

# Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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## DIVIDING THE WORK.

AMONG the "points of interest" considered in an article we quoted last week from an Indian contemporary, was the desirability of dividing some of the ceremonial work of our Lodges, not only for the purpose of affording variety, but also as a means of causing greater interest among the Past Masters, some of whom might be induced by the adoption of such a system to attend Lodge more frequently than they would if they felt there was little or nothing for them to do beyond being "condemned all the evening to be seated and look like one of a range of extinct volcanoes."

The matter has often been referred to in our pages, and our views on the subject are probably well known to our readers, a division of the ceremonial work being, in our opinion, in every way desirable, not only for the two reasons just mentioned, but also because of the relief it affords alike to the speaker and his audience, the former of whom gets fatigued by continuous work, while the latter are often made weary by the repeated sound of the same voice.

The chief argument that can be used in support of the contention that division is desirable is, perhaps, found in the utterance of our contemporary that it would prove a special attraction to the Past Masters as a body, although we are fully alive to the fact that in a large number of cases they want little urging to attend the regular meetings of their Lodge. All the same, it is possible for congenial labour to be found in the way mentioned, and Worshipful Masters desiring to make their meetings more attractive than hitherto would do well to put this suggestion to the test—relieve themselves of part of the work and at the same time afford pleasurable occupation for some of those who preceded them in the chair of the Lodge.

## CONSECRATION: SHIRLEY WOOLMER, 2530.

THIS Lodge was consecrated on Wednesday, 12th inst., at Sidcup. It has been named after the Rev. C. E. Shirley Woolmer, Vicar of St. John's, Sidcup, and first Worshipful Master of the Lodge.

St. John's Hall, the building in which the meetings will be held, and in which the consecration ceremony took place, is a pretty wooden structure, says the "Daily Graphic," which has been designed with a special view to its use for Masonic meetings, and it was gaily decorated with flags bearing Masonic emblems.

The impressive ceremony was ably conducted by Earl Amherst, assisted by Brother J. S. Eastes Deputy Provincial Grand Master and other Officers of Kent. Subsequently Brother Shirley Woolmer was installed in

the chair by Brother Eastes, and then invested his Officers.

"Thirty-four years ago," said Lord Amherst in a little speech which he addressed to the members of the Lodge before performing the ceremony of consecration, "one of my first acts as Provincial Grand Master of Kent was to recommend the Grand Master to grant a Warrant to a Lodge in this town. That Lodge was the eighteenth in the Province of Kent, and I thought we were making good progress, but to-day we are consecrating the sixtieth Lodge."

A banquet was afterwards held at the Public Hall, Sidcup, followed by the usual Masonic toasts interspersed with a programme of music. The menu, toast-list, musical programme, and list of Officers and founders of the Lodge were made up into a pretty little booklet, bearing on the front the arms of the Lodge—an adaption of those of the Shirley Woolmer family. These arms also appear on the founders' jewel.

## CHURCH SERVICES.

ON a recent afternoon several of the Officers and members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Isle of Man, together with a number of members of Insular Craft Lodges, assembled at St. Thomas' Church, Douglas, for service, in obedience to a summons issued by the Provincial Grand Master Major J. S. Goldie-Taubman. The service was fixed to take place at four o'clock, and there was a good congregation, including some seventy or eighty members of the Order.

The Rev. E. Ferrier Provincial Grand Chaplain took the service, and the special Psalm (127), and special lesson (I Cor. xiii) were read by the Rev. R. B. Baron Provincial Grand Chaplain. Bro. F. C. Poulter Prov. Grand Director of Ceremonies presided at the organ.

Canon Bullock, Past Grand Chaplain of England, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Leeds, preached, and selected for his text the 127th Psalm.

He began by pointing out how singularly appropriate the words of this particular Psalm are to the Masonic mysteries. The very opening words remind the Mason of that which he saw first of all upon his birth into Masonry, and so at once learned that the very foundation and key of all Masonry depended upon a knowledge of the Sacred Law. It is quite true, it was pointed out, that Masonry is no longer operative; at the same time it must be remembered that the foundation of the Masonic house is in the eternal God, and that "except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it." This, the preacher pointed out, was brought out when David having collected the materials for the Temple, assembled the people in order to dedicate those materials to God, and in his prayer declared that God's was the greatness and the majesty, and indeed the ownership of all, and that the offering to Him of this store was, after all, to offer Him His own. Moreover, the Mason knows how necessary it is, in consequence of the curiosity of the outside world in regard to the secrets of the Craft, to watch and guard the doors of his Lodge. It is the very first duty of a Mason to be sure that the entrance to his building is properly guarded. At the same time he recognises that no watch can be effective

which is not of the Lord—"Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman walketh but in vain," says the Psalmist. But besides all this the Mason remembers that his rules and orders apply not only within the four walls of the Lodge but also to his conduct outside—"It is but lost labour that ye haste to rise up early, and so late take rest and eat the bread of carefulness." He may work as he will, however industriously, however patiently, however intelligently; but unless he works according to religious rules, his work will be in vain. Outside the Lodge he must remember that people will judge a Mason according to his conduct; that he must constantly be on his guard both as to his words and actions, because he may, when the restraints of the Lodge are removed, forget that he has to set a Masonic example to the world outside. And last of all, the Psalmist shows how the care and guardianship of those about our homes is, and ought to be, the duty of the Masonic life. In this respect, the charity which begins at home in Masonry is the envy and admiration of the world. The Mason's child and family belong to all his Brother Masons, and he feels it to be his privilege as well as his duty to provide for their wants.

The preacher went on to plead on behalf of the local Benevolent Fund, and reminded his hearers who were Masons that there was not one of them present who could forget the moment in his life when he was absolutely without any means whatsoever of meeting a demand that was made upon him. At that moment he realised his poverty, when he wanted, but was unable to provide for the wants of others. So is he taught to remember that at all times he is to show a generous spirit towards a Brother or a Brother's relatives in need. In no way can this be better done than by generous gifts on the part of Masons towards the Benevolent Funds, which are so carefully and so admirably administered. Canon Bullock closed an admirable sermon by quoting the Psalm at length.

The collection realised about £4.—"Isle of Man Times."

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A SPECIAL service was held on Sunday, at St. Paul's, Harringay. There was a full choral evensong rendered by the members of the Craft, and assisted by the boys of the choir from St. Clement's Church, Barnsbury, under the direction of Bros. W. Sycklemore and W. H. Pocklington. The prayers were read by the vicar, the Rev. J. H. Greaves, and the lessons by the Grand Chaplain, Archdeacon Sinclair, who also preached from I Kings vii 13, giving an interesting outline of the origin and history of Freemasonry. The collection after the sermon amounted to over £35, and will be devoted to the debt on the building. There were at least 240 members of the Craft present at the service, and these walked in procession round the church, says the "Guardian," after the final Blessing had been given by the Grand Chaplain, singing the hymn "Light's abode, Celestial Salem."

Madras is decidedly virtuous. A Madras Masonic paper sermonises on the wickedness and iniquity of sweeps on the Derby and other races for the benefit of Masonic Charities, and the Worshipful Masters of thirteen Lodges have signed a protest against the sweeps for the benefit of the Punjab Masonic Institute and Bengal Masonic Association, both of which are orphan funds. The Bengal Fund has derived something like 12,000 rupees from the sweeps, and many children have received out of this sum the benefits of a liberal education. But kissing goes by favour and luck in sweeps goes by chance—which is worse—and the Puritan Presidency will have none of that at all, at all.—"Calcutta Englishman."

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Bro. C. W. Hudson, who is a candidate for the Grand Treasurership during the coming year, has, says the "City Press," already been fortunate enough to enlist the sympathy and the support of no fewer than 1,100 Brethren of all grades. Further names are being added daily to his Committee.

### MORE FRATERNAL SPIRIT NEEDED.

THERE is hope for recognition by the Grand Lodge of England of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, if the Brethren of that jurisdiction will only have patience, as we find by a paragraph in the "Scottish Freemason," that a union is likely to take place in Scotland between the "Early Grand" and "Supreme Grand" Chapters, which claim recognition over the Royal Arch Masonry of Scotland. As the breach has existed since 1812, it cannot be expected that an old and respected body like the Grand Lodge of England would deign to reconsider any of its rules or make any concessions on its part for the sake of peace and harmony and the credit of the Craft in the short space of twenty-five years, when they can keep up a quarrel in Scotland for over 80 years. Our leaders in Masonry at the present time are too busy hunting up ancient history to take a hand in settling difficulties that occur during their own lifetime. In the next century the historian will be wondering why a great body like the Grand Lodge of England could not be generous in dealing with a weaker body, instead of keeping its household divided in a Province domineered over by Roman Catholicism, the enemy of the Craft.—"Canadian Craftsman."

### WOMEN FREEMASONS.

THE old belief that no member of the female sex had ever been allowed to penetrate the mysteries of a Masonic Lodge must be definitely relinquished, as no secret is any longer made of the fact that a Masonic Lodge for members of both sexes exists in Paris. The Secretary is a certain Madame Maria Martin, of English extraction, a lady of advanced political views who claims for herself and her Masonic Sisters absolute equality with the Brothers both in aims and in ceremonies. The object of the female Masons is described as being the establishment of "unity of philosophic views in families." In other words, the Lady-Masons are as actively and aggressively anti-Catholic as the men, and it need hardly be added that their numbers—which, we are glad to believe, are still exceedingly small—are entirely recruited from protestant and Agnostic circles. The "Women's Rights" party in Paris marches hand in hand with the forces of irreligion, and a movement of emancipation which in England has had in the main so many practical and salutary results, has unhappily fallen in France under the guidance of a little clique of narrow-minded Freethinkers, whose main object is to flaunt their scepticism in the face of the world, and the private lives of many of whom would not for a moment bear close investigation. The Freemason development is but one more proof of the curious way in which extremes meet in the French capital, which is at once the most religious and the most atheistic of European cities.—"Catholic Times."

### "A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

THE remains of the late Bro. J. H. Bradshaw, of Liverpool, P.M. 1325 P.P.G.D.C., who recently died in his 58th year, were interred in the churchyard of St. John the Evangelist, at Knotty Ash, on the 13th inst., in the presence of a large number of Masonic and other friends.

THE death is announced of Bro. Albert William Hellier, senior partner of the firm of Messrs. W. Hellier and Co., Cardiff, a Freemason of several years' standing, and one thoroughly devoted to the cause of Freemasonry. At a meeting of the Tennant Lodge, held on Thursday, 13th inst., the news was received with unfeigned regret, and a vote of deepest sympathy was unanimously passed in silence, and at the close the "Dead March" was played by the Organist.

ON Monday, 10th, at the Nottingham Road Cemetery, Bro. F. Gay Shute, of Arboretum Square, Derby, was laid to his last rest in the 85th year of his age. He was one of the oldest Freemasons in Derbyshire, having been initiated as long ago as 1843.

**DERBYSHIRE.**

**T**HIS year's gathering of the Grand Lodge of the Province of Derby is described as one of the most brilliant ever witnessed in the history of local Freemasonry, the feature that gave it special interest being the presence of the Duke of Devonshire Provincial Grand Master, after an absence of many years from the meetings of the Province over which he has ruled since 1858.

Owing to the large number of Brethren from all parts of the Province who were expected to be present, the Masonic Hall of the county town was recognised as far too small for the occasion, and the gathering accordingly took place in the Derby Assembly Rooms, which presented a bright and attractive appearance when the members of the Provincial Grand Lodge were assembled under the presidency of their respected chief.

The Duke of Devonshire was supported by his Deputy, Bro. H. C. Okeover, together with a very large number of other leaders of Derbyshire, nearly all of the Present and Past Officers on the roll being present.

The Masters of the various Lodges presented their usual reports, which were regarded as eminently satisfactory; and the charity, audit and other committees also submitted reports, which were adopted.

The office of Prov. Grand Treasurer was filled by the appointment of Bro. A. Grimwood Taylor (Tyrian Lodge), who received his collar from the retiring P.G. Treasurer (Bro. W. J. Piper, Lodge of Repose).

The Provincial Grand Master then appointed and invested his Officers for the ensuing year, as follow :

- |                             |       |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Bro. Victor Cavendish, M.P. | - - - | Senior Warden           |
| T. C. Drabble               | - - - | Junior Warden           |
| Rev. W. P. Stamper          | - - - | } Chaplains             |
| Rev. Dr. R. P. Hills        | - - - |                         |
| W. H. Bowden                | - - - |                         |
| W. Naylor                   | - - - | Secretary               |
| G. Cauldwell                | - - - | Senior Deacon           |
| Dr. Moir                    | - - - | Junior Deacon           |
| Dr. John Jones              | - - - | Superintendent of Wrks. |
| G. Tarver                   | - - - | Director of Ceremonies  |
| H. V. Edwards               | - - - | Assistant ditto         |
| G. Wild                     | - - - | Sword Bearer            |
| S. J. Sanders               | - - - | Standard Bearer         |
| G. Holderness               | - - - | Assistant ditto         |
| W. A. Glossop               | - - - | Organist                |
| J. Cutting                  | - - - | Assistant Secretary     |
| W. O. Plowright             | - - - | Pursuivant              |
| T. Oldham                   | - - - | Assistant ditto         |
| T. C. Eastwood              | - - - | } Stewards              |
| C. R. B. Eddowes            | - - - |                         |
| S. Bennett                  | - - - |                         |
| J. Smith                    | - - - |                         |
| T. Day                      | - - - | Tyler.                  |

Bro. W. H. Marsden was elected as representative of the Provincial Grand Lodge at the Festival of the Benevolent Institution, to be held in February next.

In addressing the members of his Grand Lodge, observes the "Nottingham Guardian," the Duke of Devonshire said: I beg to offer in a few words my congratulations to the Brethren of the Provincial Grand Lodge upon the flourishing and prosperous condition in which, after I regret to say many years' absence, I find Masonry in this Province. Since I last had the honour of presiding over the Lodge I find that a considerable number of Lodges have been added to our list, and at the same time the reports which have been received from old as well as new Lodges show that these additions have not in any degree impaired the prosperity or efficiency of the old ones. I observe that this time last year Bro. Okeover—to whom I am deeply indebted for having so efficiently filled the place which had been almost completely resigned into his hands—that in commenting upon the great increase in Masonry Bro. Okeover impressed upon the members the necessity of exercising some caution and discrimination in their introductions, and I see, too, by one of the reports that those hints appear to have been acted upon. I need not say that the aim which we must all desire is that the numbers, wealth and prosperity of our Lodges should increase. Nevertheless it should be a more urgent object that the high position and reputation which the Freemasons had always held, should not only be upheld but increased, though in saying that I should add that I have no reason whatever to believe that due care and attention in this respect is neglected by those responsible for the management of our Lodges. I need only, in

conclusion, to say one word to express the great satisfaction it gives me to see the increasing progress of Masoury in the Province, and the attention which is given to the Masonic Charities, which is one of the most important aims and objects of our Institution. You have heard the report of the Charity Committee. I have not had sufficient time to study it or to make any observations in detail upon it, but the reports of the Worshipful Masters in individual Lodges show that this subject is regarded as of paramount importance, and has received the greatest attention from our Brethren. I need now only express the great satisfaction which I feel at being once more permitted to take the chair at your proceedings, and most heartily congratulate you on the state in which I find Freemasonry in the Province.

The annual banquet was subsequently held in the Athenæum Rooms, the Duke of Devonshire presiding. The customary toast list was gone through.

A short time ago Mr. Stevenson gave an account of how he wrote "Treasure Island," and related that when this work first appeared in a story paper "it figured in the ignoble midst without woodcuts, and attracted not the least attention." It may be interesting to recall the fact that no sooner was it issued by Messrs. Cassell as a volume than it sprang into popularity at a bound, and has had a circulation larger than any other of his works.

Commencing with the first number of the new year, the proprietors of "The Paris Mode" will give their subscribers the benefit of a free insurance applicable to accidents of all kinds. It is worthy of note that the system of free patterns cut to measurement which this paper inaugurated a few weeks ago has already been more largely used in this country than in France.

"THE Quiver" for January contains the first of a series of special articles giving the actual experiences of a lady journalist, Miss T. Sparrow, as "one of the Penniless Poor." Among other contributors to this number are the Bishop of Winchester, Professor W. G. Blaikie, the organist of the Chapel Royal, the Rev. P. B. Power, M.A., and L. T. Meade.

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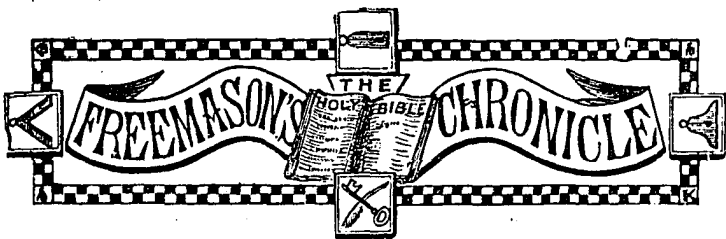
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SATURDAY, 22ND DECEMBER 1894.

### BOARD OF BENEVOLENCE.

**T**HE usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Wednesday evening, at Freemasons' Hall. The three chairs were occupied by Bros. Robert Grey President, C. A. Cottebrune Junior Vice President as Senior Vice President, and Albert Lucking P.G.P. as Junior Vice President. Bro. Edward Letchworth Grand Secretary, A. A. Pendlebury Assistant Grand Secretary, W. Dodd and W. H. Lee attended from the Grand Secretary's office, and among other Brethren present were Bros. E. Terry P.G.Treas., T. W. Whitmarsh P.G.P., H. Garrod P.G.P., D. O. Mercer P.G.P., S. Valentine P.G.P., S. V. Abraham P.G.P., &c., J. R. Tijou P.G.A.P.

The Brethren confirmed grants to the amount of £440. There were forty-five cases in the new list, qualified through Lodges in the London District and at Canterbury, Holmfirth, Stockton-on-Tees, Ashton, Bury St. Edmunds, Brixham, York Town, Plymouth, Feltham, Hanley, Antigua, Halifax, Stafford, Uttoxeter, Shanghai, Ashton-under-Lyne, Southport, Wigan, Sutton, Bombay, Rochford, Peshawur and Liverpool.

At a quarter past six, when the Board had only just disposed of eight cases, Bro. Robert Grey President interrupted the proceedings by addressing the Brethren as follows:—Brethren, it is only since the Grand Secretary has come down that I have learned why the face that is so familiar here at this Board is not opposite to me to-night. We know that our Bro. Brett Senior

Vice President would not be absent from this Board unless it were that a very great trouble had overcome him. It is only those who have experienced such trouble can adequately sympathise with others who have had the same misfortune. Our Bro. Brett, I am sorry to say, has lost his partner in life, and I feel assured that this Board would like to offer to him its most heartfelt, fraternal and sincere condolence in the sad bereavement which has befallen him. I therefore move such a vote.

Bro. C. A. Cottebrune Junior Vice President followed, saying: Brethren, I sincerely second the vote. When I heard of my old friend's loss I felt how great it must be to him, but I am sure our vote of condolence will somewhat alleviate his sorrow.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Brethren voted a total sum of £810, which was composed of two sums of £100 each, five of £40 each, four of £30 each, seven of £20 each, thirteen of £10 each, and four of £5 each. Two cases were dismissed, and eight deferred.

Some Lodges delight in having a big staff of Officers, says the "Mallet," in "Glasgow Evening News." When Offices are created, however, the duties of which even an Installing Master cannot explain, one is made to pause and ask why such positions are invented? If it is to enable the Lodge to give offices to a few of the aspiring members and so give them more interest in the Lodge than if they were members only, it is surely undoing, and effectively too, what was intended, when on installation night such are told, not only that they have no duties, but that the Lodge has not thought it needful to provide the necessary emblem of office.

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Sir Benjamin Richardson recently lectured at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, on the rise and growth of Freemasonry. The lecturer indicated, without proving, the connection of Cathedral building with the development of Freemasonry in this country. The lecture was an interesting one, but the impression left on the mind of the hearer was only that of a vague and shadowy temple in the dim distance, the portals of which no one was allowed to pass to witness a single sign or symbol, or to acquaint himself with the fringe of mysteries of the Craft. Such, doubtless, was the purpose of the lecturer.—"Echo."

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We have already mentioned that the Marquis of Zetland will conduct the opening ceremony and laying of the last stone, with Masonic honours, of the Missions to Seamen Church and Institute, at Middlesborough, for the free use of the 74,000 sailors annually entering and leaving the Tees ports. It is now stated that £1,500 is yet required to complete the buildings, and the Dowager Duchess of Northumberland has consented to receive, on the occasion of the opening, on the 30th prox., purses containing five guineas and upwards in aid of the building fund.

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The Rev. A. Kirke recently displayed at the Aquarium Bazaar, a case of Masonic jewels to which quite a romance attaches. They were, it appears, presented to the rev. gentlemen to be realised for the purposes of the new church by the representatives of a Cheshire family in whose possession the emblems had long been. Amongst the curios is a gold watch enclosed in a tortoiseshell case, of exquisite workmanship, which is 104 years old, and other curious jewels.—"Brighton Gazette."

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Bro. George Fletcher, who has resigned the head-mastership of the science section of the Derby Technical College, to fulfil a Government appointment in Devonshire, has been presented with a silver coffee pot and a gold pen by the Brethren of Hartington Lodge of Freemasons, of which he is a member. The presentation was made by Bro. Berridge, says the "Nottingham Express."

## REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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We shall be pleased to receive particulars of Masonic meetings for insertion in our columns, and where desired will endeavour to send a representative to report Lodge or other proceedings.

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## ROYAL ARCH.

## ST. JOHN CHAPTER, No. 80.

THE regular convocation was held on Tuesday, 18th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland, for the installation of Principals for the ensuing year. Comps. Richard Todd, Rev. J. J. Brown, and Thos. Gibbons occupied the chairs of the three Principals.

Comp. Rev. J. J. Brown was installed as First Principal by R. Hudson P.Z. P.G.S.E., Comp. Thos. Gibbons was installed as Second Principal, and M. J. Todd as Third.

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## FIDELITY CHAPTER, No. 477.

THE annual installation meeting was held in the Masonic Chambers, Hamilton Square, Birkenhead, on Monday, 10th inst., when there was a numerous gathering of members and visitors.

The Installing Officer upon this, as upon several previous occasions, was Comp. John Morris P.Z. P.Prov. G. Soj., who discharged the onerous duties with marked ability.

The following were installed, Comps. R. G. Hawkins Z., James S. Warren H., Richard Parry J.

After the conclusion of the business, the members adjourned to the supper room, where refreshments were partaken of under the presidency of the newly installed Principals.

A selection of music was given in conjunction with the usual Loyal and Arch toasts, the Companions contributing to the harmony of the evening being George Proudman, A. J. Thompson, Captain J. W. Shaw, R. Parry, and R. Robinson, while Companion J. Hamilton Jackson ably presided at the pianoforte.

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## CHAPTER OF RECTITUDE, No. 581.

A REGULAR meeting was held at the Clarence Hotel, Manchester, on Thursday, the 6th inst., the following being present:—Comps. Wm. Kay P.Z., Jas. Hayes J., Robt. Rudman E., W. J. Melling P.P.A.D.C., Julius Arensberg P.Z., Ben Walker, R. Adshhead, J. C. Brown, Wm. Hyde, Wm. Rostron, John E. Chapman, S. Kindler, Harry G. Walker, Henry B. Brown W.M. 581, Jno. C. Wilson, Nelson J. Stokes, Edward Roberts P.M. (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE). Visitors:—J. H. Sillitoe P.G.D.D.C. Prov. Grand H., Jas. W. White 815.

The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, a ballot was taken for Brothers Charles William Dove, Ardwick Lodge, No. 2185, and Richard Morley, Arthur Sullivan Lodge, No. 2156, and this being successful, they were duly exalted by Companion Kay P.Z.

Following this was the Installing of Companions J. T. Richardson P.Z. P.P.G.A.S., and Jas. Hayes P.M. as First and Second Principals respectively, and the Investiture of Officers, these functions being committed to the care of Companion J. H. Sillitoe, who performed them in a most admirable manner.

The usual festive board succeeded, when Loyal and Royal Arch toasts were honoured. Comp. Kay, in proposing the health of the newly-exalted Companions, said that it was no new thing in the Rectitude Chapter to submit this toast, as they were continually admitting new members. During the year they had exalted fifteen Brethren, and there were also three joining Companions, making a total of eighteen. Numerically they were stronger than they had ever been, and in admitting the two Companions amongst them that day they had no reason to fear that they would not maintain the prestige of the Chapter.

Companions Dove and Morley responded, thanking the Companions for their acceptance of them, and paying a well-deserved tribute to Companion Kay, who had performed the ceremony of Exaltation.

Other toasts followed, the same being pleasantly relieved by songs, recitations, &c., given by Companions Rudman, Morley, H. G. Walker, Dove, Stokes, Roberts, Adshhead, and Lilley.

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## ALDERSHOT CAMP CHAPTER, No. 1331.

THE usual monthly Convocation was held on Monday, 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Imperial Hotel, Aldershot, the Principals present being Comps. Colonel J. A. Boyd Z., E. R. Downs H., and W. Cockburn P.Z. P.G.Swd.B. J.

There was a good attendance of Companions, the business of the evening being the Exaltation of Bro. G. Scrase of Aldershot Camp Lodge, which ceremony was performed by the First Principal in a most impressive manner.

After hearty good wishes from the visiting Companions, the Chapter was closed until 14th January.

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## LANDPORT CHAPTER, No. 1776.

AT the Quarterly Convocation, held at the Masonic Hall, Landport, on the 12th, Comp. Inkpen was installed M.E.Z., the ceremony being impressively performed by Companion Lancaster P.Z., &c.

## CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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## ROYAL ATHELSTAN LODGE, No. 19.

THE election meeting of this famous old Lodge was held on the 13th, at the Cannon Street Hotel, under the presidency of Brother John H. Whadcoat the Worshipful Master, who was supported by Bros. Arthur Digby Green Immediate Past Master, W. M. Bywater P.G.Sw.B. D.C., James Dix, Daniel Nicholson, G. Sneath, G. H. Hoyle, and Arthur Wormull Past Masters of the Lodge; Milton Smith S.W., E. G. Young J.W., Henry Glenn P.M. Treas., C. B. Barnes P.M. Sec., W. F. Stauffer S.D., W. Stacey I.G., J. P. Hinckel, Martin Pulvermann, M. Marsland, G. Stevens, M. Miroy and A. C. Burnley, together with the following Visitors: F. W. Dunn 137, Harold Woodcock W.M. 2470, G. W. Capel 493, H. Robbins P.M. 1703, G. B. Chapman P.P.G.S. of W. Kent, G. B. Davies P.M. 13, George Owen P.P.S.G.W. North Wales and Shropshire, A. Aslett 1124, T. Halsted 90, M. R. Webb P.M. 1657, J. Finch P.M. 1196, J. Philip Upton S.W. 1328, W. W. Morgan 177, and J. Tickle P.P.G. Reg. Middlesex.

The business of the meeting included the passing of Bro. Dunn, on behalf of his Lodge, the Amity, of Poole; the usual elections and the appointment of Auditors. Bro. Milton Smith was chosen as Master for next year, Bro. Glenn was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Gilbert Tyler.

Considerable enthusiasm was shown among the members as to the result of Bro. Whadcoat's presidency during the past year, and Past Master Bywater, the father of the Lodge, expressed the gratification they all felt that so much good had been done, concluding his remarks by moving the following resolution:

"That the members of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19 desire to record their hearty thanks to Bro. John H. Whadcoat for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the meetings of the Lodge during his year of office as Worshipful Master, as well as for his zeal and great liberality in behalf of the Benevolent Fund, whereby its sphere of usefulness has been so largely extended.

"That the above resolution be engrossed on vellum and presented to Bro. Whadcoat with a Past Master's jewel.

18th December 1894."

This was unanimously agreed to, and the Lodge being closed the company adjourned to the banquet room, which was most tastefully decorated, a novel feature being the introduction of electric light ornaments on the table, producing a very pleasing effect, and calling forth later in the evening a special vote of thanks from the Lodge to Messrs Ritter and Puzey, the Proprietors of the Hotel, and to their Manager, Bro. J. W. Aptommas.

At the conclusion of the dinner the Master submitted the usual loyal toasts, feeling assured he was justified in saying the Royal Athelstan Lodge echoed the sentiments of the whole Masonic world in expressing pleasure at the re-election of the Prince of Wales as Grand Master of England.

The name of Bro. Bywater, the father of the Lodge and G. Sword Bearer of England of the Jubilee year was coupled with the toast of the Grand Officers.

Bro. Bywater, in reply, desired to tender his very sincere thanks for the kind way in which the Brethren had drunk to the health of the Grand Officers. Referring to a song rendered in excellent form by Mdlle. Chéron, Bro. Bywater said that after such notes as they had just heard he hardly knew how to pitch his voice so as to address them, and tender thanks for the hard working noblemen at the head of their Order. When he was initiated there were some 500 Lodges on the English Register, now the number had risen to 2,500, and much of this growth was due to the care and ability displayed by the Grand Officers. When he had the honour of carrying the sword in front of the Prince of Wales on that memorable day of the Jubilee he looked upon a sight that he was sure would never be forgotten by those who participated in it; he could equally say that the reception at all times accorded the toast of the Grand Officers was equally never to be forgotten.

The Immediate Past Master proposed the health of the Master. Once more it was his privilege to ask the members to honour the toast of their most estimable Worshipful Master Bro. Whadcoat. Hitherto it had been an unmixed pleasure for him to submit it, but now the duty was mixed with regret, because he was reminded that would be the last occasion on which he would be called upon to propose the toast. Their Brother Whadcoat had carried out the duties of his Mastership most efficiently and carefully, and, indeed, has so conducted his duties as to reflect credit both on himself and his Lodge, and his working had called forth the highest encomiums from members and visitors alike. It was difficult to say much that had not already been said in praise of their Master, for their Brother Bywater had crowned the efforts of the year by making a most telling speech in introducing the proposition that had been agreed to in the Lodge. He had often heard it remarked that a Master was voted a jewel of the "usual value," but he was glad that formula had not been observed in their case that day—it would by no means have represented their feelings. He was pleased to find that a loop-hole had been found and that, at the suggestion of their esteemed Bro. Bywater, they had arranged to present the Master with an illuminated address. Without exception the Master of the past year was the best the Lodge had had for many years, in fact he was one of the most distinguished of those who had filled the chair of their Lodge. It was twenty-five years since such a compliment as an address had been voted to one of their Masters, indeed the present Master was but the second who had received that special mark of appreciation. The members desired to specially thank their ruler for his great generosity, and for the splendid entertainment he had provided, and assured him he would carry from the chair the reputation of having excelled in his position as ruler.

The Master replied, tendering his thanks. Instead of his year of office being one of labour it had been one of love, and with the kindly assistance he had had from the Lodge—and particularly the Past Masters—everything had passed off satisfactorily. He held that no Mason had a right to accept the position of Master if he was not able to work the different ceremonies all but perfect, and although he had doubts in his own case on this point he was pleased to think, from their utterances that night, that he had succeeded. It might be said the Lodge had not forgotten anyone during the year, each of the Charitable Institutions having been supported in turn, Past Master Green taking up between forty and fifty guineas for the Boys, Past Master Dix almost as much for the Girls, and himself something like 115 guineas for the Benevolent. Seeing that this had followed on many private charity payments from the Lodge, and was supplemental to what they had done for a fund of benevolence of their own which now had a substantial sum invested, it was enough to be proud of. Referring to this Benevolent Fund of the Lodge the Master said it was intended the interest on the invested amount, together with five shillings a year from each member, should be applied to present or past members of the Lodge who might be in need. He should be very pleased if many years elapsed before any claim was made upon it, and hoped it would prove of service when necessity did arise. Speaking of the year during which he had been at the head of the Lodge, Bro. Whadcoat expressed pleasure that so many Visiting Brethren had honoured them with their presence, especially as among the Visitors there had been a good number of present and past Officers of the Grand Lodge. He could not allow the opportunity to pass without tendering to the Officers of the Lodge his heartiest thanks for the efficient way in which they had carried out their duties during the past year.

The next toast was that of the Visitors, which, said the Master, was always an important one in the Royal Athelstan Lodge, where they endeavoured to accord a hearty welcome to any guests who might favour them with a visit. They were generally honoured with the attendance of a goodly array, as was the case that evening, despite the fact that telegrams and letters had reached them expressing regret at enforced absence on the part of some Visitors who had been expected. The W.M. first referred to their Brother Dunn, who had attended as a Visitor, and had received his second degree from them, by request of his mother Lodge—the Amity, of Poole. Bro. Dunn had not been able to stay so late in the evening, as he had had no idea that the meeting would be extended so long as it had been. Then they had the pleasure of the company of Bro. G. B. Chapman, who had been elected, he forgot how many times, as one of the Past Masters on the Board of Benevolence; and Bro. Owen, a Past Provincial Officer of North Wales and Shropshire who, he believed, was the only living Brother entitled to wear the insignia of that Province, as it was now several years since it had been divided. Bro. Whadcoat specially referred to other of the guests, and concluded his remarks with the observation that they had a fair representation of heads of the Craft and at the same time of the intellect of the Craft.

Bro. Owen was first to reply. He said he did not know why he should be called upon from so many. It had been his privilege to visit many Lodges, but he could truly say that never had he been present and seen the work so carefully, so faultlessly carried out as had been the case that day. Not only was the Master capable, but the Wardens and Deacons also, and he felt no one could experience anything but pleasure in attending such a Lodge.

Bro. Webb followed, he considering that the feature of visiting did much to keep up the standard of excellence in working, as guests were able to compare notes of what they saw at other Lodges and their own.

The next toast, given from the chair, was that of the Immediate Past Master Bro. Digby Green. The W.M. felt they all remembered the pleasant year spent in the Lodge under the ruling of Bro. Green, indeed they had wondered who would follow him; his working having been carried out with such consummate skill and with so much satisfaction to all. During the past year Bro. Green had been his right hand man in the management of the Lodge, if he might so describe a Brother invariably on his left. He did not think he could say a word more to him than to convey the thanks of the Lodge for what he had done.

The Immediate Past Master tendered hearty thanks for the reception of the toast—yet their kindness on that occasion was nothing unusual, for ever since he had taken office in the Lodge the mention of his name had called forth a cordial reception. His position as Immediate Past Master reminded him of one of the pleasures of his life, for as such he regarded his term of Mastership in the Lodge. He had been agreeably disappointed since he had passed out of the chair, inasmuch as he had had nothing to do in shape of work, on account of the ability and knowledge of the W.M.

The Master took the opportunity of referring with satisfaction to the attention that had been afforded by the Proprietors of the Hotel, and which had added so much to the success of the past year, and as he felt some tangible expression of approval should be shown he proposed the following:

“That the best thanks of the Members of the Royal Athelstan Lodge, No. 19, be given to Messrs. Ritter and Puzey for the able and efficient manner with which their Manager, Mr. J. W. Aptommas, has carried out the wishes of the Worshipful Master of the Lodge, during his year of office, particularly as regards the Banquets, both as to cuisine and decorations, which were carried out in a very artistic manner.”

This was cordially agreed to and regarded as well deserved, in view of the special care bestowed by the Manager.

The Past Masters were the next toast, and in proposing it the W.M. spoke of Bro. Bywater as an initiate of the Lodge, who had been associated with it some five years before he (the W.M.) was born; they could but be thankful to him for attending its meetings so long. Their Bro. Dix was initiated in 1854, and was Master in 1860—it was really wonderful to see such old Brethren among

them in health and strength. Then there was Bro. Nicholson, who joined the Lodge in 1857, and passed its chair in 1868—another zealous worker. Proceeding onward they came to Bro. C. B. Barnes, who might be said to be always at work on their behalf; he was initiated in 1869 and was Master in 1886. Speaking next of Bro. H. Glenn the Master said he was glad indeed to see that that Brother had apparently taken a new lease of life. As the Brethren knew, Bro. Glenn had been re-elected as the Treasurer of the Lodge, he wished it was in their power to give him more of their funds to take care of. Bro. Wornull was initiated in 1879 and was Master in 1890; those who knew him in the Lodge also knew what a useful member he was and how zealous to promote its interests. On the present occasion, as an evidence, he had discharged the duties of Steward in a most efficient manner, their regular Officer, Brother P.M. Pound, being absent in consequence of the death of his son.

Bro. Dix felt it a great pleasure to be present and enjoy the knowledge that the Brethren in looking back recognised that the chair of the Lodge had been filled by men who had striven to do their duty. Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth had always been to the fore in their Lodge, where they had ever striven to foster good fellowship.

Bro. Nicholson followed. He had stood for thirty-seven years in the Lodge at the side of the last speaker, and fully endorsed what had been said as to all the Past Masters having striven to do their best. He had hoped to have persuaded the present Master to continue in the office for another year, but had not succeeded. He did not believe it was possible to have too much of a good thing, and should have liked to see Bro. Whadcoat continue his ruling for another term, for of all the Masters he had known there was not one who had carried out the work more thoroughly or more liberally than he.

Bro. Wornull also responded.

The toast of the Treasurer and Secretary was next given, the Master speaking of Bro. Barnes as most indefatigable in the latter office, while it was only necessary to refer to the Treasurer by his well known title of Bro. Charity Glenn to prove he not only did his duty in office, but had a kindly thought for less fortunate fellows.

The Treasurer responded, saying his twenty-two years membership of the Lodge had endeared it to him; he always thought it a pleasure to do anything in his power on its behalf.

The Secretary felt very few words were needed from him. He was, as he always had been, the servant of No. 19.

The toast of the Officers afforded the Master an opportunity of tendering them his special thanks—he considered he owed much of the success of his year of office to the assistance they had rendered him. He had especially to congratulate the Senior Warden Bro. Milton Smith on his election as Master, and looked forward with pleasurable anticipation to his Installation in February next. The Master felt it was but right he should again refer to the representations that had been made to him to fill the office of Master of the Lodge for a second term; he had so far acceded to the requests made to him as to consider the matter, but felt that the interests of the Lodge would be best served if he allowed promotion to go on in regular order, especially as he felt that there were many men of ability among those in office.

Bro. Milton Smith replied, saying he fully appreciated the honour the members had paid him that night in electing him to the chief office. He should endeavour to do everything in the future to show his desire to advance the interests of their ancient Lodge.

Bro. Stacey also replied, saying how pleased he had been in occupying a minor office under the rule of their present Master.

Bro. Stauffer having added a few words the Tyler gave the concluding toast.

The meeting was more especially enjoyable by reason of the efforts made by the Master to secure the entertainment of those assembled. During the dinner an efficient orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. Amies-King, played a selection of instrumental music, and after the banquet Mdlle. Virginie Chéron and Miss Dora Robinson, with the Saxon Glee Singers, gave a fine vocal selection. Altogether the gathering was one of the most gratifying of Bro. Whadcoat's successful year of office.

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#### MERCHANT NAVY LODGE, No. 781.

THE last meeting of the year of this Lodge took place on Tuesday, 11th inst., at the Town Hall, Limehouse, Bro. G. J. Anderson presiding, says the “East London Observer.”

Bros. Lambert, Lucas, and Crowe were raised, and Bros. Gould, Bohs, and Smith were passed.

The report of the Revising Committee of the Bye-laws was presented, and having been subjected to a somewhat critical discussion, was, to a great measure adopted.

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#### BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, 1805.

AT the annual supper of this Lodge, held on Wednesday, 12th inst., Bro. De Casseres, the able Preceptor, must have been much gratified at the show of Masonic talent present, says the “East London Observer.”

Bro. G. E. Warn the present W.M. of the Mother Lodge presided, and he had the support of about seventy Brethren.

The W.M., in proposing the chief toast of compliment (that of the Preceptor, Bro. De Casseres), was followed with vehement ejaculations of approval; and the same tokens were obvious when the W.M. was spoken of and toasted, his work in the Mother Lodge being highly extolled. Bro. Gibbs Treasurer was also honoured, and Bro. G. W. Holmes obtained cordial recognition for his effective work as Secretary. Bro. Thornton being also put in the cup of compliment.

Replies were duly made, the general tenour being the exhortation that members should act so as to show the world that there is something especially good in Freemasonry.

## WOODGRANGE LODGE OF INSTRUCTION, No. 2409.

THE annual supper of this rapidly-growing Lodge was held on Friday last week, at the "Princess Alice," Romford Road, Forest Gate, Bro. Brown P.M. presiding.

After an agreeable repast, provided by the host, Brother H. Homewood, says the "East London Observer," the usual Loyal toasts were proposed and received with the enthusiasm peculiar to Masons.

Among the toasts that followed was that of the Preceptor of the Lodge Bro. Calver. He was highly complimented on the very able and earnest manner in which he carried out his arduous duties.

Bro. Calver replied in his wonted eloquent manner, thanking the W.M. and Brethren, and enlarging upon the value of a Lodge of Instruction and its high importance to Freemasons. He congratulated the Lodge on its growth in the short time it had been established, and promised he would always devote his efforts to aid its progress and usefulness.

Bro. Riche Secretary, in his remarks, alluding to the prosperity of the Lodge, said it had already, although less than three years had elapsed since its establishment, become Life-governor of one of the great Masonic Institutions.

During the intervals between the speeches various Brethren contributed to the harmony, among whom were Bros. Vicars (who certainly came in for the lion's share), Lowe, Riche, Lloyd, Coningham, Calver P.M. (with a telling recitation), and Pidduck.

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## PROVINCIAL.

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## ST. JOHN LODGE, No. 80.

AT the Annual meeting held at the Masonic Hall, Park Terrace, Sunderland, on Tuesday, 11th inst., Brother John Edward Westgarth Walker was installed in the chair as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the installation ceremony being performed by Bro. Dr. Biggam, M.A.

The installation banquet was afterwards held at the Palatine Hotel.

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## LOYAL CAMBRIAN LODGE, No. 110.

THE last meeting of the year was held at Merthyr, on Thursday, 6th inst. Bro. D. A. Thomas, M.P., was elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year. His installation will take place at the next meeting.

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## FORTITUDE LODGE, No. 131.

THE members of this Truro Lodge have elected Bro. E. Benney S.W. W.M. for the ensuing year, and re-elected Bro. J. Tonkin P.P.A.G. Sec. Treasurer.

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## BRUNSWICK LODGE, No. 159.

THE installation meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Stonehouse, when Bro. W. Smeeth S.W. was regularly placed in the chair of the Lodge, the ceremony of the day being rendered by Bro. W. S. Luscombe, the retiring W.M.

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## CHARITY LODGE, No. 223.

THE annual meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Plymouth, when Brother Parnell Hannaford was installed as W.M. The ceremony was creditably rendered by the retiring W.M. supported by other Past Masters.

Bro. R. Blight was re-appointed Charity Steward, and Brother Browning representative on the Committee of Petitions. The banquet was fixed for the 9th prox.

The Lodge unanimously voted £5 5s for temporary assistance to a very distressing case introduced by the Secretary.

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## YORK LODGE, No. 236.

ON the 17th inst., a meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Duncombe Place, York, the Worshipful Master Bro. A. Jones presiding, supported by a numerous gathering of Brethren, including several Past Masters.

In the course of the business Brother Edwin Carter S.W. was unanimously elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, and Bro. Jos. Todd P.M. Prov. G. Treas. was re-elected Treasurer. The Tyler Bro. John Hall was re-appointed.

The installation ceremony will take place on the 21st of next month.

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## MOIRA LODGE, No. 324.

ON Thursday, 13th inst., the members celebrated their annual festival with marked success.

Bro. David Sykes Higson was installed W.M. for the ensuing year, in a very impressive manner, by Bro. Bottomley P.M., who was assisted by Bros. J. Marsden and D. Holt P.Ms. There was a very good attendance of Masters and other representatives from neighbouring Lodges, and the Lodge was also honoured with the presence of Bro. Newhouse Prov. Sec., who referred to the noble work being done by the Masonic Charities in Cheshire, and exhorted all the Brethren in Stalybridge to do their best to support

Lord Egerton, the Prov.G.M., when he presided at the annual meeting of the Boys Institution in June.

Over forty sat down to the banquet, which was served up in first-class style by Bro. Barrow, and which was followed by the usual toasts and some fine musical contributions in the way of solo, glee singing, &c.

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## ONE AND ALL LODGE, No. 330.

THE election meeting at this Lodge has resulted in the return of Bro. W. A. Sandoe as W.M.-elect. Bro. R. L. Randall has been re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. J. Lancaster Tyler.

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## UNANIMITY LODGE, No. 339.

ON Monday, the 10th inst., Brother John Thompson jun. was installed Worshipful Master.

Bro. Thompson was for many years in the Whitehaven Post Office, says the local "Advertiser," and on his removal to Penrith he continued to take great interest in the Lodge of Freemasons there. He was so much appreciated that it was decided, although he had been removed from the district, to honour him with the appointment of W.M.

The Lodge was opened in due form, and after the ceremony of Initiating a candidate, Bro. Thompson was duly installed into the chair by Bro. J. Pearson P.M.

The Lodge was closed in due form, after which the installation banquet was provided at the Crown Hotel, Penrith.

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## PERFECT FRIENDSHIP LODGE, No. 376.

THE anniversary meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Ipswich, on Wednesday, 19th, when Bro. Alfred Spalding was installed W.M. for the ensuing year.

The installation ceremony was ably and impressively performed by the outgoing Master, Bro. Geo. Turner, assisted by P.M. J. M. Franks. The Officers of the year were invested.

A communication was read from Bro. Kavasma Badshah, stating that as he had left England to resume his duties as Postmaster General of the North West Province of India he would be obliged to sever his connection with the Lodge for the time being.

The installation banquet was subsequently held under the presidency of the W.M., says the "East Anglian Daily Times." After the loyal toasts, the W.M. proposed the Grand Officers, coupled with the names of Bro. Rev. R. N. Sanderson and Bro. T. J. Ralling.

Bro. Sanderson, in response, stated that just thirty-four years ago he was installed W.M. of the Perfect Friendship Lodge, and on that occasion the father of the present W.M. accepted at his hands the collar of Senior Warden. Bro. T. J. Ralling also responded.

The W.M. next proposed the Prov. Grand Master Lord Henniker, the D.P.G.M. Rev. C. J. Martyn, and the Prov. Grand Officers Present and Past, coupled with the names of Bro. S. R. Anness P.S.G.W. and Bro. R. K. Casley P.P.G.Treas., who respectively responded.

Bro. G. Turner I.P.M. proposed the W.M. of the Perfect Friendship Lodge. The chair of the Lodge had never been filled by a more worthy Brother than Bro. Spalding, who had climbed the ladder step by step, and in each and every Office he had shown an earnest endeavour to carry out the work thoroughly well, and, moreover, he had succeeded in his endeavour. He was a very highly esteemed and justly popular Brother, and Bro. Turner predicted for him a very prosperous year of office.

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## PRUDENCE LODGE, No. 388.

AT the meeting on Monday, 10th inst., the Lodge was honoured by the addition to its membership of the Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke. The ceremony took place in the Masonic Hall, Halesworth, Brethren from long distances and neighbouring Lodges being present.

The initiation was conducted by Bro. Geo. Andrews W.M. with Bros. T. Stevenson S.W., D. W. Skuffham J.W. and H. A. Mullens I.G., the musical portion of the ceremony being ably taken by Bro. W. W. Walesby.

Forty of the Brethren afterwards sat down to a banquet at the Angel Hotel.

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## CORNUBIAN LODGE, No. 450.

ON Thursday, 13th inst., there was a large gathering at Hayle, when Bro. Tredinnick was installed W.M. in an impressive manner by Bro. J. W. Wilkinson.

An excellent banquet was served by Bro. H. Champion, White Hart Hotel.

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## ST. PETER'S LODGE, No. 476.

THE installation of Bro. W. S. Phillips took place at the Masonic Hall, Carmarthen, on Tuesday, the 18th inst.

The ceremony of installation was impressively conducted by Bro. J. Marsden, and there was a large attendance of members of the Lodge and of distinguished Visitors.

In the evening the installation banquet was held at the Ivy Bush Hotel, when a sumptuous dinner was provided by Bro. D. E. Williams. The usual Masonic toasts were honoured, and an excellent programme of music was performed.

## KINGSTON LODGE, No. 1010.

THE installation of Bro. Robert Carson, C.E., as Worshipful Master, took place on the 5th inst., in the Masonic Hall, Kingston Square, Hull.

Bro. H. Woodhouse, LL.D., P.M. Provincial Grand Registrar performed the ceremony, which was attended by a large number of members of the Lodge and Visiting Brethren. The usual banquet followed.

Bro. Dr. Woodhouse, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The W.M. and Officers of the Kingston Lodge," said with all sincerity he could say that Bro. Carson fully deserved the high and important position to which he had been called by the unanimous vote of his Brethren. His work as a Freemason had been the admiration of the Past Masters, as well as the Brethren, and his popularity was amply evinced by the splendid attendance that night. Bro. Carson loved Masonry and had been unremitting in his devotion to the duties of his various Offices. The Kingston Lodge held a unique position in the town, and they fully expected its prestige to be maintained during the year in the highest possible sense.

Bro. Carson, in reply, said he felt deeply sensible of the high honour done him, and although he could not aspire to the brilliant achievements of so many of the illustrious Past Masters of the Lodge, yet they could rely upon his utmost endeavours whilst occupying the chair. He was gratified that the choice of his Officers had met with general satisfaction, and he knew they would render him every possible assistance in carrying out the onerous duties of his post. The impressive manner in which Bro. Woodhouse had performed the installation ceremony was beyond all praise, and he tendered to him his sincerest thanks.

Bro. Colonel Fawcett Pudsey proposed the retiring W.M. and Officers, to which Bro. Wright Mason, M.B., responded.

Bro. Major Wellsted, J.P., having submitted the Masonic Charities, the Sister Lodges, Visiting Brethren, &c., were given, and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

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## ROCK LODGE, No. 1289.

THE annual installation took place at the Masonic Chambers, Hamilton Street, Birkenhead, on Friday, 14th inst., when Bro. F. S. Moore S.W. was installed by Bro. C. S. Dean P.M. P.G.J.D.

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## ARCHITECT LODGE, No. 1375.

THE regular meeting was held at the Masonic Hall, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, on Friday, the 7th inst., there being present:—Bros. Jas. Morrison jun. W.M., C. H. Beaver I.P.M., Alf. Pickford S.W., Chas. Rawle J.W., W. D. Fryer P.M. Treasurer, Henry Nall P.M. Sec., T. A. Holland S.D., W. T. Hesketh P.M. D.C., J. Coupland I.G., Wm. Rushton Organist, Jno. M. Crone, Sam Tiller, R. Kastner, J. R. E. Birkett, A. Redfearn, Ed. M. Beebe Stewards, Edward Roberts P.M. (FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE), Arthur A. Moss P.M., Jno. G. Bromley P.M., W. J. Bull, Hugh W. Bloomer, Baron E. de Minciaky. Visitors:—Bros. A. Millington W.M. 152, Geo. W. Davies W.M. 1459, Percy E. Land W.M. 1496, J. Townley Trotter Sec. 1459, Walter Taylor J.W. 1993, B. Eckersley I.P.M. 1134, John Jordrell P.M. 1052.

The principal business of the evening was the raising to the sublime degree of Bro. W. J. Bull, and the election of Officers. The ceremony was performed by the W.M., he being assisted by Bro. Rawle J.W.

Bro. Holland received many commendations for the manner in which he performed his duties as Senior Deacon, which added materially to the success of the ceremonial.

Bro. Pickford S.W. was unanimously selected for the position of W.M.-elect, and his Installation will take place on the 4th proximo.

At the festive board, Loyal and Masonic toasts were given and he duly responded to That of the W.M.-elect was proposed by Bro. Hesketh, who said he had originally introduced Bro. Pickford into Masonry, having known him intimately in various walks of life. Bro. Pickford had observed how much better he (the speaker) had been since he had joined the Craft, and having himself made up his mind to become a Mason, he had approached him falteringly with that object. His wish had been gratified, and he had become no worse for the ordeal. Bro. Hesketh spoke commendingly of him, saying he was sure that at the end of his term of office the Brethren would be able to say "well done good and faithful servant."

Bro. Pickford, in reply, said that ever since his Initiation he had looked forward to becoming Master, but now he was within grasp of the position he looked forward with no little amount of fear and trembling. He hoped, however, with tact to perform the duties of the office in a satisfactory manner. He was following excellent Masters, and it would be his earnest desire even to excel their efforts, to which end he invoked the assistance of the various Officers.

Other toasts followed. Songs, recitations, etc., were rendered by Bros. Beaver, Pickford, Fryer, Hesketh, Rushton, Redfearn, Roberts, Trotter, and Jordrell, the whole conducting to a pleasant and harmonious evening.

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## ELDON LODGE, No. 1755.

A PLEASING incident occurred at the last regular meeting of this Lodge, held at Portishead. The Brethren being desirous to recognise the arduous work of their P.M. and Secretary Bro. W. T. Shapland, occasion was taken to present him with a handsome Past Master's jewel. The presentation was made on behalf of the Lodge by the W.M. Bro. W. H. Rice P.P.G. Deacon

Somerset, who assured the recipient that the jewel was accompanied by the hearty good wishes of the Brethren, who were ever mindful of the thorough way in which Bro. Shapland carried out every Masonic duty, and of the skill and ability shown, especially in the chair of K.S. and Secretary. In pinning the jewel on the breast of their worthy Brother the W.M. trusted he might live long to wear it with pleasurable pride and honour. On the top bars of the jewel were the words "Eldon Lodge, No. 1755," in blue on gold, and on the reverse side this inscription:—

Presented to

Wor. Bro. W. T. Shapland P.M. Secretary,  
by the Eldon Lodge, as a mark of affection and esteem.  
8th December 1894.

Brother Shapland feelingly, suitably, and in terms of surprise thanked the W.M. for his kind words, and the Lodge for their beautiful gift. He gave his assurance that if he had not deserved it in the past it would be his constant endeavour to do so in the future.

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## LONGSIGHT LODGE, No. 2464.

THE regular meeting was held at the Club House, Birch Lane, Longsight, Manchester, on Wednesday, 5th inst., Bro. Henry Grimshaw W.M. There was an attendance of over twenty members and also the following Visitors:—

Bros. W. Barnes Russell P.M. P.P.G.D.D.C. 1219, Thos. Shaw S.D. 1387, J. H. Studd 163, Thos. E. Rigby P.M. 1055, Jas. Kennerley 1387, Harold Nickson 2231.

A very good programme of work confronted the Officers, in the shape of two Initiations, a Passing, and a Raising, but the Lodge had been summoned for an early hour, and consequently the ceremonies were concluded in reasonable time.

Messrs. Cecil Robert Edge, Manager, Old Trafford, and Aaron Kuit, Cigar Importer, Salford, having been successfully balloted for were initiated, the former by Bro F. W. Lean P.M. P.P.S.G.D. D.C. and the latter by the W.M.

Bro. Laurence Rostron Entwisle was, after the usual formula, passed to the degree of F.C. by the W.M., and this was followed by the raising of Bro. Charles Coatman, the ceremony in this instance being performed by Bro. Councillor Thos. Uttley I.P.M. P.G.D.C. Bro. Alderman Lloyd Higginbottom J.W. lent material assistance by presenting and explaining the Working Tools of the various degrees.

The festive board followed, when Loyal and Masonic toasts were submitted. Songs, recitations, &c. were given by various Brethren.

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## UNITED MANCHESTER LODGE ROYAL ARK MARINERS

ON Monday, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Manchester, an extraordinary meeting of the above was held, correspondingly with a meeting of the County Palatine Mark Lodge, No. 156. The latter Lodge was under the Mastership of Bro. N. A. Earle, a candidate being advanced by Bro. A. Middleton Treasurer.

In connection with the Royal Ark Mariners Lodge (Bro. J. T. Richardson W.C.N.), fourteen candidates presented themselves for elevation, and at a subsequent meeting of the Matier Council of the Allied Degrees, the same candidates were there advanced.

The proceedings were graced by the presence of the Rt. Hon. Viscount Dungarvan D.G.M., Chas. Fitzgerald Matier P.G.W. Grand Secretary, and four other distinguished Grand Officers.

A banquet followed, to which members of the Mark, Ark, and Allied Degrees sat down.

## Masonic Sonnets, No. 106.

By BRO. CHAS. F. FORSHAW, LL.D., 295 and 2417 (E.C.), Hon. Mem. 242 (E.C.) and 24 (S.C.).

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## A CHRISTMAS GREETING.

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WHOEVER receives this Yule-tide Souvenir  
May joy be theirs on many a Christmas-day;  
May Heavenly Blessings through the glad New Year  
Cheer all their life and brighten all their way.  
Full many a one in city's busy street,  
In hamlet quaint, in village gray and old,  
Will get the message that is ever sweet—  
The joyful message that the angels told.  
And from a heart that fain would be sincere,  
Accept the greeting, time-worn, yet still new;  
A Merry Christmas and a Happy Year  
And all the bliss true love can bring to you.  
Peace and Goodwill for aye, triumphant reign,  
With all the gifts that follow in their train!

Winder House, Bradford,  
Xmas 1894.

During a recent visit paid by Bro. Capt. Fred Pratt (the newly elected W.M. of the Manchester Centurion Lodge) to the Strangers Lodge, No. 1219, he discovered with surprise that the Volume of the Sacred Law belonging to that Lodge, and in use at its meetings, contained an inscription to the effect that it had been presented by his late father, Bro. W. H. Pratt, in 1869, a period long anterior to Brother Captain Fred Pratt's connection with the Craft.