

THE

Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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SATURDAY, 16th MAY 1896.

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THE GIRLS SCHOOL FESTIVAL.

THE second Anniversary Festival of the year has become an event of the past, and another success has to be recorded in connection with the great Charitable Institutions of English Freemasonry, no less a sum than £15,412 13s being announced at the table as the total of subscriptions collected by a board of 404 Stewards on behalf of the oldest of the three Charities of the Craft.

This amount, although some £600 short of the announcement of last year, is, we venture to think, far in excess of what was generally anticipated would be the result of the current year's celebration, and it is gratifying to know that virtually the whole of the country has contributed to the success, so that we have evidence before us that the popularity of the Girls School is not waning in any part of the kingdom, while the continuance of such handsome totals as have been reached in recent years goes far to prove that the Craft is as desirous as ever to maintain its reputation for Benevolence.

Unquestionably the place of honour among the supporters of the Fund is this year secured by the Province of Lincolnshire, which, as its chief, who ably discharged the duties of Chairman, remarked, is particularly affected by the prevailing agricultural depression, and has, moreover, only 1,130 subscribing members on its roll; yet the total sent up from its Lodges was £1,500, or an average of upwards of 26s per head, a sum that fully justified the hearty thanks accorded by the Chairman to the strong band of Stewards and other workers from his Province.

We append a summary showing the number of Stewards and the amount announced from the different Provinces, &c., the total of the day being declared by Bro. Hedges, the well known Secretary of the Institution, as given above, and that sum has since been increased by different Stewards making additions to their lists, and will probably close somewhat in excess of £16,000—indeed a splendid total, and one that must secure the approval of all who were instrumental in its acquisition, or who take an interest in the Institution for whose benefit it was subscribed.

We regret we are unable to refer at length to the many large lists brought up by different Brethren, and which, from their importance, are deserving of special notice, but the space we have devoted to the Festival is fully occupied, and we must refer our readers to the list of Stewards and their lists for evidence of the zeal displayed by many of the Brethren on this occasion. We must, however, mention one or two instances of special energy.

Different members of the House Committee brought up an aggregate of £605, this sum including the list of Sir John Monckton, which was announced as £305 6s, but has since been increased to £315, and is the premier list of the metropolis. Sir John was followed by Col. A. B. Cook, who brought up £273; and then by Bro. J. C. Johnson, who made a personal donation of £220 10s, qualifying himself as a Patron of the Institution. There were several other three figure

lists, among which we may mention those of Mrs. Penley, Steward for the Asaph Lodge, and which included that lady's personal donation of £105; and the son of our talented Brother, Master W. A. S. Penley, whose personal donation was also a hundred guineas, so that Our Girls have very good reason to bless the continued success of "Charley's Aunt," which, we are pleased to see, is "still running," and, it may be, will prove the means of yet further relieving the distressed in our midst, in accordance with the kindheartedness of the "dear old lady from the land where the nuts grow."

Province	Stewards.	Amount.
Lincolnshire	44	1500 0 0
Essex	10	948 19 0
West Yorkshire	24	600 0 0
East Lancashire	9	351 15 0
Warwickshire	20	339 0 0
Surrey	10	336 6 0
Hertfordshire... ..	8	271 0 0
Sussex	10	260 18 6
Nottinghamshire	4	230 17 0
Berkshire	7	230 13 6
Hants and Isle of Wight	6	221 7 0
Durham	2	210 0 0
South Wales Western Division	1	210 0 0
Wiltshire	1	210 0 0
Kent	7	200 0 0
Cheshire	10	195 6 0
Worcestershire	6	189 0 0
Buckinghamshire	9	186 11 0
Oxfordshire	8	171 3 0
Gloucestershire	6	169 1 0
Staffordshire	1	152 5 0
Suffolk	3	127 0 0
Norfolk	2	105 0 0
Devonshire	1	88 4 0
North Wales	4	83 10 0
Shropshire	3	63 0 0
Middlesex	5	54 3 0
Northumberland	2	52 10 0
Cambridgeshire	3	47 5 0
North and East Yorkshire	1	38 17 0
Somersetshire	1	36 15 0
West Lancashire	3	34 13 0
Bedfordshire	1	31 10 0
Northamptonshire and Hunts	1	26 5 0
Japan	1	26 5 0
Guernsey	1	15 15 0
Dorsetshire	1	12 12 0
Jersey	1	10 10 0
Malta	1	10 10 0
St. Helena	1	10 10 0
Scotland	1	
London	172	7352 12 0

STEWARDS VISIT TO THE SCHOOL.

THE annual visit of the Stewards and their friends to the Institution at Battersea Rise, and the distribution of prizes to the pupils, took place on Monday, and proved a repetition of the great success that has attended so many similar gatherings in the past. The Chairman of the year, the Earl of Yarborough presided, being supported by his Countess, who gracefully officiated at the prize distribution; and everything passed off in the most satisfactory manner, the large hall of the Institution being taxed to its utmost capacity by the great number of Brethren and their ladies who attended from all parts of the country.

The programme of the day opened with the singing of the Old Hundredth, after which twenty-four pupils of the Institution gave a trio at eight pianos, the splendid time kept by the forty-eight little hands being most gratifying to all who listened to the performance. Part songs and other pianoforte pieces served to fill up the intervals between the prize distribution; and the usual inspection of the Institution and the Calisthenic and Marching exercises of the Girls followed later in the evening.

Bro. Peter de Lande Long Chairman of the Committee of the Institution specially thanked the Countess of Yarborough for attending, and evincing so much interest in the School, and the Earl, in acknowledging the remarks, referred in feeling terms to the approaching retirement of Miss Davis, the head governess, after being associated with the School in an official capacity for the past thirty-five years.

The following is the Prize list:

PRESENTED BY THE INSTITUTION.

Gold Medal for Proficiency (with £5 by the late Bro. William Winn).—Mabel Bohli.
Silver Medal for Good Conduct (with £5 by the late Bro. William Winn).—Ruby Webster.

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.—(19 entered, all passed.)

JUNIOR CLASS I. HONOURS.

Mabel Bohli, Distinction in Religious Knowledge, Arithmetic and French.
Mary Baverstock (with £5 by Bro. D. P. Cama).—Distinction in Religious Knowledge and French.

CLASS II. HONOURS.

Constance Green, Distinction in Religious Knowledge, English and French.
Olga Tettenborn, Distinction in Religious Knowledge. Ada Turton.

CLASS III. HONOURS.

Hilda Liverd, Distinction in French.

Satisfied Examiners:—Ruby Webster, Clara O'Hara, Beatrice Turner, Annie Blackler, Ethel Boyd, May Douthwaite, Elsie James, Olive Greenwood, Edith Wood, Dorothy Wood, Florence Gauntlett, Arline Hall.

Preliminary, (11 entered, all passed).—Eleanor Groombridge.

COLLEGE OF PRECEPTORS' EXAMINATIONS.—(78 entered, 77 passed.)

2nd Class, Henrietta Staff; 3rd Class, Mabel Collins.

Proficiency in Lower Classes.—3rd, Ellen Howard; 4th, Dorothy Dean; 5th, Ethel Eddevane; 6th, Esther Vigor.

PRESENTED BY FRIENDS OF THE INSTITUTION.

Religious Knowledge (Bro. Robert Grey).—Mabel Bohli, Mary Baverstock, Constance Green, Olga Tettenborn.

English Subjects (Bro. A. C. Spaul).—Constance Green.

Arithmetic and Mathematics (Bro. Thomas Fenn).—Mabel Bohli.

Music, First Prize (Bro. J. H. Matthews).—Elsie Mackay (Honours, Senior Examination).

Music, Second Prizes (The "Wentworth Little").—Ethel Davis, Constance Green, Jessie Richards.

Music, Third Prizes (An Ex-Pupil).—Dorothy Wood, Eliza Pether.

Singing and Pianoforte (Bro. J. H. Matthews).—Beatrice Turner.

French (Bro. Eugene Monteuis).—Mabel Bohli, Hilda Liverd, Grace Glenn.

French, Special Prize (Bro. Oscar Phillipe).—Mary Baverstock.

Drawing (The "John Boyd").—Belle Fearnside, Ellen Pooler, Muriel Smith, May Collinson.

Needlework (The Misses Tobias).—Agnes le Gros, Nellie Burgess, Selina Booth, Lizzie Simcock.

Good Conduct, First Prize (The Supreme Council 33°).—May Douthwaite.

Good Conduct, Second Prizes (Bro. Frank Richardson).—Edith Wood, Annie Sumner.

Good Conduct, Third Prize (Bro. E. Letchworth).—Margaret Griffith.

Order and Attention as proved by Conduct Marks (Bro. Ralph Clutton).—Grace Dodd, Grace Proctor, Ada Mathew.

Cookery, First Prize £5 (Bro. D. P. Cama).—Frances Hooke.

Cookery, Second Prizes (Bro. Henry A. Hunt).—Maude Schofield, Alice Truine.

Cookery, Third Prizes (Mrs. H. Homewood Crawford).—Alice McCue, Frances Wells.

Shorthand (Bro. R. Loveland Loveland).—Jessie Codling.

Type-Writing (Bro. W. G. Kentish).—Ethel Boyd.

Usefulness in Domestic Duties (The "Yates," St. James Lodge, No. 842).—Alice Truine, Amelia Thaw.

Calisthenics and Deportment (Bro. Col. James Peters).—Helen England, Mabel Messenger.

Swimming (Lady Monckton).—Florence Barton, Ethel Davis, Olga Tettenborn.

Amiability, Selected by her Schoolfellows (Bro. John Faulkner).—Nellie Burgess.

Additional Prizes—Public Examinations—(Bro. Alfred H. Bevan):—Music, Gwendoline Robson; Preliminary Cambridge, Selina Booth; College of Preceptors, Eleanor Blott; College of Preceptors' Junior Forms, Violet White; Swimming, Nathalie Lucas.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

General Proficiency (Bro. Frank Richardson).—Ethel Corner.

Arithmetic (The "Henry Levander").—Edith Lloyd.

Perseverance and Attention (Bro. W. G. Kentish).—Doreen Cox.

No Girl, however meritorious, can take more than three prizes, but this rule does not apply to Gold or Silver Medals or the Cambridge Local or College of Preceptors' Examinations.

THE FESTIVAL.

THE anniversary dinner took place in the large Hall of Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Earl of Yarborough, who was supported by Lord Suffield, the Earl of Euston, Viscount Dungarvan, a large number of present and past Grand Officers, and a full Board of Stewards from all parts of the country, his lordship's Province of Lincolnshire being especially well represented.

At the conclusion of the banquet the Chairman proposed the toast of the Queen, chief Patroness of the Institution. This was a toast, he said, sure of being received with cordiality, loyalty and enthusiasm in all meetings of Englishmen, but especially was this the case among the Masons of England, who all joined in the wish that she might long be spared to reign over the country.

The Chairman did not think it necessary to say many words in that assembly as to the President of the Institution, as they had in the Grand Master one who took a great and real interest in the Craft. During his reign the Craft had increased throughout the country and in the colonies, and, if he might say it, it had also increased its stability. In regard to the other

members of the Royal Family, included in the toast, it might be said they had always taken an active part in the cause of charity, and he felt their interest in this direction had done much to popularise them and add to the universal feeling of loyalty expressed towards them.

The next toast was that of the Earl of Lathom Pro G.M. and the rest of the Grand Officers. It was not necessary, in that assemblage, to refer to the merits of the rulers of the Craft. The Pro Grand Master had taken the place of the Prince of Wales on many occasions, and had won the hearts of the English Craft; he was not a mere figurehead, as he did not shirk any work that was laid upon him. The members of Grand Lodge recognised the necessity that existed for them to keep in touch with the Lodges of the kingdom, and so long as they did that they would continue to deserve the regard of the Craft. With the toast the Chairman had the pleasure to couple the name of a Brother who had taken great interest in Freemasonry and the Institution whose anniversary they were celebrating that day—Bro. Sir John Monckton.

Sir John Monckton tendered his acknowledgments. The toast was a formal one, and was best responded to in a formal manner. He was struck with surprise, as a member of the Executive of the Institution, at the way in which Lincolnshire had come forward in support of its chief. The Grand Officers thanked their Brethren on that occasion, as they invariably did, for the kind and appreciative expressions used towards them.

Lord Suffield proposed the health of the Chairman. It was a matter of surprise to him to be called upon to propose the toast, and there were occasions when such a task was a difficulty, but he could not excuse himself on such a plea that night. Lord Yarborough had not long occupied his present position in Lincolnshire, but it was evident he was respected there, and in proof of his merits he might point to the large number of supporters present that night from his own Province. He felt sure they would see him doing his utmost, and using his best endeavours in the work of presiding over the Province to which he had been appointed.

The Chairman replied, assuring the company he wished to thank them from the bottom of his heart for their good wishes, and also express his sense of indebtedness to Bro. Lord Suffield for the way in which he had proposed the toast. He was indeed proud to take the chair on this occasion in succession to the many distinguished Brethren who had preceded him and had done so much to bring about the handsome results they saw before them at the Girls School. He was exceedingly gratified to see so many of the Brethren of his own Province present that day, and personally thanked the Provincial Stewards and the Stewards of Lodges for what they had done. He believed he had every reason to be proud of the result achieved by the Brethren of his Province, who numbered 1130 subscribing members, and who would, he hoped, bring up an amount averaging 30s per head. He believed there were upwards of 400 Stewards, and hoped all would have occasion to be gratified at the work completed that day.

The Chairman now said it remained for him to plead the cause of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls. They had all heard that the watchwords of the Craft were Loyalty and Charity, and they also knew that Freemasonry had always proved itself loyal to the throne and the laws of the country. As regarded Charity they had ample proof of what was done for the aged of the Craft, and also for the boys, but he ventured to say there was no Institution in the country that was better managed than the Girls School. There were 269 children at present in the Institution, while no less than 1830 girls had passed through the Institution, where they received a thorough English education, being specially taught in type-writing, shorthand and household duties. The Chairman then proceeded to refer to the great successes achieved by the pupils at the different examinations in which they had taken part, and also spoke of the approaching retirement of Miss Davis, the chief governess of the Institution, whose appointment as principal governess dated back to 1861, when she started, and had since been responsible for, the system of education at the School that had proved so satisfactory to the Committee and all interested in the Institution. It might truly be said Miss Davis had won the universal thanks of the Committee and the loving regard of every pupil who had been under her charge. Lord Yarborough next referred to his visit to the School on the previous Monday, when he could not help noticing the extremely bright and happy appearance of the children, who seemed to enjoy excellent health. The Institution had always been looked upon with favour by the Craft and he hoped the result that day would add to its usefulness.

Bro. Henry Smith acknowledged the toast, expressing the thanks of all associated with the Institution to the Chairman for presiding that day. They were also grateful for the way in which Lord Yarborough had advocated the claims of the Institution. He had not said a word too much in speaking in its praise. Bro. Smith referred to his earlier association with the Fund; before Miss Davis was appointed, and when there were but sixty-eight children in the School. Since then 200 pupils had been added and were being cared for in such a way that all who visited the Institution went home and either offered their services as Steward on its behalf, or induced some friend to take up the good work. As a result of the support given they had been enabled to add largely to the accommodation of the School and widely extend the scope of its work.

Brother F. R. W. Hedges Secretary of the Institution then announced the list of subscriptions, pointing out the different notable ones, and heartily congratulating the Chairman on the result achieved by his lordship's province of Lincolnshire. We give elsewhere particulars of the different lists, with additions up to the time of going to press.

The Earl of Euston proposed the toast of the two other Charities with which they, as Masons, were concerned. He felt he must first congratulate the Chairman of the day on the success of the meeting. He hoped all would join him in drinking to the future success of the other Institutions—the same success he might add, as had attended the Girls School that night. All must be satisfied at the way in which the different funds were being conducted, and take the opportunity of congratulating the different Secretaries and Committees on the way in which they carried out their respective duties. If he might be allowed one suggestion it was that as far as possible each should strive to add to the invested funds of their Institution year by year.

Bros. McLeod and Terry each responded, making some well-timed remarks as to the position of their respective funds, and both congratulating the Girls School on the success achieved. Bro. McLeod also acknowledged the fraternal observations of Lord Euston, who made special reference to the well-deserved Grand Lodge honours conferred on the popular Secretary of the Boys School.

Bro. Richard Eve P.G.Treas. proposed the health of the Stewards, to which Bro. Peter de Lande Long Chairman of the Board responded, and in his position as senior member of the House Committee of the Institution, and a member of that body for twenty-one years, assured the company there were ladies on the staff of the School fully qualified to continue the educational work there.

This concluded the proceedings, and the Brethren repaired to the Temple where the customary concert took place.

PROVINCES.

BEDFORDSHIRE.		
803 H G Welohman	31	10 0
BERKSHIRE.		
414 W J Maurice	45	13 6
414 (Ch) Chas Slaughtor	21	0 0
574 Joseph Howard	35	0 0
771 Chas Fredk Dean	10	10 0
1101 Wm Ferguson	30	0 0
1887 Geo D Leslie, R.A.	15	0 0
2460 C O Burgess	73	10 0
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.		
591 Hy H Sherwin	21	0 0
840 Rev. W L Harnett	15	8 0
1410 Thos Taylor, J.P.	29	8 0
1501 B R Wright	36	15 0
2244 Thos Tandy Coles	31	10 0
2244 AS E Hipwell	—	—
Unatt. A H Bevan	52	10 0
AJames Stephens	—	—
AMrs. James Stephens	—	—
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.		
Province & 441 S H Sharman	36	15 0
859 Wm Briggs, M.A., LL.B.	10	10 0
Unatt. John Briggs	—	—
CHESHIRE.		
287 James Alfred Cookson	68	5 0
287 AWm Lancaster	—	—
321 Harry Nash	53	11 0
321 AWm Nash	—	—
477 Alex Saunders	10	10 0
477 Jno Howson Smith	10	10 0
758 Thos Kirkham	10	10 0
1045 Dr. W Agar Renshaw	10	10 0
1276 Frederick Edward Sharpe	21	0 0
2433 John Armstrong	10	10 0
DEVONSHIRE.		
Prov. F B Westlake	88	4 0
DORSETSHIRE.		
Lo. & Ch. 137 Alex Clarke Chapin	12	12 0
DURHAM.		
Prov. G L Woolley	210	0 0
531 ARichard Jack	—	—
ESSEX.		
1000 F J Cumine	80	0 0
1312 Thos Malyn	26	5 0
1343 F W Pelling	64	1 0
1457 Joseph Tanner	17	17 0
1734 Percy E Beard	116	11 0
1799 A R Chamberlayne	26	5 0
2005 J E Johnson	315	0 0
2006 Fredk Clark	45	0 0
2342 J H Salter	10	10 0
Lo. & Ch. 2374 James Speller	262	10 0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

82 Edward Leighton Baylis	43	1 0
493 Thos Robins	10	10 0
702 H I Brewer	36	15 0
761 Major-Gen. W J Vizard	47	5 0
839 W B Wood	21	0 0
Unatt. R V Vassar-Smith	10	10 0

HANTS AND ISLE OF WIGHT.

309 Master F H Buck	42	0 0
394 Wm Bates	35	0 0
694 Rev. Dr. H R Cooper Smith (see also Oxon. Lodge 478)	70	17 0
1331 Geo H Atkinson	—	—
1428 & 2068 Wm Miller	31	10 0
1776 Edward Nayler	42	0 0

HERTFORDSHIRE.

403 James Farley	41	12 6
404 Geo E Lake	10	10 0
449 James Shilcock	16	0 0
2086 R E F Lander	13	12 6
2323 R Loveland Loveland (see also House Committee)	31	10 0
2331 Samuel Wright	21	0 0
2372 Dr. Wm Pennyfather Warren	22	1 0
2518 C E Keyser	115	10 0

KENT.

483 Capt. Arthur Ronaldson	50	0 0
1464 Wm Russell	42	0 0
1915 Edmund Geo Walthew	37	0 0
2200 Thos Potter	15	15 0
2530 Edward Layton	45	0 0
Unatt. Miss Rowe	5	5 0
Mrs. J Williams	5	5 0

LANCASHIRE (EASTERN DIVISION).

Prov. Col. Le Gendre N Starkie PGM	225	15 0
152 E Froggatt	10	10 0
348 AJohn Kenyon	—	—
633 S Searle	52	10 0
1504 Geo Grant, M.D.	10	10 0
2529 R Thompson	—	—
2529 Wm Forrest	—	—
2529 Thos Longworth	—	—
2529 Arthur Longworth	—	—

LANCASHIRE (WESTERN DIVISION).

1070 Max Isaac	12	12 0
1403 Thos Wilde Rice	10	10 0
Unatt. Capt. C H Garnett	11	11 0

LINCOLNSHIRE.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Yarborough PGM, Chairman of the day (included below)—	£52	10 0
Prov. Gd Ch Wm Harling Sissons, J.P., G Supt	—	—
Prov. & Lo. 792 Frank Barrett	—	—
Prov. Bennett Beeson	—	—
297 John L Rayner	—	—
362 AJames Rayner	—	—

362 AChas James	—	—
426 J J Rainey	—	—
469 Chas E Bonner	—	—
712 W H Smith	—	—
792 Chas Maddison	—	—
792 Wm Hill	—	—
792 Arthur R Watson	—	—
792 Thos Campbell Moss	—	—
792 AWilson Goodwin	—	—
792 Joseph Reddish	—	—
792 Frank Hazelgrove	—	—
792 Henry Barker sen.	—	—
792 AG W Goddard	—	—
838 W H Gane	—	—
838 Henry Shepherd	—	—
985 John R Clarke	—	—
1232 J Watson Burdwood	—	—
1282 Frank C Hett	—	—
1294 C A Guy	—	—
1294 AJack Sutcliffe	—	—
1294 Anderson Bates	—	—
1294 AThos Mountain	—	—
1304 Rev. J Graham, M.A.	—	—
1386 Wm Mortimer	—	—
1447 F D Davy	—	—
1482 Thos Staniforth	—	—
1482 AHy L Burtenshaw	—	—
1482 AWm Burtenshaw	—	—
1482 John Barratt	—	—
1482 ARobert N Brunyer	—	—
1482 Rev. Geo Smith Tyack	—	—
1482 John Constable (see also Lo 2259 West Yorks)	—	—
1600 H Walker	—	—
1893 AE Croft	—	—
2078 Rev. E Milford Weigall	—	—
2351 N C Cockburn	—	—
2351 AH E Cousins	—	—
Unatt. ARev. H F Oliver	—	—
Total from the Province	1,500	0 0

MIDDLESEX.

788 Wm Dawson	13	13 0
1237 Geo Chas H Jennings	—	—
1309 Richard Chas Read	10	10 0
1512 J Wells Clarke	30	0 0
2536 AR Fox-Warner	—	—

NORFOLK.

52 R Wentworth White	36	15 0
100 Walter Diver	68	5 0

NORTHS AND HUNTS.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Euston PGM	26	5 0
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NORTHUMBERLAND.

393 Alex Darling	10	10 0
393 Robt Marshall	42	0 0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Prov. & Lo. 1794 Thos J Hayter	127	16 0
Prov. A H Bonser	103	1 0
2412 Walter Binns (see also Lo. 1648 West Yorks)	—	—
Unatt. AJ G Martin	—	—

Royal Masonic Institution for Boys,

WOOD GREEN, LONDON, N.

Grand Patron—HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President—H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

Patrons (ex-officio)—
 { THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF LATHOM, M.W. PRO G.M.
 { THE RT. HON. THE EARL AMHERST, R.W. DEP. G.M.

Treasurer—CHARLES E. KEYSER, Esq., J.P., P.G. DEACON, PATRON OF INSTITUTION.

Bankers—LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK, LIMITED (BLOOMSBURY BRANCH), 214 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

2206 Boys have received the benefits of the Institution since its foundation in 1798. 278 Boys are now being Educated, Clothed and Maintained. Permanent Annual Income £1,750 only.

The 98th Anniversary Festival will be held at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on 24th June 1896, under the distinguished Presidency of

His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G. (The Lord President of the Council),

R.W. Prov. G.M. Derbyshire, Vice-Patron of the Institution.

The services of Brethren as Stewards (representing Lodges or Provinces), and Ladies, are earnestly requested, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

Special train arrangements are being made, and the Festival will take the form of a Garden Party, as in 1895. Full Particulars on application to the

Secretary—J. MORRISON McLEOD, P.G.S.B., Vice-Patron, 6 FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

NORTH WALES.			SUSSEX.			YORKSHIRE (WEST).		
Prov. C K Benson	26	5 0	811 Percival L Hart	21	0 0	Unatt. Hy Smith (see also House Committee)		
1369 Herbert R Heap	36	5 0	851 R Piper	63	0 0	139 George Wm Hawkesley		
Unatt. Miss Dora A Benson	10	10 0	851 T H Crouch	21	0 0	139 Chas Wm Kayser		
Unatt. Edward Roberts	10	10 0	916 John Henry Ewart	31	10 0	154 G H Parke		
OXFORDSHIRE.			1110 James Andrews	10	10 0	154 Wm Aked Statter		
340 G H Annetts	62	17 0	1636 John Wood	21	0 0	296 Francis Geo Cornu		
357 R E Baynes, M.A.	10	10 0	1821 Henry R Spooner	48	16 6	296 Harold Thomas		
478 Rev. Dr. H R Cooper Smith (see also Hants. and I.W. Lo. 694)	10	10 0	2201 Chapman Marshall	21	0 0	306 Wm Blackburn		
599 Hubert Bartlett	14	14 0	2434 John Easter	23	2 0	810 J Harrison		
1036 Austin Webb	7	12 0	Unatt. aMrs. John Wood	—		904 George Foster		
1515 R I Verney	30	0 0	WARWICKSHIRE.			1018 Tom Twivey		
1895 Archibald Brakspear	21	0 0	74 Chas Lee			1042 Robt J Smith		
2414 E R Wingfield	14	0 0	74 E C Newey			1102 John France		
SHROPSHIRE.			74 Benjamin Hunn			1108 Wm A Walker		
117 Wm Adams	36	15 0	74 Joshua Perkins			1239 Thos Edward Barker		
611 Roland G Venables	10	10 0	Total from the Lodge	63	0 0	1311 John Arthur Godwin, J.P.		
1621 W Lascelles Southwell	15	15 0	284 John Wm Margetts	81	13 0	1513 E I F Rideal		
SOMERSETSHIRE.			739 J C Stackhouse	31	10 0	1648 Walter Binns (see also Lo. 2412 Notts.)		
1750 H Amos	36	15 0	1031 Wm Butler	26	5 0	1736 Alfred E Dalzell		
SOUTH WALES (WESTERN DIVISION).			1551 F E Wattis			2069 Miss Mabel Agnes Bailey		
Prov. J Llewellyn Thomas	210	0 0	1551 Edward Mallard			2259 John Constable (see also Lo. 1482 Lincolnshire)		
STAFFORDSHIRE.			1551 Jno A Dexter			2321 Samuel Robinson		
Prov. & Lo. 726 Wm Hall	152	5 0	1551 Sir J Sawyer			2321 I Armitage Drake		
SUFFOLK.			1551 Fred Munday			2558 Walter Fearnough		
936 (Name to follow)	26	5 0	1551 T H Pearce			Total from the Province	600	0 0
1224 W G Normandale, B.A.	58	16 0	1551 Edwin Drakeley			GUERNSEY AND ALDERNEY.		
2371 Geo Robert Quilter	42	0 0	1551 J G Bennett			J Balfour Cockburn PGM	15	15 0
SURREY.			1551 G A Holder			JERSEY.		
889 T Wilkinson	25	0 0	1551 Harry James			Yarborough Lodge 244, per the Chairman	10	10 0
1347 Alfred Stribling	168	18 0	1551 C C Walker			FOREIGN.		
1362 Thos Bacon Phillips	40	0 6	1551 — Bayliss			MALTA.		
1826 Walter Gripper	46	4 0	Total from the Lodge	126	0 0	Unatt. James A Bell	10	10 0
1872 Arthur R Owst	10	10 0	2133 S Petter	10	10 0	JAPAN.		
2120 Chas Welch	33	1 6	WILTSHIRE.			1401 L D Abraham	26	5 0
2246 (Ch) Fredk Clark	10	10 0	Prov. & Lo. 586 W C Powning	210	0 0	ST. HELENA.		
Unatt. A H Cole			WORCESTERSHIRE.			498 Guy W Hogg	10	10 0
Walter G Langlands	10	10 0	Lechmere Memorial	105	0 0	SCOTLAND.		
Robert A Thompson	10	10 0	1874 C D Eaton	26	5 0	420 James Mead		
			1874 H S Bailey	5	5 0			
			2385 Herbert Manley, M.A., M.D.	21	0 0			
			2385 G B Buttery	21	0 0			
			Unatt. T R Arter	10	10 0			
			YORKSHIRE (NORTH AND EAST).					
			1848 J Vernon Cooper	38	17 0			

The amounts from Stewards marked "A" are included in Lodge or Provincial list.

The Theatres, &c.

—:o:—

Covent Garden.—Italian Opera.
 Drury Lane.—Jo.
 Lyceum.—8, Shades of Night. 8.45, For the Crown. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Globe.—8, The Journey's End. 9, Charley's Aunt. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
 Prince of Wales's.—7.45, A Woman's Caprice. 8.15, John Jenkins at Biarritz. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Gaiety.—8, The Shop Girl. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Terry's.—8, Outward Bound. 8.45, Jedbury Jun. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Avenue.—8, Two of a trade. 9.30, The New Barmaid. Matinée, Saturday.
 Haymarket.—8.30, Trilby. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
 Duke of York's.—8, The Gay Parisienne. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Lyric.—8.15, The Sign of the Cross. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
 Savoy.—7.40, After All. 8.20, The Grand Duke, or the Statutory Duel. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Adelphi.—8, One of the best. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Comedy.—8, The Guinea Stamp. 9, A Mother of Three. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Court.—8, A Highland Legacy. 9, Mrs. Ponderbury. Matinée, Saturday, 8.
 St. James's.—8, The Prisoner of Zenda. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.
 Princess's.—8, The Star of India. (Last night.)
 Opera Comique.—8.15, Shamus O'Brien. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Shaftesbury.—8.15, A Matchmaker.
 Daly's.—8, The Gheisha; A story of a Tea-House. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Garrick.—8, The Rogue's Comedy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Vaudeville.—8.15, Papa's wife. 9, A night out. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Royalty.—8.20, Kitty Clive. 9.10, The new baby.
 Grand.—The Lady Slavey. On Monday. The late Mr. Castello.
 Parkhurst.—8, The Water Babes.
 Alhambra.—7.50, Variety Entertainment. Two Grand Ballets. 9.10, Blue Beard. 10, The Animatographe. 11, Lochinvar.
 Empire.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. 8.5, New Ballet Divertissement, La Danse. 9.45, Cinematographe. 10.20, Second edition of Ballet Faust. The Cinematographe, every afternoon, 3, 4, and 5 o'clock.
 Palace.—7.45, Variety Entertainment, Tableaux Vivants, &c. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15.
 Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30.
 Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Olympia.—Grand Pleasure Gardens. Cycle Races, Concerts, &c.
 Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily. Exhibition of Motor Carriages.
 Royal Aquarium.—Open at 10; close at 11.30, Constant Amusement.
 Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.30 also.
 The London.—Grand Variety Entertainment.
 Mohawk Minstrels.—(Agricultural Hall.)—Daily.
 Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. Maskelyne's Magical Entertainment.
 Moore and Burgess Minstrels.—St. James's Hall, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, 3.
 Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street).—Open daily.

GAIETY RESTAURANT, STRAND.

LUNCHEONS

(HOT and COLD)—At Popular Prices, in BUFFET and RESTAURANT (on 1st floor). Also Chops, Steaks, Joints, Entrées, &c., in the GRILL ROOM.

AFTERNOON TEA—

Consisting of Tea or Coffee, Cut Bread and Butter, Jam, Cake, Pastry, *ad lib*, at 1/- per head; served from 4 till 6 in RESTAURANT (1st floor).

DINNERS IN RESTAURANT—

From 5.30 till 9 at Fixed Prices (3/6 and 5/-) and à la Carte. In this room the Viennese Band performs from 6 till 8. Smoking after 7.45.

AMERICAN BAR.

THE GRILL ROOM

is open till 12.30.

PRIVATE DINING ROOMS FOR LARGE AND SMALL PARTIES.

SPIERS AND POND, Ltd., Proprietors.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.**

EXCURSION TRAINS will leave **PADDINGTON** as under:—

Thursday, 21st May, 10.45 a.m.—For **Cork**, and **6.10 p.m.** for **Killarney**, allowing a fortnight.

Friday, 22nd May, 4.45 p.m.—To **Belfast, Armagh, Enniskillen, Larne, Giant's Causeway, &c.**, allowing a fortnight.

6.10 p.m.—For **Waterford, Tipperary, Limerick, Maryborough, &c.**, allowing a fortnight.

7.55 a.m.—For **Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c.**, returning **25th or 30th May**. Also to **Llanely, Carmarthen, Tenby, &c.**, returning **30th May**.

Saturday, 23rd May, 7.55 a.m.—For **Minehead (for Lynton and Lynmouth), Barnstaple, ILFRACOMBE, EXETER, Torquay, PLYMOUTH, Falmouth, Penzance, &c.**, returning **25th May, 1st or 8th June**.

8.5 a.m.—For **Stratford-on-Avon, Hereford, Manchester, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Cheltenham, &c.**, returning **25th or 28th May**, and for **Worcester, Malvern, &c.**, returning **28th May**. Also for **Shrewsbury, Welshpool, Aberystwith, Llangollen, Barmouth, Rhyl, Llandudno, Bettws-y-Coed, Carnarvon, and other North Wales Stations**, returning **25th or 30th May, 1st, 6th or 8th June**.

9.5 a.m.—For **Newbury, Marlborough, Devizes, Trowbridge, Frome, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, &c.**, returning **30th May (certain stations only), 1st or 8th June**.

12.35 noon.—For **WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Bridgwater, TAUNTON, Minehead (for Lynton and Lynmouth), Barnstaple, &c.**, returning **1st or 8th June**.

6.10 and 11.10 p.m.—For **Bath, Bristol, &c.**, returning **25th or 26th May, 1st or 8th June**.

7.0 p.m.—For **Oxford, Leamington, BIRMINGHAM, Wolverhampton, &c.**, returning **25th or 28th May**.

9.15 p.m.—To **Guernsey and Jersey**, at **24/6**, returning **25th or 30th May, 1st, 6th or 8th June**.

12.25 midnight.—To **Cirencester, Stroud, &c.**, returning **24th, 25th or 30th May**, and to **Chepstow, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c.**, returning **25th or 30th May**.

Whit-Sunday, 8.35 a.m.—For **Cirencester, Stroud, &c.**, returning same day, or **25th or 30th May**.

Whit-Sunday, 12.0 midnight.—For **Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c.**, returning **25th or 28th May**.

Whit-Monday.—To **Reading (Sports Festival)**, by certain trains.

6.10 a.m.—For **Bath, Bristol, Weston, &c.**, returning same day, or **25th or 26th May, 1st or 8th June**.

7.40 a.m.—For **Reading, NEWBURY, Hungerford, Pangbourne, Didcot, &c.**, returning same day.

Whit-Tuesday, 12.0 noon.—Half-day Trip to **Shakespeare's Country.**—To **Stratford-on-Avon**, returning at **7.20 p.m.** Return Fare **3/6**. Passengers also booked to **Oxford and Leamington**.

Cheap Third Class Return Tickets are issued daily by certain trains to **Windsor 2/6, Burnham Beeches 3/-, Maidenhead 3/-, Henley 3/6, Goring 6/-, &c.**

Tickets and pamphlets can be obtained at the Company's Stations and the usual Receiving Offices.

H. LAMBERT, General Manager.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.**WHITSUNTIDE EXCURSIONS.****FROM ST. PANCRAS AND CITY STATIONS.**

TO DUBLIN, CORK, KILLARNEY, 20th and 21st May; **BELFAST, LONDONDERRY, &c.**, 22nd May. See special bills for times, fares, &c.

Friday, 22nd May, to

EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, Greenock, Ayr, Kilmarnock, &c., for **4, 8, or 16 days**.

Saturday, 23rd May, to

Principal Midland Towns and Holiday Resorts, including:—MATLOCK, BUXTON, LIVERPOOL, MORECAMBE, THE LAKE DISTRICT, SCARBOROUGH, and the North Eastern District, for **3 or 6 days**.

LOCAL EXCURSIONS.

Whit-Monday, 25th May, to

ST. ALBANS, HARPENDEN, LUTON, BEDFORD, KETTERING, and BIRMINGHAM, returning as per bills.

Friday, 29th May, to

MANCHESTER (for the Races), leaving **St. Pancras** at **12.5 a.m.**, **Kentish Town** **12.10 a.m.**

CHEAP WEEK-END AND DAY EXCURSION TICKETS will be issued to **SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**, during the Whitsuntide Holidays, as announced in Special Bills.

APPLY FOR TICKETS AND BILLS

at the **MIDLAND STATIONS** and **CITY BOOKING OFFICES**, or at the various offices of Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

Derby, May 1896.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.**WHITSUNTIDE EXCURSIONS.**

CHEAP EXCURSIONS will be run from **London (Euston), Broad Street, Kensington (Addison Road), Willesden Junction, &c.**, as follows:

On Thursday Night, 21st May.

To **Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Sligo, Roscommon, Navan, &c.**, for **16 days**.

On Friday, 22nd May.

To **Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush** by all routes (except to **Londonderry** via **Liverpool, Fleetwood, or Morecambe**), for **16 days**.

To **Armagh, Bundoran, Enniskillen, Warrenpoint, Ardglass, Downpatrick, and Newcastle (Co. Down)**, via **Liverpool or Fleetwood and Belfast**, and via **Holyhead and Greenore**, for **16 days**.

To **Dundalk and Newry**, via **Holyhead and Greenore**, for **16 days**.

On Friday night, 22nd May.

To **Newport (Salop), Wellington, Church Stretton, Nantwich, Whitchurch, Craven Arms, Ludlow, Leominster, Hereford, Chester, Birkenhead, Stafford, Macclesfield, Stoke, Ditton, Runcorn, Liverpool, Warrington, Widnes, Southport, Wigan, Bolton, Blackburn, Northwich, Stockport, Manchester, Oldham, Stalybridge, Buxton, Ashton, Batley, Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, &c.**, for **Three and Six Days**.

To **Preston, Blackpool, Lancaster, Morecambe, Carnforth, Carlisle**, the **English Lake District, and Furness Line** for **Three and Six Days**.

To **Abergavenny, Dowlais, Merthyr, Tredegar, Brynmawr, Builth, Brecon, Swansea, Carmarthen, &c.**, for **Eight Days**.

To **Carlisle, Moffat, Dumfries, Newton Stewart, Stranraer, Wigtown, Whithorn, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Greenock, Gourrock, Edinboro, and Glasgow**, for **Four and Eight Days**.

NOTE.—By the trip to **Scotland Cheap Third-Class Tickets** will be issued at a single fare for the double journey, available for return on any day within **16 days** from the date of issue.

On Saturday, 23rd May.

To **Leamington, Kenilworth, Coventry, Warwick, Birmingham, Walsall, Dudley, Dudley Port, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Rugby, Nuneaton, Tamworth, Lichfield, Burton, Derby, Leicester, and the North Staffordshire Line, &c.**, for **Three and Six Days**.

To **Shrewsbury, Llandrindod Wells, Llangammarch Wells, Llanwrtyd Wells, Welshpool, Oswestry, Wrexham, Newtown, Towyn, Aberystwyth, Barmouth, Dolgelly, Harlech, Portmadoc, Criccieth, Holywell, Rhyl, Denbigh, Ruthin, Corwen, Abergele, Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Conway, Llanrwst, Bettws-y-coed, Penmaenmawr, Bangor, Llanberis, Carnarvon, Holyhead, &c.**, for **3, 8, 10, 15, or 17 days**.

To **Londonderry**, via **Liverpool** and steamer direct, for **16 days**.

FROM LONDON (EUSTON).

On Whit-Monday, 25th May.

To **Birmingham, Coventry, Leamington, Kenilworth, Warwick, Dudley, Dudley Port, Walsall, Wednesbury, and Wolverhampton**, for **One and Four Days**.

To **Berkhamsted, Leighton, Watford, St. Albans, and Wolverton**, for **one day, and to Wolverton** for **two days**.

On Tuesday, 26th May.

To **Stratford-on-Avon** for the **half-day**, and to **Wolverton** for **one day**.

On Thursday (midnight), 28th May.

Manchester Races.—To **Manchester** for **two days**.

For times, fares, and full particulars see small bills, which can be obtained at any of the Company's Stations or Town Offices.

FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

London, May 1896.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.**WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS FROM LONDON.**

FRIDAY (night) 22nd May, for **4 or 8 days**, to **Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Helensburgh**, from **London—Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. & D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Kings Cross (G.N.), &c.** Returning **26th or 30th May**.

Tickets at a single fare for the double journey will also be issued by above excursion to places named, available for return by one fixed train on any day up to and including **Sunday, 7th June**.

Whit-Saturday, 23rd May, for **three or six days**, to **Cambridge, Huntingdon, Peterboro', Wisbech, Lynn, Cromer, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lincoln, Boston, Grimsby, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Tutbury, Stoke, Newark, Sheffield, Barnsley, Huddersfield, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Hull, York, Scarborough, Harrogate, Whitby, Bridlington, Darlington, Richmond, Middlesboro', Hartlepool, Durham, Newcastle, &c.**, returning **25th or 28th May**; also for **1, 3 or 4 days** to **Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea and Mablethorpe**.

Whit-Monday, 25th May, for **one day**, to **St. Albans, Hertford, Wheat-hampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, Cambridge, Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe**.

Thursday Midnight, 28th May, for **two days** to **Manchester (Races)**. Return fare, **10s, 3rd class**.

For further particulars see bills, to be obtained at Company's stations and town offices.

HENRY OAKLEY, General Manager.

ROYAL
Masonic Benevolent Institution
FOR
AGED FREEMASONS AND WIDOWS OF FREEMASONS,
CROYDON.

Office—4 FREEMASONS' HALL, LONDON, W.C.

Grand Patron and President:

His Royal Highness THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., M.W.G.M.

—:o:—

At the Annual General Meeting of this Institution, held at Freemasons' Hall, London, on Friday, 15th May 1896,

W. Bro. HENRY SMITH,

Vice-Patron, P.G.D. P.P.D.G.M. West Yorks., in the Chair,

After the general business was disposed of, the Governors and Subscribers proceeded to the ELECTION of 24 MALE ANNUITANTS from an approved list of 60 Candidates, and 19 FEMALE ANNUITANTS from an approved list of 53 Candidates, when the following were declared duly elected:—

MALES.

No.	Name	Votes.	No.	Name	Votes.
1	Bro. Joseph Pearson ...	4650	14	Bro. Thomas Brewster	3949
2	Bro. Stanley Robinson	4592	15	Bro. Joseph H. Jewell	3934
3	Bro. Arthur Geo. Read	4488	16	Bro. Samuel Wright ...	3884
4	Bro. Robert Paul Morrison	4455	17	Bro. Jacob Lazarus ...	3817
5	Bro. David Legg ...	4282	18	Bro. Wm. H. Hawkins	3816
6	Bro. Chas. Burmeister	4214	19	Bro. James Johnson ...	3764
7	Bro. Thomas Pethers	4208	20	Bro. Geo. H. Clements	3743
8	Bro. John Oliver ...	4197	21	Bro. Edward Ulyat ...	3733
9	Bro. Silvanus W. James	4187	22	Bro. Jos. Cattley (Deferred)	3731
10	Bro. Geo. Hy. Powell	4121	23	Bro. H. M. Molyneux (De-ferred)	3719
11	Bro. James Long ...	4109	24	Bro. Geo. Whitley (De-ferred)	3515
12	Bro. John Swain ...	4013			
13	Bro. James Ingram ...	4006			

WIDOWS.

No.	Name	Votes.	No.	Name	Votes.
1	Mrs. M. H. Radcliffe ...	6097	11	Mrs. M. E. Sandford ...	4992
2	Mrs. Margaret Smaile	6062	12	Mrs. H. L. Coates ...	4932
3	Mrs. Mary A. Murlis ...	5991	13	Mrs. E. A. Sutton ...	4812
4	Mrs. Mary Shaw ...	5763	14	Mrs. E. Berry ...	4641
5	Mrs. Harriet Hogg ...	5636	15	Mrs. A. S. Hodgetts ...	4614
6	Mrs. Eliza Corrick ...	5527	16	Mrs. Elizabeth Sykes	4557
7	Mrs. Mary P. Clark ...	5311	17	Mrs. E. J. Massa (Deferred)	4485
8	Mrs. Margaret A. Day	5287	18	Mrs. P. E. C. Gosby (De-ferred)	1518
9	Mrs. Elizabeth Bonner	5041	19	Mrs. M. A. Fuhr (Deferred)	1281
10	Mrs. H. B. Yates ...	5019			

The votes of the unsuccessful candidates will be carried forward to the next election.

Those marked a are elected to fill vacancies occasioned by death since the voting papers were issued.

The three lowest on the Poll (both Male and Female) will be placed on the list of annuitants as vacancies occur.

By order,

JAMES TERRY, Vice-Patron and Secretary.

15th May 1896.

The next Anniversary Festival will be held on the 24th February 1897, under the most distinguished presidency of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearne, K.G., &c., M.W. Past Grand Master, R.W. Provincial Grand Master for Sussex. The services of Brethren and of Ladies to act as Stewards on this important occasion are earnestly solicited, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

SEYD'S HOTEL, 39 FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C.
MOST CENTRAL POSITION IN LONDON.

SPLENDID ACCOMMODATION FOR MASONIC LODGES.

Lodge Room, Tyler's Room, &c., on One Floor, conveniently arranged.

THE BANQUET ROOM WILL SEAT UPWARDS OF 150 GUESTS.

LARGE HALL and other Rooms for Meetings, Smokers, Concerts, &c.

Dinners, Wedding Breakfasts, &c., served in liberal style.

Bed and Breakfast from 4s 6d, no extras. Choice stock of Wines, Spirits, &c.

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CAFE NATIONAL,

43 GREAT WINDMILL STREET, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE.

NEAR THE LYRIC AND PAVILION THEATRES. V. QUINTO, Proprietor.

Recherché 1s. 6d. Lunch from 1 p.m. till 3 p.m. Soup, Fish, Entrée or Joint, Vegetables and Cheese.

Parisian 2s. 6d. Dinner from 6 till 9 p.m. Hors d'Œuvres, Soup, Fish, Entrée, Vegetables, Roast and Salad, Sweets, Savoury, Cheese and Dessert.

CIGARS OF THE BEST BRANDS. SUPPERS AFTER THE THEATRES.

Special attention is paid to the Cuisine, and to the selection of Wines.

Private Dining Rooms for Large and Small Parties.

FURNITURE wanted (second-hand) for Royal Arch Chapter.—Address, "Furniture," care of "Freemason's Chronicle," New Barnet.

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Has excellent accommodation for Lodges of Instruction.

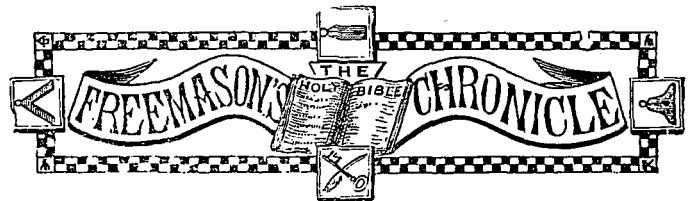
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Price Lists on application.



SATURDAY, 16TH MAY 1896.

Bro. George Mellor P.G.D. has tendered his resignation of the Deputy Grand Mastership of East Lancashire, on account of ill-health.

o o o

A new Masonic Hall was opened at the Great Eastern Hotel, Harwich, on Tuesday, the Earl of Warwick Prov.G.M. performing the ceremony.

o o o

Bro. W. J. Hughan gave an interesting lecture at Gateshead on the 7th inst., his subject being "The old Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland."

o o o

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of East Lancashire was held on Wednesday, at Manchester. The Provincial Grand Master Col. Le Gendre N. Starkie officiated.

o o o

The annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Staffordshire was held at Hanley, on Wednesday, 13th inst., under the presidency of the Earl of Dartmouth Prov.G.M.

o o o

We regret to see the announcement of the death of Dr. W. Salmon, the aged Brother whose centenary was referred to some six years since, and whose long association with the Craft and the medical profession has entitled him to the distinction of being their "oldest member" for many years back.

o o o

We are compelled to hold over a number of interesting items, by reason of the great pressure on our space this week, but hope to clear off the arrears in our next.

CONSECRATIONS.

—:0:—

HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE LODGE.

A MEETING which will doubtless long stand out as one of the most important ever held in connection with a Private Lodge, by reason of the large number of influential Brethren who participated in it, took place on Thursday, at the newly restored Princes' Restaurant, Piccadilly, when the Household Brigade Lodge, No. 2614 was consecrated, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M. was proclaimed and saluted as the first Worshipful Master, or, perhaps it would be more correct to say, its permanent ruler.

The Lodge is formed by the Officers of the Household Troops, and includes among its Founders, a list of whom we give below, the names of many who have won distinction in the service of their country, while others, high in social rank and position, are expected to become members at no distant date.

The ceremony of consecration took place in the East Gallery, and was performed by the Earl of Lathom Pro G.M., who was assisted by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales Grand Master, Earl Amherst Deputy G.M., the Earl of Euston, Lord Methuen, the Bishop of Llandaff, Archdeacon Stevens, Sir Albert Woods, Frank Richardson, E. Letchworth, Colonel A. B. Cook, J. H. Matthews, and Henry Sadler Grand Tyler.

The Founders' Jewel, of which we append an illustration, was highly approved by the M.W. Grand Master, to whom the design was submitted by the Founders, and who was graciously pleased to accept and wear one. It comprehends in its design the badges borne by the five Regiments of the Household Guards, *i.e.*, Horse Guards Red, Horse Guards Blue, Coldstream Guards, Grenadier Guards, and the Scots Guards, and will probably be regarded by those entitled to wear it as one of their most cherished Masonic decorations.

The following Brethren constitute the Founders:—Lord Skelmersdale, Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., Capt. Wilfred Marshall, Col. Hon. H. F. Eaton, Hugh Rayner, M.B., Capt. H. R. Crompton Roberts, Capt. R. W. Gordon Gilmour, C. Du P. Powney, The Earl of Portarlington, Major T. P. Calley, Noel Corry, Dan Godfrey, Lord Cremorne, Lord Stanley, M.P., Robert Ashton Bostock, Lt.-Col. A. E. Mark Lockwood, M.P., Capt. Francis C. Trollope, The Earl of Albemarle, Capt. Hon. Gilbert Legh, W. P. C. Lethbridge, Sir George Arthur, Bart.,

The Marquess of Zetland, H. L. B. McCalmont, M.P., Capt. Arthur Thistlethwayte, The Earl Amherst, Major Horace R. Stopford, Lord Kensington, The Marquess of Hamilton, The Marquess of Hertford, Field-Marshal Viscount Wolseley, K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., and Major Hon. Arthur Henniker.

The M.W. Grand Master himself constituted the Lodge; Lord Skelmersdale was installed as Deputy Master, and the following were appointed as the assistant Officers for the year:—Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., S.W., Capt. Wilfred Marshall J.W., Col. Hon. H. F. Eaton Treasurer, Hugh Rayner, M.B., Secretary, Captain H. R. Crompton Roberts S.D., Captain R. W. Gordon Gilmour J.D., C. Du P. Powney I.G., the Earl of Portarlington D.C., Major T. P. Calley and Noel Corry Stewards, Dan Godfrey Organist.

The ceremonial arrangements were made by Sir Albert Woods, K.C.M.G., C.B., Garter, Grand Director of Ceremonies, and, in view of the experienced representatives of the Craft who took part in the consecration, it is needless to say the work was performed in an impressive manner. The many beautiful works of art hanging on the walls added much to the harmonious effect of the brilliant assemblage, which included:

The Grand Master of Scotland Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., M.P., and, in addition to those already mentioned, the following:—The Earl of Mount-Edgcombe, Lord Suffield, K.C.B., Lord Egerton of Tatton, Lord Kensington, W. W. B. Beach, M.P., the Marquess of Hertford, Viscount Dungarvan, the Earl of Yarborough, Lord Cremorne, Lord Amptill, the Earl of Portarlington, Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., Lieut.-Gen. Laurie, Col. H. Byng, C.B., C. F. Matier, H. Rayner, M.B., Col. A. B. Cook, Capt. Gilmour, Thos. Fenn, R. Loveland Loveland, Sir H. Russell, LL.D., Sir Augustus Harris, Lieut.-Gen. Moncrieffe, Edward Terry, Lt.-Col. Lockwood, M.P., Col. Hon. H. F. Eaton, Clement Godson, M.D., Rev. C. J. Martyn, Capt. Crompton Roberts, Rt. Hon. Sir Wm. Marriott, Q.C., Rev. J. S. Brownrigg, Major Stopford, J. Matthews, Dan Godfrey, Will E. Chapman, Lionel Brough, F. L.



Palmer, Rev. C. E. L. Wright, Noel Corry, Maurice Tomlin, Major Trollope, Major-Gen. Hay, Capt. Wilfred Marshall J.W., C. du P. Powney, Park Goff, Sir Geo. Arthur, Bart., William Lake, Harry Nicholls, H. R. Rose, Major-Gen. Gadsden, J. D. Langton, Sir Augustus Webster, Bart., S.W., Capt. Philips, S. G. Kirchoffer, Col. Campbell A.D.C., W. Goodacre, W. E. M. Tomlinson, M.P., &c.

The furnishing of the Lodge is worthy of mention, an especial feature being the aprons of the Officers, which, for the first time in our experience of Private Lodges, bore the emblem of office in the centre, as allowed by the third section of Rule 310 of the Constitutions, an item that might well be imitated elsewhere, as giving a very pretty effect, while it also affords active Lodge Officers an opportunity of declaring their rank in the Craft when visiting other Lodges, where they must discard their collar in order to conform to the regulations of the Craft. The furniture, too, is of a superior character, the most noticeable items being the very handsome carved oak and brass chairs and pedestals, a blending of the architectural and the antique; and the candlesticks, also of carved oak, particularly massive, and standing nearly six feet high. This furniture, together with the collars and silver badges of office, the aprons, and the Founders' jewels, were manufactured and supplied by Messrs. Spencer and Co., 15 Great Queen Street, W.C., who are certainly to be complimented on the way in which they carried out their share in the preliminary arrangements for the launching of this most important addition to the roll of English Lodges.

After the closing of the Lodge the Brethren adjourned to the banquet hall of the Restaurant, where they sat down to dinner under the presidency of the Prince of Wales, as Master of the Lodge. The arrangements here, and in other respects so far as the establishment were concerned, were in the hands of Bro. Benoist, the manager, and reflected great credit upon him, indeed this first gathering in the new Restaurant, which is to be formally opened on Monday next, may be regarded as a phenomenal one, alike from a Masonic as well as an outsider's standpoint.

STANLEY OF PRESTON LODGE.

THURSDAY, 7th inst., was a red-letter day among the Freemasons of Preston and West Lancashire, an imposing and interesting ceremony taking place at the Bull and Royal Hotel, in the consecration of a new Lodge, the Stanley of Preston, No. 2600. It is now thirty-two years since a similar ceremony took place in Preston, and the fact that the Worshipful Master-Designate the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby held the first title of Lord Stanley of Preston gave special emphasis and interest to the function.

Preston possesses four Lodges: Unanimity, No. 113, warrant dated 17th Feb. 1767; Peace and Unity, No. 314, warrant dated 13th September 1797; Royal Preston, No. 333, warrant dated 15th June 1811; and Concord, No. 343, warrant dated 1814. There are also three Royal Arch Chapters, Unanimity 113, Royal Architect 314, Royal Preston 333; one Mark Masons' Lodge, and one of Knights Templar.

It having been decided to form another Lodge, the founders consulted the Earl of Derby, and requested him to honour them by being their first W.M. This he promised to do, and has presented the Officers' jewels in silver.

In the Officers of this Lodge, which is called after the first W.M., Stanley of Preston, his Lordship has been most fortunate, while a compliment has been paid in their appointment to such prominent and zealous Masons as Bros. Captain W. H. Johnston, T. Nevett, Councillor Barber, Major Carter, W. W. Elton, Captain Jolly, and G. Oakey.

The M.W. Brother the Earl of Lathom, G.C.B., Pro Grand Master of England Prov. G. Master of West Lancashire could not perform the ceremony, owing to an engagement as Lord Chamberlain, in London, and much regret was felt at the unavoidable absence of one who is so deservedly popular and respected. In his absence the ceremony was ably performed by Colonel Le Gendre Starkie Prov. G. Master East Lancashire P.G.W. England.

The Grand and Prov. Grand Officers having assembled, marched in procession to the Lodge Room. The Acting Consecrating Master was assisted by Brothers T. W. Rice Prov. S.G.W., W. H. Arnott Prov. J.G.W., the Rev. C. C. Bluett Prov. G. Chaplain, W. Bowden Prov. G. Reg., W. Goodacre P.G.S.B. England Prov. G. Sec., Thomas Vernon Prov. G.D.C., and G. Harradon P.Pr.G. Treasurer acting as I.G. Brother Colonel Le Gendre Starkie gave an appropriate address in well-chosen words, and then the ceremony of consecration was rendered with impressiveness and dignity; an eloquent and thoughtful oration being given by Brother the Rev. C. C. Bluett P.G.C., formerly rector of Barlow Moor, Didsbury, on the traditions, history, teaching, and objects of the Masonic Order.

The musical portion of the ceremony was performed with much skill and taste by the St. Cecilia Glee Party, Bros. Livesey,

Preston, Coward, and Cornall, Brother T. Hogg presiding at the harmonium.

When the Lodge had been consecrated, Brother Robert Wylie P.G.D. England Deputy Prov. G. Master took the chair, and performed the ceremony of installing the Earl of Derby as W.M., in that dignified and faultless manner which is so well-known.

One of the noteworthy features of the ceremonies was the masterly and striking manner in which the addresses to the W.M., Wardens, and Brethren were given by the Rev. T. Barton Spencer P.G.C. England, vicar of St. James's, Preston.

The following Officers were subsequently invested:—Bros. G. Oakey Acting I.P.M., Captain W. H. Johnston, V.D., P.P.G.D. S.W., T. Nevett P.P.G.S. of W. J.W., Major J. Carter P.M. Treasurer, E. Barber P.M. Secretary, W. W. Elton P.P.G.A.D.C. S.D., W. H. Johnston J.D., Captain T. R. Jolly P.P.G. Treas. D.C., J. J. Dallas I.G., J. F. Wood Organist, and J. Hankin Tyler. Bro. Nevett P.M. was appointed Charity Representative.

Before the Lodge closed the S.W. Bro. Capt. Johnston presented the W.M. with a Founders' jewel, and, in acknowledging the gift, his Lordship said he received it with the greatest pride and pleasure. The institution of the Lodge in a town in which he took the deepest interest was a source of sincere pleasure, and he was most gratified to renew interesting associations with Brethren with whom he had been associated years ago, and from whom he had always received the greatest kindness and Brotherly courtesy.

After numerous propositions for membership had been made, and apologies for non-attendance from various Brethren of distinction had been read, the Lodge was closed.—“Preston Herald.”

CENTENARY AT FAREHAM.

THE Craft was represented by a distinguished gathering at Fareham on Thursday of last week, the occasion being the centenary celebration of the Lodge of Harmony, No. 309. The Brethren assembled in the Lodge room, West Street, under the presidency of the W.M. Bro. Charles Reader, and received the Provincial Grand Master Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., and Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge with customary honours.

The impressive ceremony of installing the Centenary Master Bro. Edgar Goble P.M. P.G.Swd.B. England Prov. G. Sec., was conducted by the Provincial Grand Master.

The Officers selected for the year were Past Masters of the Lodge, and they were invested as follow:—Bros. C. Reader I.P.M., A. R. Holbrook S.W., J. W. Gieve J.W., Rev. A. C. Hervey Chaplain, T. H. Williams Treasurer, W. A. Hill Sec., J. Homan D.C., H. Cooke S.D., T. W. Haydon J.D., E. Penton I.G., W. Edmonds and R. Clover Stewards, and A. Howell Organist. Bro. R. Eames was again appointed Tyler.

The Provincial Grand Master was elected an honorary member of the Lodge, as also was the Grand Secretary of England Bro. E. Letchworth, on his presenting the centenary warrant.

Bro. W. A. Hill Secretary gave a brief but very interesting historical sketch of the Lodge, which was established on 8th April 1796, at Gosport, and was then No. 551 on the register. The Lodge was removed to Fareham in 1850, and the members met at the Red Lion Hotel, from that date until last year, when they removed into their present Lodge room.

A handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. C. Reader, the retiring Master, and a centenary jewel to Bro. W. A. Hill, the services to the Lodge of both these members being highly eulogised by Bro. Goble. After a thanksgiving service, conducted by the Rev. A. C. Hervey, the Lodge was closed.

The Brethren afterwards met at the Red Lion Hotel Assembly Rooms, where a banquet was served by the Lodge caterer (Mr. Pyle) in good style. The room was charmingly decorated by members of the Lodge. Bro. Goble presided over a brilliant gathering, including many prominent members of the Order. He was supported at the head of the table by the Provincial Grand Master, the Grand Secretary of England, the D.P.G.M. Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, Bros. R. Eve P.G. Treasurer of England, Alderman Sir William King P.P.G.D., and W. Edmonds P.P.G.R., the senior P.M. of the Lodge present.

Provincial Grand Lodge was strongly represented by present and past Officers, and the visitors included the Worshipful Masters and representatives of all Lodges in the district, numbering in all upwards of a hundred.

Brother Beach, replying to the toast of the Prov. G. Master, spoke of the pleasure it afforded him to be present on such an interesting occasion. He dwelt on the excellent principles of Masonry, and, speaking of forty years' experience, averred that the institution was profitable in many ways to those who joined it.

The D.P.G.M. replied for the P.G. Officers, and eulogised the Masonic career of their P.G. Master. When he assumed his

office there were seventeen Lodges in Hampshire and four in the Isle of Wight; the combined Province now included forty-eight Lodges, with above 3,600 members.

Brother Eve, in very complimentary phrases, gave the centenary W.M., and Bro. Goble, in replying, furnished some interesting Masonic historical facts relating to the period when the Lodge was established.

Bro. W. Edmonds offered, for the acceptance of the Lodge, a very handsome loving cup, of chaste design, in gratitude for his thirty-seven years connection with the Lodge, and expressed a hope that it would tend to cement that kindly good will and affection which had always prevailed in the Lodge.

For the Worshipful Masters of neighbouring Lodges, submitted by Bro. Gieve, Bros. Hynes and Nash responded; and Sir William King and Dr. Thomas P.P.G.D. West Yorks. were spokesmen for the visitors.

The toasts were varied by some excellent songs by Miss Meredyth Elliott and Mr. Albert Jones, and during the dinner the dulcet strains of the R.M.A. string band were highly appreciated. An elaborate menu card, produced by Messrs. Sutton, contained photo-prints of the whole of the Officers, and a list of the Masters of the Lodge from its establishment.—“Portsmouth Times.”

LEARNING THE WORK.

THERE is an injurious notion current in the Craft that it is only necessary for the Officers of a Lodge to learn the work, while the members at large are privileged to remain in ignorance of it, without impairing either their character or their employment as Masons. This is a serious, and sometimes a fatal error, retarding the progress of the Masonic bodies, subtracting from the enjoyment of the Brethren who are misled by it, and lessening their interest in the art and mystery of Freemasonry and in their own Lodge. We shall do what we can, in the present article, to disabuse the minds of, possibly, some of the readers of the “Minstrel” of this error, and thereby, through their influence with others, advance the best interests of our ancient and honourable Fraternity.

The work of the Craft is Freemasonry incarnate, the flesh and blood of our mystery, the personification of Masonic teachings. What the work does not teach is not taught in Freemasonry. What is not proven by it is not susceptible of proof. It is the alphabet of our system, the horn-book of the Masonic scholar, the authoritative exposition of Masonic truth, the encyclopædia of Freemasonry. There is not a lesson of Brotherly love, or of morality, or of charity, or of Masonic philosophy or religion approved by Freemasonry, that is not distinctly and symbolically taught in the work of the three degrees. This being true, it is apparent that not only has Masonic work a dignity that is acknowledged, but a power and a glory, in which every Brother of the Craft, from the loftiest to the humblest, from the oldest to the youngest, is entitled to share. Masonic work is the heritage of every newly-made Brother; it makes him a Mason, and it is an epitome of Masonry. If he does not know it he is Masonically blind, while the sunlight of Masonry is shining in his face.

It is evident that every initiate into the mystery of Freemasonry desires to understand and enjoy it. There are two propositions in this connection which are axiomatic: (1) The Brother who does not know the work cannot understand Freemasonry; and (2) neither can he enjoy it as he should.

First, he cannot understand it. The beauty of the work is that it explains itself. There are no unanswered conundrums propounded by it; it gives no riddle of the Sphinx; but every truth taught is plainly and forcibly stated, and the reason for it is given in connection with the fact. This is the charm of Masonic work—it unfolds the mystery, it explains the art, it makes clear the principles and philosophy of the Craft. But he who is ignorant of the work as a matter of form, necessarily cannot understand it as a matter of substance. He has but the merest smattering of Masonic knowledge, and is in truth a Freemason but in name. In all probability he cannot visit any Lodge unless he is vouched for, for how can a Brother who is ignorant of the work make his way into a Lodge?

But while, possibly, some Brethren may be willing to be ignorant of the work, all would like to enjoy all that is enjoyable in Freemasonry. Now we assert, without fear of intelligent contradiction, that the Brother who does not know the work has debarred himself from enjoying some of the most pleasurable features of the Craft. He never has had the companionship of “that angel knowledge.” He is powerless in the Fraternity, since “knowledge is power.” To a Brother who knows the work every meeting of his Lodge, when a degree is either conferred or rehearsed, is interesting. He loves to hear the work. He loves to impart it. He rejoices because he knows Freemasonry, and is an active, intelligent and happy participant in “the fellowship of the mystery.”

After a candidate is received into the Fraternity, he finds that work is the only currency which the Craft accepts. When a strange visitor comes to a Lodge, it does not simply ask him where he hails from, but can he work? If he is “rusty,” his place is not even in the outer courts of the Temple, but without, in the company of the profane.

An eloquent writer has said, “God is a worker, and He has thickly strewn infinity with grandeur.” Every Freemason should be a worker, and signalise his presence in the Craft by first learning the work, then teaching it, and always enjoying it. The enjoyment is inseparable from the knowledge.

Will not the reader be incited by what we have said to respect more than he has ever done before the work of the Craft, learn it thoroughly, and thereby understand its teaching fully; and last, and perhaps most of all, enjoy to the full the rich banquet of knowledge, the high intellectual pleasure, which flows from a familiarity with Masonic work.

What an impetus would be given to all of our Lodges if all the members attending were working Masons! How correctly, impressively, and beautifully the work would be done! How easy it would be to select a Brother for Junior Warden at the annual election. What a happy family would that be where all would know even as they were known! Happy day—when shall we see it? Soon, very soon, if Brethren everywhere would become earnest, faithful seekers after Masonic light; or, even on the lower level of mere personal enjoyment, would fully realise that Masonic knowledge is Masonic enjoyment. Ignorance is not bliss in Masonry. Brethren, be Masonically intelligent, learn the work, and you will be Masonically happy.

A PAST MASTER, in “The Minstrel.”

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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SAMSON LODGE, No. 1668.

THE annual installation festival of this popular Lodge was held at the Café Royal, Regent Street, W., on Tuesday, when a large number of the raterality assembled to take part in the interesting ceremony.

Bro. A. Clark W.M. presided, assisted by his Officers and the following Brethren: C. F. Hogard P.G.S.B., Ernest St. Clair G.Assist.D.C., Baron D. Barnett P.M., A. F. Casperd P.M., J. W. Nash P.M., Emil Hahn P.M., B. Fuld P.M., C. W. Austin P.M. 16, J. W. Whitworth P.M. 1280, J. W. Cuff P.M. 511, F. W. Hancock P.M. 548, Orlton Cooper P.M. 211, S. A. Rathschild W.M. 1017, C. Vandyke W.M. 2268, E. Levy W.M. 205, Hy. Crocker 1007, A. H. Marks 1563, J. Rosenthal 1017, H. Sacke 2313 (Johannesburg), S. Fonseca 1563, Marcus Fischer 185, J. R. Morford W.M. 569, Edward Lewis P.M. 1425.

The Lodge being opened, the minutes of the last meeting was read and confirmed.

Bros. Kahn, Harrison Brockbank, Sandon, and Isaacs having proved their proficiency as Craftsmen, were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the ceremony being excellently performed by the W.M.

Bro. Clark then resigned the chair in favour of Bro. Baron D. Barnett P.M., who was deputed to perform the installation ceremony. Bro. Nersessian was introduced by Bro. J. W. Nash P.M., and gave his assent to the ancient charges and regulations. A Board of Installed Masters was formed, and Bro. Nersessian was regularly installed into the chair of King Solomon according to ancient custom, and afterwards invested the I.P.M. Upon the return of the Brethren the new Master was saluted in the various degrees, and then proceeded to invest his Officers as follow: Bros. G. Levin S.W., J. D. Hood J.W., M. J. Heilbron Chaplain, E. Hahn P.M. Treasurer, B. D. Barnett P.M. Secretary, T. M. Lamble S.D., S. J. Heilbron J.D., T. D. Corthine I.G., J. Bayne Organist, J. Cohn D.C., I. Heilbron Steward, and Reinhardt Tyler.

When investing the Tyler, Bro. Nersessian gave the ancient charge to the Brethren, thus giving early proof of his knowledge of the ritual.

The addresses to the W.M., Officers, and the Brethren were admirably delivered by Bro. Barnett, and elicited the hearty appreciation of the Brethren.

The Lodge accounts, showing a satisfactory balance, were presented and adopted, and a vote of thanks was accorded to the Auditors.

The new Master having received the congratulations of the visiting Brethren, then presented his predecessor with a handsome Past Master's jewel, in the name of the Lodge.

The I.P.M. briefly returned thanks, saying that he fully appreciated the honour that was done him, and that his services would always be at the disposal of the Lodge. He valued the jewel all the more because it could not be bought, and would always remind him of the happy time he spent in the chair. This concluding the business of the evening, the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room.

The usual Loyal and Masonic toasts were afterwards honoured.

Bro. Ernest St. Clair G.A.D.C., and C. F. Hogard P.G.S.B. responded for the Grand Officers. The former stated that it was the first time he had had the honour to reply for the Grand Lodge, and it was rather appropriate that he should do so in that place, because twelve years ago he was initiated in that very house, in La France Lodge, No. 2060. In Bro. Nersessian the Samson Lodge had a real good fellow, and one who would never disgrace either the Lodge or the Craft.

Bro. Hogard congratulated Bro. Barnett upon the manner in which the ceremony of installation was conducted. He remembered the time the Lodge was consecrated, was glad to find it had gone on prospering, and wished the Brethren every success.

Bro. A. Clark, in eulogistic terms, proposed the health of the new W.M., which was modestly acknowledged by Brother Nersessian, who thanked the Brethren for their reception. He hoped so to conduct the Lodge as to meet with their satisfaction when his year of office had expired.

Bros. C. Vandyke, M. Fischer and E. Levy, Masters respectively of the Montefiore, Tranquility, and Israel Lodges, responded for the Visitors.

Bro. Clark, in acknowledging the toast of the Past Masters, took occasion to thank Brother Barnett for so kindly performing the installation ceremony at such short notice. Everyone would agree that he had done the work in a most perfect manner, and he heartily congratulated him upon a great success.

Bro. Barnett replied to this compliment when responding for the Treasurer and Secretary, and said that if his work had afforded the Brethren any pleasure, it was a greater pleasure for him to do it, and he was more than gratified. He was specially glad to instal Bro. Nersessian, and he hoped that those Brethren who had been "raised" that evening would reach the same proud position. He had been Secretary of the Lodge since its foundation—now some twenty years, and it was a great delight to him to witness its success.

The Officers of the Lodge having been complimented, the Tyler's toast brought the meeting to a pleasant termination.

During the evening a capital selection of vocal and instrumental music was provided, the principal artistes being Miss Ethel Winn, Bro. W. H. Noel, James Bayn, Robt. Eadie and Mr. Fred Casano. Bro. Harrison Brockbank ran across from the Avenue Theatre to favour the company with a fine rendering of Kellie's "Winter Love Song." Altogether a very pleasant festival.

Bro. Nersess Nersessian was born in 1861, at Teheran, the capital city of Persia, and is the son of Armenian parents. He was educated in France, and came to this country some fifteen years ago. He was initiated into Freemasonry in May 1888, and has filled most of the offices in the Samson Lodge. He has taken great interest in the political affairs of his countrymen, by whom he is highly esteemed, and his reception in the Lodge on Tuesday proves that he has also secured the goodwill of his Brethren.

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BROMLEY ST. LEONARD LODGE, No. 1805 (INSTRUCTION).

AT the Bow Bells, Bow Road, on Wednesday, 13th inst., Brother E. Hambridge W.M., G. Fennell S.W., Whitlock J.W., F. A. Slater Sec., C. G. L., P. A. M. G. L., J. L. C. S. I. M. E. P. E. C. P. E. R., B. Thonson Sec., Boyce P.M., Oxley P.M., Towner, Kinney, Marks, Joss, Martindale.

The Lodge was opened to the second degree. Bro. Boyce answered the questions leading to the third, and the W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of raising, Bro. Boyce candidate.

The Lodge was closed in the third and second degrees and the Brethren assisted Brother Oxley P.M. to work the second section of the lecture.

Bro. Joss was elected to the chair for Wednesday, 20th, to which date the Lodge was adjourned.

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PROVINCIAL.

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RELIEF LODGE, No. 42.

THE annual social gathering of this old and distinguished Lodge was held at the Grey Mare Hotel, Bury, on Tuesday evening, 28th ult., and was attended by about sixty persons, including Brethren, their wives, and lady friends, who sat down to an excellent knife and fork tea, catered for by Bro. L. R. Duckworth and Mrs. Duckworth, in their usual style; after which a lengthy programme was gone through.

Bro. V. Brown W.M. presided, Bros. O. Wild S.W. and J. Booth J.W. acting as Deputy Chairmen, and T. Rigby P.M. P.G.S.B. E.L. as Director of Ceremonies.

The toast of the Queen, proposed by the W.M., was honoured by the singing of the National Anthem, the solo being taken by Bro. H. Matthews.

The W.M. next proposed the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family, which was responded to by Bro. E. Royles, who sang "God bless the Prince of Wales."

The Worshipful Master, coupled with prosperity to Lodge Relief, No. 42, was proposed by Bro. R. W. Buxton (who sang "Here's to his health"), to which the W.M. duly responded, by giving the guests a hearty welcome, and thanking them for the kind and enthusiastic manner in which they had received and honoured the toast.

The Masonic Charities, proposed by Brother J. Chadwick P.M. Charity Representative, was responded to by Bro. T. H. Sleigh P.M. P.P.G.Std. E.L. Treasurer.

Our entertainers, proposed by Bro. T. S. Collinge, was responded to by Bro. W. Dickson.

The ladies, proposed by Bro. J. W. Kenyon P.M. P.P.G.Supt. of Wks. E.L. (the oldest Freemason present), was responded to, on their behalf, by Bro. Jas. Wild (the youngest member of the Lodge).

The Host and Hostess, proposed by Brother S. Cox P.M. (Almoner), was responded to by Bro. L. R. Duckworth and Mrs. Duckworth.

The following programme of songs, recitations, &c., was also gone through:—Glee, "Allan Water," by Glee Party, Bros. H. Matthews, E. Royles, and W. Dickson, and Messrs. F. Savin and Ingham; humorous song "A thing he had never done before," Bro. R. Gregson; song "The Charmed Cup," Mr. F. Savin; recitation "Tantler's Sister," Mr. H. Riley; song "It's such a dainty dame," Brother E. Royles; song "I'm off to Philadelphia," Bro. W. Dickson; song "I seek for thee in every flower," Bro. H. Matthews; duet "The moon hath raised her lamp," Bro. E. Royles and Mr. F. Savin; song "The Postillion," Bro. W. Dickson; humorous song "I've worked eight hours this day," Bro. R. Gregson; glee "The pretty little flower and the great oak tree," Glee Party (as above); recitation "The old man out of Town," Mr. H. Riley; song "Mary," Bro. E. Royles; song "Unrequited Love," Mr. F. Savin; glee "Sleep, gentle lady," Glee Party (as above); song "I dream of thee sweet Madeline," Mr. Ingham; recitation "Mark Twain on the guides of Rome," Mr. H. Riley.

The proceedings were concluded with the Tyler's toast, and the National Anthem. Bro. J. W. Wolstencroft played the accompaniments during the evening in a most efficient manner.

The gathering was one of the most successful ever held in connection with the Lodge, everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves, and expressing their delight on being present at such an evening's entertainment.

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ST. GEORGE LODGE, No. 242.

THE regular meeting was held on Friday, 1st inst., at Doncaster, when Bro. R. Bridge was installed Worshipful Master, and regularly appointed the Assistant Officers for the year.

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TRAFFORD LODGE, No. 1496.

THE regular meeting was held at the Western Hotel, Moss Side, Manchester, on the 11th inst., Bro. Ramsey Knight W.M. There were also present: Brothers C. Preston S.W., Wm. Yeadon J.W., George Burslem P.M. Treas., J. C. Gillman P.P.S.G.D. P.M. Secretary, William Russell J.D., Walter Lees I.G., D. Johnson P.M. D.C., Fras. Long P.M. Org., H. P. Jones P.P.G.R. P.M., Josh. Kershaw P.M., Jno. Rathbone P.M., C. H. Moss, E. H. Seddon, A. H. Norbury, H. Preston, T. Turnbull, C. F. Davies, J. Kennerley, Thomas Jackson.

Visitors: C. J. Vickers 2231, G. Robinson 1459, H. Goldman S.W. 323, Wm. Findlay 1459, J. Dawson P.M. 317, W. H. Moss J.D. 2359, William Chesshyre Tyler.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, the ballot was taken for a gentleman for initiation, which was unanimous, but who was unavoidably absent and his initiation was postponed.

The Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Brothers Turnbull and Seddon, having answered the necessary questions, retired with the test of merit, when the Brethren adjourned for tea.

On re-assembling, the Lodge was opened in the third degree, when Bro. Turnbull was raised to the sublime degree of a M.M. by the W.M. and Bro. Seddon by Brother Gillman P.P.S.G.D., the working tools being presented by the S.W. The Lodge was resumed.

A vote of condolence and sympathy was proposed and seconded, with a request that the Secretary be asked to forward a letter of sympathy, to the relatives of the late Bro. Frith, and expressing the regret the Brethren felt at his death.

A vote of thanks was proposed and seconded to Brothers Lees and Russell, for the able manner in which they had managed the soiree held in January, and were able to hand over to the charity fund a surplus derived therefrom.

Hearty good wishes having been tendered the Lodge was closed.

The Brethren then adjourned to the festive board, the toast of the newly-raised Brethren been drunk, also that of the visitors and others, and very suitably responded to. The intervals were enlivened with songs and recitations.

ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1780.

A MEETING of this Lodge was held on Tuesday, 5th inst., at the Masonic Hall, Southampton, when there were present Bros. J. Burrow W.M., C. Alexander I.P.M., Past Masters W. Berry, G. Heathcote, H. Hussey, E. Warren, C. Farmer, J. G. Jordan; R. Prowse S.W., E. W. Drysdale J.W., T. Holmes Sec., R. W. Dennis S.D., A. Curtis I.G., W. R. Ives and G. J. Rowe Stewards, W. J. Groundsell Org.; also Bros. Fowles, Parnell, Sinopysky, Ford, &c., to the number of sixty.

Among the visitors were Bros. A. F. Blaimy P.P.G.D. Devon, A. Wilkins, H. R. Hall, W. A. Rickman.

The minutes of the previous Lodge session were read and adopted. A ballot was taken for Messrs. Peters, Parker, Terry, and Reed. The ballot being in their favour, the first three were initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry in a very able manner by the W.M.

Brother Harding was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft by Brother Berry P.M.

The W.M. then, on behalf of the Lodge, presented Bro. Alexander I.P.M. with a handsome Past Master's jewel, wishing him long and continued health to wear it in the interest of Masonry.

Bro. Griffin then, on behalf of the initiates of the year, presented Bro. Alexander with a Past Master's apron.

Bro. Alexander briefly thanked the Lodge and initiates for their kind marks of esteem.

Several gentlemen were then proposed for initiation, and the Lodge was closed, the Brethren adjourning to the banqueting room, where a very pleasant evening was spent.

LONGSIGHT LODGE, No. 2464.

THE regular meeting was held at the Club House, Longsight, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., Bro. W. Gadd W.M.

According to the summons, the principal business was that of passing Bro. Henry Shepherd, which ceremony was performed by the W.M., assisted by Bro. Hy. Sheard J.W., the latter presenting and explaining the working tools. It may be mentioned that preceding the ceremony of passing, was an admirable rendering of the Historical Charge of the first degree, this also by the J.W.

Mention was made of the Masonic Service promoted by the Lodge in aid of the district nurse fund, to be held at St. John's Church, Longsight, on the forthcoming Sunday afternoon. The Lodge was closed in peace and harmony at an early hour.

THE MANCHESTER LODGE, No. 2554.

THE regular meeting of this young, but already popular Lodge was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Friday, the 8th inst. In the absence of Bro. W. B. Akerman W.M. through illness, the principal chair was occupied by Bro. C. H. Arnold I.P.M.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, the name of Bro. Alfred Jepson, Ashton Lodge, No. 1140, was submitted to the ballot as a joining member, the same being successful.

During the evening, the absence of the W.M. was referred to, the Secretary being instructed to convey to Bro. Akerman the sincere regret of the Brethren that his illness had caused his absence from their meeting, together with their warmest sympathy with him in his misfortune. It was also decided to forward a similar message of condolence to Bro. James Bent P.M., who had unfortunately met with an accident.

The election of Officers afterwards took place, with the result that Bro. Thos. Plumpton S.W. was unanimously chosen as W.M.-elect, Bro. A. C. K. Smith Secretary as Treasurer, Bro. Wm. A. Boyer Treas. as Charity Representative, and Bros. Plumpton and F. J. Burt as Auditors of the first year's accounts.

Whilst the Brethren were at the festive board, a telegram, despatched by the W.M., was received by Bro. Plumpton congratulating him upon having been elected as his successor in the chair of K.S.

The proceedings were enlivened by songs, recitations, &c., contributed by Bros. S. D. Ward, J. A. Thompson, F. J. Burt, Edwd. Roberts P.M., J. A. Orrell W.M. 645, and S. H. Stubbs I.G. 2363.

ROYAL ARCH.

PRINCE OF WALES CHAPTER, No. 1098.

A MEETING was held at the Masonic Hall, Tredegar, on Thursday, 30th ult., when a large number of members were present. At the close of the usual proceedings a presentation was made to Companion J. H. Taylor P.Z. P.P.G.N. of a valuable tea and coffee service in recognition of his past services to the Chapter. The presentation was made by Comp. G. A. Brown P.Z., who referred in very eulogistic terms to the valuable services rendered by Bro. Taylor to Freemasonry in Tredegar, more particularly in the Royal Arch degree.

Companion Taylor, in a few well chosen words, feelingly thanked the Brethren for their handsome present, and stated that what he most prized was the kindly feeling that had always existed, and which he trusted always would exist, between himself and the Brethren of Tredegar.

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.

FARMHOUSE AND COUNTRY LODGINGS.

MESSRS. Walter Hill and Co. have prepared for the Great Northern and North-Eastern Railway Companies a neat guide, containing particulars of farmhouse and country lodgings to be obtained during the holiday season in Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Northumberland, &c. The book, which contains capital illustrations of places of interest on the Great Northern and North-Eastern Railways, will be issued on Monday next, and may be obtained free upon application to the Superintendent of the Line, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross; Superintendent of the Line, North-Eastern Railway, York; the Station Masters at any of the Companies' Stations; Town Offices, or Ticket Agencies.

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

THIS Company announce that on the night of Friday, 22nd May, a cheap excursion will leave London (Woolwich Arsenal, Woolwich Dockyard, Victoria (L.C. & D.), Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross, &c.), for Newcastle, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Helensburgh, returning on Tuesday, 26th, or Saturday, 30th May. Tickets at a single fare for the double journey will also be issued by this excursion to places named, available for return by one fixed train on any day within sixteen days, including days of issue and return.

On same date cheap three or six days excursions will also be run to Cambridge, Huntingdon, Peterboro', Wisbech, Lynn, Cromer, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lincoln, Boston, Grimsby, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Burton, Tutbury, Stoke, Newark, Sheffield, Barnsley, Huddersfield, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool, Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Hull, York, Scarborough, Harrogate, Whitby, Bridlington, Darlington, Richmond, Middlesboro', Hartlepool, Durham, Newcastle, &c. Returning 25th or 28th May.

And for one, three or four days, to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea and Mablethorpe.

On Whit-Monday, 25th May, cheap day excursions will be run from Victoria (L.C. & D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, King's Cross, Finsbury Park, &c., to St. Albans, Hertford, Wheathampstead, Harpenden, Luton, Dunstable, Hitchin, Royston, and Cambridge. Also from Moorgate, King's Cross, Holloway, Finsbury Park, &c., to Skegness, Sutton-on-Sea, and Mablethorpe. Returning same day only.

Manchester Races.—On Thursday night, 28th May, a fast excursion for two days will be run from Moorgate, King's Cross (G.N.), &c., to Manchester, at a fare of 10s (3rd class).

To prevent inconvenience from crowding at the Company's principal terminal station, King's Cross, tickets, dated in advance, will be issued at King's Cross (G.N.R.), Victoria (L.C. & D.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, and Finsbury Park stations, and at the ticket offices of the Company throughout London.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

THIS Company announce excursions on Thursday, 21st May, to Cork and Killarney, and on Friday, 22nd May, to Belfast, Armagh, Larne, Giant's Causeway, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, New Milford, Waterford, and other stations in South Wales and Ireland. A fast excursion train for the West of England will leave Paddington at 7.55 a.m. on Saturday, 23rd May, reaching Exeter in 5½ hours and Plymouth in 7½ hours, and excursions will also be run to Bath, Bristol, Dorchester, Weymouth, Worcester, Malvern, Hereford, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool, Manchester, Aberystwith, Barmouth, Llandudno, &c. Return tickets at 24/6 will also be issued to Guernsey and Jersey.

On Whit-Sunday a cheap train will run to Swindon, Cirencester, Stroud, &c., leaving Paddington at 8.35 a.m. At midnight on Sunday an Excursion for 1 or 4 days will leave Paddington for Oxford, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c.

On Bank Holiday cheap trains will be run to Reading, Bath, Bristol, &c., and on Whit-Tuesday an express half-day excursion will be run to Oxford, Leamington, and Stratford-on-Avon.

Excursions will be run to London from most of the principal stations, and cross country trips have also been arranged.

Cheap tickets are issued daily from London and many suburban stations to Staines, Windsor, Taplow, Maidenhead, Burnham Beeches, Henley, Goring, Wallingford, and other riverside resorts. These tickets can be obtained throughout the Whitsuntide holidays, and in fact during the whole of the summer months. The train service to and from the riverside stations has also been considerably improved.

To meet the expected additional traffic by the ordinary trains on Saturday, 23rd May, the Company will run in duplicate the 3.0, 5.45 and 9.0 p.m. trains from London to the West of England, and the 12.0 noon and 9.15 p.m. trains to Weymouth, Hereford and South Wales. The first portion of the 9.0 p.m. train will leave Paddington at 8.55 p.m., but the first parts of the other trains will leave at the advertised times, and the second a few minutes afterwards, the long distance passengers being as far as possible taken in the first portion, but with a few exceptions both trains will stop at the advertised stations to take up and set down passengers.

Ordinary and excursion tickets are issued at the Company's City and West End Offices, viz.:—193 and 407 Oxford Street, 181 Tottenham Court Road, W., 23 New Oxford Street, Gloucester Mansions, Cambridge Circus, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.; "The Piazza," Covent Garden, 269 Strand, 26 Regent Street, S.W., 29 Charing Cross, 17 Brompton Road, 4 Holborn Circus, Nags Head Yard, 137 Borough High Street, S.E., Minorities (opposite Goodman's Yard), 5 Arthur Street East, London Bridge, E.C., 82 Queen Victoria Street, 67 Gresham Street, 4 Cheapside, and at the L.B. & S.C.R. Company's Excursion Office (under Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square. Tickets can also be obtained at Victoria (L.C. & D. Railway) Kensington (Addison Road), Uxbridge Road, Hammersmith, and other stations.

The booking offices at the Paddington station will be open all day on 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd May, so that passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the Great Western Railway can do so at their convenience. Ordinary tickets will be dated to suit the requirements of passengers.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

THIS Company announce that the ticket offices at Euston, Broad Street, Kensington, and Willesden Junction will be open throughout the day, from Monday, 18th May, to Whit-Monday, 25th May, inclusive, so that Passengers wishing to obtain tickets for any destination on the London and North Western Railway can do so at any time of the day prior to the starting of the Trains.

Tickets, dated to suit the convenience of Passengers, can be obtained at any time (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted) at the Town Receiving Offices of the Company, which are spread over all parts of the metropolis.

On Thursday, 21st May, a special express will leave Euston at 1.25 p.m. for Birmingham, calling at Willesden and Coventry only. On Friday, 22nd May, special trains will leave Euston Station at 1.25 p.m. for Birmingham, calling at Willesden and Coventry only, and at 6.25 p.m.

for Holyhead and Ireland. On Saturday, 23rd May, special trains will leave Euston at 1.25 p.m. for Birmingham, calling at Willesden and Coventry only, and from Willesden Junction at 2.57 p.m. for Bletchley, Wolverton, Blisworth, Weedon, Welton, Rugby, principal stations on Trent Valley Line, and Stafford; a special express train will also leave Euston Station for Birmingham at 4.25 p.m., calling at Willesden and Coventry only. On Sunday, 24th May, special trains will leave Euston at 8.55 and 10.10 a.m. for Watford, King's Langley, Boxmoor, Berkhamsted, Tring and Cheddington. On Whit-Monday, 25th May, the 12.0 noon and 4.0 p.m. trains from Euston will leave at 12.10 noon and 4.10 p.m. respectively; the 4.30 p.m. train from Euston will not run. Passengers will be conveyed by the 5.0 p.m., except those for Peterboro', Market Harboro', Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, and the Great Northern Line, who on this date will travel by the 3.0 p.m. train from Euston. The Dining Saloons between London and Liverpool, and London and Manchester will not run on Whit-Monday, 25th May, but the Corridor Dining Car Trains between London and Edinburgh and Glasgow, and the Breakfast and Luncheon Cars on the up and down Irish Mails, will run as usual. On Whit-Monday, 25th May, numerous residential trains will not be run. The Company also announce that they will run excursions to and from London, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Leamington, Coventry, Walsall, Leicester, Macclesfield, Stoke, Stone, Liverpool, Manchester, Chester, North Wales, and the Cambrian Line, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Oswestry, Preston, Wigan, Blackpool, Morecambe, Carlisle, the English Lake District, &c. Excursions will also be run from London and other principal towns to Scotland and Ireland for the Whitsun Holiday week.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHEAP excursion trains will be run from London to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, &c., for sixteen days, via Liverpool, on Thursday, 21st May, and via Morecambe, on Wednesday, 20th May, returning 21st, 23rd, 26th, 28th, 30th May, and 2nd or 4th June; to Belfast, Londonderry, and Portrush for Giant's Causeway, via Barrow and via Liverpool, on Friday, 22nd May, for 16 days; to Londonderry, via Liverpool, on Saturday, 23rd May, to return within sixteen days as per bill of sailing; to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Oldham, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Scarborough, Newcastle, the Furness District, Carlisle, &c., &c., on Saturday, 23rd May, returning the following Monday or Thursday; to Carlisle, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Helensburgh, Edinburgh, Greenock, Glasgow, &c., on Friday night, 22nd May, returning the following Tuesday or Saturday, by which third class return tickets at a single ordinary fare for the double journey will also be issued, available for returning on any day within sixteen days. On Whit-Monday, 25th May, to St. Albans, Harpenden, Luton, Bedford, and Birmingham, for one day; and to Manchester for the races, on Thursday (Midnight), 28th May, returning Saturday, 30th May. Tickets for these trains for starting from St. Pancras station can be obtained on the two previous days to the running of the Trains at the Company's City and West End Booking Offices. Cheap daily and week-end excursions to Southend-on-Sea, as announced in Time Tables and Bills.

Cheap excursion trains for five or eight days will also be run to London from Carlisle, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester, Blackburn, Burnley, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Lincoln, Newark, Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Birmingham, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Leicester, &c., on Saturday, 23rd; and for six days on Monday, 25th May. From Manchester, Stockport, Bradford, Leeds, Barnsley, Sheffield, &c., on Saturday, 23rd May, for 3, 5, or 8 days. Passengers will be booked by these trains at cheap fares to Brighton, Hastings, St. Leonards, Eastbourne, &c.; and to Paris and other places on the continent, having the privilege of returning by any ordinary train within sixteen days. On Whit-Monday, 25th May, an excursion train to London for 1 or 2 days will be run from Bradford, Leeds, Barnsley, Sheffield, &c.; and for 1, 3, or 6 days from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Walsall, &c.; and day trips from Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester, Wellingboro', &c.

On Whit-Monday, 25th May, certain booked trains will be discontinued, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the stations.

To prevent inconvenience and crowding, the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street stations will be open for the issue of tickets all day on Friday and Saturday, 22nd and 23rd May, and tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway will also be issued beforehand at any of the Company's offices. The tickets obtained at the offices will be available from St. Pancras station, and will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of Passengers.

200 PER CENT.

THERE are many good mining investments going just now which, because they have not been brought out with a great deal of noise and much bold advertisement, are absolutely neglected by the general public. Take Sherlaw's Gold Mine for instance, one of the progeny of the Coolgardie Syndicate—which, by the way, has paid 200 per cent. in sixteen months. Now Sherlaw's Gold Mine, which has an area of forty acres little more than a mile from Coolgardie town, and close to the prosperous Lady Loch mine, has been thoroughly opened out in a minerlike manner; the stamping battery is at work, and working well, and a lasting success is assured, yet the shares can be bought at 13s 6d to 14s. Of course they are bound to go up, and that very shortly. Then again there is the Great Reef, also in the Coolgardie district, which assays $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 oz. of fine gold to the ton, and which will be in actual operation in two months time; why do the shares stand at the ridiculously small price of 11s 6d to 12s? Those who are behind the scenes are buying up these shares quietly, and they are wise in their generation.

THE PRINCESS LOUISE opened the Cookery and Food Exhibition at the Imperial Institute this year, and on the opening day was presented by Messrs. John Hill and Son, of Ashton-under-Lyne, with an elaborately ornamented cake, as a souvenir of the Show. The presentation took place when H.R.H. visited the firm's stand, and the gracious way in which the Princess accepted the gift, and openly expressed her admiration, must have been eminently gratifying to Messrs. John Hill and Son. The stand, with its Bride Cakes, Birthday, Golden Wedding, and other Cakes, was unquestionably a feature of the Exhibition. It seems that this is the largest firm of Cake Manufacturers in the Kingdom, but quantity of production is evidently not its only aim, for we happen to know that the Princess Louise is an authority on the subject.

MUSIC IN LODGE.

MUSIC is said to be in harmony of Heaven. It has the power to arouse the fiery passions of man, and quiets the fiercest storm of rage. Of late years much interest has centred in the musical part of the programme of our Masonic bodies, and in the conferring of the several degrees.

While we of the west have not taken the same interest in this matter that our Brethren in the east have shown, we have nevertheless awakened to this fact, that music in our halls and asylums during the conferring of degrees is almost indispensable. It adds interest to the work, and makes it much more effective, and brings out a much better attendance to our Masonic meetings. The male quartette has already become one of the leading features in some of our western bodies, and no one can witness the work assisted by some good quartette, accompanied by an instrument, that they do not feel that there should be an earnest endeavour on the part of all members of our fraternity to develop music as an aid to our Masonic work. It adds interest in and beautifies the ritual. It creates a lasting impression upon the candidate. It draws to our meetings many who would not otherwise be in attendance, and is one of the most interesting features in connection with our work. More of our Masonic bodies should wake to this fact, and there be but few that cannot find among their members a few good singers, who with a little training will do work in this respect.

All of our bodies should have a good instrument in their hall, not only for the purpose of using it during the conferring of the degrees, but to make use of at their social gathering, when the families of the members of our fraternity are invited to our halls and asylums. The social side of Masonry should be more cultivated than it has been in the past, and we trust the Brethren will awake to this fact.

An exchange has said: "Music is essential to the rendering of the work in an impressive manner. In the opening and closing ceremonies, and in the conferring of degrees, there is abundant opportunity for musical services that will deepen the influence intended to accompany these exercises."

The chant or hymn at the proper place in the ceremony may help to fasten the spoken words upon the mind or give significance to the symbolism that is presented.—"Canadian Craftsman."

A People's edition is about to be issued of "Cassell's Illustrated Natural History" in weekly numbers, uniform with the popular edition of "Cassell's History of England" which is having so large a circulation. "Cassell's Natural History," which was prepared under the editorship of Prof. Martin Duncan, and contains contributions by leading authorities, is a complete Natural History, describing beasts, birds, fishes, reptiles and insects. It is furnished with about 2,000 illustrations, and the work is made interesting to the general reader by an abundance of entertaining anecdotes. The present edition will be issued at less than one-third the price at which the work has hitherto been obtainable.

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