

THE FREEMASON.

The Organ of the Craft, a Weekly Record of Progress in
FREEMASONRY, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Reports of the Grand Lodges are Published with the Special Sanction of

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, THE M.W. GRAND MASTER OF ENGLAND; HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, M.W. GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND
SIR ARCHIBALD C. CAMPBELL, BART., M.W. GRAND MASTER OF SCOTLAND AND THE GRAND MASTERS
OF MANY FOREIGN GRAND LODGES.

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CONTENTS.

LEADERS	149	REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS (Continued)—	
Provincial Grand Chapter of Leicestershire and Rutland	150	Royal Arch	159
Installation of the Duke of Abercorn as Grand Master of Ireland	151	Mark Masonry	159
The "Domestic Lodge," London	153	Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198	160
W. Bro. the Lord Mayor at Home	153	Masonic Week at Kidderminster	160
CORRESPONDENCE—		First Annual Ball of the Royal Jubilee Lodge, No. 72	161
Charity Stewards' Badges and Founders' Jewels	155	Annual Ball of the Lodge of Israel, No. 1502, Liverpool	162
Notes and Queries	156	Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution	162
Reviews	156	Royal Masonic Institution for Boys	162
REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS—		Cheshire Educational Masonic Institution	162
Craft Masonry	156	West Lancashire Hamer Benevolent Fund	162
Instruction	159	Theatre Royal, Manchester	162
		Masonic and General Tidings	163
		Lodge Meetings for Next Week	163

EVERY one will be gratified at the news we published last week of the success achieved by the pupils of the Girls' School at the Cambridge Middle-Class Examinations in December last. Out of 20 candidates who presented themselves to the Examiners, no less than 18 succeeded in passing the prescribed ordeal. In the Senior Division one girl obtained third-class honours; and one passed, with distinction, in religious knowledge. In the Junior Division, one took second-class, and four third-class honours, one of the latter being "Distinguished in Religious Knowledge;" while eleven others satisfied the Examiners. No better evidence than this is procurable as to the value of the educational system pursued at the Institution, and the extreme pains that must be taken by the staff. As we remarked in our announcement last week, such a result can be obtained only by close and steady application. A child may give promise of great things in the school in which it is being educated, under teachers to whose system it has gradually become accustomed, and by comparison with its associates, who undergo precisely the same kind of training. But the real test of quality comes when the same child is pitted against the choicer pupils of other schools, at which other methods of instruction may find favour, and where, perhaps, from a wider range of experience on the part of the staff, or other cause, there may be greater facilities for obtaining a thorough knowledge of the subjects taught, or, at all events, a knowledge which, without being greater, will better stand the test of public examination. This it is which gives so high a value to the result of the Cambridge examinations in December last, namely, that in competition with a very large number of children drawn from so many different schools, the great majority of the candidates from our Masonic Institution for Girls have held their own creditably, while six of them have done so with considerable distinction. This is one more proof that the School is conducted on sound principles of training, and will no doubt be borne in mind as the time fixed for the celebration of its Anniversary Festival approaches more nearly. People are invariably more reconciled, especially in these troubled times, to giving freely, when they are assured beforehand that their contributions will be expended both wisely and well.

STILL greater good fortune has attended the candidates sent up by our Boys' School at these same Middle-Class Examinations. Thirteen boys presented themselves to the examiners, and of these nine passed with honours, while the remaining four obtained a pass. Of the nine, one was placed in Class I., with special distinctions awarded him for Latin and Mathematics, four secured places in Class II., and four in Class III. We heartily congratulate Bro. Dr. MORRIS and his subordinate masters on the success of their efforts for the educational welfare of the Institution. As we have remarked already in connection with the Girls' School, the system they have pursued must be an excellent one, or these 13 boys could not have stood so satisfactorily the severe ordeal of a public examination in competition with the promising pupils of other schools. As it is, they have held their own well, and when the time comes for us to press more urgently on the Craft the claims of this Institution for a continuance of its generous support, the successful result we have so much pleasure in chronicling to-day will be among the reasons on which we shall lay the greatest stress.

DEATH is certainly causing sad havoc among our leading brethren. Already during the present year have we had to announce the deaths of two conspicuous and much respected members of our Society—Sir W. W. BURRELL, Bart., and Lord WAVENBY, both of them Provincial Grand Masters; and now it is our painful duty to chronicle two more deaths—those of R. W. Bro. HENRY C. VERNON, P.G.S. Warden of England, P. Prov. G. Master and Superintendent of Worcestershire, and Bro. the Rev. Canon JAMES SIMPSON, LL.D., who in the years 1874 and 1875 filled the office of Grand Chaplain of England, and was also a leading brother in the Province

of Cumberland and Westmorland. Bro. VERNON was one of a distinguished Masonic family, both his father, the late General VERNON, an old Peninsular officer, and his still surviving brother, Col. A. VERNON, but especially the latter, having for many years played an active part in the pursuits of Masonry. In addition to the offices already specified, our deceased brother was a Past G. Asst. Soj. of Supreme Grand Chapter, a Past Ill. Lieut.-G. Commander of the Supreme Council 33°, A. and A. Rite, and V.E. Prov. Prior of Worcestershire. His connection with our Grand Lodge and Chapter dates as far back as the year 1848, while his connection with the Fraternity commenced at a still earlier period. Bro. SIMPSON was neither so old a Mason nor, as far as we know, so old a man as Bro. VERNON, who had attained the ripe age of 81, but he, too, had been amongst us for several years, having been Prov. G. Chaplain of Cumberland and Westmorland in 1863. Lastly, both these brethren had rendered services to our Charitable Institutions, so that, both on account of their goodwill to these and for the many services they had rendered in lodge and chapter, the regret at their loss will be as deep as it is general.

WE do not see that any other course could have been adopted towards the Grand Lodge of Illinois than the one recommended by the Colonial Board, and unanimously endorsed by Grand Lodge on Wednesday, the 3rd inst. Why Illinois should have gone deliberately out of its way to intervene in a difference which had arisen between two of the Grand Lodges—those of Quebec and England—with which it was on terms of friendly and familiar intercourse, is a question we shall not trouble ourselves to inquire into, and if it has encountered the fate which is proverbially in store for those who in quarrels interpose, it has no one to thank for such an untoward result but itself. Whatever may be the merits of the dispute pending between Quebec and England, it is very certain that the latter had no hand in bringing it about, and therefore we might have reasonably expected that those American Grand Lodges which exchanged representatives with us, if, from local associations or other reasons, they could not give us their sympathy, would, at least, have abstained from expressing sympathy with our antagonist. But the rôle of looker-on does not seem to have consorted with Illinois's sense of fair play, and, as it has taken up the cudgels in behalf of Quebec, it must not be surprised that the friendly relations heretofore existing between its Grand Lodge and that of England have been summarily put an end to. Friendly intercourse between two bodies is out of the question when one of them takes sides against the other in a difference with which it has nothing to do, or, at all events, in respect of which it is not called upon to give effect to its opinions.

IT was a wise resolution which Grand Lodge adopted at its last meeting, to leave entirely unfettered the discretion of the Board of Benevolence in dealing with the petitions which are submitted to it month by month for consideration. On the face of it, Bro. MERCER's motion seemed not unreasonable, namely, that a male annuitant of the Benevolent Institution shall not be eligible for relief out of the fund at the disposal of that Board. But what need is there to suggest any such restriction? It is well known that the Board of Benevolence exercises the powers it possesses with the most punctilious care. Every case is considered separately on its merits, and there is no reason to suppose that the Board will show greater or less wisdom in dealing with the petition of one of those annuitants than it shows in dealing with the hundreds of other petitions which come before it annually. Indeed, the fact of a petitioner being also an annuitant, if it exercises any special influence on the minds of members, might not unnaturally induce them to look still more narrowly into the circumstances, on the ground that the brother petitioning was already the recipient of benevolence, and that to still further assist him might have the effect of restricting the means at their command to assist others. But, as we have already hinted, there is no need for any restriction whatever. Grand Lodge delegates certain clearly-defined powers to a Committee, or Board, in whose members both it and the Craft generally have the most implicit confidence. It has been shown by the experience of many years that that confidence is fully justified, and the mere fact of an exceptional class of petition having been submitted and entertained, affords no reason for narrowing the powers of the Board, and thereby exhibiting a diminished confidence—for that is what the imposition of a new restriction implies—in the wisdom and discretion of its members.

WE are afraid that our report of the speech which Bro. FENN, President of the Board of General Purposes, delivered at the recent Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement must have confused rather than

enlightened our readers as to the authoritative character of the working of that lodge. The Emulation Lodge of Improvement was founded under warrant from the Lodge of Unions, No. 256, in October, 1823, and Bro. FENN mentioned that he had discovered, when recently reading over the list of founders, that there were among them two brethren who had been members of the Lodge of Reconciliation—that is to say, of the body composed of the ablest representatives of the then newly-united "Ancient" and "Modern" or "Regular" sections of the English Craft, to which, immediately after the Act of Union had been consummated, was entrusted the important and responsible task of compiling a uniform system of ritual. This Lodge of Reconciliation fulfilled its task with the most scrupulous care, and the system prepared by it was finally approved and sanctioned by United Grand Lodge as the official ritual of the English Craft in 1816. It was two of the members of this important body whose names were recently discovered by Bro. FENN among the founders of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement; and, from the fact that the late Bro. W. FARNFIELD, Assistant Grand Secretary, joined the Lodge of Improvement in 1826, and must have been familiar with the Emulation working as established three years previously by the founders—among whom were the two aforesaid members of the Lodge of Reconciliation—and that he (Bro. FENN) had enjoyed frequent opportunities of consulting the said Bro. FARNFIELD, whose death did not take place till 1876, he (Bro. FENN) felt he was justified in considering there was an almost, if not quite, unbroken chain of connection between the system as prepared by the Lodge of Reconciliation, and sanctioned by the United Grand Lodge in 1816, and the present Emulation system. This is what Bro. FENN was so anxious to point out, as it stamps almost with an official character our famous Emulation working.

PROVINCIAL GRAND CHAPTER OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND.

CONSECRATION OF ST. GEORGE'S CHAPTER, No. 1560.

The annual convocation of this Prov. Grand Chapter, for the transaction of the general business of the province, and for the special purpose of consecrating a new Royal Arch Chapter to be attached to the Albert Edward Lodge No. 1560, was held at Freemasons' Hall, Leicester, on Tuesday, 2nd inst., under the presidency of the Grand Superintendent, the M.E. Comp. W. Kelly, F.S.A., F.R. Hist. Soc., &c. The meeting was numerous attended, amongst those present being the following officers and members of Prov. G. Chapter: Comps. G. Toller, Prov. G.H.; Rev. W. Langley, as Prov. G.J.; S. S. Partridge, Prov. G.S.E.; C. J. Wilkinson, as Prov. G.S.N.; R. Dalgliesh, Prov. G.P.S.; G. T. Willan, Prov. G.A.S.; Rev. C. Henton Wood, Prov. G. Reg.; A. Balmforth, Prov. G.S.B.; J. Young, Prov. G.D.C.; W. A. Musson, Prov. G. Org.; R. Boughton-Smith, P.P.G.A.S.; T. Halliday, P.Z. 779; A. P. Wood, P.Z. 1130; M. J. Walker, H. 1130; W. S. Black, J. 1130; C. S. Preston, H. 279; and J. Hassall, J. 779.

The chapter having been duly opened, the rolls of chapters and of P.G. Officers were called, the several chapters being fully represented, and nearly every P.G. Officer at his post.

After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last General Convocation, the ceremony of constitution and consecration of the new chapter was proceeded with, at the commencement of which the Grand Superintendent, as Consecrating Officer, delivered the following address:—

Excellent Companions,—We are met on this present occasion partly to conduct the ordinary business of Provincial Grand Chapter, but we have in addition been specially called together to consecrate the new chapter of St. George, to be attached to the Albert Edward Lodge, No. 1560—an event of rare occurrence, inasmuch as only three new chapters have been founded in the province during the present century. Two of those chapters I had the honour of consecrating, whilst of the earliest of them, which was consecrated by that excellent Mason, the late V.W. Bro. John Savage, P.G.D., I was the M.E.Z. nominated in the charter. As to the precise period when Royal Arch Masonry was first practised in Leicester it seems difficult to decide, as in former days the old Atholl Lodges—like No. 91, formerly existing here until after the Union in 1813—worked under their warrants, whilst of the Craft Degrees, but also the Mark, Royal Arch, Templar, and some other Orders. It was by this body of seceders, the so-called *Ancient* or Atholl Masons, that the Order of the Holy Royal Arch of Jerusalem was first introduced. Dr. Oliver and some other writers (but probably erroneously) think it was formed by dividing the old Master's grade into two parts. The first mention of the Degree is in a printed work of 1741; it next appears in the Atholl records in 1752, and upon lodge minutes at York in 1762. The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England was constituted July 22nd, 1767, under Lord Blaney, then the Immediate Past Grand Master of the regular Grand Lodge of England; and to this body the present Supreme Grand Chapter of England owes its origin. By its authority charters were granted and provinces constituted, Leicestershire being so constituted as early, at least, as 1793, and having as its Grand Superintendent Thomas Boothby Parkyns, M.P. (afterwards Lord Rancliffe), also P.G. Master for the province, and who in 1802 was the G. First Principal of Grand Chapter. It was not, however, until April 20th, 1858, that a Grand Chapter was formed in the province, under the authority of Earl Howe, Grand Superintendent, over which, as his lordship's Deputy, I had the honour to preside, as I have since done, either in that capacity or as Grand Superintendent, at every convocation. Although the Grand Chapter had amongst its leaders many noble and some Royal members of the Grand Lodge of England, it was never recognised by the Grand Lodge until the Union in 1813; and in like manner the Grand Chapter of Scotland is not recognised by the Grand Lodge of that country down to the present day. By this Grand Chapter was granted, under the number 102, the first charter for a Royal Arch chapter in this province—that of the Chapter of Fortitude, attached to St. John's Lodge—which thus came into existence as early as 1796, being six years after St. John's Lodge was founded. The early minute book of this chapter is, unfortunately, lost; but a number of particulars, derived from old papers among the records of St. John's Lodge, are printed in my little "History of Freemasonry in Leicestershire." We find that John Abbey was exalted in 1796; that "the expenses of a Royal Arch chapter held April 6th, 1802, were defrayed out of the Craft Fund;" and that after the Union of 1813, under date December 4th, 1817, the designation was (for a time) changed to "United Chapters 102 and 114, George Inn," and, as the old Atholl Lodge, No. 171, had ceased to make returns, its members, no doubt, in like manner became merged in St. John's Lodge. The original warrant of the chapter, like that of the lodge, having been lost or destroyed some years previously, a warrant of confirmation was obtained from the Grand Chapter, dated May 9th, 1821; and about the same time the furniture, &c., of the chapter was purchased by subscription, headed by Sir F. G. Fowke, Bart., who also presented the banner of the Principals—still in use. During half a century this was the only chapter

in the province, when in 1847 St. Augustine's Chapter was founded in connection with the then recently established John of Gaunt Lodge, No. 766 (now 523), and so continued to the year 1856. At that time the brethren at Ashby being desirous of having a chapter attached to their lodge, whilst both the local chapters were in anything but flourishing condition, the members being (in comparison with those of the two lodges) few in number, it was decided for them to unite in working the old Chapter of Fortitude, whilst the charter of St. Augustine's Chapter was annexed to the lodge at Ashby de la Zouch. On May 28th, 1869, the De Mowbray Chapter, at Melton, was consecrated, our worthy Comp. Langley, to whom Masonry there and elsewhere in the province owes much, being the first M.E.Z. And, finally, on the 14th January, 1873, I had the pleasure during the time I held the high office of P.G.M., as well as that I still retain of Grand Superintendent, of consecrating the Charnwood Chapter, No. 1007, Loughborough. From that day to the present, whilst several new lodges have sprung into existence in our midst, all of which are in a highly flourishing condition, and whilst the dear old Chapter of Fortitude—the mother chapter of most of us—has, I believe, closely approaching 100 members, it is self-evident that there is "ample room and verge enough" for the friendly and beneficial operations of, at least, one additional Royal Arch chapter in Leicester. Under these circumstances, and with a view of giving a new impetus to Royal Arch Masonry amongst us, a charter has been obtained for the new chapter of St. George, No. 1560, which we are about to constitute in ancient form, and mystically to construct as a spiritual temple to the honour and glory of the Great I Am, and may the result prove that we may apply to it the words of the Masonic poet:—

"When orient Wisdom beam'd serene,
And pillar'd Strength arose;
When Beauty tinged the glowing scene,
And Faith her mansion chose;
Exulting bands the fabric view'd,
Mysterious powers ador'd;
And high the triple union stood
That gave the Mystic Word."

The PROV. GRAND SCRIBE E. having stated the wishes of the companions of the new chapter, and having read the petition and warrant, and the other usual formalities being observed, the CONSECRATING OFFICER called upon E. Comp. the Rev. C. Henton Wood, Prov. G. Reg., to deliver the oration.

Comp. WOOD, after giving some interesting particulars as to the history of the several Royal Arch chapters in this province, and remarking upon the apparent want of interest shown in Royal Arch Masonry, proceeded as follows:

Why, then, is the Supreme Order of the Royal Arch in such a languishing condition, when the Mark Degree and other Masonic systems now worked in our midst are continually gaining accessions of strength and, so far as one is able to judge, prospering exceedingly? A chief cause, no doubt, is novelty. To many minds the multifarious clothing, jewels, and paraphernalia of these various Orders have a great attraction, and whereas a principal charm of Masonry is the consciousness of secret knowledge, which gives a sense of superiority over those who have it not, this feeling is intensified by the multiplicity of the Degrees taken; and the young Mason is tempted to wander off the beaten track in search of abstruse and complicated instruction before he has acquired the genuine secrets of a M.M., and the allurements of office lead him to seek employment outside his lodge sometimes before he has qualified himself for promotion within it. Another cause is the want of more instruction during a brother's novitiate. Are not Degrees conferred in too quick succession? Is not the feeling growing that candidates have a sort of claim and right to the succeeding Degrees at the earliest possible date allowed by the Constitutions; and do not many of our rising brethren in consequence claim office as a right, whether qualified or not? If a candidate is told within three months of his initiation that, having taken the Third Degree, he has arrived at the summit of his profession, is he not apt to feel disappointment, and can we wonder that he should seek after novelty and try to quench his rising thirst for knowledge at every fresh fountain to which he can gain access, rather than rest content under the vine of his own lodge and drink of his own cistern? A craftsman may lawfully travel as his ancient brethren did, from east to extremest west to seek out other Masters and learn new modes of work; but he should at least know how to indent on the rough and try the smooth before he sets out. So long as minute instruction in the three Degrees is little attended to, so long as slovenly signs and tokens are tolerated and the work of a lodge restricted, by common consent, to the ceremonial conferring of Degrees, on the principle of "the more the merrier," quality in candidates being held secondary to quantity, the Royal Arch being never so much as hinted at, it is to be feared that the Supreme Order will not conquer that place in the estimation of the brethren at large which its importance demands. Time is devoted to other Degrees which would perhaps be better spent in striving to attain to the "climax of Freemasonry," for the ritual is extensive and complicated, and can hardly be mastered on the few occasions set apart for the exercise of it. We have therefore to rely too much on other means of obtaining the requisite knowledge, the correctness of which is doubtful, and the companion who does his best in that direction too often fails to satisfy either himself or his predecessor in office. But, happily, there are landmarks and limits within which the aspirant cannot widely err. In ritual we are apt to attach too much importance to our own views of verbal accuracy, whereas the doctrine of *limits*, which runs like a thread throughout the Craft Degrees, appears to me as applicable to ritual as to morals. In the first place, we have brought to our notice the two grand parallels between which, so long as a brother confines himself and marches steadily onward, with the eye of faith fixed on that star of hope which illuminates the immense vista, he cannot err. The point within the circle conveys the same idea. The landmarks bound his horizon, and whereas the limit of every circle is a rectangle contained by the radius and half the circumference, the Mason standing in the centre can still discern the two great parallels of the law of God and the rulers of the Craft. For if a material circle be divided into a large number of sectors, and these be arranged side by side alternately, point to base, it will be seen that they will be found to approximate to the rectangle above mentioned; and here I see the origin of the indented or tessellated border and the pattern of a companion's badge. And the idea of two grand parallel is dominant in the Royal Arch itself. The "limit" of the curve called Catenary is two parallel straight lines; for the two parts of a flexible cord suspended by its two ends, are (if very long in proportion to the distance between them) practically parallel to one another. In the Royal Arch we have impressed on our minds the strength and durability of a vault or dome constructed on the principle of the true Catenarian Arch, standing complete in itself without buttress or bond of any kind. Such an Arch stands self-supported only when the curve from which it takes its name can be accurately traced between the limits of the outer and inner edge of the voussoirs. This again reminds me of the path of a steadfast Mason amid the landmarks of his Order, containing his words and very thoughts within the compass of propriety and going on his humble way rejoicing in the light which God has shed around him. I have endeavoured to suggest the possible causes which prevent the brethren at large from entering the Supreme Order and hinder them from pursuing it steadfastly. If I am right, these causes will not be removed by merely increasing the number of chapters, but the lack of a centre of instruction and a standard of comparison in our Province will be supplied to-day. The St. George's Chapter commences its career with every advantage; it possess in its Principals, the Chiefs of the Order in this Province, three illustrious companions, second to none in Masonic skill and extended experience. They will be, I understand, supported by a body of companions selected for their approved conduct and zeal, and who will fulfil the expectations of the founders by setting up for imitation such a standard of ritual and finished working as will instruct the minds and gladden the eyes of all who are privileged to behold it. May T.G.A.O.T.U. prosper them one and all. May He direct and approve their work on earth and finally exalt them in the Heavens.

The ceremony of constitution and consecration was then regularly proceeded with, according to the printed programme of proceedings, and, on its completion, the Three Principals designate, viz., M.E. Comps. W. Kelly, G. Supt.; George Toller, Prov. G.H.; and S. S. Partridge, Prov. G.S.E., who had all previously filled the several chairs of a Royal Arch chapter, were duly inducted into the chairs of First, Second, and Third Principals

of St. George's Chapter, No. 1560. The other officers of the chapter were appointed and invested.

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Comp. the Rev. C. Henton Wood for the admirable oration delivered by him, and he and Comp. M. J. Walker were elected honorary members of the chapter.

St. George's Chapter was then closed, and the business of Provincial Grand Chapter resumed.

The Provincial Grand Treasurer's accounts having been received and passed, and some notices of motion disposed of, the Grand Superintendent appointed and invested his Provincial Grand Officers as follows:—

Comp. George Toller, P.Z. 279	...	...	Prov. G.H.
" R. Boughton Smith, P.Z. 1007	...	...	Prov. G.J.
" S. S. Partridge, P.Z. 279	...	...	Prov. G.S.E.
" Joseph Young, P.Z. 279	...	...	Prov. G.S.N.
" C. S. Preston, H. 279	...	...	Prov. G. Reg.
" T. Halliday, P.Z. 779	...	...	Prov. G.P.S.
" A. P. Wood, P.Z. 1130	...	...	Prov. G. 1st A.S.
" J. Hassall, H. 779	...	...	Prov. G. 2nd A.S.
" J. Tuckfield (elected)	...	...	Prov. G. Treas.
" G. Oliver, J. 1007	...	...	Prov. G. Swd. Br.
" Edgar Taylor, J. 279	...	...	Prov. G. Std. Br.
" Miles J. Walker, H. 1130	...	...	Prov. G.D. of .C.
" W. Stephen Black, J. 1130	...	...	Prov. G.A.D.C.
" W. Vial, H. 1007	...	...	Prov. G. Org.
Comps. Dunn and Tanser	...	...	Prov. G. Janitors.

A resolution was passed that the Grand Superintendent's address and the oration of Comp. the Rev. C. H. Wood should be printed for distribution. Several apologies for absence having been read, the Provincial Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

The musical arrangements of the consecration ceremony were most effectively carried out, under the able direction of Comp. T. A. Wykes, P.P.G.O.

In conclusion, it should be added that the interest and gratification of the companions were materially enhanced by the presence of their much esteemed chief, the veteran Comp. Kelly, who, although far from having completely recovered from his long and serious indisposition, braved the effects of the present Arctic weather, and conducted the proceedings of the day with all his usual marked ability and impressiveness.

INSTALLATION OF THE DUKE OF ABERCORN AS GRAND MASTER OF IRELAND.

The ceremony of installing his Grace the Duke of Abercorn as Grand Master of Ireland took place on the 3rd inst., in the Masonic Hall, Molesworth-street, Dublin, in presence of one of the largest and most representative gatherings that have ever been held under the auspices of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Though technically "a stated communication," the gathering was invested with all the éclat which the importance of the occasion justified, and which the gorgeous ritual of the Craft so readily provided, and the result achieved was certainly calculated to leave a lasting impression on the minds of all those who had the pleasure and the privilege of participating in the ceremony. Every part of the country was worthily represented. The limited accommodation afforded by the hall necessitated the exercise of considerable restrictions in the distribution of the tickets of admission. Only about 400 could be issued, and these were confined to the Grand Officers, Past Masters, and to the fortunate few who succeeded in the ballot for them after the wants of the G. Officers and Past Masters had been satisfied. The utmost was made of the accommodation at the disposal of the officers, and it cannot be questioned that they were especially successful in their conception of artistic effect in the arrangement. A triple row of seats extended along the hall at each side from the dais to the organ, on which the Masters and Wardens of the Metropolitan lodges were seated, while the elevated benches behind were filled with Provincial Masters and privileged representatives. A place on the front rows near the dais was allotted to the Committee of General Purposes. All the brethren wore the regalia appropriate to the occasion, and the necessary decorations were disposed with a due eye to harmony and beauty of effect. All the arrangements worked most satisfactorily, and it may not be out of place at this stage to accord a word of praise to the Stewards for the manner in which they acquitted themselves. They were under the direction of the Grand Steward, Bro. J. Creed Meredith, LL.D.; and included Bros. Kendal Franks, M.D.; S. G. Robinson, R. S. Reeves, C. R. M'Namara, Thomas Stuart, J. G. Yeates, P. Jones, T. Atkinson, H. Leslie, J. C. Mayne, W. Grove White, LL.B.; H. J. C. Tweedy, M.D.; A. E. Murray, and C. Carnegie.

The ceremony was fixed to commence at 8 o'clock, at which hour every seat was occupied, save those reserved on the dais for the Grand Officers and more prominent brethren. Of the proceedings it is unnecessary at this point to speak in detail. They were characterised by the true Masonic ring, and gave abundant proof—if indeed such a thing were needed—of the *esprit* and vitality of the Order in this country. The distinguished nobleman, who has succeeded to the chair so worthily filled by his illustrious father, has already a long and honourable record in Masonic annals. He is Senior Grand Warden of England, and has passed the office of Prov. Grand Master of Derry and Donegal; and in all his relations, whether Masonic or otherwise, he has displayed those qualities which so eminently fit him to fill the high office to which the Masons of Ireland have called him.

At a quarter-past 8 o'clock the Grand Steward, Bro. J. CREED MEREDITH, LL.D., announced the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The procession entered the hall headed by the Junior Grand Provincial Officers, who, on arriving opposite the dais, filed to the right and left, admitting the Senior Grand Officers to the dais, and then followed to their places at either side of the chair. As the procession entered, and until the Grand Officers had taken up the places assigned to them, a march was played on the organ by Bro. Joze.

The chair was taken by the Right Worshipful R. W. SHEKLETON, Q.C., Deputy Grand Master.

The roll of Grand Officers was called by Bro. SAMUEL B. OLDHAM, Deputy Grand Secretary and Treasurer. The following answered to their names:

R.W. Bros. the Marquis of Headfort, S.G.W.; Edward H. Kinahan, J.P., G. Treas.; the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin; the Rev. J. A. Galbraith, S.F.T.C.D., Grand Chaplain; W. Bros. George Moyers, LL.D., J.P., S.G.D.; Harry Hodges, J.G.D.; George A. Stephens, J.P., Grand Supt. of Wks.; John T. Banks, M.D., G. Dir. of Cers.; James Creed Meredith, LL.D., G. Stwd.; J. C. Crawley, LL.D., G. Swd. Br.; Thos. S. Sibthorpe, J.P., G.I.G.; and Archibald St. George, Asst. Secretary.

Apologies were received from R.W. Bros. Lord Arthur Hill, S.G.W.; the Earl of Bandon, Grand Secretary; Maxwell H. Close, Representative of the Grand Lodge of England; and others.

In addition to the Grand Officers, there were on the dais:

Bros. Major H. B. Johnston, Humphrey Minchin, M.B.; William T. Wilkinson, Lucius H. Deering, Philip C. Smyly, M.D.; Robert W. Griffin, LL.D.; James H. Neilson, John H. Goddard, C. Capel Macnamara, LL.D.; Colonel A. Vesey Davoren, James W. Fair, Major Leslie, J. Thompson, William E. Scott, D.L.; T. Valentine, J.P., G. J. Norman d'Arcy, J.P., Rev. F. E. Clarke, LL.D., T. E. St. George, R. Warren, D.L., E. D. Thorp, Col. B. H. Colclough, D. Crosthwaite, LL.D., C. Grandison, A. M'Clelland, Wm. J. Fennell, R. K. Clay, J. Roe, R. J. Hilton, R. Cochrane, C. Emor, J.P., Rev. H. J. Gillespie, J. Ringwood, M.D., Wm. Hamilton, J. R. Dudgeon, T. Edwards, J. Williams, A. St. George, J.P., R. E. Tighe, Wm. G. D. Goff, T. R. Wolfe, P. B. Bernard, D.L., Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, J. G. Burns, M.D., F. R. Pim, LL.D., M. Johnston, A. K. M'Entire, T. Jones, W. K. Clay, H. Gibson, W. J. Welland, T. M'Conkey, W. G. Hubbard, J.P., W. Spence, C.E., D. Sullivan, D. D. Tate, R. Herron, J.P., W. Smith, Sir T. A. Jones, J. Frederick, T. Purcell, M.D., R. H. Walker, W. J. Henry, R. Walker, J. H. Woodworth, M. Harris, L. Leachman, Alderman Cochrane, H. Johnston, G. W. Bradshaw, J. Crozier, J. Robertson, R. J. Wright, R. M'Calmont, and G. Bell.

The Grand Lodge was thus officered: R.W. Bro. the Marquis of Headfort, S.G.W.; R.W. Bro. the Rev. Joseph A. Galbraith, S.F.T.C.D., J.G.W.; W. Bro. Alderman John Moyers, LL.D., S.G.D.; W. Bro. Harry H. Hodges, J.G.D.; and W. Bro. Thomas Sibthorpe, J.P., G.I.G.

The Grand Lodge having been opened with the customary observances—his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin invoking a blessing—the DEPUTY GRAND MASTER announced to the brethren the special business which had called them together, and nominated the following to receive the Grand Master elect, and conduct him into their presence: W. Bros. the Hon. Judge Townshend, Edward H. Kinahan, J.P.; Dr. Banks, Grand Dir. of Cers.; and James Creed Meredith, Grand Steward. The Duke of Abercorn was escorted by the officers named to the dais, the assembled brethren standing, where he was presented to the Deputy Grand Master by Bro. Judge Townshend. The customary obligation having been duly administered to his Grace, he was invested with the insignia of his high office, and took the chair.

The DEPUTY GRAND MASTER then made the following proclamation: I proclaim the most high, potent, and noble Prince, James Duke of Abercorn, Marquis of Hamilton, Viscount Strabane, Lord Hamilton, Baron of Strabane and Baron of Mouncastle in the Peerage of Ireland, Marquis of Abercorn and Viscount Hamilton in the Peerage of Great Britain, Earl of Abercorn, Baron of Paisley, Arbroath, Abercorn, Hamilton, Mountcastle, and Kilpatrick, in the Peerage of Scotland, a baronet of Ireland, a duke of Ireland, Duke of Chatterhault in France, Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county Donegal, and Companion of the Bath, Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Ancient and Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland (prolonged and enthusiastic cheers followed the proclamation, the brethren rising to their feet and renewing the demonstration again and again).

When the enthusiasm had subsided, the DEPUTY GRAND MASTER, addressing the Duke of Abercorn, said: My Lord Duke and Most Worshipful Sir,—On behalf of the Freemasons of Ireland, I desire to express to your Grace our most fraternal and heartfelt congratulations on your installation as head of the Order in Ireland, and it is to myself a source of sincere pleasure and allowable pride that it has fallen to my lot, as the presiding officer, to place you in the chair of Grand Master. Though your Grace has been hitherto unable to take part in our Masonic proceedings in Dublin, the brethren are aware that you were nominated by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Grand Master of the Freemasons of England, and the patron of the Order of Ireland, to the post of Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, and the tongue of good report has also borne testimony to the zealous and efficient manner in which you have discharged the duties of Provincial Grand Master of Derry and Donegal. To be selected by the unanimous vote of so numerous and influential a body as the Freemasons of Ireland to preside over them is an honour of which anyone, no matter how exalted his rank, might well be proud; but, my Lord Duke, to be called on to fill the place of our late revered Grand Master must evoke in your mind in addition, feelings of peculiar solemnity. It is a little more than 11 years since we were assembled in this hall to welcome amongst us, as our Grand Master, her Most Gracious Majesty's then Viceroy of Ireland, whose noble and dignified presence and courteous and eloquent address added lustre to all assemblies in which he took part, and won the hearts of all with whom he was brought in contact, and no one who was present on that memorable occasion can forget the enthusiastic reception accorded to him by the brethren. The inscrutable dispensation of the Great Architect of the Universe has removed him, who, take him all in all, we scarce dare hope to look upon his like again, and has left his family to deplore the loss of a loving and devoted husband and father, and us, his Masonic brethren, of our valued and venerated guide and head. To you, sir, has fallen a princely heritage, a great name, and a long bead-roll of illustrious ancestors, brave and honourable men, and fair and virtuous women; but amongst them all are two pre-eminently distinguished, to whose bright example and careful training is to be attributed the exalted position their children have attained amongst the nobles of the land, and whose kind and sincere friendship it was my great privilege to have had fully and invariably accorded me. In your presence and upon this occasion I cannot trust myself to speak as I should wish of him who has gone; but for her who is left to cherish the memory of so many years of loving union, I would bespeak the continued and warm sympathy of all in this her time of deep distress. In an assemblage of Masons it may seem out of place to allude to the lessons that are inculcated amongst us in all our ceremonials; but at this juncture in the destinies of our beloved country, and especially when our Order is assailed by people who wilfully misrepresent our objects and actions, it cannot be amiss in me, who have for so many years been so closely identified with the Masonic Body, to avow, as I have always done, the principles that actuate us Masons, and that unite in the bonds of Brotherhood men of every country, sect, and opinion. Brotherly love, Charity

and truth, universal benevolence and tolerance, are the characteristics of the Order, and we recognise no distinction of class or creed—religious or political. Our motto is—Fear God, honour the King, and love the Brotherhood. As my utterance on this occasion may be made public, I would very briefly refer to the charge—which is in print, and may be read by any one who likes—given to every Mason on his admission into the Order. The earnest study of the volume of the Sacred Law, and the constant practice of the Divine precepts therein contained of our duty to our God, to our neighbour, and to ourselves, are first most strongly urged, and those precepts are fully explained and amplified. The charge then proceeds—“As a citizen I enjoin you to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties by never proposing or countenancing anything which may disturb the peace and good order of society, by paying obedience to the laws of the State in which you reside and by which you are protected, and by never losing sight of the allegiance you owe to the Sovereign of your native land. As an individual, I would enjoin upon you the practice of every domestic as well as public virtue. Let prudence direct you, temperance chasten you, fortitude support you, and justice be the guide of all your actions; and be especially careful to maintain in their fullest splendour those truly Masonic ornaments, Benevolence and Charity.” And in closing our lodges, when imploring the benediction of our Heavenly Father, we pray that every moral and social virtue may cement and unite us. This brief allusion to portions of our ceremonial should, in the minds of thinking people, be a complete refutation of the attacks made upon us. I have, my Lord Duke and Most Worshipful Sir, occupied your time and that of the brethren present longer than I should have liked, but I felt it my duty in this public manner to repel the false charges made against the Order. In conclusion, I would wish your Grace many years of continued and unclouded happiness; and I trust that, as we can congratulate ourselves on your having undertaken the responsible office of Grand Master of the Free and Accepted Masons of Ireland, you will have no reason to regret your having done so. Before I lay aside my insignia as Deputy Grand Master, my emblem of authority over my brethren, I ask them to assist me in saluting their newly-installed Grand Master according to ancient custom.

A running fire of eleven was then given in right hearty fashion.

M.W. His Grace the Duke of ABERCORN was, on rising, received with another outburst of cheers. He said: R.W. Deputy Grand Master and brethren,—I feel most flattered at the kind allusion with which you, Worshipful Grand Master, have been pleased to refer to myself, and also at the touching references made to the memory of my dear father, your late Worshipful Grand Master. It will be long, I am sure, before the recollection of his face and form fades from your hearts—(hear)—together with the interest that he always took in the working of the Masonic Order in this country. I feel more especially the great and distinguished honour that you, brethren, have been pleased to confer upon me to-day, and I cannot help thinking that it is chiefly owing to the accident of birth that I am in the proud position of being now your Worshipful Grand Master, and not from any merits of my own arising from any great services to the Craft. (No, no.) I can only venture to express a hope that the brethren in Ireland may have no reason to regret this accident of birth, and for my part I shall always endeavour to discharge the important duties connected with my present position to the best of my ability; and it will be my constant desire to follow worthily in the footsteps of your late Grand Master. (Applause.) The position that I now occupy is one, indeed, to be envied by Masons, not only with regard to the United Kingdom generally, and taking into consideration the similar position that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales occupies in England, but more especially with respect to that portion of the United Kingdom in which we live, and which I pray for centuries to come may form an integral portion of that Kingdom. (Loud and prolonged cheers.) We live in troubled times, as your worthy Deputy Grand Master has just said—times to which it is impossible to assign any futurity of peace or tranquillity. But when we leave the outer world, with all its cares and anxieties, and enter this Hall, we feel—at least I do—that we have entered into another sphere, and for the time being are living in a bond of union, friendship, and charity with all men. (Hear, hear.) And this is literally true, for have we not assembled within these walls men of all classes of society in Ireland? (Hear.) We are graced to-day by the presence of one of the ablest judges of the land, and the name of our brother will be handed down to posterity associated with the brightest deeds of Charity in connection with the Masonic Order. We have worthy and distinguished representatives of the legal and literary professions, of the landed interest, of the commercial and trading classes, and of the poor artisan and country labourer. (Hear.) And it is over these, brethren, that you have to-day elected me to preside—over this large community, with its hundreds of lodges, ranging from the north to the south, the east to the west, extended in area, but united in fellow feeling and love. (Applause.) I wish that the calumniators of our order could for once understand the system upon which we live and let live. They would then be less willing and less desirous of finding fault with us. We are, it is true, a secret society, but a society without any political motive, but one that only works for the good of our fellow-countrymen when in distress or affliction. (Applause.) I cannot, brethren, refrain from referring for an instant to the two great Charities that are connected with our Order—the Masonic Orphan Girls' and Boys' Schools. (Hear.) I have to congratulate you upon the successful working of both of these Institutions, that success being mainly attributable to the energy displayed by various members of the Craft who have the cause of these excellent Charities at heart, and also to the generous spirit evinced on their behalf by the various lodges throughout Ireland. May the success that has hitherto attended them continue to prosper, thereby increasing year by year the number of poor orphans to be admitted within their walls. (Loud applause.) I will not detain you, brethren, further, for I have now a most pleasing duty to perform—to invest for the third time our worthy Brother Shekleton as Deputy Grand Master of the Order. (Hear.) In bringing under your notice the name of Bro. Shekleton I am not introducing to you the name of an unknown friend or of an unknown Mason. (Hear.) When I knew that it fell to my lot to have the great pleasure of appointing a Deputy Grand Master, I at once felt that it would be with the sanction of all the brethren throughout this land that I should nominate Bro. Shekleton to that position. (Applause.) It is needless for me to say—the approbation which you have shown at the mention of his name proves—that he is a brother worthy to be accepted by you for the third time as Deputy Grand Master. (Applause.) It is also a matter of gratification to myself to think that I am able to propose such a worthy and excellent Mason. I beg now, brethren, to invest Bro. Shekleton as Deputy Grand Master of this most distinguished Order. (Loud applause.)

The Deputy Grand Master having been invested with the insignia of his office, was saluted by a running fire of eleven, time being taken from the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

R.W. Bro. ROBERT W. SHEKLETON, Q.C., who was greeted with loud applause, said: Most Worshipful Sir,—It is with feelings of the greatest diffidence that I stand amongst my brethren to return thanks, as I have so often done, for the honours that have been conferred upon me in Masonry. I confess that to a certain extent I was reluctant to undertake the office again, because I felt that, having filled it for so many years, it was my duty to give way to a younger brother—(no, no)—one who would be enabled to discharge the duties to your satisfaction, who would bring a larger amount of energy into the performance of those duties, and devote more time to the interests of the Order than I of late years have been able to do. But I felt, at the same time, that it was my duty when his Grace the Grand Master intimated his intention to nominate me, that I should not decline that honour unless I were thoroughly satisfied that it was not in my power to discharge the duties of the office; and, finally, I placed myself in the hands of my brethren, as I have always done, bespeaking their kind assistance and support, which have been hitherto on every occasion so generously accorded to me. To you, Most Worshipful Sir, I return my personal thanks for having entrusted me with the office. I must say that I am not unknown to your Grace, having had the honour of your friendship now for many years. To you, my brethren, I am not a stranger, having been Deputy Grand Master for a period now of nearly 17 years. (Applause.) I believe it has been unprecedented in the annals of the Order that a brother has filled that office for so many years, and that the same brother has had to discharge the duties of Grand Master on two separate occasions. (Applause.) I confess that thought brings melancholy reflections to me, because it reminds me of the death of two brethren, who were kind and generous and noble friends of myself; and I assure you that that alone has weighed upon me, and made me very doubtful whether I should have undertaken the office again. But, brethren, I thank you heartily for the way in which you have received my name to-night, and I can assure you that as long as I have the honour of being entrusted with the position of Deputy Grand Master I shall endeavour to discharge the duties of the office, as I have hitherto done, without regard to any man in the Order, simply actuated by a desire to do my duty to the Craft, and promote the well-being of the Order. (Loud Applause.)

R.W. Bro. the Hon. Judge TOWNSHEND said: Most Worshipful Grand Master,—I have been requested, as having discharged the functions for several years of the high office of Deputy Grand Master, to mention to your Grace publicly here to-night, if you did not know it already, that the Order in Ireland, on hearing that you had been pleased to nominate our R.W. Bro. Shekleton to the office of Deputy Grand Master—an office which, as I well know, requires no little care, no little attention, is encumbered with a good deal of difficulty, requires much discretion, much command of temper, and many other attributes which I do not like to enumerate lest it might look as if I wished to take credit for the possession of them myself, but which we all recognise in the Deputy Grand Master, whom we most gladly receive and welcome amongst us for the third time—determined to present him with an address which would but feebly convey their appreciation of his high personal character, and of the eminent services he has rendered to Freemasonry in Ireland. (Applause.) I have to ask your Grace to present, in the name of the brethren, this very handsome testimonial to our beloved brother; and we ask you to do so, not merely because we know that it will obtain a very great enhancement in that way, but that it will be gratifying to your Grace to be able by that overt act, in the face of this great assembly, to testify to your brethren that you are gratified at the fact that they have so kindly and so cordially received the appointment that you have made. (Applause.) I now place the address in your hands for formal presentation, and I think you will agree with me that it is in itself not unworthy of the Order or of the state of decorative art in Ireland. (Hear, hear.)

The address, which was very beautifully decorated by Bro. J. Hopkins, of Nassau-street, read as follows:—

Address from the Freemasons of Ireland to the Right Worshipful Brother Robert Wm. Shekleton, Q.C., J.P., Deputy Grand Master.

Right Worshipful and Very Dear Brother,

It is with sincere pleasure that the members of the Masonic Order in this country present their fraternal welcome and congratulation to you upon the occasion of your appointment, now for the third time, as Deputy Grand Master of the Freemasons of Ireland, a position which you have already filled under our late Grand Masters (his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., and his Grace the Duke of Leinster) for the unprecedented period of nearly 17 years, with credit to yourself and benefit to the Craft. In order to commemorate this event, they purpose placing your portrait in the Grand Lodge room, where they trust it may long continue as a memorial of the services of one so highly esteemed and beloved by his brethren. In conclusion, they fraternally hope that much happiness is reserved for you in the future, and that you may be long spared to perform those exalted Masonic duties which you have so ably discharged in the past.

Signed, on behalf of the brethren, this 3rd day of March, 1886,

ABERCORN, Grand Master.

BANDON, Grand Secretary.

M.W. the Duke of ABERCORN, in presenting the address, said the acclamation with which the brethren had received the words of Bro. Judge Townshend furnished a further proof—if such were wanting—that to no one could such a testimonial be more fittingly presented than to their, for the third time, newly-elected Deputy Grand Master. Without further preface, he begged to hand to Bro. Shekleton the address which had been presented to him so heartily and so unanimously by the brethren. (Applause.)

R.W. Bro. SHEKLETON, Q.C., suitably replied.

After a musical selection, in which Bros. Benjamin Mullen, Hemsley, Bapty, and Edward Oldham sang some glees and part songs during the evening in the most acceptable manner,

The GRAND STEWARD presented to the Grand Master Bro. Theophilus St. George as representative of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, U.S., and, having been invested with the insignia of that office, Bro. St. George took his seat on the dais.

R.W. Bro. SHEKLETON said Bro. St. George had been for many years a most active member of the Order. He had filled all the subordinate offices in the Grand Lodge, and had now retired into the ranks of the illustrious Past Grand Officers; but the choice of the Grand Lodge of Virginia could not—as all the brethren well knew—have fallen upon a better or more deserving Mason. (Applause.)

Bro. St. George was then saluted with a running fire of eleven, time being taken from the Grand Master.

A collection having been taken up for the Masonic Orphan Schools, the National Anthem was sung with great enthusiasm, and the Grand Lodge was closed with the customary formalities.

THE "DOMATIC LODGE," LONDON.

The members of the "Domatic" Lodge have acted wisely in having the History written for the Centenary Festival on February 12th, 1886, and it would be well if such an example was generally followed, especially if competent brethren can be found both able and willing to undertake such a duty. The Craft has much to gain, and certainly nothing to lose, by the publication of the early records of old lodges when they are in the hands of a discreet and zealous brother such as Bro. G. B. Abbott, who is the author of the neat pamphlet now before us containing the chief features of the career of the Domatic Lodge for the last 100 years. Save in one or two particulars, there are not many striking incidents to note; but Bro. Abbott has carefully drawn attention to any records of an unusual character, and, what is more, has let the minutes speak for themselves in all their untouched and curious statements, some of which are not only amusing, but typical of the class of members who for many years formed the sole support of the lodge. The "Domatic" element was in complete possession until the "Union," and (like many still older [Scottish] lodges), was not anxious for the "Geomatic" support in any form as respects No. 234, which was their number under the "Atholl" Grand Lodge. We quite agree with Bro. Abbott that this peculiarity was not due to any special feature, either in the charter or at the time of its constitution by Dermott, but a usage entirely settled by the members themselves, who decided to be an exclusively Operative Lodge, and they so began, by dispensation, on December 21st, 1785.

John Wood, the Master designated on the warrant of February 7th, 1786, was initiated, apparently at the first meeting, by dispensation, in December, 1785, so his rise was rather rapid. The same brother, with the others, applied, in accordance with the resolution of the lodge—December 15th, 1789—for a second warrant, in order that the "Geomatic" element might be represented therein. It is probable that the main reason was to gratify Sir Watkin Leves, who was the first Master of the new lodge, No. 258, more than to be a means of extending a knowledge of the Craft to other than Operatives. At all events, beyond that Knight (who was an Alderman and M.P. for the City of London, as also J.G.W. at the time) and "one or two others, all the members of No. 258 were made Masons in, and continued on and off as members of No. 234," hence it is clear that the scheme was a failure, novel as it was, and the one lodge, practically with two warrants, hailing from the same Grand Lodge—a unique experience—turned out to be "burthenous," as the W.M. stated to the members of the original lodge on 30th October, 1795.

In consequence of an application from "a respectable company of gentlemen," a Committee was appointed with "full power to dispose of the same in such manner as they think meet for the good of the lodge." On January 26th, 1796, Bro. Abbott tells us, Bro. Wight, P.M. [one of the Committee], "presented the lodge with the sum of one Pound one from Bro. Clark, of 244, for having purchased the warrant of 258." The money was applied to "decorating the lodge," so it is quite evident that the transaction was effected without the consent of the Grand Lodge. The "Atholl" Masons often sold lapsed warrants, sometimes the cost of transfer for such precedence being a heavy item; but in all such cases the fee went to the "Charity Fund" of that Grand Lodge, and a new charter was issued. In this instance the Operatives of 234 did a little business on their own account, and, what is still more remarkable, the original warrant of No. 258 is now held by the present flourishing lodge, the "Lion and Lamb," No. 192, London; so whatever irregularity there was in the transfer, the authorities do not appear to have troubled about the matter. It would be interesting to know if the early records of the "Lion and Lamb" Lodge throw any light on this point, and we shall be glad to hear that a careful examination of the minute book of that period confirms such an extraordinary occurrence.

The references to the Royal Arch Degree, the election of the "Nine Worthies," and other matters appertaining to the "Ancients" are all carefully noted, and, humble as was the origin of the lodge, there is abundant testimony throughout the records that the distinguishing characteristic of Freemasonry, viz., Charity, was "its guiding star." As the Constitutions are referred to in the records, we may as well remark that the editions issued by the "Ancients," and called "Ahiman Rezon," were for the years 1756, 1764, 1778, 1787, 1800, 1801, 1807, and 1813—eight in all.

Bro. Abbott states "there are no means available now for filling the gap in the minutes from May, 1812, to December, 1815." We have not the printed Proceedings of the "Ancients" before us; but we have those of the "United Grand Lodge," by which we find the lodge is noted, through having made the following payments, duly acknowledged in the reports for the dates mentioned, viz., "293 [now 177], Hercules Pillars, Great Queen-st." (originally No. 234).

	School Fund.	Fund of Benevolence.	Fund of G.P.
June 1, 1814 ...	£0 5 0	£1 17 0	£0 10 6
Sep. 7, 1814 ...	—	1 19 0	—
Dec. 7, 1814 ...	0 5 0	3 9 0	0 15 0
Feb. 1, 1815 ...	0 5 0	2 0 0	0 5 0
Jan. 7, 1815 ...	1 0 0	0 17 0	3 0 0
Sep. 6, 1815 ...	0 5 0	1 9 0	0 15 0

We are pleased to see that copies of the warrant held by No. 177, dated February 7th, 1786, and of the one possessed by No. 192, bearing date December 21th, 1789, are printed in the History, as well as the Centenary Warrant of February 8th, 1886. There are also the By-laws of 1837, and a valuable Roll of Officers of the "Domatic" Lodge from 1786 to 1886, so far as the records go. We congratulate the members on their centenary, and thank Bro. Abbott for his faithful, interesting, and painstaking History of the lodge, of which the "Domatic" brethren especially may justly be proud.

W. BRO. THE LORD MAYOR AT HOME.

One of the most interesting features in the current number of our Bro. Edmund Yates's excellent paper, *The World*, is a striking pen-picture of the I.P.M. of the St. Botolph's Lodge at the Mansion House, which we feel compelled to reproduce in extenso:

GEORGE II. was King of England when Lord Mayor Sir Crisp Gascoigne moved from the comparative obscurity of the Old Jewry into the Grecian palace which Mr. Dance had just completed on the site of the Stocks Market. Nearly a century and a half have passed away since then, and Time and London smoke have dealt unkindly with the six substantial fluted columns of Portland stone "wrought in the proportions of Palladio," and the varied beauties of Mr. Taylor's emblematical bas-relief, half hidden in the heavy pediment which they help to support. Many generations of dingy City

sparrows have built their nests with impunity amidst its mouldings and cornices; and the weather-beaten and turret-crowned lady, who represents London, and is, to all appearances, engaged in inflicting condign punishment with a yard measure on the robust figure of Sir William Harcourt, still looks down disconsolately from amidst her soot-begrimed companions in misfortune on the busiest and most crowded thoroughfare of the metropolis. American travellers and country visitors may perchance pause for an instant to contemplate the solid magnificence of the home of the Civic Fathers, but the great majority of the passers-by concern themselves very little with the details of Mr. Taylor's symbolical sculpture. If, on unofficial occasions, you have the temerity to ascend the broad steps of the Mansion House portico, an inhospitable placard confronts you which proclaims the privacy of the precincts, and you turn abashed to seek admittance by the humbler entrance in the massive basement story, "built in rustic," which looks out on the quiet street now called Walbrook, and once known as Charlotte-row. The door is opened by a grave servant in black (for the gold and purple liveries are reserved for high days and holidays), and you find yourself in the gloaming which appropriately surrounds those awe-inspiring semi-subterranean chambers in which the City Marshal, the Clerk of the Cocket, the Yeoman of the Channel, the Plate Butler, and the Water Bailiff's Second Young Man discharge the onerous functions of their various offices. Want of time may possibly prevent a visit to the historical kitchen, with its gigantic spits and Brobdinnagian stew-pans, and you pass at once up the wide white staircase with the painted balustrades and funereal urns to the Long Parlour, where coal-fires are burning brightly beneath the monumental mantelpieces at either end. Busts of Nelson and Wellington fill the vacant spaces in the angular broken pediments with which Mr. Dance—the ardent admirer of the architecture of antiquity—has surmounted them, and any want of warmth in the original design is more than atoned for by the gilded ceiling, the glittering chandeliers, the drab and blue wainscot, the brazen fire-dogs, and the tile-lined chimney corners. A large painted screen, in which we see Lord Mayor Beckford in the act of receiving George III. at Temple Bar, partially divides the room between the dining-tables; but you have hardly leisure to examine it, for you are soon dazzled with the greater splendour of the Saloon beyond, where the shortcomings of stucco and red druggat are forgotten in the presence of throne-like chairs of velvet and gold; where busts of Royal personages stand on pedestals of *verde antique*; where the portraits of Lord Duncan and Lord Cornwallis seem to gaze admiringly at the painting of one of Lord Rodney's great battles, and where the forbidding and ferocious figures of Sardanapalus and Caractacus guard the sacred portals of Lord Burlington's Egyptian Hall.

From the vestibule leading to the saloon (which Mr. Horace Jones, the City Architect, always delights to call the Loggia) you enter the Venetian Parlour, where the Lord Mayor spends much of his time. A lofty window, divided by columns, affords a prospect of the ceaseless movement in Queen Victoria-street and the Poultry, and the seats in the recesses of the fortress-like wall below it are filled with comfortable cushions. The classical mantelpiece would have done duty admirably for the sarcophagus of a Roman Emperor, and is an appropriate resting-place for a clock fashioned to represent the façade of a Grecian temple. Between the fireplace and the window is placed a serviceable mahogany writing-table with a circular cover, which can be closed at will. His early breakfast is just over, and Lord Mayor Staples is busy with his morning's post, and has three hours' labour to get through before he can put on his gown and take his seat with due solemnity in the adjacent Justice room. An open door affords a passing glimpse of Mr. Soulsby's *sanctum*; for the indefatigable Secretary is already ankle-deep in torn envelopes, and the business of the "Unemployed Relief Fund" is engrossing the earnest attention of both. We have been accustomed from our childhood to connect the person of the Lord Mayor with gorgeous pomp and pageantry of November 9th, but the familiar signs of state are wholly wanting now. The three-cornered hat—that mysterious creation of velvet and ostrich feathers—lies unnoticed in its modest red case on the sideboard, while the camo and diamond badge is safe in the custody of the Plate Butler, along with Queen Elizabeth's "pearl" sword, the maces, and other precious insignia of office. A kindly gentleman, clad in a plain frock-coat, greets you from behind a formidable pile of correspondence, and consents to spare you a few minutes before he resumes the work you have indiscreetly disturbed. The letter of the Prince of Wales on the subject of the "Unemployed Relief Fund" lies amongst the papers at his side, and you are astonished to learn that this subject alone entails at present the receipt of between one and two thousand letters every day. The suggestions received are as numerous as they are bewildering. One writer would have sixty thousand of the male inhabitants of the East End enlisted "en masse" into the Army; another advocates their employment on the wholesale erection of artisans' dwellings at Deptford; a third clamours for the excavation of ornamental lakes in Greenwich Park; while a fourth proposes to draft the surplus population of all London indiscriminately into the national Navy. Pamphleteers are, if possible, more prolific than the letter-writers, and the ephemeral literature of the "unemployed" already half covers the great sofa beneath the window, in the view from which the Lord Mayor takes a special pride. Between the bronze figures which flank the sideboard you notice a framed copy of the invitation card to the last Guildhall banquet, which was the result of much patient research in the library of the British Museum; and on the table hard by may be seen copies of Mr. Riley's "Memorials of London and London Life," the "Index of the Remembrancia," and the "History and Antiquities of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers," the preparation and production of all of which were in a great measure due to the initiative of the present Lord Mayor. He has already collected the materials for an account of the Aldermen of Aldersgate Ward, which he intends to complete at his leisure when the time comes for him to exchange the arduous duties of the Mansion House for the welcome quietude of the Regent's Park. Mr. Soulsby's room plays an important part in the daily life of the Lord Mayor. A certain picture-que confusion in its arrangement tells the tale of the amount of business perpetually transacted within its walls. Labelled tin boxes call to your recollection a dozen almost forgotten charitable collections, from the "Earthquake in Essex Relief Fund" down to that in aid of "Irish Ladies in Distress." Below lie the Lord Mayor's Diary and the Mansion House Invitation Book, bound in crimson and gold. But Mr. Soulsby cannot be interrupted for an instant, and you leave him to his labours, while you complete your inspection of the Mansion House by a brief visit to the drawing-rooms across the Loggia, in which yellow curtains, a red carpet, and orange-coloured satin can hardly be said to harmonise with the modelled trophies on the walls, which belong to the days of Mr. Dance, or the artistic masks surrounded by rays, which still adorn the centre panel of the marble mantelpieces. There is, however, enough still left in the Mansion House to console you for the disappearance of the state bed, which cost three thousand guineas, and excited the admiration and wonder of our ancestors.

Mr. John Staples can be claimed as a Wiltshire worthy, for he was born at Belmont, near Salisbury, where his father had retired from a business career in London. He was as a boy a favourite pupil of Dr. Rice, of Christ's Hospital, and afterwards entered Mr. Hatcher's school at Salisbury. In 1842, on the retirement of Mr. Kay (subsequently High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire), he became, in partnership with his brother, proprietor of the Albion in Aldersgate-street, which he managed with remarkable success for over twenty years. The Albion was at last transformed into a Limited Company, and Mr. Staples devoted himself henceforth to the service of the Corporation. In 1865 he was first elected a member of the Court of Common Council for Aldersgate Ward, distinguished himself over the question of the City records, did excellent service on several of the Committees, and eleven years later was chosen Alderman without a protest. As Sheriff of London he represented the Corporation at the laying of the foundation stone of the deep-sea harbour at Boulogne. He is a Governor of Queen Anne's Bounty and an Almoner of Christ's Hospital. He has been twice Master of the Pewterers' Company, and is now for the second time passing through the presidential chair of the Leathersellers. As becomes a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, he has encouraged the compilation of several works bearing on the history of the City, and has himself produced a modest volume on the annals of the Church of St. Botolph, in his favourite Ward. He is also a zealous Freemason, and a patient and painstaking magistrate. When he entertained the Society of French Masters in England at tea, just two months ago, the excellent and epigrammatic French in which he made a fluent speech fairly astonished M. Waddington and his other guests. The life of the present Lord Mayor has been one of plodding industry and unobtrusive usefulness. Having had the rare distinction of entertaining the members of the two Governments during his mayoralty, Lord Salisbury and Mr. Gladstone will both be in a position to appreciate the graceful courtesy with which he has (with the assistance of the Lady Mayores) dispensed the hospitality of the Mansion House, while his sound sense, exemplary diligence, and never failing urbanity can hardly fail to disarm the most powerful enemy of the Corporation.

We fancy, somehow or other, we recognise in the foregoing sketch the hand of a well-known brother, whose wit and eloquence are often appreciated and admired at the meetings of many of our London lodges.

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To Correspondents.

The following communications stand over:—

CRAFT:

Eastern Star Lodge, No. 95.

Royal York Lodge, No. 315.

Fawcett Lodge, No. 661.

Earl of Zetland Lodge, No. 1364.

Claustentum Lodge, No. 1461.

Caradoc Lodge, No. 1573.

Sir Charles Bright Lodge, No. 1793.

Victoria Park Lodge, No. 1816.

Montague Guest Lodge, No. 1900.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Lodge, No. 1903.

Richmond Lodge, No. 2032.

MARK:

Royal Sussex Lodge, No. 75.

Laying the Foundation Stone of a New Masonic Hall at Brixham.

Bancroft Club of Instruction.

INSTRUCTION:—

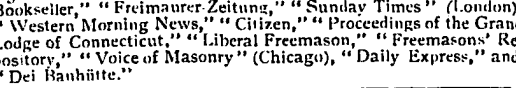
Faith Lodge, No. 141.

Duke of Edinburgh Lodge, No. 1259.

Marquess Lodge, No. 1489.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

"Musical Society," "Cassell's National Library," "Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine," "Masonic Journal," "Victorian Freemason," "Allen's Indian Mail," "Newcastle Daily Journal," "Keystone," "Tenth Annual Report of the East Lancashire Systematic Masonic, Educational, and Benevolent Institution," "New York Dispatch," "Proceedings of Supreme Council, Thirty-third Degree, Italy," "Court Circular," "Le Moniteur de la Chance Universelle," "El Taller," "Shoe and Leather Trades Chronicle," "Volunteer Record," "Bells Almanac," "Hull and East Yorkshire Times," "Sunday Times" (New York), "Jewish Chronicle," "British and Colonial Printer, Stationer, and Bookseller," "Freimaurer Zeitung," "Sunday Times" (London), "Western Morning News," "Citizen," "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut," "Liberal Freemason," "Freemasons' Repository," "Voice of Masonry" (Chicago), "Daily Express," and "Dei Bauhütte."



SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1886.

Original Correspondence.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for, or even approving of the opinions expressed by our correspondents, but we wish in a spirit of fair play to all to permit—within certain necessary limits—free discussion.]

CHARITY STEWARDS' BADGES AND FOUNDERS' JEWELS.

To the Editor of the "Freemason."

Dear Sir and Brother,

May I ask for an editorial opinion as to the propriety of wearing in Grand Lodge and in any subordinate lodge either the badges presented to Stewards at the Festivals of the Masonic Charities, or the jewels known as founders' jewels?

Neither of these classes of ornaments is recognised by the Book of Constitutions, and yet no objection seems to be raised by the officers of Grand Lodge to their being worn. I have been much surprised to notice the extent to which the practice has grown during the last year or so. Only Wednesday, the 3rd inst., I observed a brother sitting near me who wore six jewels; three of these were Stewards' badges, one was a founder's jewel, one was the proper Charity jewel, and the last was the jewel of the Royal Arch. The appearance was magnificent; but, apart from the brother's liberal and praiseworthy efforts on behalf of our Charities, which were properly represented by the Charity jewel with its tricoloured ribbon, it did not appear to me that those adornments represented any very great Masonic experience, or very much Masonic work.

It is my own opinion that the brethren who found a new lodge might very properly be authorised to wear a jewel indicating the fact, and if any brother likes to bring forward a motion to that effect he shall have my vote—a vote which will be perfectly disinterested, as I cannot claim to myself the credit of having founded a lodge, proud as I should be to have done so. Again, if the Committees of the Charities find that they gain Stewards more easily by the attraction of the badge, let them try and get a regulation passed authorising the Stewards to wear badges, say for the year of their Stewardship; but do not let us have a rule plainly stating that only certain emblems are to be worn in lodge, and then permit a custom to grow up in direct variance with that rule.

I trust that nothing I have said is calculated to hurt the feelings of any brother; the practice is too general to make it possible to impute blame to any individual who follows it, but it seems to me—though very likely I am wrong—to savour rather of bad taste, and to be so directly contrary to the Constitutions as to make it desirable that it should be either stopped or formally recognised.—I am, Sir, yours fraternally,

A PAST MASTER.

Masonic Notes and Queries.

652j

THE EMULATION LODGE OF IMPROVEMENT.

In your critique of Vol. V. of Gould's History of Freemasonry, in the *Freemason* of 27th ult., you indulge in a mild joke at the expense of the Historian, which has probably escaped his notice. I allude to that portion of the review which treats on Bro. Gould's account of the organization of lodges of instruction, wherein he states that the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was founded in the year 1836. This must have been either a slip of the historic pen or an error on the part of the printer, for the year should have been 1823, as any brother can testify who chooses to attend the lodge and examine the written list of members complete from its first meeting. Unfortunately, with the single exception of this List, the whole of the old records were lost during the last re-building of the Freemasons' Tavern. In order, however, to prevent future complications and to place the matter beyond the shadow of a doubt, I shall be glad if you can find space for the following, which was copied by me from the original document some years ago.

"To H.R.H. The Duke of Sussex,
Most Worshipful Grand Master of Free & Accepted
Masons of England, &c., &c., &c."

"We the undersigned being members of
"the lodge of instruction called the Emulation Lodge of
"Improvement meeting at the Blue Posts Charlotte Street
"Fitzroy Sq., under the sanction of the Lodge of Hope
"since its commencement on the 2nd of October 1823 beg
"leave most respectfully to state that this lodge of instruction
"is for M.M.s only, always commencing with the lecture
"in the 3rd degree, and taking the other lectures in rotation
"as time will permit, and are worked according to the
"custom of the Grand Stewards Lodge, and since the
"commencement of the same there have joined between
"three & four hundred brethren, and that the number
"attending in the year 1827 was 795, in 1828—1109—in
"1829—833—total 2735, making the average number for
"each night 18 for the last three years, but in consequence
"of the communication and command received from your
"Royal Highness on the last Quarterly Communication we
"are debarred from meeting and working as we have been
"accustomed to viz electing the W.M. and he appointing
"his officers for the next night of meeting, so that the
"brethren may have an opportunity of giving the section
"they are appointed to work due consideration previously
"to the night of meeting which is on every Friday. This
"Lodge of Instruction is circumstanced differently from
"any other in the Order, having only one of the members
"belonging to the lodge under whose sanction it is held
"and that one the W.M. who now comes amongst us.
"Having thus laid the statement and manner of working
"before your Royal Highness and having the prosperity of
"the Craft at heart, we are anxious to promote and diffuse
"the genuine principles of the Art in a regular constitutional
"manner, and wishing to excite emulation amongst the
"younger brethren and to give such instruction that when
"they may have the honour to be appointed to any office
"or elected to the Chair in a regular lodge they may be
"fully competent to discharge the important duties of the
"same with that correctness and regularity which is so
"essential to the well ruling and governing a lodge. We
"do therefore pray that your Royal Highness will be
"pleased to grant this lodge of instruction your especial
"license and authority so that we may meet and conduct
"the business of Masonry which we trust has been done
"for nearly seven years, and the undersigned as in duty
"will ever pray.

"Peter Gilkes, W.M. No. 7,	J.W.
"J. Mivart, W.M. 152,	W.M.
"J. L. Gillam, W.M. 367,	S.W.
"John Dawley, 152,	Treasurer
"Wm. Longstaff, P.M. 218,	S.D.
"J. L. Allan, W.M. 27,	J.D.
"Thos. Yeatwell, W.M. 299,	I.G.
"J. Cox, P.M. No. 11	"Colville Brown, P.M. 92
"Jas. Leget, J.W. No. 11	"E. S. Garner, P.M. 299 & 481
"John Nelson, 305	"T. Gebbs, Sec. 12
"Thos. Parker, 300	"T. Skeet, S.D. 335
"H. Luttrell, 314	"S. M. Briggs, P.M. 152
"Edwd Wittington,	"Wm. Farnfield, P.M. 481
P.M. 481	

"Signed in open lodge this 19th March 1830."

The names are here given in the order in which they appear in the original document.

H. SADLER.

REVIEWS

THE FREEMASONS' CALENDAR FOR THE PROVINCE OF DORSET, 1886. Compiled by Bro. John A. SHERREN, P.P.G. Stwd., P.M. and Treas. 170, under the authority of the P.G.M. Weymouth: Sherran and Son, 79, St. Mary-street.

What we have said of former editions of this excellent Calendar applies with even greater force to the edition for the current year. It is a model of neatness and accuracy, and as such does infinite credit to the worthy compiler, Bro. John A. Sherran. He appears also to have been materially assisted in his endeavours to make it as complete as possible by the Prov. G. Secretary, Bro. Robert Case, and other brethren in the province, who have readily furnished him with the requisite information, and to whom he offers his thanks in the preface. We notice with pleasure that the Dorset Masonic Charity, which was only founded towards the close of 1880, has already assumed very considerable proportions, the amount received from the outset being close on £2486, of which £2125 13s. has been expended in the purchase of stock, and £290 voted in the relief of distress. The rest, with the exception of a small balance of some £8 and odd shillings, has gone in preliminary and subsequent expenses; and we venture to say no

one will consider the round £62 thus appropriated has been otherwise than well spent. Besides the usual information as to lodges and chapters, the Calendar contains a list of the votes to which the province, its lodges, and its members, &c., are entitled, and we doubt not this list is the subject of great pride to all our Dorsetshire brethren. At all events, if they are not proud of it, they ought to be. There is also an obituary for the past year, which, though it includes the names of some worthy Masons, is fortunately not a very long one. In conclusion, we congratulate the province on having so accurate a guide, and Bro. John A. Sherran on having compiled it.

REPORTS OF MASONIC MEETINGS.

Craft Masonry.

LION AND LAMB LODGE (No. 192).—The installation meeting of this lodge was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, there were present Bros. B. Perkins, W.M.; H. Stevenson, I.P.M.; W. Medwin, S.W.; Dowling, J.W.; Henry Legg, P.M., Treas.; Geo. Abbott, P.M., Sec.; Thos. Fisher, J.D.; Thos. Agutter, I.G.; Thos. Cohu, P.M., W.S.; George Kenning, P.M.; S. Lucas, P.M.; J. Giesman Chillingworth, P.M.; Charles Arkell, P.M.; W. T. Rickwood, P.M.; Robert Marke, John Quy, J. S. Fraser, Wm. Hobbs, and Dr. Waring. The visitors were Bros. James Lucas, 79; C. R. Wickens, 733; S. J. Humfress, 733; Thos. Wills, 299; W. W. Wesley, 186; S. Barfoot, 2048; J. Gibbs, 1613; J. B. Reid, 1364; H. Salter, 861; R. Sears, 299; W. Simmons, 1871; R. W. Humphreys, 679; Thos. Tremere, 1929; Henry Payne, 720; and Alfred Bush, 1246.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The report of the Audit Committee was read, showing the lodge to be in a good financial position. The sum of ten guineas was voted from the funds of the lodge for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, to be placed on the list of Bro. Medwin, who will represent the lodge at the forthcoming festival. Bro. S. Lucas, P.M., then proceeded to install Bro. Medwin into the chair of W.M. for the ensuing year, the ceremony being performed in an able manner, eliciting the encomiums of all the brethren present. The newly-installed W.M. then invested his officers: Bros. Barclay Perkins, I.P.M.; Dowling, S.W.; Fisher, J.W.; Legg, P.M., Treas.; and George Abbott, P.M., Sec. A massive 18 carat gold jewel was presented to Bro. Barclay Perkins, I.P.M., in recognition of his services for the past year.

The brethren then adjourned to dinner, the usual toasts being duly proposed. Bros. R. Sears, P.G. Deacon Kent, Thos. Wills, P.G.S. Wks. Kent, J. Gibbs, W.M. 1613, and Thos. Tremere, replied for "The Visitors." The dinner was well-served under the superintendance of Bro. H. P. Kilby.

LODGE OF ST. JAMES (No. 765).—The election meeting of this lodge was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., there being present on the occasion Bros. W. H. Tilling, W.M.; G. Tilling, S.W.; E. J. Rawle, J.W.; H. W. Mitten, P.M.; R. Tilling, P.M.; J. Child, P.M.; J. E. Costello, S.D.; Carnes, Perkins, Spencer, Alfred Tilling, Prior, Samuels, Miels, Roberts, Travers, Geo. Carter, J. Williams, Spalding, Walker, Brinkler, Rudd, and other members. Amongst the visitors were Bros. W. Martin, W.M. 879; Marsh, W.M. 1587; Chamberlain, 1587; Venables, 1587; and Fountain, 879.

There was no ceremonial work before the lodge, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed and the bye-laws read, the brethren at once proceeded to the election of W.M., Treasurer, and Tyler. Bro. G. Tilling, the present esteemed S.W., received the unanimous vote of the members as W.M. for the ensuing year; Bro. J. Child, P.M., was re-elected Treasurer; and Bro. Rowe, Tyler. Auditors having been appointed and date of meeting arranged, a grant of 10 guineas was unanimously voted to a former P.M. of the lodge now in need of assistance. On the proposition of Bro. H. W. Mitten, who, in an excellent speech, set forth the merits of the W.M., and the praiseworthy manner in which he had discharged the duties of his exalted position, a P.M.'s jewel was voted to Bro. W. H. Tilling, to be presented at the ensuing meeting of the lodge. No further business offering, the lodge was then closed in due form.

Refreshment followed labour, and the usual toasts were given, that of "The W.M. Elect, Bro. G. Tilling," being most cordially received, and to which the newly-elected brother made appropriate response.

For "The Visitors" to whom a hearty welcome was accorded, the several brethren named replied in terms of high appreciation of their reception.

A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent, under the presidency of the W.M., whose term of office has been marked with a zealous endeavour to uphold the well-known character of this excellent lodge.

KENNINGTON LODGE (No. 1381).—This lodge met at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, on the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. J. Plowman, W.M.; La Feuillade, S.W.; Lingley, J.W.; George Everett, P.M., Treas.; W. Stuart, P.M., Sec.; Foale, S.D.; Cruse, J.D.; Rumble, I.G.; Westley, D. of C.; H. Higgins, P.M.; T. C. Walls, P.P.G.S.B. Middlesex, P.M.; C. H. Köhler, P.M.; W. P. Webb, P.M.; Cockburn, P.M.; Stranger, I.P.M.; and Reinardt, Tyler. The visitors were Bros. Boyce, 186; Grover, 186; and Johnson, 1320.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. Grover was raised to the Degree of a M.M. Several apologies for non-attendance having been read, the lodge was duly closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet. The usual toasts followed.

OLD ENGLAND LODGE (No. 1790).—In consequence of a fire which occurred at the club adjoining the Masonic Hall, Thornton Heath, the regular meeting of

this lodge was held at the White Hart, Abchurch-lane, on Thursday, the 4th inst., when there were present Bros. H. Baber, W.M.; W. H. Rawson, S.W.; C. Tarry, J.W.; W. Foulsham, P.M., Treasurer; H. M. Hobbs, Sec.; F. R. T. Ridpath, S.D.; J. Kilvington, J.D.; W. Best and C. A. Wadsworth, Stwds.; F. C. Pascall, P.M.; C. Daniel, P.M. 65; H. E. Philips, and Wm. Lane, Tyler.

The lodge having been opened, the Secretary read the dispensation from the M.W. the Grand Master, authorising the lodge to meet at the above address. Bro. H. E. Philips was passed to the Second Degree. Great regret was expressed by the brethren at the fire which had taken place on the previous Tuesday, whereby the regalia of the lodge had been destroyed, but above all, at the loss of the oil painting of Bro. W. Foulsham, which had been presented to the lodge at the February meeting. A hearty vote of thanks was ordered to be placed on the minutes to Bro. T. Turquand Fillan, the W.M. of the Langton Lodge, for allowing the use of the furniture and regalia of the Langton Lodge of Instruction, and to Bro. G. Anderson, P.G.S., at whose premises the meeting was held. After some other business the lodge was closed.

CHISWICK LODGE (No. 2012).—The regular meeting of this lodge was held at the Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, on Monday, the 8th inst., and a goodly muster assembled, it being the last meeting of the session. The officers present were Bros. George Gardner, W.M.; R. Harvey, S.W.; W. Dowling, S.D.; J. Brown, J.D.; Geo. Everatt, P.M., acting I.P.M.; F. Lawrence, M.D., Treas.; H. Furze, Sec.; R. Wimpey, I.G.; E. Baily, D.C.; W. Clowes, H. Fruen, T. Hoodless, G. Sales, F. Walden, W. Moore, J. Hawes, W. C. Dickey, J. Brill, A. Gammell, W. Dodson, A. Mooney, J. Rowling, J. Ellis, F. W. Wheeler, C. Toghil, B. Hardy, C. Richardson, P.M., Org.; and C. F. Hughes. Visitors: Bros. F. Binckes, P.G. Stwd., Sec. Boys' School; J. L. Mather, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts; T. E. Liddiard, P.M. 355, P.P.G.S.B. Wilts; R. Taylor, P.M. 144; J. Blaisby, W.M. 786; Lewis, W.M. 1671; J. Edwards, W.M. 1662; Tassiden, 1987; Stranger, F.M. 1381; Parr, 198; A. Tilbury, 975; T. Coleman, 192; J. Manning, 177; and J. Moore, 177.

The lodge having been opened and the minutes read and confirmed, Bros. Wheeler, Moore, Dickey, and Sales were passed to the Degree of F.C. Bros. Mooney and Dodson were then raised to the Third Degree. Messrs. F. Thompson, R. Tyser, and W. Bell having been balloted for, were initiated, the whole of the ceremonies being exceedingly well performed by the W.M., to whom great praise is due for the rapid strides and great efficiency this young lodge has attained during such a short existence, namely, two years and a half. The names of two candidates for initiation were handed in.

"Hearty good wishes" having been given, the lodge was closed in due form, with perfect love and harmony, and the brethren retired to the banqueting room, where a sumptuous repast was served by Bro. J. Brill, in his well-known excellent style.

The Worshipful Master then rose to give the first toast, that of "The Queen," and, in doing so, remarked that that toast, since they last met, had been received in a very different manner to what it would be on that occasion. He was happy to say it was not at a Masonic gathering, for none were more loyal than Masons to their Queen, the Grand Patroness of their Order; he, therefore, had much pleasure in giving them "The Queen and the Craft." The toast was received with acclamation.

The Worshipful Master then gave "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales," and alluded to the letter sent to Grand Lodge, expressing his regret at his enforced absence, whereby he was precluded from proposing the grant, from Grand Lodge Funds, of £200 for the unemployed, this toast was also received as it deserves.

"The Grand Officers Present and Past" followed, and the W.M. asked Bro. F. Binckes to respond, and to give the many young members some hints concerning the Charities, which he did most effectually.

The I.P.M. then proposed "The Health of the W.M.," and expressed the pleasure it gave him to find one whom he had introduced into Masonry such a short time since, occupying such a proud position, and carrying out its duties in such a perfect manner.

The Worshipful Master in replying, said he felt flattered by the way the toast had been given and received, thanked them, and trusted he should at the end of his year of office meet with the same eulogiums that he had begun with. He then announced that up to the present his list for the Boys' School, which he was representing for the lodge, amounted to the magnificent sum of £150, adding that he should have carried out his intention when the lodge was established, viz., the precedent of a Steward being sent to each of the Charities in succession, he having represented them at the Girls' first with about £75, the old people with £120, and he should endeavour to make the present considerably more than it was now.

"The Visitors" was next proposed, who, in replying, stated that they had been very much impressed with the ceremony, through which they had gone, and trusted they should make as good Masons as they saw round them, and be a credit to the lodge.

Several of the brethren having to depart, the next toast was given and responded to by Bros. Blaisby, Taylor, Liddiard, and Moore, who all expressed their pleasure and satisfaction at being present at such an excellent meeting.

The Worshipful Master in giving the toast of "The Officers," expressed a wish that they would, during the recess, double their energies, and so make themselves perfect, so that it should be said the Chiswick has second to none in its work, pointing out to them and the brethren the opportunity they had under so excellent a Preceptor at their own lodge of instruction, as Bro. E. Ayling, P.M., who, he was sorry to say, was absent through illness, but he sincerely hoped for a speedy recovery.

The Tyler's toast was given during the evening. There being a lot of musical talent amongst the brethren, songs were given, accompanied by the Organist, thus terminated this very happy meeting, which may well be termed a red letter day of this lodge.

DRURY LANE LODGE (No. 2127).—A meeting of this lodge was held at the Masonic Temple, Drury-lane Theatre, on Tuesday afternoon, the 9th inst. W. Bro. J. C. Parkinson, P.G.D., occupied the chair in the absence of Lord Londesborough, and there were also present Bros

Augustus Harris, S.W.; Sir John E. Gorst, J.W.; Fleming, Treasurer; A. M. Broadley, Secretary; and other members. General Laurie, G.M. of Nova Scotia, and other distinguished visitors were present.

Four candidates were initiated, and five passed to the Second Degree, the ceremony, in the hands of Bro. Parkinson, being in the highest degree impressive. Bro. C. F. Matier kindly acted as J.D., and he was paid the compliment of being elected an honorary member of the lodge.

THE ABBEY LODGE (No. 2030).—At the meeting held on Monday, the 1st inst., at the Town Hall, Westminster, Bros. Gammon, De Pinna, Geisell, and Hoffmann, were raised. Bro. C. C. Morgan, 1257, was admitted as a joining member; and Messrs. F. C. Morgan, John Irving, and C. T. Cowley, were initiated. Subsequently Bro. Seeger Hunt, S.W., was unanimously elected W.M. for the coming year; and Bro. Rogers was unanimously re-elected Treasurer. Bro. Walkley was also re-elected Tyler of the lodge. On the motion of Bro. Burdett-Coutts, I.P.M., seconded by Bro. Spink, P.M., a vote was taken for a Past Master's jewel to be presented to Bro. Baker when he vacates the chair, the proposer of the vote remarking that it was a compliment more than usually well deserved in the case of Bro. Baker, on account of the most admirable manner in which he had performed his duties as Master. Though, no doubt, Bro. Baker would fully appreciate this mark of regard from the brethren, he apprehended he would find the chief reward of his exertions in the increased prosperity and prestige which the lodge had acquired during his term of office. The death was announced of Bro. Brinckmann, one of the first members of the lodge, and Bro. Baker announced that he had in the name of the lodge written a letter of condolence to the family, and, on the occasion of the funeral, which he was not able to attend, had sent a wreath in the name of the Abbey Lodge. The I.P.M. announced that on the preceding Wednesday he had attended Grand Lodge, where he had had the honour of being selected to propose the re-election of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales as M.W. Grand Master.

Bro. Burdett-Coutts, in speaking at the dinner which followed the lodge meeting, said that he had no idea why he was selected to perform that very high and dignified office, unless it were attributable to the fact that he was the first Master of the Abbey Lodge, which, by its rapid growth and vigour, and the admirable part it had played in the history of Freemasonry for the last two years, had won for itself an honourable position in the Craft.

The Grand Officers present were Bro. Simpson, P.G.C., Chap.; and Bro. Jekyl, P.G. Org.; and among the visitors were Bro. Russell, W.M., Goldslein, and Bliss, Carnarvon Lodge, 1722; Kaye, W.M. Crystal Palace Lodge; Dr. Forbes, Griffith, Cave, Fisher, Thompson, and many others.

MANCHESTER.—Lodge of Affability (No. 317).—The usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. Present: Bros. R. R. Lissenden, J. W. Edwards, I.P.M.; J. Garside, S.W.; W. B. Akerman, J.D.; W. J. Cunliffe, P.M., Treas.; Edward Smith, Sec.; J. Robinson, S.D.; E. G. Chesworth, J.D.; C. Daber, Org.; E. Wormleighton, I.G.; V. M. Vultchoff, S.S.; W. Rennie, J.S.; and J. Sly, Tyler; Bros. John Bladon, P.M., P.P.G.A.D.C., D.C.; P.M.'s Bros. J. R. Lever, James Dawson, H. Walmsley, J. Smethurst, Wm. Nicholl, J. H. Clarke, and James Wilson; Bros. Swindells, Staton, Read, Wolstencroft, Elderton, Rottmayer, Whil, and Spencer. Visitors: Bros. J. W. Abbott, P.M. 1030, P.G. Dep. D.C.; J. T. Richardson, P.M. 581; W. H. Hardcastle, P.M. 1773; E. W. Irving, P.M. 127 (S.C.); Wm. Hall, S.W. 1387; Charles Martyn, 1387; H. H. Martyn, 1387; J. Hothersall, J.W. 1161; John Stovold, S.W. 1993; John Rathbone, S.D. 581; J. Bowers, Org. 1730; S. Bradburn, 1814; S. S. Lewis, 1161; and J. Wilcox, S.D. 1140.

The lodge was then opened, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Mr. Griffiths, who was declared elected, and subsequently initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Freemasonry by Bro. W. J. Cunliffe, P.M., at the request of the W.M. Upon the retirement of Bro. Griffiths the W.M. resumed his duties, and interrogated Bro. Frederic Spencer as to his proficiency in the Second Degree, and on receiving satisfactory replies afterwards raised him to the Sublime Degree of a M.M., Bro. John Bladon presenting the working tools.

At the proper time for such business, Bro. W. B. Akerman, J.D., proposed, and the W.M., Bro. R. R. Lissenden, seconded, that the sum of £10 be voted from the lodge funds towards the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, after which the W.M. gave notice of motion that Bye-law No. 1 be altered as follows: That the lodge meetings be held every first Thursday from January to December, except July and August.

"Hearty good wishes" were expressed by the numerous visitors, and three candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. The lodge was then closed.

The brethren subsequently sat down to supper, where, after the usual preliminary toasts had been proposed, "The Healths of the Initiate and Newly-raised Bro. Spencer," were proposed and responded to, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—St. Peter's Lodge (No. 419).—A meeting was held on the 4th inst., at the Strand Garter Hotel, when there were present Bros. S. Parkes, W.M.; W. B. Cooley, S.W.; J. Beattie, J.W.; C. A. Newnam, P.M., Treas.; G. Vaughan, P.M., P.P.G.S. of W. Staffordshire, Sec.; J. Bradney, S.D.; H. Caffisch, J.D.; J. Parkes, I.G.; W. C. Allen, Org.; Dr. Hamp and T. Skett, Stewards; J. Jones, Tyler; H. Stanger, P.M.; F. C. Bastick, P.M., P.G.P. Staffordshire; S. Walker, P.M., P.P.G.D. Staffordshire; Gibson, P.M., P.P.G.W. Staffordshire; and about 40 members. Visitors: Bros. H. C. Owen, W.M. 526 (late Mayor of Wolverhampton); H. E. Dehane, P.M. 1543, P.P.G.S.D. Essex; and Major C. Matthews, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Staffordshire.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. This was the first meeting after the installation, and there was a very heavy evening's work for the new W.M., viz., two candidates for initiation, Bro. W. R. Walker to be passed, and Bros. L. Lloyd and A. T. Hawes for raising. The W.M. displayed considerable ability in his work. A sum of £3 3s.

was voted to the widow of a deceased brother. After other routine business and "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the large dining room for refreshment. Before grace, the Almoner's box the W.M. found had been liberally supported. The brethren then returned to the lodge room, which is one of the best in the county.

The Worshipful Master proposed the usual Royal, Grand, Provincial, and Masonic toasts. Bro. Bastick, P.G.P., replied suitably for "The Prov. Grand Officers."

The I.P.M., Bro. Stanger, in proposing "The Health of the W.M.," extolled the excellent capabilities displayed by that brother in his work, and congratulated the brethren on having so good a Master.

The Worshipful Master, in reply, said he was determined to carry out the duties of the chair to the best of his ability, and hoped to be a credit to the lodge, and that the brethren would have no cause to regret placing him to rule over them.

The Junior Warden proposed the toast of "The I.P.M., Bro. Stanger, and the P.M.'s of the Lodge" in very appropriate terms.

Bro. Stanger, in reply, said, as the latest addition to the long roll of P.M.'s of the lodge, he would at all times be ready to render assistance and instruction as occasion might require.

Bro. Gibson—in the absence of the S.W.—proposed the toast of "The Visitors," and said he was pleased to see them present. The W.M. of the Honor Lodge was welcome as W.M. of one of the lodges in the town, as also for the warm interest he took in Masonry; Bro. Dehane he was pleased to see, the more so as being the son of an old P.M. of the lodge, who was initiated in that room exactly 50 years ago; many of the older brethren, he knew, recollected him; and Bro. Matthews, a resident, was well known to them all.

Bro. Owen replied, laying particular stress on the manner the work was always done in St. Peter's Lodge, and hoped when any of those present visited the Lodge of Honor they would be as equally pleased as he was that evening.

Bro. Dehane also said he was very gratified at the kind reception he had received from the brethren of the lodge in which his father had performed his Masonic duties, and also complimented them on the way the Charities were supported in the province. He thanked them for the assistance he had received personally on behalf of the Province of Essex from their excellent Charity representative, Bro. M. Humphries, of Walsall. The province sent the other day to the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution £204 15s. as a start, which augured well for the other Charities. Last year their total was between £600 and £700.

After a very brief remark from Bro. Matthews, the W.M. proposed the toast of "The Officers of the Lodge," who, he said, were good, able, and as willing a set of officers that a W.M. could have.

The Tyler's toast followed. During the evening the brethren were entertained with songs, recitations, &c., the W.M. coming in for considerable applause.

PLUMSTEAD.—Pattison Lodge (No. 913).—The usual monthly meeting of the above powerful lodge took place on Thursday, the 4th inst., at the High School for Boys, Brook Hill-road; Bro. E. Palmer, W.M., in the chair, assisted by the following officers and brethren: Bros. A. Penfold, P.M., P.G. Stwd. Kent, D.C.; C. Coupland, P.M., P.P.G.J.W. Kent, Treas.; E. Denton, P.M., P.P.G.J.D. Kent, Sec.; W. B. Lloyd, P.M.; R. J. Cook, P.M.; H. Mason, P.M.; W. Rees, P.M.; T. R. Richardson, S.W.; W. G. Lloyd, I.G.; R. Tyler, Org.; Bros. B. Lloyd, P.M., acted as S.D.; Mason, as J.D.; W. G. Lloyd, as J.D.; and W. Busbridge, as I.G., in the unavoidable absence of the officers holding those positions. The brethren of the lodge and the visitors present were Bros. W. C. Taylor, J. O. Cook, E. Morris, C. Scantlebury, G. Clifton, R. Saunders, W. Newton, W. Buckley, G. Sanders, J. Farrier, F. Hambrook, R. Donohue, W. Ledger, W. Lock, W. Charlsworth, J. Hooton, A. Moore, W. Courtman, J. Frankling, H. Grafton, G. H. Campbell, R. Estey, H. Hager, W. Mackey, F. Griffiths, W. Harris, and C. Jolly, all of the lodge; E. B. Hobson, P.M. 700; W. Moulds, W.M. 1536; E. S. Southgate, 700; and G. F. Taylor, 700.

There was a heavy night's work before the Master, viz., the balloting for, and initiation of, Messrs. A. G. Hancock and W. H. Pryce, the passing of Bro. Saunders and Newton, and the raising of Bro. Cook, all of which was done in faultless style by the W.M. and his officers.

The lodge was then closed, and the brethren partook of refreshments, and, on reassembling round the festive board under the presidency of Bro. Penfold, P.M., the W.M. having to retire on account of ill-health, the usual loyal, Grand Lodge, and Provincial Grand toasts were duly proposed and drunk.

Bro. Penfold, in proposing the toast of "The W.M.," said he felt sure they all sympathized with Bro. Palmer, who had been confined to the room for the past fortnight, but who felt it to be his duty to be present that night to work the ceremonies in the lodge. Bro. Palmer had, however, been compelled to retire after a hard night's work, the arduousness of which must have tried him sorely; they had, however, seen how admirably he had performed that work, and he felt sure they all wished their esteemed W.M. a speedy return to health.

The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm. The toast of "The Past Masters" followed, Bro. Penfold observing that, as in the former, it seemed to him to be proposing one's own health.

The toast was drunk with much cordiality, and Bros. Lloyd, Rees, Cook, and Mason responded; the latter, who stands Steward for the Girls' School, told the brethren that he wanted their money badly for his list. He wanted to make it up to £150; that would make the handsome sum of £500 taken up by him for the Charities during the last two and this session from the Pattison Lodge. He then passed his card round, and we believe the above amount was reached, or nearly so.

"The Initiates," "The Visitors," and "The Officers" were duly toasted, and the toasts severally responded to.

Bro. Jolly received the honour of an especial toast as correspondent for the *Freemason*, and also upon his installation as W.M. of the Henley Lodge. The W.M. put it in glowing terms, and, for its enthusiastic reception, Bro. Jolly feelingly returned thanks.

Bro. Tyler was complimented on the excellent choir he had founded to sing the appropriate services in the several

Degrees, and also for his presiding at the piano at the social board; and we must say the rituals were rendered doubly impressive by the excellence of the choir.

Bro. Tyler briefly returned thanks, and the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings.

RED HILL.—Royal Albert Edward Lodge (No. 1362).—A meeting was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Market Hall. Present: Bros. James Nightingale, W.M.; H. Trower, S.W.; R. Killick, J.W.; H. Austen, J.P., Treas.; W. J. Kemp, Sec.; P. Shepherd, S.D.; A. H. Rees, J.D.; W. C. Saunders, D.C.; C. Heather, Tyler; W. A. Laker, P.M.; H. Summers, P.M.; C. Nightingale, I.P.M.; Major Godson Godson, E. G. Feild, W. Markham, R. J. Albery, and E. Putman. Visitor: Bro. J. Adair, 1928.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Bro. Putman was raised by the W.M. to the Third Degree. Two candidates were proposed for initiation at the next meeting. Bro. W. A. Laker, P.M., offered to represent the lodge as Steward at the Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, to be held in May next, at which the R.W.P.G.M. of Surrey, Bro. Gen. J. S. Brownrigg, C.B., is to preside. Bro. Laker's services were accepted by the W.M. and brethren, and the lodge unanimously voted twenty guineas to be placed upon Bro. Laker's subscription list.

The lodge having been closed, the brethren adjourned to Bro. Laker's hotel for refreshment.

NORTH WOOLWICH.—Henley Lodge (No. 1472).—The installation meeting of the above lodge took place on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., at Bro. West's hostelry, the Three Crowns Hotel, when Bro. C. Jolly, S.W., W.M. elect, was, with the usual ceremonies, placed in the chair of K.S. as W.M. for the ensuing 12 months. The lodge was opened by the W.M., Bro. A. T. Ives, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been confirmed, Bros. Gill, Martin, Burns, Borritt, and Davidson were passed. Bro. Jolly was then presented, and duly installed by a Board of 20 Installed Masters, and on the readmission of the brethren was saluted in due form. He invested his officers as follows: Bros. J. Paul, S.W.; J. Savage, J.W.; Dr. W. Vance, P.M., Treas.; J. Ives, P.M., Sec.; C. Canning, S.D.; C. J. Jones, J.D. (by proxy); C. Wood, I.G.; C. Hefford, D.C.; A. Knight, A.D.C.; T. G. Johnson, W.S.; M. Kaul, A.W.S.; and J. Gaskell, P.M. 1076, Tyler. The Installing Officer, Bro. A. Ives, I.P.M., then gave the addresses most eloquently, and concluded a ceremony at once impressively and faultlessly rendered, for which he was warmly and deservedly congratulated on all sides. Bro. Jolly began his rule by initiating Mr. B. Curtis, who had been unanimously elected a candidate, in good style. A cordial vote of thanks was tendered Bro. Ives, and it was unanimously resolved that a testimonial, of the value of five guineas, should be presented him for the admirable manner in which he had carried out the ceremony of installation, for which he suitably returned thanks. He was also presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel, of the value of 10 guineas—one of Bro. Kenning's manufacture. The W.M. made the presentation, and, in so doing, said it was then his pleasant duty to present Bro. Ives with the jewel of his office, unanimously voted to him at their previous meeting. The inscription on it bore testimony to the respect and esteem in which Bro. Ives was held by the brethren, and also to the excellent and masterly manner in which he had carried out the duties of W.M. during his year of office, and he (Bro. Jolly) said it without fear of contradiction, but rather with every confidence, that not a single sentiment thereon expressed but found an echo in all their hearts. Suffice it to say that he, as their mouthpiece, presented it to Bro. Ives with their heartfelt wishes for his happiness and prosperity now that that brother had achieved the proud position of a P.M. of the Henley Lodge. In pinning it on Bro. Ives' breast, Bro. Jolly felt that he was adorning the outside of as kind a heart as ever beat in unison with all that was emblematical of the good, earnest, and worthy man and Mason, and trusted the G.A.O.T.U. would spare Bro. Ives for many years to wear it as a token of the affectionate esteem of the brethren of the Henley Lodge.

Bro. Ives having feelingly responded for the many favours that day bestowed upon him, which he should remember with pride till his dying day, the sum of 10 guineas was voted to a brother, who is a candidate for the Benevolent Institution annuity, for his immediate relief; and, after "Hearty good wishes" had been tendered, the lodge was closed in due form, and the brethren adjourned to banquet.

Among some 68 brethren present, and not above named, were Bros. E. West, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Herts; B. B. Brayshaw, P.M., P.P.G. Herts; A. J. Manning, P.M., P.P.G.S.D. Essex; A. J. Elder, P.M.; W. J. Graham, P.M., P.M. 700; C. T. Lewis, P.M.; W. Bail, S. Woodland, C. J. Carter, J. Gladding, A. Burton, W. D. McGuinness, G. Richardson, H. Lewis, B. Bow, Riffatt, C. J. Powling, E. Morgan, W. Turvey, J. Delo, G. Sutcliffe, T. Reeve, W. J. Clapperton, T. Nasely, F. Burditt, T. Lack, and G. Lowe, all of the lodge; A. Penfold, P.M. 913, P.G. Stwd. Kent; F. A. White, P.M. 907, P.M. 1437, P.P.G.D. Essex; Harris, W.M. 1076; Watkins, S.W. 1076; Mears, J.W. 1076; J. Roland, P.M. 700; J. H. Roberts, P.M. 700; J. Sanderson, S.W. 700; Naylor, J.W. 700; J. Aillud, P.M. 615; Bererton, P.M. 879; Davis, P.M. 728; Byford, J.W. 808; Woods, 212; G. Campbell, 913; F. Tyler, 913; J. O. Cook, 913; W. B. Ledger, 913; W. C. Taylor, 913; and others.

The banquet having been discussed, the Worshipful Master gave the usual loyal and Grand Lodge toasts, which were honoured in bumpers.

The I.P.M., then in felicitous terms, proposed "The W.M.," whose popularity among the Masons of that district was only equalled by his geniality and universal courtesy. They had seen him work the First Degree that day, and from that alone they might guess what was in store for them. He prophesied a successful year of office for Bro. Jolly, and asked them to drink the toast in bumpers; and they did.

Bro. Jolly, who on rising to respond, was met with a very tempest of applause, which was sustained for some minutes, said if he were at all inclined to be vain, the flattering reception of the toast might be some excuse for him, but the very fact of so much being expected of him, and having, as he had, to follow a Master whose brilliant career had added so much lustre to the lodge, made him feel most

humble, for he felt within himself that he never could reach that high standard of excellence, set up, and reached by his predecessor, and those excellent Masters who had preceded him, and while he did not approach the task before him with a light heart, or a vain self-sufficiency, he did not approach it with the timidity of a coward, but rather with a determination to work up to that standard by every means in his power. Sustained by the ever ready assistance and council of the P.M.'s, and aided by the support and forbearance of the brethren, he trusted at the end of his term of office to hear them say "Well done Bro. Jolly." Let then brotherly love and unity prevail; bear and forbear; strive with him, and for him, and then, as unsullied as he had received it, he would hand down to his successor the prestige of the Henley Lodge. He concluded by thanking them for the toast, and resumed his seat amid rounds of cheers.

The toast of "The P.M.'s" followed, and Bros. Ives, Elder, Brayshaw, and Lewis responded.

"The Visitors" was the next toast, add Bros. Penfold, White, Roland, Harris, Campbell, Sanderson, and others returned thanks.

"The Initiate" was warmly toasted, and briefly returned thanks.

"The Officers" followed, and Bros. Paul, Savage, Vance, Ives, and Canning responded, and then the Tyler's toast concluded the proceedings, which were most harmonious and enthusiastic.

We may add in conclusion that the room has been lengthened 12 feet, and Bro. West has presented a handsome and valuable silk banner to the lodge, designed and manufactured by Bro. George Kenning, which puts an artistic finish to the already pretty and comfortable appearance to the room. It was greatly admired, and a cordial vote of thanks was tendered Bro. West for his welcome present.

BOOTLE.—Bootle Lodge (No. 1473).—The members of this lodge met on Thursday, the 4th inst., in the Molyneux Assembly Rooms, to instal the W.M. elect for the ensuing year. The lodge was formed, some 14 years ago, to accommodate brethren in the rising town from which it takes its name, Bro. S. E. Ibbes being the first Master; and many prominent citizens in the borough, including more than one mayor, have been placed on its roll. The chair was taken by Bro. Isaac Platts, W.M., supported by Bro. R. Scott, S.W.; Job Clarke, J.W.; S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B., Treasurer; H. Wyatt, P.P.G.A., Secretary; J. C. Paterson, P.M.; W. H. Clemmey, P.M.; J. Duncan, jun., P.P.G.D.C.; Councillor W. R. Brewster, P.M.; H. Molyneux, P.M.; Councillor J. Musker, Rev. E. F. Neep, Chaplain; Rev. W. H. Neep, and others. A very influential contingent of visitors from neighbouring lodges included Bros. R. White, W.M. 241; R. Wright, S.W. 220; Richard Brown, P.P.G.J.; W. Wilkinson, P.M. 1086; R. Foote, P.G.J.; W. Warhurst, J.W. 1756; C. Bargery, P.M. 1756; John Davies, W.M. 1325; James Pendleton, P.M. 241; Simon Jude, J.W. 241; T. Hatton, W.M. 2042; Rev. John Stowell, W.M. 1350; and others.

The W.M. elect, Bro. R. Scott, S.W., was presented by Bros. Councillor Isaac Platts, W.M., and Clemmey, P.M., and the installation ceremony was most effectively performed by Bro. John Duncan, jun., P.P.G.A.D.C. The officers for the ensuing year were invested as follows: Bros. Isaac Platts, I.P.M.; Job Clarke, S.W.; Dr. Herbert Taylor, J.W.; S. E. Ibbes, P.P.G.S.B., Treasurer (re-elected for the 12th time); Harold Wyatt, P.P.G.A. Sec., Secretary; L. W. Hayes, Asst. Secretary (by proxy); W. Broden, S.D.; J. Alexander, J.D.; R. C. Vaughan, I.G.; J. G. Forsyth, Organist; J. M. Hogarth, S.S.; S. Hale, J.S.; James Gill, A.S.; R. Harley, P.M., D.C. (by proxy); and Robert Blake was re-elected Tyler.

The brethren were afterwards very satisfactorily catered for by Bro. C. A. Luker, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were duly honoured. During the evening a handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to Bro. J. Platts by the W.M., on behalf of the lodge. A pleasing selection of music was provided by Bros. H. J. Nicholls, T. C. Fagher, J. Bushfield, J. Hogarth, and J. Quayle, under the able direction of Bro. John G. Forsyth, Organist.

EAST GRINSTEAD.—Sackville Lodge (No. 1619).—The ordinary meeting of this lodge was held in the Masonic Rooms on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., when there were present Bros. A. M. Betchley, W.M.; T. Smith, S.W.; G. D. Woolgar, J.W.; E. A. Head, P.M., P.P.G.D., Treas.; J. Hopkinson, I.P.M., P.G.P., acting Sec.; W. Hosken, S.D.; H. S. Martin, J.D.; S. M. Woolgar, Org.; J. Cooper, acting I.G.; H. Histed, Stwd.; W. Rudge, P.M., P.P.G.S.B.; G. Histed, T. Mitchell, C. Wilson, and H. Leeney.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the formal business having been gone through, the W.M., in his usual correct manner, passed Bro. G. Wilson, and initiated three candidates, viz., Messrs. Baker, Henning-Smith, and White, Bro. T. Smith, S.W., most effectively giving the charge. A vote of congratulation was passed to Bro. H. L. Martin on his recovery from his recent serious illness, for which Bro. Martin feelingly returned thanks. Bro. G. D. Woolgar proposed, and Bro. Hopkinson seconded, that a letter be written by the Secretary, on behalf of the lodge, to Bro. Sir F. W. Truscott, thanking him most cordially for his presentation of his portrait as G.W. to the lodge, which was carried with acclamation. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Hopkinson for his gift of the original manuscript of the opening and closing hymns used by the lodge.

The lodge was closed in perfect harmony, and the brethren adjourned to the adjoining club room for refreshment.

HAMPTON WICK.—Wolsey Lodge (No. 1656).—This prosperous lodge met at the Rose and Crown Hotel on the 8th inst. Among those present were Bros. J. Piller, W.M.; Elsam, acting S.W.; Chandler, J.W., W.M. elect; T. W. Ockenden, P.P.G.D. Middx., Sec.; Jobbins, S.D.; Bonell, I.G.; W. T. Peat, Organist; Drummond, D.C.; Gerhold, W.S.; J. Featherstone, P.P.G.P. Middx., P.M.; Walls, P.M.; Masters, E. Dare, H. Sapsworth, Grant, Bond, Spooner, T. J. Smith, J. Hunt, J. J. Smith, Plamböck, Rice, and others. Among the visitors were Bros. Elsam, P.P.G.D.C. Surrey, P.M. 201, &c.; Williams, P.M. 975; Page, P.M. 1269;

Radcliffe, P.M. 1663; Bugler, S.W. 975; Mason, 1328; Aylesford, 1694; Middleweek, 1793; and others.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, Bro. R. H. Thrupp, D.P.G.M., &c., was announced and saluted in due form. Bro. Chandler having been duly presented, was ably installed into the chair of K.S. by W. Bro. Thrupp. The officers appointed and invested were as follows: Bros. Ockenden, S.W.; Handel, J.W.; the Rev. C. D'Crespigny, Treasurer; Peat, Secretary; Bonell, S.D.; Drummond, J.D.; Brier, I.G.; T. J. Smith, Organist; Dare, D.C.; Sapsworth, W.S.; Grant, A.W.S.; and Gilbert, Tyler. A Past Master's jewel having been presented to Bro. J. Piller, a vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to W. Bro. Thrupp for his services as Installing Officer. A committee having been appointed to revise by-laws, the lodge was closed, and the brethren adjourned to the banquet, which was well served by Bro. Plamböck. Upon the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts followed, and were interspersed with instrumental, vocal, and dramatic selections by Bros. Walls, Peat, Grant, Jobbins, T. J. Smith, and Page.

SHANKLIN.—Chine Lodge (No. 1884).—A meeting of the above lodge was held on the 23th ult., at the Masonic Hall, when there were present Bros. Alfred Greenham, W.M.; Frank Rayner, J.W.; Rev. George Avery, Chap.; F. Cooper, Treas.; L. Colenutt, Sec.; C. H. Moorman, S.D.; A. F. Swayne, J.D.; William Deeks, D.C.; J. W. Cantelow, I.G.; W. Thompson, Stwd.; W. J. Meer, Tyler; Francis Newman, P.P.G.S.W.; John Bailey, I.P.M.; C. Riddick, and A. H. Brown. Visitors: Bros. T. H. J. Petherick, P.M. 551; J. Webber, 551; F. Trueman, 551; W. Cluett, 1869; G. Cluett, 1869; and G. Withers, 1869.

The very lengthy minutes of the installation meeting having been read by the Secretary, the ballot was taken for a joining member, and for three candidates for initiation, which was unanimous in their favour. The brother of the W.M., Mr. Robert Greenham, and Mr. H. S. Haley, were then introduced and initiated. The W.M. then rose and proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. J. H. McQueen, P.M. and W.M. Enoch Lodge, No. 11, for generously endowing the chair of Chine Lodge with two votes in the Aged Freemasons' Institution. He said: "Brethren,—I feel quite sure I shall be echoing the sentiments of every member of Chine Lodge when I propose that we tender to Bro. McQueen our best thanks for his handsome gift. He has indeed signalled his membership with us, for, at our first meeting after he was elected, Chine Lodge receives not only proofs of his generosity, but proofs of his deep interest in Masonry; and, brethren, if I associate myself with those thanks in a marked degree, it is because that it was at my installation that this spontaneous gift of Bro. McQueen's was made, and if I had further the privilege of determining the Institution the votes should be in, I did not do so until I knew the wishes of Bro. McQueen. Therefore, brethren, I feel that as my installation was honoured, and my appeal for charity generally evoked this kind offer, in just so great a degree do I feel and wish to express my appreciation and thanks to Bro. McQueen. We felt quite proud when he came amongst us as a visitor and as a P.M. of a very ancient lodge, and we feel still more so now that he is a member of our lodge and the W.M. of the Old Enoch Lodge, No. 11."

"You must remember, brethren, that Bro. McQueen has not known our lodge twelve months, yet in that short time he has given us practical proofs of his interest in it, and has made many friendships among our members.

"Yet, while Masonic claims of other and older lodges, perhaps, pressed in with prior ties, Bro. McQueen has endowed the chair of Chine Lodge with two votes in the Aged Freemasons' Institution for all time, and I trust, brethren, that Chine Lodge will ever remember and cherish the name of the donor. That Bro. McQueen should have selected me and my installation as the first recipients of these votes, I should have tendered him personally my best thanks had he been here, while you W.M.'s in embryo, who will follow me in this chair, and will have the privilege of using them, will, I am sure, one and all, cordially vote for the resolution."

Bro. F. Cooper seconded the resolution, and expressed his appreciation of Bro. McQueen's generous gift.

The W.M. then rose and said—"Brethren,—In the month of October last Bro. G. Kenning made a suggestion to our lodge that we should commence collecting anything that had any relation to Masonry embracing objects of Masonic art, curiosities of any kind, and he gave us a medal struck in honour of the Prince of Wales' installation as G. Master to start such a collection. I proposed then that the lodge should encourage such a collection, and members be asked to contribute anything that pertained to Masonry that by chance came into their possession.

"Brethren, I have the pleasure, on the first meeting of my taking the chair, of presenting something which is, undoubtedly, historic in its relation to this lodge, which I am sure the members will value to-day, and which will, perhaps, be still more valued in the future. You all know that the by-laws of Chine Lodge were printed without the sanction of the P.G.M. being attached thereto, a position unique for a lodge to occupy, and probably a similar circumstance could not be found in the province. I have heard it stated among several of our members that we were acting illegally, because of the non-confirmation of our by-laws. When I became Secretary, in 1882, it fell to my lot, and certainly to my inclination, to introduce several systems, and the by-laws came first in my work, but though it was known to some that the by-laws were confirmed, I am unaware that anyone besides our I.P.M., Bro. Bailey, who was Secretary then, ever saw the precious document. I know a search was made among the many documents then existing, and not kept in any particular place. I know the printer was loudly blamed for losing it, but it was never found. We scarcely liked to confess our negligence by writing to the Prov. Grand Master for a reconfirmation, and for five years we have been in the unpleasant position of not being able to produce the Prov. Grand Master's authority. When I became W.M. elect, I determined that the mass of papers which had accumulated since I was Secretary should be looked over. I found from our Tyler one pedestal nearly full, which was being slowly used for waste paper. I took them all home, and there, crumpled up in the most careless manner, were our by-laws, confirmed by the Prov. Grand Master.

"Such was the zeal of Bro. Bailey, that he corrected the printer's errors in ink and could not wait for a fresh proof, but sent it off with all its imperfections. On that account,

and looking as its interest and importance, I have ventured to have it framed, and ask the lodge to accept it in this form.

"I do so on other grounds. Depend upon it, brethren, the more you surround your lodge with objects of Masonic art, and especially with documents connected with its formation, the more you are able to point to evidence of your early struggles to form this lodge. Depend upon it, brethren, you will thus weave around a feeling of pride and of honour, and though you have no traditions now, and though you have no antiquity to lay claim to as Bro. McQueen can for the Enoch Lodge, yet, brethren, believing as I do that these kind of things influence and develop the prestige of a lodge, I shall do all in my power to foster such a spirit during my year of office, and I trust that among the brethren I shall find some who believe that sentiment, and sentiments of this kind have a certain amount of influence and power for good."

Bro. A. F. Swayne, J.D., proposed a vote of thanks to the W.M., and congratulated the lodge on the old looking document, which he thought in years to come would be highly prized, and no doubt the old members felt very proud of seeing it restored to the lodge.

Bro. A. H. Brown seconded.

Bro. F. Rayner, J.W., said he had much pleasure in supporting the proposition of the J.D. No doubt, for some time past, the minds of some of the brethren had been considerably disturbed in regard to their by-laws not having the signature of the Prov. Grand Master as approving them. Their W.M., knowing that a copy of the by-laws with the approval of the Prov. Grand Master ought to be in existence, determined to bring them to the light of day, if possible. He made search, and his diligence was amply rewarded, as he discovered the unique and historical document which he had just presented to the lodge. He had also presented it in a form which would preserve it to all time. At the time it was forwarded for the approval of the Prov. Grand Master, no doubt it would have been better for a nicely printed corrected copy to have been sent; but as it now appeared, with the erasures and pen and ink corrections, it gave it more ancient and historical character and appearance, and would be looked upon in years to come as a curious, but one of the most valuable documents in the possession of the Chine Lodge.

The W.M. briefly returned thanks, and the lodge adjourned, and the brethren afterwards partook of a banquet.

PORTSMOUTH.—Temperance Lodge (No. 2068).—The annual meeting of this lodge was held on Monday, the 22nd ult., at the Soldiers' Institute, High-street, when there were present Bros. J. Woodhouse, acting W.M.; J. Palmer, S.W.; G. Reading, J.W.; G. F. Bevis, Treasurer; J. R. Pither, P.M., Secretary; P. H. Emanuel, S.D.; A. Chugg, J.D.; W. Robinson, D.C.; Q. Ceconi, I.G.; C. G. Adames, P.M., and W. Miller, Stewards; Wells, Tyler; E. Naylor, P.M., P.G. Stwd.; J. Dillon, A. Hoare, W. Porter, T. Tufnell, J. Beckley, J. P. White, E. R. Fisher, G. Cook, A. W. Bevis, G. Williams, J. Prior, J. Coote, E. W. Doney, G. S. Keens, J. E. Allan, and W. T. Dingle. The visitors were Bros. E. Goble, P.G. Sec.; J. Jackson, W.M. 1428, P.G. Stwd.; W. Smoker, W.M. 928; J. M. Foster, W.M. 1776; J. W. Gieve, I.P.M. 309; Charles Larkins, 903; H. J. Long, W.M. 1903; G. F. Lancaster, I.P.M. 1990, P.P. G.D.; G. Gilmour, W.M. 309; H. V. Hann, 928; R. Pocock, S.W. 928; J. Brickwood, P.M., S.W. 2074; T. Batchelor, I.P.M. 1705, P.P.G. Org.; F. Sanders, W.M. 342; T. Whiteman, 1272; Wm. White, jun., 1776; and J. W. Dempsey, W.M. 903.

The lodge was opened in due form, and after the usual business, the ballot was taken for Messrs. Robert Gibbs and Albert Sinclair respectively, both of whom were elected. The former being present was duly initiated into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry. Bro. Naylor then occupied the chair, and Bro. J. Palmer, S.W., was introduced to the Installing Master by Bro. J. R. Pither as the W.M. elect, and after the usual ceremony, Bro. Palmer was duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year. The W.M. having been saluted in due form, in the Three Degrees, he appointed his officers as follows: Bros. Capt. T. Ward, R.A., I.P.M.; G. F. Bevis, S.W.; P. H. Emanuel, J.W.; Rev. Dr. Wm. Stern, Ph.D., Chaplain; T. Tufnell, Treasurer; J. R. Pither, P.M., Secretary; W. Miller, S.D.; Q. Ceconi, J.D.; H. Kerridge, I.G.; A. Chugg, D.C.; G. Williams and J. Coote, Stewards. The ceremony of installation was most ably and very impressively performed by Bro. Naylor, and the W.M. when appointing his officers, explained the columns, &c., to his Wardens, and the jewels to each of the officers in a manner calling some applause. A vote of thanks was duly accorded to the Installing Officer, who said he felt a little nervous at seeing so many purple collars, and high Masons present. The report of the Audit Committee, and the balance sheet was duly passed. The cash account showed an income of £157 1s., and expenditure £149 9s. 6d., leaving a balance of £7 11s. 6d. The liabilities are estimated not to exceed £10, against which there is outstanding £6 3s., due from brethren. The best thanks of the lodge were recorded to Miss Robinson for her kindness in lending the rooms, gratis, and to Bro. G. F. Bevis, Treasurer, and J. R. Pither, Secretary, for the faithful discharge of their duties.

The Worshipful Master proposed, and Bro. Pither seconded, as a notice of motion that "The sum of £21 be voted towards the Provincial Educational Institution, to be paid in four yearly instalments."

Bro. G. F. Lancaster, acting Secretary of the Institution, returned thanks in anticipation.

The Worshipful Master, addressing Bro. Tufnell, who had been called to the east, said that he had a most gratifying duty to do in presenting Bro. Tufnell with a founder's jewel (manufactured by Bro. G. Kenning) subscribed for by a few brethren who admired his character. The brother who first started the list was a very young Mason and not acquainted with everybody, and those he asked gave more than was anticipated, the result was that the subscriptions were confined to a few. He was sure that more would have gladly subscribed if they could have done so. The W.M. then pinned the jewel on the recipient's breast.

Bro. Tufnell thanked the brethren most heartily. If, he said, he had been of any use to the lodge he hoped to be more so in the future.

After the usual "Hearty good wishes" the lodge was closed in due form. Over 40 of the brethren adjourned

another room, kindly placed at the disposal of the brethren by Miss Robinson, and partook of a most recherché banquet, well catered by Bro. W. Maybom. The usual temperance drinks appeared to be enjoyed by all present during the evening, and this was the second temperance banquet that has ever been given in Portsmouth.

"The Queen and the Craft," and "The M.W.G.M., H.R.H. the Prince of Wales" were duly honoured, as also "The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon, Pro G.M., the Earl of Lathom, D.G.M., and Officers of Grand Lodge." The Worshipful Master, in proposing "The R.W. Prov. G.M., Bro. W. B. Beach, M.P., the R.W. Deputy P.G.M., Bro. J. E. Le Feuvre, and Officers of P.G. Lodge, Present and Past," referred to the zeal and ability displayed by the P.G.M. in carrying out his multifarious duties. The D.P.G.M. was always ready and willing to perform his work when called upon. They had present that evening Bro. Goble, P.G. Sec. to cheer and inspire their flagging zeal with a speech. There was also Bro. Lancaster, who was the originator and organiser of the Provincial Educational scheme. The W.M. asked the brethren to drink heartily to the toast.

Bro. Goble, who was well received, first congratulated Bro. Naylor for the most painstaking manner he had installed the W.M. He saw Bro. Naylor do the same at Petersfield, and he did it well, but that night he had excelled it. Bro. Naylor said in lodge he felt nervous, but he (Bro. Goble) differed, and congratulated the Temperance Lodge upon having such a P.M. amongst them. He thanked the brethren most cordially for the way the toast had been proposed and received, and was sure the P.G.M. and Deputy would also be pleased. Now, he certainly did feel bashful, as the W.M. had spoken so well of him, and he congratulated the W.M. upon the able way he had given the collars away and charged his officers in lodge. Other lodges might copy from the Temperance Lodge, which augured well for the future. As Prov. G. Sec., he thought it his duty to go as a Steward this year for the Boys' School. It was not for his individual honour he undertook it, but for the province. He was aware that the brethren had a great many calls upon them, and it was with some diffidence he appealed to them that night. He was not going to beg, but he would ask one all to support him, and not let him as Prov. G. Sec. go empty handed. He then alluded to a case at the Winchester Assizes where the opening counsel said that the arrangement between the prosecutor and defendant was made "between one Mason and another." Now such a thing as that was not at all right. Masonry should not be brought into business like that. They ought to be Masons to one another without that. Such a thing as the case he was speaking of was likely to bring them into disrepute. He was extremely sorry to see it, as Masons should treat each other as Masons and in business act as Masons without speaking of Masonry, and not putting themselves on their Masonic honour. A good Mason in lodge would act in a straightforward way out of lodge.

Bro. G. F. Lancaster, P.P.G.D., returned thanks, and speaking of the Educational scheme, he did not take all the credit, he certainly took the initiative, and so far had worked as Secretary, and hoped to pilot it to a successful issue. He appealed for some small annual subscriptions from 5s. and upwards. They were not antagonistic to any of the London Institutions, and did not want to act in any way against them. They only wanted to supplement the great Charities of London.

Bro. Naylor proposed the toast of "The W.M.," and said that the way he had conducted himself as S.W. during the past year, showed how well he would carry out his duties during the coming year. He had carried out his duties that day to perfection. All prosperity to the W.M., and a happy year of office.

The W.M., who was vociferously received, said it was more than he deserved. An illustrious brother had said "We should see ourselves as others see us." Well, he had looked back and failed to see what there was to admire in him. He assured the brethren he would endeavour to do his best. That evening was the first anniversary of the lodge, which was standing alone—unlike some babies at a year old—and was most satisfactory for its age. He must thank Bros. Naylor, Adames, Pither, and Woodhouse, for their support during the absence of the W.M. The Temperance Lodge was founded to supply a missing link in Freemasonry. It was for the convenience of those not caring to see drink used in their presence. The only difference between them and other lodges was, that at the banquet table there were no intoxicant drinks, the working was all the same. He hoped that at the end of his year of office the funds would be more prosperous, that the brethren would all rally round and cheer them with their presence. He prayed that T.G.A.O.T.U. would spare them all to meet next year, when he would hand over the gavel to his successor unscathed.

The W.M., in proposing "The Installing Master," said that one good turn deserves another, they gave him a good reception, and he hoped they would that toast. Bro. Naylor had performed the ceremony that day most impressively. He was a good and hard-working Mason who loved the Order for itself. The lodge would ever remember how he had performed his duties that night.

Bro. Naylor returned thanks, and said that the W.M. had tried to raise him to such a high pitch that he (Bro. Naylor) hardly knew what to say. During the past year he had tried to do his best. He had always taken an active interest in Masonry since his initiation, and any brother should not be a sleeping member but try, like "Excelsior," and get on.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The toast of the W.M.'s and Representatives of Neighbouring Lodges and Visitors," and assured them the Temperance Lodge was more than pleased to see them. They came amongst them with brotherly love which always enhanced the proceedings.

The W.M.'s and Representatives of Lodges 309, 342, 903, 928, 1428, 1705, 1776, and 2074 returned thanks.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Officers," and said that he felt easy and happy like a general having a good staff as he was sure he had good officers who had been well and worthily chosen, not from their outside appearance, but from their interest at heart for Masonry and the Temperance Lodge in particular. He asked them for their prompt attention to duties and thus ensure a happy and prosperous year of office.

Bros. G. F. Bevis, S.W., P. H. Emanuel, J.W., and T. Tufnell, Treas., returned thanks.

The Worshipful Master proposed "The Health of the Initiate," and Bro. Gibbs responded.

Bro. P. H. Emanuel sang "The Entered Apprentice" song, which was concluded in the usual manner.

The Tyler's toast concluded a most pleasant evening, during which Bros. Larking, Cook, Sanders, Batchelor and Emanuel contributed to the harmony, and Bro. Bickwood gave an amusing recitation.

EPPING.—Epping Lodge (No. 2077).—The ordinary monthly meeting of this lodge was held on Saturday, the 6th inst., at the Cock Hotel. The officers present were Bros. J. Salmon, W.M.; E. G. Lewis, I.P.M.; J. Woodrow, S.W.; J. Loudon, J.W.; Fraser, S.D.; Fletcher, J.D.; Hughes, I.G.; J. D. Acworth, P.M.; Treas.; Fletcher, Org.; Parkinson, Tyler; and Bros. Nokes, Tucker, Lawrence, and others.

The lodge was then opened, and Bro. Tucker, a candidate for raising, having answered the usual questions, was entrusted and retired, and afterwards raised to the Sublime Degree of M.M. in due form. Bros. Nokes and Smith having answered the questions leading to the Second Degree were entrusted and retired, and, by permission of the W.M., Bro. Acworth, P.M., Treas., performed the ceremony of passing Bros. Nokes and Smith to the F.C. Degree. The chair having been taken by the W.M., the ballot was taken for Mr. Sutton Abbott, and proving unanimously in his favour, he was initiated according to ancient custom. Two gentlemen were proposed for initiation, and Bro. J. Salmon was elected to represent the lodge on the Essex Charity Committee. No further business offering, lodge was closed in due form.

The usual banquet followed.

INSTRUCTION.

DOMATIC LODGE (No. 177).—The weekly meeting of this lodge was held at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst. There were present Bros. H. Buckeridge, W.M.; F. J. Tull, S.W.; T. Brady, J.W.; J. D. Smith, S.D.; C. White, J.D.; J. H. Hose, I.G.; J. Hill, Preceptor; R. Walden, Sec.; G. Stokes, E. Side, R. Rowlands, W. Simpson, and C. J. Biorn.

The lodge was opened in the Three Degrees, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The lodge resumed in the First Degree, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. R. Rowlands being the candidate. During the ceremony Bro. J. Hill, Preceptor, introduced a selection of music, fitted to different parts of the ceremony, which the brethren fully appreciated. The charge was given; the whole being very correctly and admirably worked by the W.M. The lodge was called off and on, during which time the brethren fully discussed the musical part of the ceremonies with delight. Bro. J. Hill, with Bro. R. Rowlands and the brethren, worked the 1st Section of the First Lecture. The lodge was resumed in the Third Degree, and closed down.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM LODGE (No. 753).—A meeting was held on Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the Eagle Tavern, Clifton-road, Maida-hill. Present: Bros. S. J. Humfress, W.M.; W. T. Mellier, S.W.; W. Thomas, J.W.; F. G. Baker, P.M.; Treas. and Preceptor; J. J. Thomas, Sec.; H. Conolly, S.D.; J. W. Stratton, J.D.; E. W. Scattergood, I.G.; C. Stallibrass, Stwd.; E. V. New, and C. J. Biorn.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The W.M. rehearsed the ceremony of initiation, Bro. New candidate. A brother from Derry, who stated he was in very distressed circumstances, solicited aid from the brethren, who responded and gave him temporary assistance, for which he expressed himself thankful. Bro. New was examined and entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and the ceremony of passing rehearsed, Bro. New candidate. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. The S.W., Bro. Mellier, was elected W.M. for the ensuing week, and the officers were appointed in rotation. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

HYDE PARK LODGE (No. 1425).—A meeting was held on Monday, the 8th inst., at the Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W. Present: Bros. A. Hardy, W.M.; E. C. Mulvey, S.W.; W. Thomas, J.W.; G. Read, P.M. 511, Treas.; H. Dehane, P.M. 1543, Sec.; J. Potter, S.D.; E. F. Ferris, J.D.; W. Death, I.G.; J. Bailey, Stwd.; W. H. Chalfont, P.M. 1425; J. Smith, J. C. Conway, O. W. Battley, J. S. Henry, E. Arbib, Capt. H. S. Andrews, J. H. Wood, J. H. Taylor, and T. Rossdale. Visitors: Bros. R. Alexander, 341 (S.C.); and C. A. McKee, 2045.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last lodge meeting were read and confirmed. After the usual preliminaries, the ceremonies of passing and raising were rehearsed, Bros. Battley and Wood candidates respectively. Bro. Mulvey was elected W.M. for next meeting, and appointed his officers in rotation, Bros. Alexander and McKee were elected members, after the lodge had been closed down. A communication was read thanking the brethren for their generous response to the appeal of a distressed brother. Votes of thanks were recorded to Bros. Read and Rev. M. Haines for the trouble they had taken in settling a long disputed account. It is anticipated that Bro. James Stevens will give his lecture on the ritual and ceremonies of the Symbolic Degrees in Freemasonry, 1813 to 1886, at an early date, after arrangements are completed.

SIR HUGH MYDDELTON LODGE (No. 1602).—The weekly meeting was held on Thursday, the 4th inst., at the White Horse Tavern, Liverpool-road, N., when the lodge was honoured by a visit from Bro. the Rev. Robert Nicolas Sanderson, Grand Chaplain. Present: Bros. Baker, W.M.; Garner, S.W.; Rev. R. N. Sanderson, J.W.; Weeden, Preceptor; Hughes, Sec.; Jordan, J.D.; and Welsford, I.G.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Hughes being candidate. The 1st Section of the lecture was worked by the Preceptor, assisted by the brethren. Bro. Weeden then took the chair as W.M. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. Bro. Welsford being a candidate to be raised to the Third Degree, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and the ceremony of raising rehearsed, Bro. Welsford being candidate. Bro. Baker then resumed the chair, and the lodge was resumed to the First Degree. Bro. Jordan, of the Cranbourne Lodge, No. 1580, was unanimously elected a joining member. Bro. Garner was elected W.M. for the next meeting. It was proposed by the Preceptor, seconded by the Secretary, and carried unanimously, that a hearty vote of thanks to Bro. Baker be entered on the minutes for his able working in the chair, being the first time in any lodge of instruction. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

WANDERERS LODGE (No. 1604).—A meeting was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-street, S.W. Present: Bros. C. Pugh, W.M.; Mimms, S.W.; Nice, J.W.; Wray, P.M., Preceptor; Gibson, Treas.; Musson, Sec.; Hayes, S.D.; Pellatt, J.D.; H. White, I.G.; Weeks, Tyler; Mason, Coughlan, Foison, Perry, Hamilton, Giddings, and Spon.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Giddings being the candidate. The lodge was called off and on. Bro. Hamilton being a candidate for passing, answered the usual questions, and was entrusted. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree, and Bro. Hamilton was duly passed to the Degree of a F.C. The lodge was closed in the Second Degree. Bro. Mason, of the Ubiqute Lodge, was elected a member. The S.W. was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A vote of

thanks was directed to be recorded to the W.M. for the able manner in which he fulfilled the duties of the chair for the first time. All Masonic business being ended, the lodge was closed.

A meeting of the Wanderers Charity Association was afterwards held, when it was resolved to finally close it, and start a fresh one during the next few weeks.

UBIQUE LODGE (No. 1789).—A meeting was held on Friday, the 5th inst., at the Crown and Anchor, 70, Ebury-street, S.W. Present: Bros. Gibson, W.M.; Hayes, S.W.; Stevenson, J.W.; Boulton, P.M., Preceptor; P. Coughlan, Sec.; Harvey, S.D.; Hume, J.D.; Arnold, I.G.; Nice, Roberts, Green, jun., Luckhurst, Musson, and Cope.

The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Nice being the candidate. Bro. Roberts, an initiate, answered the questions leading to the Second Degree, and retired. The lodge was opened in the Second Degree. The ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Luckhurst being the candidate. The lodge was opened in the Third Degree, and closed down. The W.M. rose for the first and second time, and Bro. Hayes was unanimously elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Bro. Hayes returned thanks, and appointed his officers in rotation. Nothing further offering, the lodge was closed.

Royal Arch.

MANCHESTER.—Chapter of Affability (No. 317).—The installation of Principals took place at the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, on Thursday, the 4th inst., when there were present Comps. James Wilson, Z.; Charles Oldham, H.; W. J. Cunliffe, J.; W. Hardcastle, S.E.; J. W. Edwards, S.N.; J. Dawson, P.Z., P.P.G. 1st Asst. Soj.; J. Almond, W. Walmsey, P.S.N. and Treas.; H. L. Rocca, P.G.S.N.; W. Nicholl, P.Z.; W. P. Norris, P.Z.; J. J. Lambert, P.S.E.; John Sherwin, and R. R. Lisenden, P.S.E. Visitors: Bros. W. R. Sowler, formerly of this chapter; and J. Walker, P.Z. 37.

The chapter was opened, and the minutes of the last convocation were read and confirmed. The installing companion was that very clever exponent of R.A. Ritual, Comp. James Dawson, P.Z., P.P. 1st Asst. Soj., assisted by another zealous and gifted companion Comp. J. E. Steward, P.Z. After the usual preliminaries, the three Principals elect, were formerly presented to Comp. Dawson, and installed into their respective positions, viz., Comp. Charles Oldham, Z.; W. J. Cunliffe, H.; and J. W. Edwards, J. The three newly-installed Principals were subsequently proclaimed to and saluted by the companions on their re-entrance to the room. Comp. J. E. Steward, P.Z., invested the remaining officers as follows: Comps. W. Hardcastle, S.E.; R. R. Lisenden, S.N.; J. Garside, P.S. (by deputy); and J. Sly, Janitor. The addresses were afterwards delivered in an impressive manner, and the ceremony concluded. The Auditors' report of the balance sheet was taken, and, although not as healthy as the members might desire, the financial position of the chapter compared most favourably with the last, considering there had not been a single exalte during the past twelve months. The report was adopted, and a vote of thanks passed to the Auditors, Treasurer, and Scribe E. for their services.

There being no further business, the chapter was closed in the usual manner, and the companions adjourned to the dining room and partook of a capital dinner, after which the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured, and a pleasant evening was spent.

INSTRUCTION.

CANDEN CHAPTER OF IMPROVEMENT (No. 704).—A convocation of the above chapter was held at the Moorgate Hotel, Finsbury-pavement, on Tuesday, the 9th inst. Present: Comps. Gregory, Z.; G. W. Knight, H.; Underwood, J.; Vine, S.N.; Edmonds, P.S.; R. W. Fraser, Jacobs, J. Knight, Grey, Carter, and others. The ceremony of exaltation was very impressively rehearsed, Comp. Christian candidate. R.A. companions are cordially invited to this chapter of improvement, where the ceremonies are always conducted in a very able manner under the kind Preceptorship of Comp. Edmonds.

Mark Masonry.

MANCHESTER.—St. Andrew's Lodge (No. 34).—The installation meeting took place on Thursday, the 25th ult., in the Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street. Present: Bros. J. M. Sinclair, W.M.; H. L. Rocca, S.W.; W. R. Sowler, J.W.; A. Jefferis, M.O.; A. B. Outram, S.O.; W. J. Cunliffe, J.O.; H. C. Miller, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Lisenden, Sec.; G. Hunt, S.D.; S. Kelly, J.D.; A. Middleton, P.M., P.G. Std. Br.; T. R. Peel, P.M.; J. Arensbergh, P.M.; W. H. Hopkins, P.M.; J. C. Lees, P.M.; W. Nicholl, G.D., P.M.; J. T. Richardson, J. W. Edwards, B. Blair, J. Wilson, and J. Kirk, Janitor. Visitors: Bros. T. H. Glendinning, P.M. 32, P.G. Stwd.; and J. L. Aspland, W.M. 32.

The lodge was opened, and, after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the ballot was taken for Bro. V. M. Vultchoff, S.S. in the Affability Lodge, and was answered successful. The installation of the W.M. elect, Bro. Lieut.-Col. Rocca, then commenced, the Installing Master being Bro. T. H. Glendinning, Past G. Stwd., and Bro. A. Middleton, Past G. Std. Br. The W.M. elect, after being presented by Bro. J. M. Sinclair, W.M., was eventually installed W.M. for the ensuing year, and was proclaimed and saluted. The following brethren were invested officers for the ensuing 12 months: Bros. W. R. Sowler, S.W.; A. H. Jefferis, J.W.; A. B. Outram, M.O.; W. J. Cunliffe, S.O.; G. Hunt, J.O.; H. C. Miller, P.M., Treas.; R. R. Lisenden, Sec.; W. Nicholl, P.M., G.D. Eng., D.C.; J. W. Edwards, S.D.; S. Kelly, J.D.; Jas. Wilson, R. of M.; B. Blair, I.G.; and J. Kirk, Tyler. Bro. J. M. Sinclair addressed the W.M., Bro. A. Middleton the Wardens and Overseers, and Bro. Glendinning the brethren.

Two candidates were proposed for advancement at the next meeting, and there being no further business, the lodge was closed in peace and harmony. The brethren afterwards dined together, and the usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

Bro. Sir Algernon Borthwick was entertained at a political banquet in the Kensington Town Hall on Friday, the 5th inst., Bros. Sir Roper Lethbridge, M.P., Admiral Inglefield, and General Goldsworthy, M.P., being among the principal guests.

PERCY LODGE OF INSTRUCTION,
No. 198.

The annual supper of this Lodge of Instruction took place on Thursday, the 18th ult., at Bro. Langdale's, the Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, Islington, and owing to the indefatigable exertions of its able Secretary, Bro. R. W. Galer, was a complete success. Owing to a family anniversary the W.M. of the mother lodge was unable to preside, as intended, but his place was ably filled by Bro. I. P. Cohen, the respected Preceptor of the lodge, who was supported by a number of brethren of Masonic eminence, amongst those who were present we may mention Bros. J. A. Powell, the originator of the resuscitation of the lodge; R. W. Galer, the Sec.; A. W. Fenner, its Treas.; Brown Kidder, F. Brasted, A. Mullord, J. Glass, P. Recknell, G. J. Barnett, W. Aynsley, J. Robinson, H. J. Kirk, J. W. Saunders, W. J. Nicholls, E. G. Lewis, E. Brett, Griffiths, A. Cook, M. E. Keogh, R. Aslett, W. Beaton, Green, H. Barnett, Yates, White, Wood, J. A. Collings, Bayne, and Langdale.

After the supper, which was served in a very satisfactory manner by Bro. Langdale, the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to in a very patriotic manner. The National Anthem being ably rendered by Bro. Mullord, and was also sung by the whole of the company, Bro. Collings kindly presiding at the piano.

The next toast given by the PRESIDENT was that which may be considered the toast of the evening, "Success to the Percy Lodge of Instruction, No. 198." In doing so, Bro. COHEN remarked that he thought it was not his province to propose the toast, having the honour of being its Preceptor. The lodge claimed to be the oldest and best attended Lodge of Instruction in London, and nothing was more gratifying to himself and the members than to see the continued success of the lodge, and trusted it would have the same support for many years to come, so that it may continue to maintain its present proud position. Unanimity and concord, good fellowship, and harmony have always prevailed in it, which makes it a pleasure for himself and to those who have the fortune to become members of it. The brethren might always rely on him in doing his utmost to make it, if possible, still more successful; its success is owing, in a very great measure, to the exertions of its Secretary, Bro. Galer, who is always promoting its best interests; and, he felt sure, while they had such a brother as Secretary, the lodge would never fail. In conclusion, he begged to couple with the toast the names of Bros. J. A. Powell and A. W. Fenner, as being the oldest members of the lodge present.

The toast was heartily responded to.

Bro. YATES here kindly gave a recitation—"The Fireman's Wedding."

Bro. POWELL, responding, thanked the brethren for the kind reception of the toast, and congratulated the Preceptor and Secretary on the success which still attended their exertions, and hoped it would continue for many years to come, he was very much gratified to find that since its resuscitation the lodge had done a vast amount of good by assisting in bringing so many eminent Masons to the front, and wished it greater success, if possible.

Bro. FENNER responded in a short speech, which embodied all the good feelings which one brother could express towards another, and, if required, he would still give his services in any way that might be required, or was in his power, in furtherance of the interests of the lodge.

Bro. POWELL then gave "The Health of the Preceptor, Bro. Cohen," than whom a more kindly, genial, or efficient brother could not be. He was always willing to instruct any brother who was anxious to attain that amount of proficiency which was so essential to fit him to discharge the duties of any office in his mother lodge; also to our Secretary, Bro. Galer, we owe much for his indefatigable exertions in the interests of the lodge, and who is always at his post, and to whom, in a great measure, the success of the lodge is due.

The toast was received with all the honours it deserved.

Bro. COHEN, in thanking the brethren, said what I have done to deserve the encomiums passed upon me by Bro. Powell I do not know. As far as I am concerned I simply do my best in conveying the knowledge to those brethren who may require it, and nothing gives me greater pleasure than to see the pupils attending the lodge keep to the right path. It is the only Lodge of Instruction I attend since you were kind enough to elect me your Preceptor, and I throw my whole heart and soul in my work, and I hope T.G.A.O.T.U. will bless me with health and strength to continue for many years to carry on successfully the good work of this Lodge of Instruction, and I here tender my thanks to the many brethren for their kindness in supporting me during my term of office, and to assure them I shall never forget it, and I consider it my duty in return for that kindness to perform my office with greater assiduity than ever. Brethren, I again thank you.

Bro. R. W. GALER, responding, observed there was not much left for him to say, only to regret that Bro. Lambert, the much respected W.M. of the mother lodge, was not present to hear how the Lodge of Instruction had progressed. He could not go into any statistics, as the year had not quite been completed, but he could, with great pleasure inform the brethren that it had sent up money to the Masonic Charities during the past year, and that the average attendance of its members had been increased. It had been said that the Strong Man Lodge of Instruction was the oldest, but there was documentary evidence to prove that this Lodge of Instruction was held as a club of instruction previous to the year 1791. Thus proving it to be the premier Lodge of Instruction in London, and he felt proud in being its Secretary, and expressed his thanks to the brethren generally for their good feeling and kind support during his Secretaryship, and also for the hearty manner they had drunk his health.

"The Healths of the President, Bro. Glass," "The Secretary, Bro. R. W. Galer," and "The Treasurer, Bro. I. P. Cohen," of the Percy Charity Association, were then proposed by Bro. FENNER, who congratulated those brethren on the good results which had attended their labours. These Associations had done wonderful service in aid of the various Charities, and the Percy Association had been the means of sending up a large amount to the Institutions, and still continued to do so, and asked the brethren to do full honour to the toast, which was very cordially responded to.

Bro. GLASS responding for himself thanked the brethren

for the compliment paid him, he could assure them that he felt proud of the honour of being President of the Percy Association and would exert himself to the utmost in bringing it to a successful issue, he remembered the time when his esteemed friend, Bro. Brasted, invited him to the Percy Lodge of Instruction, and it was with fear and trembling he ascended the stairs leading to this room (our esteemed brother is not much under 17 stone in weight) but he soon got over the nervousness, and became deeply impressed with the kind, and brotherly feeling exhibited towards him on that memorable evening. Well, he was proud to say he had learnt what Freemasonry should be, and that, through attending lodges of instruction, and that those brethren exercise the utmost self denial, who give their time to a lodge of instruction to ensure its success to encourage younger brethren, and it must be exceedingly interesting to those who have gone through it all, to instruct others. Lodges of Instruction like the Percy are very essential, and much to be appreciated by the whole of the Craft, and he hoped this lodge would go on with success as heretofore. What the association had done was by combination of the brethren, to ensure a large amount for the benefit of the Charities and trusted there would be many more associations formed on the same basis as the Percy.

Bros. GALER and COHEN followed, and spoke of the good such associations had done for the various Charities, and supported Bro. Glass in the views expressed by him on that subject.

"The Visitors" toast followed, and was proposed by Bro. COHEN in a very happy speech, wherein he gave each a cordial welcome, and assured those who had not availed themselves of the benefit of lodges of instruction to do so without loss of time, every attention was given by himself to those brethren who required instruction, and informed them, besides the rituals, Sections in the various degrees were worked, that the brethren might have a greater knowledge of the groundwork of what Freemasonry really is.

The toast was well received. Bros. H. BARNETT, WHITE, WOOD, GREEN, and A. CORK responded by thanking the brethren for the cordial manner they had been received, and expressed their intention of becoming members of this Lodge of Instruction.

The next toast was that of "Success to the Mother Lodge," which was heartily received and duly honoured, as was also that of "Bros. A. Mullord, Bayne, Collings, Brasted, Yates, Kirk and Langdale," who so kindly contributed to the enjoyment of the evening, which toast was cordially received and duly acknowledged by Bro. MULLORD on behalf of himself and the other brethren, which brought to a close one of the most enjoyable evenings spent at the Jolly Farmers Tavern.

MASONIC WEEK AT KIDDERMINSTER.

In our impression of 27th ult. we noted the intention of the Kidderminster brethren to hold a series of meetings during the first week of March in conjunction with the Exhibition of the Masonic Library and Museum belonging to Bro. George Taylor, of that town, who is Prov. Grand Secretary of Worcestershire, and widely known in connection with the founding and marked success of the Charity organization of that province, as well as for much general Masonic ability.

The great Masonic Soirée and Exhibition, held at Worcester in August, 1884, will be well remembered by many as the outcome and successful issue of Bro. Taylor's efforts, his object being to create sufficient interest in Masonic literature to found a Masonic library and museum for Worcestershire.

Since that notable event our brother has spared no exertions or expense in the prosecution of this object, and, by dint of patient research, friendly help, and ready purse, has so far accomplished this task as to draw together such a grand historic collection of all matters relating to the Craft, which as a whole, we venture to say is as unique as it is valuable. It would have been next to impossible for any committee or body of brethren to have acted with the despatch and promptitude necessary to ensure this result, and Bro. Taylor therefore worked at his own cost and risk in the matter. He has now generously offered the whole of the collection to the province at the price cost of each article, bearing himself the whole of the attendant expenses, which it is needless to state are heavy.

We believe the brethren of the province, under their highly esteemed Prov. G.M., Sir E. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., are now considering the best means of taking advantage of this offer, but should they fail to purchase we hope Bro. Taylor will not permit the fruits of his labours to be again scattered, but retain the collection or offer it in bulk elsewhere. It would indeed be a thousand pities to see such a collection, made at the expense of so much care and labour and private influence, again dispersed.

The Exhibition was opened on Monday, March 1st, in the large Masonic Hall attached to the Masonic Club at Kidderminster, which buildings we may remark, form another monument to Bro. Taylor's zeal and ability, founded by him in 1879. Around the walls of the hall were hung engravings, prints, wax impressions of lodge seals, old aprons, &c., one side of the hall being devoted to the display of medals and other curios, including china and glass, the other to books, MSS., portfolios of prints, old summonses, &c., &c.

Bro. W. J. Hughan, P.G.D. Torquay, who has been Bro. Taylor's guide and constant friend in forming this collection, was to have described its several items in a lecture on the first evening, but owing to the death of his mother a few days previously he was unfortunately prevented carrying out his intention, so Bro. Taylor took upon himself that pleasing duty.

After alluding to the sad bereavement before mentioned, and the disappointment it was to all concerned, to none more than to Bro. Hughan himself, Bro. TAYLOR proceeded to say how difficult was the task to commence, and where to leave off, in a brief description of such a collection as this; so large a number of its items affording material for separate lectures in themselves. It is but natural that a Society so ancient as Freemasonry, which has undergone the changes and vicissitudes of ages, and yet to-day presents a firmer, powerful, and more prosperous front than ever, should afford a very wide field for study.

It is to be regretted that more is not done in our lodges to create a taste for something of a more directly intellectual character than even the beauties of our ritual afford. Much may be done by Masters of lodges to invite essays on scientific subjects, as well as on Ancient and Modern Masonry, thus

following more intimately the Operative nature of the work in our ancient lodges. It is most remarkable how few brethren there are who comprehend the extent of Masonic literature and its attendant objects. It would surprise many to know that Kloss, whose work on Masonic Bibliography, published at Frankfort in 1844, and which lies before you, enumerates about 6000 volumes, and will ever remain a standard work. You will imagine how greatly this number would be increased if a complete list could be made to the present time.

For some time before the Worcester Masonic Exhibition, in August, 1884, I had been paving the way, and that notable gathering gave the starting point for acquiring the bulk of what you see around. How much I have to thank the never ceasing kindness, the sacrificing efforts, and the great abilities of our Bro. Hughan (to whose deplorable absence I have before alluded), I can never tell you, and you will never divine. So scarce are Masonic books and objects of worth, that instant action alone can secure, when anything of note offers.

The knowledge of this tells me how wonderfully successful I have been in acquiring what is here. It has been a business of much labour, mixed with a good deal of pleasure. I see that the *Freemason* of Saturday, in a leading article on our meeting of this week, and with some knowledge of what is here shown, appraises its marketable value at not less than 2000 guineas; but, with much of it that is unique and unobtainable, it is hardly to be assessed by a money standard.

Take, for instance, these two manuscripts:

Such are now of priceless value, being the actual rolls that were read to initiates on their reception, long before our present rituals were shaped. But upon this subject Bro. Hughan's paper, which I shall read to-morrow, has more to say.

The "Inigo Jones MS.," dated 1607, has a frontispiece of Masons at work, drawn by that celebrated architect, who, Anderson states in his "Constitutions of 1738," was Grand Master of the Craft in 1607. Bro. Gould, in his new "History of Freemasonry," gives it a full description and many references, classing it amongst the most valuable of existing versions of our manuscript Constitutions.

The "Wood MS.," takes its name from a Mr. Wood, from whom it was obtained, but who is unable to furnish any particulars of its history beyond that the MS. had been in his possession for about 20 years. It is written on parchment, with partially illuminated letters here and there. It is entitled "The Constitution of Masonry, newly translated by J. Whitstones for John Sargensonne, 1610."

Dr. Plot's "History of Staffordshire," published in 1686, which is in this library, has a significant reference to persons of quality joining the Order, and mentions a scroll or parchment volume in use among the members. This attack on Freemasonry by Dr. Plot, so early as 1686, is much referred to by Masonic writers.

The MSS. lead me to draw your attention to another prominent feature of the collection, viz., the complete set of the Constitutions, the charges, which are embodied in those of 1723 to 1784, being undoubtedly derived from these old MSS., or similar copies, now lost. Here we have the editions of 1723, 1738, 1756, 1767, the appendix of 1776 (1769, which was unrecognised), 1784, 1815, 1819, with corrections, 1827, 1841, 1847, 1853, 1858, 1861, 1863, 1865, 1866, 1867, 1871, 1873, and, lastly, 1884. I am not aware how many complete sets, replete with frontispieces, &c., exist, but they must be very few indeed. As an incident in its collection, I may mention that the edition of 1723 I picked up at an old book store for 9s. One is priced in Bro. Kenning's catalogue at 15 guineas, and it is cheap at that.

Beyond these there are the Constitutions of the Seceding Grand Lodge of England, calling themselves the "Ancients," or "Atholl Masons." These published by aid of their secretary, Laurence Dermott, and by Thomas Harper, is a series of Constitutions known by the name of Ahimam Rezon. Fortunately, I possess the whole of these except 1787, which I have hitherto failed to obtain.

These two sets of Constitutions lead me to touch upon one subject mentioned as part of to-night's lecture, had Bro. Hughan been present, viz., the "Grand Lodges of England."

There have been four separate Grand Lodges in England, the premier being (1) the *Grand Lodge of England*, formed in 1717 by the "Time Immemorial" London Lodges, consisting of four at least, but probably more.

(2) The so-called Grand Lodge of all England, started in 1725, by the old Lodge working there for many years before, of which minutes exist, dating before the origin of the *Grand Lodges*.

(3) "The Grand Lodge of England south of the River Trent," constituted at London by the York body in 1779, but collapsed in 1787, owing to the secessionists of the Lodge of Antiquity being received back again into that body.

(4) "The Grand Lodge of England, according to the Old Institutions," formed in 1751, and known as the "Ancients."

The York Grand Lodge and its offshoot died out, but the first and last mentioned, called Moderns and Ancients, both of London, continued as rivals until 1813, when they united and formed the present Grand Lodge of England.

A set of Royal Arch Regulations lacks two to make it complete, and the Mark Constitutions are, I believe, complete.

It has been my aim to make up sets of everything so far as possible. Take Grand Lodge reports, which, as you know, are issued quarterly. How many lodges, think you, retain and treasure up these proceedings of all that passes in Grand Lodge? I fear I am correct in saying hardly any lodges in England. Those here date back to 1777; there are some missing between then and the union in 1813. Since then to the present date I have all except December, 1871, which I cannot obtain, proving how careless lodges are in preserving what is regularly sent to each every three months.

I now turn to another important and similar section, viz., Lists of Lodges. Much more care and talent were exercised by our ancestors in publishing these guides to the name, location, date of meeting, and date of constitution than now, when we print in plain pocket-book style, and badly have we repaid our brethren for their ingenuity, for there is not a complete set in the Grand Lodge of England or elsewhere in the world. These lists were first issued in 1723. Here is an example of 1763 all on engraved plates, against each lodge being a fac-simile of the sign of the hotel or inn where the lodge met. These continued

in this form until 1778. I have here 1763, 1766, 1770, 1776, and 1778; no private individual or library, save the Grand Lodge of England and Bro. Carson, of Cincinnati, Ohio, having more than one. After 1778 they assumed this printed calendar form, in which, with few exceptions, you have before you those from 1781 to 1814, when it was altered to this pocket-book style with which you are familiar, and of which I lack a considerable number between 1815 and 1850.

Another set worthy of mention is nine vols. "Pocket Companions," dating from 1735 to 1764, the first-mentioned being of extreme rarity, the list of lodges it contains giving a lodge at Philadelphia, No. 79, which no other list mentions.

Of the famous "Illustrations of Masonry," by William Preston, continued by Oliver, there is every edition except the first of 1772.

The earliest magazine on Masonry was published in 1793. I have persevered to make up a complete set of every Masonic periodical—quarterly, monthly, or weekly—which has appeared to the present date. In this I have succeeded, except the Freemasons' Magazine for 1798, the Freemasons' Magazine for 1863, and from July to December, 1865.

Another very rare set, here complete, is "Cole's Constitutions," from 1728, engraved on copper plates.

Also the whole of the works by Bro. Hughan, all editions of which were limited in number, and have become most difficult to procure.

I believe all the Histories of Freemasonry are here, and another special feature I have made is the collection of "Lodge Histories." We have about fifty examples of zeal and research, which I trust all lodges will follow. Works on the medals of the Fraternity are represented by Zacharias' Numismatica, Merzdorf's, Marvin's, and other publications.

A considerable number of French and German Masonic works on all subjects will be found in the collection, but nothing foreign except that which is rare or of early dates.

Under the head of Rituals will be found a goodly number of old and rare caricatures and so-called exposures of Masonry, by Prichard, Briscoe, Wilson, and several anonymous writers, which I cannot refer to in this brief sketch, as also other curious old works, such as "Multa Paucis" of 1763, "Long Livers" of 1722, "Blue Blanket" of 1722, and others. The whole are catalogued and divided into 17 sections, viz.:

- Almanacks, Calendars, and Lists of Lodges.
- Bibliography.
- Biographies.
- Constitutions, Bye-laws, and Jurisprudence.
- Cyclopædias.
- Histories of Freemasonry and Proceedings of Grand Lodges.
- Lodge Histories.
- Works on the Higher Degrees.
- Magazines, Journals, and Periodicals.
- Works on Medals, Numismatics, &c.
- Polemic Works for, about, or against Freemasonry.
- Persecutions of Freemasonry.
- Rituals, Manuals, and Handbooks.
- Sermons, Addresses, and Orations.
- Song Books and Ode Books.
- Tales, Sketches, &c.
- Various.

Ten volumes of the latter contain all the pamphlets, scraps, and miscellaneous matter of 100 different Masonic subjects.

The library portion, I believe, contains about 600 volumes, but I have only been able to allude to sets.

The china and pottery, with the quaint diversity of emblems they bear, I need not mention.

The framed aprons you see on the walls are quaint specimens of a period when brethren were at liberty to wear any design they chose, and were not confined to a regulation pattern.

Three of the engravings are particularly worthy of mention—The "Mock Procession" is an original engraving, the copies of 1771 lacking the quaint particulars of the artist's lodgings this bears. Clavel's "Histoire de la Pittoresque" you will find in the library gives a reduced copy, and states that only one original existed.

You will see by reference to the old Constitutions that it was the custom in the early times of Grand Lodge for the brethren to form in procession, and escort the Grand Master elect from his residence to the Freemasons' Hall. This mock procession was organised in 1741 to throw ridicule on the Fraternity, and it led soon after to a discontinuance of Masonic processions in London.

The print of Count Cagliostro's exposure in the Lodge of Antiquity is also, I believe, rare. The particulars of the incident are related on the print. "Picart's" plate shows Pine's List of Lodges of 1734, copied in the arrangement you see.

Before touching upon the question of medals, I must take this opportunity of referring to a generous gift by a well-known Masonic student and lodge historian in Yorkshire, Bro. J. Ramsden Riley, of Bradford, to whom we are indebted for that framed sheet of old certificates; the rare engraved list of 1776; his "History of the Airedale Lodge;" the scarce "First Edition of Brown's Master Key of 1798;" "History of the Minden Lodge," and the "Musical Entertainer of 1737," a valuable work engraved by George Bickham, jun., and dedicated to the Marquis of Carnarvon when Grand Master.

It will take too long time to attempt any exhaustive description of the 400 Masonic medals you see. I have endeavoured, by aid of the cards set against each tray, to take note of special items.

You will be able to find the history, origin, and description of all up to No. 150 in the catalogue in the centre of the room, but time has failed me to catalogue beyond these at present. A goodly number were unknown to writers on Masonic medals, but the rest you will be able to trace in Marvin's work, which lies in the same place. Marvin's book was published in Boston in 1880, and has now become the standard work on Masonic medals. He there catalogues about 700 medals, about 60 of which he illustrates. Few persons are aware of the large number of Masonic medals existing outside the wide field of lodge jewels and personal decorations.

Marvin says the largest cabinet (1880) was that of the Prov. Grand Lodge of Mecklenberg at Rostock, which contained 324 specimens, the next in importance being the cabinets of the Lodges Apollo and Minerva at Leipsic.

In America the Lodge Pythagoras, of Brooklyn, has a collection of about 200 specimens. In England there are no large collections save this, except one made by Bro. G. L. Shackles, of Hull, and another by Major Irvin, at Bristol.

It will be observed that most of them are of foreign origin, where the striking of medals by the Fraternity has been especially popular during the last 150 years. They have been struck chiefly in honour of some distinguished member of the Fraternity, or of some event or anniversary in connection with the lodges and their members. By the aid of agents in the principal cities of the Continent and advertising I have been fortunate in obtaining many rare and unique specimens.

The 15 silver medals, No. 46 to 60, were obtained under peculiar circumstances. An acquaintance with the chief engraver at the Royal Mint, Stockholm, enabled me to advance my wishes. She (Madame Lea Ahlborn) is the daughter of Lungren, the famous Swedish engraver, and doubtless the only lady engraver of dies of any note ever known. She kindly proffered to wait upon the King of Sweden, and state my object, with a view of obtaining his Majesty's assent to her using the old and new dies lying in the Royal mint, for the purpose of supplying me with impressions.

King Oscar graciously complied, and the result you have before you.

Many of the earliest medals known are in this collection. The whole are classed as follows:—

England 117, Germany 52, France 106, Holland 20, Belgium, 20, Sweden 17, Denmark 1, Moldavia, 1, Italy 4, America 52.

I can only briefly refer to a few of the rare ones:—

No. 198 is unique, being the massive silver jewel, set in brilliants, granted by the Grand Lodge of England to the Country Stewards' Lodge, and bearing the inscription.

No. 193 is the jewel of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, which was designed by the celebrated William Hogarth, who was one of the Grand Stewards in 1735. Bro. Hughan believes No. 147 to be one of the original jewels used by that lodge.

In No. 264 we have another of the most valuable of English medals. It is the "Freemasons' Hall medal," in silver, specially granted in 1780 to the few lodges and individuals who made loans of £25 to pay off the Hall debt, the inscription on this impression bearing the name of "Hugh Dixon, Esq."

No. 192 is the gold and silver jewel worn by the Stewards who acted at the installation of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

No. 197 is the jewel of the Royal Alpha Lodge, in which Prince Albert Victor was initiated.

No. 182 is the Royal medal of the Lodge of Antiquity, to be returned on the demise or resignation of a member.

No. 43 is a medal struck by the Royal Alfred Lodge (extinct), at Oxford; its minutes are preserved by the Apollo Lodge, and they mention that 40 medals were struck in 1772. Marvin knew of two impressions in America, and this one was obtained from there.

No. 21 is a curious old English medal of 1763, with a great number of emblems, and similar to the pierced one—No. 136.

Nos. 151 to 165 are English Masonic halfpennies and pennies of different varieties.

Nos. 180 to 191 include centenary and members' jewels of English lodges. Of other English medals you will observe a tray of 14 Royal Arch jewels of various dates, showing various designs.

Among the American medals, the rarest are the following five, in silver:—No. 269, of which only 10 were struck; No. 270, the funeral medal of Bro. George Washington; No. 271, the Franklin medal; No. 272, the George Washington initiation medal; and No. 273, the dies of which were destroyed after 10 were struck.

Of German medals, No. 267 is unique, being the only one struck in gold (see Marvin, p. 56), in honour of Jaenisch, Grand Master of the Hamburg Grand Lodge in 1778.

Nos. 1, 4, 7, and 8 are among the earliest of Masonic medals, the latter being the celebrated "Freemasons' Ducat."

No. 5 was unknown in silver to writers in numismatics. No. 16 was struck to commemorate the apocryphal "Charter of Cologne."

Nos. 22, 28, and 29 are very rare, as the dies cracked after a few were struck.

No. 23 is also very rare; Marvin knew of only two impressions. Authorities knew of 32 in copper only.

No. 36 was struck on the initiation of Prince William of Prussia, now Emperor of Germany.

No. 37 is very rare; Marvin had only seen an engraving.

No. 38 is one of the finest medals, the laws of heraldry being faithfully carried out in the shields which represent the reigns of the Grand Masters of Holland.

No. 39 marks the centennial of the initiation of Frederick the Great.

Nos. 41 and 45 are medals presented by the Emperor William of Germany to brethren in Berlin on their silver weddings, in commemoration of his own silver wedding, June 11, 1854.

No. 42 is very scarce and valuable, struck in honour of Prince Charles of Hesse, 1779.

Nos. 61, 65, 68, 70, 104, and 108 are examples of a series of medals, of which Marvin names eleven combinations in connection with Freemasonry in Belgium.

No. 66 celebrated the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Belgium, which followed the separation of that country from Dutch government.

The reverse of No. 62 is known as the Masonic sermon.

No. 63 is worth notice for its finely cut rays, as also No. 68.

No. 74 was struck by a lodge now extinct, St. Eugene, of Paris.

Nos. 76, 97, 101, and 265 are of the few Italian medals, No. 101 being the celebrated Martin Folke's medal, who was Deputy Grand Master of England in 1724.

No. 105 is a Templar medal.

Nos. 78 and 80 were struck by lodges having powers to confer the Rose Croix Degree.

No. 83 perpetuates the name of Zismendorf, the originator of the Swedish Rite of Masonry.

No. 84 was struck in memory of Guineau, 24 years Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, Berlin.

No. 117 commemorates the amalgamation of three lodges at Berlin, viz., The Three Skeletons, The Pillar, and The Bell.

Nos. 111, 113, 117, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, and 276 are not mentioned in any works as Masonic medals, and are mostly rare.

No. 130 is a scarce medal, struck in honour of the nuptials of the Margrave of Brandenburg, with the Princess Sophia of Brunswick.

No. 131 is a rare medal of the Lodge Minerva, at Leipsic.

No. 137 was struck by the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, Berlin, celebrating its centennial festival.

No. 140 is a noble medal, unknown to Marvin; it commemorates 60 years rule of Prince William Frederick Charles of the Netherlands.

No. 142 was struck at Anspach, in honour of the 23rd birthday of their Grand Master, Christian Fredk. Charles Alexander of Brandenburg.

No. 144 was struck by five Hamburg lodges for presentation to eleven ladies in recognition of humane services to sick and wounded.

No. 150 was struck by the Lodge Frederick of the Temple, at Hildesheim, to celebrate the semi-centennial of its sister lodge, Gate of Eternity.

Nos. 202 and 204 are probably unique, and illustrate the French design.

Nos. 205 to 219 are English and Foreign medals, chiefly relating to High Grade Masonry, and would take some time to describe; they are mostly old and rare.

Nos. 220 to 262 are American medals.

No. 263 is very rare, in silver. It is in honour of the 25th anniversary of the lodge at Regensburg.

No. 266, only one was known of, and that in the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

No. 268 commemorates the establishment of the Mars Lodge, at Jersey, by Baron Sadogusky. It is very rare and valuable.

Nos. 302 to 306 represent the members' jewels worn in foreign lodges. The tray of lodge jewels once belonged to Bro. Geo. Downing, who was Prov. Grand Master of Essex; and the next tray contains chains and jewels as worn by the late Bro. T. H. Hall, Prov. Grand Master Cambridgeshire.

A considerable number of medals follow, which I have not yet classified, and, in concluding this brief description, I can only express the hope that at some future time it may be my fortune to recur to the subject again, so as to refer at greater length to the "medals of the Masonic Fraternity."

A cordial vote of thanks to Bro. Taylor closed Monday's most interesting proceedings.

Tuesday evening's programme was to have comprised a lecture by Bro. W. J. Hughan, entitled, "Connecting Links between ancient and Modern Masonry."

Bro. Hughan had provided for his enforced absence by supplying the chief points of what would have been his lecture, in MS. to Bro. Taylor, who, after again alluding to the loss Bro. Hughan had sustained, read the same to the assembled brethren. The lecture, which was frequently applauded, was written in Bro. Hughan's well-known lucid and learned style, the most convincing proofs of the continuity of Ancient and Modern Freemasonry being grouped under the following heads: Earliest Evidences of Operative and Speculative Freemasonry in England and Scotland. Origin of the words "Lodge" and "Freemason." The old Charges of the British Craft. Peculiarities of the Society. Its Christian Basis until the 18th Century. Modern Lodges, the Lineal Descendants of the old Fraternity. The original Secret of the Freemasons. The Choice and Registration of Marks. The Ancient as well Honorable Character of the Free and Accepted Masons. Links supplied and the Continuity established.

On the motion of Bro. W. B. Williamson, P.P.G.W. Worcester, seconded by Bro. H. Preen, W.M. 377, and supported by Bro. J. Mossop, W.M. 1874, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Hughan for his kindness in promising to visit Kidderminster, and under so severe a family affliction providing for his enforced absence so well. It was coupled with an expression of sincere sympathy in the loss he had sustained.

A vote of thanks was again accorded to Bro. Taylor, who promised, at the request of the brethren, to allow the collection to remain on view for the remainder of the week.

We had almost omitted to mention that these gatherings were held under the auspices of Hope and Charity Lodge, No. 377, and the Lechmere Lodge, No. 1874. Monday's programme, including the installation in the afternoon of Bro. Jno. Mossop as W.M. of the last mentioned lodge. The ceremony was ably performed by Bro. the Rev. A. B. Timbrell, I.P.M.

On Wednesday night a Masonic ball was held in the Town Hall, under the patronage of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire, when a large number of brethren and ladies, embracing most of the élite of the neighbourhood, assisted at a very brilliant and successful gathering.

FIRST ANNUAL BALL OF THE ROYAL JUBILEE LODGE, No. 72.

This ancient lodge has made an innovation in its annual programme by holding its first annual ball, and as it is described as the first annual ball, we presume future years will see the custom firmly established, for if the first is any criterion, the brethren of the Royal Jubilee Lodge will look forward with pleasure to what, judging by the experience of the first, will prove one of the most enjoyable events of the year. A desire to hold a ball had arisen in the lodge for some time past, and at the installation meeting of the present W.M., Bro. G. F. Jenkins, a proposal that the first annual ball of the lodge should be held was heartily taken up, and a considerable number of brethren volunteered to act as Stewards.

The Westminster Town Hall, with its splendid suite of rooms, was engaged for the 5th inst., and the Committee of Stewards entered heartily into their labours, which resulted in bringing about a most enjoyable evening for the members of the lodge, with their relatives and friends. Dancing commenced at 8.30 to the music of Sibbold's City of London Band, there being present Bros. Cama, the newly-elected G. Treas.; G. F. Jenkins, W.M. and President; Aug. Darch, Sec. and P.M.; N. Turner, I.P.M. and Treas.; C. R. Williams, S.W. and Vice-President; W. Lloyd; G. Horton, and T. Meekham, P.M. 69 and 1288, M.C.'s; T. Dunkley, W.M. 201; T. Turnbull, P.M. 1275; J. D. Simmons, Braund, Staddon, Belfrage, Walker, Worth, Payne, and Baker, P.M. 2030. The majority of these

brethren acted as Stewards, and were rewarded for their labours by the sight of a numerous and distinguished company, which filled the ball room, and set all doubts of the financial success of the gathering at an end. Dancing was maintained with great enjoyment.

A novel feature in the musical arrangements being the presence of a choir of boys who sang the vocal obligato to the waltzes of the first part of the programme, which had been specially selected for the purpose—in a manner highly creditable to their teacher. The services of these young gentlemen had been placed at the disposal of the Royal Jubilee brethren by Bro. Baker, P.M., of the Abbey Lodge, who took great interest in the whole proceedings. Shortly after midnight half the programme had been got through, and an adjournment was made for supper. This repast had been provided by Mr. Thomas Baker, of the Albert Hotel, and it must be confessed reflected great credit upon the caterer. The tables, laid out with great taste, and ornamented by pillars of ice placed at intervals, formed a handsome sight and caused many an exclamation of pleasant surprise from the guests on their first entry into the Council Chamber, in which the supper had been laid.

Supper being over, after a few toasts briefly proposed and responded to, dancing was resumed and the attendance was well maintained till the finish, there being but few departures. Upwards of one hundred and sixty guests were present, and the brethren, having obtained a dispensation from H.R.H. the Most Worshipful Grand Master, appeared in Masonic clothing.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE LODGE OF ISRAEL, No. 1502, LIVERPOOL.

The annual ball in aid of the Fund of Benevolence attached to the above lodge was held on Wednesday, the 10th inst., at the Adelphi Hotel. There was a gathering of about 150 members and friends. It is anticipated that the proceeds will yield the usual surplus for the benefit of the fund. The ball was most enjoyable and terminated at a late hour. It was instituted 11 years ago, to supplement the means at disposal for the relief of needy brethren. Sums varying from £120 to £20 have been voted from time to time to such of them as their circumstances in life required, so as to reinstate them in business. Stringent measures are adopted that in doing out the funds the names of the recipients should be known to but one or two of the leading members, that none need feel abashed at having to accept relief.

The following officers assisted, and did their utmost to make the ball a success, viz.: Bros. H. Archer, W.M.; M. Hart, Treas.; Rev. H. Burman, Chap.; M. Aronsberg and J. F. Davis, M.C.'s; D. Gabrielsen, A. Kirkpatrick, R. Robinson, S. Simmons, H. Defrece, S. Hart, H. Ellis, and A. Rabow, Stwds. The band, which was supplied by Mr. Ross, gave great satisfaction.

ROYAL MASONIC BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

The final meeting of the Board of Stewards was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Friday, the 5th inst. Bro. Edgar Bowyer, P.G. Std. Br., presided, and among those present were Bros. Sir E. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., and James Terry, Sec. The latter having submitted the usual statement of accounts and directions having been given for the payment of the several bills, votes of thanks to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hertford, P.G.S.W., for his able services as Chairman at the Festival; to the acting President, Hon. Treasurer, and other officers of the Board for the valuable assistance they had severally given; and to Bros. Martin and Flattely for their success in obtaining lists of £450 and £400 respectively, were passed, after which, Bro. Bowyer having been accorded the usual vote of thanks for presiding, the Board was dissolved.

The regular meeting of the Committee of Management of this Institution took place at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday. Bro. Raynham W. Stewart, P.G.D., occupied the chair, and among those present were Bros. C. E. Soppet, C. F. Hogard, C. A. Cottebrune, P.G.P.; James Brett, P.G.P.; George Bolton, W. J. Murlis, H. B. Marshall, P.G. Treas.; C. J. Perceval, Controller S. G. Bake, L. Stean, J. M. Case, P.G.D.; G. E. Fairchild, C. H. Webb, Joseph Freeman, W. J. Daniell, C. H. Driver, J. Newton, John Balmer, A. H. Tattershall, E. M. Money, J. Cubitt, Charles Davy, R. Turtle Pigott, D.C.L., P.G. A.D.C.; and James Terry, Sec.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, the Secretary reported the deaths of four male and two female annuitants, and of one female candidate. The Wardens' report was read, and Bro. Terry stated the result of the Festival as being close on £15,000. The proceedings then terminated with the accustomed vote of thanks to the Chairman.

ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR BOYS.

The General Committee held their regular meeting at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last. Bro. Edgar Bowyer, Vice-Patron, P.G. Std. Br., presided, and there were present Bro. S. Richardson, J. L. Mather, H. Webb, Geo. P. Gillard, G. P. Festa, W. H. Saunders, E. Baxter, Rev. R. Morris, M.A., LL.D., C. H. Webb, A. F. Godson, W. A. Scurrah, A. E. Gladwell, W. Maple, J. Noon, H. Venn, and F. Binckes, P.G. Stwd. (Sec.)

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and verified, and those of the House Committee read for information, two petitions were considered and approved, and the names of the boys ordered to be placed on the list of candidates for the October Election, and a grant having been made to a former pupil, the Committee rose, after paying the usual compliment to the Chairman for presiding.

We have much pleasure in announcing the result of the Cambridge Middle-Class Examinations in December, 1885, so far as it affects this Institution. Thirteen boys went up for examination, the result being as follows:

HONOURS.

Class I.—Haworth, A. S., Distinguished in Latin and Mathematics.

Class II.—Johnston, C. J.; Keighley, G. N. C.; Kennedy, A. J.; and Richardson, S.W.

Class III.—Hounslow, H. R.; Langdon, J.; Lucas, W. W.; Pungle, W. J.

SATISFIED THE EXAMINERS.

Knott, H. W. N.; Scrope-Shrapnel, H. V. N.; Southam, G. W.; Tanner, F. T.

Thus the whole thirteen succeeded, two-thirds of the number being placed in the Honour Classes. Nothing could have well been better.

CHESHIRE EDUCATIONAL MASONIC INSTITUTION.

A Masonic service was held at the Parish Church, Run-corn, on Wednesday, the 24th ult. The service was promoted by the members of the Ellesmere Lodge, No. 758, on behalf of the above Institution, to which centre they contemplate making an appeal on behalf of the family of the late Bro. W. Houghton, formerly Tyler of the Ellesmere Lodge. The two-fold interest of the service attracted a large congregation, and the very substantial sum of £22 12s. was collected. The brethren assembled at the lodge room, Devonshire-square, at seven o'clock, and in full Masonic clothing went in procession to the church. The following members of the Ellesmere Lodge, No. 758, were present:—Bros. George Bell, W.M.; John Torkington, P.P.J.S., S.W.; J. H. Salkeld, P.P.J.S., J.W.; E. Marwood, P.M., Treas.; G. Summerfield, Sec.; F. A. Lake, S.D.; T. Wright, J.D.; L. Rosenberg, I.G.; T. H. Annett, S.S.; John Cooper, J.S. and Org.; Rev. R. Edwards, Chap.; Rev. John Lockwood, P.P.G. Chap.; William Mellor, P.M., P.G.J.D.; George Moss, P.M.; W. R. Wass, P.M.; R. R. Clark, J.S.; Jno. Coxhill, P.M., D. of C., and P.P.S.S.; Jno. Le Couteur, Almoner; George Hayes, Tyler; H. Torkington, C. W. Phillips, Jno. S. Davies, Jno. Fox, Robert Evans, James Littler, T. D. Timmins, W. A. Rhodes, J. I. Waterworth, James Collier, P. Speakman, and T. Kirkham. The visitors present were Bros. the Rev. E. O. Rawson, P.P.G. Chap.; R. A. Turton, Org. 220; John S. Patten, S.W. 1384; John Scannell, S.S. 1384; James White, P.M. 1384; J. Willocks, S97; E. Robinson, S.S. S97; Isaac Smith, I.P.M. S97; C. C. Wilson, P.M., D. of C. S97; John J. Tickle, W.M. S97; John L. Carron, S.W. S97; D. M. F. Gaskin, P.M. S97; J. W. White, I.G. 1908; Samuel Orme, W.M. 295; W. Williams, 1609; A. Buck, P.M.; W. E. Lea, Wm. Cooper, G. Hewitt, George Hardley, and C. A. Timmins.

The lessons were read by the Rev. T. Manton Armson and the Rev. J. Lockwood, and the prayers by the Rev. R. Edwards. The service was full choral. The processional hymn was "Through the night of doubt and sorrow" to the tune of St. Oswald; the "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" being to services in G, by Cooke. The anthem was Clarke Whitfield's "Behold, how good and joyful," which the choir rendered with exceptional taste. The bass solo was given by Bro. J. R. Curnow, of St. Peter's, Chester. The hymn before the sermon was "We give Thee but Thine own," to the tune of St. George. Immediately after the sermon Bro. Curnow sang the solo "The trumpet shall sound," after which the choir gave the "Hallelujah Chorus," in which they displayed their customary power and sweetness. The service throughout was of the highest order of excellence, and reflected the greatest credit upon Mr. Johnson, the Organist. The sermon was preached by Bro. Rev. E. O. Rawson, vicar of Marston, from the text, "Am I my brother's keeper?" The preacher dwelt upon the duties which every man owed to his fellow as a brother in Christ, and concluded by making an earnest appeal on behalf of the object for which they were assembled. To his brethren of the Craft it was not necessary that he should dilate upon the merits of that virtue of Charity which they, as brothers, all professed to admire. By their presence that evening it was manifest that they were anxious to help the little ones who could not help themselves. Their father was their brother in Christ and their brother in lodge. It would ill become him, a stranger, to press upon them his merits—of the open heart, of the liberal hand; but he would beg of them to do their utmost.

An organ recital was given at the close of the service by Bro. R. A. Turton, of Garston. Bro. W. Williams, of Chester, also gave the solo, "Comfort ye, my people," in a manner that won general appreciation.

WEST LANCASHIRE HAMER BENEVOLENT FUND.

The twelfth annual report of the Hamer Benevolent Fund for the assistance of distressed Freemasons in this province, of which Bro. G. Morgan, P.M., is Hon. Treas., and Bro. H. H. Smith, P.M., the Hon. Sec., states that the amount received this year has exceeded the last by £23 12s. 6d. The sums received from subscriptions and donations were £284 15s., as against £261 3s. 6d. last year. The number of contributing lodges and chapters was 38, against 36 last year, showing that out of 116 lodges and chapters in the province there are no fewer than 78 who have not made any return whatever to the fund, notwithstanding the fact that an appeal has been made to each. The list is again headed by the Antient Briton Lodge, No. 1675, with a return of £24, as against £28 contributed last year. There were three annuitants upon the fund during the year, but one has recently died, leaving now two on the fund, but this number may be considerably increased at any moment, in consequence of the very severe commercial depression which now, unfortunately, exists, as the by-laws empower the committee to help all distressed Freemasons who may be incapacitated, or whose income does not exceed £40 per annum, and there is no limit to age providing they shall have subscribed to a lodge or lodges for nine years. The need, therefore, for continued and increased help must be apparent. The capital of the fund is now £1922 6s. 3d., as against £1700 16s. last year, showing an increase of £221 10s. 3d.

The Queen held an Investiture at Windsor Castle on Tuesday. The Duke of Connaught, accompanied Her Majesty and Bro. Sir Albert Woods (Garter) was among those in attendance. Several officers and gentlemen were decorated, among them Bro. the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., who was knighted and invested with the insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Civil Division of the Order of the Bath.

THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.

Now that the, in every sense, grand pantomime of "Dick Whittington" has ended its successful career, we feel bound in all sincerity to state that never in our experience has such a brilliant show been seen outside the portals of Drury Lane, and we opine that the pantomime will long be remembered with the liveliest pleasure by all who were fortunate enough to see it. The hackneyed, though not always truthful phrase—"No expense has been spared, &c.," was, in this case, faithfully applied, judged by the handsome and costly dresses, which on the last night appeared little, if any, the worse for wear. Of the scenery it is impossible to speak other than in terms of the highest praise. Everyone connected with the dramatic profession who happens to know Bro. H. P. Hall, either personally or by repute, cannot but conscientiously admit him to be a scenic artist of undoubted merit, and a gentleman who is most particular and painstaking when carrying out the smallest detail connected with his art, in order that his subjects shall be as correct and natural as they can be.

The most charming scene in the pantomime was "Highgate Hill," with its ballet of flowers, and nothing more natural and refreshing to the eye on a cold winter's night could be imagined than this charming summer picture, whilst the cleverly executed groupings of the *danseuses*, who represented the various flowers, was a triumph to the ballet master. Other scenes, including the "Ball Room," "Fitz-Warren's Shop," "Old London," and last, but not least, "The Transformation," were cleverly executed, and must have been productive of immense time and labour. Of Mr. "Johnny" Crook's music it is sufficient to say that if anything it excelled all his former efforts, the ballet music being exceptionally tuneful and pleasing.

Of the acting we repeat what we have often remarked, that Mr. Charles Collette (Simon) was completely out of his element, and we feel certain that this clever comedian's admirers (and their name is legion) would feel at all times more satisfied when witnessing him perform his well-known comedy characters.

The character of "Dick" was most ably portrayed by Miss Alice Aynsley Cook, who, throughout the pantomime, had plenty to do, and did it well, always seeming to be perfectly at home and to fairly revel in the "business." During the first few nights of the pantomime the character was played by the late Miss Lizzie Coote, for whom it was originally intended, but owing to an accident and feeble health she had to give up her engagement, and, despite a sojourn at Southport and the best medical attention, she died after seven weeks' illness, and was buried in the Southern Cemetery, Withington, scarcely a week before the termination of the pantomime. Lionel Rignold, as "Rian Ann," the cook, was very good, and caused more merriment than any of the company. One of the cleverest impersonations was that of the "Cat," most ably fulfilled by Mr. Fred Evans, jun. His antics were most cat-like and marvellous, and his scene, or rather we should say *their* scene, which included Mr. Will West (the bull-pup), Mr. Fred Evans, senior, and Mr. Edward Towers (all well-known and clever pantomimists), was most mirth-provoking and astounding. Of the remaining artists who took part in the show, it is sufficient to say that they one and all did their best to make it, what unquestionably it was, a genuine success.

On the last night but one of the pantomime, a well-merited compliment was paid to the spirited and highly popular lessee, Capt. Bainbridge, who was presented before a crowded house with an illuminated address on the occasion of his first complimentary benefit. The project was, we understand, organised and carried out by a number of gentlemen, members of the Arts Club, within ten days. The Mayor of Manchester, Alderman Goldschmidt, was to have presented the address, but, unfortunately, at the last moment was unable to be present, although several members of his family were. When the curtain fell on the Ball-room scene it almost immediately rose again, when, in addition to the multitude of gorgeously attired ladies and gentlemen, a table was placed on the centre of the stage, at which was seated J. Farrell, Esq., dramatic critic of the *Courier*, and Chairman of the Testimonial Committee, Col. Sowler, proprietor of the *Courier*; two other gentlemen, members of the Committee; and the *beneficiare* himself, Captain Bainbridge. Mr. Farrell, in a capital speech, opened the proceedings by eulogising the Captain on the admirable and satisfactory manner in which he had conducted the theatre since his connection with it, and his great kindness in giving the use of his theatre on several occasions for charitable purposes. Mr. Farrell also spoke in high terms of praise of the captain's zeal and hard working manager, Bro. Peter Watson; of Mr. "Johnny" Crook, musical conductor; and Bro. T. F. Doyle, stage manager, the mention of whose names called forth tumultuous applause, and when it subsided, Col. Sowler was called upon to make the presentation, which he did with a few well chosen sentences.

The Captain, who was evidently much overcome, thanked the gentlemen of the committee, individually and collectively, for their kindness in working so willingly to present him with this handsome testimonial, which he assured them he should highly prize. He also thanked the ladies and gentlemen who were present in such large numbers that evening, for honouring him with their presence on the occasion of his first complimentary benefit, and assured them that nothing should be wanting on his part to merit that support in the future which they had accorded him in the past, and they would find him to be a man of deeds—not words.

In addition to the attraction of the pantomime Miss Jenny Hill and Mr. Charles Collette (both of whom had travelled specially from London), appeared; also Mr. Ramsey Danvers, Miss Wallis, Mr. J. L. Shine, Miss Brandon, and Mr. Edward Righton, each and all of whom afforded intense amusement with their contributions.

The performance was a complete success, and Captain Bainbridge must have been highly gratified at this exhibition of public esteem.

Bro. Earl Granville has received offers of assistance both from the King of the Belgians and the French Government, the former expressing his readiness to lend a large number of works of art from the Belgian galleries, while the latter will contribute exhibits from the national porcelain and tapestry factories, as well as of art treasures, towards the forthcoming Art Treasures Exhibition at Folkestone.



The first meeting of the Board of Stewards for the 98th Anniversary Festival of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will take place at Freemasons' Hall on Monday next, the 15th inst., at 4 p.m. It may be as well to state that the services of brethren to act in behalf of this Institution at the Festival in May next are very urgently needed.

Bro. Vice-Admiral Sir E. J. Commerell has been elected a vice-president of the United Service Institution.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Nice from Cannes for the Carnival festivities, and witnessed the "Battle of Flowers" on Monday.

A profit of about £400 resulted from the performance at Drury Lane Theatre on Thursday, the 4th inst., in aid of the Theatrical Fund.

According to the *Observer*, Bro. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., will be raised to the peerage at the close of the present session of Parliament.

Bro. Earl Granville, K.G., had an audience of her Majesty at Buckingham Palace on the 5th inst., and was also present when the Sultan of Johore was introduced.

The Queen has signified her intention of raising to the peerage Bros. Lord Richard Grosvenor, P.G.S.W., England, and Lord Kensington, P.G.S.W., P.G.M. of the Western Division of South Wales.

The Prince of Wales, by command of her Majesty, will hold a Levée at St. James's Palace on Monday next, the 15th inst., presentations to his Royal Highness being equivalent to presentations to the Queen.

Bro. Lord Headley presided at a meeting of the members of the Wanderers' Club on the 3rd inst., when it was unanimously resolved that the Committee should be authorised to purchase the premises of the proprietor.

Bro. Lord Herschell, Lord High Chancellor of England, will preside at the 13th annual general meeting of the Barristers' Benevolent Association, to be held in Middle Temple Hall, on Wednesday, the 7th April next.

Bros. Lord Eustace Cecil, the Right Hon. Sir F. A. Stanley, G.C.B., M.P., and Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., were among the guests at the dinner party given by the Earl of Derby, at his residence in St. James's-square, on Tuesday.

Bro. Alderman Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., will preside on Monday next, the 15th inst., at the House Dinner of the City Constitutional Club. Bros. Lieut.-Gen. Feilden, M.P., and Marriott, Q.C., M.P., will be among the principal guests.

Bro. Lord Randolph Churchill, M.P., will preside at the annual dinner of the London and Westminster Working Men's Constitutional Association, which will take place at St. James's Hall towards the end of the present month. Bro. Lord Charles Beresford, M.P., is among those who have promised to attend.

Bro. the Right Hon. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre has been appointed Chairman of the Royal Commission on Loss of Life at Sea, which has been re-constituted, owing to the Earl of Aberdeen's appointment as Viceroy of Ireland and the Duke of Edinburgh's departure to assume command of our Mediterranean fleet.

The Queen held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on Thursday, the 4th inst., the Duke and Duchess of Connaught being in the Royal Circle. Bros. the Earl of Cork (Master of the Horse), Lord Suffield (Master of the Buckhounds), and Lord Alfred Paget (Clerk Marshal) were among the suite in attendance on her Majesty, while among those in the General Circle were Bros. the Right Hon. Hugh C. E. Childers, M.P., Earl Granville, the Lord Mayor, J. Knollys, C.B., General Lord Wolseley, and Viscount Bury, K.C.M.G. Her Majesty returned to Windsor the day following.

Bros. Lord Herschell (Lord Chancellor), Earl Bathurst, Lord Wantage, Lord Henniker, Lord Monk-Bretton, Lord George Hamilton, M.P., Sir T. D. Acland, Bart., M.P., Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Bart., M.P., Sir R. N. Fowler, Bart., M.P., Sir E. A. H. Lechmere, Bart., M.P., Lord Arthur Hill, M.P., Sir J. R. Mowbray, Bart., M.P., Sir Algernon Borthwick, M.P., the Hon. H. S. Northcote, M.P., W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, M.P., W. H. Puleston, M.P., E. Clarke, Q.C., M.P., L. W. Pearce, M.P., were among those present at the banquet given at Willis's Rooms, on Monday, to the Earl of Idlesleigh, when a testimonial of plate was presented to his lordship.

TOAST LISTS.—Most Masons will think that the after-dinner toast list with which they are familiar, embracing about eight or nine loyal and Masonic toasts, is quite long enough, and if the brethren who are called on to respond happen to be gifted with more than ordinary verbosity, they consider it too much of a tax on their patience, but our Colonial friends seem more self-sacrificing, as will be seen from the following toast list, which a friend has sent us of an installation banquet:—"Peace, Plenty, and Unanimity." 1. "The Queen;" 2. "The Royal Family;" 3. "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces;" 4. "His Excellency the Governor, and the Legislative Council;" 5. "The Mayor and Council;" 6. "The Clergy and other Learned Professions;" 7. "His Royal Highness our Most Worshipful Grand Master, the Prince of Wales, and the Grand Lodge of England;" 8. "The Right Worshipful the Deputy District Grand Master and District Grand Lodge;" 9. "The Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master and the Provincial Grand Lodge;" 10. "The Immediate Past Master, and the Past Administration of the Lodge;" 11. "The Worshipful Master, and the Present Administration of the Lodge;" 12. "The Installing Masters;" 13. "Masonic Benevolence;" 14. "The Mothers of all Masons;" 15. "The Visiting Brethren;" 16. "The Sister Lodges;" 17. "Prosperity to Masons and Masonry;" 18. "All Poor and Distressed Masons." "May Unity, Friendship, and Brotherly Love ever distinguish the brethren of the Ancient Craft."

Comp. G. P. Festa, was, on Wednesday last, installed M.E.Z. of the Montague Guest Chapter in succession to Comp. Montague Guest. Several officers of Grand Chapter were present, and the meeting was a most successful one. We shall give a report next week.

Bro. the Earl of Zetland has kindly made an abatement of 15 per cent. on the half-year's rents of his tenants on the Aske estates.

Bro. the Duke of Abercorn will take the chair at the annual meeting on Saturday next, the 20th inst., of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at the Committee of the Mansion House Fund for the relief of distress among the unemployed on Friday, the 5th instant.

Bros. Earl Granville and the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan attended the Cabinet Council held at the Prime Minister's official residence, in Downing-street, on Monday.

Bro. the Right Hon. G. O. Trevelyan, as Secretary for Scotland, was present at a meeting, on Tuesday, of the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland.

Bro. Sir W. Hart-Dyke, M.P., headed a deputation which, on Monday, waited on the Local Government Board for the purpose of protesting against the erection of a permanent small-pox hospital at Darenth.

Bro. the Lord Mayor, with Bros. Alderman De Keyser, Sheriff Clarke, and Under-Sheriff Rose-Innes, were present at the opening of the March sessions of the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, on Monday.

The Princess of Wales is reported to have been benefited very materially by her sojourn at Sutherland Towers, Torquay. Her Royal Highness, who is accompanied by her three daughters, has been taking daily drives, and on Monday evening paid a visit to the theatre.

By the kind invitation of Bro. the Lord Mayor, a meeting will be held at the Mansion House to-day (Friday) on behalf of King's College Hospital. His lordship will occupy the chair, and it is to be hoped will be largely supported by all well-wishers of such noble institutions.

Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, accompanied by her husband, laid the dedication stone of the new Church of St. John, Vartry-road, Stamford Hill, on Saturday last, among those present at the interesting ceremony being Bro. Lord and Lady Cecil, and Bro. W. A. Tyssen-Amherst, M.P., and Miss Tyssen-Amherst.

Bro. the Marquis of Hartington, M.P., was the principal guest at the banquet at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Friday, the 5th inst., given by the Eighty Club, among the other guests being Bros. Earl Cowper, Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., and Jasper More, M.P. Bro. Lord R. Grosvenor occupied the chair.

We regret that in our list of the brethren present at the recent Festival of the Emulation Lodge of Improvement, we should have described Bro. Harry N. Mills, P.M. 23, P.G.S., as "H. A. Wills." We fear such mistakes as these are not altogether to be avoided, but we are always ready to correct any little inaccuracies that may be pointed out to us.

In our report last week of the meeting of United Grand Lodge on the 3rd inst., Bro. Burdett-Coutts, M.P., who proposed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales for re-election as M.W.G.M., was made to say in the course of his speech, that "Every year between 800 and 900 new brethren" are added to the Craft. It should have been "Between 8000 and 9000 new brethren," that being approximately the average number of initiates annually received into Freemasonry during the Prince of Wales's Grand Mastership.

A lodge of instruction under the auspices of the Lodge of Loyalty, No. 1607, and with the sanction and approval of Grand Lodge, was opened at 206, Mare-street, Hackney, on Friday, the 5th inst., in the presence of a goodly number of brethren. Bro. Fredk. Carr, P.M. 1607, was unanimously chosen Preceptor of the lodge, and he subsequently rehearsed the ceremony of installation in a faultless manner. Bro. Dr. Gayton, W.M. of the Lodge of Loyalty being installed as the first Master of the lodge of instruction. Before the lodge was closed, Bros. Newton and Brown, Past Masters of the Lodge of Loyalty, warmly congratulated the W.M. upon the foundation of the lodge of instruction, which will be held every Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

The Worshipful Master (Bro. Charles F. Pardon) the Wardens, officers, and brethren of the Gallery Lodge, No. 1928 (the only Press lodge in the world) will give their first concert at Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton, on Saturday, March 20th. The Lord Chancellor (Bro. Lord Herschell) has sent to the W.M. for tickets. The artistes who have kindly promised their services include Madame Thayer, Messrs. Béné and Fowell, Alma Evelyn, Fanny Mulholland, and Alice Farren, Mr. Percy Palmer, Bro. Frederick Cundy, Mr. Herbert Jewell, and Mr. Henry Horscroft. Bro. Wilhelm Ganz has promised two pianoforte solos, and other instrumental music will be given by Bro. W. L. Barrett (flute); Messrs. Sidney F. Hill, F. F. Buffen, W. H. Lee, and Davies (pianoforte); M. Theodore Werner (violin), Herr Otto Langey (violin-cello.) The Masonic principle of equality will be adopted as far as possible by having but one price (2s. 6d.) for the seats in the body of the hall.

TOBACCONISTS COMMENCING.—An Illustrated Guide of 110 pages "How to open respectably from £20 to £2000;" three stamps. H. Myers & Co., 109, Euston-rd., London. Telephone No. 7541. —[ADVT.]

MORTGAGES.—Messrs. JAMES are in a position to Supply Money to ANY EXTENT on the following Securities:—Landed Estates, Houses, Shops, and Offices, Warehouses and Wharves, Life Interests, &c., Reversions, Borough Rates, &c., at the lowest current rates of interest. Prompt Settlement. 11, Staple Inn, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Influenza, Coughs, and Colds.—In diseases of the throat and chest, so prevalent in our changeable climate, nothing so speedily relieves, or so certainly cures, as these inestimable remedies. These disorders are too often neglected at their commencement, or are injudiciously treated, resulting in either case in disastrous consequences. Whatever the condition of the patient, Holloway's remedies will restore, if recovery be possible; they will retard the alarming symptoms till the blood is purified and nature consummates the cure, gradually restoring strength and vital nervous power. By persevering in the use of Holloway's preparations, tone is conferred on the stomach and frame generally. Thousands of persons have testified that by the use of these remedies alone they have been restored to health after every other means had failed.—[ADVT.]

The supper of the Covent Garden Lodge of Instruction, No. 1614, which took place on Tuesday evening last, was a great success, upwards of 92 brethren sitting down. The brethren at the conclusion expressed themselves as having spent a most pleasant and enjoyable evening.

A portrait and biographical sketch of Bro. Sheriff Clarke recently appeared in the *Spalding Free Press*, in connection with his recent visit to Spalding and Holbeach.

Bro. the Lord Mayor presided at a luncheon held in the Town Hall, Poplar, on Monday, in connection with the Poplar Benevolent and Accident Relief Society, Bros. Alderman and Sheriff Evans and Sheriff Clarke accompanying his lordship.

Bros. the Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Evans, Alderman Cowan, E. D. Rogers, T. Beard, Under-Sheriff Rose-Innes, A. J. Altman, J. W. Goodinge, and T. Loweridge were among the guests at the dinner given by the City Lands Committee at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday.

The death is announced of Bro. Charles McNamara, P.P.G.S.B., P.M. Palatine Lodge, No. 97, Sunderland, to have taken place at Swansea, on the 5th inst. His decease will be learnt with regret by the brethren of many of the lodges on the south side of the Tyne, to which the late Bro. McNamara was a constant visitor. In Masonic matters he was a great enthusiast.

Bros. Sir Thomas Brassey, K.C.B., M.P., and J. H. Puleston, M.P., were among those present at the distribution, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, of the Queen's prizes and certificates to the students of the Metropolitan Drawing Classes, in connection with the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, and the City and Guilds of London Institute. The ceremony took place at the Farringdon Memorial Hall on Monday.

At a regular meeting of the members of the Chapter of Fortitude, held at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday evening, the 9th instant, an elegant gold P.P.G.S.W. jewel, inlaid with diamonds, was presented to Bro. King-Patten, P.M. The gift bore the following inscription: "Presented to Excellent Companion G. King-Patten, P.Z., by the members of the Chapter of Fortitude, No. 43, upon his appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Senior Warden of Warwickshire, as a mark of their esteem and respect, and a slight recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the chapter."

In the course of our visits recently to many of the principal Masonic reunions in the City, we have not failed to note the increasing demand that has been made for the "Périmet et fils" brand of champagne. Those who attended the centennial of the Domatic Lodge, and more lately the Festival of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, will have noticed how vastly Périmet predominated on the tables; and the same remarks apply to the various regimental, civic, charity, and other banquets in the metropolis. The result of this growing popularity of the Périmet brand at public festivities has been to stimulate enquiry for it in other favourite resorts of the brethren of "ye mystic tie," and is the best possible proof of the manner in which this choicest vintage of Reims is appreciated whenever "friends in jolliest friendship meet."

We gather from the report which the directors of Messrs. Perry and Company, Limited, submitted to the members at their 11th ordinary general meeting at the company's offices, 36, Lancaster-street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., that, after making arrangements to satisfy every possible contingency, the net profits during the year 1885 amounted to close on £23,892, which, added to the balance brought forward from the previous year's profit and loss account, gives a total of £24,271. This being the case, the directors recommended the payment on the 1st inst. of a dividend of two-and-half per cent., making five per cent. for the year, on the Preference shares, and of one of seven per cent. for the six months, free of Income Tax, which, added to the interim dividend already paid, gives a total dividend of 10 per cent. for the year on the Ordinary shares. They further recommended that £3000 should be carried to the reserve fund, raising it to a total of £41,500, and that £536 12s. should be carried forward to next year's profit and loss account. It is clear from this brief statement that Perry and Company, Limited, must have been doing a highly prosperous trade during the year 1885.

METROPOLITAN MASONIC MEETINGS.

For the week ending Saturday, March 13, 1886.

The Editor will be glad to receive notice from Secretaries of Craft Lodges, Royal Arch Chapters, Mark Lodges, Rose Croix Chapters, Preceptories, Conclaves, &c., of any change in place, day, or month of meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13.

- Lodge 108, London, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
- " 173, Phoenix, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 170, Caveac, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
- " 1328, Granite, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1426, The Great City, Cannon-st. Hot.
- " 1607, Loyalty, London Tav., Fenchurch-st.
- " 1686, Paxton, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
- " 1743, Perseverance, Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct.
- " 1839, Duke of Cornwall, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 1928, Gallery, Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton.
- " 1964, Clerkenwell, Holborn Viaduct Hot.
- " 2029, King Solomon, 33, Golden-sq.
- Chap. 1423, Era, Albany, Twickenham.
- " 1928, Gallery, Brixton Hall, Acre-lane, Brixton.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

- Alexandra Palace, Station Ho., Camberwell New-rd., at 7.30.
- Chiswick, Windsor Castle Hot., King-st., Hammersmith, 7.30.
- Eccleston, Crown and Anchor, 79, Ebury-street, Pimlico, at 7.
- King Harold, Four Swans, Waltham Cross, at 7.
- Manchester, 17, London-st., Fitzroy-sq., at 8.
- Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
- Star, Five Bells, New Cross-rd., S.E., at 7.
- Hornsey Chapter, Porchester Hotel, Leinster-place, Cleveland-sq., W., at 8.

MONDAY, MARCH 15.

- Lodge 1, Grand Masters, Freemasons' Tav., Gt. Queen-st.
- " 8, British, Freemasons' Hall.
- " 21, Emulation, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.

Lodge 185, Tranquillity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 720, Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham.
 ,, 862, Whittington, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 901, City of London, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 1537, St. Peter Westminster, Criterion, Piccadilly.
 ,, 1657, Aldersgate, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 ,, 2065, La France, Café Royal, Regent-st.
 Chap. 12, Prudence, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 ,, 1593, Trafalgar, Ship Hot., Greenwich.
 K.T. 127, Bard of Avon, 33, Golden-sq., W.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Brownrigg, Alexandra Hotel, Kingston Hill, at 8.
 Coborn, Eagle Hot., Snarebrook, at 8.
 Eleanor, Seven Sisters Hot., Page Green, Tottenham, at 8.
 Euphrates, Mother Red Cap, High-st., Camden Town, 8.
 Hyde Park, Porchester Hot., Leinster-place, Cleveland-square, Porchester-terrace, Paddington, W., at 8.
 John Hervey, Albion Hall, London Wall, at 8.
 Kingsland, Cock Tav., Highbury, N., at 8.30.
 Loughborough, Cambria Tav., Cambria-rd., S.E.
 Marquess of Ripon, Queen's Hot., Victoria-park-rd., E.
 Metropolitan, Moorgate Tav., 15, Finsbury Pavement, 7.30.
 Perfect Ashlar, Jamaica Tav., Southwark Park-rd., at 8.
 Prince Leopold, Printing Works, 202, Whitechapel-road, 7.
 Rose of Denmark, Gauden Ho., Clapham-rd.-station, 7.30.
 Royal Commemoration, Railway Hot., Putney, 8 till 10.
 Selwyn, East Dulwich Hot., East Dulwich, at 8.
 Sincerity, Railway Tav., Fenchurch-st., at 7.
 St. Ambrose, Baron's Court Hot., W. Kensington, at 8.
 St. James's Union, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 St. Mark's, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
 Strong Man, Excise Tav., Old Broad-st., at 7.
 United Military, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Upper Norwood, White Hart Hot., Church-rd., Upper Norwood, at 8.
 Wellington, White Swan Hot., High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
 Doric Chapter, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 6.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16.

Board of General Purposes, at 4.
 Lodge 30, United Mariners, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 73, Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hot., London B.
 ,, 95, Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-st.
 ,, 162, Cadogan, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 194, St. Paul's, Cannon-st. Hot.
 ,, 435, Salisbury, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 704, Camden, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 857, St. Mark's, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
 ,, 1420, Earl Spencer, Craven Hot., Lavender-hill.
 ,, 1441, Ivy, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd.
 ,, 1635, Canterbury, 33, Golden-sq.
 ,, 2021, Queen's Westminster, S.A., Red Lion-sq.
 ,, 2022, Haven, Lyric Hall, Ealing.
 ,, 2045, Wharton, Willesden, Middlesex.
 Chap. 26, Castle Chapter of Harmony, S. Air-st., Regent-st.
 ,, 46, Old Union, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 ,, 933, Doric, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Mark 238, Prince Leopold, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Rose Croix 72, Canterbury, 33, Golden-sq.
 ,, 79, Orpheus, 33, Golden-sq.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Brixton, Prince Regent, Dulwich-rd., East Brixton, at 8.
 Capper, Railway Tav., Angel-lane, Stratford, at 8.
 Constitutional, Bedford Hot., Southampton Bds., at 7.
 Chaucer, The Old White Hart, High-st., Borough, at 8.
 Corinthian, George Hot., Cubitt Town, Poplar, at 7.
 Dalhousie, The Sisters' Tav., Pownall-rd., Dalston, E., at 8.
 Domatic, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
 Duke of Albany, Rock Tav., Battersea-park-rd., at 8.
 Duke of Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, S.
 Emblematic, Red Lion, York-st., Jermyn-st., W., at 8.
 Enfield, Rose and Crown, Church-st., Edmonton, at 8.
 Excelsior, Commercial Dock Tav., Plough-rd., Rotherhithe, 8.
 Faith, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st., at 8.
 Finsbury, King's Head Tavern, 42, Threadneedle-st., at 7.
 Florence Nightingale, M.H., William-st., Woolwich, 7.30.
 Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30.
 Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30.
 Islington, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., E.C., at 7.
 Israel, Rising Sun Tav., Globe-rd.
 Joppa, Champion Hot., Aldersgate-st., at 7.
 Kennington, Horns Tav., Kennington, 7.30.
 Kensington, Courtfield Hot., Earl's Court Station, at 8.
 Lily, Greyhound, Richmond, at 8.
 Mount Edgcombe, Three Stags, Kennington-rd., at 8.
 New Cross, Chester Arms, Albany-st., N.W., at 8.
 New Finsbury Park, Hornsey Wood T., Finsbury Park, at 8.
 Prince Fredk. Wm., Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd., Maida-hill, 8.
 Pilgrim (German language), Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st., E.C., 1st and 3rd Tues.
 Royal Naval College, Greenwich Hospital Schools, at 8.
 South Middlesex, Beaufort House, Walham Green, 7.30.
 St. George's, Public Hall, New Cross, at 8.
 Wandsworth, East Hill Hot., Alma-rd., S.W., at 8.
 Warborough, Green Dragon, Stepney, at 8.
 Camden Chapter, The Moorgate, Moorgate-street, at 8.
 Earl of Carnarvon Chapter, Ladbroke Hall, Ladbroke Grove-road, Notting-hill, at 8.
 Metropolitan Chapter, White Hart, Cannon-street, 6.30.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17.

Lodge Grand Stewards, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 140, St. George's, Trafalgar Hot., Greenwich.
 ,, 174, Sincerity, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 190, Oak, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 700, Nelson, M.H., William-st., N. Woolwich.
 ,, 969, Maybury, Inns of Court Hot.
 ,, 1044, Wandsworth, Town Hall, Wandsworth.
 ,, 1150, Buckingham and Chandos, Freemasons' Hall.

Lodge 1278, Burdett-Coutts, Approach Tav., Victoria-park.
 ,, 1360, Royal Arthur, Lecture Hall, Lingfield-road, Wimbledon.
 ,, 1382, Corinthian, George Hot., Cubitt Town.
 ,, 1507, Metropolitan, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 1624, Eccleston, Criterion, Piccadilly.
 ,, 1673, Langton, Holborn Viaduct Hot.
 ,, 1677, Crusaders, Imperial Hot., Holborn Viaduct.
 ,, 1803, Cornhill, London Tav., Fenchurch-st.
 Chap. 141, Faith, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 Mark 181, Sir Francis Burdett, Albany Hot., Twickenham.
 ,, 199, Duke of Connaught, Town Hall, Shoreditch.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Burgoyne, Goose and Gridiron, St. Paul's Churchyard, at 7.
 Confidence, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-st., 7 till 9.
 Duke of Connaught, Ryl. Edwd. Hot., Mare-st., Hackney, 8.
 Earl of Lathom, Station Hot., Camberwell New-rd., at 8.
 Fidelity, Alfred Hot., Roman-rd., Barnsbury, at 8.
 Finsbury Park, Cock Tav., Highbury, at 8.30.
 Kent, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, Bishopsgate-st., 8.
 Langthorne, Swan Hot., Stratford, at 8.
 La Tolerance, Portland Arms, Gt. Portland-st., W., at 8.
 Londesborough, Berkeley Arms, John-st., Mayfair, at 8.
 Merchant Navy, Silver Tav., Burdett-rd., Limehouse, 7.30.
 Mt. Lebanon, Windsor Castle, Southwark-bridge-road, 8.
 New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-rd., N., at 8.
 Panmure, Balham Hot., Balham, 7.
 Peckham, Lord Wellington Hot., 516, Old Kent-rd., at 8.
 Pythagorean, Portland Hot., Greenwich, at 8.
 Queen's Westminster, 79, Ebury-st., S.W., at 7.45.
 Ravensbourne, George Inn, Catford, at 8.
 Royal Jubilee, Haunch of Venison, 1, Bell-yl., Fleet-st., at 8.
 Temperance in the East, Geo. the Fourth, Ida-st., E., at 7.30.
 United Mariners, Lugard Hot., Lugard-rd., Peckham.
 United Strength, Hope Tav., Stanhope-st., Regent's-pk., at 8.
 Vitruvian, Bridge House Hot., London Bridge, at 8.
 Wanderers, Victoria Mansions Restaurant, Victoria-st. S.W.
 West Smithfield, Red Lion, Red Lion-court, Fleet-st., at 7.
 Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-st., at 8.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18.

House Committee Girls' School, at 4.
 Lodge 23, Britannic, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 49, Gihon, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 55, Constitutional, Cannon-st. Hot.
 ,, 63, St. Mary's, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 109, Temperance, White Swan, High-st., Deptford.
 ,, 179, Manchester, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 181, Universal, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 733, Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood.
 ,, 813, New Concord, Guildhall Tav., Gresham-st.
 ,, 1139, South Norwood, Public Hall, South Norwood.
 ,, 1227, Upton, Three Nuns Hot., Aldgate.
 ,, 1287, Great Northern, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 1321, Emblematic, Horns Tav., Kennington.
 ,, 1327, King Harold, Four Swans Hot., Waltham Cross.
 ,, 1365, Clapton, Rudolph Chambers, 191, Bishopsgate-st.
 ,, 1475, Peckham, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
 ,, 1512, Hemming, Red Lion Hot., Hampton.
 ,, 1613, Cripplegate, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 ,, 1623, West Smithfield, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 1728, Temple Bar, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 1901, Selwyn, East Dulwich Hot., East Dulwich.
 ,, 1963, Duke of Albany, Albert Palace, Battersea Pk.
 Chap. 217, Stability, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 834, Anchor, Bell and Anchor Hot., Hammersmith.
 ,, 1216, Macdonald, Head-quarters 1st Surrey Rifles, Camberwell.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Burdett Coutts, Swan Tav., New Bethnal Green-road, at 8.
 Camden, Lincoln's Inn Restaurant, 305, High Holborn, at 7.
 City of London, Tiptree Tavern, 6, Leadenhall-st., at 6.
 Covent Garden, Bedford Head Hot., Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., 8.
 Creation, Wheatheaf Hotel, Goldhawk-rd., Shepherd's Bush, W., at 8.
 Crusaders, Old Jerusalem Tav., St. John's-gate, Clerkenwell, at 9.
 Duke of Edinburgh, Bricklayers' Arms, Narrow-st., Limehouse, at 7.
 Ebury, 12, Ponsonby-st., Millbank, at 8.
 Egyptian, Hercules Tav., Leadenhall-st., 7.30.
 Guelph, Blackbirds Inn, High-st., Leyton.
 Great Northern, Berwick Arms, Berners-st., Oxford-st.
 Highgate, Boston Hot., Junction-rd., N., at 8.
 High Cross, Coach & Horses, High-rd., Tottenham, at 8.
 Justice, Brown Bear, High-st., Deptford, 8 to 10.
 Leopold, Old White Hart, Borough High-st., at 7.30.
 Royal Savoy, Yorkshire Grey, London-st., Tottenham-ct.-road, at 8.
 Royal Arthur, Prince of Wales Hot. (opposite Wimbledon Railway Station), at 7.30.
 Royal Albert, White Hart Hot., Abchurch-lane, at 7.30.
 Rose, Sterling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 8.
 Salisbury, Union Tav., Air-st., Regent-st., at 8.
 Sir Hugh Myddelton, White Horse Tav., Liverpool-rd., at 8.
 Southwark, Sir Garnet Wolseley, Rotherhithe New-rd., at 8.
 Southern Star, Sir Sydney Smith, Chester-st. Kennington.
 Stockwell, Cock Tav., Kennington-rd., at 7.30.
 The Great City, M.H., Masons'-avenue, 6.30.
 Tredegar, Wellington Arms, Wellington-rd., Bow-rd., 7.30.
 Union Waterloo, Earl of Chatham, Thomas-st., Woolwich.
 Victoria Park, Yorkshire Grey, High-st., Stratford, at 8.
 West Middlesex, Bell Hot., Ealing, at 7.30.
 North London Chapter, Alwyne Castle Tav., St. Paul's-rd., Canonbury, at 8.
 Prince Frederick William Chapter, Eagle Tav., Clifton-rd. Maida-vale, 7.30.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19.

House Committee Boys' School, at 4.
 Lodge 6, Friendship, Willis's Rooms, St. James's.
 ,, 143, Middlesex, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 ,, 201, Jordan, Freemasons' Hall.
 ,, 1539, Surrey Masonic Hall, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
 ,, 1704, Anchor, Cannon-st. Hot.
 ,, 1910, Shadwell Clerke, S.A., Red Lion-sq.
 ,, 2005, Brooke, Forest Hot., Chingford.
 K.T. 6, St. George's, Albion Tav., Aldersgate-st.
 ,, 48, Kemeys Tynte, 33, Golden-sq.
 ,, 74, Harcourt, Greyhound, Richmond.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

Albion, Crown Hot., Essex-st., Strand.
 All Saints, Town Hall, Poplar, at 7.30.
 Beacontree, Bell Tavern, Leytonstone, at 8.
 Chigwell, Loughton Public Hall, at 7.30.
 Clapton, Lord Stanley, Sandringham-rd., Hackney, 8.
 Doric, Duke's Head, 79, Whitechapel-rd., at 8.
 Earl of Carnarvon, Ladbroke Hall, Notting-hill, at 8.
 Metropolitan (Victoria), Portugal Hot., Fleet-st., at 7.
 Ranelagh, Six Bells, Queen-st., Hammersmith, W., at 8.
 Robert Burns, Portland Arms Hot., 40, Gt. Portland-st., W.C.
 Royal Standard, The Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-rd., N.
 Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 8.
 Stability, Masons' Hall Tav., at 6.
 St. George's, Globe Tav., Greenwich, at 8.
 St. James's, Gregorian Arms, Jamaica-rd., S.E., at 8.
 St. John's, Mother Red Cap, Camden Town, N.W., at 8.
 St. Luke's, White Hart, King's-rd., Chelsea, 7.30.
 St. Marylebone, British Stores Tav., St. John's Wood.
 Temperance, Duke of York Tav., Evelyn-st., Deptford, 8.
 Ubique, 79, Ebury-st., Pimlico, S.W., at 7.30.
 Unions Emulation (for M.Ms.), F.M.H., at 7.
 United Pilgrims, Surrey M.H., Camberwell New-rd., 7.30.
 Westbourne, Lord's Hot., St. John's Wood, at 8.
 Wm. Preston, St. Andrew's Tav., George-st., Baker-st., W.
 Kintore Mark, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, 9.
 Lily Chapter, Greyhound Hot., at 8.
 Panmure Chapter, Stirling Castle, Church-st., Camberwell, at 7.30.
 Pythagorean Chapter, Portland Hot., London-st., Greenwich.
 Royal Savoy Mark, The Moorgate, 15, Finsbury-pavement, 7.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21.

Lodge 715, Panmure, Cannon-st. Hot.
 ,, 1194, Villiers, Mitre Hot., Hampton Court.
 ,, 1329, Sphinx, Surrey M.H., Camberwell.
 ,, 1364, Earl of Zetland, Guildhall Tav.
 ,, 1732, King's Cross, Anderton's Hot., Fleet-st.
 ,, 1767, Kensington, Kensington Hot., Russell-gdns., W.
 Mark 251, Tenterden, Anderton's Hot., Fleet's-st.

WHY AM I SO MISERABLE,

So weak and languid? Why such heartburns and pains in the stomach, such acidity, and such an unpleasant taste in the mouth? Why at times such a gnawing appetite, and then again such disrelish for food? Why is the mind so frequently irritable, desponding, melancholy, and dejected? Why does one often feel under the apprehension of some imaginary danger, and start at any unexpected noise, becoming agitated as though some great calamity was impending? What is the meaning of these dull, sick headaches; these violent palpitations of the heart, this feverish restlessness, these night sweats; this disturbed and dreamy sleep, which brings no refreshing rest, but only moanings and mutterings, and the horrors of the nightmare?

The answer is: These are but the symptoms of Indigestion or Dyspepsia—the beginning and the forerunner of almost every other human disease. Indigestion is a weakness or want of power of the digestive fluids of the stomach to convert the food into healthy matter for the proper nourishment of the body. It is caused most frequently by the irregularity of diet, or improper food, want of healthy exercise and pure outdoor air. It may be induced by mental distress—the shock of some great calamity. It may be, and often is, aggravated and intensified, if not originally brought on, by exhaustion from intense mental application or physical overwork, domestic troubles, anxiety in business, or financial embarrassments. If the stomach could always be kept in order, death would no longer be a subject of fearful anxiety to the young and middle-aged, but would be contemplated by all as the visit of an expected friend at the close of a peaceful and happy old age. However, the first hostile invader upon the domain of health and happiness is Indigestion.

Is there any relief, any remedy, any cure? That is the question of the suffering and unhappy dyspeptic. What is wanted is a medicine that will thoroughly renovate the stomach, bowels, liver, and kidneys, and afford speedy and effectual assistance to the digestive organs, and restore to the nervous and muscular systems their original energy.

Such a medicine is happily at hand. Never in the history of medical discoveries, evidenced by a dozen years' thorough test, has there been found a remedy for Indigestion so speedy, so sure, and so surprising in its results as Seigel's Curative Syrup; but to-day it is a standard remedy for that almost universal affliction in every civilised country in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. Public testimonials and private letters from military officers, bankers, merchants, ship captains, mechanics, farmers, and their wives and daughters, alike confirm its curative powers.

“Newton Heath Supply Stores,
 574, Oldham-road,

December 21, 1883.

“GENTLEMEN,—It is astonishing what a sale I have for your ‘Seigel's Syrup.’ It keeps increasing. It has worked wonders in this neighbourhood; there is scarcely a day but some one is praising it. Several of my customers say had it not been for Seigel's Syrup they would have been in their graves. In fact, I have a case in my own family; my wife had suffered for years with dyspepsia, and tried a good many remedies without effect; but after taking two bottles of Curative Syrup she was completely cured.—Yours respectfully,
 “JAMES A. HALL.”

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