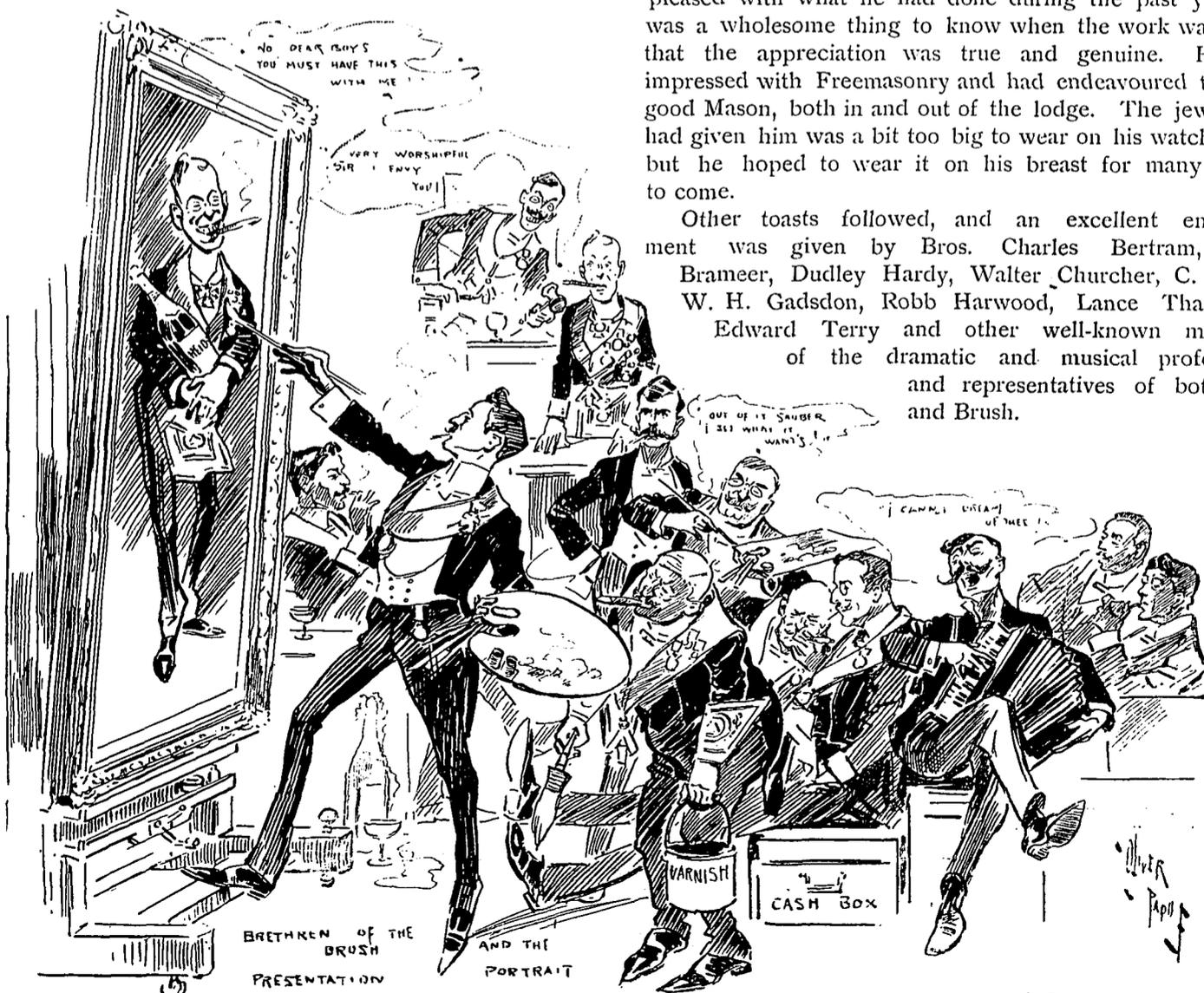
On behalf of the Past Masters he expressed a hope that the lodge would go on prospering, and that the work would continue to be so admirably performed as it had been that evening.

"The Health of the Worshipful Master" was next proposed by Bro. Penley, who said he left the chair with a full conviction that his successor was both capable of performing his duties and fulfilling his obligations to the chair. Bro. Kingston was the real promoter of the lodge, and had done the secretarial work. The lodge would not have been in existence or in its present position but for him. Theirs was a very small lodge, but he hoped the members had been impressed and would become good Masons, and he asked the lodge to support the W.M. and make it, what he was proud to say it was rapidly becoming, a successful lodge.

Bro. Holmes Kingston, in briefly replying, said that he went to Bro. Penley in 1901 and interviewed him in his dressing room between the acts, and asked him to become its first Master, and he at once consented. Since then he had spared no pains to make the lodge a success. As W.M. he felt he had as good a set of officers as any in England, and nearly all were personal friends, but he had no easy task before him in following Bro. Penley. In proposing "The Health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master," he remarked that since the consecration of the lodge Bro. Penley had been elected Grand Treasurer, and they had felt it a great honour to have the Grand Treasurer of England as their first Master. Bro. Penley had been somewhat a severe task master, but he had licked them into shape, and without his assistance they would not have obtained a warrant from Grand Lodge.

Bro. Penley said he was gratified to know that they were pleased with what he had done during the past year. It was a wholesome thing to know when the work was done that the appreciation was true and genuine. He was impressed with Freemasonry and had endeavoured to be a good Mason, both in and out of the lodge. The jewel they had given him was a bit too big to wear on his watch chain, but he hoped to wear it on his breast for many a year to come.

Other toasts followed, and an excellent entertainment was given by Bros. Charles Bertram, Tom Brameer, Dudley Hardy, Walter Churcher, C. Dixon, W. H. Gadsdon, Robb Harwood, Lance Thackeray, Edward Terry and other well-known members of the dramatic and musical professions, and representatives of both Pen and Brush.



THE PRESENTATION PICTURE.

United Grand Lodge of England.

Election of Grand Treasurer,

On Wednesday, the 2nd of March, 1904.

W. BRO. GEORGE FREDERICK EDWARDS.

WE publish below a portrait of W. Bro. George Frederick Edwards, one of the Candidates for the Office of Grand Treasurer at the forthcoming Election.

Bro. Edwards was nominated by W. Bro. Lewis Ferguson, P.M. 1997, who, in the course of his remarks, said: "At the instance of a large number of Brethren, I have the honour to nominate Brother George Frederick Edwards, Past Master and Treasurer of the William Preston Lodge, No. 766, in which he was initiated some twenty years ago. In that Lodge, from the moment of his Entrance, he was successful in not only gaining, but also in retaining the esteem and affectionate regard of the Brethren, as well as the admiration of all who came in contact with him.

"In the Royal Arch he has been First Principal of four Chapters and founder of one, and he has also held office in the Provincial Grand Lodge of Kent. I have no doubt that he is known either personally or by repute to a very large number of the Brethren present; but for the information of those to whom he may not be so known, I may perhaps be allowed to state, in indication of his Commercial and Social Status, that he is the Senior Partner in the firm of Newbon, Edwards & Shephard, which has long borne an honourable reputation in connection with Transactions in Real Estate in this City—a Firm in which the spirit and practice of Benevolence are not merely instinctive but traditional. He is the present Master of one City Company and Liveryman of another; he is a Governor

of five London Hospitals, and for many years has been a liberal and steady supporter of a long series of Philanthropic and Charitable Institutions, with the names of which I will not weary you.

"That he has been a liberal and willing contributor to the Masonic Charities I can personally vouch for, and I am confident that it will be counted rather to his credit than otherwise, that he has not regarded his Masonic Benefactions as so many stepping stones to Masonic distinction, or bids for Masonic favour, and has consequently preferred to enlist the sympathies of the lady members of his family in the cause of Masonic Charity by making them conjointly with himself Life Governors of all the institutions.

"If, as I apprehend, the privilege of nominating for the office of Grand Treasurer has been vested in the Rank and File of Masonic Laymen for the purpose of enabling them to confer distinction on some one of their number whose claims might otherwise perhaps have escaped recognition. And if here I seem to address myself more particularly to the Brethren of the Light Blue, it is for the purpose of saying

that Brother Edwards comes here essentially as one of yourselves, relying solely upon the spontaneous and unbiassed support of his Fellows, and that that support will be valued by him only in proportion to the degree that it is prompted by the sincere belief of the Brethren that he is the Brother best calculated to advance and promote their best aims and interests."



W. BRO. FITZHERBERT WRIGHT.

W. BRO. FITZHERBERT WRIGHT, P.M. of Okeover Lodge, No. 1324, has been nominated for the honourable post of Grand Treasurer of England.

Bro. Fitzherbert Wright has been a Mason for over 30 years. He is a Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden and Past Provincial Junior Grand Deacon of his Province. He has been, and still is, a generous supporter and patron of the three great Masonic Charities. Bro. Wright is a Banker and Iron Master, and a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant of Derbyshire, and has held during the past year the high and honourable position of High Sheriff of his County. At the last Quarterly Communication W. Bro. Thomas Fraser, P.M. 2488, in nominating Bro. Wright, said: "I rise with a great deal of pleasure to nominate Worshipful Brother Fitzherbert Wright for the office of Grand Treasurer of England during the ensuing year. He is a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant for Derbyshire, and has filled the office of High Sheriff of that County during the past year. He has been an active Mason for upwards of thirty years; he is a Past Grand Senior Warden and Past Grand J. of Derbyshire, has been a consistent supporter of our Charities, and is a Patron of each of our three great Masonic Institutions.



"Brethren, Brother Wright appeals to the whole body of the Craft, whether wearing purple or blue, on the dais or on the floor, London or Provincial, and without entering into further details of what he and his family have done for our charities, I respectfully submit that his position in the Craft and in the County of Derbyshire entitle him to receive the great honour which he seeks at your hands. It is, therefore, with the greatest possible pleasure that I nominate him, and I am sure that if it is your goodwill to elect Brother Fitzherbert Wright to the post for which he is so eminently qualified that election will in every way redound to the honour and welfare of the Craft."

The Provincial Grand Master of Derbyshire, His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., is the President of Bro. Wright's Committee, and he has at least 350 Provincial Grand Masters, Deputy Provincial Grand Masters, Present and Past Grand Officers, and other influential brethren, on his list of Vice-Presidents.

Bro. Wright has nearly 4000 Brethren on his General Committee, all anxious to support the principle of the Provinces having their share in the only honour that any ordinary Mason can be elected to.

One seldom hears of a lantern lecture in connection with Freemasonry, and but for the inclemency of the weather and the counter attraction at Wimborne, it is certain that brethren from all the neighbouring lodges would have attended in large numbers recently at Bournemouth to hear Bro. W. H. Reed, P. Prov. Grand Treasurer of Middlesex, give an account of a Masonic trip he took a few years since to the Cradle of Freemasonry—the Holy Land. The lecture, which was given in the Masonic Hall, under the auspices of the Lodge of Instruction, and was illustrated by lantern views, shown by Bro. E. R. Whitfield, the librarian, was intensely interesting and instructive, especially to members of the Royal Arch, and so highly was it appreciated by those who had the good fortune to be present, that the hope was expressed that Bro. Reed might be induced to repeat it under more favourable conditions, and to a larger audience.

The *Glasgow Evening News*, whose Masonic intelligence is furnished by *The Mallet*, to whom we owe our thanks for many appreciative notices of our journal, has the following observations on the change of proprietorship:—"The restrictions which were recently placed on Masonic publications by the Grand Lodge of England have resulted in Bro. Thos. Hutchinson, of Messrs. Spencer & Co., London, relinquishing his interest in THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED. In the future the publication will be issued by Messrs. Warrington, St. Martin's Lane, London, W.C., to whom the copyright has been disposed. THE MASONIC ILLUSTRATED, established three-and-a-half years ago, has enjoyed a deservedly large measure of support, both at home and abroad, and it is reassuring that Bro. Hutchinson is confident that the new proprietors will continue the publication with spirit and enterprise."

Annual Ball of St. Luke's Lodge, No. 144.

ST. Luke's Lodge, No. 144, of which W. Bro. F. J. Ingram is this year the Worshipful Master, has just held its eighth annual ball at the King's Hall, Holborn, the entire suite of rooms having been engaged. Bro. Hill's British Bijou Orchestra was in attendance, and the programme of music was excellent. The ball supper was held in the grand salon, which was beautifully decorated. The

The W.M., in responding, thanked them all, both members and visitors, for their presence in such large numbers.

"The Health of the Hon. Sec. of the Entertainment Committee" was then proposed, and was responded to by Bro. S. C. Montague Austin, P.M., who afterwards presented the wife of the W.M. (Mrs. Ingram), on behalf of the committee, with a most handsome bouquet.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.



MRS. INGRAM.

W.M. presided, and after the loyal toasts had been given, "The health of the Worshipful Master" was proposed by Bro. H. Beauchamp, P.M., who alluded to the good work he had done for the lodge.

The W.M. suitably responded, and proceeded to give the toast of "The St. Luke's Lodge Ball Committee," whose duties, although onerous, had been cheerfully taken up and successfully carried out. The toast was coupled with the



THE BANQUET.

Photo, Jarks & Co., Glasshouse St., W.

name of W. Bro. S. C. Montague Austin, whose personal efforts had been of invaluable assistance in securing the success of the evening.



THE SECRETARY.

Bro. Austin, in responding, assured the brethren that so long as he was able he should be pleased to give his services in connection with anything for the benefit of the lodge.

Other toasts followed, that of "The Ladies and Visitors," the former being humorously responded to by Bro. Austin, while Bro. Stait, P.M., and Bro. Schultess Young, answered for the visitors.

Dancing was afterwards resumed, some novelties being introduced, notably a "Full Stop" dance, and a "Bon Bon" dance. Amongst those present were—Mr. Frank C. Colliard, Miss Lily Hayes, Mrs. G. N. Guyer, Bro. Arnold Guyer and the Misses Lily, May, and Beatrice Guyer, Bro. and Mrs. Schultess Young, Miss C. I. V. Alder, Mr. and Mrs. S. Berkeley Austin, Mr. E. Lynott, Miss Gertrude Austin, Miss Charlesworth, Miss Flexman, and W. Bro. J. Stait.

As an evidence of the way in which the work of the Central Masonic Charities are being supplemented by local organizations, the Cornwall Masonic Annuity and Benevolent, the report of which, for the year 1903, has just been issued, may be taken as an example. The total receipts from its start in 1864 amount to £15,578, and the payments thereout for annuities, etc., £8054, leaving the handsome balance in hand of £7524, having an annual income of about £300, besides which some £473 have been received in subscriptions and donations, and over £500 have been paid in annuities and grants during the year.

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The Landmarks of the Order.

WHILST probably every Freemason has heard the landmarks referred to, and knows that in some way or another the Craft is circumscribed and dominated by them, the number of those who know what they are and what they mean, is probably more limited. The expression is first found in the general Regulations of 1721, No. 39, and it appears again in Anderson's Constitutions of 1723, and is repeated in those of 1738. Since that date we understand by the landmarks, those boundaries and definitions of the Craft which, having been accepted by Masons in all ages, are considered to be beyond the pale of legislation. Thus the Book of Constitutions makes no attempt to define them or

even to say what they are. There can be, of course, no limit to their number. If any practice can be proved to have been generally accepted from time immemorial and to have been adopted for a period "whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," that practice becomes *ipso facto* a landmark. Anything, therefore, that transgresses these boundaries ceases by that fact to be Masonic.

Inasmuch as we do not possess any charter or system of constitution, which, like the Mosaic law, is accepted as being beyond appeal, and not subject to any varying human interpretations, we are referred to our own history, and have to select those regulations which have been agreed upon by the great majority, past and present. Such, for instance, would be the belief in a Great Architect of the Universe, the modes of recognition, the necessity for government, the secrecy of the Order. These are points as to which there has never been any doubt, and transgression has been promptly followed by excommunication. The list usually referred to is that given in Mackey's Cyclopædia, and he distributes them under twenty-five heads. Some of these are, however, open to discussion, those for instance which describe the prerogatives of the Grand Master.

Certain officers are mentioned as being in themselves landmarks, these being the Grand Master, the Master and Wardens, and the Tyler. These are undoubtedly universally accepted, and are, therefore, landmarks. He adds the doctrine of the immortality of the soul. Now it is open to doubt whether this doctrine can be so regarded. And the admission of Sikhs, Buddhists, Muhammadans, Hindus, and others of various religions, adds to our doubt on this subject. True, the doctrine appears to dominate our ritual, but the ritual is not a landmark. The only essential parts of the ritual are the S.O., and the communication of the modes of recognition. Bro. Horsley read a paper on this subject to Lodge Quatuor Coronati some five years ago, but he makes the mistake of quoting the ritual in support of his contention that such belief was a landmark. Again, Mackey says the division of Masonry into three Degrees is a landmark. First of all we need to know what a Degree really is. If it means the communication of a fresh stock of secrets and modes of communication, then Craft Masonry recognizes five, the three usual Degrees, the Royal Arch, and the Master. But the Constitutions make the R.A. a part of the third Degree, and inferentially the Master also. There has been interesting discussion of late years whether or not there are only two Degrees, the fellow Craft being but an interlude. Be this as it may, it cannot be doubted that the rapidity with which the Master Mason's degree is attained in these days, deprives the first and second of much of their importance.

We have spoken of the inclusion of the Grand Master's prerogative as being open to doubt. The right of access to the Grand Master possessed by every individual brother is an undoubted landmark, though not included in any list we have seen, but in this respect the Grand Master is now protected by a rule of the Constitutions, which states that he shall not be applied to on any business concerning Masons except through the Grand Secretary. Doubtless this makes for the general convenience, but seeing that the Board of General Purposes, the Grand Registrar, and other advisers are not landmarks, whilst the Grand Master is, it is well that there should be some knowledge of what the prerogative is, or, equally useful, what it is not.

It has been, in days gone by, a useful way of getting out of an *impasse*, or of meeting some difficulty not provided for in the Constitutions, to assert the prerogative, just as in political history the Royal Warrant has been found similarly useful. It is not even suggested that the Craft has suffered, but it is not inconceivable that occasion might arise when the Craft needed to be protected against exercise of the unlimited.

For information, Mackey's references to the Grand Master might be quoted, they provide for his election by the brethren, and, inferentially, by their delegates. He may preside over all meetings of the Craft. This is, of course, involved in his very designation, but his powers are in many instances limited by the Constitutions. For instance, he

cannot grant a dispensation to enable a lodge to confer a superior Degree on a candidate at a less interval than twenty-eight days from that of the former, neither has he the power to permit a regular meeting of a lodge to be anticipated or postponed for a longer period than seven days, indeed, it may be said the Grand Master's prerogative is so strictly limited that he retains no power of dispensation unless in cases specifically provided for in the Constitutions.

Seeing that Freemasonry existed long before Constitutions were ever thought of, it follows that no Mason can be deprived by any Constitutional enactment of what he possessed before, and hence possibly the necessity of describing with particularity the Grand Master's extra-Constitutional powers.

This last consideration accounts for the procedure in our ritual for the admission of a candidate for initiation. He is enjoined to abide by the antient customs and usages of the Order at the very outset, and he hears nothing of Constitutions or By-laws till it is all over, and he is ready to take his seat in the lodge.

A very interesting landmark is that referring to the Tyler. A professional Tyler is now a universal practice, but it was not always, and in an old number of the *Freemason's Magazine* it is described how in an Indian lodge some half century ago, during the whole of the proceedings of an installation ceremony, the lodge was tyled by an E.A. who had been only admitted at the previous meeting. The same account goes on to say that although the Provincial Grand Lodge was officially present, it did not occur to any one to ask them to stay to dinner, and, consequently, they went away hungry, which may account for the severity of the censure with which they visited the offending lodge.



The business paper for Grand Lodge on the 2nd March is a heavy one. In addition to the election of a Grand Master, which, as it is certain to be carried by acclamation, will only take a few minutes, there is the election of Grand Treasurer, and the probable attendance of over 3000 brethren. Under no circumstances could seating accommodation be provided for such an exceptionally large number, nevertheless it cannot fail to again raise the vexed question of the capacity of the hall, even for the normal requirements of Grand Lodges. The report of the Board of General Purposes deals with many matters of interest, out of which some discussion may arise, notably, that of the withdrawal of the recommendation made to Grand Lodge at its meeting in December, that Wardens of Lodges should be excluded from the Quarterly Communications.

The next meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire, of which the Deputy Grand Master, the Rt. Hon. T. F. Halsey, M.P., is the Provincial Grand Master, will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, by permission of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught. This will, we believe, create a precedent, the holding of such a meeting at the head quarters of English Freemasonry not having hitherto occurred. We see no reason to question the expediency of the action taken by the authorities seeing that so many of the brethren comprising the Provincial Grand Lodge are resident within the Metropolitan area or in close proximity.

At the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper Street, Manchester, on the 5th February, the annual meeting was held of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic Educational and Benevolent Institution. Bro. C. D. Cheetham, chairman of the Institution, presided. The report stated that there was this year an increase of £55 over the amounts contributed by Masonic bodies and by individuals in the province in 1902, that the payments for relief, education, and annuities were £1,178, and that the total sum now invested had reached £30,000. After the report had been passed a resolution was adopted by which the funds, work, and obligations of the Institution were transferred to a newly incorporated Institution, and the trustees were directed to transfer to the new organisation all investments and property held by them. The first meeting of the incorporated Institution was afterwards held. Bro. Cheetham presided. Bro. J. B. Goulbourn, the vice-chairman, explained that the decision to incorporate the Institution had been arrived at largely in consequence of the trouble and expense that were entailed upon the death or resignation of a trustee. The fact that they possessed £30,000 of invested funds was of itself sufficient warrant for the step that had been taken. The Institution had done and was doing beneficent work. It was now placed under proper control, and was registered by the Board of Trade. He moved a formal resolution transferring the work and obligations of the Institution to the new body. Bro. Nicholas A. Earle seconded the motion, which was passed. A general committee and officers were elected.

The establishment in the metropolis of class lodges, representing almost all interests and professions, goes on merrily, and promises to become a unique and distinctive feature of London Masonry. The latest addition is the Lyric Lodge, the name of which sufficiently indicates its character, which, on the 11th February, was consecrated at the Empire Restaurant, Regent Street. The consecrating officers were Bro. Sir Edward Letchworth, G.S., assisted by Bro. Edward Terry, P.G. Treasurer; Bro. E. E. Cooper, J.G.D.; Bro. the Rev. Canon Brownrigg, P.G.C.; Bro. James Henry Matthews, Pres. Bd. of Ben.; and Bro. William Lake, Assistant G.S. Bro. W. S. Penley, G.T., after the lodge had been formally dedicated, was installed by the Grand Secretary as the first Master, and Bro. Alfred Lambert, P.M., P.P.G.S.W. Surrey, was chosen to act as the I.P.M. The officers appointed were Bro. J. Harrison, P.M., P.G.S.; Bro. James Bassett (Charles Bertram), Bro. R. B. Hopkins, P.M. 1381; Bro. W. S. Whitaker, P.M., P.A.G.P.; Bro. Philip Yorke, Bro. G. W. Beaman (George Robins), Bro. George Pragnell, Bro. George Harlow, P.P.G.S.B. Kent; Bro. P. A. Ransom, W.M. 1556; Bro. Tom G. Clare, Bro. Wilson James Lakeman, Bro. Duncan Tooley, Bro. Thomas F. Noakes, W.M. 861; and Bro. S. T. Hill, P.M. A banquet followed, and the usual toasts were honoured; a concert, under the direction of Bro. T. F. Noakes, accompanying the festivities of the evening.

A meeting of the General Committee, who have in hand the furtherance of a scheme for erecting a Masonic memorial to the late Earl of Lathom, Pro G.M. of England, R.W.P.G.M. of West Lancashire, in the form of a chapter-house to bear his name in connection with the Liverpool Cathedral, was recently held at the Church-house. The Earl of Lathom, R.W. Prov. G.M., presided, and the hon. secretary, W. Bro. Goodacre, intimated that the Cathedral Committee had received the offer of a chapter-house from the Masons with the most sincere pleasure, and that it was accepted with gratitude. It was stated that the contributions towards the fund of £10,000, the estimated cost of the memorial, were very satisfactory, ranging from 50 to 300 guineas.

The Earl of Lathom, speaking as Provincial Grand Master of West Lancashire, is considered to have struck the happy mean as regards Masonic ceremony in connection with

the cathedral. Obviously, it must be desirable that the King should lay the foundation-stone; but his Majesty cannot, now that he is enthroned, perform or take part in Masonic ceremonial. As the Masons are to erect the chapter-house to which the name of their late Provincial Grand Master will be attached, the most appropriate arrangement is that which Lord Lathom proposed. To invite the present Grand Master of England (the Duke of Connaught) to officiate at the foundation of the Lathom Chapter House will be to accentuate the Masonic interest in that part of the cathedral which the Masons themselves have generously undertaken to build.



On Thursday, 16th February, at the "Ship and Turtle," the installation took place of the "Eastern Star Lodge," No. 95, whose warrant dates back from 1764. Bro. W. B. Griffiths was installed Wor. Master in a very dignified and impressive manner by Wor. Bro. Howard Ruff, P.M., the well known and enthusiastic Secretary of the Royal Society of St. George. The Wor. Master appointed his officers as follows:—W. Bro. Herbert Riches, I.P.M.; Bros. A. C. Hughes, S.W.; F. I. Gearing, J.W.; W. Bros. A. C. Macklin, P.M., Treasurer; J. W. Wardell, P.M., Secretary; Bros. W. A. Forrester, S.D.; H. Sheffield, J.D.; J. Jenkins, I.G.; W. Bro. J. A. Keen, P.M., D.C.; Bro. Albert Jordan, Organist; W. Bro. J. M. Knight, P.M., W.S.; Bros. G. E. Grant, A.W.S.; and A. K. Turbfield, Tyler. At the close of the lodge the brethren adjourned to a banquet, for which this hostel is noted, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.



The Masonic fraternity in Woking, Surrey, will learn with considerable satisfaction that the enthusiastic and popular Secretary of the Woking Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Bro. D. C. Robinson, was installed on Saturday, 13th February, W. Master of the London Lodge, No. 108, which was founded in 1760, and has known many vicissitudes. The installation ceremony was performed by W. Bro. William Simpson, the retiring Master, in a highly creditable manner, in the presence of a large number of London and Provincial brethren. Judging from the enthusiastic spirit of the officers and the propositions which were made on that evening, we should say that the lodge is again on the high road to prosperity.



A presentation, unique in the annals of Folkestone Freemasonry, took place at the Masonic Hall, on Wednesday, February 10th. Bro. G. Butcher, who has for many years past acted as Tyler to all the Masonic lodges held in Folkestone, Hythe, and Sandgate, attained his 70th birthday, and the Masons of the three towns united in subscribing to present to him a handsome testimonial. Bro. C. J. Saunders acted as treasurer of the fund, and Bro. W. Francis as secretary, and it was due to their efforts that a very substantial sum was raised. Brethren (numbering nearly 100) from Folkestone, Dover, Hythe, and Sandgate, were present to witness the presentation, which took the form of a portrait of the recipient and a purse of money, and was made by his Worship the Mayor (Bro. G. Peden), who, in doing so, alluded to the high esteem in which Bro. Butcher was held by all the Masons in the district. In expressing his thanks, Bro. Butcher pointed out that with very few exceptions he had prepared all the brethren present for initiation into Masonry. In addition to the high praise bestowed on Bro. Butcher, many others of those present also spoke in a similar strain.



It appears that the question of the multiplication of lodges is now exercising the minds of our Scotch brethren as it has for some time past that of the English Craft, especially in the metropolis. At present there are eight Masonic lodges in Dundee, but the difference between the existing organisations and the proposed new one is that the latter was to be a "temperance" lodge, and it is apparently

on this score that a cleavage has occurred. The Hon. Charles M. Ramsay, the Grand Master, was approached, and it is understood that he had expressed willingness to issue a charter.



By a considerable section of the Craft in Dundee, however, the movement has not been received favourably, a belief existing that such a new organisation would be detrimental to existing lodges, inasmuch as many candidates who would join one or other of these lodges would be attracted to the new lodge. Masters of quite a number of the lodges in Dundee had a conclave, when the feeling was clearly against the new movement, and preliminary steps were taken for opposing it at the Grand Lodge meeting. In one lodge a vote was taken, and representatives were appointed to attend Grand Lodge and resist the granting of the charter.



There can necessarily be no strictly defined limit drawn as to what number of lodges should exist in proportion to the population of a city or district. Masonry is either a good thing or it is not, and if it be, as we all believe, a good thing, let us welcome not only the duly qualified candidate, but the creation of fresh centres of Masonic interests wherever and whenever it can be shown that a new lodge is likely to be of service to the cause of Masonry.



A correspondent of the Johannesburg "Masonic Review," in writing to that paper in support of the proposal to establish a Sovereign Grand Lodge for the Transvaal, goes on to deliver himself of the following amazing statement:—"Recently the Provincial Grand Lodges, especially of Lancashire and Yorkshire, prevented the Grand Lodge in London from committing a grave blunder. It was proposed to farm out the liquor traffic at the Masonic Temple for fifty years to Messrs. Spiers and Pond, but thanks to the astute justness of the Duke of Newcastle, who presided, it was not carried."



The writer had not even then exhausted his tale of woe, for he goes on to say—"Then, again, in connection with the Masonic Institutions for Girls and Boys, it was found on enquiry that it was costing us double per head for the education of our boys and girls as compared with other similar institutions. Immediate steps were taken in the provinces to supply the education locally, and the 22nd Annual Report for Leeds will show, that after meeting all just claims, £0,000." Comment on such a farrago of nonsense would be thrown away, but seriously it is inconceivable that the conductors of a Masonic journal should give it publicity.



We are gratified to find in the address of Bro. E. T. D. Chambers, Past Grand Master of Canada, the following pertinent remarks on questions of the indiscriminate admission of candidates:—A misapprehension of the true principles upon which Masonry is founded, and a misunderstanding of what really constitutes Masonic strength and progress is often responsible for much grievous injury to the Craft. Inexperienced Masons, accustomed to the methods of the different fraternal benefit associations, seem to regard numbers as one of the essentials of Masonic existence, and to consider it a matter of loyalty to the Craft to act more or less directly as missionary experts for increasing the membership of their respective lodges. This result is that deplorable cheapening of Masonry of which we hear so much in these days. It cannot be too strongly condemned. The financial abilities of our members, if they have been properly selected, ought to be such that their annual dues should be amply sufficient to insure the maintenance of our lodges, even without the admission of new members."

Installation Meeting of the Savage Club Lodge, No. 2190.

THE installation meeting of this most successful lodge was held at Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday, the 2nd of February. In the unavoidable absence of the Worshipful Master, Bro. R. Bowdler Sharp, the installation ceremony was impressively performed by Bro. E. E. Peacock, P.M.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

them from Earl Amherst, the Pro-Grand Master, and the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, the Deputy Grand Master, and he need hardly say that it was absolutely true; it was this, "That they wished to their W.M. a very happy year of office, and they hoped and believed that his year as W.M. would be marked by hard work, good work, and popular work, and that he would be ably assisted and thoroughly supported by his officers." That was a very happy evening for him. It was the first time he had had the pleasure of visiting the lodge. The working was excellent, and he had found there many old brethren in Masonry, and they had asked him to wish them all every good and fraternal wish, trusting that it would not be long before they met again.

Bro. E. E. Peacock, the Installing Master, proposed the toast of "The Worshipful Master," who, in reply, said he was deeply grateful to Bro. Peacock for the graceful way in which he had proposed the toast, and for the hearty way in which they had received it. He thought there was no position in Masonry more gratifying than the Mastership of a lodge; he should do his best to keep up the traditions, high repute, and prestige of the lodge, and with such officers as he now had he did not think he could fail. He should like to say a few words about their dear mother lodge, or perhaps he should say their dear young lady, as she was only eighteen. They were going to wake her up, and he thought, with the

The newly-installed Master then appointed and invested his officers as follows:—Bros. W. S. Penley, G. Treas., S.W.; Crandon D. Gill, J.W.; Edward E. Peacock, P.M., Treasurer; Eugene Barnett, P.M., Secretary; Holmes Kingston, S.D.; Rob Sauber, J.D.; W. J. Ebbetts, P.M., D. of C.; Lovett King, Organist; and P. N. Hasluck, I.G. The lodge was honoured by the presence of a number of distinguished guests, including Bros. the Hon. Sir Thomas T. Bucknill, Prov. Grand Master of Surrey; Lord Athlumney; John Strachan, K.C., G. Reg.; Frederick West, P.G.D., Dep. P.G.M. Surrey; Charles Belton, P.G.D.; J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D.C.; C. F. Matier, P.D.G.D.C.; J. Lewis Thomas, P.A.G.D.C.; R. T. Pigott, P.A.G.D.C.; J. Percy Fitzgerald, P.G. Std. Br.; and many others.

At the banquet, which was served at the Freemasons' Tavern, the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured.

Bro. the Hon. Sir Thomas T. Bucknill, in replying for "The Grand Officers," said he had a message to deliver to



THE "SAVAGE" WIGWAM (designed by the Worshipful Master).

assistance of the Grand Treasurer, of whom he was very proud, with the good sense and judgment of their esteemed Treasurer, with an energetic Secretary—and much depended upon him—and with an accomplished staff of officers, he thought they should be able to rouse the lodge to a better

sense of her duties and responsibilities. They knew that "it is not in mortals to command success, but we'll do more, we'll deserve it."

The toast of "The Allied Lodges," the Asaph, Gallery, Drury Lane, and Eccentric, was responded to by Bro. H. L. Bell, the present Master of the Gallery Lodge, and that of "The Visitors" by Bro. H. Lashmore.

Bro. Sir John Somers Vine, in replying on behalf of "The Past Masters," said his primary

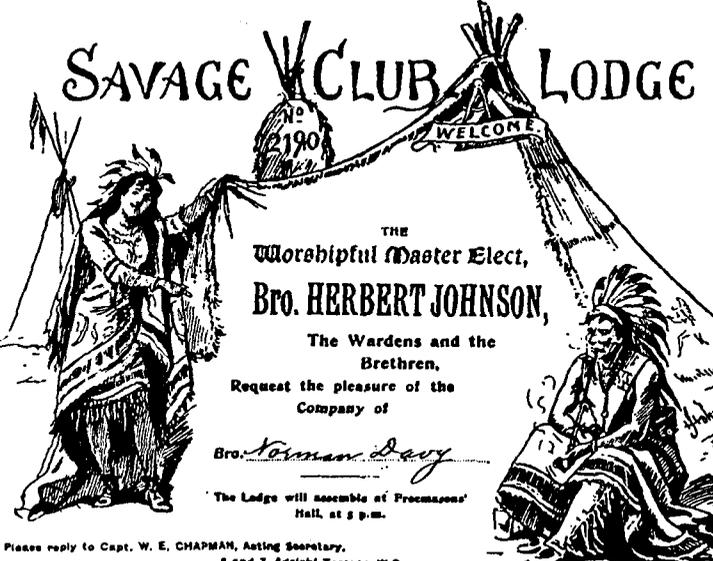
SAVAGE CLUB LODGE, No. 2190.
INSTALLATION BANQUET
 At Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, February 2nd, 1904, at 6.30 p.m.
 The Lodge will assemble at Freemasons' Hall, at 8 a.m.
 Admit Bro. *Norman Davy*
 Introduced by *Bro. John Somers Vine*
 Please bring this Counterfoil with you.
 No. **93**



2190

INSTALLATION . . .
. . . BANQUET
 AT
FREEMASONS' TAVERN,
 Great Queen Street, W.C.,
 ON
Tuesday, February 2nd, 1904
 AT 6.30 P.M.

SAVAGE CLUB LODGE



THE
Worshipful Master Elect,
Bro. HERBERT JOHNSON,
 The Wardens and the
 Brethren,
 Request the pleasure of the
 Company of
Bro. Norman Davy

The Lodge will assemble at Freemasons' Hall, at 8 p.m.

Please reply to Capt. W. E. CHAPMAN, Acting Secretary,
 8 and 7, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.

THE INVITATION CARD (designed by the Worshipful Master).

obligation was to thank the Worshipful Master for his kind expressions, and, secondly, for the honour they had done the Past Masters of the lodge. The Installed Masters of the lodge would never work more gladly than they would under their present Worshipful Master. He would not delay them long, but he must give expression to those feelings uppermost in his mind. He had had the advantage of an unbroken friendship with their Worshipful Master extending over twenty-five years, and during that quarter of a century he could not recollect any contrary word that had passed between them. It was almost impossible to put into language all he felt with regard to him, but he would understand that no one more heartily wished him a successful year of office than the Past Masters and himself.

The W.M. next proposed "The Officers" in suitable terms, and V.W. Bro. W. S. Penley, G. Treas., S.W., in response, said that replying to the toast was, of course, a very great

pleasure, but he must first, on his own behalf, thank them for the honour they had done in electing him as a re-joining member of the lodge. He could assure them that when he left the lodge he had sufficient reasons. He left all, with the exception of his mother lodge. He came back to Freemasonry, and the members expressing a wish to elect him was a very great honour. The Worshipful Master very kindly said he hoped to make the lodge a success this year. Of course they knew their work, and with his guidance they should make it a success.

The Tyler's toast brought a most successful and enjoyable evening to a close.

Great credit is due to the Acting Secretary, W. Bro. Capt. W. E. Chapman, P.A.G.D.C., for the excellence of the arrangements, which must have entailed a vast amount of work. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bro. Lovett King.

The Province of North Wales.

THE installation meeting of the mother lodge of the above province, namely, the St. David's, No. 384, took place at the Masonic Hall, Bangor, on the 10th February, when Bro. O. R. Hughes was presented by Wor. Bro. D. Wynne Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.—the oldest Past Master of the lodge—and ably installed by the outgoing Master, Wor. Bro. J. Hughes, assisted by Wor. Bros. W. P. Matthews, P.M., P.P.G.D. of Cers.; D. Wynne Williams, P.M., P.P.J.G.D.; and Richd. A. Gregory, P.M., P.P.A.G. Dir. of Cer. There was an unusually large and distinguished gathering of brethren, including the Right Wor. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. Grenville-Williams, Bart.; the Past Dep. Prov. Grand Master; W. Bro. Colonel Hy. Platt, C.B., P.G.D. England; Wor. Bro. T. Westlake-Morgan, P.M., P. Grand Orgt. England; and representatives of many lodges of N. Wales.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

The St. David's, No. 384, is the premier lodge of N. Wales, and the Mastership is justly considered a great honour. The warrant of this lodge dates from 1826. The jubilee celebration took place in 1877. The W.M. invested his officers as follows:—Wor. Bro. J. Hughes, I.P.M.; Bro. W. G. Williams, S.W.; Bro. G. F. Ainger Williams, J.W.; Bro. the Rev. Morris Griffith, Chaplain; Wor. Bro. W. McKenzie Williams, P.M., Prov. J.G.D., Treasurer; Wor. Bro. W. Price-Smith, P.M., P. Prov. Asst. G. Purst., Secretary; Bro. R. M. Muir, S.D.; Bro. O. E. Thomas, J.D.; Wor. Bro.

W. P. Matthews, P.M., P. Prov. G.D. of Cer., D. of C.; Bro. Harold W. Savage, Asst. Secy.; Bro. Herbert King, Orgt.; Bro. Wm. Jones, I.G.; Bros. R. W. Parry, Wm. Gegarty, J. Humphreys, Ivor Jarvis, and W. H. Worrall, Stewards; Bro. S. T. Harris, Tyler; and Wor. Bro. Richd. A. Gregory, P.M., P. Prov. Asst. G. Dir. of Cers., Charity Representative.

After the ceremony the W.M. addressed the I.P.M., and presented him with a beautiful P.M.'s jewel, and the I.P.M. suitably replied.

A banquet afterwards took place at the British Hotel.

The W.M., in giving the toast of "The Rt. Wor. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Sir W. Grenville-Williams, Bart., the Dep. Prov. G. Master, and the Prov. G. Officers, Present and Past," made reference to the honour extended to him that day by having the Prov. Grand Master present at his installation, and hoped he had been pleased with the manner in which the St. David's Lodge had carried out its duties. The W.M. also made reference to the Dep. G. Master of the province, who, he said, had gained the high position he held by his untiring zeal and devotion to Masonry, more especially during the many years he was Prov. G. Secy.—the Dep. G.M.'s name was a household one among Masons in the province. The W.M. also referred to the very old Past Masters of the lodge who were present, and who had some of them held office in the province quite 40 years ago.

The I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," laid stress on the fact that Wor. Bro. O. R. Hughes had served 12 months in every office in St. David's Lodge, and always proved himself to be a most efficient officer, and the enthusiasm shown that day was sufficient proof of his popularity. It had given him the greatest possible pleasure to install Bro. Hughes, who was one of his oldest friends.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm.

Afterwards the W.M. replied, and said it was truly impossible to respond to a toast which had been given and received with such feeling. He felt a good deal was expected of a W.M., and whether he could come up to their expectations was a question. He thanked his officers and the brethren of St. David for electing him unanimously to the W.M.'s chair of the oldest lodge in the province. He hoped to be able, at the termination of his year of office, to hand over to his successor the warrant of St. David in the same pure condition it had that day been entrusted to his care.

The toast of "The Visitors" was given by W. Bro. D. Wynne Williams, P. Prov. J.G.D., the oldest P.M. of the lodge, and was responded to by Wor. Bro. Guest, P.M. St. Cybi, and others.

The musical programme was beautifully rendered by the "Cathedral Quartette Party," under the direction of Bro. Wm. Jones, I.G. The part songs were highly appreciated by all, especially by the visiting brethren.

The Tyler's toast brought one of the most interesting and successful installation meetings to a close.

Freemasonry in Chili.

THE Grand Lodge of England is represented in Chili by only one lodge, Harmony, No. 1411, which was founded about 30 years ago, and whose fortunes have flowed and ebbed with the tides, and are now flowing again. The present



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

W.M. of the Lodge, Bro. Coghill, has recently been on a visit to this country, visiting lodges both in England and

Scotland. He is the first Master who has obeyed the summons to attend a Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge; which, considering the length of the cable which attaches the lodge to its parent, is scarcely to be wondered at.

Harmony Lodge occupies a very prominent position in Masonry in Valparaiso, where also the Grand Lodge of Chili has its headquarters, as also subordinate lodges under the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Mass., U.S.A. The pioneer lodge in Valparaiso is Bethesda, under the Grand Lodge of Mass., U.S.A., and its charter dates 1853. Then follows the Royal Arch Chapter, also with charter from U.S.A. dated 1865. The Lodge Star and Thistle under the Grand Lodge of Scotland comes next, but for some years it was in recess, and it is only comparatively recently that it has again started work.

"Harmony" is consequently the youngest of the English speaking lodges, but notwithstanding this it has wielded a powerful influence amongst the Masonic fraternity in Chili, and continues to exercise that influence in a beneficial manner. The lodge possesses two votes in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, and has a girl being educated there (Miss J. Jacobs.) It also possesses one vote in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, and the settled purpose of the lodge is to continue accumulating those votes from time to time as opportunity and financial ability permit.

Bro. Coghill has had a warm reception here, and has been the recipient of many honours, especially in Edinburgh, in the higher degrees, as well as being the Com. from the U.S.A. as Deputy General Grand Master for Chili of Royal and Select Masters, and is loud in his expression of gratitude for the kind attentions shown him by all friends in London and elsewhere throughout England, taking all kindnesses shown him as favours and honours for his lodge.

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Some Memorials
of the
Globe Lodge, No. 23, and of the "Red Apron."

(BY HENRY SADLER.)

ANOTHER influential brother of the "Antient" fraternity was Robert Gill, who joined the Globe Lodge in 1797, and served as its Grand Steward in 1799. He was Junior Grand Warden of the Antient Grand Lodge in 1795, and Senior Grand Warden from 1796 to 1801, with the exception of the year 1797. You now have my reasons for crediting this Lodge with having done good service in reconciling the two great rival Masonic societies, and thus paving the way to the union of all English Masons under one head. It captured the principal officers in the camp of the enemy, but they were willing captives, and evidently did not regret their captivity, for two out of the six mentioned continued



PETER WILLIAM GILKES, P.M. OF THE GLOBE LODGE.

members of the Lodge long after the union, until their death in fact. It is not improbable that some of the rank and file were also captured, but the absence of an alphabetical list of members renders identification somewhat difficult.

THE FUND OF CHARITY, NOW THE FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

In the Freemasons' Calendar, under the head "Remarkable Occurrences in Masonry," will be found, "Committee of Charity established 1725." At first sight there does not appear to be anything particularly remarkable in the formation of a Committee of Charity in connection with Freemasonry, but in those days it was doubtless considered very remarkable indeed, and it certainly was a most important event.

Prior to this period when it was desired to relieve a distressed brother to a larger extent than could be done by his own Lodge, his case was brought before the Grand Lodge, and if deemed worthy a collection was made on his behalf from the representatives of the Lodges who were present.

At this time the Grand Lodge had no funded property whatever, nor any source of income, there were no paid officials, and the working expenses were borne by the Grand Master for the time being.

It was not until 1730 that Lodges paid a fee for being Constituted, and then it was only Two Guineas to the Fund of Charity. The Earl of Dalkeith, Grand Master, 1723-4, is credited with having conceived the idea of establishing a permanent Fund for the relief of the distressed, at any rate he brought the subject before the Grand Lodge in 1724. A Committee was subsequently appointed, and at once proceeded to draw up a code of Rules applicable to the new Fund. Notwithstanding that several appeals were made to the brethren in Grand Lodge in the meantime, it was not until 1729 that the first contributions were received, when on the 27th of November, in response to an earnest exhortation from the Deputy Grand Master, five brethren, whose names are given, handed to the Treasurer the several sums they had collected in their Lodges. The total amount was £9 8s. 6d., of which the Lodge, now called the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 2, contributed £4 10s., the other four, £4 18s. 6d. between them. Of these four two are still in existence, they are the Fortitude and old Cumberland Lodge, No. 12, and the Royal Alpha Lodge, No. 16. A month later, on St. John's Day, 27th of December, a marked improvement was evinced, 17 Lodges contributing between them £41 0s. 6d., more than half of which came from Lodge No. 2, now the Royal Somerset House and Inverness Lodge, No. 4. This Lodge, at that time, was by far the most numerous as well as the most aristocratic Lodge in the Order, and it headed the list with £22 2s.

Amongst the other contributions, ranging from £3 down to 10s. 6d., is one from the Lodge at *The Half Moon* in Cheapside, £1 1s. 6d. It will, therefore, no doubt, be some little gratification to the brethren to know that this venerable Lodge was one of the earliest to assist in establishing that Grand Fund of Charity which has enabled us to do so much to alleviate the sufferings and relieve the necessities of the worthy, but unfortunate members of our Order, and from which Fund no less a sum than £12,705 has been disbursed during the past year by the Board of Benevolence, exclusive of £117 16s. from another source in casual relief.

SOME OTHER CELEBRITIES OF THE GLOBE LODGE.

In 1780 the Lodge was joined by Henry Strickland, who, on the decease of Dight the carpenter, originally employed in the erection of the Hall, took up the work and carried it to completion. In the minutes of the Hall Committee he is referred to as the Society's carpenter, and an order was given that no carpentering work should be done on the premises except under his supervision. He was also employed as supervisor, or clerk of the works, at the rebuilding of *The Freemasons' Tavern* in 1789, but died before it was finished.

Probably no man was better known, or more highly respected, in metropolitan Masonry during the latter part of the 18th century, and the early part of the 19th, than Peter William Gilkes the celebrated Masonic Instructor. The writer of his biography says he was born in 1765, was baptised a member of the Catholic Church, and named after Lord Petre (Grand Master 1772-76), who had been an excellent friend to his family. The same authority states that he was received into Masonry in the British Lodge in 1786, but the Grand Lodge Register gives the year of his initiation as 1794, and this is probably correct. He joined the Globe Lodge in 1798, and continued a subscribing member until about a

year before his death in 1833. His name is not on the Register of the British Lodge in 1814, and we have no means of ascertaining the period of his membership of that Lodge. It seems, however, that the "Globe" was his favorite Lodge, although he joined several others and served the office of Master in all of them.



GEORGE SHILLIBEER, MEMBER OF THE GLOBE LODGE.

An engraved portrait drawn by his friend, John Harris, of Tracing Board fame, published in 1820, bears the following inscription: "To the Globe Lodge of Freemasons, No. 25. This portrait of one of their Past Masters, is, with their permission, most respectfully Dedicated by their most Obedient Servant, Brother Jno. Harris." The portrait, of which the accompanying is a reduced copy, is said to have been a striking likeness.

In 1822 he was presented by some of his pupils with a handsome Past Master's jewel set with brilliants, which he had intended to bequeath to Br. Meyer of the Globe Lodge, but that brother having pre-deceased him, he left it to another of his pupils, Bro. Key, also a member of this Lodge, whose fame as a teacher of Masonry is said to have been nearly equal to that of Gilkes himself. This Jewel ultimately became the property of the Percy Lodge, which Lodge was good enough to allow me to have it for reproduction in my recent history of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, in which a short sketch of the life of Peter Gilkes appears.

In 1888, while seeking information relative to the Installation Ceremony, I was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of a venerable brother who had been on terms of personal intimacy with Peter Gilkes, and had worked with him in various Lodges of Instruction. This was the late John Canham, Past Master of the Lodge of Honour and Generosity, who was initiated in that Lodge as far back as 1825. As Master of his mother Lodge he attended the meetings of the authorized Board of Installation appointed by the Duke of Sussex in 1827, and was, therefore, able to give most valuable information on the subject of my search, as well as to relate some amusing reminiscences of Peter Gilkes and other old craftsmen.

Our worthy brother passed away on the 15th of July, 1893, in his 90th year, and his 68th year as a Mason. I was, I believe, the only one of his Masonic friends who attended

his funeral in Norwood Cemetery, most of them having preceded him, and those that were left being unable to be present.

In the course of my previous address the name of George Shillibeer was mentioned as having joined the Globe Lodge in 1829, and as being the inventor of a certain vehicle used by undertakers for their patrons of the humbler class—a combination of hearse and mourning coach—one part being for those who had "gone before," and the other part for those who were "left behind."

This distinguished brother, who, I find, was initiated in the Etonian Lodge, Windsor, 25th February, 1827, has, quite unwittingly, of course, been a source of considerable anxiety to me. He is registered as a coachmaker, residing at No. 12, Bury Street, Bloomsbury. Having some knowledge of the period when the vehicle which bears his name, a very uncommon one be it noted, came into use, I considered myself justified in crediting him with its invention. But after-dinner speaking is one thing and printing your remarks is another; so before venturing into type I deemed it advisable to verify my statement.

The fame of this gentleman is based, not so much upon the afore-mentioned invention, as upon the fact of his having undoubtedly been the first to introduce that popular and useful conveyance, the omnibus, to the streets of London, and eventually all over the country. On consulting such ordinary books of reference as we have in our library, I found that the gentleman in question is generally described as "Mr. Shillibeer," and occasionally as "J. Shillibeer," but one of these works, which professes to give the fullest information, boldly refers to him as "John Shillibeer, coach proprietor." This description seemed hardly to tally with the Grand Lodge Register, but, in my experience, historians are not quite infallible, nor, for that matter, are Grand Lodge records.

Happening to have in the library a copy of Pigot's London and Provincial Directory for 1826-7, I consulted that, and found to my disgust that the only Shillibeer therein mentioned was "Shillibeer and Cavill, Livery Stable Keepers," I, however, derived no little consolation from the fact that the address there given is the same as that given in the Grand Lodge Register. Being still in doubt as to whether there might not have been two Shillibeers at the same house, I have since extended my research to that never failing source of reliable information, the British Museum, when I had the satisfaction of learning that the Grand Lodge Register is correct, and that his name was George and not John.

He was born in Tottenham Court Road in 1797, and at an early period of his life served for a short time as a midshipman in the Royal Navy, on board the *San Josef* and the *Royal George*. He afterwards learnt coach building in Long Acre, London, subsequently setting up in business for himself and building the first two omnibuses in England, which he started on the 4th of July, 1829, from *The Yorkshire Slingo* at Paddington, to the Bank. Each of these vehicles carried 22 passengers inside, with only the driver outside, and were drawn by three horses abreast, the fare for the whole journey was one shilling, half way, sixpence, with light literature thrown in. It is said that his first conductors were the sons of naval officers, and that they were succeeded by men attired in a handsome uniform.

The enterprise was financially successful until railways, litigation, and competition, drove Shillibeer off the road. He then set up in business as an undertaker, and invented the machine before referred to, thereby greatly reducing the cost of funerals.

As secretary to the committee of post-masters he took the lead in securing the repeal of the post-horse duties and the tax upon carriages let on hire. In celebration of this auspicious event a large gathering of the post-masters of England, Scotland and Wales took place at *The London Tavern* on the 10th of October, 1853, on which occasion a valuable testimonial was presented to Bro. Shillibeer in acknowledgment of his services. The testimonial took the form of a handsome silver candelabrum bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by the Postmasters of Great Britain to George Shillibeer as a testimonial of their respect,

and of their admiration of that unceasing energy by which he succeeded in procuring the repeal of the Post-horse duties, and of the assessed tax on Postmasters' Carriages, October 10, 1853."

The presentation included a purse of 500 sovereigns, and I am informed that a further testimonial, consisting of a handsome silver cigar-box and a considerable sum of money, was subsequently received, mainly from the post-masters of Scotland and Wales.

Funeral Carriage, we are greatly indebted to his only daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Mary-Ann Wyman, who is now living in Brighton in fairly good health, although in her 83rd year. This lady was a passenger in her father's "Bus" on its first journey.

Henry Ralph Willett, Esq., joined the Lodge in 1816, having been initiated in the Royal Somerset House Lodge the previous year. In the course of a long Masonic life he became a member of several other "Red Apron" Lodges.



SHILLIBEER'S OMNIBUS.

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Bro. Shillibeer appears to have been the pioneer, not only of omnibuses and cheap funerals, but of public recreation grounds also, for on the authority of a surviving member of his family we learn that by his untiring energy and public spirit, almost single handed, and at great expense, he obtained 50 acres of land in Hainault Forest as a recreation ground (for ever) for the inhabitants of Lambourne and Chigwell, in Essex.

He served as Grand Steward for his mother Lodge in 1816, and was appointed Junior Grand Warden in 1823. In 1854 he was appointed Prov. Grand Master for Dorset, his residence in that county being Merley House, near Wimborne Minster. He served the office of High Sheriff of Dorsetshire, and was reputed the best judge living of the productions of William Hogarth, his collection of originals by that artist being unequalled.



PATENT FUNERAL CARRIAGE INVENTED BY GEORGE SHILLIBEER AND NAMED AFTER HIM.

He subsequently removed to Brighton, and for many years carried on the business of an undertaker in that town, dying there on the 21st of August, 1866, and was buried in Chigwell churchyard, Essex.

For much of the foregoing information as well as for the accompanying prints of the first "Bus," and Shillibeer's Patent

He died at his chambers in the Albany on the 9th of December, 1857.

(To be Continued).

Installation Meeting of the Westbourne Lodge, No. 733.

AN agreeable impression and a pleasant memory could not fail to have remained in the minds of the numerous brethren who assembled at the Holborn Restaurant, on Thursday, the 18th February, on the occasion of the



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

installation of Bro. Frederick Beesley as W.M. The only unfortunate incident which detracted from the cheerfulness of the meeting was the absence, through illness, of the

I.P.M., Bro. E. Thomas. The work of installation was accordingly performed by the preceding I.P.M., Bro. Bagnell.

At the conclusion of the lodge business, which included the presentation of a very satisfactory balance sheet, nearly eighty brethren participated in the work of the fourth degree, after which the flow of complimentary speech and toast commenced, interspersed with an excellent programme of music under the arrangement of Bro. Herbert Schartau, Mr. George Robins exhibiting feats of memory which "brought down the house."

In proposing the health of "The Protector of the Order," Bro. Beesley was topical, referring to his Majesty's admirable work in the cause of peace abroad.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was replied to by Bros. C. A. Cottebrune and John Welford, P.G. Std. Brs. Bro. Cottebrune was able to remind the brethren that exactly 47 years ago he had been the first Senior Warden of the Westbourne Lodge, while Bro. Welford, in the course of his speech, quoted a 35 years' record in their service. He advised the Master and Wardens, if they wished to still progress, to attend Grand Lodge as often as possible.

The "Health of the Worshipful Master, Bro. Beesley," was proposed by the Installing Master, Bro. Bagnell, who said that he had been in Masonic harness with their Worshipful Master for ten years. Bro. Beesley had held already two important offices in the lodge, and it was unnecessary for him to say more than that they would have no reason to regret the unanimous vote which had placed Bro. Beesley in the chair.

Bro. Frederick Beesley, W.M., said to reply to the toast of one's health was always a difficult task, for it involved speaking about little else than one's self. He always felt that he was made up of two separate entities, the corporeal—and he put the corporeal first, for unfortunately it always seemed the most vigorous—and the mental. If he had allowed his

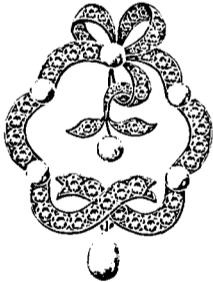
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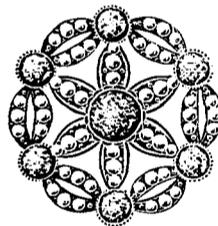
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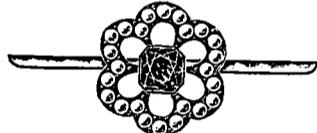
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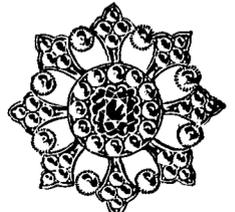


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physical feelings to have got the better of him at the election meetings, he certainly should have backed out of the position to which he had been elected. Indeed, it was only when it was represented to him that he would, in vulgar language, be playing the lodge "a dirty trick if he did not fill the chair," that he had brought his mental faculties to bear on that poor trembling corporeal entity of which he had spoken. Now, however, that he was the Master of that lodge, he should keep it up to the high standard to which it had lately attained. He hoped that the candidates for Masonry during his year of office would not be so many in quantity as good in quality. They should, he thought, look for their initiates, not in the by-ways, but in the high-ways, in order that Freemasonry, and their lodge in particular, should make substantial progress. Bro. Beesley said he would proceed to retaliate by calling on Bro. Bagnell, the Installing Master, for a speech, before which, however, he would thank him

for the way in which he had performed the duties which would have fallen to the Immediate Past Master, had he been well enough to attend.

Bro. Bagnell then assured the brethren that their thanks quite sufficiently rewarded him for any service he had been able to render them.

Among the visitors who responded were Bros. Dehane (Preceptor of the Westbourne Park Lodge of Instruction), Wise (of the Royal Warrant Holders Lodge), Lindsey, Middlewick, and others.

The toast of "The Twin Brethren" of the lodge—the Treasurer and Secretary—was fittingly responded to by Bros. J. Welford, P.G.S.B., Treasurer, and S. R. Walker, P.M., Secretary, and the reply of the Past Masters was made by Bros. Curtis and Weaver.

Other toasts followed, and the interesting proceedings terminated at a late hour.

Installation Meeting of the Langthorne Lodge, No. 1421.

ONE of the most successful meetings of this lodge since its consecration in December, 1872, took place at the Angel Hotel, Ilford, Essex, on Thursday, January 28th, the occasion being the installation of Bro. D. T. Jackson, who is well known and highly respected amongst a very wide circle of Masonic friends. Fifty-six members out of a total of eighty turned up for the event, supplemented by sixty visitors. No effort was spared by the newly-installed Master to make the meeting a successful one. The outgoing Master, W. Bro. Herbert Gilbey, performed the installation ceremony in a very able and impressive manner. The newly-installed Master appointed and invested his officers as follows:—W. Bros. H. Gilbey, S.W.; D. T. Jackson, J.W.; R. A. Harris, Treasurer; W. Pallant, Secretary; Jno. Bodger, S.D.; E. T. Dunn, J.D.; A. Taylor, D.C.; H. Allard, W.S.; Bros. H. Chowse, jun., I.G.; the Rev. H. W. E. Molony, Chaplain; Malcolm Johnstone, Organist; W. Bro. C. W. Ashdown, Tyler.

A banquet afterwards took place, and amongst the visitors present were V.W. Bro. the Bishop of Barking, P.G. Chaplain; W. Bros. J. M. McLeod, P.G. Swd. Br.; J. T. Dormer, P.P.G.D. Essex; and J. R. Johnson, P.P.G.D. Essex.

During the past seven years the lodge, which has had the advantage of the able guidance of W. Bro. Pallant, Past Master and Secretary, has had an exceptionally successful career, and is now amongst the most flourishing and best administered lodges of the district, and the proceedings throughout were a fitting culmination of the efforts so zealously put forth by all concerned.



BRO. D. T. JACKSON.

Sunday Times.

(ESTABLISHED 1822.)

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The working man to-day gives more attention to the food he has to eat than his forefathers gave, as he realises his health—his bank—depends very largely upon the properties of what he eats and drinks.

It follows, then, that the popular article of food is that which is easy to digest; but more popular still are preparations which are found to aid and strengthen the digestive organs, and also to act as an energiser for the whole system.

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It places a means in the hands of everyone to build up and maintain a sound constitution, which enables its possessor to travel his life's journey without the aches and pains which are in many cases preventable. Thus we come round again to sound common sense based on experience.

Grand Lodge of Scotland.

THE quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasons was held in the Freemasons' Hall, Edinburgh, on the 4th February. There was a crowded attendance, the hall being filled to its utmost capacity. Bro. the Hon. Chas. Maule Ramsay, the Grand Master, presided.

The following visitors were introduced from lodges abroad, and were cordially welcomed by the Grand Master:—Bros. H. F. E. Pistorius, District Grand Master of the Transvaal; James O. James, R.W.M. of "Thistle" Lodge, Bloemfontein; and the Rev. A. Chisholm, Depute Provincial Grand Master of Manitoba. The Grand Master, in addressing the South African representatives, said they were always very pleased to see present those who worked for the Craft at a distance, and who showed their zeal for Freemasonry, by sacrificing their own convenience for the purpose of informing them with regard to the success of Freemasonry in other parts of the world. It was not a very long time since Grand Lodge had appointed Bro. Pistorius to the office of District Grand Master of the Transvaal, and they had done so with the full assurance that nothing would be wanting on his part to cement that bond of union which should subsist between all connected with Scottish Freemasonry. The Grand Master also congratulated Bro. James on being the R.W.M. of a flourishing lodge in Bloemfontein.

Bro. Pistorius, in returning thanks, said their lodges in the Transvaal were making immense progress, and as they accepted as members no one who was not likely to be a credit to the Craft, they were doing what they could to establish Scottish Masonry on a sound footing in the new colonies of South Africa.

Bro. James expressed the great pleasure it afforded him to be at a meeting of Grand Lodge for the first, but he hoped not for the last, time. He knew they were

all interested in South Africa, especially after the great war, and he could assure them that many on both sides of that terrible conflict had good cause to thank Freemasonry for the assistance rendered them in many ways during the struggle. They had only two lodges in the Orange River Colony—the "Victoria" at Kroonstad, and the "Thistle" at Bloemfontein—but they were progressing, and would soon have a much larger Masonic strength than they had now.

The Grand Master, in inviting Bro. the Rev. Chisholm to a seat on the dais, assured him that, although in a sense he was far from home, he would find himself at home there, for they were proud to have his presence amongst them.

The Grand Master next referred to the loss which the Craft had sustained by the death of Sir Michael Shaw Stewart. He moved that an expression of regret and condolence be sent to Sir Michael's family.

Bro. James Caldwell, Paisley, seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The report of the auditor showed that the income for the year ending 26th November last was £1895 3s. 3d., being an increase on the previous year of £787 16s. 7d. The heritable property of Grand Lodge was valued at £23,500, and moveable property at £1900. The funds and estate belonging to Grand Lodge at 26th November last amounted to £53,597 5s. 6d.; there was at the credit of the Scottish Masonic Benevolent Fund £8585 14s. 8d., and at the credit of the Annuity Fund £36,356 7s. 4d. It was reported by the Grand Secretary that the number of entrants registered last year was 12,035, being an increase of 540 on the preceding year. From the beginning of 1800 till the close of 1903 there was a grand total of 307,368, being an average annual registration of 2955 during the one hundred and four years embraced in the return, so that last year's total is more than four times the average for the period dealt with. During the quarter grants were made to the amount of £279 18s. Eight annuitants died during the year, and the number now on the roll is 175, the value of the annuities being £1830.

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