

# THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Reports of United Grand Lodge are published with the Special Sanction of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales,  
the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of England.

VOL. XL.—No. 1,022. ]  
Twentieth year of issue.

SATURDAY, 11th AUGUST 1894.

[ PRICE THREEPENCE.  
13s 6d per annum, post free.

## FREEMASONRY AND THE PRESS.

THERE are many Brethren yet among us who regard press comments as being wholly out of place in connection with Freemasonry, and would enforce the strict letter of the law against publication of Masonic doings, in the hope of stopping all public references to the work of the Craft, thereby, so to speak, re-consigning its members to those dark ages when knowledge of what was being done outside their particular sphere was denied to all but the favoured few.

We are of opinion that with a large majority of such objectors the opposition is the result of imperfect knowledge of what is going on, or a failure to appreciate the part that judicious press references may play in furthering the objects and principles of the Craft, rather than the discovery of any just cause of objection against the discussion of Masonic questions in the public press—in other words, the objectors find fault through ignorance, rather than from any knowledge of evil resulting from publicity.

It must not be imagined, however, that we are in favour of entire freedom in this respect. It is both necessary and desirable that there should be an authority to check excess, armed with power to prevent undue license and punish those who, through ignorance or indiscretion, exceed the limits of prudent discussion, and we think those who are at the head of the Craft—not only in this country, but in many other Jurisdictions—fully appreciate the propriety of allowing, and even encouraging, the judicious publication of reports showing what Freemasonry is doing.

As an instance of the advantages that may accrue from publicity, we may instance the discussion now going on in Scotland, as to the charge made against that Constitution of being particularly careless in allowing the “rushing” of candidates, who in many cases are not fully qualified for admission into Freemasonry, and very shortly after their initiation prove to be a drain on the resources of the Craft. We lately referred to this matter, and then condemned the system which allowed such laxity in the admission of persons not properly qualified to participate in the benefits of Freemasonry, and we are pleased to know that other writers have adopted a similar course, and that as a consequence attention has been directed to the evil, with results which it is hoped will speedily prove beneficial to all concerned.

Here is direct evidence of the benefit of publicity, for this is by no means the first time that attention has been directed to the evil, but, as a consequence of the comparative secrecy of the agitation, no very great benefit has resulted. Probably the same fate may

follow at the present time, but we think there are evidences of greater interest in the question than has hitherto been shown, and that being so we may hope for better results than those formerly achieved, especially if the press, now aroused to activity over the matter, will continue its influence in the direction of reform.

It may be urged that this is a question by no means suited for discussion in the public prints, but we differ, as we believe it is publicity alone that will lead to reform in this direction, as the attention of the better class of Brethren will thereby be attracted, and pressure will be brought to bear upon those who are now the offenders. For this reason we hope our Scottish contemporaries will continue the crusade, and that they will enlist the support of the majority of their fellow Masons, who, we firmly believe, are desirous of making the necessary reform, but have hitherto lacked the necessary incentive to urge them to action. If the press supplies this it will at least have scored one point, and that, too, in a direction where it is sure to do good for the Craft as a whole.

## ESSEX.

THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex was held at the Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, on Wednesday, the 8th inst., under the banner of the Essex Chapter, No. 276. Early in the afternoon several driving parties were organised, the Companions availing themselves of the opportunity of seeing the surrounding country.

The Provincial Grand Chapter was opened by the Grand Superintendent Comp. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., supported by many Provincial Grand Officers. The minutes were read and confirmed, and letters expressing regret for non-attendance were announced from the Grand Superintendents of Suffolk and Sussex, the Grand Scribe E., Comp. Robt. Grey and others. The roll of Chapters was called, all being represented. The report of the Board of General Purposes—which included recommendations that ten guineas should be voted to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, and ten guineas to the entertaining Chapter—was received and unanimously adopted. Comps. G. H. Finch P.P.G.J., J. J. C. Turner P.P.G.J., and F. A. White P.P.G.J. were elected members of the Board of General Purposes.

The Grand Superintendent, in addressing the Companions, expressed his pleasure at being greeted by the presence of so many whose names and work were well known in Masonry. He was sure he struck a responsive chord in their hearts when he alluded to those who were with them on the last occasion, and who had been removed by the inscrutable decrees of the Most High. One of those Companions, who occupied a chair in Provincial Grand Chapter, and delivered an oration which made a great impression upon them, met with his end in a manner which would elicit the deepest sympathy. Comp. Welsh fell under the blows of a

murderer, and thus a sincere and earnest worker, a man of large sympathy and great mental attainments was removed from them. Then there was Comp. Geo. Cook, who distinguished himself in many walks of Freemasonry, and was deservedly respected by all who knew him. Having touched on that inevitable topic, it was much more pleasant to congratulate the Province upon the position it had attained. It was quite true they had not during the past year seen any addition to the number of Chapters. They started and closed with eleven on their roll. He heard some reports, which if coming from the quarter he thought, would probably lead to Grand Chapter being asked to grant another Chapter, which would be the twelfth. He was happy to think they had maintained their numbers, and not only that, but after making deductions they had a net increase of nine—a number which would evoke the comment that it was a thoroughly Royal Arch number. No questions or differences had arisen rendering it necessary to refer to Grand Chapter for advice, the good sense and good Masonic feeling preventing any trouble arising. There was one matter which affected their Order in general. In former Constitutions twelve months probation was necessary for a Master Mason before he could be exalted in the Royal Arch, but that had been reduced by the express command of Grand Chapter, to one month. The Royal Arch was the legitimate crown of a Master Mason's degree, and no doubt the members were the élite of the Craft. He trusted that those who saw candidates raised who were likely to be an honour to the Royal Arch, if they thought it right might inform them of the facility with which they could now pursue their Masonic course and receive the light in which they as Royal Arch Masons rejoiced.

Comps. A. C. Durrant M.E.Z. 276 (son of the distinguished Provincial Grand Treasurer), and John Glass M.E.Z. 453, were appointed and obligated respectively as Prov. G.H. and Prov. G.J.

Comp. Andrew Durrant P.Z. was unanimously re-elected Provincial G. Treas. for the twelfth year in succession.

The following Officers were then invested :—

Comp T. J. Ralling P.G.S.B. P.Z.	-	Scribe E.
(12th year)		
A. S. B. Sparling P.Z. 51	-	Scribe N.
Andrew Durrant P.Z.	-	Treasurer
H. C. Jones H. 214	-	Registrar
W. T. Warner M.E.Z. 2005	-	Principal Sojourner
F. H. Meggy H. 276	-	1st Assistant
James Speller H. 2256	-	2nd Assistant
G. J. Glasscock H. 1000	-	Sword Bearer
M. T. Tuck J. 1437	-	Standard Bearer
A. Lucking P.A.G.D.C.	-	Director of Ceremonies
J. Sadler J. 1024	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
C. H. Spurgeon Org. 453	-	Organist
G. W. Knight M.E.Z. 2256	-	Assistant Scribe E.
A. W. Martin	-	Janitor.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Essex Chapter for the admirable arrangements made, and the Provincial Grand Chapter was formally closed.

A banquet was afterwards held in the White Hart Hotel, at which the customary toasts were honoured.

The Queen and Royal Arch Masonry, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.E. Grand Z. having been given, the Grand Superintendent proposed the Grand Officers, and expressed his regret that some of their friends, whom they would have been glad to see present, had excused themselves. In their absence they would adopt that thoroughly English practical way, and meet the situation by drinking their health.

Comp. T. J. Ralling P.G.S.B., in response, said that while they had such Comps. to rule the Order, there was no wonder it prospered as it did. With regard to the Province Bro. Lucking and himself were twins, having but one desire, to do all they could for Royal Arch Masonry in Essex.

The M.E. the Grand Superintendent of Essex was proposed by Comp. A. C. Durrant Prov. G.H., who said they could boast that Comp. Philbrick took more interest in Masonry than any man in the world. It was all very well for men of high degree to occupy proud position, to have their names figuring on paper, but they had not the work to do like the Grand Superintendent of Essex—for it was to him they owed the position they held as one of the first Provinces in the country. In their chief they

felt they had some safe-guard to carry them through any dangers.

Comp. F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Superintendent returned thanks and said he only wished all the remarks of the Prov. G.H. could be justified. Wherever one wandered there was no place like Essex, there were no people better than Essex people, of whom the best were in the Craft, and the cream of the Craft was in the Royal Arch. He could not forget that it was 12 years ago in that same room that he first presided over the Provincial Grand Chapter of Essex. On that occasion there sat on his right the Consecrating Officer the Earl of Lathom, whom they had honoured as second Grand Principal that evening. Since he had been their head he had seen Arch Masonry correspondingly increase with the Craft. A member of the House of Commons being playfully reproached with the fact that the House sat day after day without passing anything replied, that the House of Commons was the nursery of the House of Lords. The Craft was the nursery of the Royal Arch. It had been a matter of supreme satisfaction to him that the past year had gone so successfully. They were practically where they were, if anything a little on the right side, the demand having been steady, and the expense adequate. He should be wanting in the common gratitude of mankind if he were not to acknowledge the kind help he had received from every Companion of the Order, and the earnest desire which everybody showed in all cases of question or difficulty to assist and help the cause of the Order. He could assure them that while he had the honour to hold his present position as far as any effort of his would go to promote their legitimate aspirations, they could command him and ask him to help them. There was nothing he could do that he would not cheerfully and readily do in order to assist the cause they had so much at heart.

Comp. A. C. Durrant Prov. G.H. responded for the Principals of the Chapters in the Province, and Comps. J. Glass Prov. G.J., and A. Durrant Prov. G. Treas., acted in a similar capacity for the Provincial Grand Officers, the latter expressing his gratification at seeing his son hold high office in the Province.

The Janitor's toast then closed the proceedings, during which Comp. H. Schartau and Bro. Albert James contributed several well rendered songs.

The Companions present included :

F. A. Philbrick, Q.C., Grand Supt., W. T. Dring Prov. G.H., T. Ralling P.G.S.B. Prov. G.S.E., R. H. Ives Prov. G.S.N., F. Suthery Prov. G.P.S., W. Dainell Prov. G.A.S., A. Durrant Prov. G. Treas., T. Scoresby Jackson Prov. G. Swd. B., A. Lucking P.A.G.D.C. Prov. G.D.C., A. W. Martin Prov. G. Jan., G. W. Pascal 276, D. Gotto 1024, H. J. Skingley 51, G. Graveley P.P.G.A.S., W. H. Handen 1024, H. C. Jones 214, R. T. Cushing 214, W. Shurmur P.G.T., W. Gayton P.G.S.W., A. S. B. Sparling P.P.G.S.B., V. W. Taylor P.Z. 276 P.P.G.H., G. F. Smith P.P.G.O., J. J. Briginshaw J. 2256, W. T. Warner M.E.Z. 2005, J. P. Green 276, R. Martin H. 453, E. R. Evans 453, J. Glass M.E.Z. 453, T. G. Green 1024, R. Jennings P.P.G.A.S., F. W. Meggy P.P.G.S.B., G. H. Finch P.Z. 2005 P.P.G.J., J. C. Turner P.P.G.J., M. Jutson P.P.G.H., A. C. Durrant M.E.Z. 276, J. Hutley P.P.G.D.C., J. P. Lewin P.P.S.W., R. G. Kellett P.P.G.P. Soj., G. Copus M.E.Z. 2154, H. Dehane P.Z., M. T. Tuck J. 1437, G. W. Knight Z. 2156, J. Speller H. 2256, W. M. Butcher P.S. 453, G. J. Glasscock 1000, C. W. Barnard 1000. Visitors :—G. Gregory P.Z. 2048, T. P. Pechey 996, W. W. Lee H. 1524.

## DEVONSHIRE.

THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Teignmouth, on Wednesday of last week. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master Bro. W. G. Rogers presided, and was well supported by a numerous attendance of Provincial Officers and Brethren.

The Lodge was held at the East Devon and Teignmouth Club, and there were nearly 400 Brethren present.

The Prov. G. Secretary Bro. Major G. Christopher Davie presented his report, which, he said, was one of a satisfactory character, for although there were 114 less members in the Province, this was owing to the Lodges having adopted the wise course of striking off the names of Brethren who were many years in arrears. The decrease was really a matter of congratulation instead of regret. The report was adopted.

The Prov. G. Treas. Bro. W. A. Gregory 1254, in his report, stated that after paying all accounts and sums

voted by the Committee of Petitions, a balance of upwards of £220 remained in hand. This report was also adopted.

The report of the Fortescue Annuity Fund was read by the Secretary Bro. F. Pollard, showing five candidates on the fund. A vacancy has just been declared, which will be filled on 11th September, and for which there are five candidates. The revised rules of the Fortescue Fund, as adopted at the annual general meeting of governors on 3rd July last, were approved and confirmed, after slight discussion.

Bro. J. B. Gover P.P.G. Secy., presented the report of the Committee of Petitions. After recommending the payment of various sums to Brethren and Widows, the report suggested the division of eighty guineas equally amongst the Men's and Widow's Funds of the R.M.B.I. and R.M.I. for Boys and R.M.I. for Girls. The report was unanimously agreed to.

On the proposition of Bro. E. T. Fulford P.P.G.T., seconded by Bro. John Brewer P.P.G.J.W., Bro. Allsford, of Plymouth, was elected Prov. G. Treas., Bro. J. R. Loid P.P.G.T. and J. W. Cornish P.P.G.T., were appointed Auditors.

Bro. the Rev. W. Whittley P.G.D. (Eng.), was nominated for election on the Board of Management for the R.M.I. for Boys.

The D.P.G.M., in a few well-chosen sentences, presented a Centenary Warrant to Lodge Benevolent, No. 303, under whose banner the Prov. G. Lodge met that afternoon, the Benevolent Lodge having completed its continuous 100 years' working on 1st May last.

Bro. Burden, the W.M., in receiving the Warrant, expressed his thanks to the presiding officer and to the large number of Brethren who had assembled on that occasion. Incidentally Bro. Burden alluded to the fact that his grandfather was one of the founders and among the first Masters of the Benevolent Lodge, and also that his father had likewise preceded him in the chair.

The following Prov. G. Officers were then appointed :

Bros. Lieut.-Col. Vernon	-	-	Senior Warden
G. N. Burden	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. Dr. Lemon	-	-	Chaplains
Rev. W. French	-	-	
W. Allsford	-	-	Treasurer
Major G. C. Davie	-	-	Secretary
A. H. Dymond	-	-	Registrar
W. R. Lisle	-	-	Senior Deacons
W. T. Orchard	-	-	
W. E. Chapell	-	-	Junior Deacons
J. Grant	-	-	
G. S. Bridgman	-	-	Superintendent of Wks.
J. R. Lord	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
W. R. Velvin	-	-	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
C. A. Nicholson	-	-	Deputy Dir. of Cers.
W. Pengelly	-	-	
J. Hoyten	-	-	Sword Bearer
W. T. Hocking	-	-	Standard Bearers
W. C. Martin	-	-	
W. Hector	-	-	Organist
W. Harper	-	-	Assistant Secretary
E. M. Ellis	-	-	Pursuivant
A. C. Titherley	-	-	Assistant Pursuivant
H. Shooter	-	-	Tyler
T. W. Atherton	-	-	Stewards.
J. J. C. Evans	-	-	
H. W. Pengelly	-	-	
H. R. Grover	-	-	
W. Edwards	-	-	
G. Hooper	-	-	

A banquet followed at Bro. Bryde's London Hotel, when a large number of Brethren sat down together, under the presidency of the Prov. Grand M. Viscount Ebrington, who had been detained by a County Council engagement from attending the Prov. G. Lodge earlier in the afternoon. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

### CORNWALL.

THE Annual Meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cornwall was held on Tuesday afternoon, 31st ult., in the Masonic Hall, Falmouth, Sir Charles B. Graves Sawle, Bart., the Provincial Grand Mark Master, presiding. He was supported by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master (Bro. T. Chirgwin, J.P., Mayor of Truro).

The usual business of the Provincial Grand Lodge was transacted, and at the conclusion a cold collation,

well served at the Royal Hotel by Miss George, the manageress, was partaken of, the customary toasts being submitted.

### THE FREEMASON'S LIFE-BOAT.

THE current number of "The Life-boat Journal" is of especial interest to members of our Order, as containing details of services rendered by the Life-boat presented by the Craft in 1877, and stationed at Clacton-on-Sea, which although now a matter of somewhat ancient history will yet be of interest, as evidence of the good Freemasonry is able to accomplish outside the limits of its Lodges. The details of the service rendered are thus given in the "Journal":

"On the morning of the 4th January, while a whole gale was blowing, with a very heavy sea, the coxswain of the Life-boat saw a vessel stranded on the Buxey Sand. The crew of the Life-boat Albert Edward were summoned, and the boat put off to the assistance of the vessel, the masts of which had already fallen over her side. The boat steered for the wreck, and, on nearing her, the crew could be seen clinging to the deck house and other portions of the vessel, the heavy seas breaking over them. The boat kept to windward, let go her anchor, and slacked away until she came to the end of her cable, but could not get near the vessel. It was then decided to lift the anchor and drop down again, but it was discovered the anchor had fouled something in the sand and could not be raised. The cable was therefore cut and sail was made, but on getting to the lee side of the ship her masts and gear, which were lying alongside, rendered it impossible to get near her in the heavy sea. Signs were made to the ship's crew to attach to a rope something which would float, and slack away until it reached the Life-boat, but this attempt to obtain communication was frustrated, for the object veered by the men fouled some of the wreckage. The boat then sailed to windward, and again making for the vessel threw the grapnel into the rigging. Three of the crew then crawled out on the mast, and a rope was thrown to them to make fast; unfortunately the first man instead of doing so clung to the boat and was dragged into her. The grapnel becoming unhooked, the boat was again driven away, and the other two men crawled back to the ship. Once more the Life-boat men strove to get to the vessel, and having thrown the grapnel on board, were enabled to haul the boat between the spars to the wreck, thereby enabling five men to jump into her. The master being too much exhausted to do so, a rope was thrown to him and he fastened it round his body; but, as the coxswain was about to lift him into the boat, a heavy sea came, and there being so much ice in the boat he missed his foothold and was thrown overboard between the wreck and the boat. Fortunately he had hold of one end of the rope attached to the captain, and was hauled into the boat; he, however, received a severe blow and cut over one of his eyes. The captain was dragged through the surf by means of the rope and was also taken into the boat. The whole of the wrecked crew—seven men in all—having thus been rescued, sail was made, and at 2.30 p.m. the Life-boat arrived at Clacton pier after a fearful journey, the boat and those on board her being covered with ice. The wrecked vessel was the brigantine St. Alexei, of Copenhagen, bound from Valberg for Stanraer with a cargo of wood.

In recognition of the gallant conduct of the Life-boat crew an extra reward was granted to them by the Institution.

His Majesty the King of Denmark graciously awarded a silver medal to Mr. W. Schofield, Coxswain of the Life-boat, and the sum of £10 to the crew of the boat in acknowledgment of their brave services on this occasion. These rewards were publicly presented to the Life-boat men by the Countess of Warwick, who at the same time presented medals granted by the Institution to the Coxswain in recognition of his general gallant services, and to Maurice Nicholls, Robert Osborne and John Grier, who had been members of the Life-boat crew for many years and had been out in the boat on very many occasions of service. Other medals presented by public subscription were also handed to the Life-boat crew, together with a pecuniary reward generously given by the Mayoress of Colchester."

The "Journal" gives a mass of other matter of general interest on the all important work of saving life at sea, including the annual Wreck Chart for 1892-93, compiled from the Board of Trade Register, and concludes its article on the Returns of the year with the following observations:

"Sad as the loss of life which takes place year after year from shipwreck on our shores undoubtedly is, it is a matter for great thankfulness that notwithstanding in a little more than a generation as many as 26,628 lives have so perished, no less than 27,961 lives were saved in the same period by means of the boats of the Royal National Life-boat Institution and the other means employed and rewarded by the Institution.

The clear duty still remains for all, old and young, rich and poor, to do what in them lies to minimise "sorrow on the sea," and to aid, even if the contribution be a very small one, in maintaining efficiently the Life-boat Institution, which points to its grand life saving record in the past as an incontestable proof of the very great benefits it has conferred and is still conferring, not only on this country, but on the other countries of the world, deserving in return gratitude and loyal support.

Contributions to the Life-boat Fund will be thankfully received by all bankers in the United Kingdom, and by the Secretary, Charles Dibdin, Esq., at the Institution, Adelphi, London."

## STAFFORDSHIRE.

ON Thursday afternoon, in the presence of a large number of members of the Craft and of the general public, the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Lieutenant of the county, in his capacity as Right Worshipful Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, laid the foundation stone of the new chapel of the Wolverhampton Orphan Asylum.

The proceedings commenced by the opening of the Provincial Grand Lodge in one of the large rooms of the Institution. A procession was then formed of Officers and Brethren of a number of Staffordshire Lodges, who walked to the site of the chapel, accompanied by many supporters of the Institution.

The stone-laying ceremonial commenced with the singing of the hymn "The Church's one Foundation," and the Provincial Grand Master then delivered a brief address. He said the Masons who had assembled to witness the ceremony knew that they were bound by an obligation to be true and faithful to the laws of their country, and to erect handsome buildings for the service of God. There were among them, concealed from the eyes of men, secrets which had not been revealed, and which no man had discovered. Those secrets were lawful and honourable, and were not repugnant to the laws of God or man. They were entrusted to Masons in ancient times, and having been so faithfully transmitted to them it was their duty to convey them unimpaired to posterity. Unless their Craft had been good and their calling noble it would not have lasted through so many centuries, nor would they have had so many illustrious Brethren associated with their Order. They were assembled that day in the presence of Him who was the light of wisdom, to lay the foundation stone of a building which in due time would be consecrated to the honour and glory of His name, and, as it was the first duty of Masons in all their undertakings to invoke a blessing from the Great Architect on their work, he would call upon all present to unite with the Provincial Grand Chaplain in a prayer to the Throne of Grace.

Prayer having been offered, the stone was laid with the usual Masonic ceremonial, and, having been declared by the Provincial Grand Master "plumb, level and square," he poured on it corn, oil and wine, as emblems of plenty, peace, harmony, strength, and gladness. The National Anthem was then sung, and the procession was re-formed and returned to the Institution.

About a hundred gentlemen afterwards sat down to luncheon in the large hall of the orphanage. Mr. W. Lees, chairman of the Committee of Management, presided. The Secretary (Mr. W. Hamblett) read a number of letters of apology, and stated that in addition to the donations already acknowledged in aid of the chapel fund, he had that afternoon had handed to him £50 each from a friend, Mr. T. H. Evans, Walsall, and Mr. A. Smith, Walsall, £10 10s from Mr. B. F. Kelly, Bilston, and £5 from Mr. T. Spencer, West Bromwich.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, Mr. T. Beach proposed the Freemasons of Staffordshire. He said that although not a Freemason himself he had the profoundest respect for the members of the Craft, who with regard to their history and mysteries were content to remain silent, and to allow their public works to speak for themselves. Everyone must be struck by the monumental works of Freemasons in the past, and by the noble charitable institutions which they had founded.

Lord Dartmouth, in responding, referred to the fact that he had only recently been installed in the responsible office of Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, but he said he had no doubt he should be loyally supported by the members of the Craft in his efforts to carry out the duties of the position. The last speaker had referred to the rites, ceremonies, and mysteries of the Craft, and he might say that they would remain mysteries to those who were not members, as they were content, as Mr. Beach had rightly stated, to allow their works to speak for themselves. He assured Mr. Beach that as regarded Freemasonry in that county there was no skeleton in the cupboard, and any ignorance as to the mysteries of the Craft could be overcome by joining a Lodge. During the short time he had been a Mason he had found the

Freemasons to be a body of men of whom no one need be ashamed. It was a great pleasure to him to make his first public appearance as the Provincial Grand Master on such an occasion as that, because one of the principal objects of the Brotherhood was to do all they could to help those who were unable to help themselves. The orphanage deserved support, and, as the Provincial Grand Master of Staffordshire, he was pleased to see that a large number of the Brethren were doing what they could to render it assistance.

Leutenant-Colonel Bindley Deputy Provincial Grand Master next submitted the Wolverhampton Orphan Asylum, and, in the course of his remarks, referred to the fact that the Chairman that day was a relative of the founder of the Institution, and that a large number of children of Freemasons had received their education within its walls. He thought that that was a good reason why the members of the Craft should give it their support.

The Chairman, in responding, said the Institution had only been established about forty years, but during that time it had done a noble work. Some hundreds of boys and girls had received such a sound education that its value could not be over-estimated. The work, however, had been carried on in a quiet and unostentatious manner. Originally the building was a small one, but block after block had been added, and by the erection of the chapel the Institution would be complete. The founder of the Institution would have been pleased to have seen fifty children at one time in the orphanage; but he believed they would soon see six times that number receiving an education there. Provision was being made in the chapel for 400 children, exclusive of the staff, and, looking to the princely support which had been extended to the Institution so far, he had not the slightest doubt that the future of the undertaking would be as successful as it had been in the past. The action of the committee had been criticised with regard to the building of the chapel, but they had no option in the matter, as their late chairman (Mr. H. Rogers) had left a sum of money for the specific purpose of erecting a chapel. With the exception of £600, the whole of the money required had been given, and he hoped the friends of the Institution would speedily raise that amount in order that the building might be opened in the spring.

The toast of the Vice Presidents was submitted by Mr. W. W. Walker, and responded to by the Bishop of Shrewsbury and Sir A. Hickman, M.P.

The memory of the late Mr. John Lees (the founder of the orphanage) and Mr. Henry Rogers was honoured in silence, and the proceedings terminated.—"Birmingham Daily Post," 3rd August 1894.

## WORCESTERSHIRE.

IT is announced that Sir Edmund A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., Provincial Grand Master has appointed Wednesday, 26th September, for the Annual Meeting of his Grand Lodge, which will be held at Malvern, under the banner of the Royd's Lodge, No. 1204.

The marriage of the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos with Lord Egerton of Tatton Provincial Grand Master of Cheshire, was solemnised on Wednesday afternoon in the private chapel at Lambeth Palace. The bride was given away by her father, Sir Graham Montgomery, and was attended by two pages, the Hon. Rupert Keppel, grandson of the bridegroom, and the Hon. Richard Grenville Morgan, grandson of the late Duke of Buckingham and Chandos. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Claud Nugent. The nuptial rite was performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the brother of the bride, the Rev. Charles Graham Montgomery. After the ceremony, the Duchess of Buckingham and Sir Graham Montgomery entertained the wedding party at Langton House, George Street, Hanover Square. Late in the afternoon the Duchess of Buckingham and Chandos and Lord Egerton of Tatton left for Quidenham Hall, Norfolk, the seat of Viscount Bury.



### PROPOSED HALL FOR BLYTH.

FOR a considerable period—indeed, for many years—a movement has been on foot for the erection of a new Masonic Hall at Blyth, but it is only recently, says the “Newcastle Daily Leader,” that the scheme has assumed a definite shape. The Right Worshipful Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart., M.P., has generously granted an eligible site for the erection of the proposed building, in Beaconsfield Street, adjoining the Higher Grade School. The proposal received the approval of the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Alderman R. H. Holmes, J.P., and the Building Committee of the Blagdon Lodge at Blyth, No. 659, of which P.M. John Tweedy is Secretary, and W.M. Launce Carr Chairman, at once exerted themselves to further the movement. A gratuity was offered for plans, and six architects competed, the successful gentleman, whose designs were accepted by the committee, being Mr. A. A. Windle, Waterloo, Blyth. The plan shows a building eighty-six feet by forty feet, and comprises, on the basement, reading room, club room, and conveniences adapted for the holding of social gatherings; on the first floor is a large lecture hall, with ante rooms, and on the second floor are the caretaker's rooms. The building will be of red brick, with ornamental stone facings, and the estimated cost is about £1,000. Tenders are being invited for the immediate commencement of the structure. Lodge meetings and convocations have hitherto been held in the Mechanics' Institute.

### NEW HALL AT JOHANNESBURG.

THE Brethren of the Gold Fields Lodge, No. 2478, are erecting a Hall for their future meetings, and laid the foundation stone with full honours on the 20th June. Considerable progress, says the “Star,” a local paper, had been made with the building, the foundation stone of which was laid in the “traditional north-east corner,” and bore the following inscription:

Foundation stone of Freemasons' Hall, laid by  
WOR. BRO. S. HERSHFIELD,

Worshipful Master of the Gold Fields Lodge, No. 2478, E.C.  
Wednesday, 20th June 1894, A.M. 5894.

The Brethren of the Gold Fields Lodge and of the various sister Lodges of the three Constitutions working at Johannesburg, assembled at the Public Schoolroom, and on the arrival of the Worshipful Master of the Gold Fields Lodge, his Officers, and the Building Committee, the Director of Ceremonies, Bro. I. Bloom, marshalled the procession.

On arrival at the site of the Temple, the “Volkslied” was sung by the choir, followed by the anthem “God bless the Prince of Wales.” The Chaplain then offered up the following prayer:—

Supreme Great Architect of the Universe, bounteous source of every good to the children of men. Thou who didst inspire thine ancient servant Solomon to build unto Thee a house, and didst of Thine own infinite grace accept the workmanship of his hands, and didst condescend by Thy Spirit to dwell therein, grant to us that grace to-day that we may make an auspicious commencement of our labours, and lay this corner stone upon the several principles of justice, piety, reliance upon God, and sacred truth. Bless our Mother Earth to bear firmly upon its bosom the edifice which to-day we begin to erect. Bless the hands of the bearers of burdens who may bring hither materials for the walls to rise. Bless the wisdom that shall continue, the strength that shall execute, and the beauty that shall adorn this building, that in the eyes of all beholders it may present a monument of the prosperity of those who follow on to know the Lord. May words of peace ever resound within its walls. May the praise of God be its harmony. May its dwellers dwell together in unity, and enjoy the delight of pleasantness and peace. Keep this edifice from the hands of evil designing men. Preserve it equally from the lightnings of heaven, from hurricanes, from earthquakes, from conflagrations, from the sword of the invader, and from all manner of evil.

Supreme Grand Master, omnipotent and omniscient God, who hast kept from age to age the sacred fire of memory glowing upon its altars, kindle a brighter flame in the hearts of Freemasons worshipping before Thee to-day, and be our guide and protector through the wilderness of life, as with the pillar of fire and cloud thou didst conduct thine ancient people. And when the work of human life is ended, when we are called up to Thy celestial Lodge, to receive the wages for which we have faithfully laboured, may we be found prepared as living stones for the spiritual building, that house not built with hands, but one eternal in the heavens.

The trowel (a very beautiful specimen of the gold-

smith's art, and bearing an appropriate inscription) was presented to the W.M. by Bro. J. Da Silva, on behalf of the Building Committee, and he, having thanked the Committee for its presentation to him of so handsome a memento of the occasion, read the inscription on the foundation stone. He then deposited in the cavity the usual parchment scrolls reciting for a future era the event of the day, together with copies of the local newspapers, the Treasurer placing in the cavity the various Transvaal coins. The cement having been spread upon the lower stone, the upper stone was lowered. The W.M. proved the stone, and declared it well and truly laid.

The Worshipful Master of the Johannesburg Lodge (Bro. A. H. Reid) strewed corn upon the stone.

Bro. J. E. Green P.M. poured wine upon it, and the Worshipful Master of the Jeppestown Lodge (Bro. T. W. Goodwin) poured the oil.

An oration was delivered by the Chaplain, in which the aims and objects of Freemasonry, to which the building was to be dedicated, were lucidly and eloquently set forth. A collection in aid of the building fund followed.

The Worshipful Master having briefly addressed the assembled Brethren and Visitors, the Chaplain delivered the closing prayer.

“God save the Queen” and the “Volkslied” having been sung, the procession re-formed, and the Brethren returned to the Lodge-room.

The whole proceedings were most efficiently conducted, the arrangements generally being under the direction of Brother J. A. da Silva P.M., the energetic Secretary of the Gold Fields Lodge.

A banquet, in commemoration of the event, was held at the North-Western Hotel in the evening.

The weekly meetings of the Bagshaw Lodge of Instruction, No. 1457, stand adjourned to Friday, 7th September, at 7.30 p.m., when the usual meetings will be resumed at the Public Hall, Loughton.

## CRITERION RESTAURANT.

### EAST ROOM

FOR

### RECHERCHÉ

## DINNERS & SUPPERS

### A LA CARTE.

THE

### WEST ROOM,

### 5/- Parisian Dinner; Supper, 4/-

*Instrumental Music 11.0 to 12.30.*

## GRAND HALL

### 3/6 DINNER,

AT SEPARATE TABLES, 6 TO 9,

*Accompanied by the Celebrated*

### “SPIERPON” ORCHESTRA.

LONDON, CHATHAM, & DOVER RAILWAY.

**S**HORTEST and MOST DIRECT ROUTE to RAMSGATE, MARGATE, Broadstairs, Westgate-on-Sea, Birchington-on-Sea, Herne Bay, and Whitstable, by CHEAP FAST TRAINS, daily (except Sunday).

	A	B	A	AB	AB
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	Sats. p.m.
Leave Victoria ... ..	9 45	10 10	11 30	5 45	2 5 only
Leave Holborn Viaduct ...	9 40	10 2	11 25	5 40	2 0
Leave St. Paul's ... ..	9 42	10 5	11 28	5 43	2 3

A To Herne Bay, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and Ramsgate.  
B To Whitstable and Birchington.

**FARES:** To Birchington, Westgate, Margate, Broadstairs, and Ramsgate:—

Single—1 cl., 10s.; 3 cl., 5s. | Return—1 cl., 15s.; 3 cl., 8s.

**FARES:** To Whitstable and Herne Bay:—

Single—1 cl., 10s.; 3 cl., 5s. | Return—1 cl., 14s.; 3 cl., 7s.

Return Tickets are available for the Return journey on the same or following day (see Handbills), and those issued on Friday or Saturday are available on the following Monday.

**C**HEAP TRIP EVERY SUNDAY, to RAMSGATE, MARGATE, BROADSTAIRS, HERNE BAY, BIRCHINGTON, WHITSTABLE, CANTERBURY, DEAL, and DOVER, and back the same evening. Leave Holborn Viaduct, St. Paul's, and Victoria Stations at 8.0 a.m. Fares for the double journey, Third class, 4s.; First class, 8s.

**A** CHEAP EXCURSION every MONDAY (excepting 27th August) from LONDON to the SEASIDE, leaving Holborn Viaduct at 8.25 a.m., Victoria 8.30, St. Paul's (City Station, Queen Victoria Street) 8.28 a.m. Fares there and back (third class), to Whitstable and Herne Bay, 3s.; to Margate, Broadstairs, Ramsgate, Canterbury, Deal, and Dover, 4s. Returning same day only by Special Train.

**G**RAVESEND TO CLACTON, FELIXSTOWE, HARWICH, IPSWICH, by "Belle" Steamers. Through Tickets daily, Victoria and St. Paul's.

**S**ATURDAY to MONDAY at FLUSHING (for MIDDLEBURG and DOMBURG).—Cheap Return Tickets to FLUSHING, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and SUNDAY. Trains leaving Victoria, Holborn Viaduct, and St. Paul's 8.25 a.m. and 8.30 p.m., and Herne Hill 8.40 a.m. and 8.40 p.m. Return Fares, 1st cl. 25s., 2nd cl. 17s 7d, in connection with the magnificent steamers of the Zeeland Steamship Company.

Grand Bath Hotel at Flushing.—Full board coupons are issued by the L.C. & D.R. Co. at 8s 4d per day. Sea Bathing.

SUNDAY AT THE ANTWERP EXHIBITION.

**S**PECIAL CHEAP TRIP, leaving London (Victoria and Holborn Stations) on SATURDAY EVENING NEXT at 8.10 p.m., arriving in Antwerp at 6.17 a.m. Sunday morning, and returning from ANTWERP on Sunday evening at 8.15 p.m., arriving in London on MONDAY morning at 5.55 a.m.

Return Fare, London to Antwerp, 12s 6d. This Excursion will also run on 25th August.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

**S. HOCKETT & Co.,**

Photographic Printers,

POTTERS ROAD, NEW BARNET.

**N**EGATIVES sent to us by Parcels Post, securely packed, receive prompt attention, and Prints in SILVER, PLATINOTYPE, P.O.P., giving best obtainable results, forwarded without delay. We are also pleased to answer inquiries, and give information and advice, for which our large experience fully qualifies us.

Price Lists on application.



**FREEMAN'S  
ORIGINAL  
CHLORODYNE.**

**T**HIS valuable medicine, discovered and invented by Mr. RICHARD FREEMAN in 1844, introduced into India and Egypt in 1850, and subsequently all over the world, maintains its supremacy as a special and specific Remedy for the Treatment and Cure of Coughs, Colds, Consumption, Cancer, Bronchitis, Asthma, Ague, Sore Throat, Influenza, Neuralgia, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Asiatic Cholera, Colic, Gout, and all Fevers.

At 1s 14d, 2s 9d, 4s 6d, 11s, and 20s per bottle.  
Sold by Patent Medicine Dealers in all parts of the world.

N.B.—Lord Chancellor Selborne, Lord Justice James, and Lord Justice Mellish decided in favour of FREEMAN'S ORIGINAL CHLORODYNE, and against Brown and Davenport, compelling them to pay all costs in the suit.—See Times of 24th July 1873.

LONDON & NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

A FORTNIGHT IN NORTH WALES.

**E**XCURSIONS every Saturday during August and September, from London (Euston) 8.15 a.m., and by Trains in connection from Broad Street, Richmond (North London Railway), Mansion House, Victoria (District Railway), Kensington (Addison Road), and Willesden Junction, 8.25 a.m., for Shrewsbury, Rhyl, Abergelle, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Dolgelly, Barmouth, Aberystwyth, and other Stations, returning on the following Monday, Monday Week, or Monday Fortnight.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

**C**HEAP Excursions will be run from London (Euston), Broad Street, Kensington (Addison Road), Willesden Junction, &c., as follows:—

On Thursday, 16th August.

To Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Sligo, &c., returning on any week day up to and including Friday, 31st August.

On Friday, 17th August.

To Aberdeen, Stonehaven, Montrose, Brechin, Arbroath, Dundee, Perth, Crieff, Callander, Dunolane, Stirling, Inverness, &c., for 5 or 11 days, and to Carlisle, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Gourock, &c., for 11 days.

In connection with this train, third class tickets at a single fare for the double journey will be issued, available for return by a specified train on any day within 16 days.

On Saturday, 18th August.

To Douglas, Isle of Man for 10 days.

On Saturdays, 18th and 25th August.

(Friday midnight). To Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle, Windermere, and the English Lake District, for 3 and 6 days.

On Saturdays, 18th and 25th August.

To Holyhead, Blackpool, Chester, Blackburn, Bolton, Southport, Wigan, Preston, Crewe, Whitechurch, Hereford, Ludlow, Leominster, Wellington, Stafford, Macclesfield, Leek, Harecastle, Hanley, Uttoxeter, Longport, Stoke, Stone, Ashton, Halifax, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Runcorn, Stalybridge, Stockport, Warrington, Widnes, Burton, Derby, Leicester, Nuneaton, Rugby, Coventry, Kenilworth, Leamington, Birmingham, Dudley, Walsall, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, &c., for 3 and 6 days.

For Times, Fares and full particulars see Small Bills which can be obtained at any of the Company's Stations and Town Offices.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

London, August 1894.

The Freemason's Chronicle.

—:o:—

A Weekly Record of Masonic Intelligence.

—:o:—

Published every Saturday, Price 3d.

—:o:—

**T**HE FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE will be forwarded direct from the Office, Fleet Works, Bulwer Road, New Barnet, on receipt of remittance for the amount. Intending Subscribers should forward their full address, to prevent mistakes.

Postal Orders to be made payable to W. W. MORGAN, at the New Barnet Office. Cheques crossed "London and South Western Bank."

The Terms of Subscription (payable in advance) are—

Twelve Months, post free	...	...	£0 13 6
Six Months ditto.	...	...	0 7 0
Three Months ditto.	...	...	0 3 6

Scale of Charges for Advertisements.

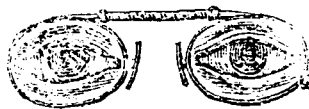
Per Page	...	...	...	£8 8 0
Back Page	...	...	...	10 10 0
Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1s per line.				

General Advertisements, Trade Announcements, &c., single column, 5s per inch. Double column Advertisements 1s per line. Special terms for a series of insertions or special positions on application.

Advertisers will find the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE an exceptionally good medium for Advertisements of every class.

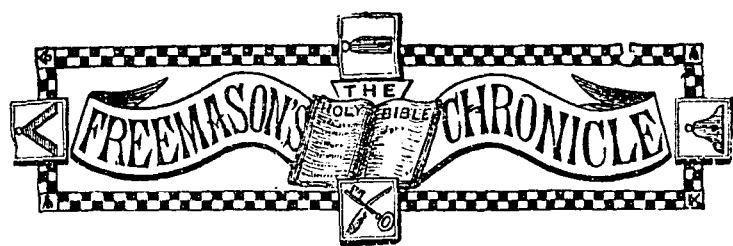
**B**OOKBINDING in all its branches. Price list on application. Morgan, Fleet Works, Bulwer Road, New Barnet.

## FAILING EYESIGHT.



PERSONS suffering from Defective Vision (particularly those who have been unable to get suitable glasses elsewhere), should consult Mr. Bluett, who has had 30 years' practical experience in making and adapting Spectacles for every form of defective Eyesight, and for which he has received numerous unsolicited testimonials. The Eyes carefully Examined and Sight Tested FREE. Spectacles from 1/6 per pair.

*Ophthalmic* **F. BLUETT,** *[Optician]*  
8a GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.  
(Four doors from Oxford Street.)



SATURDAY, 11TH AUGUST 1894.

### CONSECRATION: ST. JOHN HACKNEY, 2511.

THE consecration of this Lodge was celebrated at the Old Town Hall, Hackney, in the presence of a large number of Brethren.

The ceremony was performed by Bro. Letchworth Grand Secretary, assisted by Bros. C. Belton Dep.G.D.C. acting as S.W., C. J. R. Tjou P.Asst. G. Purs. as J.W., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg P.G.C. as Chaplain, Frank Richardson P.G.D. as D.C. The manner in which Bro. Letchworth performed the beautiful ceremony was perfect, says the "East London Observer," and gave great pleasure to all present, the Rev. Bro. Brownrigg and the other Officers rendering most efficient services. The anthems were sung by Bros. Emerson, Sidney Barnby, E. Evans, and R. J. Harris.

The ceremony of consecration being completed Bro. Letchworth installed Bro. R. E. Hunt as W.M., and he appointed and invested the Officers.

Other Masonic business having been transacted, the Brethren adjourned to the banquet, which took place at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street. After loyal toasts and that of the Grand Officers had been honoured, the W.M., in proposing the Grand Secretary and the other Consecrating Officers, referred to the splendid working of the ceremonies, and said the success of the new Lodge was largely dependent on those who were brought together that night.

Bro. Letchworth said that nothing gave him and his fellow Officers greater pleasure than to render their assistance in the starting of a new Lodge. When such a spirit of unanimity animated those who had worked to found the Lodge, there could be no misgiving as to its success. He had heard that many of the founders were old friends and fellow workers together in the grand old game of cricket. The Consecrating Officers would carry away with them many agreeable recollections of this day. Their selection of the W.M. was an admirable one. He had been 18 years a Mason. His attention to the duties of the various offices in the Strong Man Lodge, and his conduct in its chair, was a guarantee of his fitness to direct theirs. He gave him his very warmest congratulations.

The W.M., in reply, said he had gone into the chair with full responsibility, and felt proud of the honourable position he was placed in. It was chiefly by the indefatigable efforts of the J.W. that the Lodge had been established. He would use every effort that would conduce to its success.

For the Visitors Bro. Boulter was glad to see the Lodge starting under such favourable auspices. He was glad they meant especially to make charity their chief end. He might add that the West Ham Abbey Lodge, of which he was P.M., in the course of the past few years had given £500 to the West Ham Hospital, and £300 to various local charities.

Bros. Church and Ringrose spoke briefly, and Bro. Nell said the W.M. and himself were also friends, and

had been closely associated for the past 25 years. He had proposed him in the Strong Man Lodge, and could vouch for him. He wished him and the Lodge all success.

In proposing The S.W. and J.W. the W.M. specially alluded to the self-denying work of the J.W. He had made it a labour of love, and his endeavours were worthy of all consideration. In his anxiety for the good of the Lodge he had worked early and late, and had well earned his position as one of its principal Officers.

Bro. J. Gordon S.W. said that since he was initiated thirty-five years ago, in Quebec, he had never seen any ceremony worked in the perfect manner he had seen it done that day. Like the W.M., he gave the palm of hard work for their good to the J.W. He had been told he had literally turned night into day in working for their behalf.

The J.W., in response, said he had entered into the work of establishing a new Lodge with a light heart, but he now knew what hard work it entailed. He had not however, done it unaided. He had been loyally assisted by Bro. Haysom. In the knowledge that they had succeeded in establishing the Lodge, and in the satisfaction of the Brethren, he had reaped his reward.

In proposing the Treasurer and Secretary, the W.M. alluded to the long services of Bro. Wyatt Smith, as Secretary of the Temperance in the East Lodge. After such an experience there could be no doubt as to his efficiency. It was a great accession to a new Lodge to have the services of such an officer. Bro. Duck, as Treasurer would, he was sure, look after the financial position of the Lodge.

Bros. Duck and Dr. Wyatt Smith having briefly acknowledged the toast, the Tyler's toast closed the proceedings.

### GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE Annual meeting of the Grand Mark Lodge of this Province was held at the Green Dragon Hotel, Hereford, on the 17th ult.

In the absence, through indisposition, of Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy, Bro. Orlando Shellard, of Hereford, presided, Bro. W. Forth P.D.Prov.G.M. acting as D.Prov.G.M. There were also present: Bros. the Baron de Ferrieres P.Prov.G.M., J. O. Marsh D.Prov.G.M. Mon., and a number of Brethren from the various Lodges in the Province, and from the neighbouring Province of Monmouth.

After the transaction of the ordinary routine business, the Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge for the ensuing year were invested, as follow:

Bro. S. W. Hadingham	-	-	Senior Warden
W. C. Ferris	-	-	Junior Warden
A. V. Hatton	-	-	Master Overseer
W. Heath	-	-	Senior Overseer
W. Spence	-	-	Junior Overseer
Rev. C. E. L. Austen	-	-	Chaplain
J. Balcomb	-	-	Treasurer
R. P. Sumner	-	-	Registrar
G. Norman	-	-	Secretary
E. Shaw	-	-	Senior Deacon
W. Renwick	-	-	Junior Deacon
H. Rossiter	-	-	Inspector of Works
W. R. Felton	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
H. J. Brewer	-	-	Sword Bearer
J. W. Morrison	-	-	Standard Bearer
G. R. Sinclair	-	-	Organist
H. Gilling	-	-	Inner Guard
Tarr	-	-	Tyler.

Before Prov. Grand Lodge was closed three special resolutions were passed. One expressed the regret of the Brethren at the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, and its cause, and the hope that he might be speedily restored to health and strength. This was proposed in feeling terms from the chair, and seconded by Bro. the Baron de Ferrieres.

The other two resolutions had reference to the recent birth of a son to H.R.H. the Duke of York, and approved of the presentation to the Queen and to the Prince of Wales, as Grand Master of the Order, of addresses of congratulation upon that auspicious event. These motions were also made from the chair, seconded by Bro. the Baron de Ferrieres and the acting D.Prov.G.M. respectively, and were adopted by acclamation.

## THE POPE'S ANTI-MASONRY.

OF all the subjects touched upon by Leo XIII in the remarkable encyclical just issued (and which, if we are to credit the reports that reach us from Rome concerning the health of the venerable Pontiff, is destined to be his last) there is probably none more calculated to interest the American people than that which refers to Freemasonry. The Pope once again condemns the Craft "as defying God," as "assailing Christian Institutions," as "ridiculing the sacraments as mere superstitions" and as "aiming at the destruction of the popular respect for the Divine Power." These denunciations, which have come from the Vatican at different intervals during the last three decades, must sound strange and incomprehensible to the Freemasons of the United States and England. It would be wrong to attribute the animosity of the Roman Catholic Church, however, toward the Institution to mere bigotry or to clerical tyranny and reaction. It is based on quite different grounds, which can only be explained by calling attention to the radical difference that exists between American and British Masonry and that of France, Italy and Austria. Were the Brethren of these three countries like those of America, the Church of Rome would probably never have felt itself impelled to anathematise the Craft and to object to Roman Catholics becoming affiliated therewith. Indeed, as long as they adhered to the original doctrines of the Order, the Papacy maintained a passive and even friendly attitude toward the Craft, to which many eminent prelates have belonged. When, in 1848, however, continental Masonry began to devote its resources and its activity to politics instead of to works of charity and benevolence, the attitude of the Church of Rome underwent a change for the worse, and since the schism has taken place between the Lodges of France, Italy and Austria and those of America and Great Britain, the Vatican has considered it necessary to condemn Masonry and to fight it with all the means at its command.

The cause of the objection of the Roman Catholic Church to Masonry—and by that I mean continental Masonry—is the very same as that of the schism between the latter and the American and British Lodges. It is the identification of French and Italian Masonry with atheism—atheism, too, of the most aggressive and militant character. In all the documents and rites of the Craft in English-speaking countries figure the mystic letters A. N. G. A. U., which means "In the name of the Great Architect of the Universe," and a profession of belief in the Deity constitutes part and parcel of the Initiation of the Brethren of the Order. In the Lodges of France and Italy, however, the use of these symbolical letters has been abolished, and reference to the Divinity in any shape or form has been strictly forbidden. Strangely enough, this elimination of all religious element from the French and Italian Lodges owes its origin to M. Littré, the compiler of the celebrated French dictionary, who subsequently died a fervent and even bigoted Roman Catholic. To him belongs the chief burden of responsibility for a measure that has become an overwhelming obstacle to the principal aim of Freemasonry, which is the establishment of sentiments of Brotherhood and union not only between individuals, but also between nations. The moment this action of the Grand Orient of France and Italy became known decrees were at once issued by the Masonic Grand Masters of Great Britain, the United States, Spain, Portugal and Prussia, as well as Sweden, prohibiting the Brethren of the respective nationalities from attending any French or Italian Lodge meetings or even from entering into Masonic intercourse with members of the Gallic or Italian rite.

It should, therefore, be thoroughly borne in mind that the anathemas of the Church are directed, not so much against American, English, or even Spanish and Portuguese Masons, but mainly against those of Italy and France. The activity of the Brotherhood in these last two countries is neither benevolent or social, but purely political, and its openly avowed object is the overthrow of the Church and the annihilation of every form of religious belief. Among its publicly declared aims—I quote from French and Italian Masonic writings and speeches—are "the exclusion of every Catholic or religious element from all public administrations, from hospitals, schools; from the councils that govern the destinies of the country, from academic and other corporate institutions, from committees and families—and exclusion from everything everywhere and forever," and "the abolition in schools of every kind of religious instruction, because the state, which ought to be absolutely Atheistic, has the inalienable right and duty to form the heart and spirit of its citizens," and, again, "to lay religion waste in its foundations and in its very sources of life—namely, in the school and in the family." The Italian Lodges, moreover, proclaim their determination to secure "the suppression of all religious corporations, the confiscation of all ecclesiastical property, and the abolition of the Papacy," which the Grand Orient of Rome declares to be "the implacable and deadly enemy of Italy."

If these were merely empty threats the Vatican could afford to treat them with contempt. But they are quite the reverse, for of the 504 members of the Italian Chamber of Deputies there are no less than 200 who are openly avowed Freemasons, and for the last ten years there has always been a Masonic majority in the Cabinet. Crispi, Doda, Zanardelli and Lacava all hold high office in the Grand Orient of Italy, and the late Prime Minister, Depretis, as well as the popular statesman, Nicotera, were buried with Masonic instead of religious rites.

In the French Chamber there are over 200 Masons, and most of the prominent statesmen of the last twenty years, including Gambetta, Grevy, Thiers, Clemenceau, Douville, Floquet and Ferry, have belonged to the Fraternity. The Grand Orient of France has taken a leading part in the war organised during the last fifteen years against the Roman Catholics and the clergy. "Le clericalisme, voilà l'ennemi," is the device of every Lodge in the country. The former Grand Master, M. Cossavru, who was on the Board of Directors of the Panama Company, besides being a salaried employé in the railroad department of Baron Alphonse Rothschild's office,

has publicly described Freemasonry as the bitterest and most relentless enemy of the Church. As stated above, it was in the latter part of the forties that the continental Masons first began to devote their attention to politics. This was due to the severity of the various monarchical governments in dealing with persons professing liberalism and radicalism. The men found that it was only behind the closed doors of Lodges duly "tiled" that they could make their voices heard and give free expression to their political sentiments without peril of imprisonment and even worse. Every radical politician in France, Italy and Austria became affiliated to the Order for political purposes only, and while in the Peninsula Masonry became synonymous with Garibaldianism and Massinism, in France the mere fact of belonging to the Craft was understood to indicate adherence to the advanced doctrines of Louis Blanc and of Ledru Rollin. During the Empire, Napoleon III, who was himself a Freemason of the Italian rite, endeavoured to counteract the increasing tendency of the French Masons to radicalism and republicanism by getting, first his cousin, Prince Murat, and then the chief of his military household, bluff old Field Marshal Magnan, appointed as Grand Master. But his efforts were doomed to failure, and it was the Masonic element in French politics that contributed more than anything else to the overthrow of his throne.

Whereas in the United States, Great Britain, Germany and Scandinavia Masonic interference with politics is discountenanced and condemned, in France any attempt to check this interference would be treated with derision, as the Brethren regard themselves, with some degree of justice, as important factors in the creation of the Republic. After the collapse of the Boulanger bubble a few years ago, those of his adherents who belonged to the Craft were subjected to severe disciplinary measures by their Lodges, not because they had taken part in a political movement, but because they had been on the losing side. In order to appreciate this, let any American Mason consider how he would feel if called to account and punished by his Lodge for having voted with the Farmers' Alliance or some other factional movement against the party in office.

In strong contrast with the hostility displayed by the Roman Catholic Church toward Masonry in Italy and France is the tolerant attitude of its clergy toward the Craft in Portugal and Spain. I remember some years ago attending the funeral at Lisbon of Antonio de Aguiar, who at the time of his death held the place of Grand Master of the Order in Portugal. Don Antonio was an ex-Minister of Public Works, a Senator, the President of the Royal Geographical Society, and had for some years acted as governor and bear leader of the present King. His body lay in state for two days in the Church of St. Isabelle at Lisbon, arrayed in his Masonic insignia, and among the wreaths and floral emblems deposited at the bier were many bearing Masonic inscriptions. During the whole time that the body remained in church priests were kneeling in an attitude of prayer beside the coffin. On the day of the funeral, which was attended by representatives of the King and Queen in state carriages, a large cortège of prelates and priests in full canonicals was present. They drove to the cemetery in court carriages. The full services of the Roman Catholic Church were performed at the grave by the clergy, during the course of which the discourses of farewell to the dead statesman were delivered by Deputy Senor Elias on behalf of the Freemasons of Portugal, and by Senor Villareno on behalf of those of Spain. The latter, by the way, though the most Catholic country on the face of the earth, has as its Masonic Grand Master Senor Sagasta, the present Prime Minister.

In Sweden and Norway the Grand Mastership is held by King Oscar, who occupied that office long before his ascension to the throne, and his sons are all Masons, as are also the sons and grandsons of Queen Victoria, whose heir, the Prince of Wales, is Grand Master of the British Masons. In Denmark it is the Crown Prince who is at the head of the Grand Orient, while the late Emperor Frederick held the Grand Mastership of Prussia's Freemasons from the year before his marriage until the time of his death. The present Emperor, although a Mason, has declined to accept the Grand Mastership in succession to his father, and it is now held by his brother-in-law, Prince Frederick Leopold. Like all the sovereigns who have reigned over Prussia since the time of Frederick the Great, William figures on the roster of the Order as protector of the Prussian branch of the Craft.

It is probably owing to this marked interest in the fortunes of the Craft manifested by royalty in the north of Europe that has led to the large representation of the aristocracy to be found in the Order, while in France and Italy membership of a Lodge is regarded in the light of an admission that one belongs to the nouvelles couches of society. In Prussia, Scandinavia and particularly in Great Britain, the Grand Orients are composed almost exclusively of titled personages or of the intimate associates of royalty. The result is that in London and Berlin admission to a good Lodge is as eagerly sought and as difficult to secure as election to an exclusive and fashionable club.—"Ex-Attache," in "New York Tribune."

## TOURS IN SWITZERLAND.

SINCE the Jura-Simplon Railway opened their Agency in Shaftesbury Avenue, a large influx of tourist and holiday makers have availed themselves of the gratuitous information supplied by the Company, and are enjoying the bracing air of beautiful Switzerland. A tour will be mapped out to suit everybody's time and pocket, and intending visitors will do well to call at the Jura-Simplon Office before making up their minds where to go. The panoramic splendours of the Swiss Mountains and scenery are never more gorgeous than in August and September, and there is no country in the world where hotel keeping is better done and more moderate prices asked.



## CHURCH SERVICES.

A SERVICE unique in the annals of local Freemasonry was held last month in St. John's Church, Stratford, on behalf of the West Ham Hospital. The nave of the church was reserved for the Brethren, the public, who were admitted by ticket, being seated in the aisles, which were well filled. A marquee had been erected in the church grounds to enable the Brethren attending the service to invest themselves with their Masonic clothing and the insignia of office. From here a procession was formed into the church, the processional hymn being the "Old Hundredth."

The Bible was placed on the pedestal of the West Ham Abbey Lodge, in front of the chancel steps.

A shortened form of evening service was conducted by Bro. the Rev. Canon Stevens, Bro. the Rev. J. Percy Noyes reading the special lessons.

The musical portions of the service were exceedingly well rendered by the choir of the church, under the Organist (Mr. Taylor).

Bro. the Rev. W. Quennell preached the sermon, from texts taken from the books of Deuteronomy and Leviticus. After the blessing, "Now the evening shadows closing" was sung, and the procession was reformed and returned to the tent.

The Rev. Canon Stevens addressed a few words to the Brethren, says the "East London Observer," saying that though that was the first service they had held, he trusted it would not be the last; and he wished them every success in their Order.

The Canon's words were well received. The collection amounted to £26, which will be handed intact to the West Ham Hospital, as the Brethren of the West Ham Abbey Lodge, the charitable exertions of whose members is referred to elsewhere in this issue, have arranged to bear the expenses. The whole of the arrangements for the service were admirably made and carried out by Bro. F. C. D. Fenn (the Secretary of the West Ham Lodge), and reflected great credit upon him.

o o o

THE following address was delivered at a service for Freemasons, held at the Bromley Parish Church on 24th June, with the concurrence and assistance of the Rev. Jno. Parry, M.A., who is Chaplain of the Bromley St. Leonard Lodge. The musical arrangements were under the direction of Bros. the Rev. J. H. Lewthwaite (choirmaster), J. W. Gibbs, and W. F. Keddall. The Brethren mustered in the schoolroom adjoining the church, to the number of nearly three hundred, and there attired themselves in their regalia, and joined in procession, after the clergy and choir, into the church. There were representatives of all degrees in Freemasonry. In the prayers read by the Archdeacon special reference was made to the sick, for whom, at the Victoria Park Hospital, assistance was sought. The Rev. John Parry, the Vicar, read the lesson of the day, and the anthem, "The Heavens are telling," was rendered by the choir. Archdeacon Sinclair's address was listened to throughout with the closest attention, both by Masons and non-Masons; his historical references being followed by all with the deepest interest:

## FREEMASONRY AS KNOWN TO THE WORLD.

I Kings vii, 13-21.

FREEMASONRY is a principle which has existed in all stages of civilisation. The state in which we know it, of a vast Brotherhood of amateur Masons, who are not really builders, but who, as everybody knows, have adopted the signs and symbols of the Building Craft to express their own secret principle, is as far as we know about two-and-a-half centuries old. The first instance of a gentleman or amateur being accepted into one of the Lodges of the old Building Crafts is that of Elias Ashmole, the antiquary (afterwards Windsor Herald to King Charles 2nd), who along with Colonel Mainwaring was entered at Warrington in 1646. It is believed that there are now more than 10,000 Lodges, and more than 1,000,000 members. The conception of Freemasonry implies, like the Christian Church, cosmopolitan or universal Brotherhood, and was impossible to the ancient world, or until the Brotherhood of man was taught by Jesus of Nazareth. But the principle of sacred moral and religious societies on the one hand, and the principle of Brotherhoods of the Building Craft on the other, are as old as civilisation itself; and it is of these two that speculative Freemasonry is the modern representative. The principle of moral and religious societies is represented in ancient times by the Pythagoreans and the Eleusinians among the Greeks, by the Essenes

amongst the Jews, and by the Carmathites and Fedavi, who were the mystic Rationalists of the Mahomedans. But the true historical precursors of our modern Brotherhood of Freemasons were the mediæval building corporations, who may themselves have a remote connection with the East; while amongst the Romans there were collegia, or skilled Fraternities for the same purpose. These Roman collegia had an exchequer, an archive, patrons, religious ceremonies, an oath, a benefit and burial fund, and a register. Their officers were masters, wardens, recorders and censors, and they instructed their apprentices to a certain extent in secret. There can be no doubt that such fellowships existed for centuries in Gaul and Britain, and it is probable that they deposited in these countries the tradition of their ideas and habits. And again, at a later period, there was a distinct invitation sent from the West to the building corporations of Byzantium; the reforms of the Emperor Leo, who was zealous in breaking down Christian idolatry, inclined the Masons to avail themselves of the opportunity. The European building societies themselves, however much they owed to the traditions of the Roman skilled Fraternities, and of these building societies from the East, were independent and original growths; of these the most distinctive type is found in the Steinmetzen (stonemasons) of Germany. The *liberi muratores* or Freemasons grouped themselves round the monasteries. As architecture developed, and with increasing wealth the Church gradually undertook larger and nobler works, these societies of Craftsmen gradually assumed a more definite and more durable form. The taste and science of Gothic architecture were to a large extent the possession of the Bauhütten, or wooden booths, where the stonecutters during the progress of the work kept their tools, worked, held their meetings, and probably also took their meals and slept. Hence our modern Institution of the Lodge. In the 12th century there are distinct traces of a general association of these Lodges throughout Germany, acknowledging one set of Craft laws, one set of secret signs and ceremonies, and, to a certain extent, one central authority in the Grand Lodge of Strasburg. The Jewish and Arabian symbols, which were so popular in these Crafts, are supposed to have been introduced by Albertus Magnus early in the 13th century. But the traditions may have come from the East long before; and as we are tracing the history of societies that considered their own special principles and ritual secret and sacred, we can put no limit as to the antiquity of these traditions. In any case, to all societies of builders, the account of the construction of the Temple at Jerusalem by the most famous of all builders, King Solomon, has always been of the profoundest interest. And that is the reason why I have placed the account of Solomon's chief contractor, Hiram of Tyre, and his skilful mystic performances, at the head of this address. The privileges which one of these ancient German Lodges was able to give to its masters, speakers, and journeymen were chiefly a share in the administration of justice, in the election of Officers, in the banquet, and in works of Charity. There was a solemn Initiation; and instruction was given to all apprentices in both architecture, and its allegorical meaning. When an apprentice had served his time and finished his year of travelling, he was entitled, if of good character, to receive the Password and Salutation. He took an oath of secrecy on the Bible and other sacred symbols, and drank the loving cup. The three great lights, the hammer or gavel, the gold, blue, and white colours, the sacred numbers, 3, 5, 7 and 9, and the interlaced cords, all had their traditional meaning. The atmosphere of these mediæval building societies seems even at an early date to have been favourable to liberty of thought and religious toleration. Hence they were prohibited at the Romish Council of Avignon in the year 1326. The authority of the Grand Lodge was recognised at the great assemblies of Ratisbon and Strasburg in 1459, the statutes of which received imperial confirmation. It was legally destroyed by an imperial edict in 1741.

England has imported much of her Lodge organisation and learning from Germany. The causes which led to the introduction of the new class of members, the amateurs, such as you and I, and which gradually converted operative into speculative masonry, were inevitable. In the first place, the old secrets of Gothic Masonry became obsolete through the spread of the classical and Renaissance architectures. Inigo Jones and his patron, Lord Pembroke, had been studying these on the continent, and brought them to England. Inigo Jones was patron to the Freemasons from 1607 to 1618. He invited several Italian artists to join the body. Secondly, the disorder of the Civil Wars prevented meetings, and tended to disorganise the Masonic connection. Again, the growing spirit of reformation in religion gave men a freedom of speech which superseded the secret freedom of the old craftsmen. Toleration was soon a political fact. Fourthly, science took a new departure from the time of Bacon. The interrogation of nature was preferred to legend and allegory. The glorious outburst of science fostered the idea of a new humanitarian society, and at the same time kept up its direct connection with the old, and with a past that was lost in the mists of antiquity, by adopting the ancient symbols of fellowship. It was under this impulse that a general assembly of Masons was held in 1663, at which the old catechisms were revised, and a series of new statutes passed. The reconstruction of London after the fire, the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, and the patronage of the immortal Sir Christopher Wren, kept up the interest in the movement; and at last a formal resolution was passed that the Masonic privileges should no longer be confined to operative Masons. The modern phase of English Masonry may be said to have begun in London on 24th June 1717, when the four London Lodges, having erected themselves into a Grand Lodge, named their first Grand Master. The leading spirits were the Huguenot, Desaguliers, the well-known populariser of natural science, and James Anderson, a Scotch Presbyterian minister, who compiled the Book of Constitutions. From this time, new Lodges could only be formed by warrant from Grand Lodge. In 1721, the Duke of Montagu was elected Grand Warden. About the same time, the Committee of Charity was formed, which has since raised and expended very large sums for the relief of distressed Brethren, and

built the Boys and Girls Schools at Battersea Rise and Tottenham. In the latter part of the eighteenth century, the ancient York Lodge of practical Masons put in a rival claim to be Grand Lodge, or Supreme Authority. The schismatics were known by the red colour of the Royal Arch Degree, the orthodox by the blue of St. John of Jerusalem. In 1813, a Union was at last brought about by the Queen's father, the Duke of Kent, by her uncle, the Duke of Sussex, and by the Duke of Athole, between the rival Grand Lodges of London and York; they were henceforth known as the United Grand Lodge of England. Such is a brief sketch of the history of Masonry as known to the world, and it is a history of which we may well be proud. Brethren, it is well known that our fraternity is famous for the celebration of the brotherhood of man, and for the cultivation of universal good-will. Whatever may be the case in foreign countries, in our own, Freemasonry has always gone hand in hand with religion. It has emphasised the great Christian virtue of Brotherly kindness, uniting men of different ranks, and often opposite views, in mutual esteem and respect. It is impossible, in a mixed audience, to particularise its moral aims; it is sufficient to say that none who join it can fail to be impressed for good. Too many are the derisions which separate us in many ways in the complex civilisation in which we live. The temper which you learn in our Craft you will do well to extend to all the children of the Divine Father of mankind. The proud look, the cold hand, the unfeeling heart, the angry tongue, the quarrelsome disposition, are altogether unfitting to those who have learnt the lessons of our association. Too little is thought in these our times of the fear of God. Much of our life seems spent without any reference to Him. The recollection of His presence alone can curb our wayward wills, and nerve us to high resolves and wholesome activities. It is one of the glories of English Freemasonry that in all our ways we acknowledge God. And there is another thought I should wish to leave with you. In these days of universal hurry, we do not stop long enough to consider whether our words are wise and our actions well-considered. Dash and vigour, and the qualities that excite admiration and amusement are the most popular—not the quiet ways of calm deliberation and serious thought. If any of us can by word or example increase the respect for wisdom and understanding, and make men desire those great gifts for themselves, we shall be conferring a benefit on the general character of society. "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and he that getteth understanding; for the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold." Fidelity is another principle which cannot be too highly prized. We are living in an age of restlessness, unsettlement and change. Principles are easily abandoned, and friends shaken off. The old virtue of faithfulness to our own convictions, and loyalty to our friends, is greatly to be desired and honoured. The world is too much given to gossip, and few indeed are able to hold their tongues, even about secret things, if they can raise a laugh. A talebearer revealeth secrets, but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter. A faithful man shall abound with blessings; but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent. The Lord preserveth the faithful. The very fact that the secrets of Masonry are so well kept is a perpetual witness to us of this high quality. Seriousness and dignity again greatly add, at fitting times and on proper occasions, to the impressiveness of life. Nothing is more tedious than the perpetual jester. Every household should have its own little forms of courtesy and ceremony to smooth roughness and difficulties, and to banish insolence, rudeness, contempt, and excessive familiarity. Lastly our Craft is by all the world accepted as an example of wise and well-thought almsgiving. There always will be misfortunes, miseries, and failures in the world. There always will be sickness, suffering, and poverty. Any institution which keeps our hearts warm towards the unhappy must earn the gratitude of mankind. It is not only in their own Schools and Charities that Masons are interested. They are inspired by a general spirit of benevolence towards all sound schemes of philanthropy. To-day your liberal and thankful alms are sought for the Victoria Park Hospital for Consumption. It has been doing a wonderful work for that melancholy affliction. In 1893, it entertained 1,292 in-patients, and 16,976 outside attendants. Of the in-patients, 113 came from Bromley, Bow, and Poplar; of the out-patients 2,317. The total number of patients that it has welcomed since its opening is no less than 27,737; the total of out-patients 250,781. Its expenditure every year is over £11,000. From Hospital Sunday and Saturday Funds it receives £4,500; so there is a yearly deficit of nearly £7,000. It is now proposed to add to the Hospital to meet the demands of an ever-increasing population, and to reconstruct the sanitary appliances; that means that the additional sum wanted for the present year mounts up to £11,000. There are other Hospitals rendering great benefits to the district; that at Poplar for accidents, just now largely increased in accommodation, and opened by our Grand Master, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales only last week; the great London Hospital; and that at Shadwell for children. Besides these, convalescent homes are needed for the operatives employed at the various factories in this vast and crowded neighbourhood of the East of London. Truly, there is abundant field for the loving kindness and self-denial, not only of Masons, but of all the benevolent. But this £11,000 for the Victoria Park Hospital for Consumption: will you not show to-day what Masons can do? Will you not, as Masons, show your faith by your works? Will you not, as members of that great and world-wide confraternity, let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven? "He shall establish:" "In it is strength:" those two ancient mystic sentences of the Mighty Craftsman, Hiram, have a message for us which crosses the long sequence of the centuries. If all our works are begun, continued, and ended in the fear of God, He will indeed establish and secure them, and be their strength and their sure protection. "Establish Thou the work of our hands upon us: yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it." "Be Thou our strength every morning: our salvation also in the time of trouble!" —"East London Observer."

## REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

—:o:—

### PROVINCIAL.

—:o:—

#### PORTLAND LODGE, No. 637.

THE Brethren of this Lodge held their usual monthly meeting in the Lodge Room, Town Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, on Thursday of last week. Considering that many of the Brethren had gone to support the Provincial Grand Master at Wolverhampton, an exceptionally large number of members turned up to support the Worshipful Master.

The Chair of K.S. was occupied by Bro. R. Williams W.M. and he was supported by Bros. T. R. Yoxall S.W., E. Alsop J.W., Tom Masters Secretary, E. Harding S.D., C. Carter J.D. and about twenty members of the Lodge, in addition to the following Visiting Brethren: Bros. Chas F. Forshaw LL.D. 295, 2417 (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), Thos. Tindall 1942, R. J. Hall 418, Edward Jones 418, J. Copeland 1914 and Louis Taylor 2214.

The Lodge was opened in due form, and Bro. Charles James Lamb was passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., who also explained the tracing board peculiar to the degree, in a thoroughly efficient manner. The Brethren having tendered hearty good wishes, the Lodge was closed and an adjournment made to the Copeland Arms Hotel, when refreshment followed labour according to ancient custom.

The usual Masonic toasts were given and responded to, that of the Visitors being replied to by Brothers Dr. Forshaw, Hall and Jones.

o o o

#### MALLING ABBEY LODGE, No. 1063.

AT the Annual meeting, which took place at the Masonic Hall, West Malling, Bro. Thomas Scott was installed Worshipful Master, in succession to Bro. H. M. Apps, who has carried out the duties in a most able manner. There was a large attendance.

The retiring Past Master was presented with a Past Master's Jewel, as some recognition of the very able manner in which he had carried out the duties of his office.

For a number of years Bro. Sidney Wilmot had acted as Installing Master, and the members of the Lodge were anxious to show their appreciation of the great service he had rendered the Lodge. They consequently arranged to present him with a very handsome jewel, and an address setting forth the good services he had done, both of which had been subscribed for by the members.

This was now presented to Bro. Wilmot, who feelingly acknowledged the unexpected kindness.

The company adjourned to the Bear Hotel, where the installation banquet took place, under the presidency of Past Master Pope, the newly-elected Master not being able to attend, owing to the death of his mother.

The usual Masonic toasts were afterwards honoured.

o o o

#### WALTON LODGE, No. 1086.

THE members had a most enjoyable excursion on Thursday, 19th ult., to Ambleside. The party left in saloon carriages by special train from the Exchange Station, Liverpool, and arrived at Windermere about eleven o'clock. They drove in waggonettes to Ambleside, where they had lunch.

The Worshipful Master Bro. John Millar presented, on behalf of the Lodge, to Bro. Thomas Garratt Immediate Past Master, a casket containing a set of studs and solitaires, representing the various Degrees of the Order, specially designed and made in fine gold.

Bro. Garratt acknowledged the gift.

In the afternoon the party enjoyed a walk amongst the hills and dales of that beautiful district. In the evening they dined together at the White Lion Hotel, under the presidency of Brother Millar, and returned to Liverpool about eleven o'clock, all much gratified with their agreeable outing.

o o o

#### VALE OF BRISLINGTON LODGE, No. 1296.

ON Wednesday, 25th ult., at the Lodge Room, White Hart Inn, Brislington, Bro. C. J. Hill, the popular W.M. was re-installed as Master for the ensuing year by the Worshipful the D.P.G.M. of Somerset Bro. R. C. Else P.G.D. England. The W.M. afterwards appointed his Officers.

The Brethren subsequently dined together, under the genial presidency of the W.M.

o o o

#### WHITWELL LODGE, No. 1390.

THE Annual Installation was held on Tuesday, 31st ult. Bro. T. J. C. Fox was installed as Master for the ensuing year by Bro. George Hill P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., and Bro. H. Frankland Fox P.M. P.P.G.S.

There was a good attendance of Brethren from Barrow, Ulverston, Whitehaven, Egremont, &c.

A banquet was held at the West County Hotel, a capital repast being provided by Mr. J. M. Coward. The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured

## BAGSHAW LODGE, No. 1457.

**A**N Emergency meeting was held on Friday, 13th ult., at the Public Hall, Loughton, under the presidency of Bro. Otto Steffen W.M.

The business of the day consisted of the Passing of Bro. Stephen Alonzo Pidgeon, after which the Brethren, twenty in number, partook of a supper, which was provided by the W.M.

o o o

## ISLE OF AXHOLME LODGE, No. 1482.

**T**HE Annual Festival was held at Crowle on Tuesday, 17th ult., when Bro. J. Faulkner was installed as W.M. Bro. T. Stainforth was the Installing Master, the ceremony being well performed, he being assisted by Bros. Peace, Heminbrough, Constable, Fretwel, Behrendt, Brunyee, Chamberlain. The new W.M. invested the Officers for the year.

After the installation the Brethren sat down to an excellent spread, Mr. and Mrs. Kent catering to their entire satisfaction.

o o o

## FRIENDSHIP AND HARMONY LODGE, No. 1616.

**T**HE Lodge held its Installation meeting at the Oatlands Park Hotel, Weybridge, on Thursday, the 26th ult., when there was a good attendance of members and visitors.

The out-going Master Colonel G. Noel Money, C.B., having first of all performed two Raisings and a Passing, installed his successor (Bro. B. de B. Lopez P.G.S.) in the chair, all three ceremonies being conducted in the ablest and happiest manner by the Prov. Grand Master.

Bros. C. Swinfen Eady, Q.C., No. 21, and Thomas Hewson, No. 77, were unanimously elected Joining Members.

A Past Master's jewel was presented to Colonel Noel Money I.P.M. in token of his eminent services to the Lodge.

The business having been concluded, the Brethren adjourned to refreshment, and partook of an excellent banquet, after which the toast list having been mercifully curtailed, they were enabled to spend a pleasant hour together in the beautiful grounds of the Hotel, before the time arrived when it was necessary for them to disperse.

o o o

## ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1780.

**T**HE usual monthly meeting of this Lodge took place at the Masonic Hall, Albion Place, Southampton, on Tuesday last, but owing to several members being away on their holidays the attendance was not so large as customary.

In the absence of the W.M. Bro. J. G. Jordan, the chair was taken by Bro. E. Warren P.M., who opened the Lodge in due course. The minutes of the last meeting were read by Bro. T. Holmes Secretary and confirmed.

Bro. Dakin, being a candidate for the second degree, was introduced by Bro. J. Burrow S.D. and having proved his proficiency was entrusted and retired. Bro. G. Heathcote P.M. and Treasurer then took the chair and passed Bro. Dakin to the degree of a Fellow Craft.

The ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Adolphe F. Beauvent, Edward Creeden and John Amey.

The two first gentlemen being in attendance were admitted, together with Mr. Warner, accepted at a previous meeting, and regularly initiated into Freemasonry by Bro. E. Warren.

Both the ceremonies were efficiently performed and proved that the Past Masters had lost none of their art. The acting W.M. having received the good wishes of the visiting Brethren the Lodge was closed in perfect harmony and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room, when a very pleasant evening was spent.

o o o

## MINERVA LODGE, No. 1942.

**T**HE members held their annual picnic at Trentham on the 26th ult. Several of the party made the journey in traps, &c., others took train. Arriving early, the interval before tea was enjoyably spent on the green by many, whilst a few drove round the park. About five o'clock tea was laid at the hotel, to which about 55 sat down, under the presidency of Bro. John Stevenson W.M.

Altogether it was certainly the largest and one of the pleasantest gatherings that has taken place in connection with the Lodge.

After tea, bowls and tennis were indulged in, and at eight o'clock dancing was commenced. Weather and everything were in favour of the picnic, which was a thorough success.

o o o

## HUNDRED OF BOSMERE LODGE, No. 1958.

**T**HERE was a large and representative gathering at the Masonic Hall, St. George's Square, Portsea, on Tuesday, 24th ult., when Bro. A. Manistree was installed as W.M., in succession to Bro. R. W. G. Stokes P.M. P.A.G.P.

The ceremony was conducted in an impressive manner by Bro. J. Digby P.M. to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed.

At the conclusion of the Lodge business the Brethren adjourned to the Banqueting Room, where an excellent dinner was served by Mr. Maybourn.

The banquet was followed by the customary toasts.

Bro. Stokes P.M. in proposing the health of the W.M. said he was perfectly sure the Brethren would find an excellent Master in Bro. Manistree, and one who would fully maintain the honour and dignity of the Lodge.

The toast was enthusiastically received, and the W.M., in responding, undertook to do his best to promote the welfare of the Lodge and of Freemasonry generally, and heartily thanked the

many Brethren from other Lodges for attending to convey their good wishes upon the occasion of his accession to the chair.

o o o

## ROYAL ARCH.

—:o:—

## PYTHAGORAS CHAPTER, No. 88.

**T**HE half-yearly convocation was held at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on Tuesday, 10th ult., and was attended by twenty-six Companions. The Principals chairs were occupied by Comps. J. V. Pryor Z., Frank Piggott H., and W. P. Spalding J.

Two Brethren were exalted. The work of the P.S. was ably rendered by Comp. the Rev. L. R. Tuttiatt.

The lectures from the several chairs followed, and Comp. B. Chennell P.Z. also assisted. After five guineas had been voted to Charities, the Principals and Officers were elected.

o o o

## MARK MASONRY.

—:o:—

## CHARITY LODGE, No. 76.

**T**HE Annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, on Thursday, 26th ult., to instal Bro. C. B. Gale as W.M. for the year.

At the close of the meeting the Brethren adjourned to the Club, when an excellent supper was prepared, and, under the presidency of the W.M., a very enjoyable evening was passed.

o o o

## LILFORD LODGE, No. 471.

**O**N Thursday, 19th ult., a special meeting was held under dispensation from the Prov. Grand Master, at Lilford Hall, for the purpose of conferring the Mark degree on Bro. the Right Hon. Lord Lilford.

Several Brethren travelled by train from Northampton, Bedford and Thrapston to Thorpe Station, whence they were conveyed in waggonettes to Lilford Hall. Here they found that the library had been arranged as a Lodge-room, and the Master of the Lodge, Bro. the Hon. John Powys ready to receive them.

The Lodge being opened, the degree was conferred on Lord Lilford by his son—a fact probably unique in the annals of Mark Masonry for a father to receive the degree at the hands of his son, and that at a special Lodge held in his own house.

After the business had been transacted, the Brethren were very hospitably entertained by Bro. Lord Lilford, and afterwards shown round the grounds and magnificent aviary, the host himself accompanying the party and affording pleasure and amusement by his store of information and anecdotes concerning his feathered favourites.

## FRUIT GROWING AT THE ANTIPODES.

**N**OT by any means the least interesting of the many attractive entertainments at the Earl's Court Exhibition on Bank Holiday were the instructive lectures delivered by Brother James Stevens, representative of the Australian Irrigation Colonies. These were illustrated by no less than 150 recently prepared Dissolving Views of the principal features of Australian Cities and Townships, with special reference to the Colonies of Victoria and South Australia, and the local districts of the fruit-farming Settlements. The morning lecture bore the title of "Under the Southern Cross," and was listened to by a large and appreciative audience. In the evening, under the title of "The Fruit Garden of the World," the lecturer illustrated the River Murray and its characteristics, the formation of the marvellous Settlements of Mildura and Renmark, the methods of irrigation and results, the extensive fruit farms in full bearing, and the large important town of Mildura which within the short period of six years now occupies a vast area, hitherto a wilderness and waste. The interesting details of the work done and the enterprising manner of its accomplishment drew frequent and gratifying testimonies of approval from those whom the lecturer addressed; and to such as desire to know more than they at present do of the capacity of the Australian Continent for development in the direction of fruit production we strongly recommend a visit to hear these lectures when opportunity may offer. For the next month or two they will be repeated at Earl's Court, and at the Crystal Palace, on alternate Thursdays.

## THE SHRIEVALTY.

**T**HE Badge and Chain of Office to be presented to Mr. Alderman Marcus Samuels, Sheriff elect, is being made at Bro. George Kenning's Manufactory, Little Britain and Aldersgate Street, E.C.

In Canada the ritual is plain, simple, and devoid of show, but the social element is made the leading feature of the Craft. In the United States great stress is laid upon ritual, and the work is done with accessories and appointments gorgeous and expensive, while the social element is over-shadowed or omitted.—"The Trestle Board."



## REASONS FOR MASONIC SECRECY.

IF the secrets of Masonry are replete with such advantages to mankind, it may be asked why are not they divulged for the general good of society? To this it may be answered, were the privileges of Masonry to be indiscriminately dispensed, the purpose of the Institution would be subverted, and our secrets being familiar, like other important matters, would lose their value and sink into disregard.

It is a weakness in human nature that men are generally more charmed with novelty than with the intrinsic value of things. Innumerable testimonies might be adduced to confirm this truth. The most wonderful operations of the Divine Artificer, however beautiful, magnificent and useful, are overlooked because common and familiar. The sun rises and sets, the sea flows and reflows, rivers glide along their channels, trees and plants vegetate, men and beasts act, yet these being perpetually open to view, pass un-noticed.

The most astonishing productions of nature on the same account escape observation and excite no emotion, either in admiration of the great cause, or of gratitude for the blessing conferred. Even virtue herself is not exempted from this unhappy bias in the

human frame. Novelty influences all our actions and determinations. What is new or difficult in the acquisition, however trifling or insignificant, readily captivates the imagination and insures a temporary admiration, while what is familiar or easily attained, however noble or eminent, is sure to be disregarded by the giddy and unthinking.

Did the essence of Masonry consist in the knowledge of particular secrets or peculiar forms, it might be alleged that our amusements were trifling and superficial. But this is not the case. These are only keys to our treasure, and, having their use, are preserved; while, from the recollection of the lessons which they inculcate, the well-informed Mason derives instruction, draws them through a proper medium, adverts to the circumstances which gave them rise, and dwells upon the tenets which they convey. Finding them replete with useful information, he prizes them as sacred, and, convinced of their propriety, estimates their value from their utility.—“American Masonic Register.”

o o o

MASONS going to Cuba should take their diplomas or Grand Lodge certificates with them, as they will not be received in Lodges there without written evidence of legitimacy.

## NEXT WEEK.

## Monday.

- 1789 Ubique, Criterion
- 40 Derwent, Hastings
- 61 Probity, Halifax
- 68 Royal Clarence, Bristol
- 75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
- 89 Unanimity, Duckinfield, Cheshire
- 105 Fortitude, Plymouth
- 106 Sun, Exmouth
- 151 Albany, Newport, Isle of Wight
- 189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
- 237 Indefatigable, Swansea
- 240 St. Hilda, South Shields
- 264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley
- 297 Witham, Lincoln
- 302 Hope, Bradford
- 303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
- 307 Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge
- 330 One and All, Bodmin
- 388 Prudence, Halesworth
- 408 Three Graces, Haworth
- 433 Hope, Brightlingsea
- 467 Tudor, Oldham
- 589 Druid Love and Liberality, Redruth
- 699 Boscawen, Chacewater
- 797 Hauley, Dartmouth
- 884 Derwent, Wirksworth
- 893 Meridian, Millbrook
- 1168 Benevolence, Sherborne
- 1221 Defence, Leeds
- 1271 Friendship and Unity, Brad.-on-Avon
- 1272 Tregenna, St. Ives
- 1286 Bayon, Lincoln
- 1408 Stamford and Warrington, Stalybridge
- 1436 Castle, Sandgate
- 1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
- 1486 Duncombe, Kingsbridge
- 1542 Legiolium, Castleford
- 1564 St. John, Woking
- 1600 Hamilton, Alford
- 1611 Eboracum, York
- 1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
- 1792 Tudor, Harborne
- 1885 Torridge, Gt. Torrington
- 1948 Hardman, Rawtinstall
- 1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
- 1966 Fidelity and Sincerity, Wellington
- 1977 Blackwater, Maldon
- 2376 Carnarvon, Layland
- 2457 St. Annes, St. Annes-on-Sea

## Tuesday.

- 80 St. John, Sunderland
- 131 Fortitude, Truro
- 184 United Benevolence, New Brompton
- 241 Merchants, Liverpool
- 272 Harmony, Boston
- 319 New Forest, Lymington
- 366 St. David, Milford
- 371 Perseverance, Maryport
- 473 Faithful, Birmingham
- 484 Faith, Ashton-in-Makerfield
- 496 Peace and Harmony, St. Austell
- 603 Zetland, Cleckheaton
- 696 St. Bartholomew, Wednesbury
- 764 Harbour of Refuge, West Hartlepool
- 814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkerne
- 829 Sydney, Sidcup
- 877 Royal Alfred, Jersey
- 897 St. Helens of Loyalty, St. Helens
- 967 Three Grand Principles, Penryn
- 973 Royal Somerset, Frome
- 979 Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe

- 1021 Hartington, Barrow-in-Furness
- 1028 Royal Alfred, Alfreton
- 1073 Greta, Keswick
- 1214 Scarborough, Batley
- 1220 Solway, Aspatria
- 1250 Gilbert Grenall, Warrington
- 1266 Honour and Friendship, Blandford
- 1267 Kenlis, Egremont
- 1402 Jordan, Torquay
- 1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
- 1482 Isle of Axholme, Crowle
- 1528 Fort, Newquay
- 1545 Baildon, Baildon
- 1587 St. Giles, Cheadle
- 1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
- 1823 Royal Clarence, Clare
- 1837 Lullingstone, Wilmington
- 1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
- 1902 St. Cuthbert, Bedlington
- 2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay
- 2104 Whitwell, Stockton-on-Tees
- 2134 Wilberforce, Hull
- 2222 Frederick West, East Molesey

## Wednesday.

- 619 Beadon, Upper Norwood
- 1332 Corinthian, Cubitt Town
- 2140 Huguenot, Criterion, Piccadilly
- 32 St. George of Harmony, Liverpool
- 121 Mount Sinai, Penzance
- 128 Prince Edwin, Bury
- 137 Amity, Poole
- 200 Old Globe, Scarborough
- 311 South Saxon, Lewes
- 320 Loyalty, Mottram
- 325 St. John, Salford
- 341 Wellington, Rye
- 342 Royal Sussex, Landport
- 368 Samaritan, Sandbach
- 372 Harmony, Budleigh Salterton
- 376 Perfect Friendship, Ipswich
- 380 Integrity, Morley
- 387 Airedale, Shipley
- 409 Stortford, Bishops Stortford
- 533 Eaton, Congleton
- 555 Fidelity, Framlingham
- 580 Harmony, Ormskirk
- 591 Buckingham, Aylesbury
- 610 Colston, Bristol
- 681 Scarsdale, Chesterfield
- 697 United, Colchester
- 726 Staffordshire Knot, Stafford
- 823 Everton, Liverpool
- 910 St. Oswald, Pontefract
- 962 Sun and Sector, Workington
- 1024 St. Peter, Maldon
- 1040 Sykes, Driffield
- 1086 Walton, Kirkdale
- 1136 Carew, Torpoint
- 1212 Elms, Stoke Damerel
- 1301 Brighthouse, Brighthouse
- 1334 Norman, Durham
- 1353 Duke of Lancaster, Lancaster
- 1363 Tyndall, Chipping Sodbury
- 1511 Alexandra, Hornsea
- 1544 Mount-Edgecumbe, Camborne
- 1634 Starkie, Ramsbottom
- 1638 Brownrigg, Kingston-on-Thames
- 1645 Colne Valley, Slaithwaite
- 1774 Mellor, Ashton-under-Lyne
- 1783 Albert Edward, Huddersfield
- 1808 Suffield, North Walsham
- 2135 Constance, Consett
- 2203 Farnborough and North Camp, Farnborough
- 2258 W.D. United Service, E. Stonehouse
- 2355 Chantrey, Dore

## Thursday.

- 57 Humber, Hull
- 98 St. Martin, Burslem
- 116 Royal Lancashire, Colne
- 203 Ancient Union, Liverpool
- 208 Three Grand Principles, Dewsbury
- 230 Fidelity, Devonport
- 245 Mechanics, Jersey
- 267 Unity, Macclesfield
- 275 Harmony, Huddersfield
- 283 Amity, Haslingden
- 286 Samaritan, Bacup
- 324 Moira, Stalybridge
- 337 Candour, Uppermill
- 343 Concord, Preston
- 345 Perseverance, Blackburn
- 367 Probity and Freedom, Rochdale
- 450 Cornubian, Hayle
- 456 Foresters, Uttoxeter
- 469 Hundred of Elloe, Spalding
- 472 Friendship and Sincerity, Shaftesbury
- 600 Harmony, Bradford
- 605 Combermere, Birkenhead
- 625 Devonshire, Glossop
- 630 St. Cuthbert, Howden
- 659 Blagdon, Blyth
- 710 Pleiades, Totnes
- 758 Ellesmere, Runcorn
- 802 Repose, Derby
- 940 Philanthropy, Stockton
- 1011 Richmond, Manchester
- 1032 Townley Parker, Chorley
- 1037 Portland, Portland
- 1042 Excelsior, Leeds
- 1164 Eliot, St. Germans
- 1184 Abbey, Battle
- 1235 Phoenix of St. Ann, Buxton
- 1327 King Harold, Waltham Cross
- 1332 Unity, Crediton
- 1386 St. Hugh, Lincoln
- 1393 Hamer, Liverpool
- 1562 Homfray, Risca, Mon.
- 1576 Dee, Park Gate, Cheshire
- 1763 St. Mary, Thame
- 1776 Landport, Landport
- 2091 Castleberg, Settle
- 2189 Ashburton, Ashburton
- 2268 Hallamshire, Sheffield
- 2305 Stour, Ashford, Kent
- 2390 Exmoor, Minehead
- 2342 Easterford, Kelvedon
- 2430 Runnymede, Wraysbury

## Friday.

- 401 Royal Forest, Slaidburn
- 460 Sutherland of Unity, Newcastle-under-Lyme
- 652 Holme Valley, Holmfirth
- 1034 Eccleshill, Eccleshill
- 1108 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
- 1311 Zetland, Leeds
- 2005 Brooke, Chingford
- 2078 St. Lawrence, Scunthorpe

## Saturday.

- 149 Peace, Meltham, Yorks.
- 370 St. George, Chertsey
- 444 Union, Starcross
- 453 Chigwell, Chingford
- 1146 De Moulham, Swanage
- 1326 Lebanon, Feltham
- 1871 Gostling Murray, Hounslow
- 2035 Beaumont, Kirkburton
- 2228 Dene, Cookham Dene
- 2309 George Gardner, Eton