

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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SATURDAY, 9th JUNE 1900.

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KENT.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge will be held on Wednesday next, 13th inst., at Gravesend, under the banner of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, which will celebrate its 150th Anniversary on the occasion. It is also the fortieth anniversary of the installation of Earl Amherst as Provincial Grand Master of Kent, and there will therefore be additional cause for rejoicing.

The Brethren will assemble in the Public Hall, Gravesend, at 12.30 p.m., and Provincial Grand Lodge will be opened there at one o'clock. At 2.15 the Brethren will attend Divine Service at the Parish Church, Gravesend, and, after the closing of the Lodge, will assemble at Banquet in the New Public Hall, at four o'clock. We hope to fully report the proceedings in a later issue.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND.

THE half yearly meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held at Whitehaven, on Friday, 25th ult. In the absence of the Provincial Grand Master Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., who is now in South Africa, Col. F. B. Sewell Deputy Prov. G.M. presided.

There was a large attendance, every Lodge but two being represented. Bro. Geo. White, ex-Mayor of Carlisle, was invested as Prov. S.G.W.

A resolution congratulating the Prince of Wales on his recent escape from assassination was agreed to, and another was passed wishing a speedy and safe return from South Africa of the Provincial G.M. It was recommended to the Prov. G.M. that the annual meeting of the Provincial Lodge be held at Maryport.

A meeting of the Provincial Grand Chapter was afterwards held, at which Officers were appointed for the year.

It is with extreme regret we hear that our Bro. John Purrott P.M. 1479 and a Past Provincial Officer of Herts is seriously ill, and we tender him our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery. Bro. Purrott was one of the small band of Brethren who associated themselves together twenty-six years since and founded the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, of which he has been a regular supporter ever since. Bro. Purrott enjoys the distinction of being the oldest member of the Yeomanry forces of the kingdom, his record of service extending far beyond an ordinary lifetime, and we are sure his Brethren in arms will unite with his Brethren of the Craft in wishing him a return to good health.

Bro. John Solomon W.M. of the Lodge of Freedom, No. 77, who went up as a Steward at the recent Festival of the Girls School, was enabled to take up an amount in pounds equal to the number of his Lodge. We congratulate him upon this, as well as upon the honour about to be conferred upon him by Lord Amherst Prov. Grand Master of Kent, who has offered him the rank of Provincial Grand Deacon.

It would appear that there was an informality in the declaration made at Grand Lodge, on Wednesday, as to the candidates elected to act as members of the Board of General Purposes. Two Past Masters of the same Lodge were declared to be duly elected, which declaration is inconsistent with Law 255 of the Book of Constitutions.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE annual meeting of Provincial Grand Lodge was held on the 5th inst., at Gloucester, the Provincial Grand Master the Right Hon. Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, Bart., presiding. It is five years since the city had the opportunity of extending its Fraternal greeting to the Brethren assembled for the Lodge, and the arrangements made this year by the three Lodges of Gloucester for their reception followed very closely the programme in 1895.

Before the assembly of Provincial Grand Lodge, "Lodges of recreation and instruction," arranged by Brother the Dean of Gloucester Past Grand Chaplain of England, were enjoyed. These included an organ recital by Bro. A. H. Brewer, the Cathedral organist, and the privilege of listening to the musical treat provided in the grand old church was embraced by a large number. The Dean himself acted as guide and lecturer to those Brethren—there were many—who desired to make a more detailed inspection of the monument of whose history Dr. Spence has made a life-study and whose care he has specially identified himself with. Naturally not the least interesting were those sections of the fabric which had been selected by the Province in previous years for restoration and repair.

The Lodge itself assembled at two o'clock under the presidency of the Provincial Grand Master, who was accompanied by his Deputy Bro. R. V. Vassar-Smith. The Brethren upon the dais included the Very Rev. the Dean of Gloucester P.G.C., and other members of Grand Lodge, while the attendance of Brethren from the various Lodges in the Province overtaxed the seating accommodation of the historic Chapter House. Lodge having been opened, adjournment was at once made to the Cathedral, the procession forming in order of seniority, juniors leading, and passing through the cloisters, up the nave into the choir.

The service at the Cathedral was choral and brightly rendered.

The sermon was preached by Bro. Dean Spence, who prefaced his discourse as follows:—Brethren of the Order,—Our annual meeting is always a solemn occasion, but this occasion will perhaps stand out in the annals of our Order as the most important, the most momentous for us Masons, who are loyal of the loyal, the most staunch defenders of the Throne. It is indeed a striking coincidence that at the very time we were entering this great House of God the news was being flashed to England that the flag of this nation was waving over the capital of our enemy. The news was flashed from the Field Marshal himself, so there is no doubt of it. Now, we do not receive this news with feelings of exultation or of triumph, but only with the sense of deep thankfulness—thankfulness that God still remains over, still protects this our England as He has aforetime, that He reserves to us a greater and a mightier work even in the future than we have effected in the past.

And now to my subject:—To the Brotherhood of Freemasons—to us who have firm faith that our Order makes for peace, good feeling, charity, chivalry, and especially for religious earnestness; that it is a strong bulwark of order and stability; that in the great England you and I know, and in the yet greater England beyond the sea, the greater England with which the late events have forged a bond of friendship and of union stronger even than had existed before; that it is in the two Englands a mighty power, a power that will grow as time rolls on, because it is founded upon the religion we love—to us English Masons who have this faith in our Order, any contribution to the story of the Craft is valuable and interesting. That is why I have ventured to-day—when we Gloucestershire Masons are met together to praise the Great Architect of the Universe in our proud Cathedral—to piece together a little tapestry of Masonic lore. I do so with

diffidence, if not with trembling, for to some of my hearers my tapestried story may seem fanciful, although it is based upon what I dare to call scientific history. It can, of course, only be a sketch—but a little introduction to a great subject.

We often ask what are Freemasons, what is our story? Some eighteen hundred years ago, when the great Emperors of Rome—such as Augustus, such as Vespasian and Titus—such as the noble Antonies—were reigning over the Roman world, there existed in Rome and in other mighty cities of the Empire, colleges, as they were called, guilds perhaps would be a better term, composed of workers in different crafts. Among these the Colleges of Architects, Builders, and the many artisans who carried out the plans and designs of the Masters of the Craft were well known. The Imperial Government ever looked somewhat jealously upon these confraternities. There were various and stringent Imperial regulations which these confraternities had to comply with—they were watched with extreme care. But that they existed, and were a powerful factor in Roman society, is now undisputed. Scholars are gradually now coming to know more and more of these great and popular guilds. The Guild of Architects and Builders was an influential one—it had many secrets which were not divulged outside its members. The glorious matchless piles we read of, the ruins of some of which we gaze at still with wondering admiration in the Eternal City, were their work. Witness the enormous system of aqueducts, stretching still in picturesque ruin miles and miles over the vast and desolate Campagna. Witness the lordly Temples, the mighty piles of Imperial ruin on the storied Palatine, the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Tomb of Hadrian—just to take a few well known examples.

Into the great popular Guild which created these immemorial piles fell the seed of the preaching of the Cross, and many of the Guild became Christian Brothers. When Diocletian reigned in the last years of the fourth century, so runs the old Church legend—it was, no doubt, founded on fact, and here in passing I would note how the work of archaeologists and historians every year strangely supports the substantial truth of many of these old stories, which some had come to doubt—when Diocletian, the Emperor, who hated the Christians and bitterly persecuted them, reigned, a little group of painters and sculptors, members of the Collegium or Guild, refused to exercise their art and craft for the Pagan. They said to the heathen Emperor, "We cannot build a temple or shape images in wood or stone for false gods." They were in consequence cruelly put to death; their names are preserved in the Church of the Four Holy Crowned Ones—"the Quatuor Coronati" at the foot of the Coelian Hill—now, alas, neglected and almost in ruins. This persecution of Diocletian apparently began that dispersion of the famous Guild. Not quite a century later, the troubles from the Barbarian invasions fell on Rome, and for several hundred years the metropolis of the world was an unsafe dwelling place, successively pillaged, sacked, and burnt by different hordes of invaders.

We hear nothing after this troublous period began of the Collegium or Guild of Architects. Strangely enough the Guild re-appears in the little Isle of Comacina, on the lake of Como, in the sixth century. Comacina is spoken of as the only free spot in Italy when the Roman Empire was dying under the successive inroads of Goth and Vandal. It was to this little town, little known, that the Guild seems to have fled, and there in silence and obscurity for a period preserved their legendary knowledge, handed down to them from Greek and Roman sources—some say even from Solomon's builders of the Great Temple of Jerusalem. One of the conquering races who settled in North Italy, the Lombards, in the sixth century, adopted Christianity as their religion, and alone among the northern invaders who ruined the Roman Empire became zealous as Church builders. The Lombard churches in the seventh and eight centuries were famous in all the Western world; they are with us still. But the Lombards had among them the old Masonic Guild of Rome. We now come upon the term in architectural history of the Comacina Masters. These were the inheritors of the secrets of the Craft whose career we have been roughly tracing.

Under the Lombard Sovereigns, the Guild of Masons became powerful, and highly organised. There seems to have been at the head of the Order a Grand Master. The Order was divided into many Lodges, with a Master ruling over each Lodge. Each Lodge had three classes of members—Master Masons, Working Brethren, and Novices. The whole organisation and nomenclature with which we are so familiar, was in actual and working form in the Comacina Guild under the Lombard rulers in the sixth, seventh, and eighth centuries. They began to be termed Freemasons

because they were builders of a privileged class, absolved from taxes and servitude, free to travel where they pleased in the times when feudal custom and restriction, and almost feudal servitude, everywhere prevailed. The term was largely applied to them both in England and in Germany after the time of Charlemagne. They spread with curious rapidity over most of the countries of Europe. They were largely protected by the ecclesiastical powers. Many of the Popes conferred on this great Guild the privileges they had obtained under their natural sovereigns. Ecclesiastics of high degree were frequently enrolled in the company of these Freemasons as members.

It is difficult to trace how many of the great buildings of Europe, from the eighth century onward, were designed and built by this great fraternity of Freemasons, many of which have perished, and others have been so altered and restored in different ages as to bear few of the original signs of their origin. One who has made a careful study of their work traces to these Comacina Freemasons the successors of the old Roman Guild, driven out of the Imperial City by Diocletian, A.D. 302, in the course of his terrible persecutions of Christians, and recruited by others of the same Guild when Rome became no home for Arts and Crafts, when the Goths and Vandals had worked their wild will upon the immemorial city—traces to these Comacina Freemasons all that was architecturally good in Italy during the dark Barbarian period lasting well-nigh 500 years. Their hand is visible in the noble Lombard Basilicas. Their work is to be seen still in very many if not in all the grand churches of France, Spain, Germany, and England of the early Middle Ages. But I must hurry on, remembering this is but a sketch. Whence now did this strange and marvellous Guild derive the mighty secrets of their Craft? The Roman Collegium or Guild to which the martyred crowned ones belonged, possessed them. But they were not the kindlers of the Divine fire; they only kept the bright lamp burning. Had they learned their wondrous secret skill from Greece, from Pheidias and Praxiteles, from the unknown builders of the glorious temples and shrines of Athens, the bright and happy, the immemorial Athens of the Violet Crown? Or in our quest must we go to yet older, to yet higher and grander sources still? You Masons catch my meaning quickly.

Very familiar to the Brothers of the Craft is another and sublimer cradle of true practical Masonry. Nor is it only tradition. The Comacina Freemasons of very early days had a special mark—a loved signature. Hard indeed is it to find a church, an altar, a pulpit even of these early Masons, without the famous mark graven on it—that beautiful device of a single strand mysteriously interlaced—the sign of the one God—of His inscrutable and infinite ways whose nature is Unity. It is known as Solomon's knot. This signature is very, very old. The other Comacina signature—somewhat later—is a lion—the lion of the tribe of Judah; the lion of God of whom Isaiah sings in his pathetic story; this, too, we find in a hundred ways woven into their lovely work. This mighty guild ceased to be in the fifteenth century. A few great spirits such as Brunelleschi, of Florence, and Michael Angelo, of Rome, had learned the traditions of the glorious past, and worked on. But they died, as you and I shall die, and then the lamp went out. The "new learning," as it is sometimes called, killed it, and men did other things, beautiful things, perhaps noble things, useful things. But they did not build; they have never built since! We of the Craft inherit their traditions, though we use them now in a different way. We keep alive a memory, a very glorious memory. We bear a great name, we are heirs of a noble inheritance, we are entrusted with a great work. We have a task before us—a fair example of faith and of patient industry to follow, and Brethren "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report—if there be any virtue, if there be any praise—think on those things." Then and then only will you be good Masons in the truest, noblest sense of the word as we teach Masonry now in England.

The service closed with the hymn, "O God our help," vigorously taken up by the Brethren and the large congregation outside the screen. During the singing a collection was made on behalf of the work on the stained glass windows of the Lady Chapel. The Brethren having formed up in the same order the procession returned to the Chapter House, where Lodge was resumed and business disposed of.

In discussing the charity votes the Deputy Provincial Grand Master proposed that £10 be voted to the fund for the Relief of Refugees from the Transvaal and the Orange Free State—or rather the Orange River Colony, and the new title

seemed equally to bother the memory of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who seconded the unanimous vote.

The Committee which had been appointed to enquire into the restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey reported, per Bro. Vassar-Smith, that the work, a portion of which the Lodge had in view, was started by Bro. Collins, but since then Tewkesbury Brethren had had to mourn the loss both of that good Mason and of Bro. Fred Moore, who had also substantially interested himself in the work. The repairs contemplated would cost £520. The Prov. Grand Master, in deploring the loss of the Brethren mentioned, remarked that the former had been for many years a personal friend, while no one who had known Bro. Moore could fail to recognise the good work he did for his native place and for Masonry. He hoped that the name of Bro. Collins would be handed down for all time, associated with the building he had done so much to preserve and beautify. The expenditure was agreed to when Bro. Baker had explained that already the Tewkesbury Brethren had volunteered to contribute £200 of the £520, in addition to the amount they had already individually contributed to the restoration work.

The Officers for the ensuing year were invested as follow :—

Bro. Lindsey Winterbotham 2709	-	-	Senior Warden
Edwin Lea 1005	-	-	Junior Warden
Rev. Canon St. John 493	-	-	Chaplain
G. J. Holloway 2407	-	-	Registrar
J. Bruton 839	-	-	Treasurer
J. B. Winterbotham 82	-	-	Secretary
H. Bansall Todd 82	-	-	Senior Deacon
G. Goodwin Norris 2541	-	-	Junior Deacon
F. J. Townshend 592	-	-	Superintendent of Works
W. J. Greenstreet 702	-	-	Director of Ceremonies
H. A. Armitage 839	-	-	Assistant Dir. of Cers.
A. W. Hopkins 761	-	-	Sword Bearer
Hartley Hodder 270	-	-	} Standard Bearers
H. Waghorne 246	-	-	
Rev. G. C. Ryley 839	-	-	Organist
M. Llewellyn Evans 82	-	-	Assistant Secretary
G. Banaster 900	-	-	Pursuivant
F. Treasure 493	-	-	} Stewards
J. Smithin 839	-	-	
Oliver Carter 1005	-	-	
W. Window	-	-	Tyler.

The Provincial Grand Master, before closing the business, embraced the opportunity of expressing the warm thanks of the members of Prov. Grand Lodge for the hospitable welcome extended to visiting Brethren by the members of the three city Lodges, and in especial they thanked the Very Worshipful the Dean not only for the eloquent discourse they had just listened to, but for the privilege of attending service in that magnificent Cathedral, whose condition showed the care with which the custodians discharged their trust. The opportunity of worshipping as a body in the Cathedral and of holding Lodge in that historic Chapter House was indeed a privilege that contributed largely to the profit and pleasure of the Province.

To this the Dean replied that nowhere should Provincial Grand Lodge expect a heartier welcome than in the building which bore such substantial evidence of their princely munificence.

After Provincial Grand Lodge had been closed in due form, Brethren to the number of about 150 sat down to a banquet served at the Bell Hotel. The post-prandial proceedings were none the less cordial and patriotic owing to the news from Pretoria. The Gloucester Brethren had applied themselves in good earnest to the task of making the proceedings pleasurable, and not the least enjoyable feature of the day was the beautiful singing of a large glee-party conducted by Bro. W. H. Morgan.

The permission to smoke was conveyed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer remarking "The more tobacco you smoke the better it will be."

Bro. the Rev. C. J. Martyn, who responded for the toast of Grand Lodge in a thoroughly characteristic speech, reminded the Prov. Grand Master of the early Freemasons of whom the Dean had spoken in his sermon, and who were exempt from taxes of all kinds. If the Prov. G.M. were to put that principle into practice, at least within that Province, Freemasonry would flourish beyond precedent.

The Prov. Grand Master, replying to the toast of his health, remarked that it was a characteristic of all parties irrespective of politics that each tried to get out of paying taxes and each tried to get as much as it could out of the Exchequer. The suggestion of Bro. Martyn might have commended itself to him were it not for the recollection of what happened to the early Freemasons who were exempt from taxation. Were they not bitterly persecuted by the taxpayers, and finally driven to take refuge in the island in Lake Maggiore?

The Theatres, &c.

Avenue.—8, His Wife's Picture. 8.45, A Message from Mars. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 3.
 Comedy.—8, Pygmalion and Galatea. 10, Comedy and Tragedy.
 Covent Garden.—On Monday Faust, Tuesday Romeo et Juliette, Wednesday Carmen, Thursday Pagliacci and Cavalleria Rusticana.
 Criterion.—8.30, Lady Huntworth's Experiment. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
 Daly's.—8.15, San Toy. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Duke of York's.—8, Miss Hobbs. 10, Madame Butterfly. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Gaiety.—8.15, The Messenger Boy. Matinée, Thursday, 2.
 Garrick.—8, Zaza. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Globe.—8, A Broken Halo. 8.45 The Old Love.
 Gt. Queen Street.—8.15, The Lost Legion, 9, A little Ray of Sunshine. Matinée, Saturday 3.
 Haymarket.—8.30, The Rivals. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Her Majesty's.—8.30, Rip Van Winkle. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.15.
 Lyceum.—8, Monday Giocanda, Wednesday The Second Mrs. Tanqueray, Friday Magda, Saturday Olivia.
 Lyric.—8, Florodora. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
 Prince of Wales.—8.15, Rouget de l'Isle. 9, Ib and Little Christina. 10, A Pantomime Rehearsal. Matinée, Saturday, 2.
 Royalty.—8.15, Mrs. Jordan. 9.15, Magda. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
 Savoy.—8, Pretty Polly. 8.20, The Rose of Persia. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Shaftesbury.—8, An American Beauty. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.
 St. James's.—8.30, The Man of forty. Matinée, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.
 Strand.—8.15, Miss Cinderella. 9, The mysterious Mr. Bugle. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.
 Terry's.—8.15, Off Duty. 9, The Passport. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.
 Vaudeville.—8.15, The Lady Volunteers. 8.50, Kitty Grey. Matinée, Wednesday, 3.
 Wyndham's.—8.20, Doctor Johnson. 9, David Garrick. Matinée, Saturday, 3.
 Alexandra.—Next week, 8, Les Clotches de Corneville.
 Surrey.—Next week, 7.45, The Devil on two Sticks, &c.
 Standard.—Next week, 7.45, A Royal Divorce.
 Alhambra.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. Napoli, &c.
 Aquarium.—The World's great Show. Varied performances, daily.
 Empire.—7.45, Variety Entertainment. Round the Town Again, &c.
 London Pavilion.—8, Variety Entertainment.
 Oxford.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.15 also.
 Palace.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. New American Biograph, &c. Saturday, 1.45 also.
 Royal.—7.30, Variety Company. Saturday, 2.30 also.
 Tivoli.—7.30, Variety Entertainment. Saturday, 2.15 also.
 Agricultural Hall.—2 and 7, Royal Military Tournament.
 Alexandra Palace.—Thursday and Saturday. Varied entertainments.
 Crystal Palace.—Varied attractions daily.
 Earl's Court.—Woman's Exhibition.
 Egyptian Hall.—3 and 8, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne's entertainment.
 London Hippodrome.—2 and 8, Varied attractions, &c.
 Madame Tussaud's (Baker Street Station).—Open daily. Portrait models of modern celebrities, &c.
 Moore and Burgess Minstrels (St. James's Hall).—Every evening at 8, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 3 and 8.
 Polytechnic.—3, Our Navy, &c. Saturdays, 3 and 8.

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Books of the Day.

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Books, Music, &c. intended for review, should be addressed to the Editor of the *Freemason's Chronicle*, at Fleet Works, New Barnet.

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A Young Dragon. By Sarah Tytler (3s 6d).—Chatto and Windus.

THIS story is an admirable exponent of the many-sided genius of Sarah Tytler. The impress of a master hand is on every page. Shrewdness, knowledge of human weakness and of human strength, and a love for natural sights and sounds that "will out" are conspicuous excellencies in most books by the same author, nor are they absent from "A Young Dragon." The characters are few, but are sketched with a firm hand and realised with unerring instinct. Andrew Rae, laird and book lover, is one of those unique personalities that at once fix themselves in the memory. He is an excellent third to "Hendry" and "Lachlan Campbell"—two worthies known to all readers of J. M. Barrie and Ian Maclaren. His courtship of Miss Brydone is undertaken as the outcome of a foolish wager; but Miss Brydone becomes Mrs. Andrew Rae notwithstanding. The union proves a happy one and many a long day passes before the bride learns the history of the "contretemps" that sent Andrew Rae to her door. The "Young Dragon" is no more dangerous creature than a young woman, niece to Mrs. Rae. She is rather handsome and very wilful, and contrives to set folks by the ears generally. Somehow we could not help liking her and were heartily glad to leave her in lover's hands, waiting to be made the bride of Sir Archibald Boswell of the Cairns.

The Purple Robe. By Joseph Hocking. Illustrated by J. Barnard Davis (3s 6d).—Ward, Lock and Co., Limited.

MR. JOSEPH HOCKING has won another "field of fair renown." The story before us is admirable alike in plot and in purpose. The Rev. Duncan Rutland, M.A., minister of Tudor Chapel, a sound scholar and a ready and eloquent debater, challenges Father Sheen to a public discussion on three of the many vexed questions between Protestant and Romanist. Father Sheen is put to rout. The Papists in Lynford are much disconcerted at the defeat of their champion, and Father Ritzoom, a Jesuit of characteristic subtlety, is invited to assist the cause. Then a plan of campaign is arranged. The Nevilles, an ancient family of Papists residing in the neighbourhood, are employed by Fathers Ritzoom and Sheen as instruments for the conversion of Duncan Rutland. Father Ritzoom surmises—correctly, as the sequel proves—that Duncan will fall in love with Alison Neville, and renounce his Protestantism, which, however, does not come to pass. The Nevilles show Duncan every kindness, invite him to the Priory, and impress him favourably by their culture and sympathy. A great mental and moral struggle results and Duncan falls ill. He goes to the continent when convalescent and, most appropriately, the eternal city is his rendezvous. He sees Jesuit and Franciscan activities at their fountain-head, the frescoes and statuary of Michael Angelo in the Sistine Chapel, the ordination of priests at St. John's Lateran, the room where Ignatius Loyola wrote his Constitutions, the efficacious finger of Teresa, the steps leading to the church of Santa Scala, the dungeon where St. Peter was imprisoned, and much else, holy and otherwise. But Rutland's Protestantism is proof against these prodigies,—which, however, have a very unexpected effect upon Alison Neville, who is also in Rome and has accompanied Rutland during some of his rambles. Her's is the Pauline experience that it is hard to kick against the pricks; she renounces Popery, beards the lions and lionesses of religious bigotry in their own dens, and the curtain falls upon Duncan Rutland and Alison Neville—betrothed. Written with an avowed religious purpose, this is the brightest and sanest story of its kind we have ever read. Unfortunately, stories written with an equally commendable intention are frequently little more than a mixture of platitudes and twaddle, and we therefore feel the more deeply indebted to Mr. Hocking for this book, so gracefully written, so nimble in dialectic, so full of human and Christian sympathy. Much study, wrote the wise man, is a weariness to the flesh. Perhaps his contemporaries wrote with a less fascinating pen than that wielded by Mr. Joseph Hocking.

Fairy Tales from Fairyland. By Donald and others (2s net).—Gay and Bird.

THIS little book has surprised us pleasantly. We had feared the writing of fairy tales was a lost art, but the automaton who signs herself Clara has certainly recovered it for a while. The whole world is, to the eye of this writer, peopled with tiny but important personages. Like the fair Madeline in Keats's beautiful poem, she can behold, when wide awake, the vision of her sleep—that sleep in which she is wont to dream that legions of fairies pace her coverlet. These fairy tales are eminently calculated to interest and instruct children, but to the thoughtful adult, who realises with Longfellow that things are not what they seem, and to whom a primrose is much more than a flower with a monopetalous corolla and a central placentation, they will afford many a weighty moral. "Clara's" theory of the spirit world is indeed very similar to that held by many theologians, old and new, orthodox and heterodox; but she is bolder than most in pursuing them to their logical conclusion. She is almost as good a story teller as Mr. Andrew Lang, and that, as she is presumably aware, is saying a great deal. The type of this book is large and clear, and this adds much to the reader's comfort. Buy it.

Wide World Adventure. True narratives of extraordinary human endurance. Illustrated (2s 6d).—George Newnes, Limited.

WHEN we were boys we read Jules Verne and Edgar Allan Poe. Boys now read Rider Haggard, the many stories in the magazines concerning hair-breadth escapes in the imminent deadly breach and the immortal De Rougemont. The stories in the volume before us do not emanate from De Rougemont, but are near neighbours of his, for they are reprinted from the magazine in which his narrative was first published. The selection is worthy of all praise and certainly includes an amazing range of adventure. The extraordinary beings that figure in these pages rival those enumerated in Dr. Watts' ditty anent the signs of the Zodiac. Our own preferences lead us to mention "In the flooded cave," "Captured by Cannibals" and "The Terrible adventure of Emil Hahl" as three first-rate stories of such unusual and graphic detail that it would be difficult to find their equal. When you have read them the best thing to do is to read them again. We notice that the editor vouches for the absolute veracity of these narratives. Certainly the great men who, as the poet assures us, were living before Agamemnon, would find it unnecessary to blush for the adventurous spirit of this age. True, we do things differently now; but choice and master spirits are still with us. Messrs. Newnes have issued this volume in a cover which must appeal mightily to the tastes of young England; for the golden lion is assuredly a most "fearful wild-fowl" and the man in his grip must certainly be voted in a

"parlous state." Messrs. Newnes will, we presume, issue further volumes of these true stories should the first prove a success. We heartily wish it a record sale.

British Locomotives. Their history, construction, and modern development. By C. J. Bowen Cooke. Third revised and enlarged edition. Numerous illustrations from sketches and diagrams by C. E. Jones and R. A. McLellan (7s 6d).—Whittaker and Co.

WE are glad that this admirable work has been re-issued in a revised edition. The name of Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke upon the title-page is sufficient guarantee for the authority and thoroughness of the whole; for it is an open secret that he knows the locomotive engine as Thoreapi knew the squirrel, as Cary knew Dante, or as Clarke Russell knows a sailing vessel. Taking Mr. Cooke's work chapter by chapter it is difficult to see in what respect it could be bettered. Sufficiently technical to be of great service to practical men it is at the same time so lucid in style and so well illustrated as to make even the less elementary chapters of interest to anybody who earnestly desires enlightenment and increase of knowledge. The story of the evolution of the locomotive from the "Rocket" "Cyclopedæ" and "Planet" to the splendid engines now running on all our greater railway systems, is the story of many victories in applied science, and of an advancement in vehicular means of transit of which our grandsires never dreamt. The photographs in this volume are well reproduced, and the diagrams exceedingly well drawn. Messrs. Whittaker have produced a work which is sure to be warmly appreciated. We trust they will be amply repaid for the care so evidently bestowed upon it.

The Son of the House. By Bertha Thomas (6s).—Chatto and Windus.

THERE are many living novelists whose chief merit lies in their ability to afford us abundant entertainment. One of the foremost of these is Miss Bertha Thomas. There is a charm in much of her work which it is difficult to analyse. We feel without understanding it. Many writers whom we could name have a much greater knowledge of men, many have a more supreme mastery of the arts of prose style, many feel more deeply the tragedy and pathos of much that happens in what Wordsworth calls this "unintelligible world." Yet few of these writers have gifts which, taken collectively, equal those of Miss Bertha Thomas. The work before us is, we think, worthy of the high expectations of many readers of "Proud Maisie" and "The Violin Player." We remember the prediction of a critic that the author of "Proud Maisie" would rank hereafter among the foremost living writers of fiction. There is nothing in this book to disappoint him. The hero, Oswald Hendry, is a landed proprietor and a socialist. Such a concurrence of circumstances is not without its inconveniences, social and otherwise. The mother of Oswald is mistress of the estate until he is of age, the father—a gentleman altogether untroubled by conscience—being dead. Ralph, the younger brother of Oswald and a scapegrace, is his mother's favourite. The mother does not scruple to pay the debts consequent upon the gaming and other dissipations of master Ralph; but when the heir comes into his own and announces that he regards the possession of wealth as an evil, and is prepared to act up to his opinions, she is exceedingly surprised, as well she may be. The Socialism of Oswald is fostered by Prof. Copinger, a near neighbour, whose books Oswald had read and whose acquaintance he had sought. But Mrs. Hendry has a hard head and a stern temper. Her dislike for the Socialism of her son grows into dislike for the son himself. She is as ambitious as Oswald is otherwise. Matters grow to a head, the situation becomes unbearable, and Oswald, after maternal machinations which we must not epitomise, goes temporarily to the wall—and to the asylum. Meanwhile Ralph robs Oswald of his lady-love, whom he marries secretly. Everything, however, is righteously adjusted at the finish, and Oswald escapes from the asylum and from his persecutors. There is much masterly narration in "The Son of the House" and much weighty though unobtrusive moral. We recommend the book to young and old.

Castle and Manor. A tale of our time. By St. George Mivart, F.R.S. (6s).—Sands and Co.

THE late Dr. St. George Mivart was the author of many fine essays in natural science, and was, in fact, an eminent authority on matters appertaining to the theory of organic evolution. But we believe the volume before us came as a surprise to many. Not every writer of verses is a poet, and comparatively few, even among good prose writers, can write a good novel. We are glad to say that "Castle and Manor" is distinctly valuable if only on account of the evidences which it contains of the author's versatile yet profound gifts. He seems to have studied human character, its folly and its wisdom, its weakness and its strength, as comprehensively as he had studied Darwin or Haeckel or Huxley. Mr. and Mrs. Allington are both drawn by a master hand, and the same must in justice be said of Lord Selby and of Standon. Mrs. Allington, in particular, is gradually revealed to us by a series of subtle touches which would elude the hand of many writers; she is, indeed, a study in the evolution of feminine foible and physical weakness. We must admit that the story itself is somewhat lacking in what we will term dramatic interest, and that in reading it we experienced a certain feeling that we were always expecting rather than realising the unravelling of the plot. But, notwithstanding a rather slender "yarn," and a somewhat vague motive, "Castle and Manor" is so gracefully conceived, so skilfully wrought even to the most trivial details, that we are sorry indeed to know that the pen of St. George Mivart is laid aside for ever. Messrs. Sands and Co. have issued this volume in such attractive binding that, on those grounds, added to the author's great reputation, we shall be much surprised if it does not reach a further edition. Readers should not fail to bear in mind that this book was written more than ten years ago.

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

Fuller particulars as to place of meeting of the undermentioned Lodges are given in the *Freemasons' Calendar* and *Pocket Book* (published by Grand Lodge for the benefit of the Charity Fund).

Monday.

1305 St. Marylebone, Criterion
61 Probity, Halifax
75 Love and Honour, Falmouth
89 Unanimity, Dukinfield
104 St. John, Stockport
105 Fortitude, Plymouth
106 Sun, Exmouth

151 Albany, Newport, I. of Wight
189 Sincerity, East Stonehouse
237 Indefatigable, Swansea
240 St. Hilda, South Shields
264 Nelson of the Nile, Batley
270 R. Faith & Friendship, Berkeley
296 Royal Brunswick, Sheffield
297 Whitham, Lincoln

302 Hope, Bradford
303 Benevolent, Teignmouth
307 Prince Frederick, Hebden Bridge
314 Peace and Unity, Preston
330 One and All, Bodmin
339 Unanimity, Penrith
388 Prudence, Halesworth
408 Three Graces, Haworth
422 Yarborough, Gainsboro'
433 Hope, Brightlingsea
481 St. Peter, Newcastle-on-Tyne
557 Loyal Victoria, Callington
589 Druid Love & Lib., Redruth
643 Royal, Fife
665 Montagu, Lyme Regis
671 Prince of Wales, Llanelli
699 Roscawea, Chacewater
797 Hauley, Dartmouth
884 Derwent, Wirksworth
893 Meridan, Millbrook
941 De Tabley, Knutsford
1149 Dorking, Dorking
1221 Defence, Leeds
1271 F'dship & Unity, Bradford-on-Avon
1272 Tregenna, St. Ives
1286 Bayon, Market Rasen
1302 De Warren, Halifax
1402 Jordan, Torquay
1408 Stamford & Warrington, St. yb'ge
1436 Castle, Sandgate
1449 Royal Military, Canterbury
1452 St. Margaret, Lowestoft
1474 Israel, Birmingham
1486 Duncombe, Kingsbridge
1496 Trafford, Moss Side
1505 Emulation, Liverpool
1542 Legiolum, Castleford
1600 Hamilton, Alford
1611 Eboracum, York
1618 Handyside, Saltburn-by-Sea
1656 Wolsey, Hampton Court
1691 Quadratic, Hampton Court
1730 Urmston, Urmston
1802 Vernon, Retford
1885 Torridge, Great Torrington
1948 Hardman, Rawtenstall
1952 High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith
1966 Fidelity & Sincerity, Wellington
1977 Blackwater, Maldon
2034 Masefield, Moseley
2144 De Tatton, Altrincham
2185 Ardwick, Manchester
2197 Spencer Walpole Temp., D'glas
2376 Carnarvon, Leyland
2382 Loyal Hay, Hay
2457 St. Anne, St. Anne's-on-Sea
2487 St. Michael, Stone
2584 Queen Victoria, Manchester

Tuesday.

167 St. John, Hampstead Heath
255 Harmony, Richmond
834 Ranelagh, Criterion
2546 Rahere, Frascati
80 St. John, Sunderland
131 Fortitude, Truro
160 True Friendship, Rochford
184 United Chatham, New Brighton
241 Merchant, Liverpool
272 Harmony, Boston
319 New Forest, Lymington
371 Perseverance, Maryport
473 Faithful, Birmingham
495 Wakefield, Wakefield
496 Peace & Harmony, St. Austell
502 Rectitude, Rugby
503 Belvedere, Maidstone
603 Zetland, Cleckheaton
626 Lansdowne Unity, Chippenham
696 St. Bartholomew, Wednesbury
723 Panmure, Aldershot
764 H'rbour of Refuge, W. H'tle'p'l.
779 Ferrers & Ivanhoe, Ashby Z'ch
829 Sydney, Sidcup
877 Royal Alfred, Jersey
897 S. Helen of Loyalty, St. Helen's
789 Dunheved, Launceston
814 Parrett and Axe, Crewkerne
855 Sympathy, Wotton-un.-Edge
903 Gosport, Gosport
910 St. Oswald, Pontefract
954 St. Aubyn, Devonport
979 Four Cardinal Virtues, Crewe
990 Neyland, Neyland
1021 Hartington, Barrow-in-Furness
1036 Bowyer, Chipping Norton
1067 R'y'l Forest Dean, N'h'm S'r'u.
1073 Greta, Keswick
1168 Benevolence, Sherbourne
1214 Scarborough, Batley
1250 Gilbert Greenall, Warrington
1256 Fidelity, Poulton-le-Fylde
1266 Honour & Friendship, Blandford
1267 Kenlis, Egremont
1373 St. Hubert, Andover
1476 Blackpool, Blackpool
1482 Isle of Axholme, Crowle

1528 Fort, Newquay
1533 Loyalty, Marlboro'
1545 Baildon, Baildon
1587 St. Giles, Cheadle
1713 Wilbraham, Walton-on-the-Hill
1837 Lullington, Willmington
1847 Ebrington, Stonehouse
1902 St. Cuthbert, Bedlington
2086 Dacre, Stevenage
2099 Ethelbert, Herne Bay
2134 Wilberforce, Hull
2222 Frederick West, East Molesey
2324 Horwich, Horwich
2339 Mistle, Manningtree
2357 Barry, Cadroxton
2475 Border, Blackwater
2559 St. Aldhelms, Branksome
2582 Lewisham, Smethwick

Wednesday.

Committee Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, at 4.
13 Union Waterloo, Plumstead
1260 John Hervey, Freemasons'-hall
1586 Up. Norwood, Upper Norwood
1610 Northern Bar, Café Royal
1629 United, Freemasons'-hall
2581 Empress, Earl's Court
84 Doyle of Friendship, Guernsey
146 Antiquity, Bolton
187 Rl. Sussex Hospitality, Bristol
204 Caledonian, Manchester
225 St. Luke, Ipswich
244 Yarborough, Jersey
250 Minerva, Hull
258 Amphibious, Heckmondwike
274 Tranquility, Newchurch
277 Friendship, Oldham
281 Fortitude, Lancaster
288 Harmony, Todmorden
290 Huddersfield, Huddersfield
301 Apollo, Alcester
320 Loyalty, Mottram
323 Concord, Stockport
368 Samaritan, Sandbach
372 Harmony, Budleigh Salterton
380 Integrity, Morley
387 Airedale, Shipley
483 Sympathy, Gravesend
498 Royal Standard, Dudley
533 Eaton, Congleton
555 Fidelity, Framlingham
567 Unity, Warwick
654 Peveril of the Peak, New Mills
661 Fawcett, Seaham Harbour
666 Benevolence, Dartmoor
679 St. David, Aberdare
697 United, Colchester
708 Carnarvon, Hampton Court
730 Ellesmere, Chelmsley
731 Arboretum, Derby
755 St. Tudno, Llandudno
854 Albert, Shaw
906 Royal Albert Edward, Bath
1018 Shakespeare, Bradford
1024 St. Peter, Maldon
1031 Fletcher, Birmingham
1060 Marmion, Tamworth
1094 Temple, Liverpool
1135 Concord, Ilfracombe
1140 Ashton, Heaton Moor
1181 De la Pole, Seaton
1209 Lewises, Ramsgate
1220 Solway, Aspatria
1242 Tynewold, Douglas, Isle of Man
1248 Denison, Scarborough
1273 St. Michael, Sittingbourne
1331 Aldershot Camp, Aldershot
1342 Walker, Newcastle-on-Tyne
1356 Toxteth, Liverpool
1398 Baldwin, Dalton-in-Furness
1400 Curwen, Workington
1493 Robin Hood, Eastwood
1529 Duke of Cornwall, St. Columb
1544 Mount Edgumbe, Camborne
1588 Prince Leopold, Stretford
1643 Perseverance, Hebburn-on-Tyne
1645 Colne Valley, Slaithwaite
1692 Hervey, Bromley
1798 Zion, Manchester
1848 Ferrum, Middlesbrough
1855 St. Maurice, Plympton
1879 Lord Warkworth, Amble
1932 Whitworth, Spennymoor
1958 St. George, Portsea
2046 Robinson, Maidstone
2156 Arthur Sullivan, Manchester
2294 Wavertree, Wavertree
2355 Chantrey, Dore
2389 Avondale, Middleswich
2423 St. Mark, Connah Quay
2483 Hadrian, Westham
2583 St. Thomas, Tibshelf

Thursday.

1804 Coborn, Bow
2417 Bolingbroke, Lavender Hill

2509 Barnet, New Barnet
35 Medina, Cowes
97 Palatine, Sunderland
130 Royal Gloucester, South'mpton
139 Britannia, Sheffield
216 Harmonic, Liverpool
324 Moira, Stalybridge
333 Royal Preston, Preston
344 Faith, Radcliffe
361 Industry, Hyde
369 Limestone Rock, Clitheroe
381 Harmony & Industry, Darwen
437 Science, Wincanton
450 Cornubian, Hayle
456 Foresters, Uttoxeter
469 Hundred of Elloe, Spalding
472 F'ship & Sincerity, Shaftesbury
477 Mersey, Birkenhead
546 Etruscan, Longton
625 Devonshire, Glossop
725 Stoneleigh, Coventry
739 Temperance, Birmingham
784 Wellington, Deal
816 Royd, Littleboro'
971 Trafalgar, Batley
973 Royal Somerset, Frome
991 Tyne, Wallsend
1035 Prince of Wales, Liverpool
1055 Derby, Manchester
1098 St. George, Tredegar
1099 Huyshe, Stoke, Devonport
1107 Cornwallis, Chiselhurst
1144 Milton, Ashton-under-Lyne
1145 Equality, Accrington
1147 St. David, Manchester
1182 Duke of Edinburgh, Liverpool
1204 Royd, Malvern
1213 Bridgewater, Eccles
1247 St. John, Plymouth
1387 Chorlton, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
1416 Falcon, Thirsk
1495 Arkwright, Matlock Bath
1514 Thornhill, Huddersfield
1583 Corbet, Towyn
1592 Abbey, Bury St. Edmunds
1697 Hospitality, Waverfoot
1750 Coleridge, Clevedon
1915 Graystone, Whitstable
1992 Tennant, Cardiff
2038 Portcullis, Langport

2109 Prince Edward, Heaton Moor
2189 Ashburton, Ashburton
2218 Rickmansworth, Rickmansworth
2234 Onslow, Guildford
2262 Dagmar, Wraysbury
2285 Eden, Workington
2420 Fd. de Rothschild, Waddesdon
2449 Duke of York, Manchester
2501 Ixion, Buckhurst Hill
2523 Roll Call, Hounslow
2568 Deleval, Newcastle-on-Tyne

Friday.

143 Middlesex, Albion
975 Rose of Denmark, Kennington
2157 St. Mark's College, H'born Rest
152 Virtue, Manchester
271 Royal Clarence, Brighton
347 Noah Ark, Tipton
401 Royal Forest, Slaidburn
404 Watford, Watford
460 Sutland Unity, Newcastle-u-Lyme
541 De Lorraine, Newcastle-on-Tyne
631 Methuen, Taplow
652 Holme Valley, Holmfirth
904 Phoenix, Rotherham
993 Alexandra, Levenshulme
1034 Eccleshill, Eccleshill
1103 Royal Wharfedale, Otley
1311 Zetland, Leeds
1773 Albert Victor, Pendleton
2005 Brooke, Chingford
2063 St. Osyth Priory, Cl'et'n-on-Sea
2231 Talbot, Stretford
2447 Palatine, Manchester

Saturday.

2041 West Kent Volunteer, Plums'd.
149 Peace, Meltham
444 Union, Starcross
453 Chigwell, Chingford
1126 Oakwood, Romley
1194 Villiers, Hampton Court
1326 Lebanon, Feltham
1597 Musgrave, Hampton Court
1897 Citadel, Harrow Station
2035 Beaumont, Kirkburton
2228 Dene, Cookham Dene
2458 Eton, Eton

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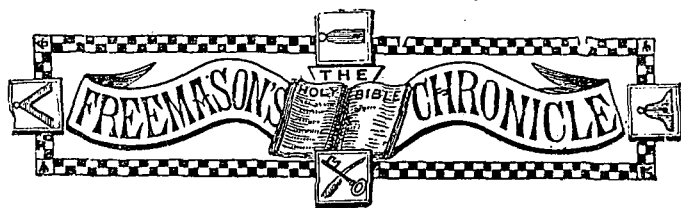
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SATURDAY, 9TH JUNE 1900.

UNITED GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall, London, under the presidency of Earl Amherst Pro G.M., supported by Bro. George Richards District Grand Master for the Transvaal as Deputy Grand Master, Rev. C. J. Martyn P.G.C. as Past Grand Master, Viscount Templeton and Robert Grey as Wardens, and a full attendance of other members of Grand Lodge.

Great enthusiasm prevailed among the Brethren present, on account of the news of further successes in the South African campaign, and by direction of the Acting Grand

Master the Brethren rose, and sang the National Anthem, accompanied by the Grand Organist. A similar compliment was paid to the Grand Master while the Grand Secretary read a letter from Sir Francis Knollys, acknowledging the congratulations of Grand Lodge on the recent deliverance of the Grand Master from the attack of the assassin.

Bro. Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., who had been re-appointed by the Prince of Wales President of the Board of General Purposes, was re-invested by Earl Amherst, and Bro. John Smith was re-elected Grand Lodge Auditor.

The report of the Board of Benevolence was then agreed to, the following grants being confirmed:

A Brother of the Harlesden Lodge, No. 2098, London	£50 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Royal Naval College Lodge, No. 1593, London	50 0 0
A Brother of the Amity Lodge, No. 137, Poole	200 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Sincerity Lodge, No. 428, Northwich	100 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the St. David Lodge, No. 366, Milford	50 0 0
A Brother of the Blackheath Lodge, No. 1320, London	75 0 0
A Brother of the Royal York Lodge of Perseverance, No. 7, London	50 0 0
A Brother of the Papyrus Lodge, No. 2562, London	75 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Westminster and Keystone Lodge, No. 10, London	150 0 0
The Widow of a Brother of the Earl of Clarendon Lodge, No. 1984, Watford	50 0 0

The Report of the Board of General Purposes was the next item of business, and this was taken as read, ordered to be received and entered on the minutes, and unanimously adopted. It was to the following effect:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.
To the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England.

The Board begs to report that it has been under the necessity of summoning two Lodges to answer charges of permitting toasts of a Masonic character to be proposed and responded to in the presence and hearing of Ladies and other non-Masons at Masonic banquets held after Lodge meetings. The Board deemed it its duty seriously to admonish the several Lodges for the irregularity they had committed, and it desires to point out that at recreation banquets, when Lodges entertain Ladies and others who are not Masons, it is most improper and irregular to introduce anything whatever of a Masonic character into the speeches or proceedings.

In acknowledging the following presentations, the Board takes the opportunity to report that the capacious and handsome room for the reception of the Library and Curiosities belonging to Grand Lodge is now completed, and the Board will be most happy to receive any additions thereto, which the generosity of members of the Craft may place at its disposal.

Title or Object.	By whom Presented.
A Short Sketch of Freemasonry in Antigua, 1737-1899. (M.S.)—R. H. K. Dyett P.M. No. 492.	
Oil Portrait of Colonel H. S. Burney P.G.D.—E. H. Grant 834.	
Freemasonry in Faversham, 1763-1899—Francis F. Giraud P.P.G.W., &c.	
Two Glass Goblets, engraved with Masonic Emblems—George Graveley Past G.Purs.	
Jewel of Grand Representative of New York—George Kenning and Son.	
Masonic Register for India, 1869—Isaac M. Shields D.D.G.M. Bombay.	
Medal of the Duke of Wellington—Harry N. Price Past G.Std. Bearer.	
Jewish Coin (King David)—Walter L. Phillips 188.	
Legal Episodes in the History of Freemasonry—W. J. Chetwode Crawley, LL.D., P.G.Deacon (Ireland).	
Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, 1868-1899, and R.A. Regulations, 1891—The Grand Secretary of Iowa.	
Transactions of Grand Lodges (Seven Volumes)—Alex. A. Clark, G.Librarian, New York.	
Sundry Masonic Relics and Working Tools—J. M. McLeod P.G. Std. Bearer.	
Engraved Masonic Lamp Shade—Lewis Lazarus P.G.Purs.	
Portuguese Masonic Medal—Judge Philbrick, Q.C., P.G.W.	
Robertson's History of Freemasonry in Canada, 1899, two volumes—The Grand Chapter of Canada.	
Records of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, 1869-1899—The G. Sec. of Connecticut.	
Proceedings of Grand Chapter of Colorado, 1875-1899; Proceedings of Grand Lodge of Colorado, 1861-1899—The Grand Sec. of Colorado.	
South African Freemasons' Directory, 1891-92, 1896, 1897, 1898-99—Osborne H. Bate P.D.G.Warden, &c.	

The Board also submit a Statement of the Grand Lodge Accounts at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, held on Friday, the 11th day of May 1900, showing a balance in the Bank of England (Law Courts Branch) of £11,787 13s 5d, and in the hands of the Grand Secretary for Petty Cash £100, and for Servants' Wages £100.

(Signed) RICHARD LOVELAND-LOVELAND,
President.

Freemasons' Hall, London, W.C.,
15th May 1900.

This being the last Meeting of the present Board, it was resolved unanimously:

"That a most hearty and cordial vote of thanks be accorded the President, V.W. Bro. Richard Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., for the skill, ability, and courtesy displayed by him while presiding over the Meetings of the Board during the past year.

(Signed) WILLIAM JAMES MASON,
Vice-President.

15th May 1900.

The proposition by Bro. Farnfield, to vote £70 for coal for the inmates of the Masonic Institution at Croydon; and that by Bro. Burgess, to alter the time of meeting of Grand Lodge to 6 o'clock; were agreed to, and the other business completed, after which Grand Lodge was closed.

The following is a list of those successful in the election of Brethren to serve on the Board of General Purposes, together with the number of votes recorded for each:

	P.M. Lodge	Votes polled.
James Speller	1677	481
Arthur Blenkarn	2381	440
William Cleghorn	1287	380
Charles J. Knightley	174	307
Robert Manuel	1196	295
James Willing, jun.	1987	289
James Beresford Ryley, M.D.	1423	286
Arthur George Duck	898	267
James Whittaker Burgess	1325	258
Bernard Groner	1613	258
Arthur G. Sandberg, M.D.	3	257
Arthur Williams	834	249
William John Batho	1708	247
Frederick Atkinson Powell	2416	212
Henry W. Roberts, M.D.	1293	193
Japheth Tickle	12	190
Edwin Styles	704	183
Frank P. Telfer	12	153

List of Lodges for which Warrants had been granted by the M.W. Grand Master since the last Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge.

- 2804.—The Seymour Lodge, Redditch, Warwickshire.
- 2805.—The Balfour Cockburn Lodge, Guernsey.
- 2806.—The Lodge of the Three Pillars, Cockington, Devon.
- 2807.—The Paddington Rifles Lodge, London.
- 2808.—The Erkenwald Lodge, London.
- 2809.—The Capital and Counties Lodge, London.
- 2810.—The Abiff Lodge, Saxmundham, Suffolk.
- 2811.—The St. John Lodge, Coventry, Warwickshire.
- 2812.—The St. Martin Lodge, Fenny Stratford, Bucks.
- 2813.—The Hope Lodge, Savannalamar, Jamaica.
- 2814.—The Fleetwood Lodge, Liverpool.
- 2815.—The Southport Temperance Lodge, Southport, Lancashire.
- 2816.—The Bowen Lodge, Chesham, Bucks.

MARK GRAND LODGE.

THE Quarterly Communication of this Grand Lodge was held on Tuesday, at Mark Masons' Hall, London, under the presidency of the Earl of Euston Pro G.M., who was supported by a very large number of members of the Degree, the attendance being more than usual, on account of its being the day for the annual appointment of Officers.

The Grand Secretary Bro. C. F. Matier first read a letter, written by command of the Prince of Wales, acknowledging the vote passed at the special meeting of Grand Lodge on 27th April, congratulating the Grand Master on his merciful preservation from the attempt on his life.

The Report of the General Board was then dealt with, being regularly received and adopted. It was to the following effect:

REPORT OF THE GENERAL BOARD.

5th June 1900.

During the three months ending 31st March 1900, there have been issued:—Mark Certificates, 727; total registered, 41,483.

Since the last report, five Warrants have been granted for new Lodges, viz:

- No. 536, Friendship, Cairo, Egypt.
- No. 537, Union, Mansaurah, Egypt.
- No. 538, Philanthropic, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

No. 539, Bundaberg, Bundaberg, Queensland.
No. 540, North Devon Union, Ilfracombe.

Royal Ark Mariners Certificates, 79; number registered, 6,205.

His Royal Highness the Most Worshipful Grand Master has been graciously pleased to re-appoint for a further term of three years:

R.W. Bro. Sir Augustus Frederick Godson as Provincial Grand Master for Worcestershire.

R.W. Bro. His Excellency Idris Bey Ragheb as District Grand Master for North Africa.

The Warrants of the South Melbourne Lodge, No. 310; the Waranga Lodge, No. 371; and the South Melbourne Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners, No. 310, have been returned to Grand Lodge through the District Grand Master for Victoria.

The Warrant of the St. George's Lodge, No. 492, Larnaka, Cyprus, has been returned to Grand Lodge, all the former members having died, or permanently left the Island.

An irregularity in the Isaac Newton Lodge, No. 112, of Royal Ark Mariners, was reported to the Grand Master's Royal Ark Council, a Brother having been installed as Commander without a dispensation, he not being at the time an installed Master of a Lodge of Mark Master Masons. After careful consideration, the Council directed that the Lodge should apply for a dispensation and that the Brother be re-obligated as Commander in the presence of a Board of Installed Commanders at the next regular meeting. The Lodge was also fined the sum of half-a-guinea.

The Board have the pleasure to announce that the sum of £700 has been repaid by the general Fund to the Annuity Fund, leaving a sum of £700 still due to the Annuity Fund.

FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The M.W. Bro. Right Hon. the Earl of Euston Pro Grand Master has kindly consented to preside at the thirty-second Annual Festival in aid of the Benevolent Fund, which will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, 11th July 1900, and the Grand Secretary will be happy to receive the names of Ladies and Brethren willing to act as Stewards.

Mrs. Rowe, widow of Bro. Alexander Rowe, late an Annuitant, has been placed on the Annuity Fund under Rule 203, Sub-section XIV.

Bro. William Furze, Copley Lodge, No. 111, in the Province of West Yorkshire, and Mrs. Annie Cooper Smyth, widow of Bro. Charles Smyth, of St. Wilfrid's Lodge, No. 209, in the Province of Lincolnshire, have been elected on the Annuity Branch without proceeding to a formal poll.

The following cases have been relieved:

Bro. W. D. R., Lodge No. 94, £10.

Mrs. M. E. F. (widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 38), £10.

Mrs. M. A. S. M. (widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 117), £10.

Mrs. H. R. T. (widow of a Brother of Lodge No. 184), £10.

The Board recommend that the sum of £26 be voted to Bro. H. J. G., Canynges Lodge, T.I.

R. LOVELAND-LOVELAND, President.

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

C. F. MATIER, Grand Secretary.

3rd May 1900.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business, the following resolution was passed: "That the cordial thanks of the Members of the General Board be and are hereby tendered to their President, R.W. Bro. Loveland-Loveland, Q.C., for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the meetings of the Board during the past year."

FRANK RICHARDSON, Vice-President.

The Prince of Wales was then declared as re-installed Grand Master, his proclamation by Bro. H. E. Cousins Grand Director of Ceremonies calling forth a hearty expression of loyal enthusiasm on the part of the assembled Brethren. The Earl of Euston continues in his Office of Pro Grand Master, the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., was invested as Deputy Grand Master, and the Grand Officers for the year were appointed.

Grand Lodge was afterwards closed, and the Annual Festival was celebrated, the Earl of Euston Pro G.M. presiding.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA."

WE have just been informed of the death of Bro. George Edward Sharland, one of the oldest and most respected Freemasons in Gravesend, which occurred on Tuesday, 29th ult., at his residence in Whitehill Road. Bro. Sharland, who was in his 83rd year, was a Past Master of a local Lodge, and a Past Provincial Officer of Kent. The funeral took place on Friday of last week.

KING'S HALL ROOMS,

For Banquets, Balls, and Concerts.

HOLBORN RESTAURANT.

ONE OF THE SIGHTS AND ONE OF THE COMFORTS OF LONDON.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

—:o:—

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.

—:o:—

INSTALLATIONS.

—:o:—

SYMPATHY CHAPTER, No. 483.

Installation of Companion Robert J. Beamish.

THIS young and flourishing Chapter celebrated its fourth anniversary on the 22nd May, at the Royal Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend, and all concerned may be congratulated upon a very enjoyable festival.

The Chapter was formally opened by the Principals Comps. Orlton Cooper, R. J. Beamish, and Wm. Hawker, assisted by several other Past Principals. The Companions were then admitted, when the minutes of the previous convocation, recording the election of the new Officers for the year, were read and confirmed.

The ballot was taken and proved unanimous in favour of Bro. Dr. H. L. Thurnell, as a candidate for exaltation. This Brother was unavoidably detained, but Bro. Joseph Davis, previously balloted for, was in attendance, and he was therefore admitted and regularly exalted into Royal Arch Masonry. The ceremony was carried out in the admirable manner to which we are accustomed in the Sympathy Chapter, every Officer being proficient in his duties, and conversant with the work required of him. Especially noticeable was Comp. Spencer Bowen P.S., who has now to stand by until next year, when he will be qualified for the third Principal's chair. The candidate was manifestly impressed by the beautiful ceremony, which he subsequently acknowledged surpassed anything he had anticipated.

A Board of Installed Principals was then formed, and Comp. Robert J. Beamish was installed as First Principal by his predecessor; Companion William Hawker, already M.E.Z. of another Chapter, was inducted in the Chair of H., and Comp. Orlton Cooper, at the request of the members, undertook that of J. for the year.

Upon the re-admission of the Companions the new Principals were saluted, and the following Officers were invested: Comps. Ernest Ingman Scribe E., T. T. Hogg Scribe N., J. A. Gillett P.S., C. Percy Bowen 1st Assistant, T. A. Mummary 2nd Assistant, J. Percy White P.Z. Treasurer, A. J. Walklin D.C., George Masters and G. Vivyan Stewards, Robert Matthews Organist, George Martin Janitor. This concluded the business of the evening, and the Chapter was closed and the convocation adjourned.

Amongst those who were present, in addition to those mentioned were Comps. Arthur Ronaldson P.Z., Henry Forss P.Z. P.A.G.D.C., Frank Hitchens P.Z. P.G.Reg., who kindly assisted as D.C. during the installation, John Solomon and Caspar Payne.

The Companions subsequently dined together, and the customary complimentary speeches were made.

* * *

HENRY MUGGERIDGE LODGE, No. 1679.

Installation of Brother T. F. Strutt.

A FORTNIGHT back we said it was not often the Grand Master was asked to grant a dispensation allowing a Brother to occupy the chair of two Metropolitan Lodges at one time; for the reason that it but rarely happens that a Mason is deemed worthy of so great a distinction. As an evidence that it is the unlikely that happens and, as it would seem, to disprove our words, we found that the Brother installed as Master of this Lodge—on the day our remarks were published—is also Master of the Hygeia, No. 2664, and is deservedly popular in the two Lodges.

The installation of Brother Thomas Frederick Strutt into the chair of the Henry Muggeridge Lodge took place on Saturday, 26th ult., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, when a most successful year in the history of the Lodge was brought to a conclusion, and a new one was started upon which gives every promise of adding to its reputation and popularity.

The Lodge was presided over by Bro. J. A. Worthington W.M., who was supported by Bros. J. W. Gomm I.P.M., T. F. Strutt S.W. W.M.-elect, R. M. Crompton J.W., Alfred Sack P.M. Treas., W. Boyce P.M. Sec., C. W. Hiscocks S.D., T. Roberts Org. acting J.D., A. E. Patman I.G.; Past Masters George Clark, A. J. Street, S. Stampfer, T. Sibley, and C. J. Sowton; with Bros. C. E. Blogg, John Crawford, Louis Breeze, Percy Gayer, H. C. Stone, R. S. Cox, G. White, W. Roberts, H. Franklin, F. W. Herring, W. Richmond, W. Tipton, P. Page, H. W. Page, C. H. Smallman, J. W. Hembrow and others.

Among the visitors were Bros. B. F. G. Macgregor 2148, W. H. Grigg 2664, R. Collett J.D. 2242, Arthur Hatch 1260, W. J. Alabaster 1348, B. H. Linck 1178, T. Fraser 2488, W. W. Morgan 177, J. Wynman, &c.

The formalities of opening having been observed, the minutes of the May meeting were read and confirmed, after which Bro. Past Master Boyce Secretary of the Lodge brought forward several communications, among others the dispensation from Grand Lodge allowing Bro. Strutt to act as Worshipful Master, at the same time that he was in the chair of another Lodge.

The W.M. next proceeded to initiate four gentlemen who sought admission into the Order: Mr. William Roberts, Mr. Harry Franklin, Mr. Francis William Herring, and Mr. William Richmond.



BRO. THOMAS FREDERICK STRUTT

WORSHIPFUL MASTER 1679 AND 2664.

Now came the great event of the year, as a preliminary to which the W.M. declared all Offices vacant. Bro. Thomas Frederick Strutt was presented by Past Master W. J. Street, who acted as D.C., and he signified his assent to the usual charges, and took the obligation. A Board of Installed Masters was declared, and the new W.M. was inducted into the chair in accordance with ancient custom. He was afterwards proclaimed, and saluted in the three degrees by the members of the Lodge.

The Assistant Officers were appointed and invested, as follows: R. M. Crompton S.W., C. W. Hiscocks J.W., Alfred Sack P.M. Treas., W. Boyce P.M. Sec., A. E. Patman S.D., John Crawford J.D., Percy Gayer I.G., S. Roberts Organist, S. Stampfer P.M. and H. R. Edwards Stewards, A. J. Street P.M. D.C., J. Rawles Tyler.

The three addresses following the installation were delivered in an impressive and faultless manner by Bro. William Boyce P.M. and Secretary of the Lodge, his work being highly appreciated by those present.

The W.M., with a few well chosen remarks, presented to his predecessor, on behalf of the Lodge, a handsome Past Master's jewel, hoping that Bro. Worthington might long live to wear it.

among them. This was suitably acknowledged by the Immediate Past Master.

A proposition to remit a member's subscription while he was away on active services with the forces in South Africa was patriotically supported and unanimously agreed to.

A Brother in distress was relieved with a grant of five guineas, and after some further business the Lodge was closed, and the Brethren repaired to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided and thoroughly enjoyed by the company.

In due course the W.M. submitted the toast of the Queen and the Craft, saying how proud the members of the Craft were of Her Majesty, and how devoted they were to Freemasonry. He also paid well deserved compliment to the Grand Master in proposing his health.

In submitting the toast of the Grand Officers the W.M. said the work performed in Grand Lodge was of a very high character. He had the pleasure of serving on the Board of Benevolence the previous Wednesday, and it had then astonished him to see the amount of work the Brethren there got through—and good work too, the relief of distressed Brethren.

The Immediate Past Master proposed the toast of the W.M., and at the outset said he had been told, and nudged on both sides, to make it short. He and the Worshipful Master had been associated in the Lodge side by side for ten years, and although his experiences in Freemasonry during that period, either by having to attend Lodges giving lectures, singing, or playing, had been most varied, he had never met a Mason so amiable, so kind, and of so fraternal a disposition as the Worshipful Master that evening of the Henry Muggeridge Lodge. The members had had to confer with each other as to what was best to do in order to make their Lodge go, and they had decided that the Brother most likely to make it a success was the one who had been installed as Worshipful Master that day. When approached on the subject, Bro. Strutt had replied—leave it to me and I will make the Lodge go, and they felt it was quite safe in his hands, for if it had not been for him the Lodge would not even then have been in so good a position as it was. Ever since their initiation in the Lodge the present Worshipful Master had been the one who oftenest had someone to propose for membership, and in that respect, as well as in many others, they owed much to him. He had much confidence in calling upon the Brethren to give him a hearty reception, which was done.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he hardly knew what to say to them after their hearty reception of the toast. Ever since he had entered the Lodge he had always received assistance from the Officers and members. He thanked them particularly for having placed him in his present position, a position he valued very much, as he knew he had the sympathy and support of every member of the Lodge. He promised to do all in his power to make them happy and comfortable, which he considered was the duty of all in this life. He would do his level best in the interests of the Lodge, and each individual member of it.

The W.M. considered the next toast the chief one of the meeting—the health of the four gentlemen who had been pleased to come among them and had been initiated that evening. He regretted two of the number had been obliged to leave, as he should have preferred to express to all four how pleased the members were to welcome them. He felt sure they had initiated four gentlemen that day who would become ornaments to the Craft, while he could only advise them that if they followed the tenets of Freemasonry they would assuredly become better men in every respect.

Bro. Roberts tendered his thanks for his reception by the members. He hoped he would become a credit to the Craft, and thanked them all for the way in which they had welcomed him among them.

Bro. Franklin added his thanks, and promised to try and do his utmost to become a worthy member of the Lodge. He was indeed gratified at the cordiality of his reception.

The W.M. proposed the health of the Installing Master. It had been a very great regret to the Immediate Past Master that owing to severe illness he was not able to perform the work of installation, but personally he was particularly pleased that he had been so ably installed by Bro. Boyce, because it was that Brother who had initiated him into Freemasonry. So that, altogether, the matter while being a subject of regret, was also one of pleasure. He had known Bro. Boyce for many years, in fact he thought he had served his apprenticeship with him in the profession he then followed. They had worked side by side, but with more love and harmony since they had been associated with Freemasonry than was the case previously. The Brethren had been able to judge of Bro. Boyce's work, and he had no hesitation in asking them to drink heartily the toast of his health.

Bro. Boyce replied, tendering his thanks for the proposition

and reception of the toast. He had also to thank the senior Past Master of the Lodge for giving way, and allowing him to attempt the ceremony of installation. He had had many years association with the W.M. in private life, and Masonic life, and it had long been his desire—if the opportunity offered—to instal him into the chair of a Masonic Lodge. He had hoped to do the work better than he had been able to do, but other work had prevented his keeping up his knowledge and practice, and his shortcomings had shown how necessary it was to keep up one's activity in the ritual of Freemasonry. His performance that day had shown him his weakness and he should endeavour to amend it. But at the same time he felt he must add that he had done nothing special to deserve such commendation as he had received that day. The work he had done might fall at any time on any Brother who has passed the chair and he felt that they, like himself, would endeavour to do their duty with the same heartfelt pleasure he had experienced that evening. He could only regret he had not been able to do all he wished.

The Master now had to propose a most important toast "Our Brethren in South Africa." They all knew what the present war had meant to the country. The big reverses we had experienced at the start, and the consequent request of the government for volunteers to go out to the front, and probably there was not one there but what had one or more relatives away fighting for the empire. He had three, while one Brother he saw before him had had a son engaged with Buller from the start right up to the relief of Ladysmith. Then there was their Bro. Baragwanath, who gave up a good professional position and went out with the C.I.V's. They had Brethren in all ranks of the army, from Lord Roberts and other of the leaders, down to the lowest in the ranks, and they could only wish them a safe journey to Pretoria, and a safe return home whenever they desired it.

Bro. Cox acknowledged the toast, and gave some particulars of detachments of wounded he had seen on their return, and painted the horrors of the situation many must experience on their return maimed and ruined in health.

The toast of the Visitors was next given, a hearty reception being accorded the guests. Bros. Morgan, Grigg, and McGregor responded.

Other toasts included the Past Masters, the Treasurer and Secretary, and the Officers, responded to by the several Brethren concerned, after which the Tyler gave the concluding sentiment and the proceedings ended.

There was an excellent programme of music provided, selections being played during the banquet, and songs, &c. being given between the toasts; and all tended to ensure a most enjoyable gathering.

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WOLSELEY LODGE, No. 1993.

Installation of Brother Alfred Ogden.

THE annual meeting and festival of St. John in connection with this Lodge took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, 12th ult., Bro. Thos. Chas. Newey Worshipful Master.

There was a very good attendance of members and visitors, the latter including among others Bros. Captain C. R. N. Beswicke-Royds Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Alfred Hebden P.M. 1458 P.P.G.D.D.C., R. Armitage P.M. 1083 D.C., N. Meadowcroft P.M. 1077, J. H. Dean S.D. 44, C. M. Nesbitt S.D. 1055, J. West 935, A. Whittaker 1077, and C. R. Mapleston 2259.

A dispensation for the meeting having been read, and the minutes confirmed, Brother Alfred Ogden S.W. Worshipful Master-elect was duly presented by Brother William Harris P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. Chaplain, to receive the benefits of installation, the outgoing Master undertaking the ceremony, assisted by Past Masters W. W. Siddell P.P.G.A.D.C. D.C., Crowther, Sharpe, Harris, John Dean Treas., J. L. Griffiths Char. Rep., and Walter Taylor.

The following is a list of Officers for the ensuing financial year: Bros. J. Gibson Pittam S.W., Henry Holt J.W., William Harris P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. Chap., Geo. Hargreaves P.M. Treas., John Hatton P.M. Sec., W. W. Siddell P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C. D.C., L. J. Griffiths P.M. C.R., G. H. Consterdine S.D., Samuel Darden J.D., J. H. Wright I.G., C. H. Thompson S.S. and Org., H. G. Whyatt, Thos. M. Rushworth, M. Pogson Stewards.

In connection with the investiture of Bro. Hatton as Secretary, we may mention that he has now entered upon his 17th year of service in that capacity.

A collection made on behalf of the Indian Famine Fund realised the amount of £6.

The festival of St. John was held in the banquetting room of the Hall, and was presided over by Bro. Alfred Ogden P.M. On

this occasion ladies had been admitted to participate in the pleasures, and it goes without saying that their presence added an agreeable charm to the scene.

Loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, that to the W.M. being given by Bro. Newey I.P.M. He referred to the very excellent work which Bro. Ogden had presented to them during his progress towards the principal chair, and added that if he still continued to be as satisfactory in this respect there would be nothing for them to grumble at.

Bro. Ogden W.M., in reply, said the members had placed him in a position of great responsibility, and he would do his best to maintain the prestige of the Wolseley Lodge. Before resuming his seat he proposed the health of the I.P.M. and Installing Master, who he said had gone through his work with exceeding credit; following a time immemorial custom he had the pleasure of presenting to him a very handsome Past Master's jewel, upon which was the following inscription:

Presented to

BRO. T. C. NEWAY P.M.

by the Brethren of the Wolseley Lodge, No. 1993,
for past services.

May 1900.

Bro. Newey replied, thanking the Brethren most heartily for the gift. He had not entered upon his duties as Master of the Lodge with feelings of very great pleasure, believing at the time that he was unequal to the task, but fortunately he had been well supported by Past Masters and Officers, and their efforts had smoothed his way and inspired him with whatever energy he had infused into his work.

In the absence of Bro. Wm. Harris P.M., &c., who had been compelled to retire through illness, the toast of the visitors was undertaken by Bro. Siddell, who extended a cordial welcome to all, especially the Ladies.

Bro. L. J. Griffiths, in introducing the toast of the Masonic Charities, drew the attention of his auditors to the various organisations, and hoped the Brethren would not forget them.

The harmony of the evening was furnished by Bros. F. W. Chas. Wright, J. R. Booth, G. H. Banner, and Mrs. Henry Firth, and Miss Hodson.

* * *

SEVEN KINGS LODGE, No. 2749.

Installation of Brother Charles Richard Allen.

THE first anniversary festival of this Lodge took place last Saturday, at the Cauliflower Hotel, Ilford, with remarkable success.

A lovely afternoon succeeded a somewhat stormy morning, and the glorious sun of June beamed brightly upon the Brethren assembled in the handsome Lodge room.

Bro. Frank Evans W.M. opened the Lodge punctually at 5 o'clock, being supported by his Officers, a large number of the members, and the following Visitors: Bros. Col. E. M. Money P.A.G.D.C., Archdeacon Stevens P.G.C., James Terry P.G.Sw.B., James Graham Prov.G.S. W.M. 2750, Frank Dawes W.M. 2005, H. Spencer 193 West Africa, A. J. Cooper J.D. 1076, H. Martin P.M. and Sec. 2808, W. Baker S.D. 1437, John Bennett P.M. 1765, Geo. Fagg W.M. 30, Frank Whitlock W.M. 1716, W. Fortescue W.M. 2374, Leo Taylor W.M. 2501, F. A. Streatford W.M. 1437, F. G. Bird 1413, John Wiley 1473, E. Herring 2626, Orlton Cooper P.M. 211, &c.

The preliminary business having been transacted, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bro. Evans resigned the chair to Bro. James Terry P.G.Sw.B. Eng. Secretary of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, who had kindly consented to perform the installation ceremony. He requested Brothers Evans, Pridmore, and Col. E. M. Money P.G.A.D.C. to assist him as S.W., J.W., and D.C. respectively.

Bro. Charles Richard Allen W.M.-elect was presented and repeated the customary obligation without dictation. A large Board of Installed Masters was then formed, when Bro. Allen was formally placed in the chair of the Lodge, and the Warrant entrusted to his keeping. Bro. Frank Evans having been invested as I.P.M. the Brethren were admitted, and the new Master was proclaimed and saluted in accordance with ancient tradition.

The following Officers were then invested: Bros. H. L. Pridmore S.W., R. J. Hatfield J.W., H. Gilbey Treasurer, H. J. Chatterton Secretary, E. F. Gillard S.D., G. M. E. L. Verlyck J.D., J. J. L. Linton I.G., A. Taylor P.M. D.C., M. Johnston Organist, J. W. Stewart, C. H. Creech, W. Everett, and J. C. Stone Stewards, and T. Williams Tyler.

The addresses were admirably delivered by Bro. Terry, and elicited the hearty approval of the Brethren.

The ballot was now taken for Bro. William Hubbard, of Duke

of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259, as a joining member, which proved unanimous.

The report of the Audit Committee was presented by Brother Everett, and showed that after paying all the expenses incident to the founding and Consecration of the Lodge a very good balance still remained in the Treasurer's hands.

Upon the suggestion of Bro. Taylor P.M., Bro. Frank Evans was elected to represent the Lodge on the Essex Provincial Charity Committee.

Bro. Linton proposed certain changes in the Bye-laws, which were agreed to.

The W.M. then presented his predecessor with the Past Master's jewel of the Lodge, and, as a further mark of esteem, a collar and silver jewel as I.P.M., which the Brethren had voted in recognition of the services he had rendered in instituting the Lodge.

Bro. Evans, in acknowledging the presents, said he was very proud at being the first Master of the Lodge, and hoped it would continue to flourish as it had done during the first year of its existence. He would of course have installed his successor, but he thought it would be more agreeable to the Brethren if their dear friend Bro. James Terry would undertake the duty, and he had much pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Terry for his courtesy in performing the ceremony, and Bro. Col. Money for the excellent assistance he had rendered. Both these Brethren briefly acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the pleasure they had in being present.

Two gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation at the next meeting, and there being no further business the Lodge was closed.

A photograph of the Brethren was taken, and the company then proceeded to discuss an excellent banquet, provided by mine host of the Cauliflower.

Owing to the late hour at which the post prandial proceedings commenced we regret that we were unable to wait, but we understand the customary complimentary speeches were made, and that everything passed off in a most agreeable manner.

An excellent musical entertainment was given during the evening, under the direction of Bro. H. J. Chatterton, who was assisted by Miss Ella Johnston, Bro. J. Fanstone Darlow, and Tom Taylor, while Mr. Will Ballard contributed some humorous songs.

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CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

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SKELMERSDALE LODGE, No. 1658.

THERE was a very interesting gathering on the occasion of the last meeting of this Lodge, held on Thursday, 24th ult., at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell.

Those present included Bros. R. Gabell W.M., T. J. Rawlings S.W., James Farmer J.W., W. M. Croxson I.P.M. Treasurer, W. H. Boys P.M. Sec., E. S. Rice S.D., J. Thorneloe J.D., W. E. Bennett I.G., A. E. Kipps Organist, C. Plant P.M. Tyler; Past Masters R. Rowland, Humphrey Cohen, Erle Side, and H. R. Buckeridge; with Bros. T. A. Marlow, John H. Danson, B. Cohen, H. Gibbons, F. G. Penny, J. Godefroy, Frank Nilen, W. Biles, Percy A. Nilen, J. Gibbs, W. J. Perrin, G. F. Taverner, W. Bishop, S. Morris, J. Humphries, R. H. Alabaster, W. H. Greenfield, S. P. Smeltzer, J. Sidney Smith, W. Clarkson, E. H. Smyth, A. Davis, W. R. Cullingford, R. A. Symons, F. Bridge, D. Gunton, J. Shaw, J. F. Wetjen, R. A. Buckeridge, W. R. Hummerston, Alex. A. Logette, Frank Lloyd, F. A. Marlow, C. Sisman, H. Levy, J. C. Davies, &c.

The Visitors were Bros. W. Wren 1692, A. Isaacs 205, A. Alvarez 147, G. White P.M. 975, John Rugg J.D. 1298, J. Wynman, A. Carpenter W.M. 15, &c.

The Lodge being duly formed and the minutes confirmed, was opened in the second degree, when Bros. S. P. Smeltzer, J. F. Wetjen and W. Clarkson, candidates for raising, were examined and entrusted. The Lodge was further advanced, and in due course the three Brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, and Bros. W. J. Bishop, F. O. Bridge, H. Gibbons and J. Shaw—who were initiated at the previous meeting—were examined prior to passing, having satisfied the Master, they were entrusted and retired.

Lodge was opened in the second degree, and the four Brethren were passed Fellow Crafts.

Great praise is due to the W.M. Brother Gabell, for the impressive manner in which he rendered the two ceremonies, the task being made all the more trying in view of the fact that there were so many candidates for each ceremony.

Bro. William Mayne Foster 619 was accepted as a joining member, two gentlemen were proposed for initiation at the next meeting, and the Treasurer and Tyler were invested.

Bro. Buckeridge P.M. informed the W.M. and Brethren that there was outside the Lodge an aged Brother—over seventy years of age—who craved their assistance. He had proved himself a Mason, and from what he had heard he felt a case for immediate assistance presented itself. He made an impressive appeal to the Lodge, the result being that the old Brother was relieved with a grant of £2.

The W.M. then announced he had a very pleasant duty to perform, which was to present to Bro. Past Master Rowland a gold watch, as a recognition of the valuable services he had rendered to the Lodge.

Bro. Rowland said he was lost in words to express his gratitude. He felt it a great honour to receive so handsome a present, and felt that whenever he had occasion to look at the time he should be reminded of the many happy hours he had spent, and hoped to spend in the future, in the Skelmersdale Lodge.

This concluding the business, Lodge was closed, and the Brethren adjourned to the banquet room, where an excellent repast was provided by the genial hostess, Mrs. Venables.

After dinner the Charity box was passed round, and a liberal contribution collected therein.

The usual Loyal toasts were given by the W.M., the National Anthem being sung in excellent style by Miss Ethel Hunt, and the Brethren joining in the chorus with truly patriotic fervour.

Bro. Croxson I.P.M. submitted the toast of the Worshipful Master, and expressed the pleasure it afforded him to propose it. He spoke of the work done by their presiding Officer that day, and said it was a credit alike to the Master and to the Lodge. By the ability he had displayed that day the Master had proved to the Brethren that at their last meeting they had installed another good worker as president of the Lodge. The ceremonies of raising and passing had been rendered in grand style. The Master had not required any assistance from his predecessor, and he almost regretted there were no initiates, as then they would have had additional gratification. He felt the members of the Lodge could not give their W.M. too much work, but rather, the more he had to do the better he would like it. He called upon them to salute the Master with a good fire, which was done.

Bro. Gabell's rising to respond was the signal for another outburst of enthusiasm from the Brethren. He thanked Brother Croxson for giving the toast in the kindly way in which he had proposed it, and the Brethren for receiving it in so cordial a manner. The members were always very kind to the Masters of the Skelmersdale Lodge. He was very pleased the ceremonies he had rendered that evening had given satisfaction; he was heart and soul with the Lodge, and assured the members they could not give him too much work. If the Brethren had the opportunity of introducing new members they might rely on his doing the work in the several ceremonies. Again he thanked them all for the cordial reception of the toast.

The health of the Visitors—of whom there were a goodly number—was next proposed, and cordially received by the Brethren.

Bro. Carpenter W.M. 15, in reply, sincerely thanked the Master and Brethren for their very kind reception. He also congratulated the Worshipful Master on the skill he had exhibited that day in the work of the two degrees that had fallen upon him. He had heard of the excellent way in which the Masters of the Skelmersdale Lodge fulfilled their duties, but what he had witnessed that evening had surpassed all his anticipations. He was among so many friends that evening that he felt like one quite at home, rather than as a visitor to the Lodge.

Bro. Alvarez 147 also replied, thanking the W.M. for coupling his name with the toast. He had greatly admired the working of the W.M., and hoped it would not be any long time before he joined the Skelmersdale Lodge.

Bro. G. White P.M. and several others also responded.

The next toast the W.M. had very much pleasure to submit, being that of the Immediate Past Master. Their Brother Croxson had done a great deal for the Lodge; he had had three times the number of initiates of any of the Past Masters, and had done his work in an exceptionally good style. That he might be with them for many a year to come was their ardent desire.

Bro. Croxson was heartily received on rising to respond. He thanked the W.M. for the very kind way in which he had submitted the toast, and the Brethren for receiving it so heartily. He was very proud of the position of Treasurer, to which he had been elected, and assured the Brethren he should take very great care of the cash. Bro. Rowland, to whom they had presented a souvenir that evening was one of the pioneers of the Lodge, and, as had been said before, other Past Masters of the Lodge had been presented with testimonials, therefore it was but right they should thus honour Brother Rowland, and the Brethren thereby show their appreciation of what he had done.

The toast of the Past Masters and Officers of the Lodge was responded to by all of those Brethren who were present.

The Tyler's toast brought to a conclusion an exceptionally enjoyable meeting, during the latter portion of which some excellent songs were rendered by Miss Ethel Hunt, Miss Mary Gilmour, Bros. Frank Nilen, W. R. Cullingford, J. Shaw, and several others. Bro. A. E. Kipps presided at the piano and ably displayed his musical ability.

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PROVINCIAL.

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THE MANCHESTER LODGE, No. 2564.

THE regular meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Manchester, on Friday, 11th ult., Bro. Arthur C. K. Smith Worshipful Master.

The fact that Brother Charles Neufeld was about to be raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason attracted a very large number of visitors, among whom we noticed Bros. C. D. Cheetham P.M. 993 P.P.J.G.W., W. F. Farrington P.M. 1633 Prov.G.Reg., Nathan Heywood P.M. 44 P.P.G.Reg., Geo. L. Vaughan P.M. 1030 P.P.G.Reg., C. S. Abbott P.M. 1009 P.P.S.G.D., Robert Thomson P.M. 44, W. Brocklehurst I.P.M. 317, Chas. H. Griffiths I.P.M. 581, S. Staton P.M. 317, F. S. Arnold P.M. 370, Cyril H.

Beever P.M. 1375 2363, Jas. W. Berra P.M. 2109, Geo. J. Critchley 1161, and W. J. Sherlock 2109.

After the reading and confirmation of minutes, a successful ballot was taken for Bro. Frederick Thomas P.M. 2359, who was desirous of becoming a joining member. Lodge was then opened up, and Bro. William Roland West was passed to the degree of F.C. The regular constitutional questions having been satisfactorily answered by Bro. Neufeld he was raised to the superior degree. Bro. Smith W.M. performed both ceremonies, being assisted in the second degree by Bros. A. B. Smith S.W., and W. E. Davies J.W.

At the festive board, Loyal and Masonic toasts were proposed and responded to, but on this occasion as a matter of course the centre of interest was Bro. Neufeld, who treated his auditors to a further account of his sufferings while a prisoner of the Khalifa in the Soudan. He also dilated upon many other matters, including the physical and social aspects of the country and concluded by calling upon those assembled to join hands, and sing as with one voice, England's national anthem, the words of which he said were known throughout the world. A very enjoyable evening thus came to a close amidst demonstrations of enthusiasm.

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WALTHAM ABBEY LODGE, No. 2750.

ON the 17th ult., at the Cock Hotel, Waltham Abbey, Bros. Jas. Graham P.M. 652 Prov. Grand Steward W.M., H. A. Baxter S.W., J. H. Kirby J.W., T. P. Trounce Prov. Grand Treas., W. B. Rutherford Sec., Jas. Speller P.M. P.P.J.G.D., Harry Palmer S.D., W. C. Goulding I.G., Geo. Richards P.M. D.C.

Visitors: E. J. Everdell P.P.G.Std.Br. Middlesex, W. Cate P.P.D.G.D.C. Middlesex, J. N. Codling P.P.G.Assist.Org. Herts, Kinnipie P.M. 65, J. A. Tavener P.M. 1237, G. H. Fell S.W. 2518, Downs S.D. 65, Cook J.D. 754, Shaw D.C. 1950, Weston D.C. 157, Bunage 2411, Hall 1309, Gearing 95.

After the minutes had been read and confirmed, the W.M. reported that he had applied for and received a dispensation from the Provincial Grand Master to initiate, if elected, six candidates that evening. The dispensation being read, the ballot was taken for Bro. Wm. Metcalfe P.M. 1327 2372, P.P.G.P. Herts., as a joining member, and six candidates for initiation, all of whom were duly elected.

The Worshipful Master initiated the first three, Messrs. Thos. Carr, J. T. Rockford, and J. T. Briscoe; and the I.P.M. Bro. Speller the remaining three, Messrs. E. J. Everdell, W. J. Matthews, and Jas. Carr. Bro. Graham W.M. subsequently giving the address, working tools, and the ancient charge to all the six candidates.

We might add that one of the initiates, Bro. Jas. Carr, is the son of the late Bro. Jas. Carr, J.P., Waltham Abbey, one of the petitioners for the formation of the Lodge, but who died very suddenly from heart disease, previous to the Consecration.

Other two candidates for initiation, and two for joining, were proposed for the next meeting, to be held this month.

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INSTRUCTION.

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KENSINGTON LODGE, No. 1767.

ON Tuesday, 15th ult., at the Town Hall Tavern, Kensington, Bros. R. H. Meyer W.M., W. H. Cave S.W., W. G. Cave J.W., W. Hillier P.M. Prec., W. B. Neville P.M. S.D., W. Brown J.D., J. H. Cumming P.M. I.G., F. Craggs P.M. Sec., J. H. Catten, and others.

Having opened the Lodge in the first and second degrees the W.M. proceeded to examine Bro. Catten, which proving satisfactory that Brother was entrusted, after which the Lodge was opened in the third degree, and the ceremony of raising was gone through, the W.M. being highly complimented on the excellent manner in which he delivered the traditional history.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree and closed, to allow the Committee of the W. L. Masonic Election Association to hold their monthly meeting.

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HAMMERSMITH LODGE, No. 2090.

THE meeting held on Wednesday, 16th ult., at Wycombe House, the Broadway, W., was very numerously attended, amongst those present being Bros. E. W. Scolding W.M., W. Handover S.W., H. Warren J.W., W. Hillier P.M. Prec., T. G. Hodgson W.M. of the Mother Lodge Sec., Rev. T. Greenwood S.D., H. A. Barnett J.D., W. Youngsen I.G., Arthur Williams P.M., J. H. Cumming P.M., W. Cave, A. Ingledew, G. W. Turner, Gale, Claret, Thomas Chamberlain.

This Lodge of Instruction being noted for commencing its proceedings with punctuality (a virtue on which some in the district cannot be complimented) the W.M. sounded his gavel at 7.45, and opened the Lodge with the usual formalities. Bro. Meek answered the necessary questions and was entrusted, after which the Lodge was advanced to the second degree, and the ceremony of passing was rehearsed. Lodge was called off and on, opened in the third degree and closed in that and the second. The Brethren, under the direction of the worthy Preceptor, worked the second section of the first lecture in a satisfactory manner.

We may mention that this Lodge of Instruction meets every Wednesday during the year, and is largely attended by Brethren who represent the different Wards of the Parish on the Vestry, and their parochial duties frequently finish just in time to enable them to walk over the road from the newly built Town Hall.

Bros. Robert Manuel and Arthur George Duck cordially thank every Brother who successfully supported their candidature for election as members of the Board of General Purposes.