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*The Right Hon. the Earl of Malmesbury,
 Senior Grand Warden.*

Ashmole and the Craft.

ALTHOUGH evidence of the activity of the speculative members of the Craft during the 17th Century in England, is neither so early nor so extensive as in Scotland, yet the Records so far traced are of a remarkable character, and prove that we must go much farther back than even that period, to look for the premier Assembly of a purely Speculative Lodge, and still earlier for the first admission of other than operatives into Masonic Lodges.

Until the advent of the "Records of the Hole Crafte and Fellowship of Masons," by Bro. Edward Conder, Jr., in 1894; the earliest known instances of the Initiation of "Speculatives" were of the years 1641 and 1646, at Newcastle and Warrington respectively. On the publication of that valuable work it was found that the existing Records of the Masons Company, London, date back the evidence of "making Masons" of *non-operatives* to 1621. The dual condition of the Company "so early as 1620 and inferentially in the earliest times" abundantly confirms the opinion of those who have firmly believed in the speculative character of the Craft long before the 17th Century. The meetings of the Theoretical or "Geomatic" branch, held under the wing of the London Company, were termed the "Acception," and the members were known as "Accepted Masons;" those of the Company proper being described as *Freemasons*, until 1655-6, when that well known prefix was dropped. In time the two prefixes were united to describe the speculative brethren, viz., "Free and Accepted Masons;" so widely followed from 1723.

Elias Ashmole, in his Diary, which is preserved in the Bodleian, Oxford, has only three entries concerning the Craft; the first being of 1646 and the others of 1682. Until recent years we have known of these through two printed editions of his curious Journal of 1717 and 1774. Unfortunately these are incorrect in a few, but most important respects, and in one case in particular gives a wholly erroneous report of the MS. in question. It is well to test these reproductions by facsimiles of the several entries, which have recently been published, the first of which reads under the year 1646.

"Oct. 16, 4.30 p.m. I was made a Freemason at Warrington in Lancashire; with Coll. Henry Mainwaring of Karincham in Cheshire. The names of those that were then at the Lodge, Mr. Rich. Penket, Warden, Mr. James Collier, Mr. Rich. Sankey, Henry Littler, John Ellam, Rich. Ellam and Hugh Brewer."

Bro. W. H. Rylands, F.S.A., in an admirable Paper on "Freemasonry in the Seventeenth Century, Warrington, 1646" (*Mas. Mag.* Dec. 1881) states that if "asked to express an opinion on the Warrington Lodge of 1646, he would feel

obliged to say that, so far as he was able to judge, there is not a scrap of evidence that there was a single *operative* Mason present on the afternoon of the 16th of October, 1646; in fact the whole of the evidence seems to point quite in the opposite direction."

It is quite clear that this historic gathering was not the first of its kind, and as Mr. Ryland's researches indicate, the brethren present were not operatives, any more than the two candidates in question; so it may be assumed that the lodge was entirely worked for speculative purposes. It is also most noteworthy that the "Sloane MS., No. 1848" British Museum (a copy of the "Old Charges") bears the same date as this meeting, viz.:

"Finis p. me Edwardu Sankey, decimo sexto die Octobris, Anno Domini, 1646,"

and apparently was transcribed for use at the reception of the two distinguished neophytes. Edward Sankey, the Scribe, was most probably the son of the Richard Sankey, Landowner, who was present as a member of the Lodge in 1646. The Master did not attend, and only one Warden is noted, who possibly presided on the occasion.

It is not until more than thirty-five years afterwards, that Ashmole again refers to the Fraternity, and then it was concerning the Lodge of the Masons' Company, London. There are really two entries. One of the 10th March, 1682,

"About 5 p.m. I recd. a Summons to appr. at a Lodge to be held the next day, at Masons Hall, London." the other being a more lengthy one, and frequently misquoted



ELIAS ASHMOLE'S BOOK PLATE.

The serious error is the interpolation of the word *by* (placed by me in brackets in the following excerpt), which makes Elias Ashmole state *he* was "admitted into the Fellowship of Freemasons" *by* Sir William Wilson and others, whereas that particular Knight and his five companions mentioned, were the "New accepted Masons," for whose initiation the Lodge was convened.

Master, and with the other Fellows, admitted Ashmole into the Fellowship, he being only an ordinary member of the Craft before. Since the decease of that learned Craftsman, in 1881, many important discoveries have been made known to the Brotherhood, which, had he been spared, would have been eagerly and ably treated in relation to the subject.

As a matter of fact, there is nothing in either of the entries (1646 and 1682) suggestive of more than the one Ceremony, common to both periods. "Admission into the Fellowship of Free Masons," being equivalent to being "made Free Masons"; and Ashmole himself writes in 1682 that he was the senior fellow present, being 35 years since he was admitted. He also terms the Candidates received in that year, "New-accepted Masons."

The second entry is dated 11th March, 1682.

"Accordingly I went, and about Noone were admitted into the Fellowship of Free Masons [*by*]* Sir William Wilson Knight, Capt. Rich. Borthwick, Mr. Will. Woodman, Mr. Wm. Grey, Mr. Samuel Tylour and Mr. William Wise.

I was the Senior Fellow among them (it being 35 years since I was admitted). There were present beside my selfe the Fellowes after named.

Mr. Tho. Wise, Mr. of the Masons Company this present yeare, Mr. Thomas Shorthose, Mr. Thomas Shadbolt, Waindsford, Esqr., Mr. Nich. Young, Mr. John Shorthose, Mr. William Hamon, Mr. John Thompson, and Mr. Will. Stanton.

Wee all dyed at the Halfe Moone Taverne in Cheapside, at a noble Dinner prepared at the charge of the New-accepted Masons."

In an interesting List of Officers of the Company prepared by Bro. Conder, it will be seen that the Messrs. Thomas Wise, John Shorthose and William Stanton were Master and Wardens for the years 1681-2, the Wardens and others of the Lodge becoming Masters subsequently.

All the names mentioned as present at the meeting, to which Elias Ashmole was invited, both Fellows and Candidates were members of the Masons' Company, excepting Mr. William Wilson, and Captain Borthwick.

The kind of By-laws which regulated the transactions of the Lodge, may be surmised by a perusal of the "Additional Articles," to be found in a few of the MSS. of the "Old Charges" of the 17th Century and later, wherein many of the features of more modern Regulations will be found duly provided for, and are of a most suggestive character.

W. J. HUGHES.

* The word *by* in brackets occurs in the editions of 1717 and 1774, but is not in the original Diary.

1646	Extracts relating to Freemasonry, from the Diary of Elias Ashmole, in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. <i>Ashm. MS. 1136.</i>
Oct. 16.	At 30. p.m. I was made a Free Mason at Warrington in Lancashire, with <i>John</i> Henry Mannering of <i>Warrington</i> in <i>Lancashire</i> in <i>the</i> presence of those that were then of the Lodge, <i>Mr. Rich. Borthwick, Warden, Mr. James Collier, Mr. Rich. Sankin, Henry Lither, John Elean, Rich. Elean & Hugh Brown.</i>
March 1682	10. About 5. p.m. I went a journey to appear at a Lodge to be held the next day, at Masons Hall London. Accordingly I went, & about Noone was admitted into the Fellowship of Free Masons, <i>By</i> Sir William Wilson Knight, Capt. Rich. Borthwick, Mr. Will. Woodman, Mr. W. Grey, Mr. Samuel Tylour & Mr. William Wise. I was the Senior Fellow among them (it being 35 years since I was admitted) There were present beside my selfe the Fellowes after named. <i>Mr. Tho. Wise, Mr. of the Masons Company this present yeare, Mr. Thomas Shorthose, Mr. Thomas Shadbolt, Waindsford Esqr., Mr. Nich. Young, Mr. John Shorthose, Mr. William Hamon, Mr. John Thompson, & Mr. Will. Stanton.</i> Wee all dyed at the Halfe Moone Taverne in Cheapside, at a noble Dinner prepared at the charge of the New-accepted Masons. <i>Gods affectionate friend & servant E. Ashmole</i>

MASONIC MEETINGS, 1646 & 1682.—(Mas. Mag., 1881).

The additional and superfluous word *by* was a puzzle to my lamented friend Dr. Albert Gallatin Mackey, of the U.S.A., who in a posthumous work of an elaborate character, published by the "Masonic History Company" of New York, entitled "THE HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY," devotes some three pages to an elucidation of the mystery. He considers that Sir William Wilson [*one of the Candidates*] was probably the

A handsome silver rose bowl has recently been presented by the brethren of the Royal Order of Scotland to Bro. Thos. B. Whytehead, P.G.S.B., Grand Master of the Order in Yorkshire. The bowl, which was handed to Bro. Whytehead at a congratulatory gathering on Saturday, is beautifully embossed with two carved handles, and stands on an ebony plinth. On the rim is engraved the monogram "T.B.W.," on one side being Bro. Whytehead's family crest, and on the other the Arms of the Order. The bowl bears the following inscription: "Royal Order of Scotland: Presented to Right Worshipful Bro. T. B. Whytehead, J.P., Provincial Grand Master of Yorkshire, by the brethren of the province as a token of their esteem and affection. December 17th, 1904.

An unusual incident occurred the other day at the opening of a murder trial at Cork Assizes. The accused man, John Foster, indicted for the murder of William Regan, was stated to be a Freemason, and a number of the jurors who had been summoned, were members of the Craft. In each case the Crown took objection to their serving.

* * *

The installation of Colonel Platt, C.B., as Provincial Grand Master of North Wales in succession to the late Colonel Greuville Williams is to take place at Bangor at the New Hall, attached to the University College.

Consecration of the Roding Lodge, No. 3090.

ON Thursday, March 30th, another lodge—making the fifty-second—was added to the roll of the Province of Essex by the consecration of the Roding Lodge, No. 3090, at the Lopping Hall, Loughton. The ceremony was to have been performed by the R.W. Prov. G.M., Colonel Lockwood, M.P., but whilst the brethren were assembling, a message was received from the Colonel that the exigencies of his Parliamentary duties prevented his leaving the House. The post of Consecrating Officer was, thereupon, undertaken by the Provincial Grand Secretary, W. Bro. Thos. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C.

In opening the proceedings, the Acting Provincial Grand Master said he was sure they all regretted that Colonel Lockwood had been prevented coming amongst them that day, and he was quite sure the gallant Colonel regretted it also. The lodge they were about to consecrate was comprised of brethren whose Masonic work had hitherto been confined chiefly to the Metropolis, but as they were now joining a provincial organization he felt sure they would understand that it involved special responsibilities. The Bagshaw Lodge, which for many years had been holding its meetings at Loughton, was an excellent example of what a provincial lodge should be, and if the members of the lodge now about to be constituted followed in the same lines it would be certain to succeed, and be a source of strength to the province.

The Prov. G. Chap. gave a very earnest address on the nature and principles of the Institution, showing that the practice of Freemasonry placed before men a high ideal to which it was possible for them to attain; while the fraternal intercourse engendered by the lodge meetings enabled the brethren to see the best side of one another and so softened

the asperities which were apt to arise in the strife and competition of life. In a critical world, Masonry was judged not by its best members, but by those who, it was to be regretted, gave occasion for unfriendly remarks, and he therefore warned the members of the new lodge to be careful only to admit into their ranks those who would reflect honour on their choice. In conclusion he wished the lodge a long and prosperous career.

The ceremony was then proceeded with according to ancient usage, the musical portions being ably conducted by W. Bro. R. J. Hennings, P.M. 2508, P.P.J.G.D., assisted by Bros. Frank Swinford, Paul Hodges, Arthur Court, and Frank Peskett.

The installation of W. Bro. Major Wenborn, P.M. 2861, as first W.M. followed, the ceremony being ably rendered by W. Bro. J. H. Salter, D. Prov. G.M. The first officers were invested as follows:—Bros. L. H. Wilkins, S.W.; S. G. Spencer, J.W.; A. J. Blake, P.M. 1839, Treasurer; F. C. Foster, P.M. 30, Secretary; R. J. Gann, S.D.; R. Leppard, P.M. 30, J.D.; J. Ferguson, I.G.; W. H. Wendon, D.C.; Talby and Skeet, Stewards; and J. Bailey, Tyler.

The W.M. was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the consecrating officers for their services, and they were elected as honorary members of the lodge, the W.M. presenting to the Acting Prov. G.M. and D. Prov. G.M. a replica of the founder's jewel as a memento of the occasion.

Several propositions of new members having been made, the lodge proceedings closed, and the brethren adjourned to a banquet.

Yorick Lodge, No. 2771.

Installation of W. Bro. E. Lockwood.

THE fifth installation meeting of this popular lodge took place on Tuesday, 21st ult., at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus. The Ceremony of Installation was performed by W. Bro. W. S. Penley, P.G. Treasurer, with that solemnity and dignity for which he is so renowned. There were present a large number of distinguished visitors, principally representing the histrionic, journalistic, and musical professions, from whose ranks the membership of the lodge is entirely recruited, it having been formed among members of the flourishing Yorick Club from which the lodge took its name. The newly installed Master, W. Bro. E. Lockwood, is well known in Theatrical and Masonic circles, and is a prominent and active member of the London Lodge, No. 108, for which he has served the office of Master and he is also a member of the Eccentric Lodge, No. 2488, in which he holds the office of J.W.

He appointed and invested the following officers in a manner which gave promise of perfect ceremonial throughout his year of office.—Bros. Clarence Soumes, George Robins, W. S. Penley, P.G. Treas., F. Trekawke Davies, the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, P.G. Chap., Duncan Tovey, F. T. Addyman, Athelstane Nobbs, M.D., Alexander Watson, A. J. Winter, A. P. Oxley, E. H. Bull, W. Payne Seddon, W. Bradford Smith, and J. W. Freeman.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of installation the Worshipful Master presented his predecessor, Bro. J. Bannister Howard, with a Past Master's Jewel, voted to him by the lodge, and in well chosen terms, complimented him on his labours for the benefit of the lodge during his year of

mastership, and upon the success that has attended his efforts. It was announced that the W.M. was representing the lodge as Steward at the forthcoming festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys in June next, and the sum of £10 10s. from the Benevolent fund of the lodge was voted upon his list. The lodge was closed and the brethren adjourned to a well served banquet.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured.

The toast of "The Grand Officers" was replied to by W. Bro. Harry Nickolls, G. Std. B., in his usual and highly appreciated vein of humour, indulging in reminiscences of the old days of the Junior Garrick Club, of which he was an early member, and from which the Yorick Club had its birth, and in which Bro. Geo. Conquest had been his sponsor. He thanked the W.M. for having coupled his name with the toast of the Grand Officers, and it was a pleasure to respond to that august body. He always had a hearty welcome from the Yorick Lodge, of which he was proud to be an honorary member, and to which he wished continued success.

W. Bro. J. Bannister Howard, I.P.M., in proposing the toast of "The Worshipful Master," said it required few words of his to commend the toast for their hearty reception, as they all knew what an excellent W.M. Bro. Lockwood would prove, and also appreciated the fact that they were fortunate in having such a good and sincere Mason to preside over them in the coming year, and they would all rally round him and loyally support him in his work.

The W.M., in responding, hardly knew how to thank them for the heartiness with which they had received the

toast so eulogistically proposed by the I.P.M., it was early times yet to state what he intended to do, but trusted the members would see to it that he had some candidates of the right sort, and all he could promise them would be that the work as Master would be discharged to the utmost of his ability.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

The W.M., in proposing "the I.P.M." reviewed the progress of the lodge under his Mastership. They had never had a better or more prosperous year, and as Masons they could not have spent a more pleasant year. He had been an excellent W.M. and had worked very hard, with the result that everything had gone well.

Responding, Bro. J. Bannister Howard thanked the brethren for their reception of the toast, and for the kind words which had fallen from the W.M.; he had not had as much work to do as he would have wished, but it had been a very happy year and the lodge had been increased by the addition of three initiates and one joining member. He trusted his successor would have more initiates in his year, but it must, of necessity, remain a small lodge as it was recruited entirely from the Yorick Club, in which they all took so keen an interest. He thoroughly appreciated the beautiful jewel they had presented him with, and would regard it as a handsome token of the slight work he had performed.

The W.M. proposed the toast of the "Installing Master," Bro. W. S. Penley, P.G. Treasurer, which he said required a very brief introduction, as all who had witnessed it were not likely to forget the admirable manner in which he had rendered the ceremony.

Bro. W. S. Penley, responding, protested that, being a Past Master of the lodge it was not necessary for him to say

much, he was delighted to be of service to the lodge and it had been a particular pleasure for him to instal his friend of so many years, Bro. Lockwood, and he had no doubt whatever that his year would be a successful one as he possessed strong personality and a kindly disposition, which qualities never fail to command success.

The toast of "The Visitors" received a hearty reception and was responded to by Bro. H. Newland, W.M. 2928, Dr. Lloyd, P.M. 1201, and W. Singleton Hooper, P.M. 1987, all of whom expressed the pleasure their visit to the lodge had given them, and they wished the lodge every success.

The combined toast of "The Treasurer, Secretary, and Officers of the Lodge," was replied to by W. Bro. F. Trehawke Davies, P.M. and Sec., who thanked the W.M. for the kind terms in which he had spoken of the officers in general, and of his own services in particular. It was his intention in the future, as in the past, to do his best for the welfare of the lodge, and would try and keep it well to the front. If hard work would do it he could promise it should be done. The Yorick Lodge was Bohemian and composed of good fellows, and might become very powerful in the future, as there were many good men and true in the Yorick Club to whom they would extend a hearty welcome if they sought admission into the mysteries of the Craft. As the mouthpiece of the Treasurer and the other officers, he promised the W.M. hearty and loyal co-operation.

We give an illustration of the very handsome charity box, modelled in oak and silver after an old design, which was presented to the lodge by its excellent Wine Steward, Bro. W. Bradford Smith.



CHARITY BOX.

A capital musical programme was rendered by Misses Nina Gordon, B. Gordon, Winnie Gordon, Fifi Gordon, Hebe Dennis, Katie Kerr, Mr. Sydney Barraclough and a clever and masterly exhibition of sleight-of-hand by one of the visitors, Bro. Dr. Byrd Page.

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

Lodge of Stability, No. 217.

THE Installation of Bro. Lewis Vague as Worshipful Master of the Lodge of Stability took place at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on February 7th. The Warrant of the Lodge was granted in 1797, and although its membership is limited to sixty—a number which has never been exceeded—the lodge has during its 108 years existence contained some of the most eminent of English Masons.

After being duly installed, the Worshipful Master invested the following officers. Bros. Frederick D. Landeker, I.P.M.; William J. Wratten, B. Sc., S.W.; Edward F. Giraud, J.W.; James H. Edwards, P.M., Treasurer; John Nixon, P.M., Secretary; Albert E. Taperell, S.D.; Arthur Taylor, J.D.; Alfred Botterill, I.G.; W. R. Smith, P.M., D.C.; William Gorrie, P.M., S.S.; Thomas Foster and Robert Fisher, A.S.; Frederick C. Corps, Organist; Thomas Bowler, P.M., Tyler.

The brethren and visitors, numbering just over seventy, afterwards adjourned to a banquet which was held in the Pillar Room. The Worshipful Master in submitting the toast of "The King," which was received with acclamation, referred to the fact that W. Bro. Marfleet, the father of the Lodge and one of its most regular attendants, represented the lodge no less than 30 years ago, in the capacity of its then Worshipful Master, on the memorable and historic occasion when the present King, Edward VII., as Prince of Wales, was installed Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Order in 1875.

The Worshipful Master next proposed the toast of "The Most Worshipful Grand Master, His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, K.G., &c.," and said that notwithstanding the fact that his military duties occupied so much of His Royal Highness's time and attention, he made a most worthy successor to his illustrious brother.



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

In proposing the toast of "The Most Worshipful Pro Grand Master, the R.W. Deputy Grand Master, and the rest of the Grand Officers," the Worshipful Master referred to the fact that according to the History of the Lodge prepared by Bro. W. R. Smith, P.M., for the Centenary Festival, the Lodge of Stability had grand officers of its own for many years. He coupled with the toast the name of W. Bro. Leach Barrett, Past Grand Standard Bearer, who had honoured them with his company.

In responding to the toast W. Bro. Barrett paid a graceful tribute to the age and reputation of the lodge by stating that in his opinion a lodge of such standing ought to have a grand officer among its members to respond to the toast instead of the master having to call on one of his guests to do so. He complimented the lodge on its admirable working and spoke in high terms of the Worshipful Master whom he had known for many years as a zealous worker in the cause of Freemasonry. He trusted his term of office would be a most successful one, and concluded by wishing prosperity to the Lodge and all its members.

The immediate Past Master proposed the toast of the Worshipful Master which was received with enthusiasm. He reminded the brethren of the active interest he had always shown in the welfare of the lodge especially in causing the lodge to increase its annual subscription, revise its bye-laws, and to vote the sum of twenty guineas on his list when he acted as steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys on the occasion of its 106th anniversary in June last.

The Worshipful Master in responding said he was not only grateful for the honour which had been unanimously conferred upon him by the lodge, but was deeply sensible of the responsibility which devolved upon him, a responsibility which he would not have ventured to have undertaken had he not known that he would receive the support of the Past Masters and Officers, and the loyal co-operation of the brethren. He assured the brethren that it would be his utmost endeavour to discharge his duties to their entire satisfaction, and to uphold the traditions and prestige of the lodge.

The Worshipful Master next proposed "The Installing Masters," and coupled with it the names of Bro. Marfleet, P.M., who had done his work in an admirable manner. Before resuming his seat he presented the Immediate Past Master with a jewel which the lodge had voted him as a mark of their high appreciation of the very able and distinguished manner in which he had discharged his duties during the past twelve months, and referred to the excellent results of his labours on behalf of Masonic charity.

Bro. Marfleet in responding, referred to the pleasure which he derived in witnessing the continued prosperity of the lodge—related incidents in its past history. He referred to the active interest taken in its affairs—by the younger members whom the Past Masters would at all times most readily and willingly assist. The Immediate Past Master thanked the brethren for the jewel they had given him, and stated that he should always prize it as a token of their appreciation of his services. Bro. Rose thanked the Worshipful Master for having coupled his name with the toast. He had taken a keen interest in the working of the lodge for a number of years. The present Master, as well as each of his ten immediate predecessors in the chair, had been taught their duties at the Rose Lodge of Instruction. It was most gratifying to him to see so many of the younger brethren making themselves proficient to hold office, and assured the brethren that the lodge would not lack competent Masters to preside over them for many years to come.

The toast of "The Initiate" was responded to by Bro. Hunt, who expressed the pleasure he felt in being admitted a member of such an ancient and time honoured lodge.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," the Worshipful Master said the lodge always extended a most cordial welcome to its visitors. The list of visitors included the following brethren: Bros. J. Leach Barrett, F. E. Grose, E. S. Burgess, G. J. Ralph, J. Brown, W. J. Frampton, Edward Symons, F. Robinson, A. E. Broadberry, J. O. Widger, A. H. Simons, Eustace Garner, G. S. Brimley, W. R. Daniel, J. F. Doughty, F. Gardner, W. Lowe, E. Tanner, and H. Jungblut. He was specially pleased to welcome his brother Cornishmen from the other lodge in which he had the honour of being an officer, and was particularly pleased that W. Bro. Ayris, P.M., who introduced him to the lodge some twelve years ago, was present to see him installed in the chair. He coupled with the toast the names of the brethren present, who were Masters of Lodges.

W. Bro. Grose, W.M. of the Cornish Lodge in replying, said it was a pleasure to him to be present as a guest that evening. Bro. Vague was one of his own officers of whom he felt very proud, and assured the lodge that he would make an admirable Master. The Masters of the following lodges also spoke, in response to the toast:—The James Terry, the Mornington, the Rose, and the Papyrus, the latter being a daughter lodge of the Lodge of Stability.

The toast of "The Officers of the lodge" was proposed by the Worshipful Master and responded to by Bro. John Nixon, the Secretary for over a quarter of a century, Bro. Edwards the Treasurer, and Bro. Wratten, Senior Warden. The latter expressed his pleasure at seeing so many Cornishmen with them that evening to support their fellow countryman, as he had very pleasant recollections indeed of his visits to the Cornish Lodge.

The musical programme was most admirably carried out under the direction of Bro. F. C. Corps, the organist, assisted by Bros. Taylor, Evans and Hartley, and was highly appreciated by one and all.

Ladies' Entertainment of the Sincerity Lodge, No. 174.

THE annual ladies' entertainment of the above lodge was held at the Empire Rooms of the Trocadero Restaurant, on Saturday, the 25th March. The proceedings opened with a whist tournament, which was followed by a banquet served in the style for which Messrs. Lyons and Co. have deservedly become famous, and a Bohemian concert filled in the remainder of the evening.

Bro. W. A. Sterling, the W.M., presided, and the Stewards were Bros. C. H. Webb, W. Tidman, E. J. Wallis, E. P. Brokenshire, A. E. Reeve, C. R. Naylor, H. Coffin, J. S. Parker, and C. Parry.

Bro. V. J. Reveley, to whom the credit for the initiatory arrangements was due, was the Secretary of the Festival Committee.

At the banquet the toast of "The Health of the Ladies and the Visitors" was proposed by the W.M. (who is also the W.M. of the Southern Cross Lodge, No. 2918.) He said their pleasure was all the deeper, inasmuch as they were

experience. If they wanted sympathy it was a woman who could give it. If they were sad it was a woman who could cheer. If they wanted true happiness it was a woman who could give it them. Let them then take the ladies more into their confidence. Proceeding, Bro. Sterling said, Freemasonry was older by many thousands of years than Christianity and it would last for ever, for the reason that it was founded on eternal truth. To the visitors who were not Masons he extended a most kindly welcome, and to the visiting brethren he could not say more than that he was always glad to see them there.

Bro. Tidman, S.W., replied on behalf of the ladies, Dr. Hancock on behalf of the gentlemen, and Bro. J. H. Meyer for the visiting brethren.

The toast of "The Worshipful Master" was then proposed by Bro. J. H. Bulmer, and Bro. Sterling thanked them on behalf of his wife as well as for himself. He could not, he said, if he spoke for an hour, express all he felt, because



THE BANQUET.

sharing it with the ladies. There were a great many present, and he tendered them a cordial and hearty welcome. He thought it would be a good deal better for Freemasonry if more reliance were placed in the feminine element. Away with those subterfuges so dear to them when arriving home later than they intended from their festive gatherings! It was not possible for them to initiate the ladies into Freemasonry, indeed, he believed the only one who had been admitted—only one—had come to a violent end in consequence of the impossibility—alas, a common feminine failing—of her being able to keep a secret. But, joking apart, he would let them a little into his confidence in this matter. No greater friend had he since he was initiated into Freemasonry seven years ago—and it was a source of gratification to him to be in the proud position he now occupied after so short a connection with the Craft—than his wife, Mrs. Sterling. That was, he knew, no uncommon

his feelings were beyond expression. He would remind the brethren that great credit was due to Bro. Reveley for the excellence of the gathering.

Bro. Reveley replied in a business-like speech.

The whist prizes awarded later in the evening consisted of—Ladies.—1st. Gold bracelet. 2nd. Silver brush, comb, and glass. 3rd. Silver cake basket. Gentlemen.—1st. Phonograph. 2nd. Tantalus. 3rd. Silver mounted umbrella.

The concert was of a varied character, and included songs, recitations, shadowgraphy, and clarionet solos. To mention names were invidious indeed, to mention none would be equally unjust. The performance of Miss Emily Bell, L.R.A.M., at the piano, Miss Mona Limerick's "Ben Hur," the songs of Misses Coyle, Geere, Eva Hardy, Mr. Sivey Levey, a la Grossmith, Bro. Smith and Mr. Vincent's sleight of hand and imitations respectively, and Mr. Wood on the clarionet were deserving of the highest praise.

Bective Lodge, No. 1532, Carlisle.

THE installation of Bro. W. G. Coulthard as W.M. of Bective Lodge, No. 1532, took place on Wednesday, April 5th, at the Masonic Hall, Fisher Street, Carlisle, the proceedings throughout being of a more than usually interesting and enjoyable character. The new Worshipful Master is well known and highly respected throughout the district, and there was consequently a large gathering at the ceremony, visiting brethren being present from Kendal, Wigton, Aspatria, Annan and Darwen (Lancashire), as well as from the sister Lodges, Union and Border City of Carlisle. The Installing Masters were, Bro. E. I. Baber, I.P.M. (whom it is extremely



THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

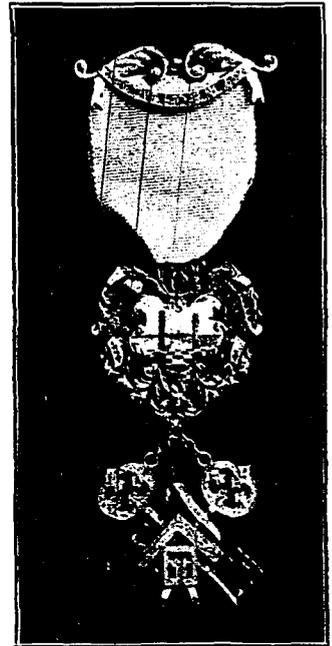
interesting to note had the unique experience during his year of office of initiating, passing and raising his father), Bro. H. Higginson, P.M. and Bro. J. W. Hayton, P.M., P.P.S.G.W.

The newly appointed Master invested his officers as follows:—Bros. E. I. Baber, I.P.M.; F. W. R. Sale, S.W.; H. E. Winter, J.W.; Rev. A. Davidson, Chaplain; Alexander Taylor, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., Treasurer; J. Satterthwaite, Secretary; H. Wild, Asst. Secretary; E. H. G. Parker, S.D.;

J. A. Broughton, J.D.; J. W. Hayton, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., D. of C.; H. C. Simpson, I.G.; J. H. B. Johnston, Organist; H. E. Nunney, J. W. Kilmister, J. Pattinson and F. A. Shaw, Stewards, and J. Wilson, Tyler. Afterwards the brethren adjourned to the County Hotel where an excellent and well served banquet was provided by Bro. Koster.

The usual loyal and Masonic toasts having been proposed Bro. E. I. Baber, I.P.M., P.G.S., gave the toast of "The newly installed Worshipful Master," which was very heartily received. "The Immediate Past Master," proposed by Bro. Alexander Taylor was equally well received. Bro. J. W. Hayton gave "The Sister Lodges of Carlisle," and other toasts were proposed by Bros. H. E. Winter, T. Elwen and H. Higginson.

A pleasing incident of the proceedings was the presentation by Bro. Alexander Taylor, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., to Bro. E. I. Baber, the retiring W.M., who has proved a most efficient and popular ruler, of a Past Master's Jewel. After this Bro. Alexander Taylor was presented with an extremely handsome P.M. Treasurer's Jewel, subscribed for by the lodge, in recognition of his thirty years connection with the lodge, and of thirteen years continuous and able service as Treasurer, and bearing the following inscription. "Presented by the brethren of Bective Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1532 to Wor. Bro. Alexander Taylor, P.M., P.P.S.G.W., a founder and first I.P.M. of the lodge in 1875, W.M. in 1895, and Treasurer for thirteen years." The presentation was made by Bro. E. I. Baber in a most interesting and appropriate speech.



PRESENTATION JEWEL.

The harmony was contributed by Bros. J. A. Broughton, W. Finch, E. Gray, S. L. Asquith, J. Logan, D. I. White, J. Dodd, F. E. Godfrey, F. W. Tassell, W. H. Park, W. P. Key, and E. I. Baber; Bros. B. Scott and W. P. Key acting as accompanists. The evening was brought to the close with the Tyler's Toast.

Such is Freemasonry.

THERE is an appreciable diminution in the number of men nowadays who look at the Freemasons from a distance, and a growing tendency to investigate and embrace it.

The tidal wave of virulent and acrimonious opposition which swept over a part of our country not so very many years ago, and which developed into a condition of bitterness and persecution hardly conceivable at the present time, has receded, after throwing on the shore of human experience only the driftwood of anti-Masonic narrowness and bigotry. Men can but acknowledge, so far as they are able to judge, that the influences of Freemasonry are uplifting; that it holds out no inducements save the loftiest in character and the grandest in sentiment; that its tendencies are elevating, refining and progressive; and that its claims are noble facts instead of vague assertions. It has never entered the field of human activities with blazoned banners, priest or preachers

to influence additions to its ranks. Its grand endeavour is not so much to save men as to make them worthy to be saved, to subdue their passions, make them tender, truthful, honest, loyal, clean-handed and great-hearted.

It exalts reverence, that most beautiful of all forms of moral goodness, and its obligations spring from the source of purest virtue and loftiest patriotism.

When sincere Freemasonry controls men, there will be no loss of the old faith in God which inspired and animated the builders of the ancient temple.

When it is best exemplified, unbelief grows gentle and respectful; benevolence, uprightness, enterprise and freedom, multiply, and the central saving truths of faith in Him in whom they have put their trust will flower and fruit as long as there are days of toil and sorrow, or nights of weariness and pain.—*P. C. Huntington.*



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It appears from the notices in the local papers that the Freemason volunteers of Liverpool have not taken kindly to the refusal by the Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of the permission they desired to found a Volunteer Masonic lodge. Rightly or wrongly, the petitioners believe that the disapproval came not from the throne itself, but from the power behind the throne, and the opinion is strongly expressed that, had his lordship but seen his way to receive a deputation of the petitioners, his answer would have been of a different nature. The petitioners cannot see why—Volunteer lodges being already established in London, in Manchester, and in Birmingham—permission should be refused to found one in Liverpool, where the number of Masonic volunteers, already large, is being rapidly augmented.



The Freemasons of Northampton gave their annual treat to the old people of the town recently, the gathering taking place at the Corn Exchange. Between 700 and 800 guests were entertained to a substantial meat tea, the wives and members of the families of the brethren presiding at the tables, about 100 of the members of the various lodges acting as waiters. After tea a few short speeches were delivered, the speakers including the R.W. Bro. Lord Euston, Prov. Grand Master, the Mayor of Northampton (Councillor A. E. Marlow), and the Rev. Lloyd T. Jones, the Vicar of All Saints. Subsequently a capital entertainment was provided, the programme consisting of a cinematograph exhibition, which was divided into three sections, the intervals being filled with musical contributions by the Masons and their friends.



We learn with much satisfaction that his Honour Judge Philbrick, K.C., Grand J. of Supreme Grand Chapter, and Grand Superintendent of Essex, has so far recovered from his recent severe illness as to be able to be removed to Swanage, where it is hoped he will daily gain health and strength.

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NO Masonic Festival excites more widespread interest than that which is to be commemorated for the 117th time on Wednesday, May 10th. It is the oldest of our Charities, having been founded by the Chevalier Ruspini as far back as 1788, and an Institution which survives for 117 years, each one of which has a greater record of usefulness than the one before, has undoubted claims to consideration. It commenced life in a very modest way on Lady Day, a

very appropriate anniversary, and by the following January there were fifteen fatherless children partaking of its benefits. The number now on the rolls is 278, and, in all, 2174 girls have passed through the Institution.

Complete records of all transactions have been kept from the foundation, and it has been possible therefore to write a complete history, a task very efficiently performed by the late Bro. G. B. Abbott.

From 1788 to the present time, an annual festival has been held, and the total amount realized up to the end of 1904 has been £579,314 2s. 10d. Nothing under £20,000 is looked for nowadays, and, if we exclude the Centenary in 1888, that sum was first reached in 1899. That year showed more than £11,000 in advance of the year before, but the Boys' Centenary was celebrated in 1898, and doubtless the girls were not the only ones to suffer. Probably the boys suffered when the girls got more than £51,000 in the Albert Hall ten years previously.

Of course a considerable amount of this large total has been invested from time to time, in fact the capital account stands at £262,289, of which approximately one-half is represented by convertible securities, and the rest by land, buildings, and fixtures. There is, therefore, an income from investments of more than £4,000, and as the upkeep for the year 1904 cost £15,600, there remained a balance for reserve and other investments of £20,000. As payments on building account and installation of electricity were somewhat heavy, the actual sum invested in the last year was £700.

Whilst the Girls' School is usually referred to as one of the Masonic Charities, it must not be supposed that it is, in the ordinary sense of the word, a charity school. Nor are its inmates necessarily trained to occupy menial positions in their future lives. They have for the most part been well nurtured and brought up, as the children of parents who have held honourable positions in Masonry as well as in the world, and in fact at the very beginning of the rules governing the Institution it is laid down that eligibility for admission must be due to the "altered circumstances" caused by the death, illness, or misfortune of their fathers. Girls, therefore, who pass through the Institution are found to have obtained appointments in the Post Office and the Civil Service, and under the several educational authorities. The local examinations established many years ago by the Universities have been taken advantage of by so many employers of labour, as well as by so many bodies of examiners in technical instruction, that they may be regarded as affording a most convenient entry into public and official life, and consequently girls are encouraged to present themselves for the local examinations of the University of Cambridge, and the record of success achieved has been most gratifying. In a recent year, for instance, out of fifty-seven girls who competed, all but one passed. A statement like this speaks volumes for the thoroughness of the education imparted, and for the excellence of a system which seeks to level up the whole school to a standard of moderate efficiency, rather than to cultivate the few clever scholars to the possible exclusion of those less gifted.

A very interesting circumstance connected with the management is that the whole of the present resident staff is made up of old pupils. In the year 1886, for instance, there died a venerable servant of the Institution, Miss Jarwood, who had been connected with it in various capacities for 67 years, ever since she entered it at the age of nine.

In a previous article dealing with the Benevolent Institution we have referred to the wholesome rivalry between the White and the Red Roses. Quite recently this war of the Roses culminated in a pitched battle so to speak. In 1902, the Earl of Lathom presided at the annual festival, and no less a sum than the magnificent amount of £8,046 was contributed by West Lancashire in support of its Provincial Grand Master. This represented high-water mark up to that time, but next year it was the turn of West Yorkshire, and so the White Rose set about beating its neighbour, with the result that they established a new record, sending up £8,676. East Lancashire has this year made a fierce assault on this record by contributing £14,436.

In view of the heroic efforts that we have been describing, it seems ungracious to utter a word of complaint, but it must be admitted that English Freemasonry beyond the seas does not figure prominently in the returns. For instance, last year, the total from all districts abroad was but £154, and but two lodges were represented, and even out of that meagre total four-fifths came from an unattached brother. India was absolutely unrepresented. The year before, 1903, only one English lodge abroad sent in anything, thirty guineas coming from a lodge and chapter in Bengal. It might possibly be supposed that the districts abroad made no claim on the Institution, but this is not so, for at the present moment there are a dozen beneficiares who have come from the Far East and the Far West. As regards India, the well-to-do members of lodges in that country are so constantly moved about from one district to another, that possibly they change their lodges too often to acquire that attachment to any one in particular, which would lead them to see that it made a good figure in the returns. And, moreover, the majority of them return to England, where they commence a new career in the Craft, and thenceforward figure in the home returns.

Possibly it would pay the Institution to send out some active and earnest brother to visit the lodges in India and to preach a mission of benevolence.

The Institution has been fortunate in its habitations. It has had but two during the past century, in St. George's Fields and on Wandsworth Common. Notwithstanding the extensions that have been necessitated from time to time, their present boundaries have always proved capable of enlargement, and, both as regards healthiness and convenience of access, the place in which it has been located for fifty years is not to be surpassed. As to the former consideration, Clapham Common is about the healthiest spot in the metropolis, Hampstead not excepted, and as to the latter it would be difficult to name any place in England that is not in easy communication with Clapham Junction.

In concluding this short notice we have to remind brethren once more of the festival announced for May 10th, and to recommend all who have not done so to go and see the Institution for themselves.



The Earl of Malmesbury, whose portrait appears on our front page, has, during the past year as Senior Grand Warden, proved himself a most zealous and efficient officer. Not only has he fulfilled his duties on every occasion on which Grand Lodge has met, but as chairman at the festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement and at many other functions, he has placed his services at the disposal of the brethren. Rumour has it that his zeal and assiduity is to be rewarded by his appointment as Senior Grand Warden for another year. That he is about to join the order of Benedicts is something more than a rumour, and we have it on the best authority that his wedding is fixed for the day after the Grand Festival. We congratulate our distinguished brother on both events, and he has our heartiest wishes for a pleasant Masonic year and life-long happiness in his married life.



In view of his lordship's approaching marriage, he was, on Thursday evening, the recipient of a very handsome wedding present from the Masonic Lodge of Hengist, of which he was recently the Worshipful Master. In addition to his appointment as Senior Grand Warden of England, he now holds the rank of Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden of the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. The

occasion of the presentation was the usual monthly meeting of the lodge, and there was, as might be expected, a large attendance of the brethren, nearly every one of whom had contributed to the presentation fund. The gift consisted of a very handsome dessert epergne, with one large central dish and four smaller side dishes, all of very fine English cut glass. The stands are of silver, of ornamental design, with every part of the work—every little dot or spec—done by hammer and chisel. The base is hand engraved, and bears the following inscription:—"Presented by the members of the Lodge of Hengist to R.W. the Earl of Malmesbury, P.M.,



DESSERT EPERGNE, PRESENTED TO THE EARL OF MALMESBURY.

S.G.W. England, on the occasion of his marriage, 27th April, 1905." The presentation was made, on behalf of the subscribers, by the W.M. of the lodge, Bro. A. H. Trevanion, and was acknowledged by R.W. Bro. the Earl of Malmesbury in a brief speech, in which he expressed himself as being quite overcome by the exuberance of the brethren's generosity. He very greatly appreciated the kindness which had been shown him, and he should write and tell some one else, who also, he was sure, would be greatly delighted.



The annual report recently issued of the Masonic Orphan Boys' School of Ireland, now in the thirty-seventh year of its existence is very pleasant reading. The Institution continues to carry on its useful and beneficial functions with efficiency and success. Ninety boys, children of deceased brethren are at present fed, clothed, and educated in the extensive school premises at Clonskeagh. It is to be regretted that the amount received in subscriptions has not kept pace with the increased number of pupils. The Freemasons of Ireland have every reason to be proud of their Boys' School, and the Governors are firmly convinced that considerably more than one thousand of them could, without inconvenience to themselves, become Governors and thus identify themselves personally with a charity so deserving of their support. Particulars are given of successes in examinations which clearly show the excellent education imparted.



The "Calendar and Directory" for 1905 of the province of Gloucestershire contains much information useful to the brethren, but the great charities of the Craft call forth effort which is of much wider interest. The Freemasons of Gloucestershire have for many years maintained their province in a very honourable position, there being few divisions of the kingdom in which the average of support per member has been kept at so high a standard as in that county. The work of the past year has done no discredit to the reputation of the province, for though the period was one of some financial depression, upwards of 1,000 guineas went up from the county in support of the three great Masonic charities, in addition to the considerable sum contributed within the province to meet more local claims upon its benevolence.

It may be of interest to the lodges meeting at Freemasons' Hall to know that the Freemasons' Tavern will be closed, probably for at least a year, from midsummer next, for the purpose of carrying out the important alterations and decorations which have been decided on by Grand Lodge, amounting, as far as the interior is concerned, almost to reconstruction. All the lodges meeting in the Hall will find it necessary to make other dining arrangements, which we apprehend will be mostly of a temporary character, and those lodges which desire to return to Freemasons' Tavern will be well advised in retaining the occupancy of the Lodge Rooms in Freemasons' Hall, in view of the fact that the improved dining facilities will undoubtedly attract many desirous of meeting at headquarters, but who have hitherto preferred to dine amid the more attractive surroundings of the West End Hotels.

The Grand Secretary, Sir Edward Letchworth, attained his 72nd birthday on March 20th, and congratulations and hearty good wishes appeared in the press from "Lands End to John o' Groats." We desire to join in this expression of esteem and regard to one who is not only an able exponent of the ritual and ceremonies of the Order but whose personality represents all that is truest and best in Freemasonry.

Sir Edward was made a member of Grand Lodge of England eight-and-twenty years ago, and succeeded the late Colonel Shadwell Clarke in the office he now so worthily fills. In his early days the Grand Secretary was a lawyer of some eminence, and was for many years a Chief Steward of Queen Victoria's Manors. The Volunteer movement of five-and-forty years ago owed much to his unflagging enthusiasm, and the Foundling Hospital and "Bart's," have both good cause to be grateful to him. Three years ago Sir Edward became a Benedict, espousing the charming widow of Mr. Thomas Blaikie, of Aberdeen.

Some of our Scottish brethren are of opinion that as there is no given interval of time in Grand Lodge laws for the re-nomination of a candidate for Freemasonry, the members of Grand Lodge should set themselves to the duty of providing for a time limit. His grievance is that in a lodge in a neighbouring province to Glasgow a candidate has been brought up at three consecutive meetings and balloted for, and each time rejected. It seems as if there was a desire on the part of those in authority to steal a march on the objectors—a very un-Masonic proceeding.

We often hear that some one has done much for Masonry. Did ever it occur to you that no one ever did as much for Masonry as Masonry does for him? The ledger ever shows a large balance to the credit of Masonry. May we not sometimes wonder whether our novitiates are indeed uninfluenced by mercenary motives? As man is a creature of his environment, may he not be expected to partake of the spirit of rapacious greed that masks under the name of commercial activity? Will he, who is a Mason in truth and spirit and who practises the true principles of the art, be one who will find a Masonic offense in an indebtedness of business or a violation of contract, to adjudicate which civil courts are provided? When a defeated candidate at the polls arraigns the members of his lodge because they did not support him, is he properly wielding the working tools of the craft? When the tongue of scandalous report sets the pack upon a man, does the true Mason join, or does he seek to drive the hounds back into their kennels? Are the teachings of the institution such that one can for a moment doubt the line of his duty? Should we mercilessly pursue the unfortunate man whose appetite leads him to debase his profession and destroy his faculties? Should we hasten to our lodge with formally prepared charges against such a one? Or should we go to his side and lift him up, set his feet right and hold up his hands? Is the efficiency of Masonry to be measured by the number of neophytes whose coming to our altar is too often the result of an activity

which should be found only in commercial circles? Have the accessions of the past two years, the greatest our jurisdiction has ever known, added strength to the moral influence of our jurisdiction, or only dollars to our treasury? Is there Masonry in the effort to distort fancies into facts that the Masonic life of one may be placed in jeopardy, whose views on some rule of government do not coincide with ours? If the length of a lodge be from east to west, its breadth from north to south, its height from the earth to the heavens, is there then therein any abiding place for narrowness? We may well ask these questions of ourselves and spend time with the thoughts the inquiries produce.—
Beslor G. Brown, P.G.M., Kansas.

We record with great regret the death, on Wednesday, April 5th, of Bro. George Blizzard Abbott, Editor of the *Freemason*. He had for some time been failing in health, but was not thought to be seriously unwell until a short time before his death. Bro. Abbott was educated at Christ's Hospital, where he became a Grecian, and afterwards became an Associate of King's College. He commenced life in the Civil Service, but like many other Civil Servants of literary tastes and aspirations, he soon joined the ranks of journalism, associating himself with *Land and Water*, of which he was sub-editor, *Chambers Journal*, and other publications. His first contributions to the Masonic press appeared in the *Freemasons' Chronicle*, and consisted of a series of bright and piquant biographical sketches of eminent living Masons, which attracted much attention at the time, and were, we believe, republished in book form. A short time after he became an occasional contributor to the *Freemason*, and about ten years since its editor. His history of Freemasonry in Hertfordshire is a fair example of his painstaking and exhaustive methods in dealing with Masonic history, whether of local or cosmopolitan importance.

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Bro. Abbott was initiated in the Gladsmuir Lodge, No. 1385, in 1875, and became Master in 1893. He was exalted in the Gladsmuir Chapter in 1896, and was elected First Principal in 1899. He was also a Past Grand Deacon of the Province of Hertfordshire and Past Grand Principal Sojourner of the same province. His remains were interred at Twickenham on Saturday, April 8th.



At a "Masonic Social," at Harwich, recently, the Rev. Bro. McPhail made a departure from the usual custom of dealing with Masonic subjects at such gatherings, and gave an interesting address on "Education in Scotland eighty years ago." He remarked that the present generation were but imperfectly acquainted with the state of matters that previously obtained. The cost of education in those days was not great, being 2s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. per quarter, and in the more advanced departments, where Greek and Latin were taught, 6s. These sums might seem very humble, but in the case of parents, whose wages were 10s. a week or little more, quarter day was always a day of much anxiety. The fact that payment was often difficult did not, however, affect the attendance, which was more satisfactory than it was in these days of free education and compulsory officials.



In those days the teacher had no status, society allowed him none. The village or parochial schoolmaster was a kind of nondescript, and formed, as it were, a sort of connecting link between the dults and the adults, and unquestionably he was Hamlet's ghost to all the little urchins of the village. The minister might condescend to invite the dominie to the house to take a cup of tea, but if the latter individual happened to have a wife she was not included in the invitation, as she was not considered fit company for the "leddy" of the manse. His associates were chiefly the small farmers in the district and in jovial gatherings he and the exciseman were the butt of the company.



On the Friday evenings when an individual, intending to enter into the matrimonial state, applied for his "levies" in order to be "cried," the bridegroom and his family invariably filled the dominie "fou," so that next day there was no school, as the "maister" had scarcely recovered from the effects of having joined the "Glassites." The discipline of the school, too, was in keeping with its entire economy. Fear of the rod was the only restraining influence in the minds of the pupils. The parents of the children were composed of Churchmen and Dissenters, but the religious question raised no difficulty, and had it been proposed to banish the Bible from the school all parties would have held up their hands in pious horror. The school, with clay or stone floor, was very cold for the children, who often had bare feet. Each child had to bring a peat, or peats, under his arm, and woe to the child who forgot his peat—no fire for him that day.



Following closely on the Kingsway Lodge, another tectotal lodge has been formed called the "Aldwych," to meet at Mark Masons' Hall, and to dine at the Holborn Restaurant. The fact that restaurateurs who have depended so largely on wines for their profits are willing to arrange water banquets and give temperance folk a home, is a significant sign of altered manners. The most fashionable hotels of the West End are, indeed, nowadays angling for the afternoon tea customers in a manner that would have annoyed the old management.

At the regular meeting of the Bagshaw Lodge, No. 1457, on Thursday, March 9, Colonel Lockwood, M.P., Provincial Grand Master, was the principal guest of the evening. The special occasion of the Colonel's visit was to do honour to W. Bro. T. T. Nunn, one of the oldest P.M.'s, who has recently retired from the position of Treasurer, which he had resigned owing to failing health. The members felt that Bro. Nunn's services ought to be specially recognised, and decided to present him with a Past Master's Collar and Jewel and a diamond ring. The Provincial Grand Master said he was pleased to make what he might call a flying visit to the lodge, partly that it gave him an opportunity of coming amongst the brethren, but specially on this occasion to be the medium of conveying to one of their number a testimonial of their good will. He had known Bro. Nunn for a good many years, and felt very strongly that he was one of those brethren who were an ornament to their Order. In investing that brother with the collar and jewel and presenting him with the ring he sincerely trusted he might be spared for many years to wear them. W. Bro. T. T. Nunn, who was visibly affected, briefly acknowledged the kindness of the brethren, and said he felt great pride in having received their handsome gift at the hands of the R.W. Provincial Grand Master.



The progress of "The Royal Society of St. George," since its formation in 1894, must be a source of great satisfaction to Bro. Howard Ruff, its honorary secretary, to whom its inception is due, and whose energetic efforts to embody it as one of the permanent English institutions have been crowned with success. Its primary object was the attainment of an all-English observance of St. George's Day and all that is thereby implied. It is urged by Bro. Ruff that while England contributes nearly ninety per cent. in men and money towards the upkeep of the Empire, her paramount position should be recognised and a national sentiment encouraged, that while the local patriotism of the Scotch, the Irish and the Welsh, may be right and proper to neglect the English is altogether illogical, England as a nation, it is claimed, has a history as great or even greater than any country in the world, and it is for the good of the world that her national characteristics, her distinctiveness, and her traditions should be preserved, and to help to effect this is the object of the society. The annual report just published is a bulky pamphlet of some 96 pages, containing besides reports of the local branches throughout the Empire, contributions from the pen of the Japanese Ambassador, Viscount Hayashi, Admiral Freemantle, Sir Clement Markham, K.C.B. The offices of the society are at 241, Shaftesbury Avenue, and as the members, subscription is merely a nominal one, there should be a great accession to the roll of members in the near future.



At the installation of Bro. A. Middleton Rickards as Worshipful Master of the Wrekin Lodge, No. 2883, Salopian brethren were present in full force at Hotel Cecil to do honour to one who was so identified with the county. The ceremony was admirably performed by the outgoing W.M., Bro. E. J. Gittins, P.P.G.W. Herts., and who was subsequently presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel. Lord Barnard, the first W.M. of the Wrekin Lodge, wrote regretting not being able to be present to see the first Secretary of the lodge installed. An excellent banquet followed lodge proceedings, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed, Bro. W. T. Winsor, P.M. 1950, acting as toast master.



CONNOISSEURS SMOKE

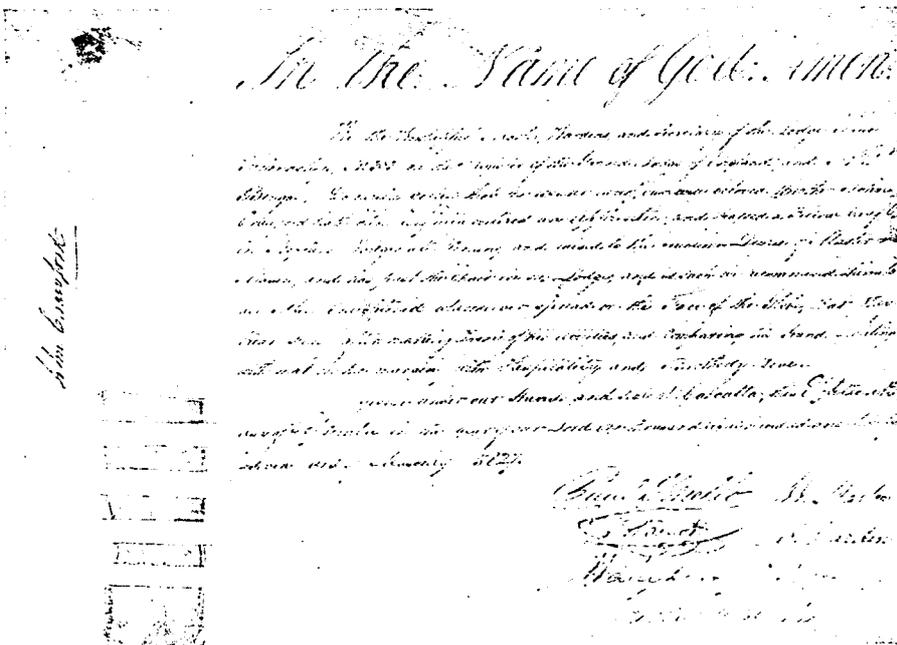
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The ancient apron, of which we give a photographic reproduction, belonged to a brother of some distinction as a naval officer, and although we have not been able to trace his Masonic career, other than by the certificate, of which we also give a reproduction, we have been favoured by his grandson, the Rev. J. R. Crawford, Rector of Bayton Thorpe, East Walton, with some particulars of his professional career.

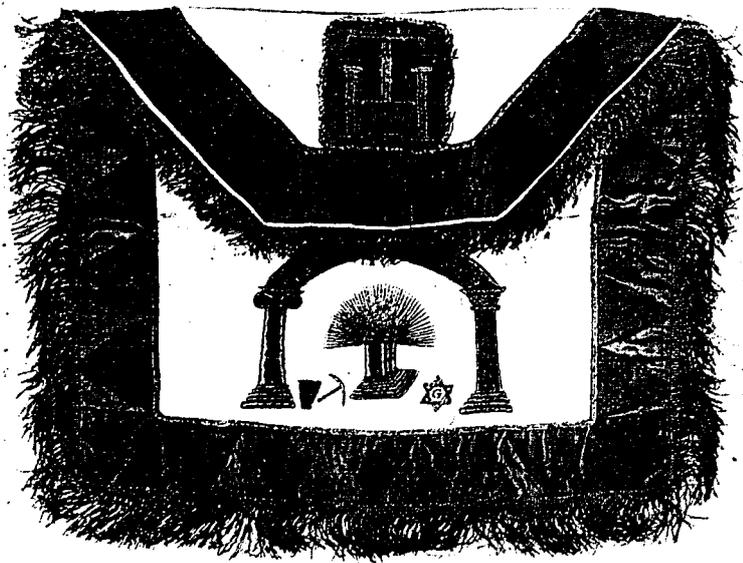
Brighton, when a resolution was passed in favour of presenting an address of congratulation to the Grand Master, the Duke of Connaught, on the occasion of His Royal Highness's daughter's betrothal.



THE CERTIFICATE.

Bro. John Garritt Fisher Crawford was, it seems, a man of "parts." He closed his professional career after much active service and much surveying work in the Indian seas,

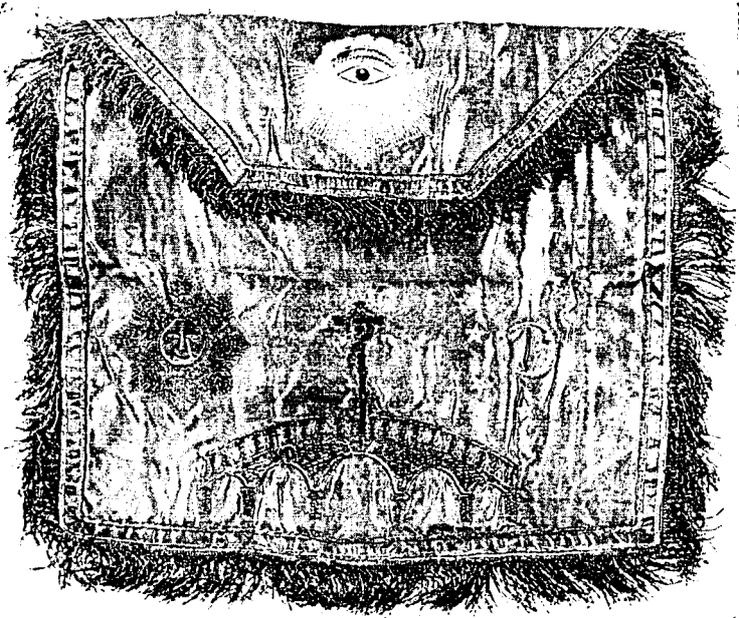
as Acting Superintendent of the Indian Navy, a rank which placed him at the head of that navy, and gave to his successor, on the amalgamation of the Indian with the Royal Navy, the rank of Admiral. He was thanked twice by the Indian Government in Council for his services. One incident is of interest. He, and Sir Stamford Raffles, as the Civil Administrator, annexed the then fishing villages of Singapore, in 1817, a station to take the place of one we had foolishly given over to the Dutch. It was Bro. Crawford who had selected this place, and now, as everyone knows, it is one of the most important stations for our navies and merchantmen in the world, with a population of hundreds of thousands.



BRO. CRAWFORD'S APRON.

On Tuesday the 4th inst., a special meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Sussex was held at the Royal Pavilion,

We regret to have to record the death since our last issue of V.W. Bro. Major J. Woodall, Past Grand Treasurer. Bro. Woodall had not been in good health for some time, and was about to undergo an operation had he lived a few days longer. He was a man of literary tastes and of considerable attainments as a linguist. The estimation in which he was held by his brethren may be gathered from the following resolution of sympathy which has been adopted by all the Scarborough lodges:—"On behalf of the Freemasons of Scarborough we beg to express the deep regret felt at the death of our distinguished and lamented V.W. Bro. J. W. Woodall, Past Grand Treasurer of England, Past Provincial Grand Warden, etc., whose great urbanity, liberality, and Masonic zeal have endeared his memory to the Craft generally, and particularly to the brethren of the Order in this town. We desire to convey to the widow and representatives of our deceased brother the



BRO. CRAWFORD'S APRON (REVERSE).

expression of our deep sympathy and condolence in this sad dispensation of Divine Providence."



The annual festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement (founded 1823) was held in the Temple of Freemason' Hall, by special permission on Friday evening, the 24th February, under the presidency of the Right Worshipful Bro. the Earl of Malmesbury, S.G.W., supported by about 150 Stewards, including Sir Edward Letchworth, Grand Secretary, R.W. Bro. R. Loveland Loveland, P.G.W., V.W. Bro. Rev. F. B. Norman Lee, P.G.C., V.W. Bro. Sir Forrest Fulton, P.G. Reg., W. Bro. Baron de Ferrieres, P.G.D., W. Bro. Sir Bruce M. Seton, Bart., P.G.D., etc. The first lecture was worked admirably under the direction of W. Bro. R. Clay Sudlow, P.A.G.D.C., as W.M., with the assistance of W. Bros. Cassall, West, Collins, Bennett, Jenks, Dear and Allsop. During the assembling of the brethren in Grand Lodge, and at the close of the ceremony a varied selection of music was rendered on the organ by W. Bro. Arthur Briscoe, P.P. Grand Organist (Surrey), P.M., in the unavoidable absence of W. Bro. E. Cutler, K.C., who was unfortunately absent through illness. A large number of brethren were present and the Festival was as usual a great success.

THE LISTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR SUBSCRIPTION.

A portion of the profits, whenever there shall be a surplus available, may be devoted to charitable purposes, and, subject to a Resolution of the Members in General Meeting, it is intended that any such available surplus shall be devoted to the three Masonic Charities.

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PROSPECTUS.

This Association has been formed to carry on the business of **Insurance in all its Branches** except life, and of banking and dealings of every description in land and property generally, and to act as Insurance Brokers and Agents to Insurance Companies and the like.

There is, at the present time, no other Association granting Insurance Policies specially to Freemasons, and this Association, subject to any Resolutions that may be passed in General Meeting, will make it a special feature of its business to issue Policies to Freemasons and their relatives in all departments of Insurance, other than Life Assurance.

It is proposed to make a leading feature of Sickness and Accident Insurance combined and of each separately.

The Association will also be prepared to issue Policies of Insurance for ACCIDENT AND FEVER, MOTOR CARS, BURGLARY, VEHICLE, FIRE, HORSES AND LIVE STOCK, GLASS, INDEMNITIES GENERALLY.

The Association will also be prepared to entertain risks of every description as Insurance Brokers.

The Association has no power to issue Policies for Life Assurance, but it is intended that it shall act in the capacity of Insurance Brokers to other Companies in this Department, thus earning a valuable income in the shape of Special Brokers' Commission.

It is intended to establish Local Boards and Branches in all large centres throughout the United Kingdom as soon as may be found practicable.

It is also intended to grant Agencies throughout the country, to Secretaries of Lodges and Freemasons generally.

The qualification of each Director (other than the first Directors), is the holding of 200 fully paid Shares in the Association.

The Rules of the Association provide that the net profits, after providing for interest to the Shareholders on their paid-up capital at a rate not exceeding 10 per cent. per annum, shall be applied in the creation of a Reserve Fund, the allotting of a special bonus to persons doing business with the Association, and the ultimate surplus may, with the approval of the General Meeting, be applied to any legal purpose of a charitable nature.

It is intended that the net profits of the Association, which may be declared divisible after providing for a Reserve and paying a dividend of seven and a half per cent. to the Shareholders on their paid-up capital, shall be appropriated as to three-fourths thereof among the holders of Policies in the Association and as to one-fourth thereof to the three Masonic Charities in equal shares.

A considerable amount of business has already been promised, which should assure to the Association a remunerative return, and the Directors have reason to anticipate that a large and valuable connection will be built up.

The remunerative nature of Insurance business is well recognised. In this connection, the following particulars (extracted from *Post Magazine Almanac*) of Companies transacting Accident and General business will be of interest.

Founded.	NAME.	1902. Nominal Capital.	1902. Subscribed (excluding Capital.	1902. Paid-up Capital amounts added out of Profits.)	Nominal Amount of each Share.	1902. Paid-up in Cash on each Share.	Amount credited as paid up out of Profits.	1902. Dividend calculated on amount paid up in cash.
1870	Accident	£ 50,000	£ 50,000	£ 50,000	£ 1 0 0	£ 1 0 0	—	12 0 0
1877	Horse and Carriage ...	1,000,000	18,870	11,077	5 0 0	Varies.	—	20/6 bonus paid
1869	London Guarantee ...	250,000	150,000	75,000	5 0 0	£ 2 0 0	—	20 0 0
1864	National Boiler ...	150,000	150,000	37,500	10 0 0	£ 2 10 0	£ 10 0	24 ..
1856	Norwich and London...	200,000	200,000	100,000	10 0 0	£ 5 0 0	—	17 ..
1871	Ocean	1,000,000	447,495	137,493	5 0 0	£ 1 0 0	—	10 ..
1849	Railway Passengers' ...	1,000,000	1,000,000	17,500	10 0 0	£ 3 6 1 16	£ 6 2 29	..
1881	Scottish Boiler...	75,000	71,390	7,139	5 0 0	£ 10 0 1 10	£ 0 80	..

Insurance Societies formed for special classes of the community have transacted a very large amount of business, as may be seen from the following table :—

Founded.	NAME.	1902. Paid-up Capital.	1902. Subscribed (excluding Capital.	1902. Paid-up Capital amounts added out of Profits.)	Nominal Amount of each Share.	1902. Paid-up in Cash on each Share.	Amount credited as paid up out of Profits.	1902. Dividend calculated on amount paid up in cash.
1829	CLERGY MUTUAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY, for benefit of Clergy and their relatives :							
	Paid in Claims and Bonuses			£10,156,062				
	Accumulated Funds			£4,147,020				
1832	FRIENDS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION (Mutual) for benefit of Quakers and their relatives :							
	Paid in Claims and Bonuses			£6,000,000				
	Accumulated Funds			£3,032,000				
1825	UNIVERSITY LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, for the Members of the Universities, the Public Schools, and certain other Educational Institutions :							
	Paid in Claims and Bonuses... ..			£4,239,710				
	Accumulated Funds			£930,100				

The Association has secured the services, as Managing Director, of Mr. Frank Miles, who has a wide experience as an Insurance Broker in every class of Insurance business, and to whose initiative the formation of the Association is due.

A contract has been entered into with him under which 2,500 shares will be allotted to him and his nominees for his services as Founder of the Association. His remuneration will be partly dependent upon profits.

The Association has obtained a lease for seven years, and at a reasonable rent, of suitable offices in Craven House, Kingsway, in close proximity to Freemasons' Hall.

The Association will pay the expenses connected with the registration thereof and the subscription of its capital.

The certificate of incorporation, with the Rules of the Association, and the above-mentioned Lease and Contract, may be inspected at the Offices of the Solicitor to the Association.

Share Prospectuses and Application Forms may be obtained at the Bankers, Solicitor, or at the Offices of the Association.

Some Notes on Freemasonry in Australasia.—(Continued).

By Bro. W. F. LAMONBY, P.D.G.M. of Victoria, and P.A.G.D.C. of England.

TASMANIA.

ON the score of official and national seniority, Van Dieman's Land—as it was first known, and for very many years subsequently—is the second of the Australasian colonies. The island was discovered by Abel Jans Tasman, a famous Dutch navigator, in 1642. He named it Van Dieman's Land in honour of his wealthy and enterprising patron, who provided him with ships and supplies; but, late in the last century, the British Government justly changed the name to Tasmania. Strange to say, it is recorded that Tasman



THE LATE REV. R. D. POULETT-HARRIS, M.A., FIRST GRAND MASTER OF TASMANIA.

did not at first know the territory to be an island. It was on September 12th, 1803, that Van Dieman's Land was taken possession of by the British Government, and in 1903 the centenary of the colony was fittingly celebrated. Up till 1824 Van Dieman's Land was part of New South Wales, and its rulers were designated commandants, the first of whom, Lieutenant John Bowen, R.N., commissioned by Governor King of New South Wales, was replaced the year after by Colonel David Collins, whose initial act was the selection of a capital for the settlement. The spot chosen was Hobart Town, or Hobart, as it has been known during the past twenty-five years. Hobart, it is no exaggeration to say, possesses one of the finest harbours in the world. Collins, however, had been singularly unfortunate in his expeditions, as prior to being sent to Van Dieman's Land, indeed, only six months before, he had reported to Governor King most

adversely as to the suitability of Port Phillip, to be subsequently named Victoria, for colonisation purposes, from every



BRO. HARRY CONWAY, J.P., P.G.M. OF TASMANIA, I.C.

point of view. In fact, he landed at a point, now known as Sorrento, and a favourite watering place, where he ordered



Warrington

BRO. PETER BARRETT, D.G.M. OF TASMANIA, S.C.

a church parade, which solemnity was memorised on the very same spot exactly a hundred years after.

It is quite unnecessary that one should in any way discuss the peculiarly social surroundings of Tasmania in the earlier period of its history. The memories of those terrible times are at the present moment happily all but lost to the generations of to-day, and, suffice it to say, that the "Tight little Island" is one of the brightest jewels in the British Crown.



THE LATE DR. E. O. GIBLIN, SECOND GRAND MASTER OF TASMANIA.

From a Masonic standpoint it will at once be inferred that the Craft was precluded from making any headway in Tasmania at the outset; indeed, it was twenty years (1823) before a lodge was chartered, and that was of the Irish Constitution (No. 345, Tasmanian Operative, now No. 1 T.C.), in all probability under the auspices and tutelage of an Irish military lodge, as was the case in New South Wales. The second of the Irish lodges (now No. 2 under the Tasmanian Constitution) was St. John's, No. 346, at Launceston, the other one being at Hobart. Embracing but a comparatively small area, and a correspondingly limited population, the wonder is that Masonry ever made any progress in the early days of the island's history. The English Constitution, it goes without saying, played the most prominent part prior to the foundation of an autonomous institution, the total lodges warranted being half a score, of which the first was the Tasmanian Union, opened at Hobart, in 1844, by provisional warrant from New South Wales, whilst it was more than two years before a Grand Lodge warrant was granted. This lodge is No. 3 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Tasmania. The second English lodge was the Lodge of Hope, opened at Launceston (County of Cornwall) in 1852, and warranted by Grand Lodge the year after; it is now No. 4 under Tasmania. The third English lodge was the Lodge of Faith, also at Launceston, inaugurated under dispensation from New South Wales in 1855, and warranted by Grand Lodge a year later, whilst the fourth, the Lodge of Charity, again at Launceston, was warranted in 1856, but in eight years had ceased to exist. The Lodge of Faith, it may be added, became extinct in the year the Grand Lodge of Tasmania was founded. The following were the Provincial or District Grand Masters of Tasmania, appointed by the Grand Master of England:—

Rev. Robert Kirkwood Ewing ... 1856

William Simmonds Hammond ... 1875
 Rev. Richard Deodatus Poulett-Harris, M.A. ... 1880

The first Provincial Grand Master of Tasmania under the English Constitution, the Rev. R. K. Ewing, was one of the founders of the Hope Lodge just mentioned, in fact, its first S.W. It is strange that the "Chapter" grade of "Passing the Chair" was given in the Hope Lodge during the first two years of its existence, no fewer than fifteen M.M.'s having been so designated; but a mandate from the Provincial Grand Lodge in Sydney brought the irregularity to a close in its infancy. In Victoria, it will hereafter be observed that a similar distinction was conferred in the early days. Reverting to the first Province of Tasmania, however, some misunderstanding appears to have arisen in regard to the office applying to the whole of the island, or merely to half of it. Anyhow it is on record that the Earl of Zetland, then Grand Master of England, decided that Bro. Ewing should "confine his supervision to the northern division of the province," an abridgement of authority which he declined to submit to. In 1860 he had resigned, and in a communication from the Grand Secretary it was stated that "his lordship had been pleased to accept the same, and that the P.G. Lodge has consequently ceased to exist." The island remained for several years without a head, and it was not till 1875 that Bro. William Simmonds Hammond was appointed under the designation of District Grand Master of Tasmania. Bro. Hammond died very suddenly after five years' rule.

Ireland and Scotland did not create District Grand Lodges of their constituent lodges until 1884, the former's representative being Bro. Harry Conway, and the latter's, Bro. Peter Barrett, who was not installed until a year later.

Bro. Harry Conway distinguished himself some years ago in compiling and reading on the day of the jubilee of the St. John's Lodge, a most interesting history of the old lodge. In the very earliest minutes are some rather notable



THE HON. C. E. DAVIES, M.L.C., THIRD GRAND MASTER OF TASMANIA.

records. For instance, in October, 1843, it is stated that a Bro. De Dassell delivered an oration in memory of the Duke of Sussex. On this occasion, too, the W.M. "announced the initiation of his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge,

at a special lodge, called the Alpha." This is very singular, as it has been generally understood that the late Duke of Cambridge was not a member of the Craft. The statement, however, cannot be substantiated, indeed, only recently the assistance of Bro. Henry Sadler, sub-librarian of the Grand Lodge of England, was invoked, with the result that he proved from the minutes of the Royal Alpha Lodge, in London—no doubt the one referred to in 1843—and from the Grand Lodge returns, that, during several years before and after the year named, there had been no initiations in the lodge. The identity of the lodge is gathered from the fact that a Royal Lodge and an Alpha Lodge had amalgamated twenty years before the utterance quoted. Therefore, as in



THE HON. F. G. DAVIES, C.M.G., DEPUTY GRAND MASTER OF TASMANIA.

the case of Sir Christopher Wren, no proof exists that the Duke of Cambridge was a Freemason, and, occurring as it did more than sixty years ago, it is useless inquiring where the W.M. of St. John's Lodge got his information from. It should be added that there was no other Alpha or Royal Alpha Lodge at that period in England, and that, so far as is known, there never was an Alpha Lodge in either Ireland or Scotland.

Although a Provincial Grand Master of Tasmania under the Irish Constitution was not appointed until 1884, as far back as the year 1847 there had been a movement in that direction, when Bro. Thomas Horne, Attorney-General, and subsequently a Supreme Court Judge, was approached, but nothing came of the project.

Mention has been made of the first Scotch lodge having been opened at Launceston, by dispensation from New South Wales, under the title of St. Andrew, in 1876, it ranking as No. 6 on the Tasmanian roll. A singular incident in connection with the opening of this lodge is well worth quoting, as an illustration of the perseverance and a desire to do everything in order, which animated those concerned in the founding of the first Scotch lodge in Tasmania. It seemed that the officers' collar jewels were not to hand on the day; but, nothing deterred, the appendages were hastily cut out of tin plate for the occasion! Moreover, some years after, a trifling difference with the District Grand Master afforded the brethren of St. Andrew another opportunity of overcoming a temporary difficulty. It appears that the lodge room had been duly prepared for the evening's meeting, it being election night, but in the meantime the District Grand Master had taken possession. The R.W.M. and his officers—men of grit and determination, as well as

of facility of resource—opened the lodge in the ante-room, previous to which the orthodox implements for the V.O.T.S.L. and jewels for some of the officers had been improvised from brown paper! Be it further noted, that the R.W.M. had the lodge warrant in his pocket, which was produced and in full view during the whole of the business. Almost coincident with those proceedings, the District Grand Master granted a dispensation for working the lodge in the regular place of meeting, and for the election of officers, under other auspices. As to the climax, it will be sufficient to record that the R.W.M.'s report to the Grand Lodge of Scotland was completely justified and confirmed; on the other hand, the proceedings authorised by the District Grand Master were declared to be informal, and the *quasi* St. Andrew Lodge eventually had to "close down."

Bro. Harry Conway (a member of the House of Assembly), and Bro. Peter Barrett (an ex-Mayor of Launceston), respectively the only chiefs of Irish and Scottish Masonry in Tasmania, are still to the front; but in age, experience, and, probably enthusiasm, they both readily and ungrudgingly give the palm to Bro. the Hon. Sir Abye Douglas, President of the Legislative Council of the colony, who was the charter J.W. of the St. John's Lodge, I.C., in 1843, and in due course its W.M. He is the oldest Freemason, in point of service, in the island, probably in the whole of Australasia, his mother lodge being the Southampton, now No. 394, in the Province of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. He went to Tasmania in 1838, was elected to the first Parliament of the colony in 1862, and has been a member ever since. He was twice Premier and Chief Secretary, introduced railways into the island, and was one of the leaders of the Federation movement. Lastly, our venerable and distinguished brother was born in 1815. Bro. Barrett, it should be added, was the first Pro Grand Master of Tasmania, whilst Bro. Conway was on the same day appointed Past Pro Grand Master.

It ought not to be omitted to mention that the corner stone of the Masonic Hall in Hobart was laid by Governor Ducane, in 1874, whilst in 1882, a similar ceremonial was performed in Launceston, by another governor, Bro. Sir G. C. Strahan, K.C.M.G., P.M. of Pythagoras Lodge, No. 654.



BRO. THE HON. SIR A. DOUGLAS, M.L.C.

E.C., Corfu. There is, however, a much earlier record of this nature, also in Launceston. It occurred in 1844, when St. John's Lodge played its part at the laying of the foundation stone of the Jewish Synagogue. We find that the band of the 96th Regiment, attended by permission of the colonel and officers, playing "Masonic airs." The return was made

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to the lodge room, the band playing alternately "Burns's Farewell," and the "Entered Apprentice."

As a sovereign body Tasmania may very appropriately be dubbed the "Little Benjamin" of the Australasian Grand



BRO. JOHN HAMILTON, GRAND SECRETARY OF TASMANIA.

Lodges. The process of constituting the lodges belonging to the three British Orders into a Grand Lodge with so

limited a clientelage, was an easy matter, compared with its predecessors in the other colonies, where there were so many private lodges to bring into line. Dissent, in fact, was very trifling, and what there was occurred in the oldest English lodge, the Tasmanian Union, No. 536, at Hobart. In this case only five members—out of roughly speaking a hundred—were against the movement, and these five wished to hold the warrant under Article 219, but fortunately wiser counsels gained the day, and in the end the inauguration of the Grand Lodge was a really unanimous consummation, the acknowledgment of the new sovereign body being a merely formal matter by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland in 1890, the year of foundation. It was, too, appropriate that the last chief of the English lodges should be the first Grand Master. The following is the list:—

- Rev. R. D. Poulett-Harris, M.A. ... 1890
- Dr. E. O. Giblin 1892
- Hon. Charles Ellis Davies, M.L.C. 1896

At present the Grand Lodge of Tasmania is flourishing, though numbering some twenty-seven lodges only and about 1200 members in the early part of 1904 under its popular ruler, who is the representative of the Grand Lodge of England at his own Grand Lodge, besides being District Grand Master of Mark Masons under the English Constitution, which has one lodge, at Hobart, No. 174. The Benevolent Fund of this, the smallest of the Australasian Grand Lodges, now reaches more than £2,000, which of itself is very practical evidence of Tasmania's prosperity and usefulness as a Masonic locality. And, lastly, it is interesting to note that there are four chapters still working in the colony under the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland, the last one opened in 1904.

(To be continued).

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