

THE Freemason's Chronicle.

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

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

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THANKSGIVING SERVICE IN ST. PAUL'S.

AT the installation banquet of the Gallery Lodge, held on Saturday night, Bro. Lionel Gowing, the new Worshipful Master, in the chair, Bro. the Venerable Archdeacon Sinclair said that Masons would be pleased to hear that the Grand Master the Prince of Wales, and Lord Roberts, on his return from South Africa, purposed attending a service at St. Paul's, to return thanks for the success of the British arms. The Archdeacon said the date had been provisionally fixed for Thursday, 3rd January next.

LANCASHIRE CHARITY.

THE Committee of the fifty-second annual Masonic Festival and Hall in aid of the West Lancashire Educational Institution met on the 7th inst., in the Town Hall, Liverpool, the Lord Mayor (Bro. A. Crosthwaite) presiding. The Festival was fixed for Tuesday, 15th January next, and will be held under the banner of the Skelmersdale Lodge, No. 1389, the use of the Town Hall having been granted for the occasion. The Chairman of the Committee is Bro. Thos. E. Withington, J.P., P.P.S.G.W., of the Marquis of Lorne Lodge, No. 1356, Warrington.

The Hon. Secretary Bro. Douglas Greame announced that he had already received the names of seventy-four Patrons and thirty-five Stewards. The President of the Festival is Bro. the Earl of Lathom Prov.G.M., the Vice-Presidents, the Earl of Derby P.G.W. Eng., the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, R. Wylie D.Prov.G.M., John Houlding P.G.D. Eng., S. G. Sinclair P.G.D. Eng., E. G. B. Watts P.P.G.W., and L. S. Cohen ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

CHARITY IN BELFAST.

IT is announced that a concert in aid of the Masonic Boys Orphan School Century Fund will take place in the Uister Hall, on Wednesday evening, 16th January next—the date after the installation of the Earl of Shaftesbury as Provincial Grand Master of Antrim. The concert is being promoted under the auspices of St. John Lodge, No. 88, and will have the patronage of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim. His Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., M.W. Grand Master of Ireland, and many other prominent Masons have signified their intention of being present.

CONCERT AT PLYMOUTH.

A VERY successful concert, under the conductorship of Bro. W. Willoughby P.P.G.O. was given at Plymouth Guildhall, on the 5th inst., in aid of the Devon Masonic Educational Fund. The principal attraction was a nautical operetta, composed and produced by Bro. Willoughby, with lyrics by G.V.K. The title of it was "The Crew of 'the 47,'" and it was redolent of Ladysmith and H.M.S. Powerful. The orchestra was made to represent the deck of the Powerful, the scenery having been painted at the Theatre Royal, thanks to the kindness of Bro. C. F. Williams, the lessee. Brother Willoughby had admirably trained a choir of about a hundred children, all dressed as sailor boys and girls, the principal characters of the operetta being H.R.H. the Princess (Miss Adelaide Endeau), the Captain (Miss Ethel Eden), Lieutenants (Masters Crocker and L. Heard), and an A.B. (Miss Carrie Venning), all of whom had solo parts assigned them.

Brother Willoughby had written several bright and pretty choruses, with plenty of action suited to them, and the whole piece was presented with considerable dramatic force and spirit; but it was the drills and dances introduced into the operetta which seemed to most delight the audience. The drills were arranged by Bro. Brockman, R.N.; the dances were under the direction of Miss Halfpenny, and were performed with much grace and cleverness.

At the conclusion of the operetta Bro. Willoughby and the principal performers were metaphorically "called before the curtain" and heartily applauded. The Brethren are much indebted to Bro. Willoughby for the time and trouble it must have cost him to provide so excellent a concert for so good an object. Of the Concert Committee Bro. J. R. Lord was Treasurer, and Bros. J. B. Gover and W. H. Dillon Hon. Secretaries.

SURREY.

A N important meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held on Saturday, 24th ult., at the Assembly Rooms, Surbiton, when the Earl of Onslow Prov.G.Master installed Bro. Col. John Davis, A.D.C., as his successor. The number of Brethren present was about 250, and included many Grand Officers, and distinguished visitors.

The Earl of Onslow entered the Prov.G.Lodge attended by the Provincial and Grand Officers. Provincial Grand Lodge was opened, and the roll of Lodges was called.

The Earl of Onslow then addressed the Brethren. He said that H.R.H. the Most Wor. Grand Master had been pleased to appoint as Prov.G.M. of Surrey Colonel Davis, A.D.C. to Her Majesty the Queen, and the Brethren had met together for the purpose of installing that eminent Brother into the position of ruler of the Craft in Surrey. As they were doubtless aware, it was usual for that ceremony to be performed by one of the Great Officers of England, but in accordance with the wish of H.R.H., and also of the Prov.G. Master designate, he had been invited to instal him as his successor. He therefore asked their assistance that evening for the purpose mentioned.

The Provincial Grand Master designate was announced, his patent was read, and he was duly obligated, invested, installed, and saluted as Prov.G.Master. Bro. Frank Richardson P.G.D. officiated as D.C., assisted by Bro. A. W. Smith P.M. 463 Dep.Prov.G.D.C., whilst the following Masters formed the deputation to escort the new Prov.G.Master into Prov.G.Lodge: Bros. Bathurst, Cowan, Edis, Grundy, Hancock, and Longworth.

Bro. Fredk. West P.G.D. was re-appointed Dep.Prov. G.M., and saluted; and Bro. C. T. Tyler was appointed Prov.G.Secretary.

The newly-installed Prov.G.Master said it was impossible for anyone of feeling or thought to take his position in that chair in the old county of Surrey without a high feeling of pride and gratification that H.R.H. should have chosen him. He sincerely hoped he should during his term of Office be able to perform his duties in a manner that would please H.R.H., and that those in the Province would feel they had no unworthy successor to the exalted nobleman whom he succeeded. He had known Lord Onslow for a long time, and had heard from many his high devotion to duty, and therefore it would be no light task to follow in his footsteps. However, no effort on his part would be spared to worthily occupy that historic chair; and advance their grand and magnificent Order of English Freemasonry.

After other business the Prov.G.Lodge was closed in due form.

After luncheon the Prov.G.M. proposed the Queen and the Craft, and said they all looked up to Her Majesty with love and reverence. By her embodiment of all domestic virtues, and by the high feeling of duty that had actuated her life, she had proved herself the greatest ruler this country had ever had.

In giving H.R.H. the Prince of Wales M.W.G.M., the Prov.G.Master referred to the great interest taken by H.R.H. in Freemasonry. He was indebted to His Royal Highness for placing him at the head of that important Province, and also for great courtesy shown him on all occasions.

The Prov.G.Master next proposed the Grand Officers, and said that Earl Amherst Pro G.M. was a very worthy representative of H.R.H., and an earnest Mason. He could say more of the Earl of Warwick Deputy G. Master, having been in his company the previous week as one of a deputation to the Grand Lodge in Berlin. Beyond the Earl of Warwick's qualities as a Mason, he had never travelled with a more genial companion or one more sympathetic. He was pleased with the manly and delightful way in which the Deputy Grand Master made his speech in the Grand Lodge in Germany, and in giving H.R.H.'s Royal message to those Lodges. He was quite delighted to take that opportunity of saying how much they were indebted to the Earl of Warwick for the way in which he represented English Freemasonry on that occasion. Speaking generally, the Grand Officers would not have been promoted if H.R.H. was not certain they would perform the duties expected of them. There was one Officer of G.Lodge to whom he was indebted for a very great deal, and he would like to say how much he felt the way in which the Earl of Onslow had inducted him, and for the courtesy and kindness shown him whenever they had met. Lord Onslow was not only popular as a Mason, and amongst his friends, and a trusted Government servant in a high position, but he was also respected as a thorough English gentleman. He gave them with a great deal of heartiness and cordiality, and with all his heart, the toast of the Grand Officers, coupling with it the name of the Earl of Onslow P.G.W. Past Provincial Grand Master of Surrey.

The Earl of Onslow said he stood that evening to respond for those who had the duty cast upon them of carrying out the executive work of Freemasonry in this country, and right well and right conscientiously did they perform it. It was now many years since he had the honour of holding active Office in Grand Lodge, and during that time he noticed the great care, and the great time and attention which was bestowed upon the affairs of Grand Lodge by the Grand Officers. He thanked the Brethren most sincerely on their behalf for the honour done them. He next passed to a more personal toast which had been proposed by the Prov.G.Master, who had been good enough to couple his name, not only as a Past Grand Officer, but as his predecessor in the chair of Prov.G.M. He was glad of the opportunity afforded him of taking farewell of those who had been conscientiously loyal and faithful to him in promoting Freemasonry in the Province of Surrey. There were none who would contest the fact that Freemasonry had made steady strides during the past five years in the county. New Lodges had been added—not too many—for those added had been good ones. Charity had been augmented, and the Charity Committee had carried out its duties in such a manner that no Surrey candidate had ever been disappointed at the poll. He ventured to say that he had handed over to his successor the charge of a Province which might well satisfy the pride and ambition of any Mason to preside over.

He would ask them to drink a toast, that of the Prov. G.M., who so worthily occupied the chair which he so lately filled. Col. Davis was a man well-known outside the circles of Freemasonry, and occupied a high and distinguished position as A.D.C. to Her Majesty the Queen, a post which carried with it, perhaps, no onerous duties, but showed at least a record of honourable services. Colonel Davis came to them as a Prov.G.M. untrammelled by those ties of duty which unfortunately prevented him from attending to Freemasonry in the Province as he would have wished. Col. Davis had rendered good service at a trying time in the nation's history. There were those who had gone out to South Africa to fight the enemies of the Queen, and all honour to them—but there were also those who had stayed at home to undertake the duties of providing for the garrisons of these islands, and the training of the soldiers, which was no less necessary for the protection of the country.

He regretted Col. Davis's health had recently not been all he could wish, but all sincerely hoped it would improve. The Prov.G.Sec. was suffering from a similar complaint, but as he had had a long experience of Masonic entertainments, and the Prov.G.M. was just commencing, there was no analogy to be drawn between the two. As he had often said when Governor of a Colony, where he was the recipient of the greatest hospitality and kindness, it was an extremely difficult thing to be an unpopular Governor, and he ventured to say it was an equally difficult thing to be an unpopular Provincial Grand Master. With the good feeling existing amongst Surrey Masons it would be an impossible task for Col. Davis even to try to be unpopular. He asked the Brethren to drink to the health and prosperity of the Prov. Grand Master of Surrey.

Bro. Col. Davis, in reply, thanked the Earl of Onslow for the very flattering and kindly way in which he had proposed the toast. His position was that of an untried man, and he could only promise the Province to try and be as worthy a Prov.G.M. as his predecessor had proved to be. If he could in any way advance the interest of their Grand Order in the Province he promised to do his very utmost.

In submitting the next toast, that of the Deputy Prov. G.M. and Prov.G. Officers, he said he had only that day made the acquaintance of this Prov.G. Lodge, and could only therefore speak from hearsay. The Deputy had already served some time in the position, had done very good work, and had worthily fulfilled his duties. He was sure from the hearty offer of assistance the Deputy had given him that he would continue his good services.

Bro. F. West P.G.D. thanked the Prov.G.M. for the great honour conferred upon him in asking him to continue as Deputy Prov.G.M. In Surrey they had worked upon lines to do everything possible to enhance the proud position of the Prov.G.M. They had endeavoured, not only to have the ritual done on proper lines, but also to improve the charity organisation. The late Prov. G. Master knew the value of that organisation, which enabled the candidates to have a certain chance of election, and brought together four times a year representatives from every Lodge in Surrey, all working for the good of the Province. That body was assisted most materially by Bro. Under-Sheriff Langton, who was well-known. He assured the new Prov.G.M. that the Province would endeavour to maintain its present high standard of efficiency.

On the proposition of the Prov.G.M. a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Surbiton Lodge and Dobie Chapter, for use of furniture, and especially to the former for the floral decorations.

Bros. Sheriff Vaughan Morgan and Sheriff Lawrence replied for the Visitors, which terminated the proceedings.—
"Surrey Advertiser."

CHESHIRE.

Succession of Provincial Masters.

IT has become almost a trite saying that Cheshire is as famous for its Freemasonry as for its cheese. In point of antiquity, too, Cheshire will compare favourably with any other Province, being one of the most ancient, if not the most ancient in the world, and to arrive at some conclusion on this point it will be necessary to dip a little into historical records. It is especially interesting to know that under the Grand Lodge of England, revived in 1717, Cheshire was, in 1725, the first Province to derive its functions therefrom. North and South Wales came next in 1726; Bengal, India, in 1728; Shropshire, in 1731; Lancashire, in 1734, &c.

The first Provincial Grand Master is noted as Col. F. Columbine, who was related to the Marbury's, of Marbury, a Marbury of that ilk having married Miss Columbine, a Derbyshire heiress, in 1683. Captain Hugh Warburton succeeded Colonel Columbine in 1727, and for twenty-eight years he ruled over the affairs of the Province, being succeeded by John Page, Esquire, a descendant also of an old Cheshire family which was settled at Erdshaw and Drakelow for centuries. In 1771, J. Hugh Smith-Barry, Esquire, who was an ancestor of the present owner of the Marbury estate, succeeded, and it is noteworthy that under what may be termed the old Constitutions, Sir Robert Stapleton Cotton, father of the Peninsular hero, was the last.

It was in the year 1813 that the United Grand Lodge of England was formed. Prior to this, Brethren of the rival Grand Lodges were frequently distinguished from each other by the names of their respective Grand Masters. Thus, the members of Lodges under the "regular" or "constitutional" Grand Lodge (1717) were known as Prince of Wales Masons, or Moderns, while those under the jurisdiction of the "Grand Lodge" (1753) were styled "Atholl" Masons, or "Ancients." Prior to the year 1816, no regular meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Cheshire had been held for many years, and at a meeting in Chester, Sir John Grey Egerton, Bart., then nominated his Officers, and many occasions are recorded on which he manifested the utmost interest in the Craft. Sir John, who died 25th May 1825, represented the city of Chester in two successive Parliaments, and was very popular. A handsome cenotaph was erected to his memory in Chester Cathedral by the citizens, who desired by that "memorial of gratitude and affection to hold up for example manly uprightness, unswerving rectitude, unchanging friendship, zealous and incorruptible patriotism, which ever marked the character and guided the conduct of their honourable and independent representative."

On 21st October 1830, the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Combermere was appointed by patent of His Royal Highness Prince Frederick Augustus Grand Master of England, and his installation took place at Nantwich. We need not here dilate on the military services of this hero to his country. They are enshrined in history, but under his rule Freemasonry seems to have entered on a new era of prosperity in the Province of Cheshire. A fund for charitable and Masonic purposes was inaugurated, which has since developed into the Provincial Grand Lodge Fund of Benevolence, bye-laws were prepared, and later the Cheshire Educational Institution was projected and carried out. Lord Combermere died at Combermere Abbey, February 1865, at the ripe age of ninety-one, having presided over the affairs of the Province for thirty-five years. In an address of condolence to his family by the members of Provincial Grand Lodge, occasion is taken to refer to him as one of the companions in arms "of the illustrious Wellington, who so nobly struggled against the despotic power of Napoleon, and whose efforts were crowned by that glorious victory from which resulted a peace of forty years duration." Every respect is paid to his lordship's efforts in connection with Freemasonry, and a hope expressed that the example he had "so worthily set, and the benefits conferred on the Craft through his instrumentality might for generations to come serve as incitements to a noble emulation amongst his successors."

The late Lord de Tabley was installed as Viscount Combermere's successor at Knutsford, in August 1865, and his Mastership was memorable for the retirement of the Earl of Zetland as Grand Master, and the succession of the present Grand Master of the Order H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. In the proceedings of Provincial Grand Lodge five years later (1870), a sidelight is thrown on history from which a moral may be drawn for present day digestion by our Continental neighbours. A national fund was raised in England in aid of the sick and wounded on both sides in the Franco-German War. Of this His Royal Highness was one of the promoters, and in response to an appeal the Cheshire Prov. G. Lodge voted the sum of £50, Lord de Tabley remarking that although the recipients were foreigners (Frenchmen and Germans), and not Englishmen, charity was beyond nationality, and it became them to follow a holy example by assisting their suffering fellow-creatures of all nations and climes. Read in the light of present-day events, we are more than ever compelled to the conclusion that gratitude with nations, as with individuals, is "a lively sense of favours to come." Turning, however, to the progress of the Order during the years Lord de Tabley occupied the chair of Prov. Grand Lodge, the votes of the Province for London Charitable Institutions were considerably increased, the Cheshire Educational Institution was carried on on an enlarged scale in regard to its usefulness, and no fewer than sixteen Lodges were added to the roll.

Lord de Tabley resigned Office in 1886, and was succeeded by Lord Egerton of Tatton, who was installed at Chester in 1887. At the first Provincial meeting held at Crewe subsequently, his lordship expressed his gratification at the fact of their meeting in the town where he had been initiated into Masonry twenty-five years before. No doubt in his valedictory address on the 17th inst. his lordship will be

able to recapitulate the events in the history of the Province since he was himself installed. Suffice it for our present purpose to state that the lamp of Masonry has burnt brightly in Cheshire—the extent of its charitable operations has been greatly enlarged, many Lodges have been added, and the membership has greatly increased.

The installation of Bro. the Hon. Alan de Tatton Egerton, M.P., Past Grand Warden of England P.P.S.G. Warden of Cheshire, as Provincial Grand Master of the Province in succession to his lordship, will take place at the Town Hall, Chester, on Monday, 17th December. Earl Egerton, who will preside on the occasion, will be supported by members of Grand and Provincial Grand Lodges, and past and present Officers. The address on the duties of the Office of Provincial Grand Master will be given by Bro. E. Letchworth Grand Secretary. The event, both from the present prosperity of the Craft, as well as the popularity of the hon. gentleman, will be a memorable one in the history of the Craft in the Province.—"Manchester Courier."

DURHAM.

THE annual meeting of this Provincial Grand Chapter was held at the Masonic Hall, Durham, on Saturday afternoon, 1st inst.

In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. Canon H. B. Tristram, D.D., P.P.G.H. Grand Superintendent-elect, owing to a severe bronchial attack, the chair was occupied by Comp. John Holt Prov.G.H.

The installation of the Rev. Canon Tristram as Grand Superintendent was to have taken place, but owing to his absence this portion of the proceedings was postponed. At the commencement Comp. R. Hudson expressed the regret which all felt at the illness of Canon Tristram.

Comp. T. Harrison (Sunderland) presented the annual financial statement, which was of a satisfactory character, and was received and adopted. Comp. R. Hudson gave some statistical information with reference to the progress of the Province, which showed that there had been a considerable numerical increase in the strength of the Chapters.

Comp. R. Luck (Darlington) referred to the deep regret which all felt at the great loss which the Provincial Chapter had sustained in the death of Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart., the late Grand Superintendent, who was a thorough Mason in every sense of the word, and in all matters did his very best for the good of Freemasonry generally. He moved that a record of the decease of Sir Hedworth and the great regret which they all felt at his loss be entered on the minutes of the Provincial Chapter. Comp. C. S. Lane seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously. Comp. Charles Cox (Sunderland) was unanimously elected Treasurer. Comps. J. C. Moor and G. B. Hall (Sunderland) were re-elected Auditors.

Comp. R. Hudson read an official communication from the Scribe E. of the Grand Chapter in London intimating the appointment by the First Grand Principal of England (His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) of the Rev. Canon Tristram as Grand Superintendent of the Province of Durham.

The investment of Officers afterwards took place, the following being the appointments:

Comp. John Holt 509	...	H.
W. C. Moffett 240	...	J.
R. Hudson	...	Scribe E.
R. Hauxwell 124	...	Scribe N.
Charles Cox 97	...	Treasurer
J. W. B. Heslop 1230	...	Registrar
J. R. Grimes 240	...	Principal Sojourner
E. H. Tilley 94	...	1st Assist. Soj.
J. Walton 124	...	2nd Assist. Soj.
W. McBride 531	...	Sword Bearer
W. Hutchinson 509	...	Standard Bearer
E. Lautebach 949	...	Dir. of Ceremonies
M. Cohen 94	...	Assist. Dir. of Cers.
J. M. Moore	...	Organist
C. T. Johnson	...	Assist. Scribe E.
Thomas Grieve	...	Janitor.

The Venerable Thomas Stevens, Archdeacon of Essex, Past Grand Chaplain of England has been appointed by Lord Salisbury to the chaplaincy of the hospital of St. Mary and St. Thomas of Canterbury, Ilford, which has been vacated by Canon Hensley Henson. Archdeacon Stevens has been vicar of St. John's, Stratford, since 1839.

"A SPRIG OF ACACIA"

INCREASING years may bring many advantages, but at the same time sorrows and disappointments are equally certain, and it often happens that the regrets we meet with in our later days go far to rob our pleasures of the brightness that would otherwise be associated with them. We were nearing the completion of the twenty-sixth year's issue of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and were feeling a certain amount of satisfaction in consequence, when news reached us of the death, on Sunday morning, of Bro. John Purrott, of St. Albans, one of the founders of our paper, and one of its most consistent supporters during the whole of its career. His death affects us the more as we have long regarded him not only as a Brother Mason, but as a personal friend; he having been intimately associated with members of our family in more than one Masonic enterprise. Our worthy Brother was Regimental Sergeant-Major of the Herts Yeomanry, and had the distinction of being the oldest member of the Yeomanry force in England, his connection with it having begun early in the forties; on this account he was accorded a military funeral. He was a splendid specimen of the Yeoman class—a keen agriculturist and a straight and daring rider to hounds. He filled many public offices, including those of chairman to St. Albans Board of Guardians and Rural District Council.

THE mortal remains of the late Sir Francis Boileau, Bart., Prov. G. Superintendent of Norfolk P.G.D. Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Norfolk, who died on the 2nd inst., were interred on the afternoon of Friday, 7th inst., in Ketteringham Churchyard, in the presence of a large circle of sorrowing relatives and sympathising friends, who assembled to pay a last sad tribute to one who in life was very much esteemed, and who was held in the highest respect by all, the Craft being represented by the Provincial Grand Master, the Prov. G. Sec., and many others. Born on the 26th March 1830, the hon. baronet led a most active life, and his beautiful home at Ketteringham Park is a real model of a country mansion. He performed most useful work on the County Council, of which body he had been an Alderman since its institution, and he also took the greatest interest in Church work, and was a frequent attendant and speaker at Diocesan Conferences and other similar assemblies. Among Freemasons he was exceedingly popular. In 1880 he was W.M. of Lodge Union, No. 52, and in the same year was appointed Senior Grand Warden of Norfolk. Subsequently he was appointed a Deacon in the Grand Lodge of England, and, a year or two since, was invested as Deputy Provincial Grand Master for Norfolk. When Lord Suffield relinquished the Office of Grand Superintendent of the Province, Sir Francis Boileau was appointed to succeed him.

CONSIDERABLE regret will be occasioned by the death at Mentone of Brother Sir Alfred H. Bevan, who was elected to the position of Grand Treasurer of England for 1899-1900, and was one of the Sheriffs of the City of London last year. For several months past Sir Alfred has resided abroad on account of ill-health. Indeed, it was for this reason that he was unable to perform his shrieval duties some time before his year of office expired. The deceased, with Bro. Alderman Treloar, his fellow Sheriff, received the honour of knighthood on the occasion of the Queen's visit to the City early in the year, and was a generous benefactor to a host of charitable institutions and philanthropic and religious movements. Some thirty-eight years ago he became associated with the firm of Messrs. Barclay, Perkins, and Co., of which he afterwards was a director. As a prominent member of the Craft his death will be widely regretted, and as a philanthropist his place will not be easy to fill.

THE funeral of Bro. F. W. Dabb, of Redruth, who died suddenly on Monday, 3rd inst., took place at Treleigh, on Thursday afternoon, 6th inst. Deceased was the oldest member of the Druids Lodge, and had occupied many posts of honour in the Craft, being a Past Provincial Grand Junior Warden. The funeral was conducted with full Masonic ceremonial.

THE remains of the late Bro. William Pritchard, of Stockport, were interred on Saturday, 24th ult., at the Stockport Borough Cemetery, the obsequies being attended by manifestations of the respect in which the memory of the deceased gentleman is held. Many of the Brethren of

the Lodge of Concord, No. 323, of which the deceased was for seventeen years the Treasurer, and also Brethren of sister Lodges, took part in the last sad rites. The Brethren met at the Florist Hotel, Shaw Heath, and formed in procession to meet the cortege.

THE Vicar of Canvey Island, Brother Rev. Henry Hayes, died on Saturday from the result of an accident which happened four years ago. He had been the Vicar of Canvey for twenty-six years, and during his pastorate did much to improve the condition of the population of the island. He was a Past Provincial Grand Chaplain of Essex.

WE tender Fraternal sympathy to Bro. W. R. Witt P.M. of the Farringdon Without Lodge, No. 1745, on the death of his mother, Mrs. Martha Jane Witt, which occurred last week, at the age of seventy-nine years, at her residence at Leytonstone. The remains of the deceased lady were interred at the City of London Cemetery, Ilford, on Tuesday, amid many manifestations of respect and regard. The funeral service was held in St. Augustine's Church, where a number of sympathising friends assembled. The deceased lady and her husband recently celebrated the fifty-third anniversary of their wedding day.

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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The Captain. A magazine for Boys and "Old Boys." Vol. iii.—April to September 1900 (6s).—George Newnes, Limited.

A SIX-SHILLING novel can usually be read in two days; in this volume of the "Captain" there is reading for a fortnight. Moreover, while but a few young folk care for the average novel it is difficult to think there is any class of persons to whom the greater portion of the "Captain" would not be interesting. The articles and short stories of the usual magazine type are, we think, quite up to the standard set by the leading "monthlies," while a special feature in the eyes of all who love the king of games are the articles on cricket by C. B. Fry and other well-known athletes. On turning over the pages of this volume we have felt the full force of that French expression regarding the embarrassment of riches. We wanted to select the best story of them all, but found it difficult to do so. On the whole, however, we think most adult readers will agree with us that "When Charlie reigned in Holyrood" is exceedingly well written, and as a competitive essay would certainly merit an "honorable mention."

The Red, White, and Green. By Herbert Hayens. With illustrations (5s).—Thomas Nelson and Sons.

THERE is no lack of stirring incident in this story of the great struggle between Austrian and Hungarian. From start to finish Mr. Hayens has imparted just that swing and rush to his story which boys so dearly love. There is marching, burning, fighting, failure and victory; there are excellent descriptions and carefully drawn characters. Were this story less ably written we could none the less commend it as a grand gift-book, and one likely to be very useful if carefully read; for there are hardly two nationalities of whom the schoolboy is taught so little as the Austrian and the Hungarian. Kossuth filled once a large place in the eye of Europe and has perhaps hardly received so much attention at the hands of biographers as he merits. The chapter in which the writer describes Vienna in flames is a masterpiece of terse, concise writing, and other chapters are almost as good. Altogether, Mr. Hayens has scored a success.

The World-Wide Atlas of modern Geography, Political and Physical. Containing one hundred and twenty-eight plates, and complete index. With an introduction by J. Scott Keltie, LL.D., etc. Fifth edition (7s 6d).—W. and A. K. Johnston.

YOUNG scholars must look to their geography just now, for it promises to become an even more important branch of education than formerly. We who were taught to regard South Africa as land given over to the tender mercy of half naked savages, and the Sahara as wholly unknown territory, can appreciate, by a glance at this superb atlas, how great have been the recent changes in the ownership of the wide world. We are glad to say that these maps afford proofs of most efficient workmanship on the part of draughtsman and geographer alike. If we must single out some feature worthy of special note we will point to the completeness of this atlas; and in proof of this we may mention that about 3,000 names commencing with the letter K alone figure in its index! The extremely useful street plans of many cities are likewise worthy of notice, and add much to the value of the best atlas we have handled for a long time. It would be hard to name a more serviceable Christmas gift.

Daddy's Girl. By L. T. Meade. With thirty-seven illustrations by Gordon Browne (3s 6d).—George Newnes, Limited.

THE name of L. T. Meade has "put a girdle round about the earth," and has long been known to everybody. It is not, we think,

difficult to account for the success of this gifted and versatile writer. Every class of story handled by L. T. Meade—and he handles many—is treated in such a manner as to lead the uninitiated to suppose that the writer has made that particular phase of fiction a special study. The volume before us is an excellent specimen of this author's work; for it contains examples of his leading merits—those merits which, in another field, reach their culmination in the "Stories of the Gold Star Line" and "Stories from the Diary of a Doctor." In "Daddy's Girl" we are shown, with power and pathos which few could rival, how great a part of the world's happiness may be made or marred by a mere child. Nor is there lack of dialogue or of dramatic interest; indeed, much of the conversation is so clever and spirited that "Daddy's Girl" should prove equally entertaining to young and old. Messrs. Newnes may surely anticipate a large sale.

The Small-part Lady and other stories. By George R. Sims. "Dagonet" (3s 6d).—Chatto and Windus.

THESE characteristic stories from the pen of "Dagonet" should sell—as Rudyard Kipling says of somebody else's yarns—like hot cakes. Dagonet's stories are racy and clever for many reasons, but chiefly because they are for the most part written at first hand. He lives much, if he reads little. These stories are in no way inferior to "Mary Jane's Memoirs," so readers will get value for money.

After Worcester. The Story of a Royal Fugitive. By E. Everett-Green. With illustrations (5s).—Thomas Nelson and Sons.

THE author of this volume may claim to speak with authority on English History, for she has written a small library of romances based upon the records of our nation. There is always a danger that authors who linger too frequently "by the shores of old romance" will surround their story with a halo which it hardly deserves; but the writer of "After Worcester" has studied the period which she has undertaken to depict both wisely and well—her work is a portrayal and not a caricature. The characters of Charles II. and of the Great Protector have long formed bones of contention for historians to wrangle over. As a history this book is reliable; as a story it is ably written and very entertaining. The illustrations, we think without exception, are exceedingly well drawn, and are a deserving feature in a gift-book upon which Messrs. Nelson have lavished every attention.

The House that grew. By Mrs. Molesworth. Illustrated by Alice B. Woodward (4s 6d).—Macmillan and Co., Limited.

MRS. MOLESWORTH needs no introduction to any reader in England. She has written clever stories about all sorts and conditions of men, or children, and apparently it matters but little to the writer whether her characters are old or young, rich or poor; nor is the volume before us any exception in this respect. It is sufficiently realistic to command one's continuous attention; indeed, one of Mrs. Molesworth's many gifts—the art of representing children as speaking naturally, yet with perfect propriety—is very conspicuous in many passages. The name of a writer often assures success, but we think "The House that grew" will sell on its own merits.

Sylvia's Romance. By Marion Andrews. Illustrated by W. H. C. Groome (1s).—Wells Gardner, Darton and Co.

THIS little book is written in a somewhat uncommon vein, and will be all the more welcome in many quarters for that reason. It is an historical romance in miniature, and transports us back to the so-called "good old times" when it took two days to go from London to Cambridge. The character of Sylvia is cleverly, if slightly, sketched, and the story is briskly narrated.

Tib and Sib. A Story for Children. By Stella Austin. Illustrated (2s 6d).—Wells Gardner, Darton and Co.

THE hand that drew "Ben Cramer" has left its impress upon this story for children. Tib and Sib are typical of many couples of tender age. Tib is a young lady with an inquisitive turn of mind, which we have met with in others; and Sib can hardly be regarded as an original. There is invention of no mean order and frequent felicity of expression in this story; but we doubt if it can compete with Miss Austin's "Ben Cramer" in the estimation of most readers. It is, however, well printed and bound, and will no doubt form a sufficiently welcome gift in many a homestead presently.

The Tale of the Little Twin Dragons. By S. Rosamond Praeger (6s).—Macmillan and Co., Limited.

AN artistic "tour de force." Old Homer, who wrote the "battle of frogs and mice" would certainly smile approval upon this handsome book. It is a veritable prose-epic for the nursery, and the large number of illustrations greatly enhances its value; for a child's interest in a volume is usually in direct ratio to the number of its pictures. No doubt the hair-breadth escapes of the infant, so vividly narrated, and the wonderful doings of the two dragons, will occasion much wonder in many households. Buy it now.

Somebody. By Stella Austin. Illustrated (1s).—Wells Gardner, Darton and Co.

READERS already acquainted with this brisk little story will not be surprised to see a further edition. Stella Austin knows, as comparatively few do, how to cater for the young folks' bookshelves. A large increase in the output of such stories would be beneficial just now. Is it too much to hope that, if distributed gratis by some charitably disposed grandee, they would militate successfully against the penny-dreadful upon which the juvenile Hooligan is sometimes nurtured?

The April Baby's Book of Tunes, with the story of how they came to be written. By the author of "Elizabeth and her German garden." Illustrated by Kate Greenaway (6s).—Macmillan and Co., Limited.

WE were in a strait betwixt two just now; for we found it difficult to decide whether the chief merit for this charming book lay with the author or the illustrator. Some of the pictures are printed with a depth and variety of colour suggestive rather of a church window than of a toy-book; it is almost a matter for sorrow to reflect how many copies of so charming a volume will be destroyed very soon after being handed over to the tender mercies of the owners. Our advice to parents will hardly be appreciated by the youngsters; but we feel it laid upon our conscience to advise that such a book as this, after a formal inspection, should be laid by carefully until the lucky recipient is old enough to appreciate it at its true value. The music, too, is so well printed as to deserve careful cherishing.

The Story of Johnny Bertram. By D. B. McKean. Illustrated by W. H. C. Groome (1s).—Wells Gardner, Darton and Co.

THERE is so much excellent entertainment in this book of adventures that we would urge those who want a story for their boys to buy it at once. Mr. Clark Russell could hardly have handled the story more attractively. We have all heard of late what happens to such as refuse to buy the books they should—they sink into an untimely and dishonoured grave. Parents must remember our warning, and produce their shilling.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT AND CO. are advertising an ideal Christmas present. This consists of one or more sets of the Temple Classics, amongst which we notice "Plutarch's Lives" in ten volumes, "Florio's Montaigne," in six volumes, and "Carlyle's French Revolution," in three volumes.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN have issued a fine volume dealing with "Byzantine Art in Greece." The writers are Messrs. Weir Schutz and S. H. Barnsley, and the work comprises their researches in regard to the Monastery of St. Luke of Stiris, and the monastery of St. Nicolas-in-the-Fields, near Skripou, in Boeotia. The same publishers promise an anthropological work entitled "Libyan Notes" and a re-issue of Mr. Andrew Lang's now famous Border edition of the Waverley Novels.

"THE TWENTIETH CENTURY," a new monthly review, will shortly appear from the house of Mr. Francis Griffith, 435 Strand. It will be liberal in politics. The price will be 2s 6d net.

MESSRS. METHUEN have issued a new edition of Stevenson's Letters, in two volumes, at 6s each.

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MIDLAND RAILWAY.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS, 1900.

Additional Ordinary Trains.

On Friday and Saturday, 21st and 22nd December, relief trains will be run from St. Pancras as circumstances may require.

26th December and 1st January.

On these dates certain booked trains will be WITHDRAWN, as announced on special bills at the stations.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.

From St. Pancras, City Stations, Woolwich and Greenwich.

To the North and Scotland.

On FRIDAYS, 21st and 28th DECEMBER, for 6 or 8 days, and on Monday, 24th December, for 3 or 5 days, to NEWCASTLE, Berwick, Carlisle, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, GLASGOW, Ayr, Kilmarnock, Stranraer, &c., from St. Pancras at 10.0 p.m., Kentish Town at 8.34, Victoria (S.E. & C.) 7.2, Moorgate Street 7.48, Aldersgate Street 7.50, and Farringdon Street 7.52 p.m., and to EDINBURGH, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen, &c., leaving ST. PANCRAS at 9.15 p.m., Kentish Town 8.34, Victoria (S.E. & C.) 7.2, Moorgate Street 7.48, Aldersgate Street 7.50, and Farringdon Street at 7.52 p.m.

RETURN TICKETS at about a THIRD CLASS SINGLE FARE for the DOUBLE JOURNEY will be issued by the trains to the places mentioned, available for return on any day within 16 days from and including date of issue.

To Provincial Towns, &c.

On SATURDAY, 22nd DECEMBER, to Leicester, BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Blackburn, Bolton, SHEFFIELD, LEEDS, BRADFORD, York, Scarborough, Newcastle, Barrow-in-Furness, the Lake District, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December. To the same places (except Birmingham) on Monday, 24th December, returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December.

On SATURDAY (midnight), 22nd December, to LEICESTER, NOTTINGHAM, MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT, WARRINGTON, LIVERPOOL, and SHEFFIELD, returning on 26th, 27th, or 29th December; on Monday (midnight), 24th December, to LEICESTER, LOUGHBORO, NOTTINGHAM, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, SHEFFIELD, LEEDS, BRADFORD, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December, and on Monday (midnight), 31st December, to LEICESTER, NOTTINGHAM, MANCHESTER, STOCKPORT, LIVERPOOL, SHEFFIELD, &c., returning 1st, 2nd, or 5th January 1901.

TO IRELAND.

(From St. Pancras and City Stations).

There will also be cheap Excursions to DUBLIN, Ballina, Galway, Sligo, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, via Liverpool or via Morecambe, on 21st December; to BELFAST, Londonderry, Portrush, &c., via Barrow or via Liverpool, on 21st December; and to Londonderry, via Liverpool or via Morecambe, on 22nd December. See bills for times of return.

To Southend-on-Sea.

Cheap Day Excursion Tickets on Sundays and Christmas Day; and Week-end Excursion Tickets will be issued to Southend-on-Sea, as announced in Special Bills.

Week-ends in the Country.

EVERY SATURDAY until further notice.—CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS to BEDFORD, OLNEY, WELLINGBOROUGH and KETTERING, available for half, two, or three days, will be issued from ST. PANCRAS, Moorgate Street, Aldersgate Street, Farringdon Street, King's Cross (Met.), and Kentish Town, as per bills.

Cheap Week-end Tickets.

Cheap Week-end Tickets will be issued on Fridays, 21st and 28th December, and Saturdays, 22nd and 29th December, from LONDON (St. PANCRAS) and other MIDLAND STATIONS to the PRINCIPAL HOLIDAY and HEALTH RESORTS for the CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS. Tickets issued on 21st and 22nd December will be available for returning (after Saturday) up to and including Wednesday, 26th December (and tickets issued to SCOTLAND on 28th and 29th December, up to and including Wednesday, 2nd January 1901. WINTER TOURIST TICKETS are also issued to numerous places in England and Wales.

Tickets, Programmes, and Bills

may be had at the MIDLAND STATIONS and CITY BOOKING OFFICES; and from Thos. Cook and Son, Ludgate Circus, and Branch Offices.

Excursions from the Provinces.

EXCURSION TRAINS will be run from Leicester, NOTTINGHAM, BIRMINGHAM, Derby, MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, Sheffield, LEEDS, BRADFORD, and other principal towns to EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, and ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND for the Christmas and New Year Holidays. NUMEROUS OTHER CHEAP EXCURSIONS have been arranged from the chief Midland Stations, particulars of which may be had on application.

GEO. H. TURNER, General Manager.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, 1900.**

Additional Express Trains will be run, and Special Arrangements made in connection with the London and North Western Passenger Trains for the Christmas Holidays, full particulars of which can be obtained at the Company's Stations or Town Offices.

EXCURSIONS.

From Euston, Broad Street, Kensington (Addison Road), Willesden Junction, and other London Stations.

On Thursday, 20th December.—To Dublin, Greenore, Belfast, Bray, Cork, Galway, Killarney, Londonderry, and other places in Ireland. To return within 16 days.

On Friday night, 21st December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other Stations in Scotland. For 6, 8, and 16 days.

On Saturday night, 22nd December.—To Ashton, Birmingham District, Cambrian Line Stations, Carlisle, Carnforth, Chester, Crewe, English Lake District, Furness Line Stations, Lancaster, Leamington, Leicester, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Manchester, North Wales, Nuneaton, Oldham, Preston, Rugby, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Stalybridge, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth, Walsall, Warrington, Wigan, Wolverhampton, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December.

On Monday night, 24th December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other Stations in Scotland. For 3, 5, and 16 days.

To Abergavenny, Brynmawr, Carmarthen, Dowlais, Hereford, Llandilo, Llandovery, Llandrindod Wells, Llangammarch Wells, Llanwrtyd Wells, Ludlow, Merthyr, Swansea, &c., returning 26th or 27th December.

To Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington. For 2, 3, and 5 days.

On Friday night, 28th December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other Stations in Scotland. For 6, 8, and 16 days.

On Monday night, 31st December.—To Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington. For 1, 2, and 5 days.

Cheap Week-End Tickets issued on Friday and Saturday 21st and 22nd December, to Cambrian Line Stations, Church Stretton, English Lake District, Leamington, North and Central Wales, Stations in Scotland, Stratford-on-Avon, and other places, will be available for the return journey on Sunday, 23rd December (Train Service permitting), or any date up to and including the following Wednesday.

Week-End Tickets issued to Scotch Stations on Friday and Saturday, 28th and 29th December, will be available for return on Sunday, 30th December (Train Service permitting), or any day up to and including the following Wednesday.

For Times, Fares, and full particulars, see Bills, which can be obtained at the Stations and Parcels Receiving Offices.
London, December 1900. FRED. HARRISON, General Manager.

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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.**

EXCURSIONS will leave **PADDINGTON STATION** as under:—

A FORTNIGHT IN IRELAND.—THURSDAY, 20th DECEMBER. To CORK and KILLARNEY.

FRIDAY, 21st DECEMBER.—To WATERFORD, Kilkenny, Clonmel, LIMERICK, Tralee, KILLARNEY, BELFAST, Armagh, GIANTS' CAUSEWAY, &c.

SATURDAY, 22nd DECEMBER.—To SAVERNAKE, Marlborough, Devizes, TROWBRIDGE, Frome, Shepton Mallet, Wells, YEOVIL, Bridport, Dorchester, WEYMOUTH, Portland, &c., for 6 days.

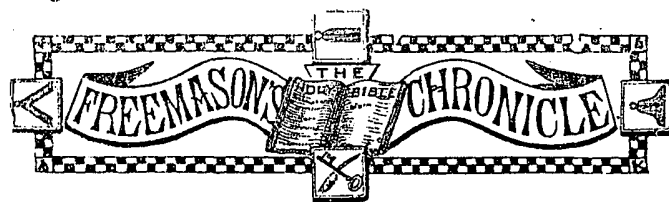
SATURDAY, 22nd DECEMBER, NIGHT.—To Chipping Norton, Evesham, WORCESTER, Kidderminster, Dudley, Malvern, Hereford, &c., for 4 days; to OXFORD, Banbury, Leamington, Warwick, BIRMINGHAM, WOLVERHAMPTON, Shrewsbury, Llangollen, Corwen, CHESTER, Birkenhead, LIVERPOOL, &c., for 4, 5, or 7 days; and to Brynamman, Llandilo, Llandovery, Newcastle Emlyn, Cardigan, &c., for 4 or 5 days.

22nd and 24th DECEMBER, NIGHT.—To SWINDON, Cirencester, Stroud, GLOUCESTER, CHELTENHAM, Abergavenny, Newport, CARDIFF, Swansea, Llanelly, Carmarthen, Tenby, Pembroke Dock, NEW MILFORD, Bath, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Bridgwater, Taunton, Exeter, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Torquay, Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, Tavistock, Launceston, PLYMOUTH, Devonport, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Newquay, TRURO, Falmouth, St. Ives, PENZANCE, &c., to return 26th or 27th DECEMBER, night.

MONDAY NIGHT, 24th DECEMBER.—To GUERNSEY and JERSEY, for 13 days or less.

For times of trains, fares, and full particulars of alterations in ordinary train arrangements, see pamphlets and bills, which can be obtained at the Company's Stations and usual Receiving Offices.

J. L. WILKINSON, General Manager.



SATURDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 1900.

R. M. I. GIRLS.

A MOTION is to be brought before a Special General Court "That the laws of the Institution relating to election be suspended, with a view to the immediate admission to the Institution of Audrey Rennett, daughter of Company-Sergeant-Major Arthur Rennett, R.E., Chatham, in consideration of the fact that her father died of enteric fever during active service in South Africa."

Bro. Captain W. Boughton Chambers, of Her Majesty's Customs, Calcutta, has been nominated for Fellowship of the Royal Society of Literature. His proposers are the following, all of whom are Fellows of the Society: Bro. Dr. Chas. Forshaw, of Bradford, England; Kunwar Kushal Pal Singh, Esq., M.A., LL.B., F.R.G.S., M.R.A.S., Agra, India; His Highness Rajah Sir S. M. Tagore, Calcutta; and Kumar Shyama Kumar Tagore, Esq., Calcutta. Bro. Boughton is the Editor of the "Indian Freemason," "Indian Tit-Bits," &c., and one of the founders of the proposed Military Lodge "Defence," the headquarters of which will be in Calcutta.

The Brethren of Portsmouth have decided to celebrate the beginning of the new century by dining together in the Portsmouth Town Hall, on the 15th January next, under the presidency of Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and Isle of Wight. The Committee appointed by the Lodges to make the arrangements are paying special attention to the musical programme.

The time spent in the Lodge room or in Masonic work, makes better husbands, better fathers, better brothers, better citizens. Next to religion—and that should always come first—Masonry is the grandest, purest, and holiest institution in the world—Max Meyerhardt, Georgia.

Confidence Lodge Ladies Night.

THIS Lodge—which has long enjoyed a distinction for unbounded hospitality—held its annual Ladies Banquet on Wednesday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, when a more than ordinarily large number of Brethren, Ladies, and friends gathered together. The scene was a bright and pleasant one, the dresses of the ladies lending a brilliant colouring to the ordinary black of the gentlemen, and everything passed off so successfully as to induce the general verdict that the assembly was worthy of being recorded as one of the notable events in the history of this ancient Lodge.

The Worshipful Master Bro. John Wyatt Simeons received the company with his accustomed geniality, and after brief introductions in the reception room an adjournment was made to the banquet room, where the tables were found to be elegantly decorated with flowers, &c. The dinner was served under the direction of the popular host Bro. Robert H. Clemow, who used every effort to secure the comfort and enjoyment of the party.

At the conclusion of the banquet the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen and the Craft, expressing the opinion that among her many subjects Her Majesty had none more devoted or more loyal than the members of the Craft. For the information of the ladies and other guests present he referred to the fact that the Queen was the Grand Patroness of the Order and a liberal supporter of its Charitable Institutions. The National Anthem was sung, Mrs. Owen taking the solo and the ladies as well as the Brethren heartily joining in.

In dealing with the toast of the Grand Master the W.M. referred to the services the Prince of Wales rendered to the Craft. Master Reginald Hamblar sang the solo of "God bless the Prince of Wales."

Bro. George Spice proposed the toast of the W.M. in a short but eloquent speech, in which he said he had had the pleasure of being friends with Bro. Simeons from boyhood. They had followed each other step by step in Freemasonry; they were both bachelors; and both were bashful together. Their Worshipful Master did not alone study the pleasures of Freemasonry, but was a prominent supporter of its Charity also, and he was proud to say that under his rule the Confidence Lodge stood well among the supporters of the different Charitable Institutions.

Bro. Simeons was most heartily received on rising to respond. He said he had done that night what he had done ever since he had joined the Craft—and that was to strive to give satisfaction, and he hoped he had been so far successful as to cause the whole of the company to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Bro. Kington P.M. submitted the health of the Ladies. He rose, he took it, to propose the toast of the evening and he felt shy, as a young Past Master, in proposing it. If the ladies only knew what an effect their presence had on the members—and the faces of the Brethren might be taken as an index thereof—he felt they would be delighted to come more often than they did.

Bro. Green responded. He could assure them he felt highly honoured in being asked to return thanks on behalf of the ladies for the enthusiastic and gracious manner in which they had received the toast and drunk to their health, and also for the kind manner in which the toast had been proposed. It had been his lot on similar festive occasions to propose such a toast, and he must confess he now felt rather at sea in responding. However, as he looked around and gazed on the kindly faces of the ladies who graced the table that night their encouraging smiles seemed to have a message toward him, and he read it to be the wish of the ladies that he should tell the Brethren they were thoroughly enjoying themselves and looking forward with "Confidence" to a merry trip on the boards. In fact the ladies were only waiting for the Worshipful Master to pipe the merry crew to the saloon below, where they would all do their utmost to help fill the Brethren's cup of enjoyment to the brim. On behalf of the ladies, whose presence gladdened their hearts that night, he again thanked them.

Bro. John E. Fells P.M. Treasurer submitted the toast of the visitors. He was delighted to see such a nice gathering of ladies and gentlemen friends as they had there that night. They had Brethren from Herne Bay, Windsor, Yorkshire, and other parts of England, and the Lodge accorded one and all of them the most hearty welcome, with the hope that they would come again. Their worthy Secretary Bro. Davey had worked very hard to get so sociable a company together; it was a great credit to him. He sincerely hoped the ladies had not only enjoyed themselves at the banquet table, but that they would continue to enjoy themselves in the ball room. He further hoped to see them again—at the summer outing of the Lodge.

Bro. R. D. Heckels P.M. 1601 had much pleasure in responding to the toast, as in his own Lodge—the Ravensbourne—they had not yet attained to the height of the Confidence Lodge and instituted a Ladies night; therefore such an opportunity as he then enjoyed did not always occur. He thanked the proposer of the toast for the kind manner in which he had given it, and the Brethren for its reception. He wished all the ladies to take home a lesson that night. They had seen that the Worshipful Master was implicitly obeyed, so that if they should happen to be the head of the family, in a domestic sense—and some men were not fit for that post—they must see that they were obeyed; but should the husband be the head of the family, as was only right and proper, then they should obey. Masonry, although flourishing in a monarchical country, was a pure republic, and from it the ladies would probably be able to learn much.

The music was under the direction of Bro. E. H. Lough Organist of the Lodge and was sustained by Mrs. Owen, Miss Edith Chapman, Master Reginald Hamblar, Bro. George Barratt, and Bro. Lough himself. By special desire of the W.M. the two Misses Rawson

sang duets in the ball room, and were deservedly encored. Dancing was kept up until an early hour.

The Worshipful Master of the Lodge made a present to each lady, of a handsome plush bag, as a souvenir of the occasion, and in many other ways worked to ensure the enjoyment of the fair guests and other visitors of the Lodge.

The company included Mrs. Buick, Miss Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Mason, Mr. Mrs. and two Misses Rawson, Bro. and Mrs. Noel, Bro. Ollington, Bro. and Miss Chilcott, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. Sharpin, Bro. and Mrs. Bushell J.D., Miss Vellum, Bro. G. Spice I.P.M. and his sister Mrs. Grier, Mr. and Mrs. Buckman, Bro. and Mrs. Green, Bro. Carr, Bro. Barratt, Bro. Davey Sec., Mr. and Mrs. Harnack, Bro. and Mrs. Pribull and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Pribull jun., Bro. and Mrs. Turner, Bro. and Mrs. Owen, Bro. and Mrs. Scones, Bro. and Mrs. Geddes, Bro. and Mrs. Gosheron, Bro. and Mrs. Brain, Bro. and Mrs. Taylor, Bro. Mrs. and Miss King, Bro. and Mrs. Hattersley, Bro. and Mrs. Foreman, Bro. Baillie and Friends, Bro. A. E. Green, Bro. F. W. Clarke and Friends, Bro. T. Kington and Friends, Bro. and Mrs. S. W. Fells, Bro. and Mrs. J. E. Fells and daughters, Bro. and Mrs. Whiffin S.D., Bro. J. Wynman, Mr. C. G. Willmore, Bro. and Mrs. F. W. Sharpe, Bro. H. Lynn, Bro. W. E. Kington I.P.M. Windsor Castle Lodge, Bro. D. Luker, Bro. G. Kington, Bro. T. E. C. Scoones, &c.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—The fiftieth performance of "Herod" took place on Wednesday evening, and was received with every expression of gratification by a crowded audience. Mr. Stephen Phillips is indeed fortunate in having Mr. Beerbohm Tree as the exponent of his hero, and, while from an historical point of view we may differ from both author and actor on certain points, both are to be congratulated upon the result achieved. Miss Maud Jeffries is admirable as Marianne; her transition from the loving wife to the sister loathing her brother's murderer was finely depicted. These two characters are the central figures, but the subordinate parts are ably filled by Miss Bateman, Herod's Mother; Miss Eleanor Calhoun, capital as Salome; Mr. Norman Tharp, Aristobulus; and Mr. F. H. Macklin, Sohemus. As a spectacle the stage setting is magnificent, though there is but one scene, but the varied glow of colour as the sun rises and sets is beautifully and tastefully managed. "Herod" is a play to be seen.

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P.M. 1260, 1012, &c., &c.

CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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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:—

CRAFT: METROPOLITAN.

— o:—

Confidence Lodge, No. 193.

THE annual election meeting was held on Monday, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, those present including Bros. John Wyatt Simeons W.M., George Spice I.P.M., Sydney Fells S.W., Metcalfe Baillie J.W., John E. Fells P.M. Treas., E. J. Davey P.M. Sec., B. Houghton acting S.D., A. E. Green acting J.D., G. H. Lough A.D.C. and Org., G. Carr acting I.G., Reinhardt Tyler; Past Masters E. Pennock, Francis Haines, S. Smither, A. Cubitt; also Bros. W. Martin, John Done, W. Osborne, S. Geddes, John A. Bigg, G. Kimber, W. Johnson, H. Jones, G. Barlow, F. W. Jisbury, R. C. Schnitzer, J. C. Turner, H. King, C. H. Brain, E. Goscheron, A. L. Scott, T. C. Scoones, C. Leopard, B. G. Aylett, G. Barratt, &c.

Amongst the visitors we had the pleasure of seeing Bros. J. Mears P.M. of the Crescent Lodge, No. 788, W. Chilcott 788, E. G. Bygrave 788, R. P. Morris J.W. 788, A. Lord 469, G. J. North J.W. 2272, J. Wynman, and several others.

The minutes were confirmed and the Lodge was opened in the second degree, when Bros. Samuel Geddes and E. G. Bygrave (initiated in the Crescent Lodge, and passed in the Confidence Lodge) were examined and entrusted. The Lodge was advanced to the third degree and in due course the two Brethren were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

The Lodge was resumed to the first degree, and Bros. A. Wise, F. W. Tisbury and R. C. Schnitzer having answered the questions to the satisfaction of the W.M. were entrusted. The Lodge was opened in the second degree and those Brethren were duly passed Fellow Craft.

The Lodge was again resumed to the first degree, and the W.M. announced that the ballot would be taken for Mr. John James Grundy as a candidate for initiation. This proved to be unanimous in his favour and he was regularly and impressively introduced into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry.

The annual elections now took place, and we were pleased to hear the announcement from the chair that Bro. Sydney Fells (son of the popular Treasurer of the Lodge) was unanimously elected as Master for the ensuing twelve months. The W.M., in announcing the election of the S.W., said he was well aware that the unanimously elected Master was fully qualified to perfectly perform the work of his Office. He trusted the Great Architect of the Universe would give him health and strength to fulfil the duties of his high station with satisfaction to himself and advantage to the Lodge. Bro. Fells thanked the W.M. and Brethren for the unanimous vote, and promised that he would endeavour to fulfil every duty that was expected of him. Bro. John E. Fells was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. Reinhardt Tyler, while Bros. G. Carr and T. T. C. Scoones were appointed Auditors.

A proposal was brought forward by Bro. G. Spice I.P.M. that the sum of ten guineas be voted from the Benevolent Fund of the Lodge, to be placed on the list of Bro. S. Fells W.M.-elect, who is going up as a Steward on behalf of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution in February next, which vote was unanimously agreed to.

Bro. Spice again rose, and said that before the W.M. closed the Lodge he had a most pleasant duty to perform, and that was to propose that a ten guinea jewel should be presented to their Worshipful Master on his retirement from the chair, the duties of which he had fulfilled during the past year to the honour of the Lodge, and his personal credit. The proposition was enthusiastically received and agreed to with entire unanimity. The W.M. acknowledged the vote in his usual quiet way, and in well chosen words.

After some other Masonic transactions the Lodge was closed and the Brethren repaired to the banquet room, where a nice repast was provided, served in the usual satisfactory manner we are accustomed to at this establishment. It was an agreeable pleasure to many of the older members to see the proprietor, Bro. R. H. Clemow, personally supervising the arrangements made for the comfort of the company.

After the repast the W.M. submitted the usual Loyal toast, which, he said, was always received with acclamation by Freemasons. They all knew the trying time Her Majesty had recently passed through. The losses she had experienced about her own person—independent of her anxiety for her soldiers and their families—had been a very severe ordeal, and for a lady of her age was a serious matter. They hoped the G.A.O.T.U. would give her health and strength to continue her reign for many years yet to come.

After the toast of the Grand Master, Bro. Spice I.P.M. proposed that of the Worshipful Master. The way in which the W.M. had fulfilled the duties of the chair was a great credit to the Lodge and the Master personally.

Bro. Simeons said it was with regret and also with pleasure he replied to the toast for the last time as Master of the Lodge; regret for the very many happy hours he had spent in it, and pleasure at the way his humble efforts had been received. He was sure he could but thank them one and all for the success that had attended

his year of Office. A Master could not alone make his Lodge go; it was owing to all of the Brethren that the year had been so successful. No quarrel, pique or misunderstanding had been known among them; they had all been united, and he sincerely trusted they would extend the same friendship to his successor. He thanked them all for a very happy year of Office.

The W.M. next proposed the toast of the I.P.M., whom he described as a Brother always willing to help. He had received great help and continued support from him during the past year; whenever he was in trouble Bro. Spice had proved ready to assist him.

Bro. Spice replied. If every Past Master had as little to do as he had had that night it would be most satisfactory. He thanked the Brethren for their kind reception on all occasions.

Bro. Spice next gave the toast of the W.M.-elect. He knew that in Bro. Fells the Lodge would have a good ruler and a very good worker. His father was a Past Master and Treasurer of their Lodge, so that they knew the son as coming from a good stock. He had the honour of being Preceptor of the Confidence Lodge of Instruction, and from the way in which Bro. Fells had done the work there he knew he would prove a good Master—one who knew the ritual of Freemasonry thoroughly.

Bro. S. Fells said he was delighted and proud of being elected W.M. for the ensuing year. He should endeavour to give every satisfaction, by faithfully carrying out every duty required of a Worshipful Master.

The next toast was that of the Initiate, to whom the W.M. gave a hearty welcome. Bro. J. J. Grundy made suitable response.

The toast of the Visitors was now given, the W.M. particularly thanking Bro. Past Master Mears for his visit. That Brother returned thanks. He had thoroughly enjoyed the working in the Lodge. He had previous experience of the knowledge of the W.M. in the ritual of Freemasonry, having met him in the Instruction Lodge of which Bro. Spice was the Preceptor, but he had never heard the W.M. work the three degrees so well as he had done that night—he was, in fact, delighted with the working of the Lodge and its Officers, and if the W.M. and Brethren would accept him as a Joining Member he should be pleased to become more intimately associated with the Lodge.

Bro. R. P. Morris J.W. 788 also praised the working in Lodge; he had enjoyed it very much, and was particularly struck at the way in which the Officers had performed their respective duties.

Bro. North endorsed the remarks of his fellow visitors. He was delighted to see father and son—their Brothers Fells—taking so prominent a part in the affairs of the Lodge.

In proposing the Treasurer, Secretary, and Past Masters the W.M. said—in first speaking of the Treasurer—"good wine needs no bush." They certainly required no bush hanging out to intimate that their Bro. Fells was a good fellow; always looking after the £. s. d., and carefully pulling the string of his purse when necessary. Of the "Handy Man" of the Lodge he could truly say he was "Multum in parvo." He was all round good, and if some of the Brethren only knew the trouble they caused him by not filling up the post cards sent to them, he was sure they would no longer hesitate to return them as they were asked. To some 160 notices sent out, only some thirty-three replies were received; consequently, should any of them be disappointed at not being able to get seats allotted to their liking on the occasion of the ball they must not blame the Secretary.

Bro. Fells Treasurer said it was his happiest moment in Freemasonry to see his son elected Worshipful Master of the Lodge; he felt sure he would give satisfaction. As to his own Office of Treasurer, he had to thank the Brethren for having re-elected him and promised to continue to do his utmost to give satisfaction. He was happy to say the Lodge was on a good "Confidential" footing.

Bro. Davey Secretary said Freemasonry was a glorious Institution. He could assure the initiate it was a great Fraternity, and if he travelled about he would find Freemasons all over the globe who would meet him with a free hand and sure fellowship. He spoke from experience; if the candidates acted up to the lessons taught them that day they would be sure to make good Masons. Speaking of the Secretaryship—he could assure them that was a labour of love; whatever he could do for the Lodge he would cheerfully undertake.

Bro. Haines P.M., responding as one of the Past Masters, said he had belonged to the Lodge for many years. It was always hands together and true fellowship there. He greatly admired the work of the W.M., and trusted the members would render all the assistance possible.

In proposing the toast of the Officers the W.M. particularly referred to the services rendered by the Steward of the Lodge, who was a curio worthy of the British Museum, and had proved himself a gem.

Some excellent songs were rendered during the evening.

The annual Ladies night and ball took place on Wednesday, and is reported elsewhere in this issue.

* * *

Upton Lodge, No. 1227.

IN order to clear off the accumulation of work previous to the regular meeting in January, on which occasion it is intended to hold the annual Ladies' Night, an emergency meeting was held on Thursday evening, at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C. Bro. Walter James Carroll W.M. presided, and was supported by his Officers: Bros. R. F. Thomson S.W., A. B. Noble J.W., C. Gieseke P.M. Treasurer, C. J. Free P.M. Secretary, G. W. Flatman S.D., C. W. Cooper J.D., Thos. Hustwayte I.G., Henry Hyde P.M. D.C., and E. C. Holmes Organist, together with a large muster of the members.

The Lodge being formally opened the ballot was taken, and

proved unanimous, in favour of Messrs. Frederick Herbert Toplis, Herbert C. Houghton, Thomas Saunders, and James Avery, as candidates for Freemasonry. Bros. Arthur Ekins, Thos. D. Carter, Charles J. Gilmer, and Morris C. Cole answered the usual questions, and when the Lodge was opened in the second degree, were passed as Fellow Craftsmen. Bros. William Farrier and Samuel C. Farrow proved their proficiency in the second degree, were subsequently raised to the rank of Master Mason, were invested and took their seats in the Lodge.

The Lodge was then "called off" for a short interval, and upon the re-assembly of the Brethren, Messrs. Toplis, Houghton, Saunders, and Avery were introduced and were regularly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of the Order.

The whole of the ceremonies were undertaken by Bro. Carroll, who proved his fitness for the exalted position he occupies, by the very admirable manner in which he rendered the ritual. It is somewhat a severe task to perform the whole three ceremonies in one evening, and in view of the many well qualified Past Masters of the Upton Lodge, we rather question the wisdom of the Master thus overtaxing himself; but it must be acknowledged that Bro. Carroll showed no signs of fatigue, and the whole work was impressively and perfectly gone through. The various Officers also performed their duties most satisfactorily, proving thereby the excellent teaching of the Upton Lodge of Instruction.

Bro. Free stated that since the last meeting the Lodge had sustained a loss by the death of Bro. James Isaacs, and that in the name of the Brethren a wreath had been sent on the occasion of his funeral on 15th November.

The Lodge was then closed, and the members adjourned to the Dining Hall, where supper was served. A pleasant evening followed, and the Brethren separated at a late hour.

Hyde Park Lodge, No. 1425.

THE regular meeting was held on Thursday, 6th inst., at the Frascati, Oxford Street, under the presidency of Bro. Alfred Collman W.M., who was supported by the I.P.M., Officers, and several other members and visitors.

The ballot was taken for three candidates for initiation: Mr. William James Reith, Mr. John Lewis Hazard, and Mr. John William Tipper. The result was favourable and the three gentlemen were admitted to a participation in the benefits of the Craft.

Other work was disposed of and dinner afterwards enjoyed. The toast of the initiates was made a special feature of during the social board, and they duly acknowledged the kindness of their reception.

Hygeia Lodge, No. 2664.

THE annual election meeting took place on Saturday, at the Holborn Restaurant, when Lodge was opened by Bro. T. F. Strutt W.M., who had the assistance of Bros. W. H. Watson I.P.M. and Treasurer, J. A. Jones S.W., W. E. Groom J.W., E. Tidman Sec., J. Young S.D., J. W. Medcalf J.D., A. Taylor I.G., W. G. Lacy Org., T. G. Dee and W. H. Grigg Stewards, T. Williams Tyler; Bros. J. W. Whipp, F. Aris, S. Grave, G. D. Lill, C. Brady, L. G. Wearing, E. Ward, E. Robinson, R. J. Butland, W. West, A. McNair, J. West, J. J. Roberts, H. Marrable, J. P. Folland, J. W. Kirk, F. A. Barth, F. Anthony, A. J. Bobbitt, R. H. Ellis, W. Gathercole, Dr. F. A. Allen, S. Schultess Young, E. Bobbitt, Charles Phillips, T. W. Calverley, S. Fairchild, G. W. Branson, and others.

The visitors included Bros. C. Gurton P.M. 192 2686, W. H. Atkinson 1987, P. Page J.D. 1679, Geo. Blake Spicer P.M. 1891, W. R. Palmer P.P.G.R. Middlesex, G. Herridge A.D.C. 1922, F. A. Nash J.W. 1768, W. J. Alabaster Steward 1348 2743, E. S. Wood 1287, J. B. Gridley 1563, J. Wynman, and others.

The minutes having been confirmed the Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bros. L. G. Wearing and C. E. Brady were examined. Having answered the questions they were entrusted, the Lodge was advanced to the third degree, and they were in due course raised as Master Masons.

The W.M. resumed the Lodge to the first degree, when two Brethren who were on the Agenda for raising, viz.: Bros. Henry Schultess Young and J. J. Roberts (better known amongst the profession as Karl Kaps) answered the questions, and in due course were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

The Lodge was again resumed to the first degree, and the ballot was taken for Messrs. S. E. Bobbitt, Charles Phillips, and T. Winter Calverley. It proved unanimous in their favour, and in due course those gentlemen had the privilege of being initiated into the mysteries of Ancient Freemasonry.

We heartily congratulate the Worshipful Master on his performances; the working was faultlessly and impressively rendered.

The annual elections now took place. Bro. J. A. Jones was unanimously elected W.M. for the coming year, the result of the ballot being most heartily received by the Brethren.

Bro. Jones, in a few well chosen words thanked the W.M. and Brethren for their unanimous vote appointing him ruler of the Hygeia Lodge; as long as he had health and strength he would endeavour to fulfil every duty that was expected of him.

Bro. W. Hill Watson I.P.M. was re-elected Treasurer, and Bro. T. Williams Tyler, whilst Bros. G. D. Lill, Chas. Phillips and T. W. Calverley were appointed the Auditors.

The W.M. informed the Brethren that he would represent the Hygeia Lodge as a Steward at the Anniversary Festival on behalf of the Old People, and hoped to receive the support of the members.

Bro. W. Hill Watson said that as their new Treasurer he had had a good look into the financial condition of the Lodge, and he

was pleased to say that the Lodge could well afford to place ten guineas on the list of the W.M. The money could not be spent for a better purpose, and the Lodge could not have a better representative. The suggestion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The W.M. thanked the Brethren. He also took the opportunity of thanking Bro. Lacy for his kindness in officiating as Organist; his music added greatly to the charm of the different ceremonies. Bro. Lacy had put himself to great inconvenience in order to attend, and he proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded him, and duly placed on the minutes.

This was agreed to, upon which Bro. Lacy thanked the W.M. and Brethren; he highly appreciated the compliment. Bro. Jones W.M.-elect proposed that the Lodge should provide a Past Master's jewel and collar for Bro. Strutt their Worshipful Master. He richly deserved it. The ability he had shown during his year of Office was something to be proud of. Bro. Watson I.P.M. had much pleasure in seconding the proposal to show the respect and high esteem they all had for the W.M. The vote was unanimously agreed to, and Bro. Strutt acknowledged the compliment.

The Secretary informed the Brethren that the W.M. had presented the Lodge with a handsome album, and proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded him for it, which was done.

The W.M. returned thanks, and said he hoped the Brethren would now send their photo—with smiling countenance.

Three gentlemen were proposed as candidates for initiation, and after some important discussions the Lodge was closed with solemn prayer, and the Brethren retired to partake of an excellent repast, which was as usual well served at this well known establishment.

After dinner the W.M. presented the toast of the Queen. They trusted she might be spared for many years to continue her beneficent reign.

The I.P.M. said he had to give a toast which doubtless would be received with approval. It was the health of the W.M. That was probably his last toast, and he was sure the members were sorry to lose such an excellent worker. But it was useless to say more; he had patted the W.M. so much that—pointing to his bald head—he did not know what would be the result if he kept on at it; but his working was something to be proud of, and his ruling would really serve as an example of what should be done for the management of a Lodge. The toast was well received, as was the W.M. on rising to respond.

The W.M. thanked the I.P.M. for his very generous remarks, and the Brethren for receiving the toast in such a cordial manner. In face of their magnificent reception what could he say? He had nearly fulfilled his year of Office, and had received such kindness as any Worshipful Master might be proud of. He was pleased to have given satisfaction.

The W.M., in presenting the toast of the Initiates, said they had added three worthy gentlemen to the Order that evening. Bro. Phillips he had had the pleasure of knowing for over fifteen years; Bro. Calverley he had also known for several years; and Bro. Bobbitt brought excellent recommendation. He was pleased to think, from the great attention they had paid to the ceremony, that in due time they would rise to occupy the honourable position he occupied at present. On behalf of the members he gave them a most hearty welcome.

Bro. Bobbitt thanked the W.M. and Brethren for the hearty manner in which he was received in the Lodge. He should never forget his obligation.

Bro. Phillips said it was a little out of his usual way to respond to the toast. He had been trying to become a Freemason for the last eight years; he had found it the greatest trouble to get introduced. He did not now how to act until Bro. Folland kindly proposed him for that Lodge, for which he was most thankful, because he was proud to be now a member of the Hygeia Lodge. He thanked them all for having accepted him as a Brother amongst them.

Bro. Calverley said he had been very much impressed with the ceremony, he had been longing to be introduced to the Ancient Order to which he had been admitted that evening, and he also had to thank Bro. Folland for having introduced him. He assured them that he and his Brother Initiates would do everything in their power for the welfare of Freemasonry, and for their Lodge in particular.

The W.M. now submitted the toast of the W.M.-elect, which he said was the toast of the evening. They all knew Bro. Jones as a good worker, and were pleased he received the unanimous vote of the Lodge. He was sure the members could not have done better than elect him as their ruler. Bro. Jones attended the same Lodges of Instruction as he did, and could work all the ceremonies to perfection. They would find he knew his duties and would act as W.M. to the credit of himself and the Lodge also.

Bro. Jones, in reply, said he had already observed in the Lodge that he was truly sincere in thanking the Brethren for the way in which they had elected him as Master. Now he did the same for the very hearty manner in which they had received the toast. He hoped he should receive the same support from the Past Masters and Officers as the Worshipful Master had received during his year of Office, and with good health hoped to carry out all the duties which were expected of him to their entire satisfaction.

The visitors toast was next given from the chair. The W.M. said they were always delighted to see visitors. A Lodge would be an isolated body without guests. In the name of the Hygeia Lodge he extended to them a most hearty welcome, and hoped they had enjoyed themselves.

Bro. Palmer P.P.G.R. said it was with pleasure as a Past Provincial Officer that he had the advantage of responding to the eloquent speech of the W.M. He thanked them most cordially for

their hearty reception. The ritual in Lodge had been most perfectly rendered. He explained that the method of working at his Lodge in Middlesex was not so perfect. Their W.M. was a Norwegian, the S.W. an Englishman, and the J.W. a Frenchman. He was pleased to have gained knowledge in their Lodge which he would carry back with him.

Bro. Spicer P.M. also thanked the W.M. in the name of the visitors for his kind reception. He was pleased at being present that night, but it was not the first time he had had the pleasure of witnessing the faultless working of the W.M. He considered the candidates might have answered their questions in a better style, but that was not their fault, it was rather the fault of those who had introduced them.

Bro. Nash also highly complimented the W.M. on his working and kind reception.

The W.M. had now very much pleasure in giving the toast of the I.P.M. and Treasurer of the Lodge and Bro. Tidman their Secretary. Their Bro. Watson was not alone the I.P.M. and Treasurer of their Lodge but was one of the Councillors of the City of Westminster. He was sure he would look after the health and comfort of that neighbourhood. The Secretary was a hard working member and looked well after the financial affairs of the Lodge.

Bro. Watson said it afforded him great pleasure to respond as I.P.M., as in a very short time he would be put to a seat far lower down. He was the only Past Master present, but one was prevented from attending, and the other was taken away from them for ever. As I.P.M. of the Lodge he sincerely thanked them, and of the grand position of Treasurer of the Lodge he was indeed proud. Considering the short time the Lodge had been in existence it was in a most flourishing condition. As councillor of the City of Westminster he should look after the comfort of the district, but as Treasurer of the Lodge he should especially attend to the finances.

Bro. Tidman also thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks. He was always willing to do anything he was called upon to perform. His labour was purely for the love of Freemasonry.

The Officers toast was next given and responded to, and the Tyler's toast brought a most pleasant meeting to a close.

The harmony of the evening was enhanced by some capital singing, especially by the Minnesingers Quartette—Messrs. Alfred Long (alto), Frank Hobbs (tenor), Franklin Head (baritone), and Harry Davis (bass)—who were deservedly encored. Brother Karl Kaps gave a splendid solo on the violin, Bro. S. S. Young a very humorous recitation, and several other Brethren added to the enjoyment.

Horistic Lodge, No. 2822.

THE members held their second meeting since the consecration of this Lodge—which ceremony took place at the Freemasons' Hall—at its regular home at Beale's Restaurant, Holloway, on Tuesday, 11th inst.

Those present included Bros. Thos. M. Wood P.M. W.M., Dr. R. Bryant 2033 and 453 S.W., H. Hills, B.Sc., 2033 J.W., Fred. A. Cox P.M. 453 Secretary, W. T. Thompson P.M. 2157 Treasurer, J. W. Key 1288 S.D., E. Burgess 27 J.D., T. A. Key 1288 I.G., Alfred P. Lye, M.A., P.M. 2157 acting as I.P.M., John E. Clark 2601, Wm. J. Cornish 1319, R. E. Strickland 2822, Chas. Ray 2822, and Visitors.

Lodge was opened in solemn form and the minutes read and confirmed. Bros. Strickland and Ray being candidates for passing were examined and retired, the Lodge was opened in the second degree and those two Brethren were passed to the degree of Fellow Craft.

The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when Bro. Secretary called attention to two slight alterations made by Grand Lodge in the Bye-Laws submitted. The Bye-Laws, with alterations were then unanimously approved.

The Lodge being closed the Brethren adjourned for refreshment, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

This Lodge, though only a very young one, sets an example in working.

Richard Eve Lodge, No. 2772.

INSTALLATION OF BROTHER HARRY MANFIELD.

THE first anniversary of this Lodge was celebrated on Friday of last week, at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, W.C., with considerable eclat, no less than thirty-seven Grand and Prov. Officers being present, besides many other Past Masters and visitors. An air of sadness somewhat modified the pleasure that would otherwise have obtained, caused by the absence of our lamented Brother after whom the Lodge is named, and whom it has pleased the Great Architect to call to the Grand Lodge above. Many a passing reference was made to the loss both the Craft and the world at large had sustained by his untimely decease, and the results of his good work will not soon be forgotten.

The Master-elect was Bro. Harry Manfield Grand Treasurer of the year, and it was therefore not surprising that so many of his colleagues gathered round him on so auspicious an occasion. Bro. Edward Letchworth G.S. kindly undertook to perform the installation ceremony, which was carried out in that dignified and impressive manner to which the Grand Secretary has accustomed us.

Bro. Manfield invested the following Officers:—Bros. F. C. Van Duzer I.P.M., J. M. McLeod S.W., A. J. Duck J.W., Alfred J. Thomas Treasurer, J. Percy Fitzgerald Secretary, C. W. West S.D., Wm. Lawrence J.D., E. P. Moore I.G., J. H. Gerard D.C.,

R. A. Quayle and A. P. Cohen Stewards, J. T. Murray Organist, J. W. Harding Tyler.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Letchworth for his services, and he, in acknowledgment paid a touching tribute to Bro. Richard Eve, and expressed the pleasure it had been to instal in his vacant chair so worthy a successor as Bro. Manfield.

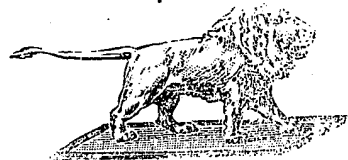
At the conclusion of the ceremony the Brethren adjourned to the adjoining Freemasons' Tavern, where a sumptuous banquet was served in Messrs. Spiers and Pond's very best style. Good fellowship and harmony reigned supreme during the evening. The complimentary speeches were anything but wearisome, being brief and to the point, while the musical entertainment, under the direction of Bro. H. L. Cooke, in which several well known artistes took part, was of the highest order. We may safely predict a very happy year of Office for Bro. Manfield, and those associated with him in promoting the prosperity of the Lodge.

Among those present were Bros. George Everett P.G.T., J. Haviland P.G.D., Harry Bevir A.G.D.C., James Stephens P.D.G.D.C., James Terry P.G.S.B., A. C. Spaul P.G.S.B., W. A. Scurrah P.G.S.B., Major J. E. Le Feuvre P.G.D., Henry Sadler G. Tyler, Dr. W. E. Porter, Col. Bolton, Dr. Ginsburg, T. A. Bullock P.G.S.B., Dr. Ledlie, Alfred Brown, Fred. Priddle, Hugh Keys, Henry Massey P.M., R. Manuel P.M., George Corble P.P.G.D. Essex, and "a great many more of lesser degree."

Freemasonry, from a practical point of view and from a spiritual point of view, is, I contend, truly religious. The true spirit of our organisation is the spirit that throbbed in the heart of Christ, that beats in the breast of every saintly man and woman of history and of to-day.—Henry R. Rose, New Jersey.

Better than Lancing.

MISS E. LOVELL, of 82, New Town Street, Luton, suffered severely from glandular abscess in the neck; was lanced, and a tube inserted; this was lost in the wound and another inserted, causing great difficulty in swallowing. Fresh operations were to be performed, when she was told of Burgess' Lion Ointment, which drew out the lost tube and effected a complete cure of the abscess.



Burgess' Lion Ointment

Cures Ulcers, Abscesses, Tumours, Polypi, Piles, Poisoned Wounds of all kinds, Eczema, Psoriasis, Ringworm, &c. Invaluable for all Inflammatory Diseases of the Chest and Throat.

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Braised and Pressed Beef, 1/4 per lb.; Ox Tongues, Dressed, 5/8 each; Galantine of Chicken, Truffled, 2/- per lb.; Galantine of Chicken, Plain, 1/8 per lb.; Galantine of Wild Boar's Head, with Pistachion, 1/6; Dressed Wild Boar's Head, with Pistachion, 2/3.

Masonic Parties, Pionics, Summer Outings, &c., attended to or supplied on special terms. Families waited upon daily. Distance no object.

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HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

—:0:—

THE Midland Railway Company announce that on Friday and Saturday, 21st and 22nd December, the pressure of traffic will be relieved by the running of duplicate trains from St. Pancras as circumstances may require. On Wednesday, 26th December, and Tuesday, 1st January, certain booked trains will be withdrawn, of which due notice will be given by special bills at the stations.

The Midland Railway Company, to prevent inconvenience and crowding, have arranged for the booking office at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street stations to be open for the issue of tickets all day on Friday, Saturday, and Monday, 21st, 22nd, and 24th December, and tickets to all principal stations on the Midland Railway can be obtained beforehand at the Midland Company's City and Suburban Offices throughout London. The tickets obtained at these offices will be available from St. Pancras Station, and will be issued at the same fares as charged at that station, and dated to suit the convenience of passengers.

Cheap excursion trains will be run from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations to Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Greenock, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c., on Fridays, 21st and 28th December, for 6 or 8 days, and on Monday, 24th December, for 3 or 5 days, by which return tickets will be issued at about a third class single fare for the double journey. The single fare tickets will be available for returning on any day within sixteen days from and including the date of issue. Cheap excursion trains will also be run from London (St. Pancras) on Saturday, 22nd December, to Leicester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby, Newark, Lincoln, Burton, Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, Bolton, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, York, Scarborough, Newcastle, Barrow-in-Furness, and the Lake District, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December, and to the same places (except Birmingham), on Monday, 24th December, returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December. On Saturday midnight, 22nd December, a cheap 4, 5, 7 days trip will be run to Leicester, Nottingham, Manchester, Stockport, Warrington, Liverpool and Sheffield; on Monday midnight, 24th December, to Leicester, Loughboro', Nottingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, &c., for 2, 3, or 5 days; and on Monday midnight, 31st December, to Leicester, Nottingham, Manchester, Stockport, Liverpool, Sheffield, &c., for 1, 2, or 5 days.

Cheap excursion tickets will be issued from London (St. Pancras) and principal provincial stations on Friday, 21st December, to Dublin, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, &c., via Liverpool, available for 16 days, and via Morecambe, available for returning on 27th or 29th December and 1st, 3rd, or 5th January 1901; on Friday, 21st December, to Belfast, Londonderry, Portrush, &c., via Barrow, or via Liverpool, available for 16 days; on Saturday, 22nd December, to Londonderry, via Morecambe, or via Liverpool, available for returning 27th, 31st December or 3rd January, via Morecambe, and on 25th and 29th December and 1st or 5th January, via Liverpool.

On Christmas Day cheap day excursion tickets will be issued to Southend-on-Sea from St. Pancras, Kentish Town, Walthamstow, Leytonstone, and stations on the Tottenham and Forest Gate Joint Line.

Cheap week-end tickets will be issued on Fridays, 21st and 28th December, and Saturdays, 22nd and 29th December, from St. Pancras and other Midland Stations to the principal holiday and health resorts in England and Scotland, available for returning on the following Sunday (train service permitting), Monday, or Tuesday, those issued on 21st and 22nd December being available for returning (after Saturday) up to and including 26th December. Winter tourist tickets are also issued to the chief tourist resorts in England and Wales.

THE London and North Western Company announce that the ticket offices at Euston, Broad Street, Victoria (Pimlico), Kensington, and Willesden Junction will be open throughout the day, from Monday, 17th December to Monday, 24th December, inclusive, so that passengers wishing to obtain tickets can do so at any time of the day prior to the starting of the trains.

Tickets, dated to suit the convenience of passengers, can also be obtained at any time (Sundays and Bank Holidays excepted) at the Town Receiving Offices of the Company.

Additional express trains will be run, and special arrangements made in connection with the London and North Western passenger trains for the Christmas Holidays.

Special arrangements will be made for the collection, quick transit, and prompt delivery of Christmas parcels at the reduced rates now in operation, which in no case exceed Parcels Post rates.

The Company also announce cheap excursions for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays, as follow:

On Thursday, 20th December.—To Dublin, Greenore, Belfast, Bray, Cork, Galway, Killarney, Londonderry, and other places in Ireland. To return within 16 days.

On Friday night, 21st December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other stations in Scotland. For 6, 8, and 16 days.

On Saturday night, 22nd December.—To Ashton, Birmingham District, Cambrian Line Stations, Carlisle, Carnforth, Chester, Crewe, English Lake District, Furness Line Stations, Lancaster, Leamington, Leicester, Litchfield, Liverpool, Macclesfield, Manchester, North Wales, Nuneaton, Oldham, Preston, Rugby, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Stalybridge, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent, Tamworth, Walsall, Warrington, Wigan, Wolverhampton, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December.

On Monday night, 24th December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling,

and other stations in Scotland. For 3, 5, and 16 days. To Abergavenny, Brynmawr, Carmarthen, Dowlais, Hereford, Llandilo, Llandovery, Llandrindod Wells, Llangammarch Wells, Llanwrtyd Wells, Ludlow, Merthyr, Swansea, &c., returning 26th or 27th December. To Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington. For 2, 3, and 5 days.

On Friday night, 28th December.—To Carlisle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Greenock, Inverness, Oban, Perth, Stirling, and other Stations in Scotland. For 6, 8, and 16 days.

On Monday night, 31st December.—To Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington. For 1, 2, and 5 days.

Cheap week-end tickets issued on Friday and Saturday, 21st and 22nd December, to Church Stretton, Cambrian Line stations, Leamington, North and Central Wales, stations in Scotland, Stratford-on-Avon, and other places, will be available for the return journey on Sunday, 23rd December (train service permitting), or any day up to and including the following Wednesday. Week-end tickets issued to Scotch stations on Friday and Saturday, 28th and 29th December, will be available for return on Sunday, 30th December (train service permitting), or any day up to and including the following Wednesday.

Tourist Tickets available for two months are issued during the winter to North and Central Wales, Cambrian Line stations, Blackpool, Southport, Morecambe, Windermere, Grange, Ulverston, the English Lake District, Harrogate, Scarborough, Greenore, Portrush, &c. For fuller particulars see the Company's announcements.

THE Great Western Railway Company issue tickets at their chief City and West End offices, and this arrangement cannot fail to be a boon to those travellers who desire to avoid the trouble of obtaining tickets at a crowded Railway Station, particularly at holiday times, and the Booking Office at Paddington Station will be open all day for the issue of tickets on 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 24th December. Ordinary tickets obtained in London between 18th and 24th December will be available for use on any day between and including those days.

On Thursday, 20th December, cheap excursions will be run from Paddington, Clapham Junction, Kensington (Addison Road), Hammersmith, &c., to Cork and Killarney; on Friday, 21st December, to Waterford, Limerick, Tralee, Kilkenny, Killarney, Belfast, Armagh, Giant's Causeway, &c.; on Saturday, 22nd December, to Saverne, Devizes, Frome, Yeovil, Bridport, Weymouth, Portland, &c., returning 27th December; on Saturday night, 22nd December, to Oxford, Leamington, Birmingham, Shrewsbury, Chester, Birkenhead, Liverpool, &c., returning 26th, 27th, or 29th December; to Evesham, Worcester, Hereford, &c., returning 26th December; on Saturday and Monday nights, 22nd and 24th December, to Swindon, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Cardiff, Swansea, Llanelly, Carmarthen, New Milford, Bath, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Falmouth, Penzance, &c., returning 26th or 27th December; and on Monday night, 24th December, to Guernsey and Jersey, for 13 days or less.

On the days immediately preceding Christmas Day, several of the trains from Paddington will be divided, and the first portion of some of them will start five minutes before the advertised time.

On Saturday and Monday, 22nd and 24th December, the 6.0 p.m. from Paddington to Plymouth will be extended to Falmouth and Penzance, and the 12.0 midnight from Paddington will convey passengers to the Kingswear, Kingsbridge, Wadebridge, Fowey, and Newquay branches. On Monday, 24th December, the 3.0 p.m. from Paddington to Plymouth will be extended to Truro. A special train will leave Paddington at 10.0 p.m. for South Wales, calling at the same stations as the 9.15 p.m. ordinary train, which on this date will leave at 9.25 p.m. A special train will leave Paddington at 1.0 night, for Reading, Swindon, Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Newport, Cardiff, Swansea, &c.

On Christmas morning the usual Sunday service of trains will run, and special trains will leave Paddington, at 5.30 a.m., for Reading, Swindon, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Hereford, Swansea, Bath, Bristol, Weston-super-Mare, Exeter, Torquay, Plymouth, Penzance, Frome, Yeovil, Dorchester, Weymouth, &c.; and at 5.35 a.m., for Reading, Oxford, Worcester, Malvern, Kidderminster, Banbury, Leamington, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, &c.

In order to meet the extraordinary demands upon the Company's resources occasioned by the enormous parcel traffic despatched both from and to London at Christmas time, special fast trains carrying parcels only will run between the principal stations.

THE Great Northern Railway Company announce that cheap excursions will be run from London (Woolwich (Arsenal and Dockyard), Greenwich (S.E. & C.), Victoria (S.E. & C.), Ludgate Hill, Moorgate, Aldersgate, Farringdon, King's Cross (G.N.), &c.), for Northallerton, Darlington, Richmond, Durham, Newcastle, Alnwick, Berwick, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Dumbarton, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, Dalmally, Oban, Fort William, Montrose, Aberdeen, Inverness, and other stations in Scotland, and to the other principal Stations served by the Company.

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Special Quotations given for Hotels, Restaurants and Clubs.

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