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*R. W. Bro. the Hon. Sir Thomas Bucknill,
Provincial Grand Master of Surrey.*

Provincial Grand Lodge of Surrey.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Saturday, the 16th ult., at the Assembly Rooms, Surbiton. The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Hon. Sir Thomas Bucknill, was supported by a large number of Grand Officers, amongst whom were noticed, Bros. Alderman Walter Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas.; the Rev. Sir William Vincent, P.G. Chap.; the Rev. H. W. Turner, P.G. Chap., Grand Superintendent of the Province; Frank Richardson, P. Dep. G. Reg., G. Dir. of Cers.; P. Colville Smith, P.G.D.; R. Clay Sudlow, P. Dep. G.D.C.; Henry Times, Dep. G.D.C.; J. M. McLeod, P.G.S.B.; W. Baddeley, P.A.G.D.C.



BRO. J. D. LANGTON, THE NEW DEPUTY PROV. GRAND MASTER.

The business of the meeting possessed more than ordinary interest by reason of the appointment of Bro. J. D. Langton, P. Dep. G.D.C., as Deputy Grand Master. In obligating his new Deputy, Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill said he felt Bro. Langton was eminently deserving of the honour. He had been the first Master of the George Price Lodge, No. 2096, and also of the Molesey Lodge, No. 2473; he had been Secretary of the Charity Committee since 1892, a Past Deputy Grand Director of Ceremonies of Grand Lodge for six years, and a member of the Board of Management of the Boys' School for sixteen years. It was with the greatest pleasure that he offered this appointment to Bro. Langton, whom he thanked for accepting it.

Announcement was next made by the Prov. Grand Master of the appointment of Bro. W. A. Latham as Secretary of the Provincial Charity Committee, so long held by Bro. Langton, who had been obliged to resign it in consequence of the higher position he now occupied. The accounts of the Provincial Grand Lodge General Fund showed a balance of £299 3s., and that of the Charity Fund £446 4s. Grants

of ten guineas each were made to each branch of the Benevolent Institution and to the Boys' and Girls' Schools respectively. Five guineas each were also voted to the Surbiton and Kingston Cottage Hospitals.

There being no other nomination, Bro. James Andrews, P.M. 2422, P.P.G. Std. B., was duly elected Provincial Grand Treasurer for the ensuing year. The Provincial Grand Master appointed and invested the following Provincial Grand Officers:—R. H. Gibbons, M.D., 1616, Prov. S.G.W.; J. W. Sanderson, 2096, Prov. J.G.W.; the Rev. H. T. Cart, 1861, and the Rev. G. J. Swinnerton, 1872, Prov. G. Chaps.; James Saunders, Prov. G. Treas.; E. H. Armitage, 370, Prov. G. Reg.; C. T. Tyler, 1395, Prov. G. Sec.; A. R. Walters, 416, and F. G. Robinson, 1826, Prov. S.G. Deacons; Talbot Kyle, 1149, and Geo. Cowen, M.D., Prov. J.G. Deacons; F. C. Baker, 1892, Prov. G. Supt. of Wks.; W. H. Marler, 452, Prov. G.D. of C.; Wm. Rogers, 1861, Prov. Dep. G.D. of C.; C. P. Harrison, 1638, A. McCormick, 2120, and John Wortley, 2222, Prov. Asst. G.Ds. of Cers.; Major Leslie Antill, 1982, Prov. G. Sword Br.; S. J. Larcombe, 1564, and J. B. Walker, 2317, Prov. G. Std. Brs.; Edward Withers, 1149, Prov. G. Organist; W. A. Latham, 410, Prov. Asst. G. Sec.; J. G. Lane, 2146, Prov. G. Purst.; C. W. Jackman, 1046, Joseph Mee, 1714, T. R. Clemence, 2234, Fredk. Thomas, 2521, and Fredk. Mills, 2540, Prov. G. Stewards; and R. Potter, Tyler.

The following appointments were also made to Past Grand rank:—Major James H. Hawkins, 410, Charles Long, 1920, and E. S. Furber, 2095, Past Prov. J.G.Ws.; H. D. Berkeley, 1851, and E. G. Wilson, 2422, Past Prov. G. Regs.; and H. J. Keen, 2473, Past Prov. S.G.D.



BRO. C. T. TYLER, PROV. GRAND SECRETARY.

Before the conclusion of the proceedings a vote was unanimously carried on the motion of Bro. Major J. H. Hawkins, P.P.G.W., expressing the thanks of the Provincial Grand Lodge to Bro. J. D. Langton, their Deputy Provincial Grand Master, for his excellent work in connection with the Provincial Charity Committee.

Bro. Langton, in reply, said how great a pleasure it had been to him to occupy that position, and he must thank all the members of the committee for the way in which they had assisted him.

A vote of congratulation was also passed to Bro. Charles T. Tyler, the Provincial Grand Secretary, on his return to the duties of his office after his last serious illness.

In reply, Bro. Tyler thanked the Provincial Grand Master and the brethren for their reception of his efforts, and also for the sympathy that had been accorded him from the first day he had been taken ill. His thanks were due to the Prov. G. Master for not having accepted the resignation he had tendered, for it was with very great pleasure that he found himself able, in accordance with Sir Thomas' expectations, to resume his official duties.



BRO. W. A. LATHAM, ASST. PROV. GRAND SECRETARY.

The Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

The subsequent banquet was partaken of by between two and three hundred brethren, under the Presidency of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Hon. Sir Thomas Bucknill.

At the conclusion of the repast, the toast of "The King, Protector of the Order," having been duly honoured, that of "The M.W. Grand Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught," was given by the Provincial Grand Master, who said he might describe himself as the connecting link between His Royal Highness and the Surrey brethren. He hoped that the Duke of Connaught might long be spared to them, not only as their Grand Master, but also to occupy the important position he did in the country.

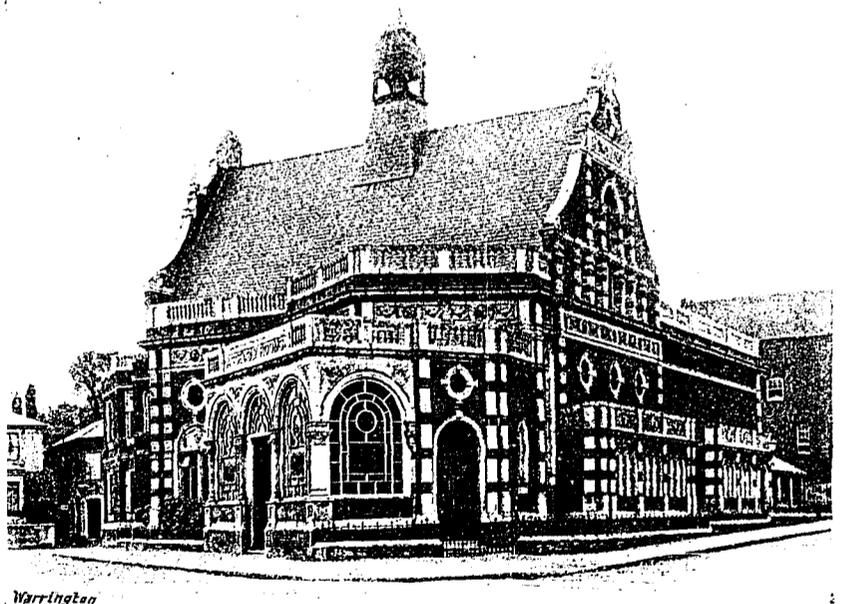
In proposing the toast of "The M.W. Pro Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers, Present and Past," Sir Thomas Bucknill said the hot weather precluded his remarks being of a lengthy nature. There was only one thing he would like to say, and that was that they felt very great gratitude to the Grand Officers. Further, he hoped they might all one day attain to that position. He would call upon their worthy brother, the Rev. Sir William Vincent, P.G. Chap., who for many years had occupied the post of foreman of the Grand Jury of Surrey, to respond, and he would also couple with the toast the name of Bro. Frank Richardson, P. Dep. G. Reg., Grand Dir. of Cers., who had assisted at his own installation and had come to have a look round at the end of the year. He hoped what he saw met with his satisfaction. If so, they were all very gratified. Bro. Richardson was a most distinguished Grand Officer, although he was not a Surrey man, and what he did not know about the Craft was not worth learning.

V.W. Bro. the Rev. Sir W. Vincent, in reply, said he was reminded by the atmospheric conditions of the German legend, which ran that tobacco ranked third in the order of creation. He told the brethren of his initiation in the Apollo University Lodge, Oxford, than which—in company with its

sister at Cambridge—there was probably no lodge responsible for more initiations. He had been in office in that lodge when the Earl of Lathom was initiated. But it was in Norfolk that his zeal for Freemasonry was greatest, and even now he was a member of the Norfolk Lodge in London. It could not but be a source of pleasure to him to go from one province to another to meet the same spirit displayed in uniting in good fellowship the lodges and brethren, and especially was it so in the present case where the province had so distinguished a ruler as they had with them that night. Sir Thomas Bucknill was distinguished in his special work, but not only so, he was equally at home when a five-bar gate had to be considered as when the exigencies of the occasion demanded a sentence of five years' penal servitude. He believed he was representing the general feeling of the brethren when he said that he was quite certain that affairs would flourish under his direction in that important province. As a representative of the Grand Lodge of England he might say they were not a little proud of Surrey as one of their constituencies, and also that Grand Lodge did not fail to appreciate the fact of so worthy a member filling the highest office in that province, the advantage of which would be felt during all the time he might be spared to serve it.

V.W. Bro. Frank Richardson, P. Dep. G. Reg., Grand Dir. of Cers., who followed, expressed his gratitude not less to the Provincial Grand Master for the reference he had made to himself, than to the brethren of the province for the very kind way they had been pleased to receive that reference. It was not the first time he had had the pleasure of visiting that Provincial Grand Lodge, and indeed he could go back to the time of the installation of the late Bro. Col. Noel Money. But the oftener he was invited to their gatherings the better he was pleased. All that Bro. the Rev. Sir William Vincent had said about their present Provincial Grand Master he could fully endorse. They were much to be congratulated on having at their head Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill. It was, he believed, the first time that one of the judges of the land had occupied the position of Provincial Grand Master. The Province of Surrey was therefore unique.

The toast of "The Provincial Grand Master" was then proposed by V.W. Bro. the Rev. H. W. Turner, M.A., Rector of Sutton, the recently installed Grand Superintendent of the province, who said that he had many times had occasion to feel properly proud of the collar which a few



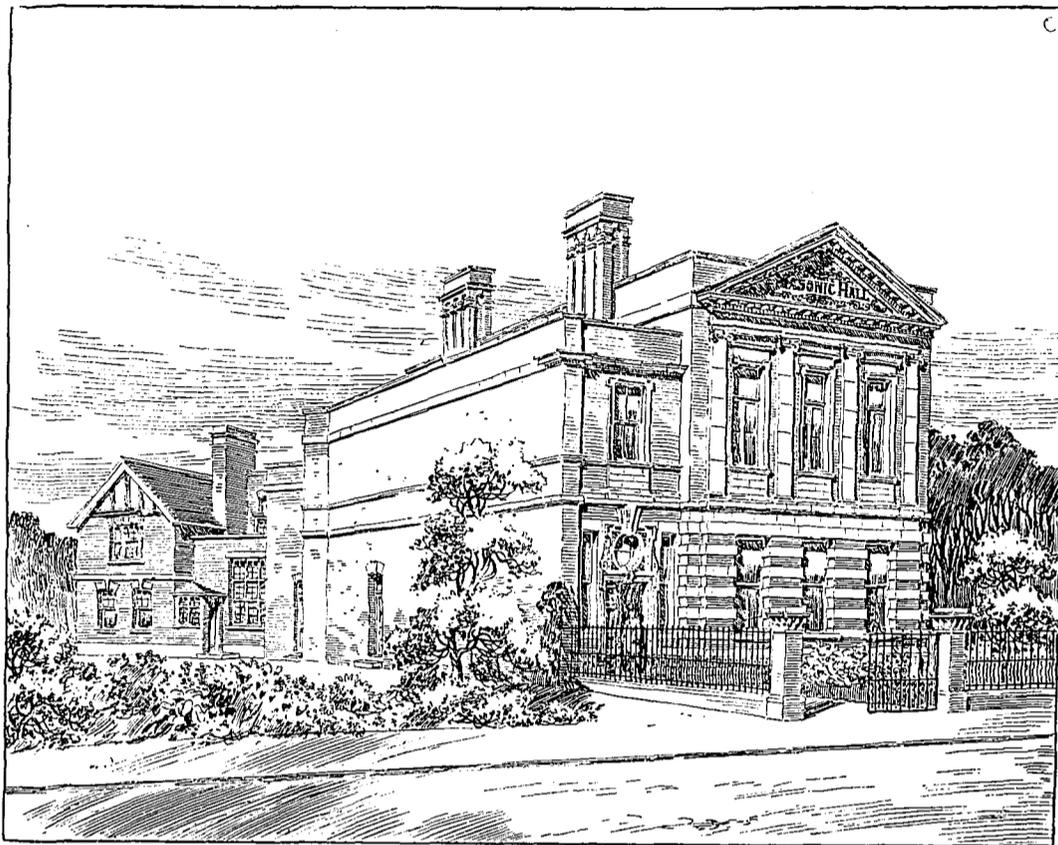
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, SURBITON.

years ago had been bestowed on him by Grand Lodge, but never more so than when, partly in consequence of it, he was called upon to propose the health of their Provincial Grand Master. He was not going to say he did not feel he had a good right to propose that toast, for his whole Masonic career extending over twenty-five years had been spent in

the Surrey Province. There had been great changes, he need hardly say, in that time, more than had fallen to the lot of the majority of the provinces. He had, indeed, witnessed the entrances and exits of four Grand Masters. None of their reigns, although of short duration, had been inglorious. There had been much trepidation when Sir Thomas Bucknill

(Bro. Bucknill) would not but feel impressed by the number of brethren present that evening, the more so that he knew that he had their unbounded loyalty, founded on the warmest feelings of respect and love.

R.W. Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill, who was received with an ovation, said he met them with different feelings than



SUTTON MASONIC HALL.—(By permission of "The Surrey County Herald.")

had been approached in connection with the Provincial Grand Mastership, for it was well known that he had many great claims on his time, and it was also known that Bro. Bucknill would not take the position if he could not give it his time. But all ended well, and brethren were now able to see the fruits of their Provincial Grand Master's first year of office. Geniality of manner, easiness of address, justice tempered by mercy, and wisdom guided by benevolence,



WOKING ORIENTAL INSTITUTE.

were all represented in their Provincial Grand Master. It had been no easy matter to take up the reins of office at a time when there was a vacancy in the Deputy Grand Mastership of the Province, and their old and valued Provincial Grand Secretary, Bro. Tyler, was laid on a bed of sickness; but they would agree with him that those difficulties had been so well surmounted that the province stood well at the end of Bro. Bucknill's first year of office. In his choice of a deputy how well had their Provincial Grand Master's wisdom been exemplified. He trusted he

those which filled him a year ago. Then he looked to them, expecting something the nature of which he had not proved, and they looked towards him also as a doubtful quantity. But now all this was changed. They could depend on him to do his best, and he had found in them a body of willing helpers only too ready to prove their loyalty. Theirs was one common purpose, the furthering of Freemasonry in Surrey, and so long as they were so good to him, Masonry would, he believed, continue to thrive there. No Provincial Grand Master could be a failure with such assistance as they had given him. The lodges he had already visited had been very generous to him, and they had received him not from personal regard, but with the regard of brethren to their Provincial Grand Master. To those lodges he had not yet been able to witness the working of, he would say he was coming! Anyhow, they had been able to do something during the year. They had formed a Senior Grand Officers' mess. He had heard laughter proceeding from one quarter of the room. Let them not misunderstand the mission of that Grand Officers' mess. It had been formed as a place of meeting where the Senior Officers could talk over at leisure the affairs of the province. Let all the brethren qualify themselves for membership of that mess. When he was a poor briefless barrister as his son now was, he looked forward to the time when he should become, well—something else. So it was when he was in a humbler position in Masonry. But it was not altogether selfish, this wish for preferment, for there was a time in the life of every man when his connection, however humble with society, brought about some good. A matter of great importance had arisen during the past year, the appointment of a Deputy Provincial Grand Master. He hoped that office had been filled to their satisfaction. Well, he for his part felt very well satisfied with affairs in the province. Having done his best during the past year, he felt he should be able to continue to do so. He felt in a very happy state of mind regarding their future. Let them live with an idea in being happy and in communicating that happiness. If they did that, their account, when they came to render it, would compare favourably with those who had not that gospel. Let them remember they were

members of one of the greatest and most numerous associations in the world, that whether they were in China, Russia, or any other part of the globe, it would go hard with them, but they would not find a Mason like themselves ever ready to stretch out the hand of friendship. A further word he would like to say to those officers who had not succeeded in office. It was that they should do their best in the circumstances in which they were placed. He wanted them to remember that they had had a happy evening, and that there would be one man of all of them who would go home extremely grateful to them, knowing as he did that with

in this respect, while the reverse applied to the other sort of lodges. He hoped that Bro. Langton would for many years occupy the position to which he had been appointed that evening, and that he (Bro. Bucknill) might live for many years to see him do so.

Bro. J. D. Langton, P.D.G.D. of Cers., Dep. G. Master, who was very cordially received, said he was sure he was saying what those who stood with him wished him to say when he thanked the brethren very heartily for their kindness. He would thank them personally also for the things that had been said, not only at that table but in lodge. Might he also express his thanks to the many, over three hundred brethren, who had sent him letters of congratulation from all parts of the province. He would like to thank all those members of the Charity Committee and others who had helped him in the position of Charity Secretary. The Charity Committee had been in existence but twelve years, and scarcely an election had taken place in which Surrey had not taken part, and with few exceptions they had always been successful on the first occasion. There were never so many applications for support for the different charities as there were at the present moment. He asked them all to work together for the mutual good of the province. He should be accurately voicing the feelings of every Grand Officer in saying that they were all delighted to assist their Provincial Grand Master in the good work that was being done for the province. Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill had said a year ago he was not going to be a figure-head, and he had proved that assertion to be true. There had not been a detail too small in that province for him to give his personal and careful attention to.

Bro. Charles Tyler, P.A.G.D.C., Prov. G. Secretary, added a few words with regard to his pleasure at being once more amongst them.

Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill gave the toast of "The Visitors," coupled with the name of V.W. Bro. Alderman Vaughan Morgan, P.G. Treas., who fittingly responded.

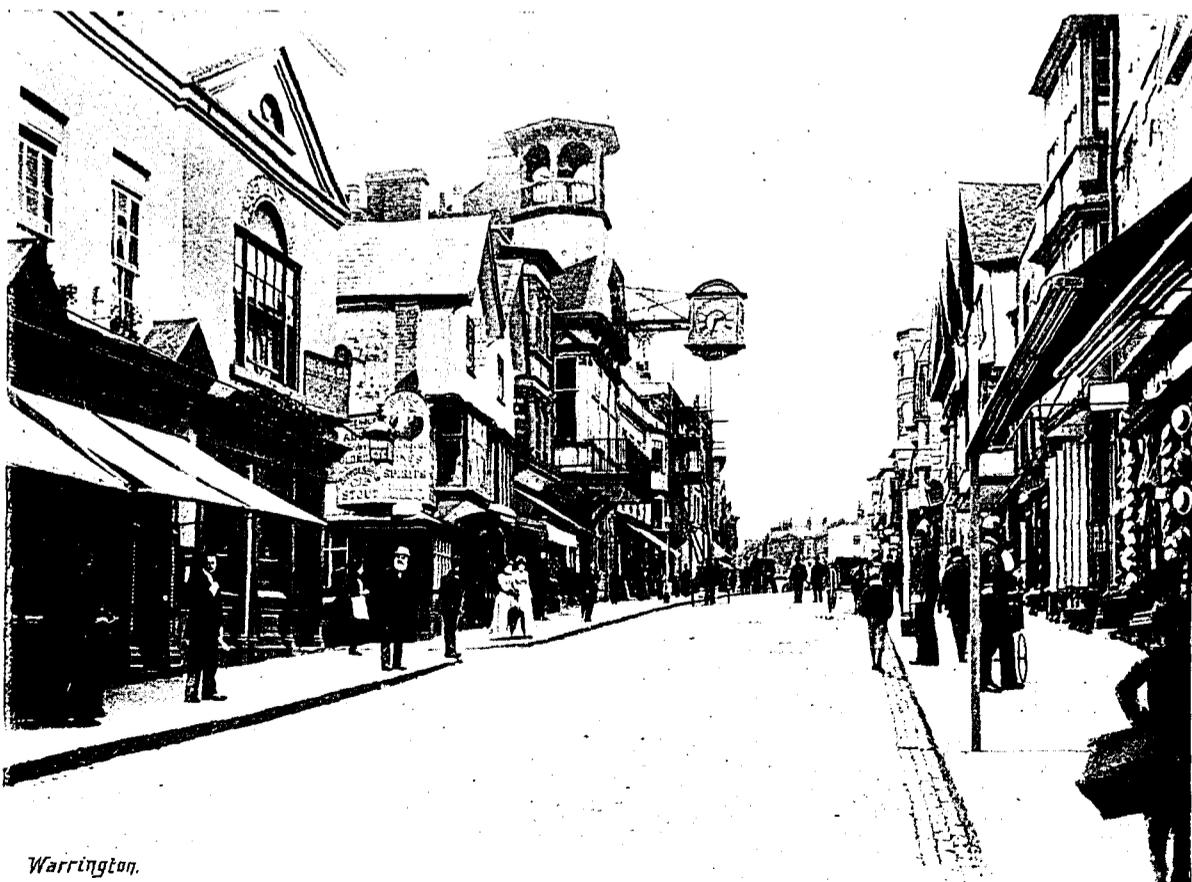
The proceedings then terminated.

The present Provincial Grand Master, the Hon. Mr. Justice Bucknill, was installed by Bro. the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Warwick, at Croydon, in July, 1903. Bro. Sir Thomas Bucknill was initiated in the Lodge of Good Report, No. 136 (of which he afterwards became the Master), in 1869. He was also a founder and the first Master of the Ebbisham Lodge, No. 2422, in 1897. The office of Provincial Grand Warden was conferred upon him by Bro. Col. Money in



REIGATE CASTLE GATEWAY.

their assistance he would do his best to give them that satisfaction which he hoped he had done in the past. He would proceed to propose "The Health of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master and the rest of the Provincial Grand Officers," and he was quite sure of the way in which they would receive that toast. He had said a little of Bro. Langton in lodge. He asked them if they were not justified in that appointment. So said he. They could not, therefore, do better than listen to Bro. Langton. He wished the greatest success for all the other Provincial Grand Officers, and he hoped brethren were in training as officers of the future. He would add that the lodges which did their work properly were secure in being singled out for honour



Warrington.

GUILDFORD.

1893, which was followed by the higher appointment in the United Grand Lodge of England of Deputy Grand Registrar in 1895, a distinction that was further augmented by his being nominated by the late Grand Master to the rank of a Past Junior Grand Warden in 1899. He is a Life Governor of the three principal Masonic Charities. Bro. Sir Thomas

is, so far at least as we have been able to ascertain, the first judge of the High Court who has ever been appointed to the office of Provincial Grand Master of the Craft. He represented for about seven years the Epsom division of the county of Surrey in Parliament, and was Recorder of the City of Exeter for many years.

Consecration of the Camden Place Lodge, No. 3042.

THE Camden Place Lodge, arising out of the Golf Club at Camden House, Chislehurst, formerly the residence of the Empress Eugenie, was formally constituted on Monday, the 27th June, by M.W. Bro. Earl Amherst, Provincial Grand Master for Kent, assisted by the following Provincial Grand Officers:—Bros. Alfred Spencer, Dep. Prov. G.



BRO. DR. ABRAHAM.

Master, P.G.S.B. Eng.; Edward Thomas Ward, as S.W.; Surg. Maj. H. W. Roberts, as J.W.; the Rev. T. W. Embleton Thomas, Prov. G. Chap., as Chaplain; W. Russell, P.G. Treas., P.A.G.D.C.; S. R. Macartney, Prov. G. Sec.; R. H. Hale, Prov. G.D.C.; and J. Percy White, P.M. 2277 and 2599, as D.C.

There were also present Bros. the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, Bart., P.G.C.; Dr. Armitage, G.D.; Clement Godson, M.D., P.G.D.; Woodhouse Braine, F.R.C.S., P.G.D.; D'Arcy Power, P.G.D.; T. G. A. Burns, P.G.D.; — Narme, P.G.D.; F. W. Levander, P.G.D.; Dr. F. Lawrance, P.A.G.D.C.; Ex-Provost Kirkwood, P.D.G.M. Transvaal; Edwin Fox, P.A.G.D.C.; M. Slaughter, P.A.G.D.C.; the Rev. E. V. Bryan, Prov. G. Chaplain; W. E. Lucas, Prov. S.G.D.; E. Evenden, Prov. S.G.D.; F. Holme-Sumner; A. T. Day, G. Stwd., Acting I.P.M.; J. Allan, M.B., S.W., F. J. McCann, M.D., J.W.; J. H. Podmore, Sec.; Jas. Ford, P.G. Std., Treas.; G. C. Cathcart, M.D.; J. F. Roberts; G. E. Lewis, P.P.G. Reg.; E. Podmore, P.P.G.D.C.; Lauchi; J. K. Murphy, M.D.; J. H. Tallent; Vernon Taylor; H. F. Cubitt; R. P. Tebb, P.G. Supt. of Wks.; and others.

The charming natural surroundings of Camden House were enhanced by lovely weather, and the inaugural meeting of the new Kentish lodge could give no cause for complaint to its most ardent well-wisher.

At the conclusion of the consecration ceremony and the installation of Bro. Dr. Abraham as Worshipful Master, the compliment of honorary membership of the lodge was con-

ferred on the Consecrating Officers. The receipt of propositions for new membership concluded the business of the lodge.

At the subsequent banquet, Bro. Dr. Abraham, W.M., was supported by Earl Amherst and a large number of Grand and Provincial Grand Officers.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was replied to by Bro. Dr. Armitage, who said that as a junior member of that body he felt very unprepared to respond in the presence of so many brethren of senior rank. He had entered Freemasonry after a lapse of many years. He derived a great deal of pleasure from the study of Masonic ritual, because it took him into another sphere altogether. It was well in one's recreative moments to be well employed, and as W.M. of the University of Edinburgh Lodge he had plenty of the right kind of work to do. In conclusion he cordially thanked the lodge for the charming entertainment they had afforded him.

The toast of "The Prov. Grand Master, Earl Amherst, Pro Grand Master," was received with great enthusiasm.

His lordship, in reply, said he knew that the lodge would be a success, but he wished it to be so great a success as to be a beacon light for other lodges in the Province of Kent, which held no mean position amongst the provinces of England. It was, he said, his 44th year in Provincial Grand Lodge and his eighth year at head-quarters, and he had been delighted during that time to find how much his services had been appreciated by the Masons of England. His lordship went on to say that during the past three months he had constituted three new chapters, dedicated a Masonic Temple, installed a Grand Master and a Grand Superintendent, which was not a bad record for three months. His lordship expressed his pleasure at being with them and his regret at being obliged to leave early.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master, Bro. Dr. Abraham," was next proposed by Bro. A. Day, G. Stwd., Acting I.P.M., and the W.M., in response, said that he had only accepted office after it had been refused by brethren senior to himself in Masonry, and that he should do his best for the credit and honour of the lodge.



CAMDEN PLACE, CHISLEHURST.

The toast of "The Visitors," replied to by Bro. Ex-Provost Kirkwood, P.D.G.M. Transvaal, and that of "The Officers of the Lodge" concluded the meeting.

A Family of Freemasons.



BRO. JAMES DAWSON.

A GOODLY muster of brethren of the Witham Lodge, and the daughter lodges in the City of Lincoln, assembled in the lodge room recently to witness the initiation of Mr. William S. Dawson, a younger brother of the Worshipful Master. The event was unique in the long annals of No. 297, inasmuch as the name of the candidate's father (a Past Treasurer) together with those of three of his elder brothers appear on its

present roll of members—all having been initiated in the Witham Lodge during the past quarter of a century.



BRO. WALTER DAWSON.



BRO. GEORGE DAWSON.



BRO. JAMES DAWSON, JUN.



BRO. WILLIAM S. DAWSON.

The Cornubian Lodge.

THE meeting of the Cornubian Lodge, No. 450, Hayle, on the 29th June, was of more than usual interest. After a candidate had been initiated by W. Bro. E. W. Pascoe, the W.M., in an able manner, W. Bro. G. B. Pearce, P.M., P.P.G.W., said it was perhaps unique in the history of that

lodge that W. Bro. J. P. Smith, P.M., P.P.S.G.D., completed fifty years of Masonic life and his connection with the lodge. Initiated June 6th, 1854, he had continued his connection with the lodge without a break. Elected Worshipful Master in 1860, he had carried out the duties of that office in a most satisfactory manner, and shortly after was appointed Secretary, and for twenty-four years filled that responsible office to the satisfaction of the various Worshipful Masters of the lodge. He was advanced in the Fortitude Mark Lodge on June 6th, 1854, and was one of the first to join the Cornubian Mark Lodge on its formation in 1866, and for twenty years filled the office of Secretary, and still continues a member. He joined the Loyal Cornubian Encampment of Knight Templars at Redruth on May 5th, 1866, and the Royal Arch in the Royal Cornubian Chapter, No. 331, Truro, on November 13th, 1869, and was one of the founders of the Hayle Chapter in 1874, and still continues his membership.

Perhaps few Masons can equal such a record of membership, and they hoped he would live many years to continue his ripened experience in the various degrees. He was presented with a P.M.'s jewel, and, on April 23rd, 1891, was presented with an illuminated address and a purse of gold. The occasion will be long remembered by the brethren who were privileged to be present. He congratulated W. Bro. Smith on attaining his jubilee in Freemasonry, and he sincerely hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would make his closing years as happy as they could wish. W. Bros. J. G. Osborn, P.M., P.P.G.W., and B. Spray, P.M., P.P.G.D., added their testimony to the zeal and ability shown by W. Bro. Smith, and their good wishes for his health.

W. Bro. Smith, rising to respond, referred to his long connection with Freemasonry and the pleasure he had experienced when in active service in the lodge. He had served under three Prov. Grand Masters—Sir Charles Lemon, Augustus Smith, and their present Prov. Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgumbe. He had known all the founders of the lodge, and well remembered their lodge room in the White Hart Hotel, and then in part of their present dining room. In his long experience he had made many Masonic friends both in and out of the lodge, many of them had passed to the Grand Lodge above. He sincerely thanked them for their kind expressions of esteem, and he hoped to meet them on many occasions.

After the lodge was closed, the brethren adjourned to the Hall, where light refreshments had been provided. "Health and prosperity to W. Bro. Smith" was proposed by the Worshipful Master, and responded to in an interesting speech. "The Initiate" and "the Visitors" were proposed and responded to, and the brethren spent a very pleasant evening.

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The New Commercial Travellers' Schools at Pinner.

IN no business or profession is Freemasonry more largely represented in this country than in that important body the commercial travellers, and it was in keeping with the general fitness of things that the foundation stone of the great extension of the school buildings should have been laid with Masonic ceremonies.

In accordance with the desire of the authorities of the institution, R.W. Bro. Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Prov. Grand Master for Middlesex, consented to perform the ceremony, which took place on Saturday, June 18th. A

because they recognised that the Masonic body interested themselves absolutely in works of benevolence wherever they occurred, and the fact of that body being present to-day was ample proof of their goodwill to that institution. This was not a Masonic establishment, but there were many members of the Board who were Masons, and there was a number of children in the schools whose fathers were Masons. He would couple with this toast the name of Lord George Hamilton, who had devoted his life to the good of the country. It was a privilege to that institution that Lord



large number of ladies and gentlemen attended, and a reception was first held by Mr. T. F. Blackwell, the president of the institution, who was accompanied by Mrs. Blackwell, and Lady Hamilton was also present. A luncheon followed.

Bro. D. R. Harvest, Chairman of the Board of Management, in proposing the toast of "The Visitors," observed that no reference to the Masonic body would be complete without reference to Masonic secrets. Few persons knew them; but there was one singular and distinguishing feature of Freemasonry on which all were well informed, viz., its charitable organisation. This, he thought, was the finest the world had ever seen and ever would see. It extended in all directions, both in and out of Masonic circles, and in this connection he referred to the Masonic Schools at Bushey, which had cost £125,000 to build, and which were the finest in the world. The Board had been asked why they had invited the Masonic body to the ceremony of to-day. It was

George Hamilton should be there to complete and give the finishing touch to this most important building, which they hoped would prove of the greatest advantage to the schools.

Lord George Hamilton, in replying, said he was much flattered in being asked to lay the foundation-stone of the extension of the school buildings; and after consulting with those from whom he took advice in Masonic matters, it was unanimously decided that Masonic rites should accompany the laying of the stone. They hoped that the extra ceremonial which might be associated with the laying of the stone might give greater prominence to the institution than it had ever enjoyed before. Mr. Harvest had alluded to the charitable duties and functions of the Masonic body, and expressed, in very warm terms, his high appreciation of that work. He (Lord George Hamilton) could only say that those terms were well deserved. He thought the Masons from their principles did much to cultivate charity, whilst

they were good judges as to whether institutions were well managed. Anyone who was acquainted with the history of this great school could not deny that it had been singularly successful in the character and ability of the gentlemen who had voluntarily taken its management. He knew something of education, and any who have experience of a great boarding school containing 350 scholars would know it was no easy organisation to work. The history of the schools had been remarkable, and it had shown a steady and

continued development, derived from charitable funds. He thought the company might fairly assume that the secret of success of the schools was that all the subscribers were satisfied that the institution was doing a real public duty.

The company then rose and proceeded to the marquee which had been erected, and the usual ceremony was performed.

The brethren afterwards returned to Provincial Grand Lodge, which was duly closed.

Provincial Grand Lodge of Essex.

SEVEN years have expired since the Essex Provincial Grand Lodge was last held at Colchester, and during that period important advances have been made in various departments of the Masonic life of the province. For example, the membership has grown perceptibly, the roll being swelled by the consecration of something like a dozen new lodges. A happy idea in relation to some of the Essex lodges is that they have been named after prominent Masons, and a couple of those that have come into being since the Diamond Jubilee year take their names from W. Bros. Albert Lucking (who was prevented by illness from attending this year's Provincial Grand Lodge, this being the first occasion on which he has been an absentee during his thirty years' tenure of the office of Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies) and Richard Clowes. The annual meeting, which took place on July 20th at Colchester, was held in the Moot Hall, the entertaining lodges being the Angel, 51; United, 697; and Comrades, 2976. The Provincial Grand Master (R.W. Bro. Colonel Lockwood, M.P., P.G.D.), presided, and was supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (W. Bro. Claude E. Egerton-Green, P.D.G.D.C., P.P.S.G.W.), and a large number of Provincial Grand Officers and brethren.

Provincial Grand Lodge having been opened, the minutes of last year's meeting were adopted. It was intimated that a large number of letters of regret for non-attendance had been received. The roll of lodges was next called over.

The report of the Board of General Purposes began with the following interesting entry:—"In the last report of the Board it was mentioned that in connection with Lord Warwick's retirement from the Provincial Grand Mastership after twenty years' service and the presentation to him of his portrait, the Countess of Warwick had been asked to accept a present of books. Colonel Lockwood, our Prov. G.M.,

kindly undertook to consult her ladyship on the subject, and she expressed a wish to have Charles Booth's recently issued work, entitled 'Life and Labour,' which has been described as a monumental work on the poor of London, and has become a manual for all those interested in philanthropic or religious work. The seventeen volumes were accordingly ordered and specially bound *en suite* with her ladyship's library; and the subjoined letter in acknowledgment will, the Board is sure, be read with great interest by the brethren:—"Dear Colonel Lockwood,—I have received the beautifully bound edition of Charles Booth's works, and must ask you to convey to the Essex Freemasons my deep appreciation of their kind thought of me in thus including me in the presentation so generously made to their late Provincial Grand Master. The inscription in the first volume enhances the value of the gift to myself, and will be a constant reminder (as the books will be a constant source of pleasure and instruction to me) of the kind friends I have had the pleasure of knowing for so many years in Essex.—Believe me, dear Colonel Lockwood, yours sincerely, Frances Evelyn Warwick."

The Charity Committee reported that the contributions of the province to the three great Charities for the current year have amounted to £1467 10s., divided as follows:—Benevolent Institution, £745 1s. 6d.; Girls' School, £418 9s.; Boys' School, £303 19 6d.

The Provincial G. Master, in his address, apologised for appearing in light-coloured clothing, which he said was attributable to the vagaries of a polite assembly that was never mentioned at these meetings, which had been sitting all night, and was sitting now, like a hen. The same reason accounted for his being late in attending. Colonel Lockwood went on to say that the report on the state of Masonry in the province was highly encouraging, and the spirit of Freemasonry had increased in proportion, while the business was working smoothly under the able guidance of the Prov. G. Secretary.

A vote of thanks to the entertaining lodges was passed on the motion of the Bishop of Barking.

The Provincial Grand Master intimated that next year's meeting would be held at Chingford.

Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

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Masonic Certificates.

IN the course of an active Masonic career a brother can manage to acquire a good many certificates and parchments of various descriptions, inasmuch as not only the Craft, but the several concomitant orders provide those who are admitted to their respective ranks with documentary evidence of the fact. And in many of them each stage of progress is similarly distinguished.

The most important of all are the certificates which confer upon their possessors their Masonic existence. These are the lodge warrant and the Grand Lodge certificate. In strict Masonic law no Masonic business can be carried on at all unless both of them are in immediate evidence. The warrant is confided to the Worshipful Master at his installation, and, constitutionally, he is responsible for its safe custody. In practice, however, the actual custodian is very often the Tyler or even the hall keeper, and in many cases it is framed and

hung up. There can be no objection to this latter procedure, but when as is often the case a number of lodges, chapters, preceptories, &c., meet in the same place, it may happen that the walls are covered with warrants and charters of every description, and a strict regard for what is Masonic will dictate that the warrant of any particular lodge that may be holding its meeting shall be taken down and made conspicuous. The almost universal practice, however, among the newer lodges is to have this document folded and enclosed in a leather case. There are some half-a-dozen lodges which have no warrant, having come into existence before such things were, and they naturally prize the superiority thus implied. Still, the acceptance by such lodges of a number and a place on the calendar practically imposes on them each and all of the obligations laid down in the ordinary warrant. In days gone by warrants used to be bought and sold, and in places abroad where a local numbering prevailed, it has more than once happened that a new lodge has bought up, not only the furniture of an ancient but moribund lodge, but its warrant and number as well, and has therefore sprung into Masonic existence with a respectable weight of Masonic antiquity behind it.

A warrant which is very highly prized is that which is given to a lodge which can show an uninterrupted existence of a hundred years.

Next in importance to the warrant is the Grand Lodge certificate. Like the warrant it is expected to be in continual evidence. That is to say it should be on the person of its possessor, ready for production whenever called for by competent authority.

A form of certificate that is not often claimed, is that issued to brethren under the rank of M. M. Brethren do not remain on the lower rungs of the Masonic ladder any longer than they can help, but one whose avocations lay upon the high seas might find the intermediate certificate useful, since it might happen, say, that he was able to visit his mother lodge only at very rare intervals. Very curiously no form of certificate is provided to vouch for what is, in the opinion of many brethren, the most interesting fact of their Masonic career, their accession to the chair of K. S. There is but one member of the lodge who is able to point to documentary evidence outside the minute book, of the fact that he has ruled over it, and that is the brother whose name adorns the warrant as its first possessor.

Not only is a brother supplied with a certificate at the commencement of his Masonic career, but he is also entitled to one at its close. Article 213 gives every member of a lodge the right to a certificate setting forth the circumstances under which his membership terminated. When a brother retires from his lodge under discreditable circumstance, as for instance to anticipate his possible exclusion for un-Masonic conduct, the remaining members may well hesitate before they give him what may admit him to another lodge. But the "clearance certificate" has not this meaning. It is a bare statement of his being in good standing or otherwise, but there is no objection to its being more than that. It would be Masonic to embody in it a statement of its possessor's official dignities and the offices he may have held in the lodge. A somewhat curious case once came under the writer's notice. A brother had been excluded for non-payment of dues, and as is usual in such cases he had not applied for a certificate, and none was issued. A long time after he was desirous of joining another lodge, and wrote to the Secretary of the former one to ask what the dues were, with the intention of paying up and then asking for a certificate. But since his exclusion, facts had come to light which made the brethren doubt whether he were fit to join any lodge at all, and they therefore determined that they could not receive the dues. The point they made without entering into particulars, was that they could not resume any Masonic correspondence with one who was not now a member. They could not refuse the certificate, but it was simply the curt statement that he had been excluded, and practically that brother's connection with the Craft was severed for all time. This was somewhat sharp practice, but the circumstances fully justified it.

The Grand Lodge certificate may be made a very interesting document. The writer has seen one that was quite an encyclopædia of Masonic information. The back of it was ruled into spaces in which were set forth the various Masonic dignities of its owner, offices held, lodges visited, degrees taken, and so on.

Another form of certificate is described in Article 203. This is a statement of all dues being paid to enable a brother to join more than one lodge at a time. The certificate referred to in Article 213 plainly infers an act of withdrawal, but this is quite different. A lodge which grants a certificate of the kind prescribed, or rather permitted, in Article 203, should be very particular in ascertaining exactly what it is for. Otherwise it may be found, when too late, that Article 202 has been transgressed. That article imposes an onus upon every lodge. The intention may be innocent and laudable, but the effect may be to let loose on the whole Craft one who would benefit the Order by severing himself from it. If a lodge unfortunately have one such on its rolls it must be borne with. There can be no reason for the whole Craft to be made co-sufferers. It occasionally happens that a certificate of this kind is given to a brother who proposes to go on his travels and who desires to visit lodges in many places. Even this would be a technical violation of Article 203, although, if the brother concerned were well known and his *bonâ fides* above suspicion, it does not seem as if harm would accrue. Still even less harm will be likely to accrue if both lodges and brethren are content to keep within the strict limits of the Constitutions.



The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight was held at Bournemouth on the 20th July, under the Presidency of the Provincial Grand Master, Sir Augustus Webster. As a matter of convenience the customary luncheon was the first item in the day's proceedings. The brethren afterwards proceeded to the church of St. Stephens. By permission of the vicar, a special service was held, and an offertory taken in aid of the local charities, and the preacher was the Rev. F. E. Kennedy, Vicar of St. John's Boscombe, P.G. Chaplain. The service concluded with the singing of the "Te Deum." On the return of the brethren Provincial Grand Lodge was opened and the usual business proceeded with, after the reports of the various committees had been read and adopted.

The Prov. Grand Master then delivered a brief address to the brethren, in the course of which he explained the circumstances of the Eve bequest, which was shared in by the Provinces of Warwickshire and Worcestershire. The bequest was a thousand guineas to each province with the view of purchasing a Perpetual Presentation for each province, but the cost of a Presentation had been raised to 1600 guineas, and this had created some difficulties, which he and others had tried to arrange without effect, but now he hoped the matter was in a fair way of settlement, and that, with the assistance of Prov. Grand Lodge funds, they would at last get their Presentation. The province was now composed of 4738 members. He referred sympathetically to the deaths of brethren since the last meeting, particularly mentioning Bro. Newman, of Ryde, Bro. Druitt, of Christchurch, and Bro. Middleton, Rector of Old Alresford, and, in conclusion, referred to the fact that the Wardens' chairs were occupied that day by the Grand Wardens of England for the present year. They both belonged to the province,

and he thought the brethren should be grateful to the Grand Master for the consideration he had given to the Province for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight in awarding his honours this year. The officers for the year were then appointed as well as six brethren to Past Provincial Grand rank, and Provincial Grand Lodge was closed in ancient form.

The late Bro. Herbert Campbell, who was a member of the Drury Lane Lodge, No. 2127, was for some years a colleague of Bro. Harry Nicholls in Freemasonry as well as in Pantomime. The genial comedian's loss will be felt as much by his Masonic brethren as by the wider public circle.

Among the most interesting events of the past month is the creating of a new Church Lodge, under the title of the Sanctuary Lodge. Its locale is Westminster, and Sir Joseph Dimsdale is the Worshipful Master, and Bishop Welldon, Canon Childe, the Rev. Sir Borradaile Savory, and Bro. Holdsworth (of the Church Reform League) fill the principal offices.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire was held at Saltburn-by-the-Sea on the 25th July. The R.W. Bro. the Earl of Zetland presided and he was supported by R.W. Bro. Lord Bolton, D.P.G.M., and an unusually large number of Provincial Grand Officers and brethren, and representatives from the Provinces of Durham, Northumberland, and Westmorland.

After the appointment and investiture of the Provincial Grand Officers, the Provincial Grand Master said that it gave him great pleasure to once more meet the brethren in annual convocation, a welcome gathering in which old friends renewed their recollections of each other and also became acquainted with those brethren who had recently entered the Order, and whom, they trusted, were imbued with that zeal for the Craft which would in time make them enthusiastic Freemasons. The great tie which united individuals of such diversity of sentiment upon other questions well-merited the attention it received from the thinking portion of mankind, and it was undoubtedly an important factor in the civilisation of the world. They, therefore, loved Freemasonry because it led them to love their fellow man, and within their lodges it broke down those partitions which religious and political differences had artificially erected to divide them into sections to the manifest injury of universal philanthropy. It should, therefore, be the special duty of every Mason to take special care that all who were admitted to the benefit of the institution should be thoroughly worthy of that honour, and by their own conduct prove to the world how excellent was their profession by acting in every department of life as men to be trusted and respected, distinguished alike for benevolence and honourable character. The province would be gratified to know that R.W. Bro. Lord Bolton had recently been installed Worshipful Master of the Alma Lodge. That distinguished lodge, which dated back to 1722, was one over which the present King had, like his Royal predecessors, several times presided as W.M., and he was sure that they would join with him in wishing Lord Bolton a successful and happy year of office. He alluded with pleasure to the fact that 28 years ago he was present at Saltburn to consecrate the Handyside Lodge. He congratulated the lodge on the success it had achieved, and thanked the brethren for the hospitality which they had extended to Prov. Grand Lodge. He announced that an invitation had been received from the Anchor Lodge, Northallerton, to hold the next Provincial Grand Lodge there, and that he had accepted the invitation. Provincial Grand Lodge was then closed.

The R.W. Provincial Grand Master, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, has intimated to the Provincial Grand Secretary of Cornwall, Bro. Bernard F. Edyvean, his intention to

hold the Provincial Grand Lodge for 1904 under the banner of True and Faithful Lodge, No. 318, Helston. The actual date has not been fixed, but will possibly be the latter part of October.



Lord Lamington, accompanied by Captain Crawford, commanding the Governor's Body-Guard, paid a visit to Lodge Orion in the West on the 28th June. He was met on arrival by Sir Archibald Hunter, commanding the Forces, Bombay, Major Mackenzie, and others. There was a very large gathering of Military Masons to meet his Excellency, who was heartily welcomed by Captain Curtis, the Master, on behalf of the lodge. Before leaving the hall, Lord Lamington thanked all the brethren most heartily for the kind welcome they had given him. He was pleased to learn that Lodge Orion was not only the oldest lodge in that Presidency, but numerically the strongest in India. He felt it was fulfilling a very useful part in that large military garrison of Poona.



The following sound advice of Dr. Oliver might well be brought prominently and continuously before the members of a lodge, either in the form of a placard in the ante-room or on the lodge summons:—"Be very cautious whom you recommend as a candidate for initiation; one false step on this point may be fatal. If you introduce a disputatious person, confusion will be produced, which may end in the dissolution of the lodge. If you have a good lodge, keep it select; great numbers are not always beneficial."



In the French Chamber recently M. Prache interpellated the Government on the subject of Freemasonry, complaining that the Fiscal Laws, the Laws of the Associations, and the Press Laws, were not applied to Freemasons' lodges. M. Laserre declared that Freemasonry respected absolutely all the laws of the country, and refuted M. Prache's criticisms. The debate was finally adjourned.



A party of members of the Cambridge Masonic Club spent a pleasant day at Great Yarmouth recently, starting from Cambridge at 7.35 a.m., and arriving at the seaside at ten o'clock upon a warm but pleasant journey. Proceeding to the Crown and Anchor Hotel, the host, Bro. C. F. Waters, was ready to greet them with hearty good wishes. Some of the members journeyed to Lowestoft, while others enjoyed the varied pleasures of Yarmouth. Luncheon was served at the Crown and Anchor, and at the close of a most pleasant afternoon, dinner was also partaken of, when the brethren were joined by Bros. A. H. King, C. F. Waters, and Beebee. The president of the club, Bro. W. H. Berridge, P.M., occupied the chair, and the usual Masonic toasts were briefly honoured. The party returned to Cambridge by the 9.5 p.m. train, arriving home at midnight. The success of the excursion was largely due to the arrangements made by the energetic secretary, Bro. E. Bowman.



After an honourable and useful career extending over a period of thirty-seven years, our valued contemporary, *The Keystone*, the oldest weekly Masonic journal in the world, appears in an improved form, fully illustrated and wholly devoted to Masonic matters. The veteran editor, Bro. W. A. McCalla, retires from that position, and introduces as his successors two eminent brethren—John C. Yareton, 32°, and W. Mill Butler, 32°, who have long been favourably known, the one as a publisher of five editions of books, and the other as a journalist, who unitedly promise that "*The Keystone* will continue to advocate in the future, as it has in the past, the principles of Freemasonry in all their purity. It will uphold all duly constituted Masonic authority, and continue, as it always has been, a staunch supporter of the right, without fear or favour, 'with malice toward none and charity

for all.' While recognizing in its fullest sense the sufficiency of the three ancient and fundamental degrees to entitle him who has received them to stand the equal of kings or any other dignitaries, we shall, at the same time, continue to advocate the attainment of the higher degrees of Masonry as a thing worthy of any man's ambition in life."



A new departure is foreshadowed in the further announcement that while they declare their "warm and enthusiastic feeling also for what may be termed the concordant orders of Freemasonry, among which none has shed more lustre upon the great Craft to which all its members belong than the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. This superb organization will receive generous recognition in our columns, as the present issue will be found to testify."



As English Masons, the latter part of the programme does not strongly appeal to us, but is no doubt demanded by the exigences of American Masonic journalism. We wish long life and increased prosperity to our venerable contemporary under its new sponsors.



The same journal narrates the following interesting incident:—"From early school days, up through a period of some twenty-eight years, two warmly-attached friends—one residing in Canada, the other in the United States—had kept up their pleasant correspondence, sharing each other's hopes and aspirations and sympathizing with each other in life's occasional sorrows. Both had married, and the family visits were events always looked forward to with mutual pleasure.



"In course of time the American had applied for admission into our great fraternity, but the Canadian, for certain reasons, had foreborne, and remained outside of the portals. Many times his friend had wished secretly in his heart that both might meet upon the level in the hallowed precincts of the lodge, but, remembering that the dignity of the Order required that Masonic honours should be sought, not urged or thrust upon anyone, he had restrained himself from uttering what was frequently upon the tip of his tongue.



"Finally, a few months ago, something happened. A letter arrived stating that a son, grown to manhood, had taken it into his head to become a Mason. His determination, duly carried out, had broken down all the barriers standing in the way, and in Strict Observers' Lodge, at Hamilton, Ont., that son had the pleasure of introducing his father to the brethren assembled, as a candidate for initiation.



"A few weeks ago, at Niagara Falls, the two friends of boyhood, as well as later years, met and greeted each other once more, this time as brothers in a new sense. There are cramped and cynical natures which scoff at the idea of Masonry binding closer the hearts of men, but here was a test case. The two had for many years regarded each other with a friendship that was apparently perfect. They were ever mindful of each other's happiness. Not an unkind word or thought, not a cloud had ever dimmed the harmony of their regard, respect, and esteem for each other; and yet, when the two met on the verge of the great cataract and clasped hands, and looked into each other's eyes, there was an indefinable something which they appreciated for the first time, and which almost started the salt water to their eyes.



"Looking out upon that vast expanse of falling waters—the emblem of resistless eternity—they felt that a fate still stronger than the elements had been the opposite of cruel

to them, for they now realized something which they had never known before. A new strength seemed to have come into their friendship. It now seemed reinforced and rounded out until it looked with the eye of faith beyond the present and far into the distant future. The editor knows this incident to be true, for he was one of the friends."



Two sets of laws, the written and the unwritten, govern Freemasons, and in many respects the latter is the more important—at all events it is the more interesting. Seeing that a candidate for admission into our fraternity is asked to declare that he will abide by the antient usages of the Order, at the very outset of his career, then our Masonic traditions may well be held to come first. It is quite possible for a brother to keep in line with every jot and tittle of the Book of Constitution presented to him at his initiation and still his conduct may be in many respects "un-Masonic." In fact, the term "Masonic conduct" generally means conduct in accordance with the principles to be found in our traditions, and which are nowhere to be found in the written law.



For this reason it is that the charge to an entered apprentice occupies so high a place in our estimation, embodying, as it does, all that is best of the antient charges handed down to us from the earliest times. Of the many guides to Masonic conduct therein contained, that which most forcibly strikes the imagination is the injunction to secrecy, and for that reason it is the one universally observed. It is worth while to remember that the secrecy of the Institution occupies a very subordinate place in the charge we are referring to. There are duties to God, our neighbours and ourselves, and our social obligations, which take a higher place, and these are matters which regulate the Freemason's attitude to the outside world, so that when a person is known to be a Freemason, the world may also know him to be one whose hand is guided by justice. Whenever, then, any brother is found to have an imperfect understanding of the obligations thus laid upon him, the reputation of the whole Craft suffers.



Any violation of the Constitutions affects only a Freemason's relations with his brethren in the Order. The outside world is not concerned with our internal regulations, but it is concerned with the establishment in its midst of a community pledged to the observance of such lines of conduct as are enjoined in our ancient traditions, and therefore the brother whose conduct is in the widest sense "Masonic," is a living recommendation of the Order.



Our separation from political prejudice and from sectarian difference within the lodge room is bound to have a modifying effect upon our demeanour in other places not consecrated by Masonic association, and we are thus led to be more tolerant, and, without sacrificing any single one of our convictions, we learn to respect those of others. Obedience, again, as understood by the Freemason, both to the laws of the Craft and those of any country which may afford him the shadow of its protection, as well as his subordination to the Master and Wardens of the lodge, is by no means confined to the observance of the written constitution and by-laws. An instinct of discipline is one of the most valuable assets of a community; and the possession of this instinct accounts more than anything else for the marvellous organization of the Craft, its ability to concentrate effort were most needed, its power of giving attention to the minutest details and never losing sight of the larger questions often demanding solution.



The portrait of Bro. Charles W. Cole, which appeared in our June issue, was from a photograph by the Elite Portrait Co., of 267, High Holborn, W.C.

Visitors to Baden-Baden will be glad to learn that Bro. Jules Lippert, co-proprietor of the Grand Hotel, Belle vue, San Remo, has extended his operations to Baden-Baden, where he has acquired the newly-built Hotel Regina, which is only two minutes' walk from the central point of social intercourse—the Conversations House, and the Lichtenthal Alley. The establishment is now open, and will remain open for guests and visitors during the summer seasons, from April to November. It has been constructed in accordance with the newest technical and hygienic improvements in a most favourable and elevated position. It is elegantly furnished and provided with all the comforts of a refined private home, combined with the advantages of a well-organised hotel. The fashionable restaurant and the terrace are also for the use of visitors. Particular care is given to the kitchen and wine-cellar, cleanliness and prompt service being a speciality. As annexe, a pretty Swiss House and a lovely Villa, in the Italian Renaissance style, with complete suites of rooms, have been neatly arranged for guests desiring privacy. The establishment, being sheltered in the middle of a large garden 8,000 sq. metres, commands magnificent views of the Black Forest, and is an ideal spot for rest and comfort.



NEW PALACE STEAMERS.—The new service inaugurated by the "Koh-i-noor" to Deal and Dover and back in a day, has evidently caught on with the travelling public, for the traffic has materially increased since the commencement on the 26th June. The facilities offered by this breezy route to the popular resorts before mentioned are much appreciated, for by means of the special trains which run in connection with the sailings of the "Koh-i-noor" a vast area of Greater London is catered for. The Midland specials from St. Pancras to Tilbury call at the important stations *en route*, and thus embrace the larger portion of North London, whilst the specials from Fenchurch Street draw from the populous districts of West Ham, East Ham, etc., in addition to the City trippers. The Company have lately made an alteration in their tariff for refreshments in the 2nd Class Saloon of the "Royal Sovereign" and "Koh-i-noor." Passengers may now enjoy a plate of cold roast or pressed beef at the small charge of 7d. per head, potatoes 1d. or 2d., and all other charges are very moderate. The excellent 2s. 6d. lunch is still served in the 1st Saloon, and passengers for that sum may eat lobsters, chickens, joints, vegetables, sweets, and bread and cheese, "ad lib."

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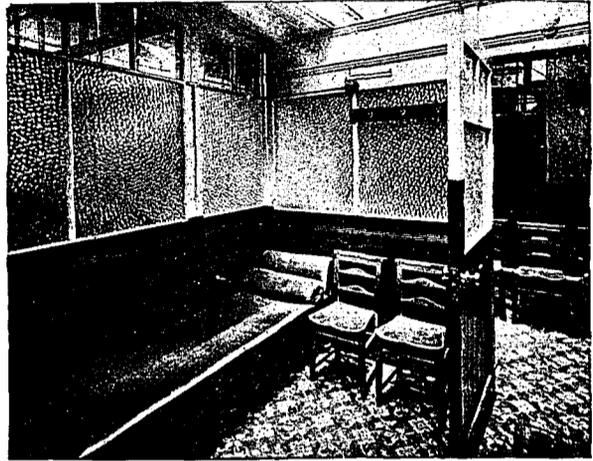
His Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales &c

H.R.H. FREDERICK LEWIS, PRINCE OF WALES, ELDEST SON OF KING GEORGE II., WAS THE FIRST OF THE ROYAL FAMILY TO JOIN THE MASONIC ORDER. HE WAS INITIATED AND PASSED AT AN OCCASIONAL LODGE, HELD AT HIS PALACE OF KRW, 5TH NOVEMBER, 1737, AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY MADE A MASTER MASON IN THE SAME LODGE.

The Surgical Aid Society.

IT is one of the proud traditions of Freemasonry that a deaf ear is never turned to the cry of suffering humanity, but that, as means and opportunity offer, that cry is heeded and the suffering relieved. Amongst the many agencies existing for the relief of bodily affliction it would perhaps be hard to find one more worthy of support than the Surgical Aid Society, which, by supplying surgical appliances of every kind to the poor, upon the recommendation of subscribers and the certificate of a surgeon, seeks to meet the need as fully and widely as possible, whilst carefully guarding against imposition. Some idea of the extent of the work may be gleaned from the fact that the average weekly number of patients relieved by the Society is now over 380, and that during last year alone no less than 32,264 appliances were supplied, making a total of 429,265 during the 41 years of the Society's existence. These comprise artificial legs and arms, spinal supports, leg instruments, trusses, belts, crutches, spectacles, &c., so that all kinds of deformities and disabilities are provided for. In short, this Society, whilst reducing the possibility of abuse to a minimum, yet seeks to afford the maximum of timely relief to the afflicted, and so far as possible to enable the lame to walk, the deaf to hear, the blind to see, the sad to rejoice, and the erstwhile helpless

of the patients are examined at the London offices by the Society's surgeons, and the simpler appliances are fitted on the premises by qualified attendants. The growth of the demands necessitated, some five years ago, considerable extension of the premises, which are now admirably adapted



ONE OF THE "FITTING ROOMS," WITH ANTE-ROOM IN BACKGROUND.



THE SECRETARY, MR. RICHARD C. TRESIDDER.

to rise to their wonted independence, thus transforming poor cripples into useful and able members of the community, earning their own livelihood and in many instances supporting their wives and families in comfort. A very large proportion

for their work. An annual subscription of one guinea or a life subscription of ten guineas, will entitle the donor to four "letters" of recommendation per annum, and thus enable him to assist directly in this excellent and beneficent cause. The Secretary, Mr. R. C. Tresidder, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, will gladly furnish any information desired, and will be pleased to receive donations and subscriptions.

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Hertfordshire had a record attendance in the Temple at Freemasons' Hall on the 12th July. The proceedings were of exceptional interest, the principal feature being the presentation of an address to the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey, M.P., Dep. Grand Master, and the R.W. Prov. Grand Master of the province. There were a great number of Grand Officers present, including Bros. the Earl of Malmesbury, Sir Edward Letchworth, Col. R. Townley Caldwell, J. T. Morland, C. E. Keyser, C. F. Matier, Dr. Armitage, Dr. Sansom, Major Woodall, and many others. After the interesting proceedings had terminated, Provincial Grand Lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to an excellent banquet, which was served in the large hall of the Freemasons' Tavern, at which the Provincial Grand Master presided.

Robert Burns as a Freemason.

THE true history of the connection of the Poet Burns with Freemasonry will probably continue to be a matter for controversy between the Masonic historian and those who are ready to accept, without investigation, every legend that has been woven around his name by his admiring countrymen; but that he was a member of the Order and took part in its gatherings, in which the social and convivial side was probably not the least conspicuous, is beyond all doubt.

The annual communication of Lodge Cannongate Kilwinning, Edinburgh, in honour of its poet laureate has become an institution, and the recent celebration, held within St. John's

Chapel, presided over by Bro. A. A. Murray, was a marked success.

According to custom, the oration was delivered from the Burns' chair. The speaker was Bro. Philip Sulley, P.M., of Cupar, who, in proposing "The Immortal Memory of Robert Burns," said it was but natural to dwell on the links that bound him to our fraternity. As his Masonic history had been fully recorded by the historians of this and other lodges, it sufficed to say that he was a keen Mason, a regular attender, a hard worker, within the length of his cable tow. But was his work confined to attending meetings, filling offices, writing minutes, and taking part in the social after-

gatherings which he must have rendered glorious and unforgettable to all who were happy enough to be present, and,

“Get a blad o’ Johnie’s morals,
And taste a swatch o’ Mansen’s barrels,
I’ the way of our Profession?”

What of his writings, his marvellous poems and songs? Were they to any extent inspired by Masonry; did they owe anything to its influence? He held that the amount of this inspiration, the extent of this influence had been, if not



ROBERT BURNS.

ignored, then certainly underestimated. To appreciate and form an unbiased opinion on the point, he asked them to turn their thoughts back to his early years—to the stern upbringing, the hard surroundings, and to his apprenticeship to the plough, the reaping hook, and the thresher’s weary flinging tree, at an age when boys were usually at school and play—and then they would realize that his entry into a Masonic lodge was a passage from dark to light. Accustomed hitherto to meet only the young of his own working life, to the very limited society of the farm towns, with one glimpse of broader things in Kirkoswald, with his appetite whetted by the little bachelor’s club he instituted on coming to Tarbolton, he was for the first time introduced to the society of older and more experienced men, of varied positions and attainments; introduced on the level, free from all class distinctions; and, before all, introduced to pure religion, broad, world-wide, untainted by cant, hypocrisy, or sectarianism.

These influences were soon at work, and whereas up to July, 1781, he had written little of note, only such pieces as

“Winter,” “John Barleycorn,” “Poor Mailie,” and songs such as “Corn Rigs” and “Behind yon hills where Stinchar flows”—thenceforward his poems and songs were produced with amazing speed and power, and throughout them the influence of Masonry shows strong and stronger. His emancipation from Calvinism, his satires on the Kirk’s abuses, were hastened, and to some extent took their origin from his entry into Masonry. In the short space between his elevation to the Depute Master’s chair in July, 1784, and the publication of the Kilmarnock edition in August, 1786, he was busy as a Mason, busiest as a poet, producing not only “The Twa Herds” and “The Holy Fair,” but such masterpieces as “The Cottar’s Saturday Night,” “Hallowe’en” and “The Jolly Beggars,” in all of which Masonic influences play a large part, as he who read with a discerning eye might plainly see.

The benevolent side of Masonry must have been akin to his nature, as he showed very early in his letter to Sir John Whitefoord, his R.W.M. :—“We look on our Mason lodge to be a serious matter, both with respect to the character of Masonry itself, and likewise as a charitable Society To us, Sir, who are of the lower orders of mankind, to have a fund in view, on which we may with certainty depend, is a matter of high importance.” And he proceeded to express his concern for the continued existence of Lodge St. James, Tarbolton, to which he had seceded after a few months spent with his mother Lodge of St. David. That mercy should temper Masonic justice, he proves in his letter from Edinburgh to the lodge :—“Men and brethren, I suppose those who owe us monies will appear—I mean those we summoned. If you please I wish you would delay prosecuting offenders till I come home. Those who confess debt and crave days, I think we should spare them,”— prose expression of his poetic ideal, and one that, no doubt, would often cause his scanty purse to be lightened to the needs or to the wheedling tale of the wandering brother both at Ellisland and Dumfries. And, when trouble upon trouble accumulated, when he was proscribed and well-nigh hunted; when his sun, after struggling with April fitfulness, seemed about to sink and to shine no more on his native and adored country, to whom was it he turned in his distress; of whom did he take his heart warm fond adieu; what were the choicest scenes his memory must recall?

“Dear brethren of the mystic tie!
Ye favored, ye enlightened few,
Companions of my social joy;
With melting heart and brimful eye
I’ll mind you still tho’ far awa.”

When “Fortune’s Slidderly Ba’” came to his feet for a brief while, when “Edina, social, kind, with open arms the stranger hailed,” is not this meeting, and the sister one of St. Andrew’s Lodge, a living testimony to his continued love of Craft and Craftsmen in Scotia’s darling seat? When Ellisland with its brief and broken hopes of comfort and

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prosperity faded into Dumfries and the final chapter in November, 1791, we find that from December (so soon as the little household was removed and settled) he resumed his keen Masonic work, his regular attendance, until failing health and the dread approach of that mysterious veil of darkness closed his career.

or writer more fully exemplifying and upholding the three great personal qualities of a Mason—Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth? Truth showed forth like the sun at noonday—fearless, persistent, insistent; scorning meanness, subterfuge and deceit; hating malice, lies, and evil speaking. Relief sparkled like a jewel on every page—charity at its best and



INAUGURATION OF ROBERT BURNS AS POET LAUREATE OF THE LODGE CANONGATE KILWINNING, EDINBURGH, 1787.

In no other place could it be so appropriate to review and estimate his labours and genius, by Masonic rule and line; and thus reviewed do they not rest—like our ancient Institution—firm and secure on the noble pillars of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty? Is not wisdom the inspiration of "The Epistle to a Young Friend," of "Tam o' Shanter," of "The Cottar's Saturday Night?" Were not "For a' that and a' that," "Does haughty Gaul," and "Scots wha hae," conceived and wrought in strength? And does not beauty reach her perfection in "Ae Fond Kiss," "My love is like a red, red rose," and "Mary in Heaven"? And, seeing that he purified the nation's songs and embellished them with ornaments of the loveliest and most unrivalled type, can we not say that, like Masonry, his work is adorned with lily work, beautiful within and without, a glory to all who behold it? And where in this world's literature could be found a poet

broadest, kindness for every animate thing and even inanimate, pity of a depth and breadth and height that approaches the divine. Brotherly Love—that mighty, swelling, glorious passion of the great heart that could not be bounded by nationality, though it was as strong as its country's mountains and floods, but must burst through the gloom of ignorance, of intolerance and oppression, till it found its greatest and latest Masonic utterance in the soul-compelling words:—

"Then let us pray that come it may—
As come it will for a' that,
That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth
May bear the gree and a' that.
For a' that, and a' that
It's comin' yet for a' that
That man to man, the world o'er
Shall brithers be for a' that."

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Emulation Lodge of Improvement.

BY BRO. HENRY SADLER.*

IT is remarkable how little is known at the present time by the rank and file of the Craft of the origin and early history of the "Emulation Lodge of Improvement," so little, in fact, that the "Illustrated History" of that celebrated organization by Bro. Henry Sadler, the esteemed Grand Tyler and Sub-Librarian of the Grand Lodge, is both opportune and most welcome.

After giving a concise and carefully prepared account of the means used to secure a united system of working, based upon the rituals representative of the two rival Grand Lodges, which from June 5th, 1816, was approved and confirmed by the Grand Lodge; Bro. Sadler ably introduces and explains the position and privileges of Lodges of Instruction, and interestingly says a few words as to the subject of Masonic instruction generally.

Doubtless a number of Lodges of Instruction were formed soon after the ritual was officially and authoritatively settled, though few continued active for any length of time, being chiefly for the members of particular lodges only.

In 1817, however, the "Stability" was founded under the wing of the lodge of that name, which has continued to this day, having received support from the members of many other lodges, and had the advantage during its career of assistance from several well qualified instructors.

On 27th November, 1823, the "Hope," now the "Royal York of Perseverance," No. 7, agreed to sanction another Lodge of Instruction, the resolution consisting of about two dozen words. Thus was launched that invaluable Masonic seminary, which, to use Bro. Sadler's verdict, "has since attained world-wide celebrity, and whose influence on English Craft working is unparalleled."

A preliminary meeting was held 2nd October of the same year to make a start, when at least nine lodges were represented; its broad aims and widespread influence being apparent from the first.

In 1830 the "Lodge of Unions," now No. 256, agreed to the transference of the sanction from No. 7, and ever since that year the two organizations have been on the best of terms and mutually honouring each other. The term Lodge of *Instruction* was dropped for *Improvement*.

In 1825, the famous Masonic instructor, Bro. PETER WILLIAM GILKES, joined, and thereafter the success of the new departure was assured.

The handsome volume treats most fully of all the Preceptors, officers, and chairmen of festivals, besides communicating a mass of information concerning the recognized work and collateral matters which cannot be met with elsewhere. The attractive history is most valuable because of the numerous particulars afforded respecting many brethren whose names are "household words" wherever the Craft is beloved; and, moreover, being to date, concerns many distinguished brethren who happily are still with us.

I do not know any one else who could have done justice so thoroughly to a history of this, *the* Lodge of Improvement, and all of us who are members of such a useful and venerable institution cannot be too grateful to Bro. Sadler for this important and most accurate work. The numerous illustrations add much to the value of the tasty volume, and beyond question, both typographically and artistically, it reflects the greatest credit on the printers and publishers.

The dedication being to Bro. Robert Clay Sudlow, P.A.G.D.C., senior member of the committee, whose portrait makes an excellent frontispiece, will be widely appreciated.

W. J. HUGHAN.

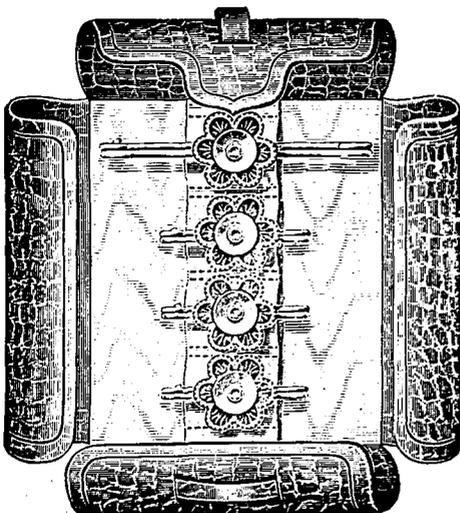
* "Illustrated History of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, No. 256, 1823 to 1903. With brief Historical Sketches of its Branches and Offshoots. By HENRY SADLER, P.M. and P.Z., &c., &c., &c. Price 7s. 6d. SPENCER AND CO., LONDON."

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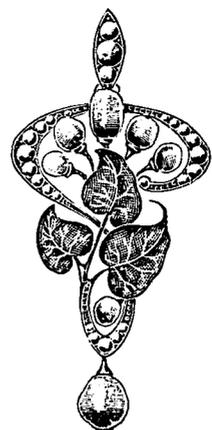


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Freemasonry in India.

THE annual banquet of Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood in celebration of the installation of W. Bro. Colonel Frank Leigh, V.D., took place at the Town Hall, Simla, on Monday, June 13th. This annual function has not been so enhanced in importance and brilliancy for some years. The presence of his Excellency Lord Amphill, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, of his Excellency Lord Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief in India, combined to accord special *éclat* to the occasion. Colonel Frank Leigh, who was installed, is now a retired Government official, whose long and faithful services to the Crown have earned for him the honoured name with which he has retired.

The ceremony of installation was performed in the presence of their Excellencies Lords Amphill and Kitchener. After eight o'clock the guests arrived and were received at the entrance lobby by W. Bros. D. Henry, R. Watson, Col. Wickham, and J. Schwaiger. The reception room was most tastefully draped and furnished.

At the banquet which followed, R.W. Bro. Lord Kitchener, in replying to the toast of "The R.W. the District Grand Master of the Punjab and District Grand Officers, Present and Past," said that, as a member of Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood, he felt he represented the feelings of all present in congratulating the Immediate Past Master and the officers of his time on the excellent service they had done to the lodge in carrying out its work during the past year. His Excellency described the state of the lodge as most satisfactory, and went on to felicitate it on the excellent selection made in the person of the Worshipful Master for the current year. He could endorse what had been said by the latter in regard to the flourishing condition of Freemasonry in the Punjab. Besides the creation of a

new lodge, the old ones had been most extensively supported, and the charity and good fellowship which characterised Freemasonry had been greatly in evidence. He instanced the present successful banquet as proof of the support which was accorded to it. His Excellency regretted that his own duties prevented his taking a more active part himself in its proceedings. In this connection he cordially acknowledged the hard work which was being done by his Deputy, the Worshipful Master, and his officers. He was glad to see that part of the evening's proceedings had been the presentation of a Masonic jewel to one of his deputies, Bro. Colonel Lyons Montgomery, who, he hoped, would long live to wear it. It was by such presentations as this that the brethren recognised the services of those who gave up time and labour to the work of the cause. None better, he said, deserved the esteem and regard of his fellows than Bro. Col. Lyons Montgomery. His Excellency concluded by cordially thanking the gathering in the name of the officers of the Dist Grand Lodge for the way the toast had been received.

R.W. Bro. Lord Amphill, replying to the toast of "The R.W. the District Grand Masters of Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and Burma, and all lodges working under them," said that he was present not as the civil ruler of India, but as a mere Freemason and as a Masonic District Grand Master. He had not expected to be called upon to reply in a prefatory manner to any more than a toast of obligation, but his health had been so kindly proposed and received, that what he had intended to say seemed inadequate. His Excellency said that though he did not know the other District Grand Masters personally, he could say with certainty that they would all have been gratified could they have seen how cordially the toast had been received.

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As a Freemason and one of the rulers of the Craft, he knew that his health was drunk in many places and on many occasions. He humorously suggested that the robust health he was so happy as to enjoy might be in some way connected with the goodwill which these toasts implied. There was only one point in the speech of the Worshipful Master in proposing the toast to which he would in any way take exception, and that was as regards the description of the benefit conferred upon Freemasonry by the support given to it by persons occupying positions of eminence. As a matter of fact there was here some confusion of cause and effect, since it was solely because Freemasonry was of itself so beneficial yet permanent and immutable that such persons desired to associate themselves with it. Theologians might fight over theology, politicians might dispute about the principles on which government should be conducted,

scientists might be in doubt about nature, but no such difficulties assailed the Freemasons, for the latter were never at variance about the eternal principles of justice, charity, truth, and humanity, which were the basis of their Craft. His Excellency then tendered a word of advice to Freemasons in regard to the desirability of openness on the subject of the principles on which Freemasonry rested—an openness which was entirely conformable with the keeping inviolate of its technical secrets; and he urged that Masons should endeavour by their lives to show the high nature of the association to which they belonged. His Excellency then referred to the arduous nature of the duties which fell to the Worshipful Master, upon whom rested the responsibility for the welfare of the lodge, and concluded by wishing the Worshipful Master of Lodge Himalayan Brotherhood a happy and prosperous year of office.

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